

## The Living Desert Field Trip

This field trip is designed for the Earth Sciences, with special emphasis on Geography. The primary focus of the trip will be arid zone life and geomorphology.

List the four primary objectives of the Living Desert:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

### **(Mostly) African Animals Area**

The following question focus on the animals exhibits of the Living Desert.

#### **Giraffes**

- 1) Where is the Reticulated Giraffe found? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Are they protected? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Who can eat an adult giraffe? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) How tall are baby giraffes at birth? When do female giraffes reach maturity?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Which tree is one of their favorite to eat? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) What is necking with respect to giraffe behavior? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) How tall is the tallest giraffe? How much did it weigh?  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### **African Warthog**

- 1) Where are these critters found? What type of environment or biogeographical region?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Are these guys aggressive? What do they do when they are confronted? How fast can they run?

#### **Village Watutu**

- 1) What is the relationship of the Pin Tailed Whydah and the St. Helene Waxbill? Describe.

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

**Leopards**

1) What is the Leopard's official genus and species name? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What do they like to hunt? \_\_\_\_\_

3) Describe how they like to hunt for prey. When are they most active?

\_\_\_\_\_

4) How long would it take them to eat a large critter? \_\_\_\_\_

5) When is a young leopard able to reproduce? How many cubs are in a litter?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Striped Hyena**

1) What is the scientific name of this fellow? Where are they found?

\_\_\_\_\_

2) Do all hyenas laugh? If not, who does? \_\_\_\_\_

3) Describe their eating habits. \_\_\_\_\_

**Grevy's Zebra**

1) What are the basic physical characteristics of this zebra?

2) How tall can they get? What part of their body is the largest in the zebra family?

3) What countries in Africa are they found?

**Cheetah**

1) How fast can they run? \_\_\_\_\_

2) Do they hang in groups or are they solitary? \_\_\_\_\_

3) What is a coalition? Who is involved?

4) How many cubs are typical? \_\_\_\_\_

**African Bat-Eared Fox**

1) How many teeth do they have? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What do they eat? \_\_\_\_\_

3) How many young do they typically have? \_\_\_\_\_

4) Are they closely related to fox?

**East African Crowned Crane**

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

- 1) Why are these birds famous?
- 2) Where are they found?
- 3) How high can they jump?

**African Wild Dogs**

- 1) Describe how they pack hunt.

By popular demand, it is time for name that **African birdie!!**

Genus species name

Common Name

Otus leucotis granti

\_\_\_\_\_

Vanellus spinoscis

\_\_\_\_\_

Coracias spatulata

\_\_\_\_\_

**East Africa Garden**

Name five plants found here:

**Aegyptius monachus**

- 1) What is its common name? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) How tall is it? What is its wingspan? \_\_\_\_\_

**Oryx leucoryx**

- 1) What is its common name (both proper and how it is known)? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) When did it go extinct in the wild? How many are left in captivity?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Africa's Fennec**

- 1) What is this critter, and where do they live? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) How much do they weigh? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) How big is their average litter? \_\_\_\_\_

**Meerkats**

- 1) Where are they found? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) How long are they when fully grown? \_\_\_\_\_

**Cuvier's Gazelle**

- 1) What country are they found in Africa? \_\_\_\_\_

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

2) What type of habitat? \_\_\_\_\_

3) How many are left? \_\_\_\_\_

**Bighorn Sheep**

1) How long does it take to get a full horn? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What do they eat? \_\_\_\_\_

**Fanciful Flyers Exhibit: Hummingbirds and Butterflies**

1) What types of butterflies can be found here? List seven.

2) What type of hummingbirds are found here? How many total?

**North American Exhibits**

**Demonstration Garden**

*Look for these plants in the garden, and write their common names in the space provided.*

Genus species name

Common Name

Chilopsis linearis \_\_\_\_\_

Lobelia laxiflora \_\_\_\_\_

Bursera microphyllia \_\_\_\_\_

Agave vilmoriniana \_\_\_\_\_

Echinocactus grusonii \_\_\_\_\_

Dasylyrion wheeleri \_\_\_\_\_

Cercidium floridum \_\_\_\_\_

**Tyto alba**

1) What is my common name? \_\_\_\_\_

2) How many eggs do they lay, and where do they lay them?

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Describe this critter.

**Mojave Desert**

*Look for these plants in the garden, and write their common names in the space provided.*

Genus species name

Common Name

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

Opuntia phaeacantha \_\_\_\_\_

Yucca schidigera \_\_\_\_\_

Acacia greggi \_\_\_\_\_

Mirabilis froebelii \_\_\_\_\_

Baileya multiradiata \_\_\_\_\_

**Gopherus agassizii**

1) What is my common name, and where am I found? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

2) When does this critter reach sexual maturity? How big are they at that point? How many eggs do they lay?  
\_\_\_\_\_

3) How long can these critters live? \_\_\_\_\_

4) How big are their hatchlings? \_\_\_\_\_

**Johnson Cactus Garden and Agave Garden and Weather Station**

*(near Palo Verde Garden Center and Nursery)*

Weather Station Statistics (read the meters at the weather station for today):

<u>Temperature</u>	<u>Moisture</u>	<u>Wind</u>
Air _____	Relative Humidity _____	Speed _____
Soil _____	Barometric Pressure _____	Direction _____

*Look for these plants in the garden, and write their common names in the space provided.*

<u>Genus species name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
---------------------------	--------------------

Opuntia munzi \_\_\_\_\_

Opuntia ramosissima \_\_\_\_\_

Opuntia basilaris \_\_\_\_\_

Carnegiea gigantea \_\_\_\_\_

Agave havardiana \_\_\_\_\_

Lysiloma deserti \_\_\_\_\_

**Butterfly Garden**

What insect families do butterflies and moths belong? \_\_\_\_\_

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

Name the eight butterflies commonly seen in this garden:

Which ones are shades of reds or browns? Which ones did you see?

What are the differences between butterflies and moths? Name three.

Look for these plants that butterflies love in the garden, and write their common names in the space provided.

<u>Genus species name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
Leucaena retusa	_____
Salvia greggii	_____
Phyla nodiflora	_____
Fallugia paradoxa	_____

Concerning Owls, list the height of each owl type below (in feet). Circle the largest one.

Long Eared: \_\_\_\_\_ Screech: \_\_\_\_\_ Elf: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Burrowing: \_\_\_\_\_ Scops: \_\_\_\_\_ Eagle: \_\_\_\_\_

How do owls achieve a relatively soundless flight?

**Hummingbirds Revisited**

- 1) Where are they found? How fast can they fly?
- 2) Where are the largest and smallest hummingbirds found? Also, what are their names...

Largest \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

Smallest \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

**Yuman Garden**

- 1) This garden is a representation of a subdivision of which desert? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) What type of cactus is only found in this desert? \_\_\_\_\_

**Upper Colorado Garden**

- 1) Why is this desert referred to as the Colorado?
- 2) What does the Living Desert have to do with the Colorado Desert?

**Vizcaino Garden**

- 1) Where is the Vizcaino Desert? \_\_\_\_\_

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

2) Name three unique plants to this area. \_\_\_\_\_

3) How high does the Cardon grow? \_\_\_\_\_

4) The Elephant Tree is related to what other famous plants (common in the middle east)? How is it used?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Coyote**

Complete the following sentence: Coyotes are related more to \_\_\_\_\_, while domestic dogs are more related to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Mexican Columnar Cactus Garden**

*Look for these plants in the garden, and write their common names in the space provided.*

Genus species name

Common Name

Dalea greggi \_\_\_\_\_

Pachycereus pectin-aboriginum \_\_\_\_\_

Dalea pulchra \_\_\_\_\_

Dalea frutescens \_\_\_\_\_

Lophocereus schotti variety montrosa \_\_\_\_\_

**Eagle Canyon Area**

What are some of the critters that are on exhibit in this area?

Animals (name 5): \_\_\_\_\_

Birds (name 2): \_\_\_\_\_

**Mountain Lion**

1) What is its scientific name? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What other names is this cat called? \_\_\_\_\_

3) Do Mountain Lions roar? If they do, how loud? If they do not, what do they do?

\_\_\_\_\_

4) How much does a full grown cat weigh? How long are they?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Peccary**

1) What is another name for this critter? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What is their favorite food? \_\_\_\_\_

3) Do we have any in the US? If so, where (other than here, sa)? \_\_\_\_\_

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

**Chihuahuan Garden**

- 1) How does the Chihuahuan Desert get its rain? What time of the year?
- 2) Name a few of the famous plants that grow here.

**Coati**

- 1) Where do these critters live?
- 2) What allows them to live in most of the western hemisphere? Who is their relative?

**Sonoran Aviary and Garden**

- 1) Who can be found in this Aviary? Name three birdies. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) How fast can a Peregrine Falcon fly? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) What is the national bird of Mexico? \_\_\_\_\_

**San Andreas Fault Line**

- 1) How is the fault exposed in the area of Palm Springs? Name two methods.
- 2) What are the names of the two faults to the north where the San Andreas splits?
- 3) Identify by name the three oases seen along the fault. How do these oasis form?
- 4) What type of rock makes the mountain? Name at least one structural feature associated with the rock.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Identify the following common desert plants.

Genus species name

Common Name

Hymenoclea salsola

\_\_\_\_\_

Dalea schotti

\_\_\_\_\_

Larrea tridentata

\_\_\_\_\_