

HALL OF BIODIVERSITY PAST

- Biodiversity means “the Variety of Life” and is critical for our planet’s sustainability.
- The Hall of Biodiversity Past explores billions of years of evolution and how our planet has changed.
- Understanding our past helps us to *protect biodiversity for our future*.
- There were 5 major extinctions during the past 4 billion years - ALL caused by natural disasters.
- Currently we are facing the 6th major extinction. Extinction rates are now 100 to 1000 times greater due to human activity!
- This new exhibit allows students to explore some recent Arizona extinctions (including the Mexican Grizzly Bear – there are none left) and some close-to-extinct species (including the Black-Footed Ferret).
- The exhibit encourages students to think about what will happen to animals they love today, if we don’t take steps now to save them.

Photos of new exhibit – just opened in February 2011 !!

