

TARANTULAS

ALIVE & UP CLOSE

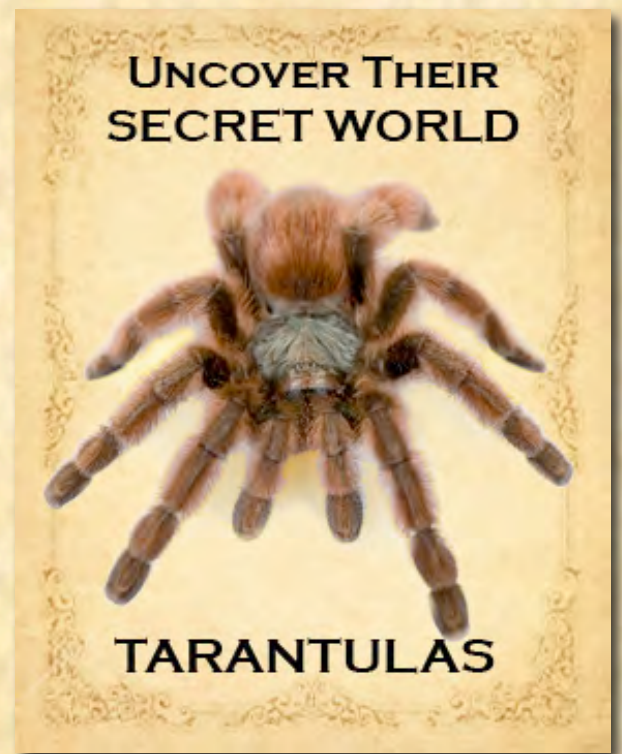
EIGHT LEGGED BEASTS

Tarantulas have a reputation that precedes them - a reputation of being the biggest, the baddest the most FEARFUL of all spiders. Hairy, fast, scary – sure, there’s some truth behind the rumors. But would you ever guess that these supposedly FIERCE giants of the spider world would much rather run and hide than stay and fight?

TARANTULAS takes the visitor on a journey of scientific discovery, presenting tarantulas in a new light. Focusing on the diverse and natural beauty of these giants of the spider world, the exhibit provides a uniquely engaging educational experience. Colorful graphics showcasing the natural history and fascinating facts of tarantulas are displayed alongside a stunning array of live tarantulas, giving visitors an up close and personal view of their hidden world.

SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE EXHIBIT INCLUDE:

- Diverse collection of live tarantulas serving as living illustrations to the exhibit topics;
- Interactive components illustrating unique attributes of tarantulas;
- Giant Anatomy Flip Book;
- “Tarantula Town” kid’s area, with a stylized tarantula burrow that doubles as a photo opportunity.



More than spiders on display in simple aquariums, **TARANTULAS: ALIVE AND UP CLOSE** is a fully immersive experience, with its elegant presentation of the tarantulas completing the experience.

DESIGN ELEMENTS

The visitor's journey of discovery begins upon entering the gallery. Warm lighting and rich, natural wood tones set the stage as hall lighting and backlit animal habitats illuminate the hall. The exhibit furniture and graphics are intentionally designed to create a warm and inviting space, enhancing the learning experience in partnership with the live tarantula encounters.



STORYLINE

INTRODUCTION

While at first glance tarantulas seem to all be the same, a closer look reveals some fascinating differences. Each 'group' of tarantulas share specific qualities that are different from one another, yet each contributes to their survival.



Introductory Area Kiosk (One of two)

The introductory section of the exhibit is largely comprised of oversize graphics that introduce basic physiological information, with a small selection of live tarantulas as living examples. Topics include:

- What is an Arachnid?
 - Tarantulas are Arachnids, and Arachnids are Spiders
- Definition of Tarantula

- Unique Anatomy and Examples; anatomically significant attributes highlighted to include:
 - Not All Fangs Are Created Equal
 - Spider Webs and Tarantula Burrows
 - Burrowing and Terrestrial Tarantulas
 - Arboreal Tarantulas

A small selection of live spiders is included in this section. Species Include: Venezuelan Sun Tiger Tarantula, Mexican Red Rump Tarantula, Black Widow Spider, Wolf Spider.

Special Features of this section include an oversize Anatomy Flip Book, which provides the visitor with more in-depth information about the unique anatomy and life systems of tarantulas.



Anatomy Flip Book



LIFE HABITS AND HABITATS AROUND THE WORLD

OVERVIEW

Tarantulas are found in many places in the world, and live in different types of climates. Above and below ground, desert to rainforest, tarantulas thrive all over the globe.

A large map, artistically framed, invites the visitor to explore and discover the origination of the featured tarantulas. Push button-activated lights associated with each one shows where in the world they are from.



"Tarantulas of the World" Interactive Map

LIFE HABITS AND HABITATS AROUND THE WORLD (CONTINUED)



A trip around to the other side of this component reveals live tarantulas on display, representing the various habitats from which they originate. Visitors can observe the attributes that allow tarantulas to live in such varied biomes, including deserts, rainforests, treetops and underground burrows.

Tarantulas on display include: Mysore Ornamental, Indian Ornamental, Hainanum Island Earth Tiger, Desert Blonde Tarantulas.

. . . CONTINUING THE JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

OVERVIEW

Now that various “types” of tarantulas has been established, it’s time to challenge preconceptions and assumptions, and test some knowledge. Are all tarantulas lightning fast, able to run up your arm in a split second? Why are tarantulas so hairy? And are they really deadly to humans? Each of these questions and more are explored in this part of the exhibit.

FAST AND FURIOUS, OR MEEK AND MILD?

This section of the exhibit explores tarantulas in action. While some species are heavy-bodied and not known for aggressive bursts of speed, plenty of tarantulas make speediness a part of their daily regime. Identifying which tarantulas are fast and which are not relies upon the visitor's observation of tarantula anatomy, and invites them to take a closer look. A flip panel interactive engages the visitor as they explore these concepts.



Tarantulas in Motion

ON THE QUESTION OF DANGER

The other side of this component explores the tarantula's reputation of a dangerous and fearsome predator. Their size, hairiness and general unfamiliarity all contribute to the misconception that tarantulas are something to be feared and avoided. But get in for a closer look and you'll discover that tarantulas not only are NOT considered deadly to humans, but they also are becoming very important contributors to advances in human medicine for everything from heart ailments to Muscular Dystrophy. Instead of being enemies to avoid at all costs, tarantulas can actually provide many helpful benefits to human kind.



Tarantulas Danger Revealed

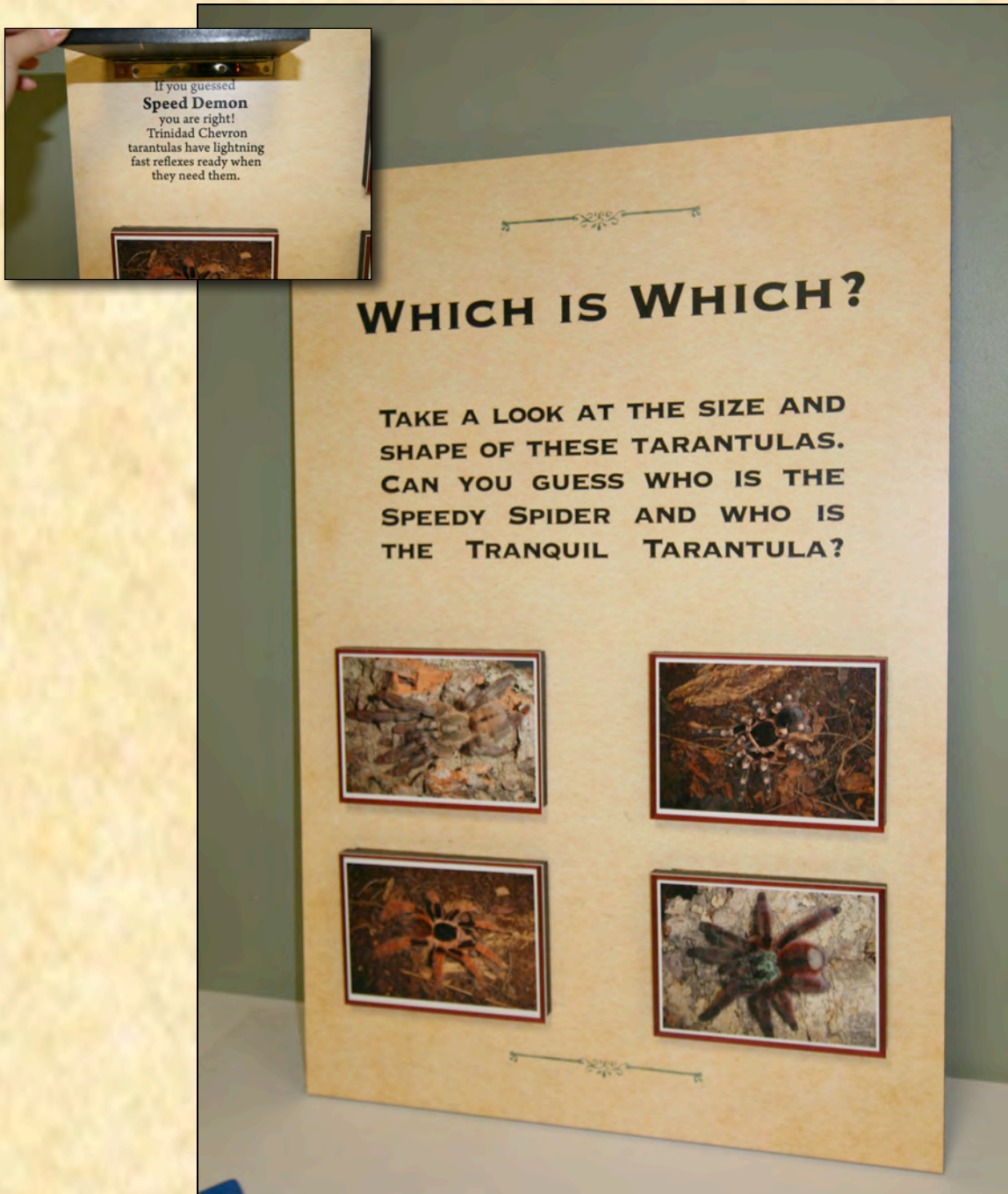
This component features tarantulas on display on all sides. One side focuses on “Danger” and the other focuses on “Speed”.

Species include: Goliath Birdeater, Trinidad Chevron, Vietnamese Earth Tiger, Ghost Ornamental, Chilean Rose Hair.

Special Feature of this component is the “Hissing Tarantula” interactive. Visitors are encouraged to “face” a tarantula in full display, which includes an audible hissing sound in some species.

Upon entering the open archway of the component, motion-sensitive sounds accompany a spotlight graphic of a tarantula in a defensive posture.

Another **Special Feature** of this component is the “Can You Guess?” interactive. Visitors are presented with a flip panel interactive that has four different tarantula images on display. Taking their clues from the living tarantula’s body shape and other attributes, the visitor is asked to guess which is speedy and which is slow. They then lift each panel to see if they guessed right.



ON THE QUESTION OF HAIR

Why *do* tarantulas have all that hair? Is it really hair? It's one of the things they ALL have in common. Aside from making their appearance unmistakable, the hairs (more accurately called *bristles*) covering a tarantula's body serve several functions necessary for their survival. Not only do their "hairy" bristles help them sense when food is nearby, it also makes them waterproof, protects them from parasites, and some have specialized hairs that allow them to climb glass. And certain tarantulas are able to "throw" barbed bristles at an enemy in defense!



"Hairy" Tarantulas

Several "hairier" species help illuminate the positive side of being hairy. Species include: Sri Lankan Ornamental, Curly Hair, Brazilian Black and White, Green Bottle Blue.

Special Feature of this component involves the visitor walking through the open archway. To activate their imagination and heighten their awareness of their own sensitivities, the visitor "feels" like a tarantula by activating an air current and noting where they first felt it.

ON THE QUESTION OF BEAUTY



THE JEWELS OF THE TARANTULA WORLD

While tarantulas are the large, hairy-looking, quick-witted spiders we all know, they also possess a unique and often overlooked beauty. This section highlights their more appealing aspects, and showcases them as beautiful living works of art.

Species include: Cobalt Blue, Giant White Knee, Giant Metallic Blue Pinktoe.

Special Feature of this section is the story of the Tarantella dance, or "how the tarantula got its name". A lead-in to the following section about tarantula and human relationships, the Tarantella story features a sound interactive of traditional tarantella music.



TARANTULAS AND PEOPLE

A series of graphic panels explores both the direct and indirect relationship humans have with tarantulas. Topics include:

- Eight Legged Treats (tarantulas as a food item for humans);
- Conservation and Co-Habitation;
- Tarantulas as Pets

TARANTULA TOWN – KID’S AREA

This section of the exhibit features a stylized tarantula burrow for the kids to explore. The burrow also serves as a Photo Opportunity where the kids can take turns being the tarantula or the tarantulas’ dinner!



Tarantula Burrow in Production; Photo Op



MASTER SPECIES LIST

Latin	Common
Psalmopoeus iriminia	Venezuelan Sun Tiger
Brachypelma vagans	Red Rump Tarantula
Lactrodectus mactans	Black Widow Spider
Lycosidae sp.	Wolf Spider
Poecilotheri striata	Mysore Ornamental
Poecilotheri regalis	Indian Ornamental
Aphonopelma chalcodes	Desert Blond/Mexican Blond
Theraphosa blondi	Goliath Birdeater
Psalmopoeus cambridgei	Trinidad Chevron
Poecilotheri pederseni	Ghost Ornamental
Grammastola rosea	Chilean Rose
Poecilotheri fasciata	Sri Lankan Ornamental
Brachypelma albopilosum	Curly Hair
Nhandu coloratovillosus	Brazilian Black and White
Chromatopelma cyaneopubescens	Green Bottle Blue
Haplopelma lividum	Cobalt Blue
Acanthuscurria geniculata	Giant White Knee
Avicularia metallica	Giant Metallic Blue Pinktoe
Aphonopelma echinum	Texas Brown
Avicularia avicularia	Pinktoe
Sericopelma rubronitens	Panama Red Remp
Haplopelma hainanum	Hainanum Island Earth Tiger
Haplopelma schmidtii	Chinese Golden Earth Tiger
Haplopelma vonwirthi	Vietnamese Tiger
Grammostola pulchripes	Chaco Giant Golden Striped
Poecilotheria ornata	Fringed Ornamental

TARANTULAS

ALIVE AND UP CLOSE

Exhibit Size: 2,500 square feet minimum

Rental Fee: Please Call for Quote

Rental Fee Includes:

- Full installation and tear down by Outhouse staff
- All livestock
- Staff training
- Education programming guidelines
- PR and marketing materials

Availability: Call for Details

TARANTULAS is designed with ease of use in mind. Each animal enclosure is easy to access, and is contained within two access points to ensure the security of the livestock as well as your staff and visitors. Unique construction also guarantees the longevity of the tarantulas and their comfort. More than a simple live spider exhibit, **TARANTULAS** captivates as it leads you on your journey of discovery.

