

TRACKING ANIMALS OF THE AMERICAN WEST IN ART (GRADES PK-1)

DESCRIPTION There are many types of animals that can be found in the American West. This program will engage children in tracking different animals in art and exploring their habitats with the help of verbal cues and animal tracks and fur. After a thirty-minute tour of the museum, the children will have the opportunity to explore animal tracks through games, puzzles, and art.

THEME Animals of the American West can often be identified by tracks, pelts, and other clues.

DETAILS **Grades:** PK-1
Length of Tour: 30 minutes for gallery program; 20 minutes for additional activities
Student Capacity: approximately 15 students per docent
Subjects: Visual Arts, Science, Mathematics

LEARNING OBJECTIVES By participating in this program, students will be able to:

1. Predict the animals that are represented in visual arts using verbal clues, animal tracks, and furs.
2. Identify the characteristics of animals, animal movement, and their habitats in visual art.
3. Explore animal tracks through puzzles, games, and art.

VOCABULARY **Painting** – A work of art in which the artist applies paint to a canvas or board.
Sculpture – A three-dimensional work of art often carved, chiseled, or cast from stone, marble, wood, or bronze.
Tracks – Imprints left in dirt, mud, snow, or other ground surface by an animal walking on it.
Habitat – The natural home or environment where an animal lives and grows.
Predator, Prey – A *predator* is an animal that hunts and eats other animals. *Prey* is the animal hunted by a predator.
Crepuscular, Nocturnal, Diurnal (optional) – Animals that are most active at twilight (dusk and dawn) are considered *crepuscular*. Animals most active at night are *nocturnal* and those active during the day are *diurnal*.

GALLERIES

- The William S. and Ann Atherton Art of the American West Gallery

Tour may be modified to accommodate group size, time constraints, and/or gallery availability.
