My Museum is closed today

By Jacquie Horgan
Sometimes, I get to go on a trip with my family, friends, or teachers!

I love to visit my Museum, but it is closed today.
I know it is closed, so we can all be safe and healthy.
For now, I am doing science at home with my family!

**Kitchen Experiments**
We like to bake and cook in the kitchen. I wonder what happens when I put cocoa powder into hot water!

**Nature Explorations**
Looking outside for animals is so much fun. I found 3 birds, 1 squirrel, and a spider. I wonder what I will see tomorrow!

**Science Related Art**
Making art makes me feel so good. I wonder if I can make my own diorama at home.

*See resource page for at home activities you can try like these.*
I also like to wonder what is happening at my Museum while it is closed.

I like to pretend all of the animals are staying busy!

Will you imagine with me?
The Blue Whale is probably saying hi to its ocean neighbors with lots of fun sounds!

**Fact:** Whales are mammals, so they have belly buttons like us!

**Wonder:** What other animals live in the ocean like the Blue Whale?

**Play:** Make whale sounds!

(Watch and listen here for some examples)
I bet the beavers are collecting branches for their homes!

**Fact:** A beaver’s teeth grow for their whole life!

**Wonder:** How do you think beavers might use their teeth and tails?

**Play:** Create your own beaver dam at home? Hmm. I need to find some materials!
Maybe the T.Rex is stretching its tiny arms and visiting other dinosaurs!

**Fact:** The full name for the T.Rex is Tyrannosaurus Rex!

**Wonder:** What do you think a baby T.Rex might have looked like? Can you draw a picture of one?

**Play:** Walk like a dinosaur! ROAR!
I just know the butterflies are flying around and enjoying lots of sweets!

**Fact:** Most butterflies can taste with their feet!

**Wonder:** Butterflies are so colorful. How do you think they might use their colors?

**Play:** Act out a butterfly’s life cycle. I like to spread my wings!

(Check out this video to remind you how a butterfly grows)
The elephants are probably using their long trunks to clean themselves!

**Fact:** Elephants use mud and sand as sunscreen!

**Wonder:** How do you think elephants show how they are feeling?

**Play:** Sing and move to 5 Elephants in the Bathtub. Wow! Now I want a bath!

*(Song and movements here!)*
The bears must be waking up by now. I bet they are hungry!

**Fact:** Some bears go into a deep sleep during the winter.

**Wonder:** How do you think the bears might get ready for a big sleep over the winter?

**Play:** I am feeling sleepy now! Find an activity to relax. I like to color or stretch!
I miss my Museum animals, but I know I will be able to see them soon.

For now, doing science at home and imagining my Museum animals makes me happy!
When my Museum opens again, I will be so excited to see my animal friends, explore the Museum, and do even more science and imagining!
Happy Exploring!
Hide and Seek!

While you are home, see if you can find the animals in the story on a Museum website. Try exploring the American Museum of Natural History.

Cross them off as you find them!

Once the Museum opens again, take a trip to see if you can find these animals inside!

- Blue Whale
- Beaver
- T.Rex
- Butterfly
- Elephant
- Bear
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Want to do science and explore A Museum from home? Check out some fun resources below.

VIDEOS:

- Take a look at some of the American Museum of Natural History collections, behind the scenes!
- Make your own Blue Whale with a piece of paper!
- Visit the Butterfly Conservatory at the American Museum of Natural History!

A MUSEUM FROM HOME::

- Visit OLogy! A science website for kids from the American Museum of Natural History.

OTHER:

- This book was inspired by Meredith Polsky’s My School is Closed Today.
- Kitchen Science - kid-friendly recipes
- Nature Exploration - Look outside to see what you can find. Use the iNaturalist App to help you identify!
- Science-related Art
Did you like the resources on this template? Get them for free at these websites.

**VIDEOS:**
- Flat design tropical animal collection
- Cute hand drawn animal collection
- Pack of exotic cute animals
- Collection of cute and wild drawn animals
- Landscape tropical forest background
- Devices concept illustration

**PHOTOS:**
- Blue Whale by Janeb13
- Beaver by Dušan Smetana
- T.Rex by James Lee
- Butterflies by Boris Smokrovic
- Elephants by Felix M. Dorn
- Bears by anthony renovato

**ICONS:**
- Countricons Icon Pack
- Fruits and Vegetables Icon Pack
- Spring Icon Pack
- Animals and Nature Icon Pack
- Imagination icon
- All other icons