

1 Scarlet macaw



The Waiwai people of Guyana, use scarlet macaw feathers to decorate objects such as hair tubes and lip decorations. Birds are important to the Waiwai, as they believe that animal and human life are interconnected, and the human spirit can fly to other worlds.

2 Hair tube



Waiwai men and boys wear these hair tubes for important events. The beaded patterns represent rainforest animals. The Waiwai describe themselves as bird people and using feathers to create objects celebrates that. Can you find any other objects decorated with bird feathers?

3 Toucan



Toucans use their large beak to pick fruit. It might attract a mate or scare away predators too. Their bills are very light and made of keratin, the same as our nails and hair. The Waiwai use toucan feathers to decorate objects such as hair tubes and headdresses.

4 Lip ornament



What do you wear for special occasions? This object is a decoration worn through a hole in the lip. Making and wearing beautiful objects is part of becoming 'a real human' which is something the Waiwai aim to achieve throughout their lives.

5 Belt

The Waiwai believe that all animals had special powers that could help or harm you in your life. If you wore something made of jaguar skin (like this belt) you would be fast, strong and powerful like a jaguar. Which animal would you like the powers of?



6 Jaguar



The jaguar is an important animal to many groups of people in South America. Jaguar skin was used to make belts to wear at ceremonies and the teeth were used to make necklaces. Do you wear any clothes made of animals?

7 Basket



What would you keep in this basket? This is a man's bag, or *pakara*, used to store combs, hair tubes and other personal items. The woven patterns represent stories, and often to feature animals that are important to the Waiwai such as scorpions, jaguars and anacondas.

8 Cassava grater



Have you eaten cassava? The WaiWai eat lots of cassava (a starchy root vegetable) but it has to be carefully prepared, as it contains a poison called cyanide. This is a cassava grater made and used by the Waiwai people. Which animals can you see on this object?

9 Poison arrow

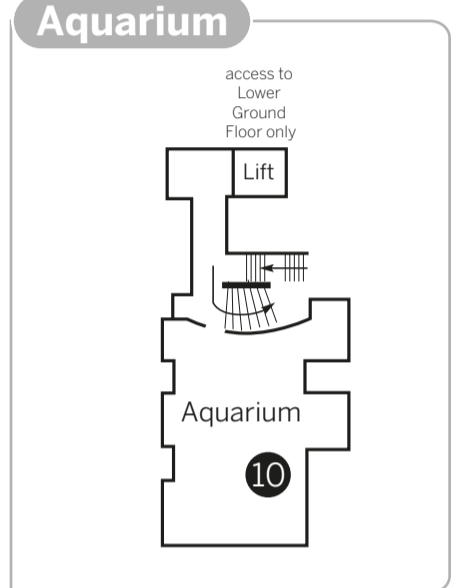
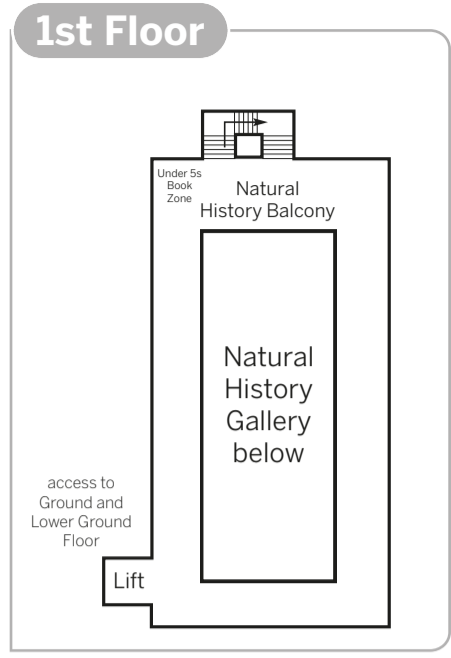
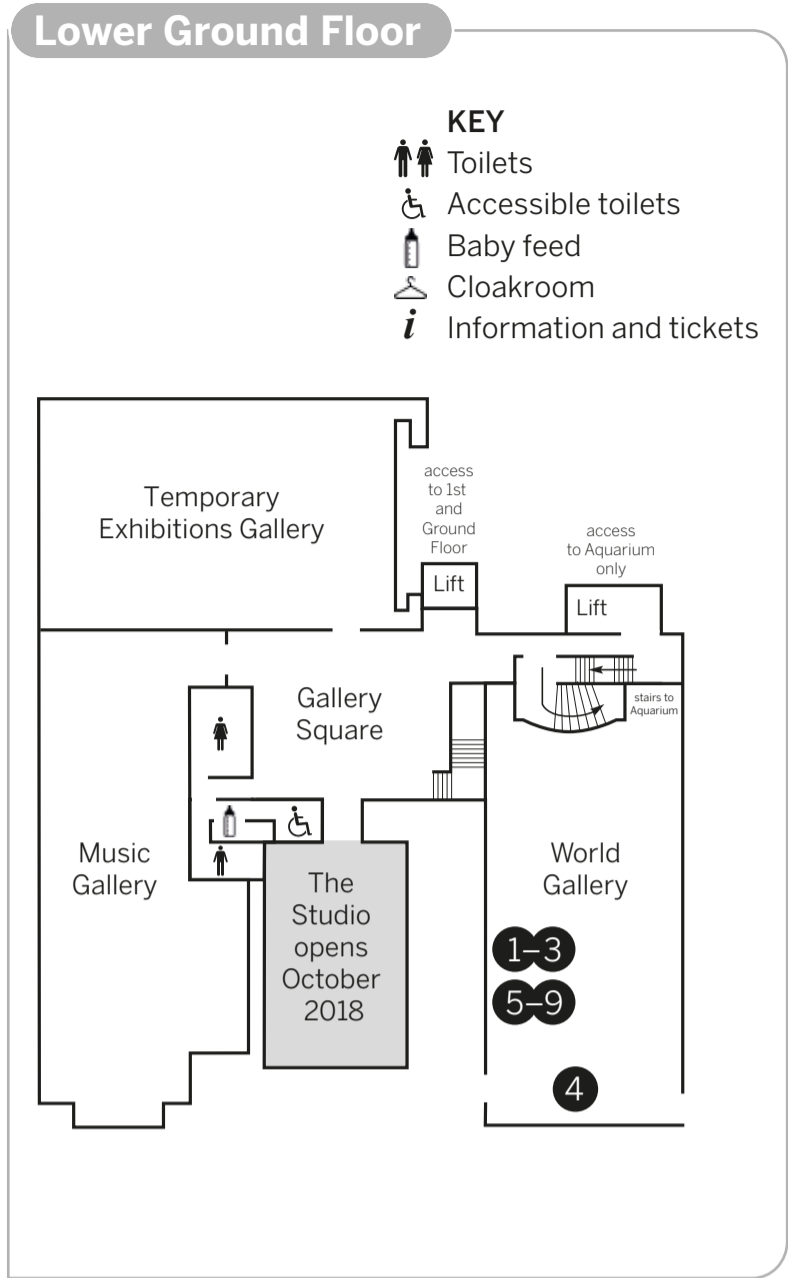
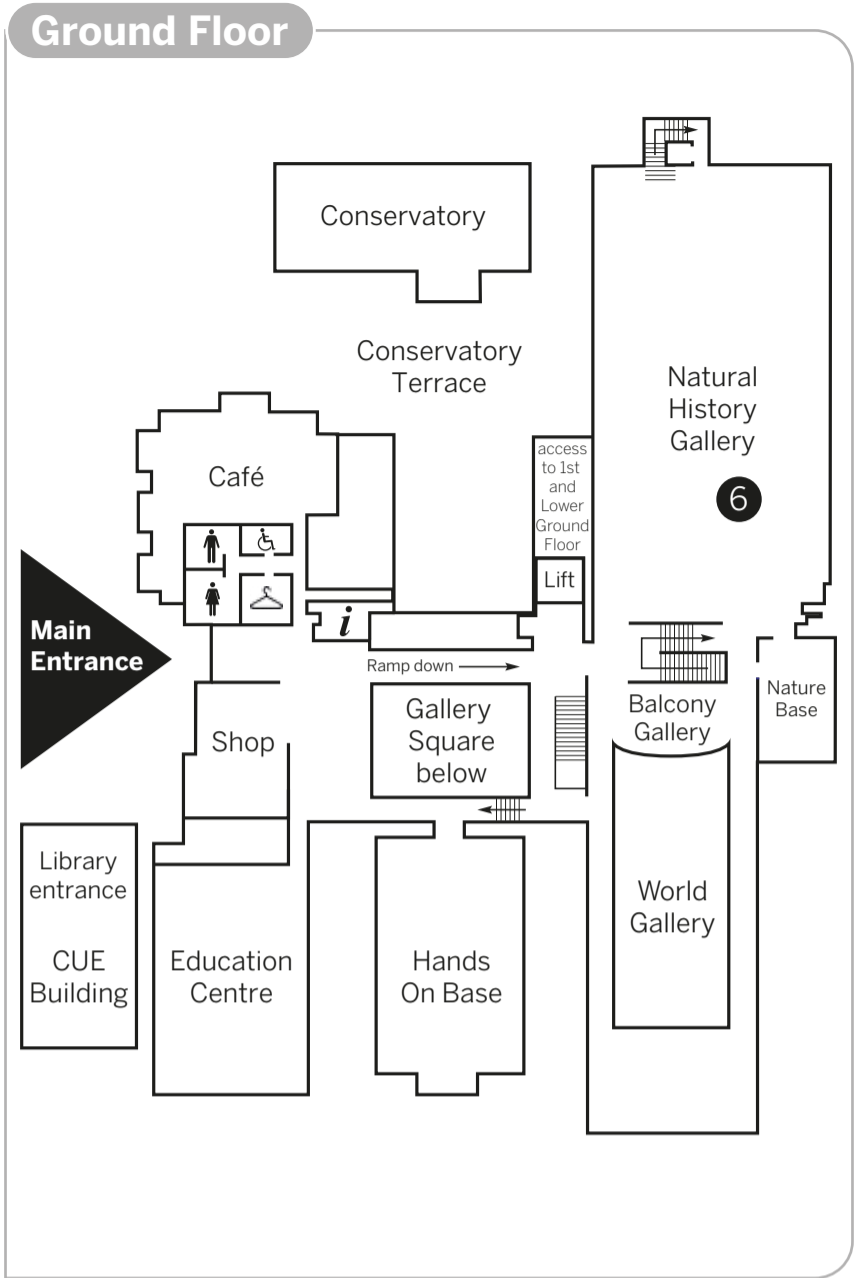


Living in the Amazon Rainforest, the Waiwai people make use of the many animals, trees and plants that surround them. The tip of this bamboo arrow, is covered with powerful plant toxins to help kill large animals such as tapir, jaguar and monkey.

10 Poison frog



Poison frogs are some of the most toxic animals on our planet. Their bright colours warn other animals of the danger. They are called poison dart or arrow frogs because some groups of people in South America have used these frogs' poison for their hunting weapons.



RAINFOREST PEOPLE OBJECTS

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