

## **UNIT 6: THE DIVERSITY OF LIFE**

### **PLAY “MISSION EXPLORE”.**

Dear language assistant,

Pupils are going to play a computer game called Mission Explore that is in the website of the Natural History Museum.

<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/kids-only/fun-games/mission-explore/>

Before switching on the computers it's necessary to explain the game and some vocabulary. Pupils are going to be scientists of the Natural History Museum, one of the most important museums in the world. You can explain what there are in this museum. (Sometimes Spanish people can get confused about Natural History and they can imagine a History Museum. We don't usually say Historia Natural but Ciencias Naturales). Process:

1. You are going to visit an imaginary island called Regaloam and you have to get permission to explore the island and to pick some minerals.
2. Then the computer asks you to choose what to look for in the island: plants, fossils, animals, minerals...
3. When you arrived to the island you have to find the right area for collecting your specimen. You will see a map with different parts: woodland, meadow, rock, soil, seashore and open sea.
4. When you had found the specimen, you will have to write down the grid reference of location (across and up) and get a photograph. You can write an example on the board:
5. You are now ready to collect your specimen but first you have to choose a tool (for instance, a suitable tool for collecting minerals is a hammer).
6. You will return to the Museum to identify what it is. You will get the name of the specimen answering some questions about its appearance.
7. After that you will choose a way to preserve it for the future
8. Exhibit in the museum.

Each student gets a table to record that on his/her activity book. Perhaps you can explain some words in the record table.

Thank you

## MISSION EXPLORE

A record of your mission

What's your destination?

Collecting permit obtained? Yes No

What are you going to collect?

**Specimen found in:**

woodland, meadow, rock, soil,  
seashore or opensea

**Grid reference of location**

**Tool used for collecting:**

Which **Department of the  
Museum** do you put your  
specimen in?

Record on this map where you found  
your specimen

10										
9										
8										
7										
6										
5										
4										
3										
2										
1										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

**Specimen preserved**

in a controlled environment  
by freeze drying

by dry mounting  
in spirit