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## THE NATURAL WORLD

This itinerary explores the science of the heavens, the earth and all living things.

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### American Indian Museum

Begin along Independence Avenue at the foot of the curvilinear building. On the grounds are re-creations of a variety of mid-Atlantic region habitats—forest, wetlands, meadows and cropland.

### Air and Space Museum

*Explore the Universe* and *Looking at Earth* trace the developing technology for observing faraway worlds and our own world from afar. Stop by *Milestones of Flight* to touch a piece of lunar rock brought back by the Apollo 17 astronauts.

### Natural History Museum

After your study of the earth and solar system, you're ready for a much closer look in *Geology, Gems & Minerals*, which includes a touchable Mars meteorite. Next, watch real paleontologists at work in the Fossilab, just off the Dinosaur Hall, or visit the little creatures in the O. Orkin Insect Zoo.

### Butterfly Habitat Garden

Stroll through the Butterfly Habitat on the grounds between the museum and Washington's 9th Street tunnel, where as many as 30 species have been sighted. There are more than 100 host and nectar plants, with illustrated signs, in four habitats. Follow the signs along the walkways, which describe the relationship between plant and butterfly species.

