

# Wild Color



Delve into the color spectrum like never before as you make your way through immersive rooms, each representing a color of the rainbow. Color-saturated spaces awaken the senses with vibrant specimens, photo-worthy displays, and shifting soundscapes. Marvel at the beauty and power of color in the natural world.

# Exhibition Details

**Size:** 5,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (465 m<sup>2</sup>)

**Ceiling Height:** 12 ft (3.66 m)

**Languages:** All text in English and Spanish; language may be converted by host venues

**Science Advisor:** Dr. Deborah Bekken,  
Director of the Gantz  
Family Collections Center

## Features:

- 36 cases with 250+ Zoology, Botany, and Geology specimens
- 5 photo murals, 14 atmospheric murals, 2 ambient scent stations
- 3 videos, 8 soundscapes, 1 crowdsourced photo projection
- Social media photo opps

## The Big Idea

Escape the everyday and explore the natural world through the wonder of color.

Anywhere you look in nature, color holds meaning. It evokes emotion, signals alarm, creates disguise and illusion. In this special exhibition, you'll learn how to decode the hidden messages that different colors can send. Then, explore some of nature's mysteries that are hidden in plain sight: creatures that change color, plants and animals that give off an eerie glow, and shades of color that the human eye can't detect.

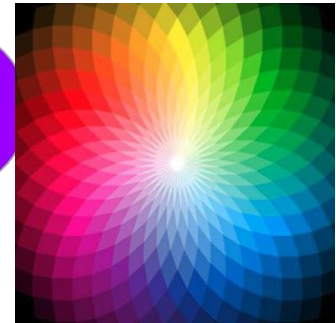
# Experience Bubble Plan

The three primary-color galleries (red, yellow, and blue) are large. Each will feature a central experience that stays consistent in format, but carries different content, featuring the color highlighted in that gallery.

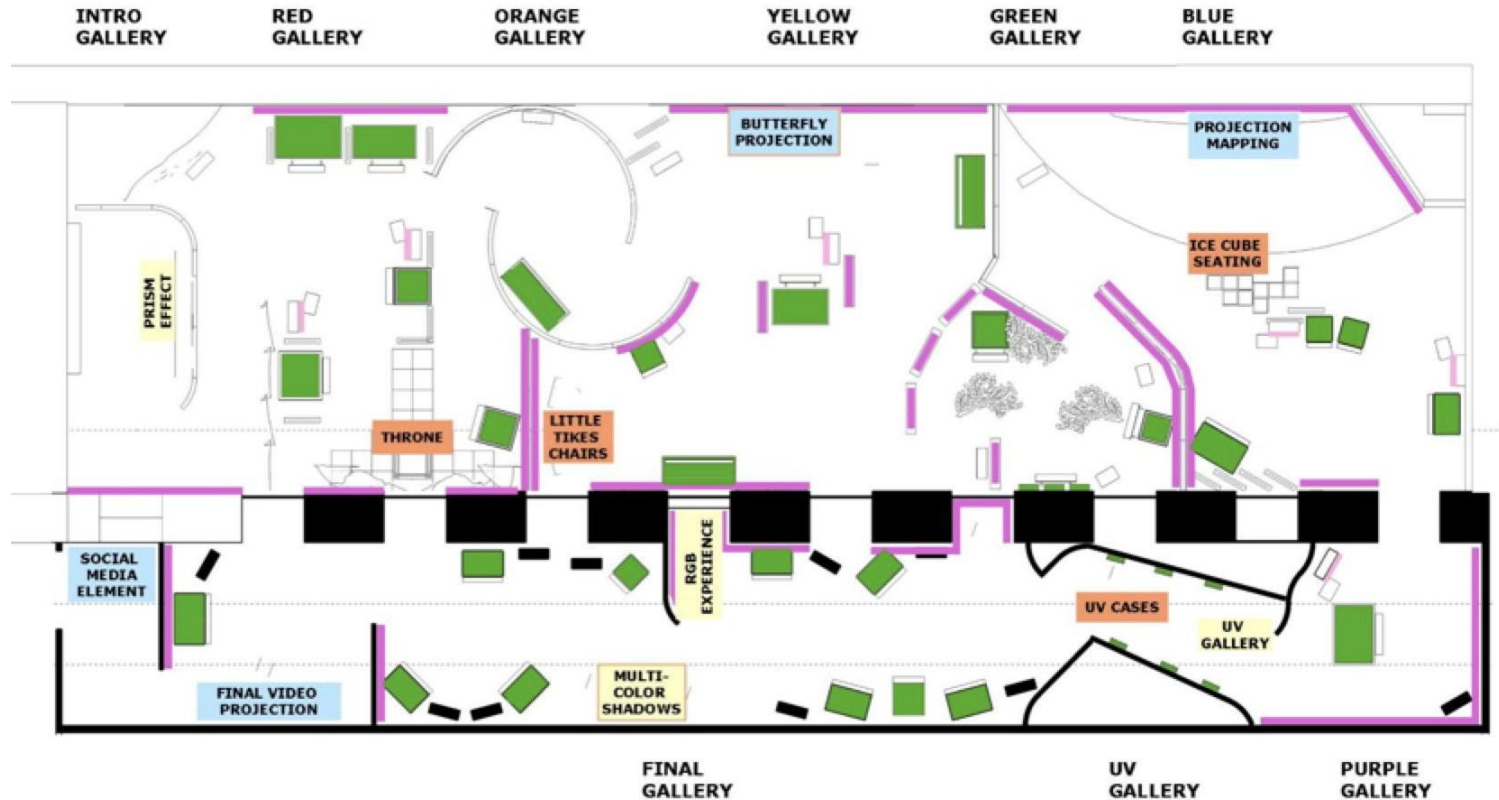
The three secondary-color galleries (orange, green, purple) are smaller, and serve as transition spaces between the primary colors.

The finale brings all the colors into play and launches visitors out into the world with questions, ideas, and conversation.

The bubble sizes in this diagram represent the relative weight of sections in the experience.



# Field Museum Floor Plan



# Exhibition Walkthrough

# WILD COLOR

RED-EARED SLIDER  
ORANGE ROUGHY  
YELLOW-THROATED MARTEN  
GREEN LACEWING  
BLUE TORCH CACTUS  
PURPLE-CROWNED FAIRYWREN



# Section 1: Red and Orange



# RED

It lends rubies and roses their alluring charm, coral snakes and fire ants their warning alarm.

Whether mountain, or forest, or desert, or sea, it's the hue nature uses to say, "Notice me."

## ROJO

Engaña los rubes y las rosas, alerta de caracoles y hormigas Rojas.

En la montaña, bosque, desierto o mar, natura nos dice, "¡me venis que mirar!"



## ORANGE

### RED CAN ATTRACT





Begin your journey through the color spectrum among the rich, luxurious hues of rubies and garnets. See how nature uses vivid red in the warning colors of king snakes and velvet ants, but also the attractive shades of fruits and flowers. A cornucopia of bright orange shells and birds follows..

# Object Groupings in Red

- Red as warning
- Pigments from food
- Red hair and fur
- Red to attract
- Mixed red



# Single Object Grouping in Orange

- Mixed Orange



# Section 2: Yellow and Green



# YELLOW

Some lemony beam of light, some lazy butterfly, the chirp of a morning warbler unzipping the light of day.

Sunflowers, daisies, clumsy bumblebees, the summer-honeyed laughter of children at play.

## AMARILLO

Un rayo color lima,  
una lenta mariposa,  
el chipe amarillo con  
mañanero cantar.  
Girasoles y margaritas,  
abejorros,  
la dulce risa de  
los niños al jugar.



## MAMMALS AND MELANIN

Small text describing the exhibit's focus on mammals and melanin.





## FLUTTERING YELLOW

Butterflies have some of the most striking colors in nature. Their dazzling wings can help attract a mate, warn predators, or blend into tropical environments. These butterflies get their different shades of yellow and brown from melanins, the same pigment that gives us our skin color.

## AMARILLO EN MOVIMIENTO

Las mariposas tienen algunas de los colores más vibrantes de la naturaleza. Sus alas deslumbrantes pueden atraer a la pareja, prevenir a los depredadores e integrarse en hábitats tropicales. Los colores amarillos y marrón de estas mariposas vienen de la melanina, el mismo pigmento que genera nuestro color de piel.

**1 Lemon emigrant**  
Colombia, Panamá  
Asia and Australia

**Mariposa catapalpa**  
Colombia, Panamá  
Asia y Australia

**2 Madagascan moon moth (Common moon)**  
África, India  
Madagascar

Living for a week at most, Madagascan moon moths are a rare sight these days in zoos. These nocturnal moths hide from predators during the day with their butter yellow wings, and use the cover of night to seek out a mate.

**Mariposa cometa**  
África, Europa  
Madagascar

Como las mariposas cometas no vuelan más de una semana, tenerlas hoy en zoológicos es raro. Este nocturno nocturno oculta sus alas amarillas como las mariposas durante el día. Por la noche, usa a buscar pareja.

**3 Common gull**  
Europa, América  
India

Did you know that butterflies look different on the front and back? For these common gull butterflies, each side tends to different messages in bright yellow and black. Like birds, air currents, while the fall side will catch the wind, the up side is what they are most likely to see.

**Mariposa cepeira común**  
Europa, América  
India

¿Sabías que la parte ventral y la dorsal de las mariposas son diferentes? Cada parte de estas mariposas muestra un color diferente, el dorso amarillo tiene una franja, el ventral blanco más oscuro a los depredadores que se pueben al tiempo.

**4 Yellow gull**  
Europa, América  
Vietnam

**5 Laticia brown**  
África, Europa  
Sudáfrica, Europa

**Mariposa cepeira amarilla**  
Europa, América  
Vietnam

**Mariposa rosarina**  
África, Europa  
Sudáfrica de Europa

**7 Blue hindwing**  
Europa, Asia  
Francia

**Quercera serrana**  
Europa, Asia  
Francia

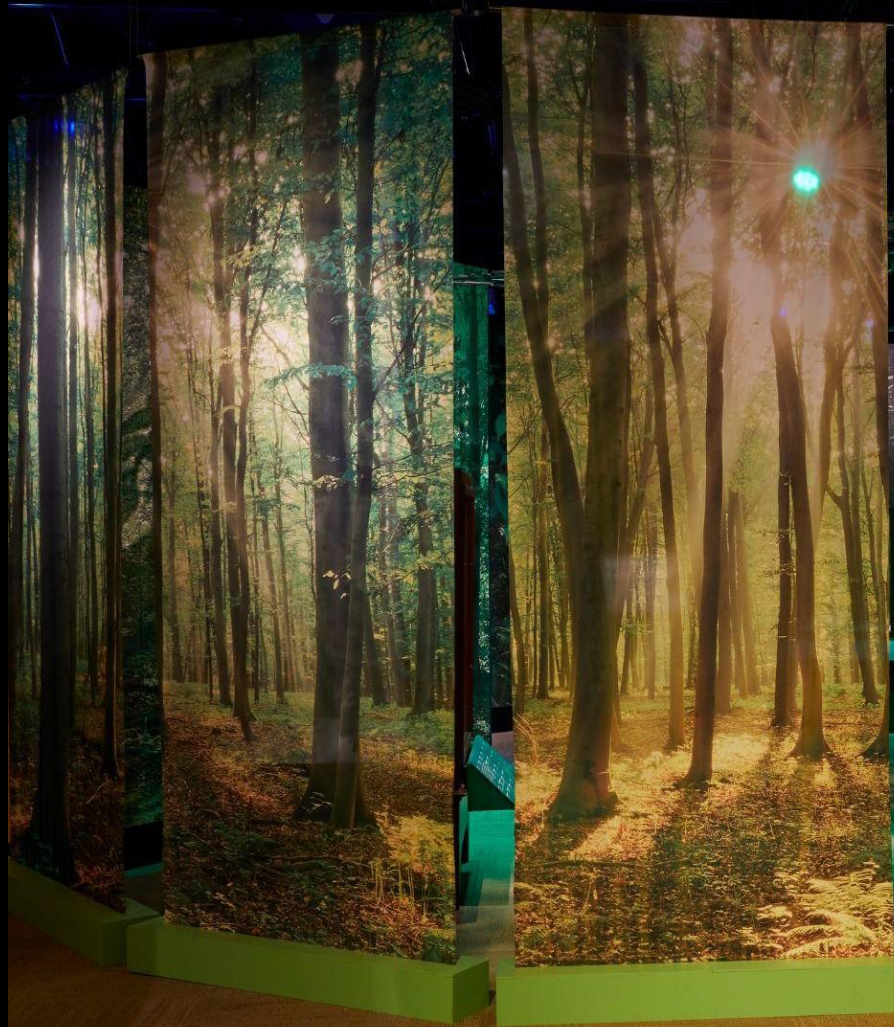
**8 Chocolate sibbings**  
África, Europa  
Indonesia

**9 Butter-colored butterfly family**  
Francia  
Asia, África, Asia  
North America

**Butterfly Eggs**  
How to Hatch in 10 Steps  
Prague Museum  
Wings and Swarms  
2021

**Howards de mariposa**  
Museum de la Granja  
Prague Museum  
Wings and Swarms  
2021

**Familia de mariposas**  
Museum de la Granja  
Prague Museum  
Wings and Swarms  
2021



**LEAFY GREEN**  
The soft and vibrant glowing in a lustrous leaf uncurling, Earth's eternal emerald weave, nature's flag unfurling.

# GREEN

The soft and vibrant glowing in a lustrous leaf uncurling, Earth's eternal emerald weave, nature's flag unfurling.

**VERDE**  
El brillo suave y vibrante del follaje creciento.  
La urdimbre esmeralda constante que la naturaleza iza, siempre.

### GREEN CAMOUFLAGE

Plants use their color to hide from predators. Some plants have evolved to look like rocks, twigs, or even other plants. This is called camouflage. It helps them survive in their environment.



### LEAFY GREEN

Plants use their leaves to capture sunlight and convert it into energy. This process is called photosynthesis. It is essential for the plant's survival and for the production of oxygen.



### GREEN

The color green is found in many plants. It is a sign of life and growth. Green plants use sunlight to make their own food.

Green is also the color of many animals. They use green to hide from predators. This is called camouflage.



<p><b>1. L'Albero</b> L'Albero è l'organismo vegetale che si nutre di acqua e sali minerali, grazie alla fotosintesi clorofilliana, e produce ossigeno e glucosio. È formato da radici, tronco e rami.</p> <p><b>2. L'Albero vive!</b> L'Albero vive grazie alla fotosintesi clorofilliana, che produce glucosio e ossigeno. Il glucosio è utilizzato per la crescita e la riproduzione, mentre l'ossigeno è rilasciato nell'atmosfera.</p> <p><b>3. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p>	<p><b>4. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>5. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>6. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p>	<p><b>7. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>8. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>9. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p>	<p><b>10. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>11. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>12. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p>	<p><b>13. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>14. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>15. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p>	<p><b>16. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>17. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p> <p><b>18. Il Fossile di un albero</b> Il Fossile di un albero è un residuo di legno che si è conservato nel terreno per milioni di anni. È formato da cellulosa e lignina, che si sono decomposti in carbonio e ossigeno.</p>
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Among yellow dandelions, bees, field mice, and butterflies, go ahead and “try on” butterfly wings to see how you look. This sunny space gives way to a forest of green leaves and the creatures that camouflage themselves among them.

# Object Groupings in Yellow

- Butterflies
- Melanin in fur
- Bees, their mimics, flowers
- Mixed yellow





# Object Groupings in Green

- Mixed green
- Camouflage
- Leaves



# Section 3: Blue and Purple

# BLUE

Jays and marlins stroke  
the sky  
our marbled planet  
swirls—  
air and ocean intertwined  
a liquid, breathing world.

## AZUL

Charas y marlins acarician  
el cielo  
del planeta jaspeado que gira:  
aire y mar entrelazados  
un mundo líquido, aéreo.

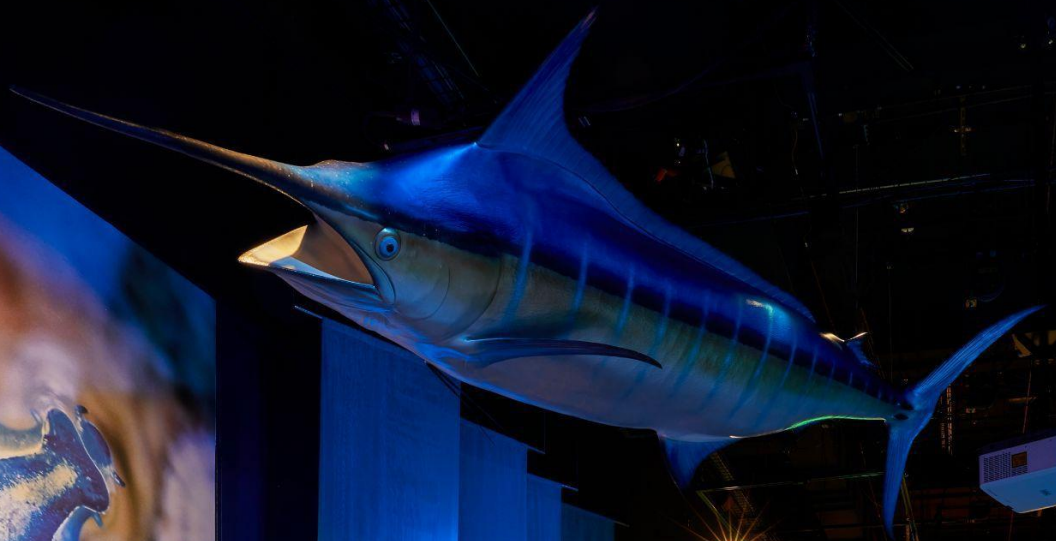


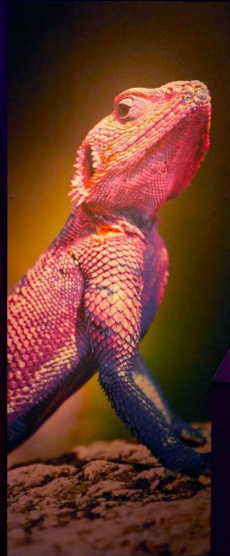




**BLAU CLARIFIS  
SEA LUNG**

Blue whales are the largest animals on Earth, reaching lengths of up to 30 meters and weighing up to 200 tons. They are known for their deep, resonant songs that can be heard over thousands of kilometers. The sea lung is a large, sac-like structure that allows them to breathe underwater. It is made of a tough, fibrous material that can expand to hold up to 50 liters of air. The sea lung is also responsible for the whale's ability to hold its breath for long periods of time.





**MWANZA  
FLAT-HEADED  
ROCK AGAMA**

**DESCRIPTION**  
The flat-headed rock agama is a large lizard with a flat, broad head and a long, pointed snout. It has a brown and black patterned body with a prominent crest of spines along its back. It is found in the rocky areas of Lake Malawi and Lake Tanganyika.

**DIET**  
The flat-headed rock agama is a carnivore that feeds on insects, small lizards, and other small animals.

**REPRODUCTION**  
The flat-headed rock agama is a viviparous lizard that gives birth to live young. The females lay eggs that hatch into young lizards.

**CONSERVATION**  
The flat-headed rock agama is listed as a species of least concern on the IUCN Red List. It is found in several protected areas in Malawi and Tanzania.





A centerpiece of the exhibition is the blue multimedia space, where the deep blue seas and skies surround you. Investigate how insects, fish, and reptiles create blue with microscopic light-bending textures, then marvel at surprisingly purple animals and plants.



# Object Groupings in Blue

- Marine life
- Structural color
- True blue?
- Blue as display



# Single Object Grouping in Purple

- Mixed purple



# Section 4: Ultraviolet

## ULTRAVIOLET

Beyond the range of human sight, there's a whole lot of greater energy ultraviolet. Some substances can absorb UV light and then release that energy slowly, giving it to a frequency we can see. This fluorescence can show us invisible patterns in nature that we're just beginning to discover and understand.

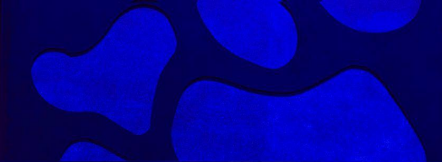
### UV-INDUCED

It's almost as if some invisible force is present in the air. Some substances absorb the ultraviolet energy of the sun and then slowly release it as a visible glow. This fluorescence can show us invisible patterns in nature that we're just beginning to discover and understand.

### STARTING BLACK AND WHITE

When you see a black and white photograph, you're seeing the light that was reflected off the subject and captured on a film or sensor. The light that was captured is now being converted into a digital or analog signal that can be processed and displayed.

Press and hold for 30 seconds  
to activate the interactive program



1. Opal  
Australia  
USA

2. Fluorite  
England  
USA

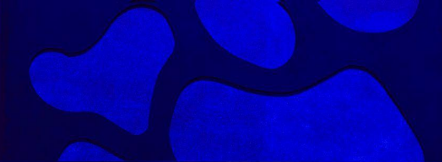
3. Calcite  
Mexico  
USA

Different minerals absorb UV light and emit a faint, or different, luminescence, which is known as the ring of colors. It is usually the impurities that create this luminescence effect. Some minerals, such as calcite, can be rotated like a top on their axis, and when under the UV light it turned off—a phenomenon called photoluminescence.

Los diferentes minerales absorben la luz ultravioleta y la emiten de vuelta con diferentes longitudes de onda que son visibles como una diversidad de colores por los impurezas. Algunas minerales, como la calcita, se pueden rotar a partir energía después de que la luz ultravioleta está apagada. Esto sucede en un fenómeno llamado foto-luminescencia.



Press and hold for UV light  
Para ultravioleta mantener presionado



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Australia  
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Press and hold for UV light  
Para ultravioleta mantener presionado





Beyond the range of human sight, there's a violet hue of greater energy: ultraviolet. Explore and compare the dramatic color shifts of animals, plants, and minerals under UV lights.

# Fluorescent Under UV

- Minerals
- Scorpion
- Lichens
- Platypus
- Owl
- Fossil shells





# Section 5: Black and White

## BLACK OUT

Most of the clothes we wear today are made from synthetic fibers. The first synthetic fiber was rayon, made from wood pulp. It was called "artificial silk" because it looked like silk. Today, we have many more synthetic fibers, like polyester and nylon. They are made from petroleum products. Synthetic fibers are strong and durable. They are also easy to care for. They don't wrinkle and they don't fade. They are also cheap. Synthetic fibers are used in many different ways. They are used in clothing, in home furnishings, and in many other products. Synthetic fibers are an important part of our lives.

**RAYON**  
Rayon is a synthetic fiber made from wood pulp. It was the first synthetic fiber. It is made by dissolving wood pulp in a chemical solution and then spinning it into fibers. Rayon is used in many different ways, including clothing, home furnishings, and industrial applications. It is known for its soft texture and ability to mimic natural fibers like silk and cotton.

**ARTIFICIAL SILK**  
Artificial silk is a synthetic fiber made from wood pulp. It was the first synthetic fiber. It is made by dissolving wood pulp in a chemical solution and then spinning it into fibers. Artificial silk is used in many different ways, including clothing, home furnishings, and industrial applications. It is known for its soft texture and ability to mimic natural fibers like silk and cotton.

## BRIGHT WHITE

White is a color that is often associated with purity and cleanliness. However, the concept of whiteness is complex and has been used to justify discrimination against people of color. The idea of a "bright white" skin tone has been promoted as a standard of beauty and success, leading to a global market for skin-lightening products. This has caused significant harm to people of color, who have been encouraged to alter their natural skin tone to fit a Eurocentric ideal. The pursuit of whiteness has also been used to divide communities and create a hierarchy of skin tones.

## STARTLING BLACK AND WHITE

Being black and white is a great way to make a statement. Contrasting colors and styles can help announce identity members of their own species, warn enemies to stay away, or even make their outlines harder for predators to see.

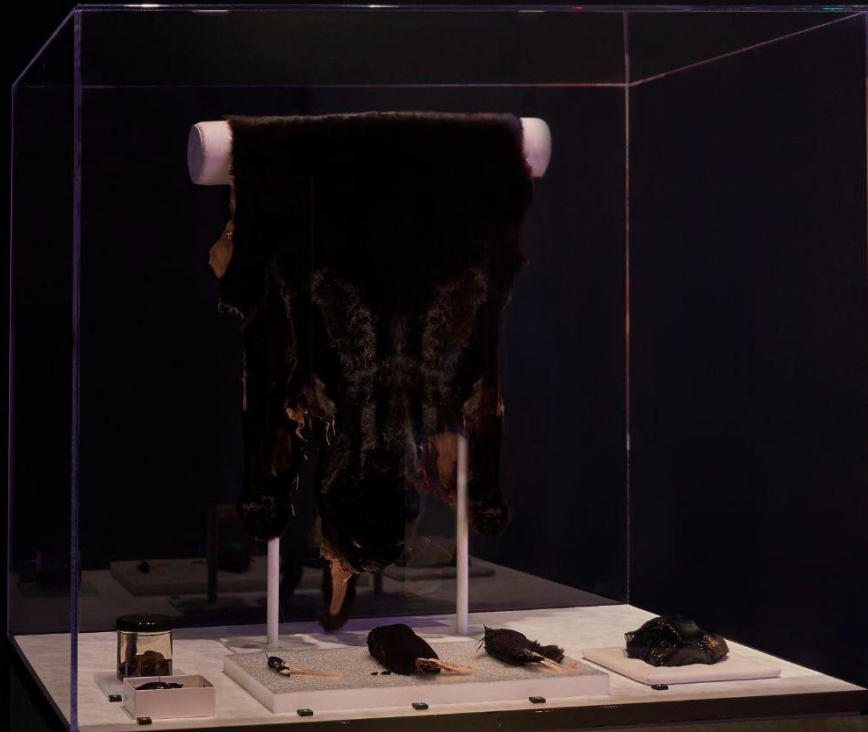
**ADORNERS BLACKLY NERVO**  
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# BLACK OUT

Most of the colors we see are reflections of light, but black is the absence of light. True black is hard to find—even “black” paint only absorbs about 95% of visible light. But some deep-sea creatures—like the anglerfish to your right—have evolved ultra-black scales, making them nearly invisible to their prey.

## NEGRO TOTAL

La mayoría de los colores que vemos son reflejos de luz, pero el negro es la ausencia de luz. Es difícil encontrar negro verdadero, incluso la pintura “negra” sólo absorbe cerca del 95% de la luz visible. Pero algunas criaturas abisales, como el pez rape a tu derecha, han desarrollado escamas super negras para ser casi invisibles para sus presas.



- 1 **Deep-sea Anglerfish**  
Luz profunda  
Molokai
- 2 **Blind cave loach**  
Cueva ciega  
Perú
- 3 **Black Jackfish**  
Pez negro  
Brasil

**Por qué todo es negro profundo**  
Cada especie de pez profundo tiene sus propias adaptaciones para sobrevivir en la oscuridad. Algunas especies, como el pez negro, tienen escamas que absorben casi toda la luz visible.

**Escamas súper negras**  
El pez negro tiene escamas que absorben casi toda la luz visible, lo que lo hace casi invisible en su entorno.

**Colores oscuros**  
Algunos peces tienen colores oscuros que les ayudan a camuflarse en su entorno.



- 4 **Lemon's Porilla**  
Pez de luz  
Tasmania
- 5 **Shrimp Lopholophus**  
Lopholophus  
Tasmania

**El pez de luz**  
Este pez tiene una bioluminiscencia que le ayuda a atraer presas y comunicarse con otros peces.

- 6 **Black Catfish**  
Pez gato negro  
Brasil
- 7 **Black Shark**  
Tiburón negro  
Brasil

**El tiburón negro**  
Este tiburón tiene una piel que absorbe casi toda la luz visible, lo que lo hace casi invisible en su entorno.

- 8 **Anguilla negra**  
Anguila negra  
Brasil
- 9 **Shrimp**  
Cangrejo  
Brasil

**El cangrejo**  
Este cangrejo tiene una piel que absorbe casi toda la luz visible, lo que lo hace casi invisible en su entorno.

- 10 **Anguilla negra**  
Anguila negra  
Brasil
- 11 **Shrimp**  
Cangrejo  
Brasil

**El cangrejo**  
Este cangrejo tiene una piel que absorbe casi toda la luz visible, lo que lo hace casi invisible en su entorno.

1. **Black Piglet**  
 This piglet is a fossil of a piglet that lived in the same area as the modern pig. It is a fossil of a piglet that lived in the same area as the modern pig. It is a fossil of a piglet that lived in the same area as the modern pig.

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## BRIGHT WHITE

When something appears white, it is reflecting all visible light and absorbing none. Some animals take advantage of this—their white skin or fur helps them keep cool. Other animals evolved white for camouflage in snowy tundras or rocky caves.

### BLANCO BRILLANTE

Cuando algo parece blanco está reflejando toda la luz visible sin absorberla. Algunos animales usan esto como ventaja, su pelaje blanco les ayuda a mantenerse frescos. Otros usan el blanco como camuflaje en las nevadas tundras o en las cuevas rocosas.



**1 Banded Sea Snake**  
*Laticauda colubina*  
 Pitucoque



**Serpiente marucha bandada**  
*Laticauda colubina*  
 Pitucoque

**2 Cape porcupine**  
*Reithrodonchys melleri*  
 Melench

**3 Short-tail porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**4 Spiny mouse**  
*Reithrodonchys melleri*  
 Melench

**5 Bushy-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**6 Spiny-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**7 Bushy-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**8 Bushy-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**9 Southern spotted skunk**  
*Spilogale putorius*  
 Melench

**10 Common hog-nosed skunk**  
*Conepatus chiro*  
 Melench

**11 Bushy-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**12 Bushy-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**13 Bushy-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

**14 Bushy-tailed porcupine**  
*Chaco porcupine*  
 Pitucoque

## STARTLING BLACK AND WHITE

Being black and white is a great way to make a statement. Contrasting stripes and spots can help animals identify members of their own species, warn enemies to stay away, or even make their outlines harder for predators to see.

### ASOMBROSO BLANCO Y NEGRO

Blanco y negro juntos causan una gran impresión. Las rayas o manchas contrastantes sirven como identificación de la propia especie, advertencia a los enemigos o camuflaje contra los depredadores.

Why do porcupines have quills? They are used for defense. The quills are made of keratin, the same material that makes up your hair and nails. They are sharp and can pierce the skin of an attacker. Porcupines also use their quills to dig for food and to climb trees.

¿Por qué tienen rayas los conejos? Las rayas les ayudan a comunicarse con otros miembros de su especie. Las rayas también les ayudan a advertir a los depredadores de su presencia. Los conejos también usan sus rayas para excavar y trepar árboles.

Skunks give themselves a stink with a chemical called thiophenol. This chemical is very strong and can irritate the skin and eyes. Skunks use their stink to warn enemies to stay away. They also use their stink to mark their territory.

Los zorros utilizan un olor fuerte llamado tiofenol para advertir a sus enemigos que se alejen. También utilizan su olor para marcar su territorio. El tiofenol es un químico muy fuerte que puede irritar la piel y los ojos.

Skunks have a special organ called a skunk gland. This gland produces the chemical thiophenol. The skunk gland is located at the base of the tail. Skunks use their tail to fan out the chemical and to warn enemies to stay away.

Los zorros tienen un órgano especial llamado glándula de los zorros. Esta glándula produce el químico tiofenol. La glándula de los zorros está ubicada en la base de la cola. Los zorros utilizan su cola para abanicar el químico y advertir a sus enemigos que se alejen.

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Experience the extremes of dark and light—from birds with feathers so black they absorb nearly all light, to the reflective white underside of a silver fern.


# Black and White Objects

- Black and white
- Black
- White



# Section 6: Wildly Colorful






### WILDLY COLORFUL

For the male peacock jumping spider, just one color is not enough as he attracts his mate with bold hues and dramatic dance moves. Wildly colorful creatures may also use their multiple hues to blend into a colorful environment or even to confuse predators. And sometimes an abundance of color is simply a beautiful mystery.

#### CÓLORO DESENFENADO

Un color no es suficiente para la araña para atraer a su pareja, necesita colores llamativos y movimientos dramáticos. Los animales con muchos colores pueden usarlos para pasar desapercibidos en ambientes coloridos o confundir a sus depredadores. Pero a veces la abundancia de color es solo un hermoso misterio.





**LOOK UP!**  
 The iridescent colors of a peacock's tail feathers are caused by the way light reflects off the microscopic structures of the feathers. This is called iridescence.

**SHIMMERING IRIDESCENCE**  
 Iridescence is the shimmering color effect seen in many natural and synthetic materials. It is caused by the way light reflects off the microscopic structures of the materials. This is called iridescence.

**NATURE'S DYES**  
 For thousands of years, people have ground up minerals, crushed animal parts or soaked plants to extract dyes and make their world more colorful. These dyes are just a few of the thousands from which we can derive color from nature.

**TIKES NICHOLAS**  
 Tikes nicholas es un color que hemos evolucionado. Algunos de los colores más vivos y brillantes se encuentran en la naturaleza. Estos colores son solo algunos de los miles de colores que podemos extraer de la naturaleza.



## CHANGING COLOR

Color in nature is not fixed; it often changes with the seasons to help animals and plants survive. As they make the transition from summer to winter, new conditions may require different camouflage or slowing metabolism may trigger changes in pigmentation.

### COLOR CAMBIANTE

Los colores en la naturaleza no son fijos. A menudo cambian con las estaciones ayudando a la supervivencia de animales y plantas. Con el paso de verano a invierno, las nuevas condiciones pueden requerir un camuflaje diferente o la desaceleración del metabolismo genera transformaciones en la pigmentación.



<p><b>1. White Flycatcher</b>  <i>Empidonax alpinus</i>      (Summer plumage)      (Winter plumage)      (Molted plumage)</p>	<p><b>2. White Flycatcher</b>  <i>Empidonax alpinus</i>      (Summer plumage)      (Winter plumage)      (Molted plumage)</p>	<p><b>3. White Flycatcher</b>  <i>Empidonax alpinus</i>      (Summer plumage)      (Winter plumage)      (Molted plumage)</p>	<p><b>4. White Flycatcher</b>  <i>Empidonax alpinus</i>      (Summer plumage)      (Winter plumage)      (Molted plumage)</p>	<p><b>5. White Flycatcher</b>  <i>Empidonax alpinus</i>      (Summer plumage)      (Winter plumage)      (Molted plumage)</p>	<p><b>6. White Flycatcher</b>  <i>Empidonax alpinus</i>      (Summer plumage)      (Winter plumage)      (Molted plumage)</p>
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# RAINBOW OF COLORS

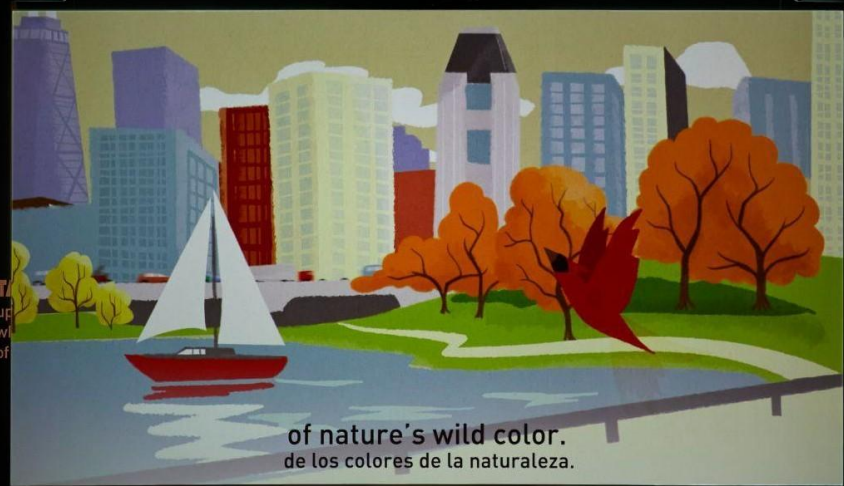
Some monkey-flowers (*Mimulus*) show a huge diversity of color all in one species. Although color is often a great clue for identifying animals, plants, and minerals, a big difference in color doesn't have to mean it's something completely different. Here, similar species and minerals can be found in a rainbow of colors.

## ARCOIRIS DE COLORES

Algunos mimulos tienen una enorme diversidad de colores en una sola especie. Aunque el colorido es una de las claves para identificar animales, plantas y minerales, no siempre indica algo totalmente diferente. Aquí puedes ver especies y minerales similares en un arcoiris de color.



- |   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p>1-3 <b>Pezomachus spirochloa</b><br/>Lima, Perù<br/>varieties: <i>varieties</i> <i>varieties</i></p> <p>1 <b>Cathartes aura</b><br/>2 <b>Chrysomitris tristis</b><br/>3 <b>Chrysomitris tristis</b></p> <p>Although there is a difference in color, these species are all from the same species. They have been classified into different species, or subspecies, because of their geographic location and color.</p> <p>En general, se clasifican en especies o subespecies debido a su ubicación geográfica y color.</p> | <p>4 <b>Ardea herodias</b><br/>Lima, Perù<br/>Cathartes aura <i>varieties</i><br/>Chrysomitris tristis <i>varieties</i><br/>Chrysomitris tristis <i>varieties</i></p> <p>Ardea herodias <i>varieties</i><br/>Cathartes aura <i>varieties</i><br/>Chrysomitris tristis <i>varieties</i></p> <p>Ardea herodias <i>varieties</i><br/>Cathartes aura <i>varieties</i><br/>Chrysomitris tristis <i>varieties</i></p> | <p>4 <b>Basilinna</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>5 <b>Sceloporus</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>6 <b>Phalaenoptilus</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>7 <b>Waxwings</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>8 <b>Green Heron</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> | <p>9 <b>Blue-gray Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>10 <b>Yellow Warbler</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>11 <b>Black-chinned Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>12 <b>White-throated Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>13 <b>Blue-gray Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>14 <b>Yellow Warbler</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>15 <b>Black-chinned Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>16 <b>White-throated Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> | <p>17 <b>Blue-gray Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>18 <b>Yellow Warbler</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>19 <b>Black-chinned Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>20 <b>White-throated Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>21 <b>Blue-gray Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>22 <b>Yellow Warbler</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>23 <b>Black-chinned Tanager</b><br/>Ardea herodias<br/>Basilinna</p> <p>24 <b>White-throated 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WETA  
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MUSEUM



# Social Media Projection



[colorwall.vercel.app](https://colorwall.vercel.app)

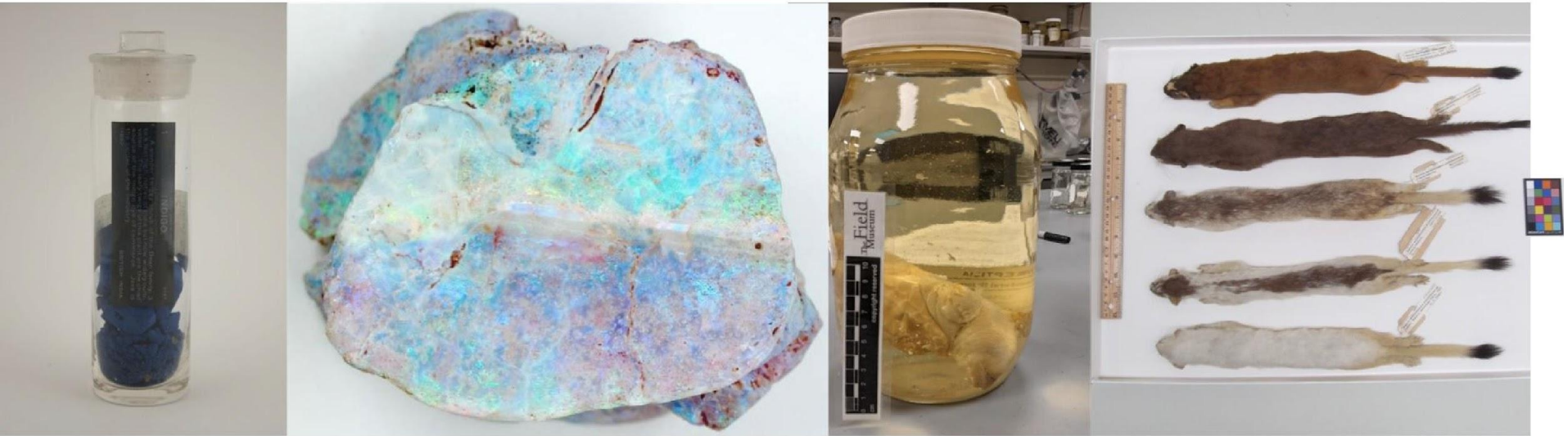
-Images crowd-sourced from social media scroll and project onto wall

-69 images currently featured

The finale of specimens and media brings together the entire rainbow to answer some big questions: Why is nature so colorful at times? How can plants and animals change color? How do we make colors from nature? And how can we connect to color in nature?

# Wildly Colorful

- Natural dyes
- Iridescence
- Color mutation
- Color changing





# WILD COLOR

**Field Museum – Traveling Exhibitions**

**312.665.7119 | 312.665.7311 | [travelingexh@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:travelingexh@fieldmuseum.org)**