

Desert Discoveries Guided Tour

Curriculum Standards and Concept Focus

3rd grade:

- ✓ SC03-S1C1-01: Formulate relevant questions about the properties of objects, organisms, and events in the environment using observations and prior knowledge.
- ✓ SC03-S1C1-02: Predict the results of an investigation based on observed patterns, not random guessing.
- ✓ SC03-S1C2-03: Conduct simple investigations in life, physical, and earth and space sciences.
- ✓ SC03-S4C3-03: Explain the interrelationships among plants and animals in different environments:
 - Producers- plants
 - Consumers- animals
 - Decomposers- fungi, insects, bacteria
- ✓ SC03-S4C3-04: Describe how plants and animals cause change in their environment.
- ✓ SC03-S4C3-05: Describe how environmental factors (e.g. soil composition, range of temperature, quantity and quality of light or water) in the ecosystem may affect a member organism's ability to grow, reproduce, and thrive.
- ✓ SC03-S4C4-01: Identify adaptations of plants and animals that allow them to live in specific environments.

4th grade:

- ✓ SC04-S1C1-01: Differentiate inferences from observations.
- ✓ SC04-S1C1-02: Formulate a relevant question through observations that can be tested by an investigation.
- ✓ SC04-S1C1-03: Formulate predictions in the realm of science based on observed cause and effect relationships.
- ✓ SC04-S1C4-01: Communicate verbally or in writing the results of an inquiry.
- ✓ SC04-S1C4-03: Communicate with other groups or individuals to compare the results of a common investigation.
- ✓ SC04-S4C3-01: Describe ways various resources are utilized to meet the needs of a population.
- ✓ SC04-S4C3-03: Analyze the effect that limited resources may have on an environment.
- ✓ SC04-S4C4-01: Recognize that successful characteristics of populations are inherited traits that are favorable in a particular environment.
- ✓ SC04-S4C4-02: Give examples of adaptations that allow plants and animals to survive.
 - Camouflage- horned lizards, coyotes
 - Mimicry- Monarch and Viceroy butterflies
 - Physical- cactus spines
 - Mutualism- species of acacia that harbor ants, which repel other harmful insects.