



Front of House Briefing

Find Our Forgotten Creatures

Hello and welcome to your guide to supporting *Find our Forgotten Creatures*; a self-led experience for young visitors as part of The Wild Escape.

The overall premise of this activity is to empower children to lead their own journey around your space. For this to have the greatest impact we need to step back and present ourselves as needing their help, to invert the status quo of adult and child dynamics and ask them to show us what we cannot see.

The activity consists of a poster for *Find Our Forgotten Creatures* with an accompanying activity sheet asking child visitors to search your venue to help find unseen and overlooked creatures. Once identified they should draw them, upload them to a portal and have them animated in the digital collective artwork created by Art Fund.

Here is your guidance on supporting this activity.

Before you begin

- Read through your poster and activity sheet and listen to the audio guide then attempt to complete the activity yourself. Placing yourself in the role of the child and exploring your space with the objective of finding unseen and overlooked creatures will allow you to really see how a child could complete the task we are asking of them.
- Explore your space and identify key areas that feel quieter or overlooked.
- Explore your space and identify what wildlife you have that feels hidden or forgotten; this doesn't need to be in a display, it might be cobwebs on the ceiling or a drawing of a dog in the background of an exhibit.



- Organise and maintain a good stock of the printed activity sheet along with pencils for the children to complete the activity.

Delivery of activity and resources

- Place your poster somewhere prominent where it can be seen and easily accessed by child visitors. Keep the stock of activity sheets nearby.
- Ideally hand the activity sheets directly to children and show them the poster.
- Some ideas on what to say when pointing out the poster or handing over the activity sheet; *I think we might need your help with something, have you seen this?*
I'm so glad you're here, we really need some help with this.
We've been struggling with an activity here; I think you might be able to help us...
- Once you have engaged the child with the printed material, leave it to them to read through and absorb.
- If a child needs support, you can guide them towards quieter spaces that you have identified by asking questions; *Have you been here before? Have you tried going in the opposite direction to everyone else? Have you looked at the curtains? The floors? Unseen things are usually in the last place you look!*

More than anything, have fun! Allow children to respond in whichever way they choose, if they aren't interested that's fine, you can leave it with them, and they may come to it later.

All the best

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