Smithsonian Institution
National Museum of Natural History

Pre-visit Story
Hall of Human Origins
Morning at the Museum
Hall of Human Origins Exhibit

- When I am at the Natural History Museum, I can visit the Hall of Human Origins Exhibit.
- This exhibit is next to Mammal Hall.
- Human Origins tells the story of how humans have changed over the last 6 million years.
Faces of Early Humans

- When I visit the Human Origin Exhibit, I will see statues of early humans.
- Early humans may look different than me. Some humans may look like me.
- Some of the faces may look like real human faces. I know they are fake human faces.
- I will also see skulls and bones of early humans.
- If I find parts of the exhibit scary, I do not have to look at them.
Cave

- There is a cave that has drawings on the wall.
- The drawings on the wall tell the story of early humans.
- This cave is dark.
- I can go into the cave.
- If I do not want to go into the cave, I can walk past the cave.
Things I May Hear

• When I walk through the exhibit, I will hear animal noises.
• I will hear human voices.
• Sometimes the noise is loud.
• Sometimes the noise is quiet.
• I can stop and listen.
• I can keep walking if I do not want to listen.
Using Touch Screen Computers

- When I visit the Human Origin Exhibit, I will see many computers that I can use to play games.
- These games will teach me about early humans.
- If I need help, I can ask my mom or dad.
Leaving the Exhibit

- At the end of the Human Origins Exhibit there is a short tunnel that is dark and has flashing lights.
- I will hear a loud voice talking.
- I will see pictures on a TV.
- I can walk through the tunnel.
- If I do not want to walk through the tunnel, I can walk through the exhibit and go back to Mammal Hall.
Authors

Alyssa Reiter, OTS
Smithsonian Institution Fellow
University of the Sciences, Philadelphia, PA

Roger Ideishi, JD, OT/L, FAOTA
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA