



Photo: Doris Evans

WILDLIFE DETECTIVES

Ages: 3-5; 6-12
Duration: 1.5 hours
Location: Pima County Park or other appropriate indoor/outdoor location

Animals can be difficult to spot in the wild, but though you may not see them, they often leave clues behind—tracks, scat, holes, nests, and more! Your group is sure to enjoy searching for wildlife clues, decoding nature stories, and using rubber track replicas to recreate an animal track guide to help identify tracks in the wild.

SKULLS FROM THE SONORAN DESERT

Ages: 3-5; 6-12
Duration: 1.5 hours
Location: Appropriate indoor location

You can tell a lot about an animal by looking at the size and shape of its skull. The group examines replica skulls to learn about what the animals eat, where they live, and how they hunt.

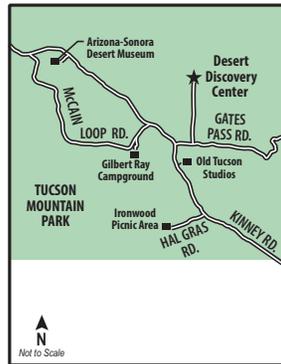
VENOMOUS AND POISONOUS CREATURES

Ages: 6-12
Duration: 1.5 hours
Location: Appropriate indoor location
 Learn about the biology and adaptations of some of Arizona's amazing creatures including rattlesnakes, scorpions, Gila monsters, and toads.

POLLINATORS AND FOOD

Ages: 3-5; 6-12
Duration: 1.5 hours
Location: Pima County Park or other appropriate indoor/outdoor location

Take a close look at the parts of a flower and discuss how, with the help of pollinators, plants create fruits and seeds. Then reinforce our reliance on the work of bees and other pollinators by 'feasting' on our imaginary pollinator-provided picnic.



PIMA COUNTY

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ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

YOUTH GROUP PROGRAMS




PIMA COUNTY
 NATURAL RESOURCES
 PARKS & RECREATION

The following programs are available free of charge at locations throughout Pima County. Programs are tailored to organized youth groups (ages 3-12). For additional information or to schedule a time to bring your youth group to a Pima County Park, or have us bring the educational program to your facility, call (520) 615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov.

ORIENTEERING

Ages: 7 and up

Duration: 2-2.5 hours

Location: Pima County Park or other appropriate outdoor location
Orienteering is a fun and practical way to explore the outside world. Participants learn to use a magnetic compass then apply those skills to navigate a custom-made orienteering course.

LET'S GO BIRDING!

Ages: 6-12

Duration: 2-2.5 hours

Location: Pima County Park or other appropriate outdoor location
The group learns easy tips for observing birds, and uses binoculars and field guides to identify common birds of the desert.

EXPLORE AQUATIC LIFE

Ages: 6-12

Duration: 2-2.5 hours

Location: Agua Caliente Park

Discover the diversity of life in the pond at Agua Caliente Park. We use nets, skimmers and buckets to collect water samples then watch the water come to life under the microscope.

GO BATTY!

Ages: 3-5; 6-12

Duration: 1.5 hours

Location: Pima County Park or other appropriate indoor/outdoor location

The group is introduced to the fascinating lives of bats as they participate in a series of activities that are adjusted to age, ability, and allotted time. Each participant takes on the role of a scientist to net bat replicas, take measurements, and looks for other clues to identify bats. For younger participants, hands-on science is followed by bat stories, make-and-take bat crafts, or "Go Batty" games.

DESERT WATERSHEDS AND THE WATER CYCLE

Ages: 6-12

Duration: 1-1.5 hours

Location: Appropriate indoor/outdoor location

Each child builds a watershed model to track the movement of water through the landscape via the water cycle. Then, collaborating with the group, explores the importance of water for wildlife and people in the desert.

DESERT WATER IN WATERCOLORS

Ages: 6-12

Duration: 1-1.5 hours

Location: Appropriate indoor/outdoor location

Taking inspiration from watersheds, water cycles, and wildlife, participants create watercolor paintings using several techniques. Youth artists are encouraged to submit works to the Living River of Words Youth Poetry and Art Contest. Entry forms and instructions are provided. Pre-requisite: Desert Watersheds and the Water Cycle.

HADROSAURS TO HUMANS: A GEOLOGICAL WALK THROUGH TIME

Ages: 8-12

Duration: 2.5 hours

Location: Tucson Mountain Park-Desert Discovery Center

Discover evidence of landscapes past and use this evidence to reconstruct the paleo-geologic timeline of our desert home. Following an introduction to basic geological processes, the group will take a short hike to uncover the Sonoran Desert's 'buried' past. Participants look for, collect, and unscramble evidence revealing what our region looked like, what plants and animals have lived here, and how landscape and lifeforms influence one another.



CAMOUFLAGE – HIDE AND SEEK IN THE DESERT

Ages: 3-5; 6-12

Duration: 1.5 hours

Location: Appropriate indoor location

Animals come in all sorts of colors, patterns, and shapes that may attract attention or help them blend into their surroundings. This engaging presentation includes hands-on and "eyes-on" activities to locate camouflaged animals.

NATURE JOURNALING

Ages: 4-5; 6-8; 9-12

Duration: 1.5 hours

Location: Pima County Park or other appropriate outdoor location

Using nature as a source of inspiration, participants hone their powers of observation and reflection, then record observations and thoughts in words and pictures.

EXPERIENCING NATURE THROUGH THE SENSES

Ages: 3-5; 6-12

Duration: 1.5 hours

Location: Pima County Park or other appropriate indoor/outdoor location

Animals use their senses to explore their surroundings, look for food, and even find a mate. Use your senses to learn about the plants and animals that call the Sonoran Desert home.

JAMMIN' WITH NATURE

Ages: 3-5; 6-12

Duration: 1.5 hours

Location: Any appropriate indoor location

Animals and people use calls and songs to communicate. Through a multimedia presentation, we introduce the group to the amazing variety of nature sounds and discuss the significance. Children use simple musical instruments to recreate the sounds from nature.