

Name _____

Journey into Earth's Past: The Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may vary, but students might describe feelings of awe, excitement, and curiosity as they stand in front of the Tyrannosaurus rex exhibit, imagining the ancient world it once inhabited.
2. Research and describe a specific gemstone or mineral from the Hall of Geology, Gems, and Minerals, emphasizing its characteristics, rarity, and geographic origin.
3. Discuss the role of museums like the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in promoting scientific education, research, and conservation awareness, using examples from the museum's exhibits and programs.
4. Answers may vary, but a student might choose to explore the Hall of Geology, Gems, and Minerals to learn about Earth's geological treasures or the Ocean Hall to gain insights into marine life and conservation.

