My Visit to the Texas Memorial Museum

By _______________________________
(your name)

I visited the museum on ________________________________ (date).

It is located at The University of Texas at Austin.

I was most excited to see ____________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________.
Great Hall (2nd Floor)

Describe the entrance hall using your senses. When I entered the museum...

I saw ________________________________

I heard ________________________________

I felt________________________________________

I don’t forget to look all around you, especially up!

In the entry hall there is a large collection of gems and minerals. Pick out your favorite one.

My favorite gem or mineral was the __________________________.

I liked it because ____________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________

It was about the size of ____________________________.

Here is a drawing of what it looked like:

Was it in its natural form or cut and polished? Mark your answer.

___ Natural form

___ Cut and polished
Hall of Geology & Paleontology (1st Floor)

Start in the section called Deep Time in Texas.

Find the large meteorite on display and touch it. How does it feel? Circle the words that describe it. (Not all parts may feel the same.)

smooth  rough  hard  soft  bumpy  flat

Where do meteorites come from? _________________________________

Next, enter the main room. Write the name of one fossil for each time period of Texas’ history. (You can look at the signs to find the names of the time periods.)

Permian ________________________________
Triassic ________________________________
Cretaceous ______________________________
Tertiary _________________________________
Ice Ages ________________________________

Put a star next to the time period when most dinosaurs lived.

What is one question you still have about something on display in this hall? ________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Hall of Texas Wildlife (3rd Floor)

This hall is mostly dioramas, display cases that try to show animals in their natural habitats.

Go to the section called Natural Regions of Texas.

Which region is most similar to where you live? Put a check mark next to it. (Hint: Look at the shaded maps.)

___ South Texas Brush Country and Coastal Plains
___ Oak Woodlands and Prairies
___ Piney Woods and Southeastern Coastal Prairies
___ Edwards Plateau and Llano Uplift
___ Panhandle Plains
___ Trans-Pecos

I found a venomous animal called a ________________________________

I found an animal that sleeps during the day and is active at night. It’s called a ________________________________

I found an animal that blends in with its surroundings (camouflage) called a ________________________________

I found a predator and its prey. I think that what is happening is...

__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

Check with a friend, chaperone, teacher, or family member. Do they agree with your description? Yes / No
Hall of Biodiversity (4th Floor)

Preserved Specimens

Draw one of the preserved specimens in a jar.

What species is it? ____________________________

Which words do you think describe the preserved specimens?

Cool     Weird     Scary     Interesting

Strange     Boring     Surprising

Can you think of any other words?

Enter the The Buzz Saw Sharks of Long Ago exhibit and see if you can find all of the following things. Whenever you find one, check it off the list below.

___ Photo of paleontologist Alexander Karpinsky
___ Fossilized tooth whorl
___ Squid
___ Cheeseburger
___ The Shark Family Tree
___ Chimaera
___ Phosphate ore
___ The Ripper (Ed the Shred Head)
___ *Helicoprion* (Buzz Saw Shark) sculpture
___ Picture or painting of artist Ray Troll