



Updates for a Natural History Museum

University of Michigan Museum of Natural History



DESIGN:
WeatherstonBruer Associates

In the three years since the University of Michigan Museum of Natural History opened its new facility, they have been observing visitor behavior in the exhibit galleries. Bluewater Studio was selected to work with museum staff on remediation design and production work to make the exhibits more visitor-friendly, easier to use, and more robust.

A highlight of the “Evolution: Life Through Time” gallery is a dinosaur exhibit featuring an impressively fearsome *Majungasaurus*.

Our team updated the design of this corner to make it more visually appealing, focused visitor attention on the multiple specimens, and included a redesign of the large reader rail to make the content more readily accessed and understood by visitors.

Additionally, we updated six floor-to-ceiling wood pillars highlighting major extinctions throughout history, so that each now displays more accurate information and visuals.

The “Under the Microscope” exhibit features several interactive turning wheels where visitors learn about the smallest building blocks of life, such as cells and microbes, and how they work together.

Bluewater Studio updated these wheels graphically to increase readability and physically to make them easier and more intuitive for visitors to use.