Limestone caves are common throughout Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. In our region, caves are dark, damp and have steady temperatures. Animals and plants that live in caves have special adaptations to help them thrive there. Cave conditions are also excellent for preservation, and caves are good places to learn about natural and human history. Scientists and explorers investigate caves to learn more about the world. As you explore this gallery, we invite you to let your imagination run wild. The prompts below will help you experience all that this gallery has to offer. To learn more about CMC’s cave, visit cincymuseum.org/sciencemuseum/cave

Act
• Close your eyes and listen to the sounds around you. What do you hear? Try cupping your hands around your ears. Did anything change?
• Bat wings are homologous to human hands. Can you flap your arms like a bat?
• Pre-K: If you were a cave-dwelling animal, how would you move around?

Discover
• What makes Mammoth Cave in Kentucky special?
• Bats play a big role in the environment. How are bats helpful to other plants and other animals?
• Pre-K: How many animals do you see around The Cave? What colors or patterns are on the animals that you see?

Investigate
• How do cave explorers stay safe? What safety-related items do they bring with them?
• What causes limestone caves to form? Can you think of other processes that are similar?
• Pre-K: Caves are good environments for saving things. What would you keep safe in a cave?

Share
• How can we care for the animals that live in and around caves?
• If you could explore anywhere in the world, where would you go? Why?
• Pre-K: Do you like to play outside? What do you like about being outside?