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“Hunters of the Sky”

Explore the biology and ecology of eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, and the condor

Jackson, Miss. - Children of all ages can fly high with “Hunters of the Sky”, a hands-on national traveling exhibit about Raptors - the great birds of prey – at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science from June 23 – December 30, 2007.

“For thousands of years, these majestic creatures have gripped the human imagination,” explains museum director Libby Hartfield. Raptors have been revered as divine messengers, prized as hunting companions, and celebrated as symbols of power. Visitors will explore the biology and ecology of raptors – eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, and the rarely seen condor – the diverse and complex birds of prey whose continued survival is fundamentally linked to humans.

“*Hunters of the Sky* is the largest temporary exhibit that the Museum has ever mounted!” continues Hartfield. In addition to life-size dioramas that illustrate the majesty of birds of prey in their natural habitats, the exhibit offers a variety of interactive components that will engross both children and adults.

- Visitors can try a ‘hooting’ booth to listen and attempt to mimic owl calls;
- Compare a predator’s wingspan to the reach of their own arms;

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- Try their hand at a ‘feeding puppet’ used to raise young captive bred condors;
- Experience a wind tunnel that illustrates how birds are able to fly,
- See birds-eye-view footage shot from gliders and an X-Ray exhibit that allows visitors to view radiographic images of injured birds and read about the diagnoses and treatments.

Each Saturday at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., visitors will be able to view these majestic birds up-close and learn fascinating facts about them from their handler, David Hall from the Wildlife Outreach Foundation. Live hawks fly in a demonstration of how hawks hunt for their food. Visitors will experience why these birds are such successful hunters of the sky. The Museum’s Fun Fridays and First Tuesday Lecture Series will also feature birds throughout the run of the exhibit.

The museum is located at 2148 Riverside Drive in Jackson. Call 601.354.7303 or visit www.msnaturalscience.org for details.

“Hunters of the Sky” is sponsored by The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Foundation, Regions Bank, Gertrude C. Ford Foundation, Merrill Lynch, Nissan of North America, Inc., Ergon, Dudley J. Hughes, and Mr. & Mrs. Alex Alston.



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