



EXPLORER'S GUIDE

FOR A SELF-GUIDED VISIT

TEACHER/CHAPERONE ANSWER KEY

Welcome to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum!

Instructions: Review the questions in this guide **before** you visit the Desert Museum. You should be able to find all the answers as you tour the Desert Museum if you carefully **observe** animals, plants, and geologic features both inside and outside exhibits, and **read** signs and labels. Docent interpreters are available near many exhibits. They are wearing uniforms and may be available to answer questions about exhibits. ***Good luck and enjoy your visit!***

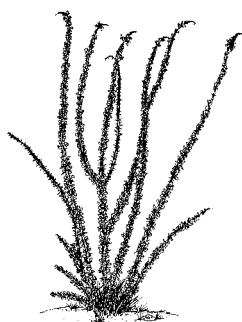
PART I: GENERAL QUESTIONS

DESERT PLANTS

As you tour the Museum look for these desert plants. Examine each and decide which adaptations, listed below, the plants use to survive in a desert environment. Write the corresponding letters in the spaces provided near each plant.



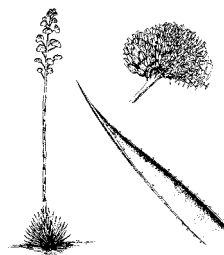
CREOSOTE
A, B



OCOTILLO
A, B, C, D, E



SAGUARO
B, D, E, F



AGAVE
B, E, F



PALO VERDE TREE
A, B, C, D

Adaptations:

- Small leaves lose less water than large leaves.
- Waxy leaves or stems help the plant seal in moisture.
- Leaves fall off when water is scarce and grow back when water is plentiful.
- Food for the plant can be made through green stems.
- Spines help shade the plant from the sun's rays and protect it from hungry animals.
- Thick, juicy stems or leaves used for water storage (succulence).