

TEACHER/CHAPERONE INFORMATION

To The Teacher

Welcome! This guide is designed specifically for use by teachers and chaperones. It includes a map of the grounds with suggested questions that group leaders can use to guide students through the Museum's exhibits. Trip leaders need no previous experience at the Desert Museum. The questions are correlated to specific exhibits as noted.

INSTRUCTIONS

Prior to your visit:

- **Photocopy and distribute the *Explorer's Guide* to chaperones before the trip** so they can familiarize themselves with the map and corresponding questions.
- **If you want your students to complete the optional *Student Scavenger Hunt Handout* make a copy for each student.**

Suggestions:

- For a most effective and enjoyable visit, we recommend that visiting groups assign no more than five students to each adult chaperone. This provides for a quality experience for all. Chaperones can pose questions in each exhibit area as time and location allow.
- Many of the questions can be answered by direct observation at the different exhibits. Questions are written in bold type with possible answers bulleted beneath. As many of the questions are based on student observations, other correct answers are possible. Allow a few minutes for careful observation, then ask the children to share their responses. Chaperones may want to read some of the interpretive signs to the group as well.
- Trained docent interpreters give a variety of natural history interpretations at different locations throughout the Desert Museum. They provide many hands-on opportunities to learn about the Sonoran Desert Region and complement student observations of exhibits. Look for the daily schedule of these interpretations at the *Orientation* area. These are well-worth attending.
- **Review the rules of conduct with your students and chaperones before you begin.** Remember, these are **living exhibits**. Following the rules will make your visit a more positive experience for your students and the Desert Museum's wildlife.

It won't be hard to generate enthusiasm and hold student interest. Enjoy your visit!



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School Group Map

***Student Scavenger Hunt Handout* (optional; detach and photocopy for students' use on grounds)**