

Post-Visit Activity

Diversity of Life Field Trip

To The Teacher: The following post-visit activities are designed to help students synthesize their observations and experiences from their visit to the Desert Museum. Students should be constructing their own understanding/knowledge of the components and ecology of the Sonoran Desert and recognize the importance of museums.

Getting Ready: Students should be supplied with poster board, colored paper, markers, scissors, glue, etc... (materials to make a visual reporting of their findings), copy of project rubric.

Computers or Computer Lab time (optional)

Length 2-3 days

Doing the Activity: Each expert group will create an informative visual and present their discoveries about their 'area' to the class. Students should be provided with ample time to confer, create their informative visual, and practice their presentation (1-2 days). Optional: take students to the computer lab and allow them to utilize the Desert Museum web site (Digital library (<http://www.desertmuseumdigitallibrary.org/public/index.php>) and Learning on-line resources (http://desertmuseum.org/kids/online_fun.php)) to correct and expand their information. Presentations should be 10 minutes in length. The presentation should also include a summary of what they learned about the Saguaro cactus and an assessment of the value or importance of being knowledgeable about the Saguaro cactus.

Expert group reports - consider the following as requirements for their presentations:

- ✓ Name of expert 'areas' they are reporting on.
- ✓ Description of physical environment
- ✓ Description of plants and animals (detailed and general)
- ✓ Interesting facts or findings
- ✓ Diagrams/pictures – visual display is informative and creative
- ✓ Summary of how the living organisms obtain and use the available resources to maintain life (food, shelter, reproduction, water, etc)
- ✓ Saguaro cactus summary and assessment
- ✓ 10 minutes long

ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT
MUSEUM



Expert Group Presentation Rubric (100 pts possible)

Criteria	Exemplary 10 pts	Exceeds 8-9 pts	Meets 6-7 pts	Below 5-4 pts
Saguaro Cactus Summary	Thorough and detailed	Detailed	General	Missing or little information
Saguaro Cactus assessment	Present	present	Present but lacks thought	Missing
Name and description of Expert area	exceptional	detailed	general	Lacking
Plant and Animal descriptions	Exceptional and accurate	Detailed and accurate	General and/or few errors	Missing or several errors
Interesting Facts or Information	5 or more	4-5	3-4	1-2
Explains usage of resources to maintain life	Exceptional and thorough explanations	Explanations demonstrate effort/thought	General explanations	Missing or lacking explanations
Visual display is creative and has diagrams/pictures	Exceptional design, layout, and creativity; grabs observers attention and enhances understanding; graphics present	Design and layout demonstrate effort and thought; creativity is evident; graphics present	Design, layout, and creativity demonstrate minimal effort and thought, graphics lacking	Lacks neatness; minimal creativity, graphics lacking
Visual display is informative	Accurate information with no errors	Accurate information with few errors	Some information is accurate; several errors	Information is lacking and has many errors
Presenters are knowledgeable about their area	Shows deep knowledge of expert area (more than required); answers all questions confidently	Shows knowledge of expert area; answers most questions comfortably	Shows some knowledge of expert area; can only answer rudimentary questions	Lacks knowledge of expert area; unable to answer questions about subject
Presentation length and professionalism	8-10 min, maintain eye contact, audible, professional	6-8 min, maintain eye contact, audible, professional	5-6 min, little eye contact, audible, or unprofessional	Less than 5 min, little or no eye contact, unprofessional