

Welcome Chaperone! Explore the Museum's main building — the Nature Exploration Center (NEC) — and be on the lookout for the animals of North Carolina. This guide offers easy activities to help you engage your students in learning.

Third floor, Tropical Connections gallery

Adaptations

Adaptations help animals survive or reproduce. They can be ...

- camouflage
- behaviors
- specialized body parts

Tropical Adaptations

When you find the emerald tree boas ...

Discover the adaptations these snakes have for living and hunting in treetops. (*Green scales, smooth scales, heat sensors, long teeth.*)

Figure out which skull belongs to the bird-eating emerald tree boa.

When you find the tropical frogs display ...

Investigate the different adaptations red-eyed treefrogs, monkey frogs, and marsupial frogs have to help their eggs develop safe from predators.

When you find the acacia ants ...

Learn how acacia ants and acacia trees help each other survive. (*Ants get nest sites, food, and nectar. Plants get protection from leaf eaters and a weeding service.*)

Watch the ants on the acacia tree on display. Do you see any ants coming in or out of the thorn nests, collecting yellow food packets, or drinking nectar?

When you find the mata-mata turtles ...

Look carefully at the turtle's camouflage. What does this turtle look like to you?

How does the turtle's camouflage help it catch its food?



emerald tree boas



red-eyed treefrogs



acacia ant



mata-mata turtle