

PREVIEW

All About Deserts Unit



This animal is found in the deserts of central Asia. It can run and hop very fast and has excellent hearing. During the hot day, this animal hides in a burrow. It uses its long tail like a third leg.



jerboa



Camel



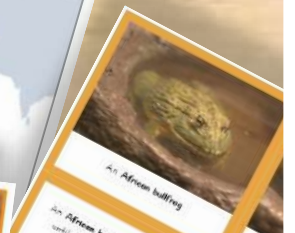
Jackrabbit



Gila Monster

A gila monster is a reptile that lives in the deserts of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. It is venomous, but not dangerous to humans. This reptile spends the majority of its life underground in a burrow. It eats small mammals, lizards, frogs, and insects. The skin of this lizard has small raised dots of scales.

I know about Deserts!



African bullfrog

An African bullfrog will bury in mud until it rains again. It can stay dormant this way up to a year!



elf owl



elf owl



fox



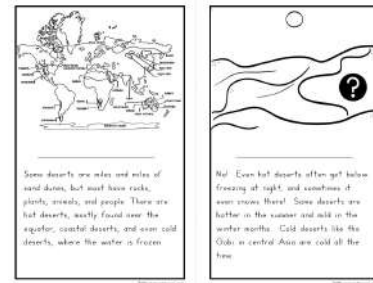
fox

Non-Fiction Book (Ages 5+)

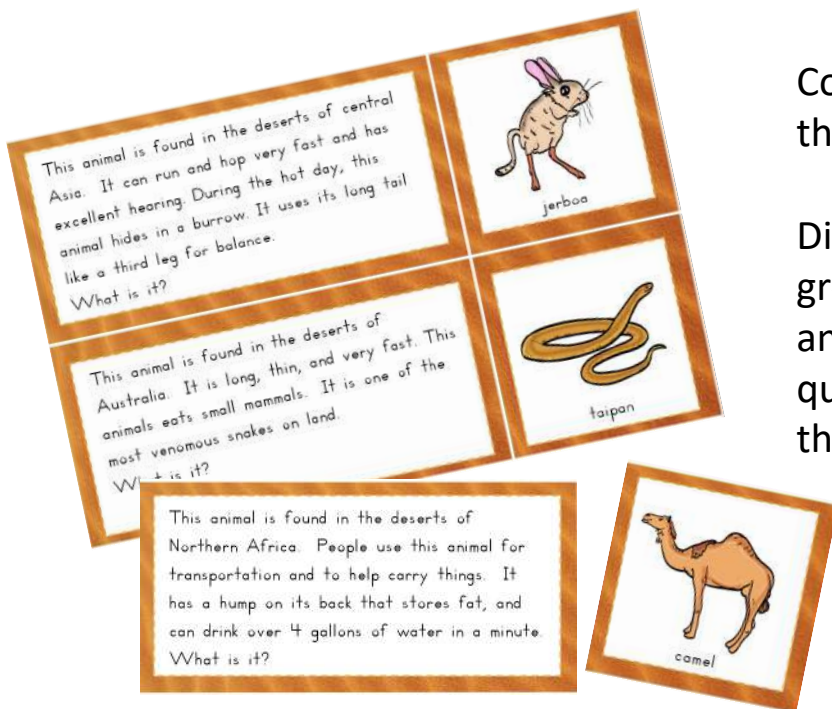


Bind these pages into a book or use them as information cards.

Black and white pages are included for children to color their own book.



Who Am I? Riddles (Ages 3+)



Continue to develop vocabulary with these desert animal riddles!

Distribute the pictures among a small group of children. Name each picture and talk about it together. Draw a question card and let the children use the clues to identify the correct picture.

Animal Action Cards (Ages 3+)



Snort like a javelina.



Move slowly like a desert tortoise.



Carry something heavy like a camel.

Get moving with these fun animal action cards!

To play, choose one of the action cards and read aloud. Then do the action as stated. Help read cards for children if needed.

Continue taking turns until all cards are read.

This game can also be played with a group of children.

Adaptations Matching Cards (Ages 3+)



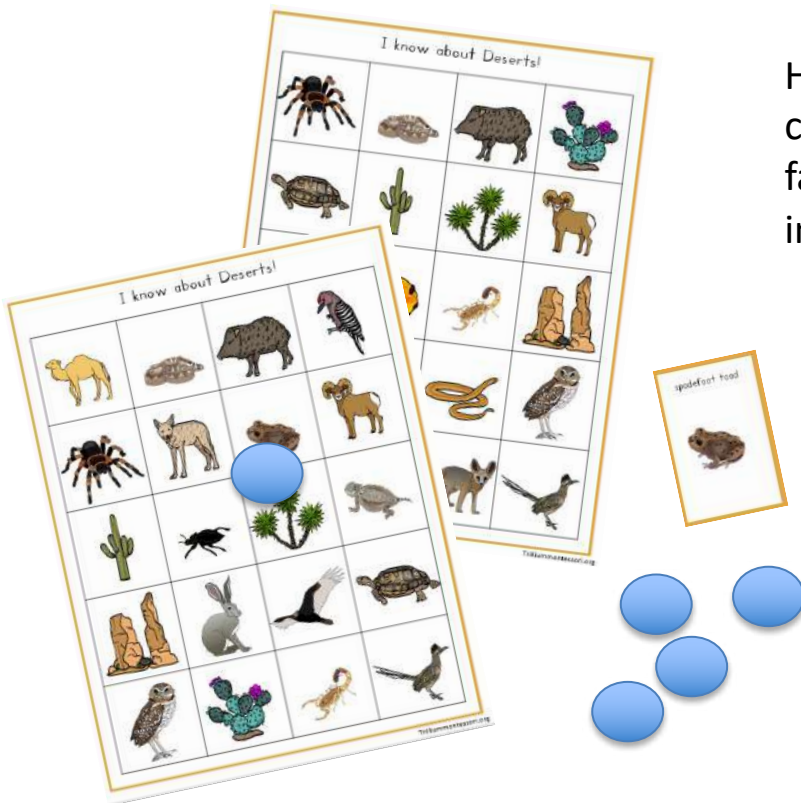
These are sets of organisms that work together in nature in a symbiotic relationship.

Read through the control cards together to learn about the relationships. Children can follow up by matching each photo card to its partner. Use the control cards to check.

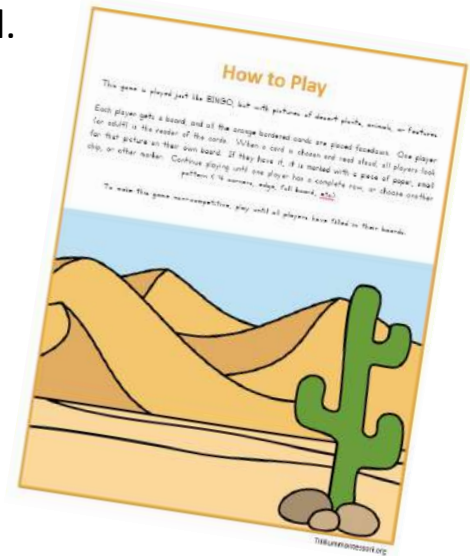
The adult can read the sentences for a child not quite ready to read on their own.



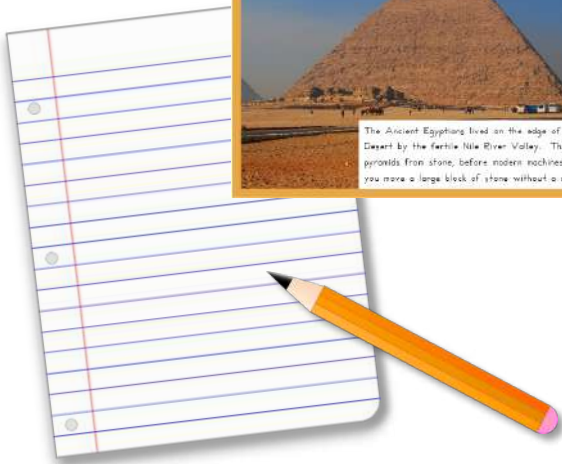
I know about Deserts! Bingo Game (Ages 3+)



Here is a simple bingo style game that can be played with 2-3 children, or as a family at home. Directions for play are included.



Writing or Conversation Prompts (Ages 3+)



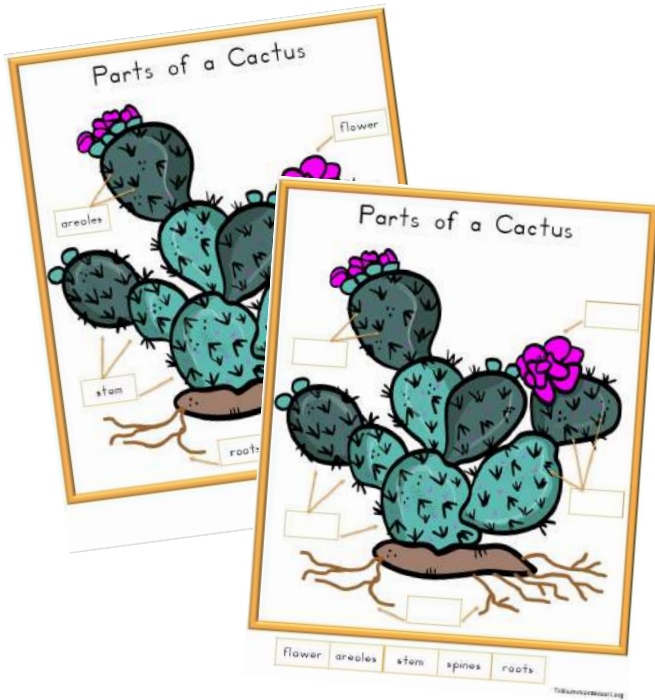
Encourage creativity and reflective thinking with these picture prompts. Use these as a conversation starter, or with either a moveable alphabet (for children not yet ready to hold a pencil), or pencil and paper.

To use, choose one photo and read sentence aloud. Model thinking for a minute, and then speak aloud an ending to the thought. If you are writing, slowly write it down, sounding out words aloud as a demonstration.

Invite the child to come up with her own answer!

Children who are not yet ready to write can also dictate the "story" to you!

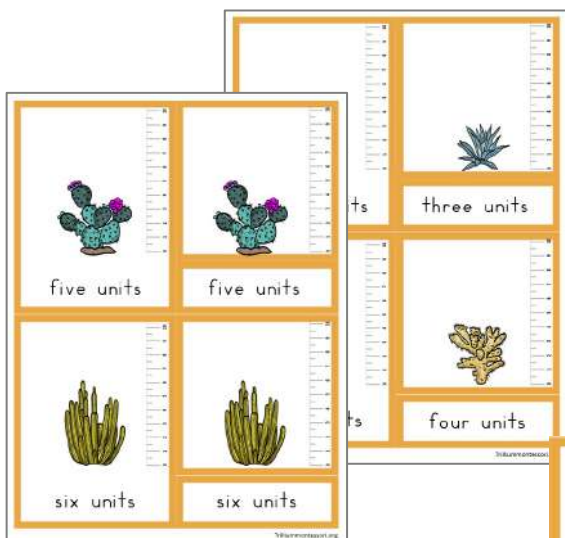
Parts of a Cactus (Ages 3+)



Learn the parts of a cactus with this matching activity!

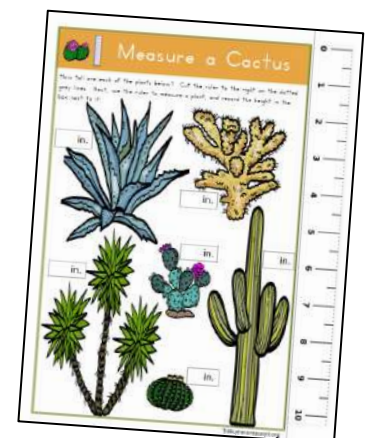
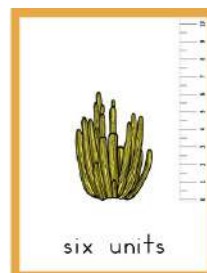
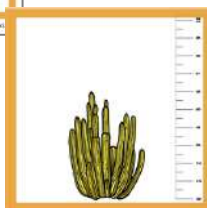
Print and use as a cut and paste activity, or laminate to use as a labeling activity for the classroom.

Measure a Cactus 3-Part Cards (Ages 5+)



Use the 3-part cards for vocabulary development, matching, reading, and a variety of other early learning skills.

Tip: if your printer doesn't print the ruler to scale use a ruler of your own.



Food Web Group Activity (Ages 5+)



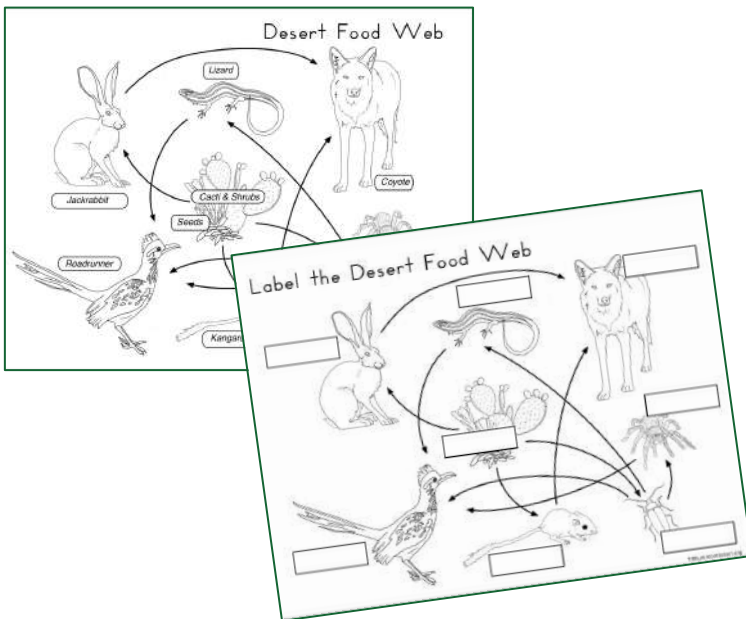
See firsthand how everything is connected!

These cards include plants, animals, and other organisms from a desert food web. To play as a group, each child holds one card. One child reads their card, what it eats and what eats it. Then, that child holds a string to connect to matching cards held by other children.

Example: the “jackrabbit” card connects to “cactus”, “bobcat” and “coyote”.

Children can follow up with an individual activity by connecting all the cards on a rug or table with short lengths of string.

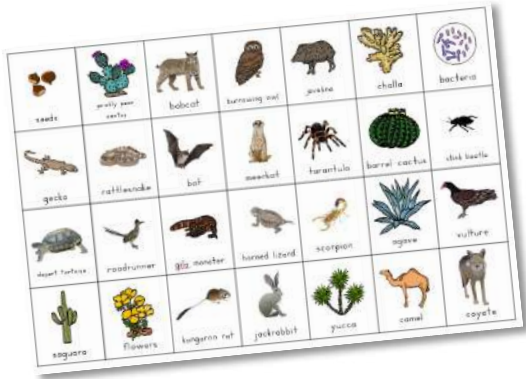
Food Web Color and Label (Ages 3+)



This is a simple color and label food web from the deserts of the American Southwest.

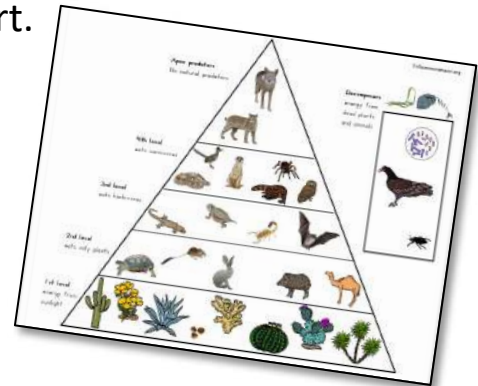
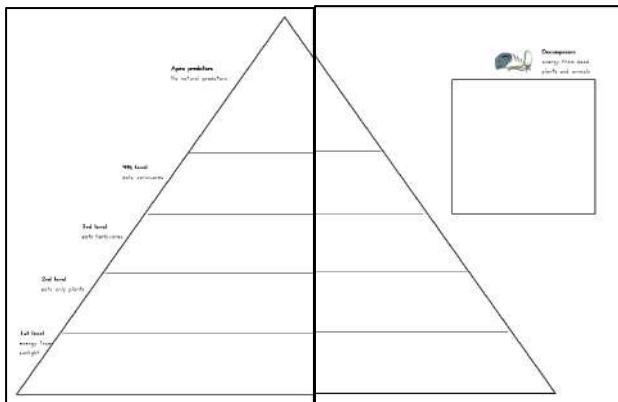
Use the Desert Food Web control chart to check your work, or as an introduction.

Trophic Level Pyramid (Ages 3+)



Animals in a food web can also be sorted by trophic level. Producers are at the bottom, which are eaten by 2nd level herbivores, which are eaten by 3rd level animals, which are eaten by 4th level animals, which are eaten by apex predators. This pyramid also includes space for decomposers who eat dead plants and animals.

Children can sort the cards onto the blank pyramid and check their work with the control chart.



Biome 5-Part Cards (Ages 5+)

Use these 5-part cards for vocabulary development, matching, reading, and a variety of other early learning skills.

Chihuahuan

This desert is located in North America. It has numerous mountains and basin areas. This desert is home to Colorado chaco, White Sands NP, and the Sierra Madre mountains. Some areas on the mountains receive more rainfall, resulting in pocket woodlands. You can find creosote and mesquite shrubs here along with Lechuguilla agave plants.

Chihuahuan

This desert is found in west Asia near the equator, and is the 5th largest in the world. It is home to the sand cat, gazelle, oryx, and spiny-tailed lizards. This desert has a large deposit of oil deep underground, formed millions of years ago. This desert covers most of the Arabian peninsula.

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A to Z Desert Life

Learn about 26 plants and animals that live in deserts around the world!

Included are full page cards with an image and definition, three part cards, and five part definition cards.

Lechuguilla Agave

The Lechuguilla agave is a plant found only in the Chihuahuan Desert, in North America. It has long, flat leaves with sharp pointed tips that can pierce through thick fabric. It flowers only one time all the way of its life. The flowers grow to the end of a tall stalk that can grow up to 12 feet high. It makes new plants through underground roots.

Dromedary Camel

The dromedary camel is a mammal that lives in the most common camel and most are used by humans for transportation or for milk. It has one hump and a large hump of fat on its back. It also has two rows of eyelashes to keep sand out of its eyes. The camel eats shrubs and thorny plants.

elf owl

elf owl

fennec fox

fennec fox

barrel cactus

barrel cactus

barrel cactus

barrel cactus

barrel cactus

barrel cactus