

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?

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

Village Watutu

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

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. _____

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?

African Wild Dogs

1) Describe how they pack hunt.

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

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

Genus species name

Common Name

Otus leucotis granti

Vanellus spinosus

Coracias spatulata

East Africa Garden

Name five plants found here: _____

Madagascar Garden

Name three animals found here: _____

Aegypius 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? _____

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Cuvier's Gazelle

- 1) What country are they found in Africa? _____
- 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? _____

North American Exhibits

Demonstration Garden

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>
Chilopsis linearis	_____
Lobelia laxiflora	_____
Bursera microphyllia	_____
Agave vilmoriniana	_____
Echinocactus grusonii	_____
Simmondsia chinensis	_____
Dasyliirion longissimum	_____
Opuntia violacea	_____
Dasyliirion wheeleri	_____
Cercidium floridum	_____

Mojave Desert

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 phaeacantha	_____
Yucca schidigera	_____

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

Mojave-continued

Genus species name

Common Name

Acacia greggi

Mirabilis froebelii

Psilotrophe cooperi

Opuntia echinocarpa

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

(near Palo Verde Garden Center and Nursery)

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

Genus species name

Common Name

Opuntia munzi

Opuntia ramosissima

Opuntia basilaris

Carnegiea gigantea

Agave havardiana

Lysiloma deserti

Opuntia bigelovii

Ceiba acuminata

Fouguiera splendens

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Palm Oasis, Aviary and Hummingbird Garden

Look for these birdies in the Aviary area.

Genus species name

Common Name

(from inside the aviary)

Casmerodius albus

Cathartes aura

Corvus corax

Ceococcyx californianus

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? _____

Vizcaino Garden

1) Where is the Vizcaino Desert? _____

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 _____.

LIVING DESERT FIELD TRIP

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? _____

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

Golden Eagle

- 1) How big is the wingspan of this eagle? _____
- 2) Is the male or female larger? _____
- 3) How long have they been protected? _____
- 4) Golden Eagles mate for life. How many eggs do they lay? _____

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 schottii

Larrea tridentata
