



ACTIVITY SCHEDULE FOR KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS

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We begin your visit with a short puppet program. This will introduce the children to some Sabino Canyon animals and the terms we will be using, and explain how to be safe while enjoying their Sabino Canyon experience. After the puppet presentation, each group of children (maximum of 10 per group, please) is assigned to a Naturalist, with whom they will spend the rest of the visit. Each child will receive a sticker with a picture of an animal that lives in Sabino Canyon.

Each group will rotate through the following activities (time permitting):

- **MYSTERY BOX:** skulls and skins from animals which inhabit Sabino Canyon. Children guess what they are and discuss them.
PURPOSE: To introduce adaptations common to predators, or prey.
- **GEOLOGY:** an introduction to some of the minerals found in Sabino Canyon and a demonstration of erosion and canyon formation, in which the children create "rainstorms" on an artificial mountain.
PURPOSE: To introduce rocks, minerals, and sand and how each differs, and to demonstrate the role of water in forming Sabino Canyon.
- **PREDATOR/PREY:** the children play a predator/prey game to demonstrate the importance of protective coloration in animal survival. Prior to the game, camouflage and predator/prey relationships are discussed.
PURPOSE: to re-enforce the concept of protective coloration and its importance in the predator/prey relationship.
- **NATURE WALK:** a short walk along a desert trail during which:
 - The children use a checklist to identify some Sabino Canyon animals (life-sized color pictures) which are camouflaged in their natural habitats;
 - Animal's adaptations for living in the desert, food sources and anything interesting discovered along the trail may also be discussed;
 - Upon returning to the Ramada, the children may play a habitat game.**PURPOSE:** to re-enforce concepts: habitat, predator, prey, and camouflage.

We encourage you to arrive on time. If you are delayed, we may have to eliminate or shorten some activities to accommodate your departure time. All of the children will see the puppet program and participate in the nature walk, however.

Photo courtesy of Brad Fiero

