

Pre-Class and Post-Class Activities

Osteology

Note: The following discussions are completely optional and are not required for participation in the Osteology class. This information is provided as ways to build on this class and to be used at your discretion.

Vocab to know:

- Osteology
- Skull
- Incisor
- Canine
- Molar
- Herbivore
- Omnivore
- Carnivore
- Predator
- Prey
- Orbital Cavity
- Binocular Vision
- Peripheral Vision
- Adaptation

Pre-Class Discussions:

Before class, think about how you can tell what an animal eats just by looking at its skull. What differences can you notice between the teeth of a plant-eating animal and a meat-eating animal? Discuss why animals have different types, shapes, and numbers of teeth and how dental structures might help them survive.

Post Class Discussions:

What can an animal's skull and teeth tell us about how it lives? Discuss how tooth shape, number, and eye placement can help scientists identify an animal and determine its diet.

Applicable CA State Content Standards

California Next Generation Science Standards (CA NGSS)

- 2-LS4-1
- 3-LS4-2
- 3-LS4-3
- 4-LS1-1
- 4-LS1-2

Science & Engineering Practices: Make observations, analyze data, identify patterns, and construct explanations using evidence.