

# Desert Diversity Animal Discovery

## Curriculum Standards and Concept Focus

### 3<sup>rd</sup> grade:

- ✓ SC03-S1C1-01: Formulate relevant questions about the properties of objects, organisms, and events of the environment using observations and prior knowledge.
- ✓ SC03-S1C1-02: Predict the results of an investigation based on observed patterns, not random guessing.
- ✓ SC03-S4C3-01: Identify the living and nonliving components of an ecosystem.
- ✓ 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.

### 4<sup>th</sup> grade:

- ✓ SC04-S4C3-01: Describe ways various resources (e.g. air, water, plants, animals, soil) are utilized to meet the needs of a population.
- ✓ 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