



















HMNS SENSORY GUIDE

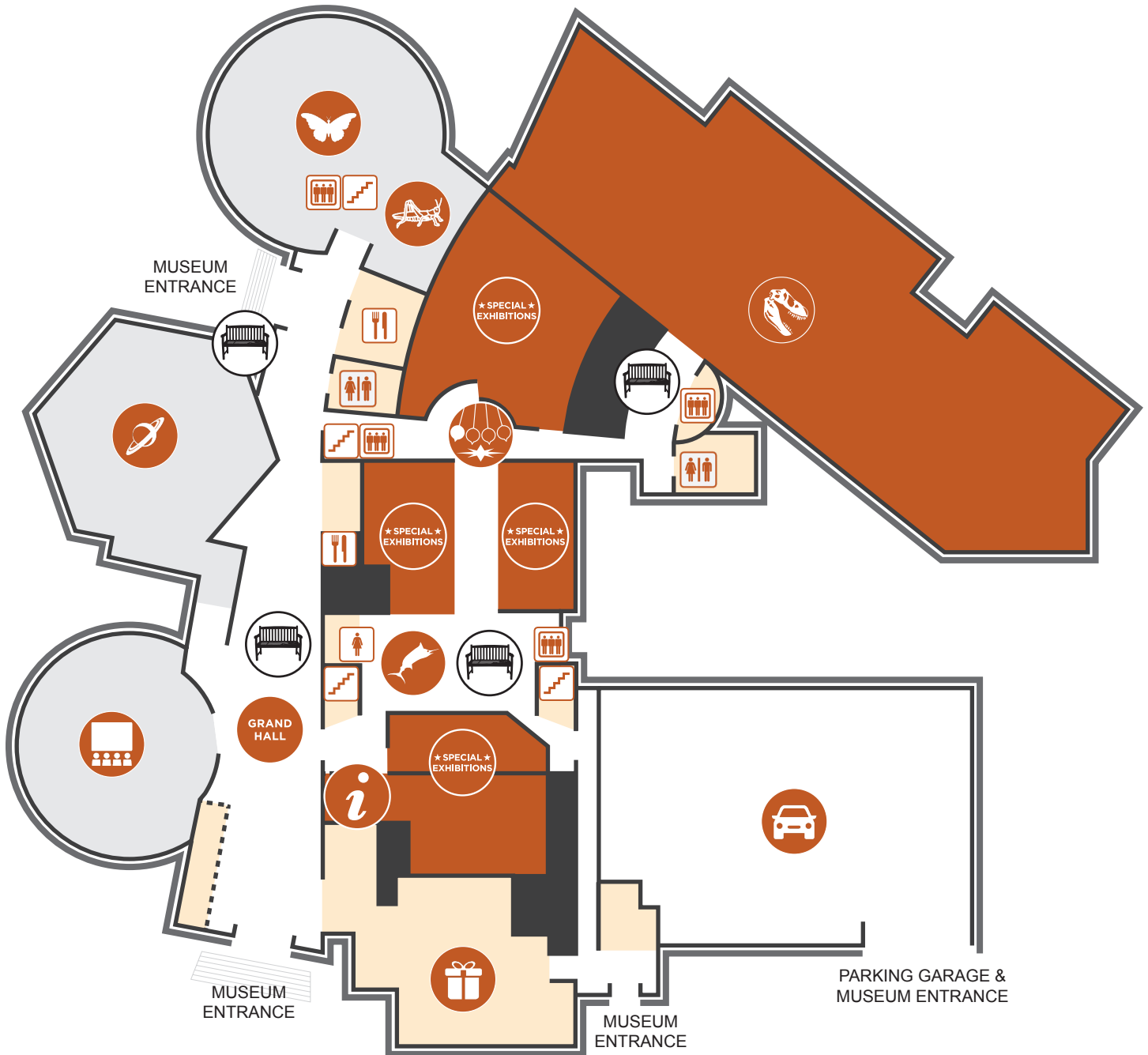
Our Sensory Guide provides you with information on which exhibits meet your family member's sensory needs. Use this guide to plan your visit and decide which exhibit halls, transitions and pathways between museum halls are appropriate for your family.

The Houston Museum of Natural Science has five floors of exhibit hall spaces with elevators or stairs available as pathways between floors. This guide displays color-coded versions of each floor with numbered exhibit hall spaces. A sensory evaluation of each exhibit hall corresponds to the numbered spaces listed on the map. Evaluations are included for noise level, visual stimulation, tactile components, and any scents you may encounter. Please note that these evaluations are for a typical day at HMNS and could vary depending on the time and date of your visit. For more tips for your visit as well as sensory evaluations of special exhibits, visit www.hmns.org/accessibility/

















Feel free to print this guide and bring it with you the day of your visit, along with any other resources you may need to enjoy your trip!

MUSEUM LEVELS	MAP	Adult Changing Table	Restrooms	Food	Stairs	Elevator
						
SENSORY RATINGS	SOUND		LIGHT	TOUCH	SMELL	
	HIGH					
	MEDIUM				BREAK SPACE	
LOW						

MAIN LEVEL



MAIN LEVEL

MAP	LOCATION	SOUND	LIGHT	TOUCH	NOTES
	Cullen Grand Entry Hall				Large open space, featuring Box Office and entrances
	Burke Baker Planetarium				Sit towards front for easy exit at front of dome if needed; sharp incline of seats and floor for movie; dim lighting, high volume
	Wortham Giant Screen Theatre				Sit towards back for easy exit at top of stairs if needed; dim lighting, high volume; cold inside theater; shows in 3D, requires 3D glasses
	Brown Hall of Entomology				Lots of interactives and live bugs 
	Cockrell Butterfly Center				High humidity and temperature in conservatory 
	Museum Services				Museum employees who can provide assistance; access to intercom
	Hamill Gallery	Please visit the HMNS Accessibility webpage for a sensory evaluation of this Special Exhibit.			
	Brown Gallery	Please visit the HMNS Accessibility webpage for a sensory evaluation of this Special Exhibit.			

KEY



LOW



MEDIUM



HIGH



ODORS



BREAK PLACE

MAIN LEVEL

MAP	LOCATION	SOUND	LIGHT	TOUCH	NOTES
	Alfred C. Glassell, Jr. Hall				A few screens plus changing lights
	Fondren Gallery	Please visit the HMNS Accessibility webpage for a sensory evaluation of this Special Exhibit.			
	Jones Gallery	Please visit the HMNS Accessibility webpage for a sensory evaluation of this Special Exhibit.			
	Albert and Ethel Herzstein Foucault Pendulum				Will draw a crowd in small space
	Hall of Temporary Exhibitions	Please visit the HMNS Accessibility webpage for a sensory evaluation of this Special Exhibit.			
	Morian Hall of Paleontology				Lots of echoes; Jurassic Bark and Special Collection rooms are darker
	Museum Store				Access to parking garage only available through shop
	Museum Garage				The museum's garage fills up quickly and can be noisy and smelly from vehicles.

KEY



LOW



MEDIUM



HIGH

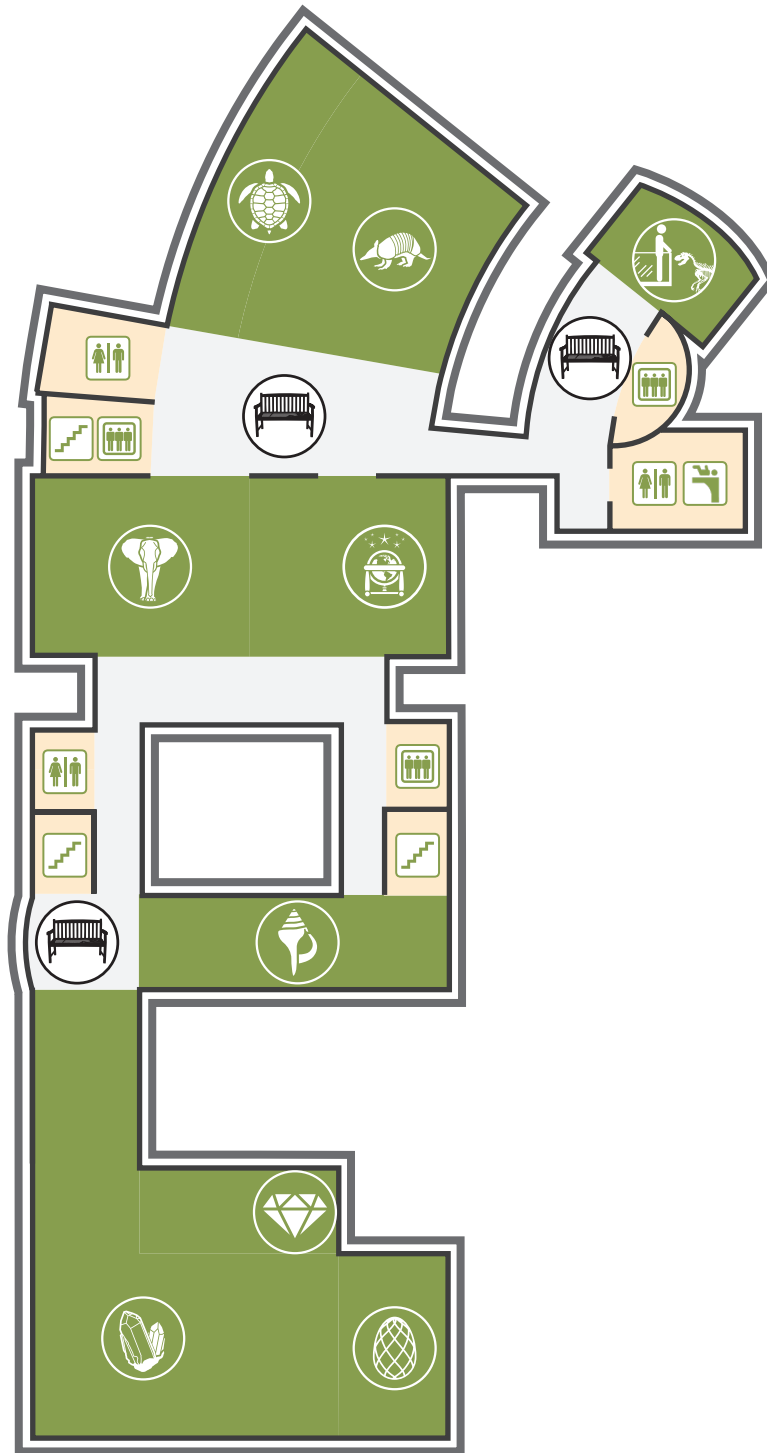


ODORS



BREAK PLACE

SECOND LEVEL



SECOND LEVEL

MAP	LOCATION	SOUND	LIGHT	TOUCH	NOTES
	Cullen Hall of Gems and Minerals				Dark and quiet
	Lester & Sue Smith Gem Vault				Dark and quiet
	McFerrin Fabergé Collection				Quiet space with touch-screen labels
	Strake Hall of Malacology				A few videos with assistive listening and tactile section
	Cabinet of Curiosities				A room where everything is touchable; pull out drawers and hidden compartments everywhere
	Evelyn & Herbert Frensley Hall of African Wildlife				A few interactive games
	Farish Hall of Texas Wildlife				Gradual change in light and sounds over 15-minute intervals; several interactive touchscreens
	Hamman Hall of Coastal Ecology				Several interactive touch-screens
	Morian Overlook				Dark, quiet space overlooking dinosaurs; glass barriers prevent falling over

KEY

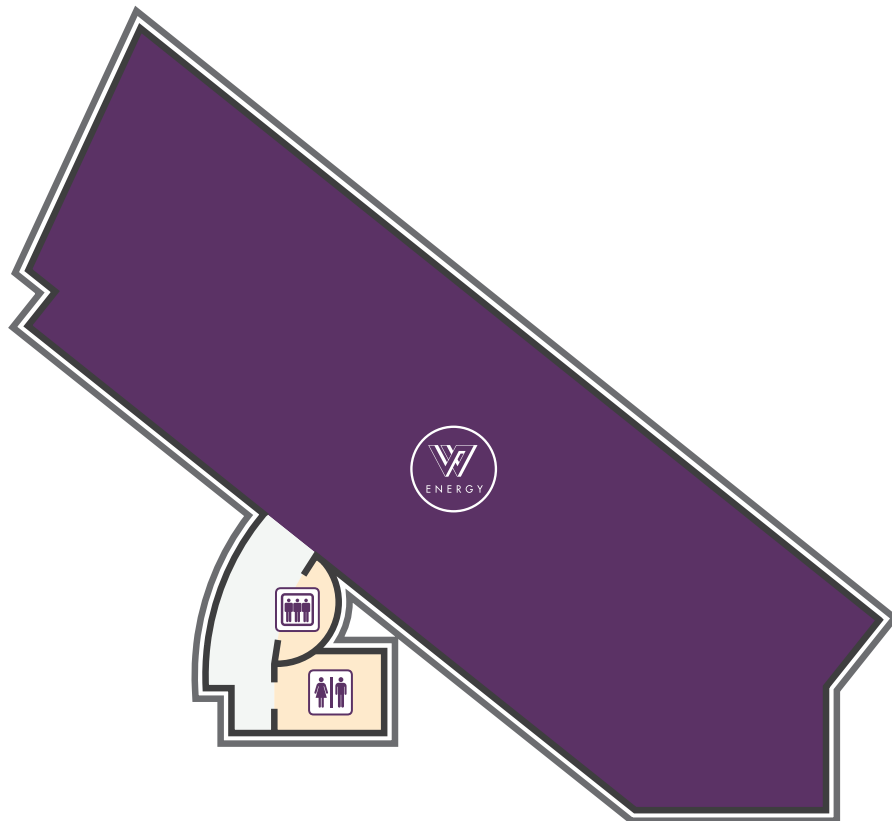
 **LOW**  **MEDIUM**  **HIGH**

 **ODORS**  **BREAK PLACE**

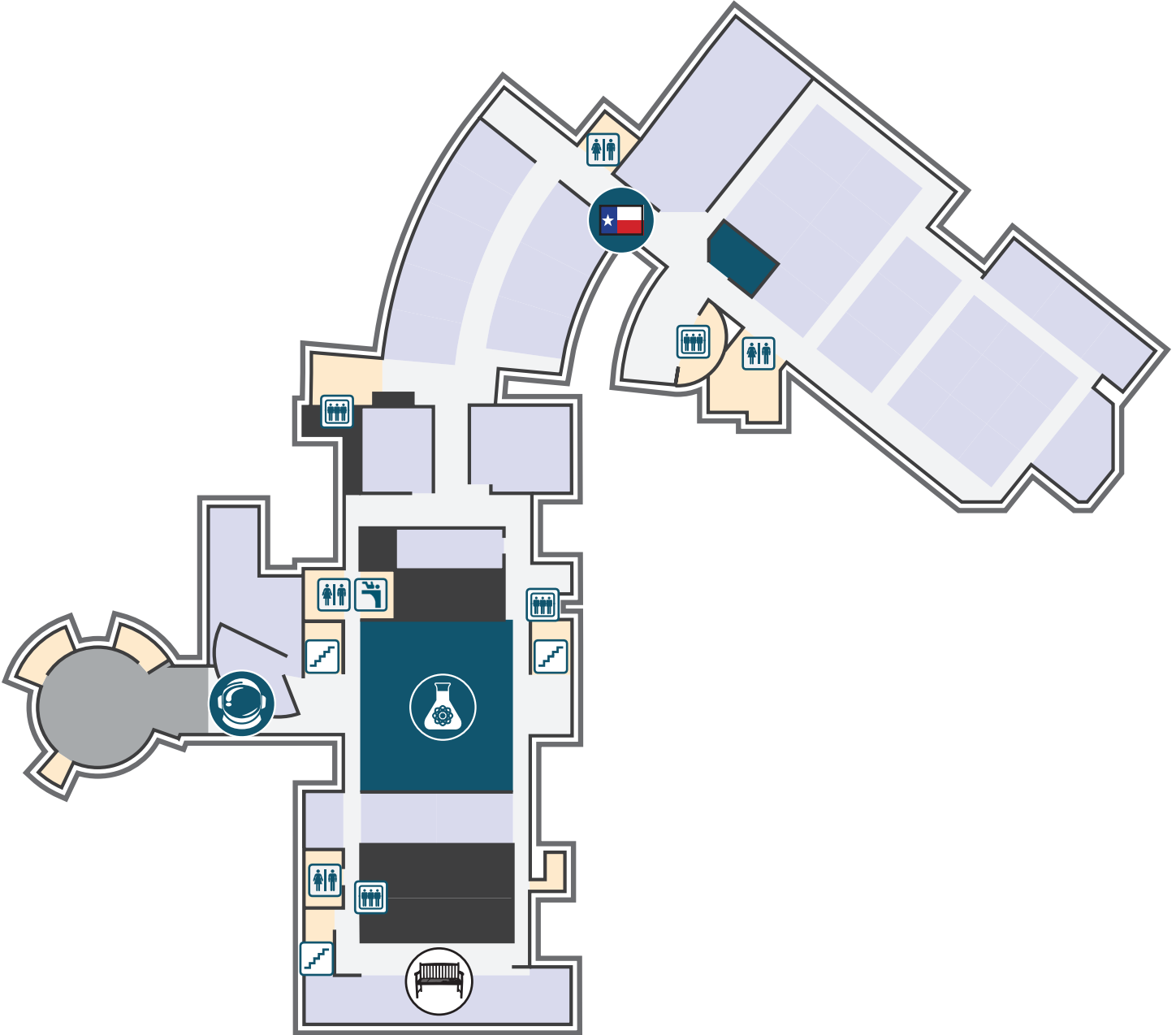
THIRD LEVEL













FOURTH LEVEL



LOWER LEVEL




THIRD LEVEL

MAP	LOCATION	SOUND	LIGHT	TOUCH	NOTES
	John P. McGovern Hall of the Americas				Sounds and lights change throughout exhibit
	Hall of Ancient Egypt				Dark in most places; many mummies and sarcophagi
	The Brown Foundation Exhibition Hall	Please visit the HMNS Accessibility webpage for a sensory evaluation of this Special Exhibit.			
	Cullen Exhibition Hall	Please visit the HMNS Accessibility webpage for a sensory evaluation of this Special Exhibit.			

FOURTH LEVEL

	Wiess Energy Hall				Overwhelming sensory experience, not recommended for people with sensory sensitivities
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LOWER LEVEL

	Welch Chemistry Hall				Lots of interactives; chemistry demos may create strong odors and sounds 
	Evelyn and Herbert J. Frensky Hall of Astronomy				A couple interactive space history displays
	Vintage Texas Wildlife Dioramas				Many stuffed animals, plus rattlesnake that shakes tail

KEY	 LOW	 MEDIUM	 HIGH	 ODORS	 BREAK PLACE
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SEE YOU SOON!