

THE KIDS' GUIDE

**40+ FAMILY FRIENDLY IDEAS FOR
THE PERFECT SCOTTSDALE VACATION**



SCOTTSDALE
ARIZONA



Planning a getaway for the whole family? Scottsdale has you covered with plenty of sun and fun for toddlers, teens and kids in between! In this guide, we've provided more than 40 fabulous activities and attractions for kiddos of all ages, as well as information on kids' camps, special events and much more. There's even a special section with word games, fun facts and a coloring page to help your young travelers learn about Scottsdale's unique Sonoran Desert setting.

FLORA & FAUNA

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Meet some of the Sonoran Desert's most fascinating inhabitants – including coyotes, bobcats, black bears, foxes and javelina – at Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center! While their primary focus is on rescue, rehabilitation and release, Southwest Wildlife provides a lifelong home to animals that cannot be rereleased into the wild.

SOUTHWEST WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER

480.471.9109 | southwestwildlife.org

SEE SEALIFE

There are sharks in the Sonoran Desert. And penguins, jelly fish and octopus, too! OdySea Aquarium is the largest facility of its kind in the Southwest and features a variety of exhibits, including Deep Ocean, Rivers of the World and Penguin Point. Brave explorers can even swim with the fishes on OdySea's Sea-TREK adventure!



ODYSEA AQUARIUM

480.291.8000 | odyseaaquarium.com



COMMUNE WITH BUTTERFLIES

Flutter over to Butterfly Wonderland, which boasts a 3-D feature film about the flight of the Monarch butterflies, a Butterfly Emergence Gallery and the largest butterfly pavilion in the United States with free-flying butterflies from around the world.

BUTTERFLY WONDERLAND

480.800.3000 | butterflywonderland.com

BE A CACTUS KID

Make the most of your visit to the Desert Botanical Garden with a Cactus Kids Activity Kit! The kit includes six fun family activities, including nature walks and hands-on explorations, throughout the Garden. In addition to five lush, thematic trails, the Garden also offers seasonal activities and events like the Butterfly Pavilion (fall and spring) and after-dark flashlight tours (summer).

DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN

480.941.1225 | dbg.org

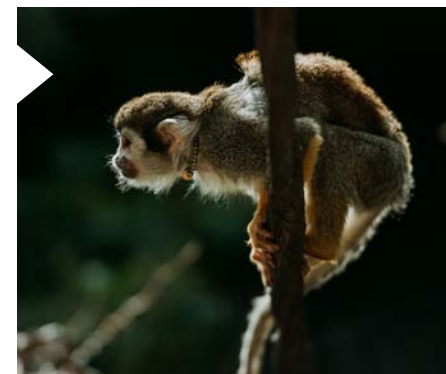


ZIP TO THE ZOO

The Phoenix Zoo is home to more than 3,000 animals with nearly 400 species represented, including many endangered species. Experiences include the Safari Cruisers, Monkey Village, Giraffe Encounter, Stingray Bay and a petting zoo. Enjoy lunch or snacks at the Zoo's Savanna Grill and Crossroads Café.

PHOENIX ZOO

602.286.3800 | phoenixzoo.org



DISCOVER NATIVE AMERICA

GO HANDS-ON AT THE HEARD

The Heard Museum explores the diverse Native American cultures of North America through a variety of exhibits, videos and immersive activities. Kids can see more than 500 colorful Hopi katsina dolls, visit the hands-on “It’s Your Turn” activity gallery, and explore full-size replicas of traditional dwellings including a Navajo hogan.



HEARD MUSEUM
602.252.8840 | heard.org

EXPLORE ARCHAEOLOGY

At Pueblo Grande Museum & Archaeological Park’s “Dig It: Explore Archaeology” exhibit, you’ll learn how archaeologists study clues from ancient and historic sites to learn about the people who once lived there. You also can build a miniature Hohokam village, explore a replica of an excavated trench wall and experience the excitement of archaeology first-hand!

**PUEBLO GRANDE MUSEUM
& ARCHEOLOGICAL PARK**
602.495.0901 | pueblogrande.org

VISIT THE NATIVE ART MARKET

Located in Old Town Scottsdale, this Native-owned and -operated store showcases art, jewelry and crafts by more than 200 Indigenous artisans. Check out their calendar of events for special cultural programs including tribal dance expositions, flute playing and more.

NATIVE ART MARKET
707.733.6443 | thenativeartmarket.com



ENJOY FREE CULTURAL PERFORMANCES

Every Friday evening, the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale offers free performances of Native American music and dance, including world-championship-level hoop dancing that delights crowds of all ages. Stop by the resort’s Native American Learning Center where you’ll find a variety of exhibits that explore Indigenous history, art and culture. (pictured: seven-time World Hoop Dance Champion Derrick Suwaima Davis)

HYATT REGENCY SCOTTSDALE RESORT & SPA AT GAINES RANCH
480.444.1234 | scottsdale.hyatt.com

THE WILD WEST

EXPERIENCE PIONEER LIFE

On a self-guided walking tour of the Pioneer Living History Museum, you'll see numerous original and restored buildings, including the Ashurst Cabin, Gordon School, the Opera House and the Telephone History Museum. Gun fight re-enactment shows and costumed volunteers (seasonal) add to the fun!

PIONEER LIVING HISTORY MUSEUM
623.465.1052 | pioneeraz.org

DISCOVER RARE GEMSTONES

High in Arizona's Mazatzal Mountains lies one of only two mines in the world that produces Siberian Red amethyst. See this rare gemstone, and many more, at Four Peaks Mining Co. Young rock-hounds can don a headlamp and explore an in-store interactive mine.

FOUR PEAKS MINING CO.
480.434.6074 | fourpeaksmine.com



COWBOY UP!

If you ever wanted to be a cowboy, MacDonald's Ranch can help you make that dream come true! This family-owned and -operated stable offers desert tours by horseback and stage-coach, as well as packages that include horseback or hay wagon rides followed by a cowboy cookout under the stars.

MACDONALD'S RANCH
480.585.0239 | macdonaldsranch.com



LEARN ABOUT SCOTTSDALE'S RODEO HISTORY

The Scottsdale Rodeo Museum (open Nov. through May) celebrates the annual Parada del Sol Rodeo and boasts artifacts dating back to the 1950s. Exhibits include bull ropes, original Parada de Sol posters, and saddles ridden by famous rodeo champs like Jake Barnes. The museum also includes "The Stable," a colorful, life-size mural by Joel Coplin that depicts horses being fed in their stalls. Try your hand at lassoing and take your picture on a model of a life-size rodeo bull!

SCOTTSDALE RODEO MUSEUM
480.990.3179 | scottsdalerodeomuseum.com

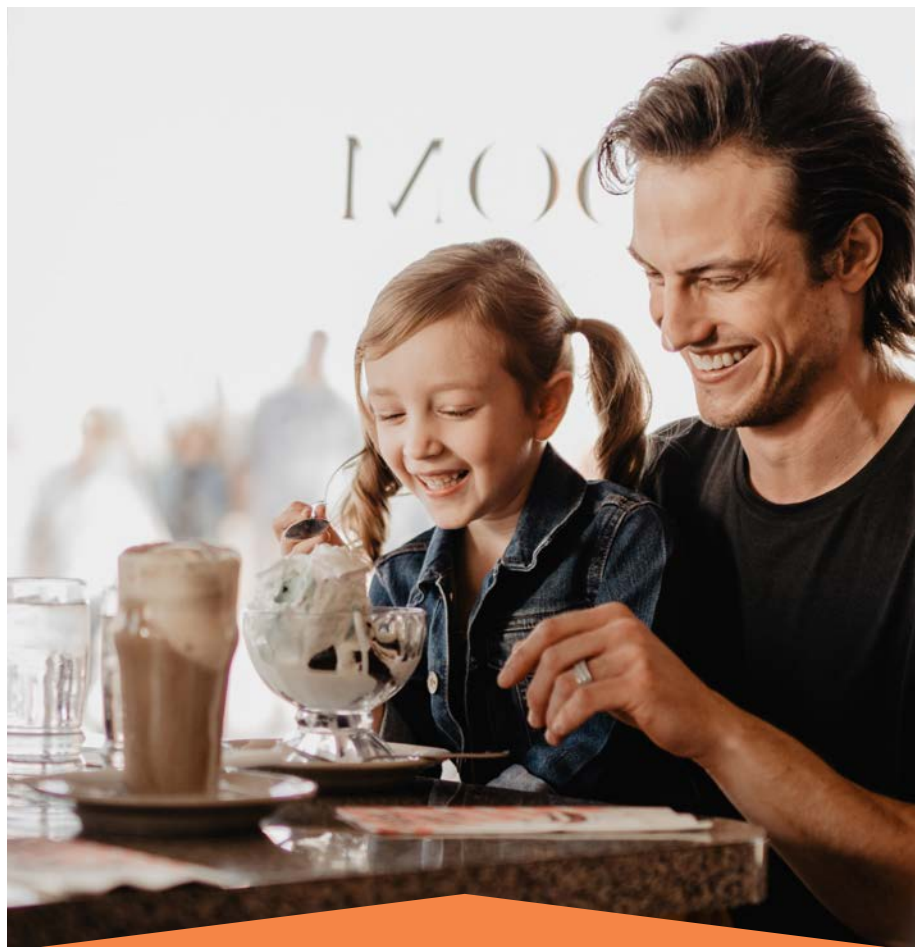


PAN FOR GOLD

Follow the historic Apache Trail to Goldfield Ghost Town! In its heyday, Goldfield was a bustling mining town that boasted three saloons, general store, blacksmith shop, brewery and a schoolhouse. Though the town went bust in the early 1900s, it's since come back to life as a popular attraction that features staged gunfights, gold panning, tours of the Mammoth Gold Mine and rides on the Superstition Narrow Gauge Railroad.

GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN
480.983.0333 | goldfieldghosttown.com

EATS & TREATS



LET'S SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

For more than 50 years, the Huntress family has been serving frosty ice cream treats and classic American comfort food from their bubble-gum pink, 1950s-style soda fountain in Old Town. Stop by for a patty melt, garden-fresh salad, PB&J or tea sandwiches, but make sure to save room for desserts like the Dusty Road Sundae or Gosh-Awful-Gooey Banana Split!

SUGAR BOWL ICE CREAM PARLOR & RESTAURANT
480.946.0051 | sugarbowlscottsdale.com



TEE UP TASTY EATS

While a golf club may not be the first option that comes to mind for families, Isabella's Kitchen at Grayhawk Golf Club is outdoor dining at its best. Here you'll find a cozy patio with firepits, bistro lights, live music, a menu of classic favorites and plenty of room for the kiddos to run.

ISABELLA'S KITCHEN
480.502.3100 | grayhawkgolf.com



GO BIG FOR BREAKFAST

If S'mores Pancakes don't scream kiddos, then how about Cannoli Donuts or Captain Crunch PB&J French Toast? Hash Kitchen has everything from pancakes and chicken tenders for the kids to more savory specialties and a 50-ingredient build-your-own Bloody Mary bar for the adults!

HASH KITCHEN
480.947.3214 | hashkitchen.com



ENJOY DINNER & A SHOW

Join the Queen and her Royal Court for an electrifying two-hour dinner and jousting tournament at Medieval Times. You'll savor a "hands-on" four-course feast as the dynamic performance unfolds before you and six heroic knights on horseback compete to become champion.

MEDIEVAL TIMES
888.935.6878 | medievaltimes.com

ART & MUSIC



CONNECT WITH CONTEMPORARY ART

SMoCA's changing exhibitions showcase the most compelling contemporary art, architecture and design from around the world. Don't miss "Kight Rise," a permanent skyspace installation by James Turrell where you can experience the ever-changing light of the desert sky.

SCOTTSDALE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
480.947.3214 | smoca.org



HIT THE PERFECT NOTE

MIM is the world's first global instrument museum that allows you to venture into different regions of the world to discover their unique instruments and music. Chinese opera, big band jazz ensembles and the instruments of a mariachi band are all here for you to see and hear. Don't miss the Experience Gallery in which you can touch, play and hear exotic instruments from cultures around the world.

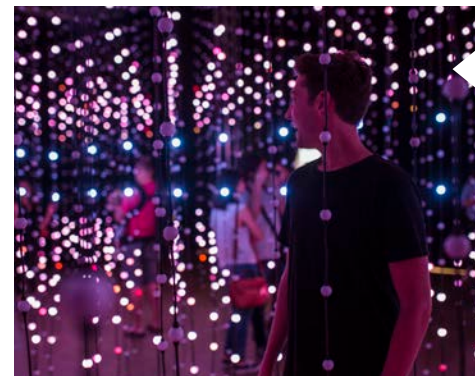
MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MUSEUM
480.478.6000 | mim.org



SET THE STAGE

Scottsdale Desert Stages Theatre presents children's, mainstage and small cast productions in an intimate setting that draws you right into the show! Scottsdale's premier community theatre is celebrating nearly 20 years of bringing high-quality theatre productions to audiences of all ages

SCOTTSDALE DESERT STAGES THEATRE
480.483.1664 | desertstages.org



CELEBRATE CREATIVITY

Wonderspaces is a fascinating exploration of the idea that art is for everyone. Interactive displays allow you to experience art through sight, touch, sound, movement and even virtual reality. Exhibitions change frequently, so there's always something new to explore at Wonderspaces!

WONDERSPACES ARIZONA
480.718.2156 | arizona.wonderspaces.com

MUSEUM MANIA

DON'T FEED THE DINOSAURS

For all the Dinosaurs that roar (and a whole lot more), the Arizona Museum of Natural History is the place to be! You'll watch a flash flood at Dinosaur Mountain; see full-size skeletons of mammoths, mastodons and the one-toed Hagerman Horse; and walk under eight-footwide megalodon jaws.

ARIZONA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
480.644.2230
arizonamuseumofnaturalhistory.org

PLAY & LEARN

Make your way through oodles of noodles suspended from the ceiling of the Noodle Forest. Take a tricycle for a spin at Pedal Power. Chill in the Book Loft. Get creative at the Art Studio, an innovative workshop with exposed brick walls and tons of hands-on fun. It's all in a day's play at the Children's Museum of Phoenix.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PHOENIX
602.253.0501
childrensmuseumofphoenix.org

HAVE FUN WITH SCIENCE

Discover the world of science and imagination at the Arizona Science Center. Permanent exhibits include the Dorrance Planetarium, Forces of Nature, the Evans Family SkyCycle and The W.O.N.D.E.R. Center, which explores the original supercomputer – the human brain.

ARIZONA SCIENCE CENTER
602.716.2000 | azscience.org



VISIT THE WILD WEST

Western Spirit tells the story of the American West through art and cultural artifacts, including spurs, badges and cowboy gear galore. Plus, “step” into a Western campfire scene at the museum’s 3D illusion mural, which covers approximately 400 square feet of wall and floor space – it’s the perfect photo op!

WESTERN SPIRIT: SCOTTSDALE'S MUSEUM OF THE WEST
480.686.9539 | scottsdalemuseumwest.org

TRUCKS & TRAINS



HEAT IT UP

If you love fire trucks, the Hall of Flame is the place for you! This museum honoring fire fighters and the equipment they use houses more than 130 wheeled pieces of fire apparatus dating from 1725 to 1969. Fire engines, firefighting gear and The National Firefighting Hall of Heroes are just some of the displays that you'll see.

HALL OF FLAME MUSEUM OF FIREFIGHTING
602.275.3473 | hallofflame.org



RIDE THE RAILS

Ride the Paradise and Pacific Railroad along a one-mile track at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park! The railroad was built as an exact 5/12 (five inches equals one foot) reproduction of a Colorado narrow-gauge railroad and features three steam locomotives, two diesel engines, a turntable and trestles. The park also offers carousel rides, museum exhibits, playgrounds and the Snackstop Caboose.

MCCORMICK-STILLMAN RAILROAD PARK
480.312.2312 | therailroadpark.com



Spotlight: RESORT FAMILY FUN

Scottsdale's resorts welcome young travelers with everything from day-long kids' camps and themed activities to game rooms and special in-room amenities. Here are just a few of the offerings that are sure to please parents and children alike.

Fairmont Scottsdale Princess

The Trailblazers Kids Club offers a different signature theme activity every day of the week with interactive group activities and themed adventures around the resort. The Princess also is known for immersive seasonal events like Christmas at the Princess. scottsdaleprincess.com

Four Seasons Resort Scottsdale

Learn the secrets of the Sonoran Desert, settle into a teepee for story time or try your hand at arts and crafts with Kids for All Seasons. The Four Seasons also offers a children's pool, complete with pint-size chaise lounges, and family-friendly dining. fourseasons.com/scottsdale

Great Wolf Lodge Arizona

Splash, swim and slide at Great Wolf's indoor, climate-controlled waterpark, then dry off and head to the adventure park for attractions like a rock-climbing wall, three-story ropes course, arcade and more. greatwolf.com/arizona

Hyatt Regency Scottsdale

As if a 2.5-acre water playground wasn't enough fun, the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale offers a full roster of activities for families. Poolside programming includes activities like face painting and sandcastle building. And every Friday evening, enjoy the "Arizona Birds of Prey" show (pictured) and a Native American cultural performance. hyattregencyscottsdale.com

The Phoenician

In addition the Kids Zone pool, The Phoenician offers daily, family-themed activities tailored to the season. Sample events include Team Trivia, Donut Decorating, Family Candy Bingo and Photo Scavenger hunts. thephoenician.com

Westin Kierland Resort

With the Westin Kids Club, children can enjoy hours of activities, outdoor recreation, and arts and crafts. The Kierland Compass is a fun way for families to explore the resort on a property-wide scavenger hunt. kierlandresort.com

WET & WILD



ENJOY SLIP-SLIDING FUN

You'll run. You'll slide. You'll splash. And then you'll do it all over again! The Paqua Park at Lake Pleasant's Scorpion Bay is a 7,000-square-foot inflatable recreation area over water that promises hours of wet and wild fun for the whole family!

PAQUA PARK

928.714.7477 | paquapark.com



PLAY IN THE FOUNTAINS

With upscale retailers, fabulous restaurants and lush outdoor areas, Scottsdale Quarter is a great shopping destination year-round. But in the summertime, cool pop-jet fountains in The Quad make a splash with kids of all ages.

SCOTTSDALE QUARTER

480.270.8123 | scottsdalequarter.com

RIDE THE RIVER

Scottsdale's Salt River provides freshwater fun for the whole family! Adventures range from seasonal whitewater rafting on the Upper Salt to year-round calm-water floats, tubing, canoeing and kayaking on the lush Lower Salt.

Visit ExperienceScottsdale.com for a list of river adventure outfitters.



MAKE A SPLASH

Scottsdale's resorts are known for their spacious pools and water playgrounds. Here are a few suggestions to get you started:

THE FAIRMONT SCOTTSDALE PRINCESS

480.585.4848

scottsdaleprincess.com

Nothing says wet-and-wild fun like waterslides, and you'll find two towers of sliding fun at the Fairmont's Sonoran Splash recreation area. For more of a seaside feel, check out the Sunset Beach pool (pictured), which boasts beautiful white sand and colorful floaties.

HYATT REGENCY SCOTTSDALE RESORT & SPA AT GAINES RANCH

480.444.1234

hyattregencyscottsdale.com

Ten swimming pools, 45 waterfalls and more than 2.5 acres of fun are yours at the Hyatt's Water Playground!

The centerpieces of the complex are a beautiful sand beach and a three-story, high-speed water slide.

THE PHOENICIAN

480.941.8200

thephoenician.com

The Phoenician offers eight pools in all, including the Kids Zone, which features a splash pad, shooting waterspouts and a tree house complete with a swaying bridge, sails and a helm for your child's inner pirate to explore!

THE WESTIN KIERLAND RESORT & SPA

480.624.1000

kierlandresort.com

Surfing in the desert? You bet! The Westin Kierland

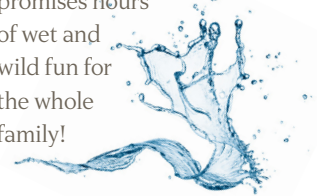
Resort's Adventure Water Park features the Flow-Rider – a simulated wave that combines the look of surfing, the ride of snowboarding and the tricks of skateboarding! Best of all, no skill is required!

GREAT WOLF LODGE ARIZONA

888.962.9653

greatwolf.com/arizona

Play basketball in Chinook Cove. Raft down Diamond-back Drop. Or catch a wave at Slap Tail Pond. Great Wolf's indoor water park promises hours of wet and wild fun for the whole family!



DESERT ADVENTURE



HIKE A TRAIL

Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve offers more than 225 miles of hiking trails ranging from challenging summit climbs to the Bajada Nature Trail, an easy ½-mile loop that offers interactive exhibits on desert plants and wildlife. Guided hikes with the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy and local adventure companies also are a great way to get out and do some fun Sonoran explorin' in the Preserve and on other trails including Pinnacle Peak (pictured).

MCDOWELL SONORAN CONSERVANCY
480.998.7971 | mcdowellsonoran.org



SADDLE UP

Whether you're a green-horn or an experienced rider, Scottsdale's outfitters have the ideal horse for you. Once you're saddled up, your guide will lead you down pristine desert trails where you'll encounter curious desert wildlife and beautiful plants and cacti. Options vary by outfitter and can include river crossings, hay wagon rides and cowboy cookouts.



HEAD OFF-ROAD

Guided off-road tours by Jeep, Hummer and self-drive Tomcars and ATVs are great ways to see the desert up-close. Knowledgeable guides will tell you about the desert's amazing plants and animals as you travel to some of the Sonoran Desert's most remote areas and see sites like abandoned mines, ghost towns and ruins of ancient civilizations.



FLY HIGH

Get a bird's-eye view of the Sonoran Desert from the basket of a hot-air balloon! You will float high over cactus-studded mountains, valleys and washes. And because the balloons are so quiet, you'll see desert animals scurrying about, undisturbed in their natural habitat. When you land, you'll receive a certificate commemorating your flight!



PEDAL POWER

Guided mountain bike rides take you along scenic trails and livestock paths for a Sonoran Desert adventure that will get your adrenaline pumping. If you're looking for a more relaxing experience, rent a cruising bike or e-bike and head for the Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt, which boasts 11 miles of paved trails from central Scottsdale to Tempe.

BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY!

For a current list of Scottsdale-area adventure outfitters, please visit ExperienceScottsdale.com!

URBAN ADVENTURE



SOLVE THE PUZZLE

Puzzle Rides combines the tension of an escape room with the excitement of a treasure hunt and puts it all on a golf cart! As your Puzzle Master drives you around Old Town, you'll have 75 minutes to find and solve mysteries like the Wild West Heist, Pirate's Treasure and the after-dark Ghost Riders Adventure.

PUZZLE RIDES

602.601.2261 | puzzlerides.com



SKYDIVE INDOORS

Enjoy the thrill of skydiving in a safe, fun and comfortable environment! iFly indoor skydiving replicates the sensation of flying as you float on a smooth cushion of air. Certified instructors will teach you how to control your body in the air so you can experience the thrill of human flight.

IFLY PHOENIX

480.712.4359 | iflyworld.com



REV IT UP

Experience the thrill of high-speed, electric kart racing at Octane Raceway. Octane boasts a 1/3-mile indoor/outdoor racetrack and zeroemission electric karts that travel up to 45 miles per hour. Check out their Velocity Virtual Reality game experience that seamlessly blends the real and digital worlds.

OCTANE RACEWAY

602.302.7223 | octaneraceway.com



GAME ON

If your crew likes games of all kinds, Mavrix is the place to be! This entertainment destination is home to 22 bowling lanes, 85 arcade games and a state-of-the-art laser-tag arena.

MAVRIX

480.291.7500 | mavrix.com



TRY DISC GOLF

Try your hand at disc golf with gear from Spinners on the Green! Spinners is located within walking distance of the Shelly Sharpe Memorial Disc Golf Course at Vista Del Camino Park.

SPINNERS ON THE GREEN

480.941.2513 | spinnersonthegreen.com

FORE & MORE



TEE IT UP

Golf is a great activity for the whole family and a number of Scottsdale's most popular courses offer junior golf camps and instruction designed specifically for young athletes, from beginner to advanced. Most offer full instruction, including swing analysis, rules and etiquette, sportsmanship, on-the-course training, and games and prizes. Here are just a few area courses that cater to young golfers:

KIERLAND GOLF CLUB

480.922.9283 | kierlandgolf.com

MCCORMICK RANCH GOLF CLUB

480.948.0260 | mccormickranchgolf.com

MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN GOLF CLUB

480.502.8200 | mcdowellmountaingc.com

THE PHOENICIAN GOLF CLUB

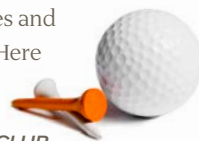
480.423.2450 | thephoenician.com

TPC SCOTTSDALE

480.585.4334 | tpc.com/scottsdale

TROON NORTH GOLF CLUB

480.585.7700 | troonnorthgolf.com



DRIVE IN STYLE

Topgolf also offers individual and group classes for young golfers. This high-tech driving range uses microchipped balls and dartboard-like targets to encourage friendly competition!

TOPGOLF

480.240.2402 | topgolf.com/us



CATCH A GAME

The Scottsdale area is home to professional teams from all the major leagues, as well as some of sports' major annual events. Check out the listings below then grab your tickets and cheer on your favorite team!

CACTUS LEAGUE SPRING TRAINING

(FEB.-MARCH)

877.4SFGTIX | mlb.com/spring-training

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS BASEBALL

(APRIL-SEPT.)

602.462.4600 | mlb.com/dbacks

ARIZONA UNITED SOCCER (MARCH-SEPT.)

623.594.9606 | arizonaunited.com

PHOENIX MERCURY BASKETBALL

(MAY-AUG.)

602.252.WNBA | mercury.wnba.com

ARIZONA CARDINALS FOOTBALL

(SEPT.-DEC.)

602.379.0101 | azcardinals.com

ARIZONA FALL LEAGUE BASEBALL

(OCT.-NOV.)

mlb.com

ARIZONA COYOTES HOCKEY (OCT.-APRIL)

480.563.PUCK | nhl.com/coyotes

PHOENIX SUNS BASKETBALL (OCT.-APRIL)

602.379.SUNS | suns.com

FIESTA BOWL (DEC. / JAN.)

480.350.0911 | fiestabowl.org

GUARANTEED RATE BOWL (DEC.)

480.350.0911 | fiestabowl.org



Spotlight: SPECIAL EVENTS

Scottsdale's year-round calendar of events offers fun for kids of all ages:

Parada del Sol Parade & Rodeo (FEB./MARCH)

See a horse-drawn parade (free) and PRCA-sanctioned rodeo action. scottsdaleparade.com | rodeoscottsdale.com

Summer Concerts at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park (MAY-JULY)

Grab a blanket, bring a picnic and enjoy local bands at these free Sunday-night concerts. therailroadpark.com

Flashlight Nights (MAY-SEPT.)

Tour the Desert Botanical Garden after dark and see nighthawks, insects and night-blooming flowers. dbg.org

Canal Convergence (NOV.)

Illuminated, interactive art displays light up the night at the Arizona Canal in Old Town. canalconvergence.com

Scottsdazzle (NOV.-DEC.)

Ring in the holidays with concerts and activities in Old Town Scottsdale. scottsdazzle.com

ZooLights (NOV.-JAN.)

Millions of sparkling lights and whimsical displays illuminate the Phoenix Zoo during the holiday season! phoenixzoo.org

FUN FOR KIDS

WORD SEARCH

BARREL CACTUS	JAVELINA	RATTLESNAKE
CACTUS WREN	MESQUITE	ROADRUNNER
COYOTE	PALO VERDE	SAGUARO
HAWK	PRICKLY PEAR	SCORPION
JACKRABBIT	QUAIL	TARANTULA

C A C T U S W R E N O B T P M
 B K L W A J M G N H A Q I A L
 R A E P Y L K C I R P F B L K
 Z T T K U N E R R J B R B O Y
 E V A V A T O E E R J J A V X
 D C P R O N L I E S A M R E Y
 W V O Y A C S N P V P G K R O
 U H O Z A N N E E R Z W C D K
 N C A C P U T L L V O U A E O
 A K T W R S I U G T R C J O R
 Y U T D K N Q R L B T E S F A
 S K A T A T Z V K A M A W D U
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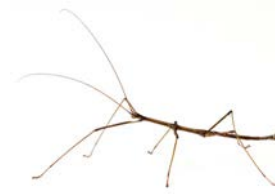
DESERT GROSSOLOGY

Impress your friends with these fun and icky facts from the Sonoran Desert



Some species of **horned lizards** can rupture small capillaries around their eyes at will and squirt a bloody solution at would-be predators. This fluid not only surprises the predator, it also can be irritating to the predator's mucous membranes.

The tail of the **Western banded gecko** has specialized fracture planes that allow it to easily break off if the lizard is caught by a predator. This allows the lizard to escape, leaving only its writhing tail behind. A new one will regrow.



Walkingsticks, skinny stick-like insects, can regurgitate foul-smelling liquid and leak blood from their leg joints to distract a predator.

Rattlesnakes shed their skin one to four times per year. Each time they shed, they add another segment to their "rattle," which vibrates back and forth more than 60 times per second to make the snake's distinctive warning sound.



When threatened, **pinacate beetles** (more commonly known as stink bugs) stand on their heads and emit a toxic spray from their rear ends to deter predators.



PHOTO HUNT



Can you spot the five differences between these two pictures?



WORD JUMBLE

Unscramble the names of the desert bugs to solve the riddle.

ETPEEIDCN

14					1	13	

NUS SEDRIP

8					4		

RYTFEBTUL

				5			

TBLEEE

7				6	

PAWS

11		3	

HPSERPSROGA

				15		2	12		

GALWTNIISKKC

				16		9	10				

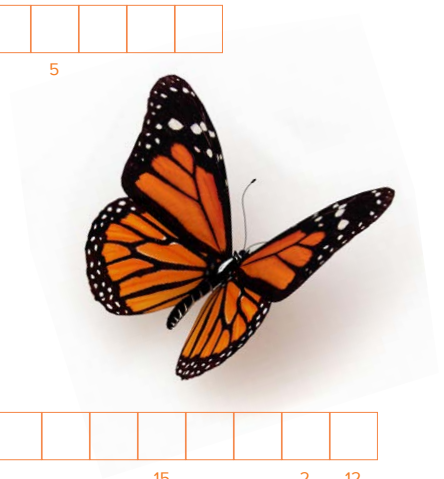


No matter how hot it gets,

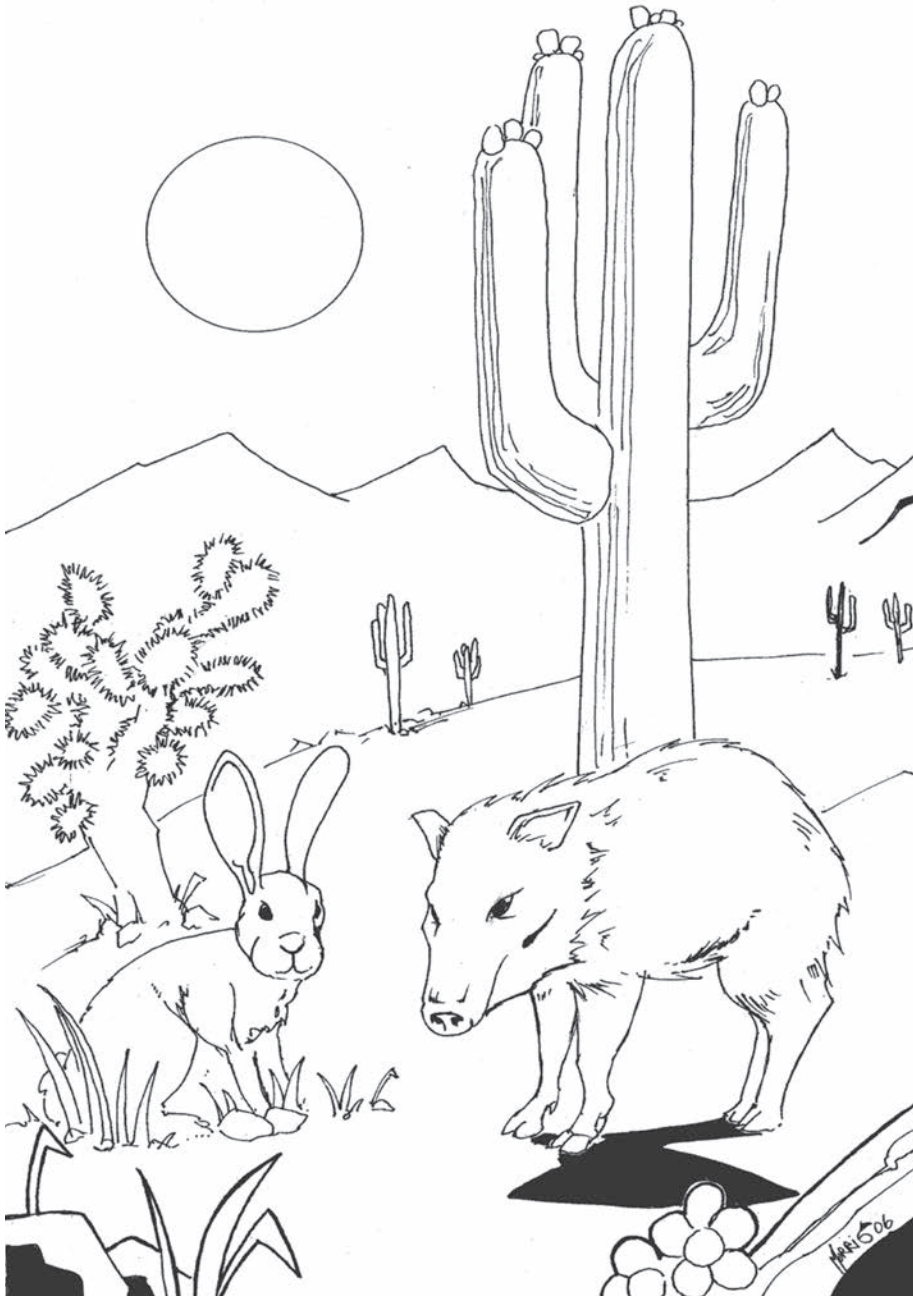
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

11	12	13	14	15	15	16

!



COLOR ME



ANSWER KEY

BARREL CACTUS	JAVELINA	RATTLESNAKE
CACTUS WREN	MESQUITE	ROADRUNNER
COYOTE	PALO VERDE	SAGUARO
HAWK	PRICKLY PEAR	SCORPION
JACKRABBIT	QUAIL	TARANTULA

C	A	C	T	U	S	W	R	E	N	O	B	T	P	M
B	K	L	W	A	J	M	G	N	H	A	Q	I	A	L
R	A	E	P	Y	L	K	C	I	R	P	F	B	L	K
Z	T	T	K	U	N	E	R	R	J	B	R	B	O	Y
E	V	A	V	A	T	O	E	E	R	J	J	A	V	X
D	C	P	R	O	N	L	I	E	S	A	M	R	E	Y
W	V	O	Y	A	C	S	N	P	V	P	G	K	R	O
U	H	O	Z	A	N	E	R	Z	W	C	D	K		
N	C	A	C	P	U	T	L	L	U	Q	U	A	E	O
A	K	T	W	R	S	I	U	G	T	C	J	O	R	
Y	U	T	D	K	N	Q	R	L	B	T	E	S	F	A
S	K	A	T	A	T	Z	V	K	A	M	A	N	D	U
W	O	E	T	I	U	Q	S	E	M	H	R	U	G	
R	Q	U	A	I	L	H	X	W	U	K	O	G	B	A
X	J	B	G	H	G	M	Y	Q	G	P	P	Y	S	S

ETPEEIDCN	CENTIPEDE
NUS SEDRIP	JUN SPIDER
RYTFESTUL	BUTTERFLY
TBLEEE	BEETLE
PANS	WASP
HPSERPSROGA	GRASSHOPPER
GALWTNIISKKC	WALKINGSTICK

No matter how hot it gets,

DESERT	BUGS
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