

The Green Screen: How does the ROM get endangered species in their galleries?
Schad Gallery of Biodiversity
Royal Ontario Museum

[Animated ROM logo moves toward camera and music starts. Title screen appears reading "The Green Screen"]

[Camera cuts to a medium shot of a young boy standing in front of foliage] Boy:
How does the ROM get endangered species in their gallery?

[Mary Burridge, Schad Gallery Curator, speaks to the camera while sitting in the Schad Gallery of Biodiversity.] Mary Burridge: One of the mandates of the Schad Gallery of Biodiversity was not to kill any specimens for the gallery which made perfect sense because one of the themes was life in crisis. *[cut to a still image of a collection of antlers mounted on a metal frame in one of the ROM's storage rooms.]* The idea of the Renaissance ROM was to bring out as many specimens from our collections as possible. Now this was a great idea, particularly for *[cut to a still image of a small mammal specimen being prepared for display in the gallery]* mammals because we did have a lot of *[cut to a still image of a large mammal's head with antlers that curl behind its head.]* large mammals, fairly old, that had been in storage for quite some time and had been used in previous mammal galleries. For example the snow leopard and the giant panda which are in the species at risk case here, we've had for a long time. *[cut to a still image of the snow leopard specimen installed in gallery]* They weren't in the greatest of shape, but with taxidermists help *[cut to a still image of the panda bear specimen installed in the gallery]* they've been shampooed, fluffed up, the face has been re-painted or claws have been replaced *[cut back to Mary sitting in gallery]* and they look almost as good as new.

[Screen title reads Schad Gallery of Biodiversity and music plays]