

Who Am I?

A Discovery Guide to the Museum's *Exploring Michigan* Exhibit

Below are a series of riddles that you will need to solve to find the correct animal or plant in the dioramas.

1. The jack pine forest is where I thrive.
And like the trees, forest fires help me survive.
Now that the fires are more controlled and collected
Our presence is endangered, so our ecosystem must be protected.
I soar through the sky,
But my home is on the ground, not up high.
I am a _____.
2. The place that I live is unique.
There are three different types and none are weak.
In Michigan I'm endangered and one of a kind
But also I'm venomous so I'm not the best friend to find.
I move and slither low to the ground
And I'll make a rattle so you know I'm around.
I am a _____.
3. Tall trees, plants, and animals are everywhere in my home.
Even you may have been through for a roam.
Unlike carnivores, I don't like meat.
Photosynthesis is how I 'eat.'
Can make you very itchy, so every time you see,
"Leaves of three let them be"
I am a _____.
4. I live where the water flows, it's true!
It's a place that's important to both me and you.
I spend time both on water and land.
Though my speed may be slow, you must understand
I carry my home wherever I go.
So look closely when you try to find me, for I'm small and somewhere low.
I am a _____.
5. I live in a place with lots of sand.
The glaciers, winds, and waves helped form the land.
But, there are lots of other places I can be found,
Thanks to my wings that help me around.
Next time you see me, just make sure
Your food is safe and secure.
I am a _____.

Answers: 1. Kirtland's warbler in the jack pine ecosystem; 2. Eastern massasauga rattlesnake in the wetlands ecosystem; 3. Poison ivy in the oak-hickory ecosystem; 4. Painted turtle in the river ecosystem; 5. Seagull in the coastal dunes ecosystem