Welcome to the Gallery of California Natural Sciences! In this gallery, you will explore different animals that live in California. Did you know that California has many different types of habitats including mountains, forests, deserts, oceans, and more?

Each habitat is home to animals that have evolved unique adaptations to help them survive very well in that habitat. Today, you are invited to use this guide to investigate the diverse animals and landscapes that make California a special place.

Draw a place in nature that is special to you. What kinds of plants and animals live there? How do you help take care of it?

VOCABULARY:
- **Habitat**: The home or environment where an animal lives.
- **Adaptation**: Animals with body parts or behaviors that help them survive pass on these traits to their offspring, and we can see these features today.
- **Predator**: An animal that hunts and eats other animals.
- **Prey**: An animal that gets hunted and eaten.

OAKLAND

Find the Grass Hills of Oakland. Peek inside a scene where the Black-tailed Jackrabbit is avoiding becoming prey (food) by running away from a hungry predator with sharp teeth—a coyote.

OBSERVE: What 3 body parts of the rabbit might help it avoid being eaten by the coyote? Draw them here:

BONUS: What adaptations make the coyote a good hunter? Share your ideas with a friend.
**SUTTER BUTTES**

Locate an insect with orange and black wings. The **Monarch Butterfly**'s life cycle begins in the caterpillar stage. In this stage, the caterpillar eats a plant called Milkweed. Milkweed contains chemicals that taste bad to many animals.

**THINK:** Why do you think they might do this? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

**YOSEMITE**

In nature, **Black Bears** eat berries, fruits, and nuts. However, at Yosemite National Park, bears have adapted to living next to humans. As a result, they sometimes want to eat human food and have learned to break into cars and garbage bins.

**THINK:** Park rangers teach people how to be safe around bears. What are some ways you can be safe around wildlife? Use the exhibit to help you find this out.

**TEHACHAPIS**

Find the animals that blend in with their surroundings in the Tehachapis. What adaptations help them hide in their habitat? Write your ideas here:

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**FUN FACT:** The **Common Poorwill** uses cryptic coloration, or camouflage, to help them blend in with their surroundings.

**CORDELL BANK**

Search for the seabird that soars above the ocean looking for fish and squids to eat. The **Albatross** has the longest wingspan of any bird (up to 11 feet) and can fly 10,000 miles without stopping!

Draw 2 adaptations that help this bird thrive in its ocean habitat:

- **Hint:** Helps it fly long distance

- **Hint:** Helps it paddle on the surface of the ocean