

# Become a scientist, discover new species!

Worksheet to the guided program to the "How should we name it?" exhibition for older primary school children in the National Museum's new building



## TASK No. 1

A specimen is identified primarily based on its morphological characteristics (noticeable at first glance) using the senses. Assign lavender, Tawny Wood Owl and (small-spotted) catshark to the correct openings.

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## TASK No. 2

Identify the wood on the table based on the key.

The studied plant is \_\_\_\_\_; its Latin name is \_\_\_\_\_. The plant belongs to the \_\_\_\_\_ genus/family. It originates from \_\_\_\_\_ and is grown due to \_\_\_\_\_.

## TASK No. 3

The so called type embodies the characteristics of the described species and serves as an example for the identification of other specimen of the species. Assign the type specimen to their pictures and corresponding biological disciplines.

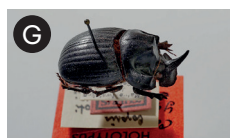
ZOOLOGY \_\_\_\_\_

BOTANY \_\_\_\_\_

PALEONTOLOGY \_\_\_\_\_

MINERALOGY \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) stuffed specimen
- 2) specimen preserved in alcohol
- 3) entomological collection
- 4) pelt
- 5) sample under microscopic slide
- 6) herbarium item



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## TASK No. 4

Select and assign the properties listed below among pros or cons of the given type.

PROS

CONS

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- changing the shape by pressing
- preserving the original shape
- risk of moth infestation
- ability to preserve soft tissues (amphibians, fish)
- fissuring due to drought
- unnatural position
- risk of crumbling
- loss of color
- drying out

## TASK No. 5

Even today, new species are being discovered. Take a look at the showcases and panels and find out what new kinds of organisms and minerals have been discovered in recent years.

NAME

PLACE OF DISCOVERY

YEAR

COMMENT

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## **TASK No. 6**

**You have just discovered a new species! Become a scientist and describe your discovery.**

STEPS:

1. Select a unique, so far unused name.
2. Describe the determining – so called diagnostic – characters of the species (color, size, morphology, anatomy, ...) and add a sketch.
3. Establish a type specimen, i.e. a type which will be used by future scientists to verify the name and definition of the species.
4. Publish the description in a professional book or journal – draft a paper, an article for the school magazine etc.

ANSWER:

1. Genus and species name

2. Drawing of the animal

3. Type specimen

4. Publication of the discovery

