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Carolyn Belardo, 215-299-1043, belardo@ansp.org
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MUSEUM VISITORS WILL TEE UP TO PLAY ENVIRONMENTAL MINIATURE GOLF

Fore! The Planet: A Putt-to-Learn Adventure, May 21–September 24, 2011

PHILADELPHIA—Save an endangered animal, navigate a polluted waterway, follow the path of a migrating hawk—all while having fun playing miniature golf in the Academy of Natural Sciences' new exhibit *Fore! The Planet: A Putt-to-Learn Adventure*, opening May 21.

Created by the Academy and based on the research of its own scientists, *Fore! The Planet* features 18 holes of indoor miniature golf in which players test their putting skills along with their environmental know-how. The exhibit is free with regular museum admission and open through Sept. 24.

Each hole uses playful components and colorful graphics to explore dinosaur extinction, bat sonar, pollution, recycling and other themes in a way that's fun and educational for families with children. The front nine holes touch on how nature works, and the back nine are about people's interaction with the environment.

"Miniature golf is such a fun and engaging activity that we hope visitors will come back several times this summer to tee up," said Academy President and CEO George Gephart. "It's literally 18 holes of serious fun!"

The Academy created *Fore! The Planet* as a traveling exhibit and it has been shown at many museums in recent years including the Royal British Columbia Museum in Victoria, Canada, Omaha Children's Museum in Nebraska, San Diego Museum of Natural History in California, and the Pacific Science Center in Seattle, WA.

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The Academy of Natural Sciences, founded in 1812, is the oldest natural science research institution and museum in the Americas and a world leader in biodiversity and environmental research. The mission of the Academy is the encouragement and cultivation of the sciences.

HOURS: Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday–Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. **ADMISSION:** \$12 adults; \$10 children 3-12, seniors, college students, military personnel; free for members and children under 3. \$2 fee for Butterflies!