All vertebrates have basically the same bones: they are slightly different based on how the animal moves and what it eats.

Make your own fantastical beast!

- Cut out a body (bird or mammal, your choice) and paste it on the blank sheet
- Cut out body parts and glue them to the body

What back legs did you choose for your beast? How will that choice affect movement possibilities? [Back legs should be attached at the pelvis or hip]

What front limbs did you choose? How will that choice affect locomotion? Seizing and holding prey? [Front legs or wings should be attached at the scapula or shoulder]

What skull or head did you choose? What do the beast’s jaws and teeth tell you about its diet?

Did you add a tail? What purpose does that tail offer?

Did you use any other parts? What role do they serve?
Tell a story about your animal:

- Give it a name!
- What habitat does it live in? And what does it eat?
- Does it live in a group (herd, flock, etc.)? A family unit? Or is it solitary?

*Take a picture of your beast and story and email it to us (mollie.toll@state.nm.us). We will publish it on our website (www.nmarchaeology.org), and you will be famous!

Include your first name, age, and school if you like.