

CURIOUS MICHIGAN

This mural depicts a curiosity cabinet filled with flora and fauna that are native to Michigan. Cabinets of curiosities are collections of notable objects often found in the natural world. These collections can include items such as bones, teeth, insects, jewelry, scientific instruments, rocks, and other oddities. Originally the word "cabinet" referred to a closet, but now these items can be housed in any container that's special to you, such as a bookshelf, crate, cigar/shoe box, tackle box, or even a drawer organizer!

- 1. Garter Snake** - The most common snake in North America, and Michigan!
- 2. White Tail Deer Antler** - Antlers that are found in nature are called "sheds" as male deer shed them annually.
- 3. Lupine** - A favorite treat for many Michigan pollinators.

- 4. Stoat** - This animal's name comes from the Dutch word meaning "bold"! In winter, their fur turns white to help with camouflage.
- 5. White Pine** - This is Michigan's state tree, and can be identified by it's signature 5 needles per bundle.
- 6. Black Bear Tooth**
- 7. Coyote Skull**

- 8. Cooper's Hawk** - An incredibly agile hunter, they often prey on small mammals and reptiles.
- 9. Chicory** - This wildflower can be used in salads, it's root can be used as a coffee substitute, and recently a sweetener has even been made from it's extract!



- 10. Muskrat** - These popular little creatures are known to eat as much as a third of their body weight in a day.
- 11. Nest with Robin's Eggs**
- 12. Oak Leaf**
- 13. Bee Balm** - Not just a favorite of birds and bees, this plant is antimicrobial, and can even help with indigestion.

- 14. Honeybees** - The most efficient pollinators in our state, honeybees are absolutely essential to our ecosystem.
- 15. Black-Eyed Susan** - An incredibly popular wildflower that can be found all over Michigan.
- 16. Trillium** - Our state wildflower, these beauties are protected under state law.

- 17. Beaver Skull**
- 18. Cecropia Moth** - The largest moth in Michigan, their wingspan can be a full 6 inches.
- 19. Brook Trout** - Found in rivers, streams, lakes, and the Great Lakes, these fish grow to about 10 inches in length.

20. Katydid - A member of the grasshopper family, katydids are very gentle and fun to watch.

21. Milkweed & Yarrow - Both of these plants are great for our pollinators.

22. Red Pine (Pinecone)

23. Marmorated Stink Bug - You've found the one invasive species in this illustration! Stink bugs are not native to Michigan, but you can find them just about everywhere now.

24. Petoskey Stone

25. Deer Mouse - Unlike their friends the house mouse, these little guys are generally found outside of dwellings, not inside. They can easily be identified by their white bellies.

26. Monarch Butterfly - Likely the most recognizable of our butterflies, if you see milkweed, you'll likely find these beauties nearby.

27. Red-Tailed Hawk Feather

28. Swamp Darner Dragonfly

29. Black-Eyed Susan

30. Painted Turtle - During warmer months, these turtles only have to come up once every 30 hours for air. In the winter, they can hold their breath for up to FOUR MONTHS!

31. Morel Mushroom - These elusive mushrooms are a favorite for foragers. Have you ever found a morel mushroom in the wild?



32. Spotted Salamander - It may surprise you that we have a salamander native to Michigan, but we do! These amphibians spend most of their time burrowed underground, but can be seen in the Spring during mating season.

33. Opossum Skull - Our only marsupial, opossums can have a bad reputation. However, these cuties are great for the ecosystem and eat common pests such as ticks, mice, and cockroaches.

34. Echinacea (Purple Cone Flower) & Joe Pye Weed

35. Common Shells often Found in the Great Lakes

IF YOU HAD A CABINET OF CURIOSITIES, WHAT WOULD YOU PUT IN IT?

Curious Michigan is a part of ArtPath, a public art exhibition of Michigan Artists along Lansing's River Trail. This mural is located at Site 12, underneath the Kalamazoo Bridge. For more information on this project, please visit lansingartgallery.org.

Curious Michigan is an illustration by Lansing artist Sara Pulver. To see more of Sara's work, visit:

 sarapulver.com

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