

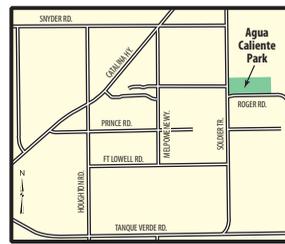
Agua Caliente History Day

Grade: 4

Duration: 4 hours

Location: Agua Caliente Park

Event Date: February – Call for scheduled date
Arizona history as it relates to historic Agua Caliente Park comes to life through interactive demonstrations and hands-on activities. Enjoy a day of activities focused on different periods of Arizona's past. This event is geared towards 4th grade classes studying Arizona history.



Agua Caliente Park 12325 E. Roger Road, Tucson

Located on the east side of Tucson, is a desert oasis and home to an exceptionally rich mix of plants, wildlife, and historical features. Some of the programs offered at this park can accommodate up to seventy-five students. Facilities include a classroom, shaded picnic tables, restrooms and water fountains, and paved and hard packed trails.

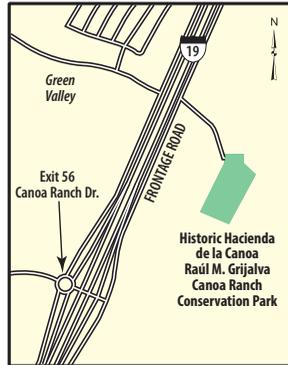
Canoa Ranch History Day

Grade: 4

Duration: 4 hours

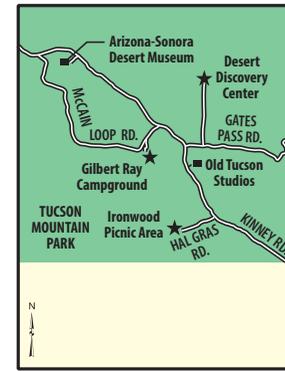
Location: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley

Event Date: March – Call for scheduled date
Arizona history as it relates to Historic Hacienda de la Canoa comes to life through interactive demonstrations and hands-on activities. Enjoy a day of activities focused on different periods of Arizona's past. This event is geared towards 4th grade classes studying Arizona history.



Feliz Paseos Park 1600 N. Camino de Oeste, Tucson

Located in the foothills of the Tucson Mountains, is pristine desert habitat surrounded by residential development. Facilities include shade ramadas with seating benches, paved and hard packed trails, restrooms, and water fountains. Picnic tables are not available.



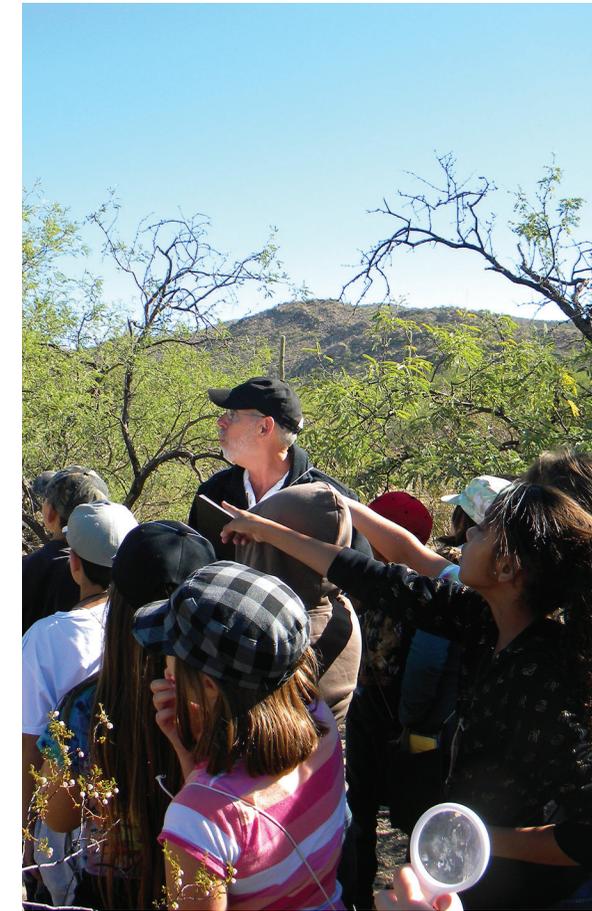
Tucson Mountain Park Pima County Desert Discovery Center 7798 W. Gates Pass Road, Tucson

The Desert Discovery Center in Tucson Mountain Park showcases spectacular desert scenery, outstanding geologic features, and wildlife viewing. Programs at

this facility can only accommodate small groups of 25 students or less. The center has rocky, narrow nature trails, a small classroom, and limited restroom facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

FIELD STUDY TRIPS AND CLASSROOM PROGRAMS



For Information and Reservations



Call 520-615-7855 or Email education@pima.gov



PIMA COUNTY PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Sharon Bronson, Chair • District 3
Ally Miller • District 1
Ramón Valadez • District 2
Ray Carroll • District 4
Richard Elias • District 5

PIMA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

C.H. Huckelberry • County Administrator
John Bernal • Deputy County Administrator for Public Works

PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION

Chris Cavein • Director

3500 West River Road • Tucson, AZ 85741
520-877-6000 • www.pima.gov/nrpr

PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION

Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation offers K-12 field study school programs at three of the region's best natural resource parks. Selected programs are available at your schoolyard or classroom.

The following field study trips and classroom programs are linked to Arizona Academic Standards. There is a minimum group size of 15 students for all programs with the exception of the Self-Guided Nature Study. Reservations are required for all school programs. Lesson plans and teacher resources are available at www.pima.gov/nrpr.

Ecosystem Discovery

Grades: K – 8

Duration: 2 hours

Location Options: Agua Caliente Park, Desert Discovery Center, Feliz Paseos Park

Explore the diversity of life in riparian and/or desert ecosystems through guided, hands-on exploration. Students use binoculars and hand-lenses to make observations and work as a class to understand the interrelationships between plants and animals and the environment.

Advanced Ecosystem Discovery

Grades: 9 – 12

Duration: 2 hours

Location: Agua Caliente Park, Desert Discovery Center, Feliz Paseos Park

Students understand the importance of desert and/or riparian habitats within the desert environment by making an in-depth assessment of the diversity of animals and plants in these two habitats. Interrelationships between the biotic and abiotic parts of the habitats are illustrated by modeling the ecosystem.

Observing Birds

Grades: K – 8

Duration: 2 hours

Location: Agua Caliente Park

Learn the important roles of birds in the

environment and how to identify common birds of the desert southwest. Students use binoculars and spotting scopes to complete bird diagrams while exercising their observational skills.

Bat Research Simulation

Grades: 4 – 8

Duration: 2 hours

Location Options: Agua Caliente Park, Classroom

Students learn about the fascinating lives of bats while they practice scientific field research methods during this outdoor bat netting simulation. Students collect model bats, take measurements, identify species, and record data which are compared to actual bat data from research in the Sonoran Desert.

Experiencing Nature through the Senses

Grades: K – 8

Duration: 2 hours

Location Options: Agua Caliente Park, Desert Discovery Center, Feliz Paseos Park, Classroom

With the creative use of animal pelts, skull replicas, tracks, sounds, and botanical preparations we excite all your senses. Students practice nature journaling as a way to record observations and express experiences.

Basic Compass Skills

Grades: 2 – 3

Duration: 2 hours

Location Options: Agua Caliente Park

Students are introduced to the compass rose and learn to use a magnetic compass after an overview of the Earth's magnetic field. Fun, hands-on orienteering activities require the practice of their news skills.

Orienteering

Grades: 4 – 8

Duration: 2 hours

Location Options: Agua Caliente Park, Classroom

Students learn how the Earth's natural magnetic field interacts with a compass and how wildlife relies on magnetic fields to navigate. Each

student practices their skills on a custom made orienteering course.

Map and Compass

Grades: 9 – 12

Duration: 2 hours

Location Options: Agua Caliente Park, Classroom

Students learn how the Earth's natural magnetic field interacts with a compass and how wildlife relies on magnetic fields to navigate. Each student uses a compass with a topographic map to determine bearing and distances to specific map points.

Invasive Species in the Sonoran Desert

Grades: 7 – 12

Duration: 4 hours

Location Options: Desert Discovery Center, Classroom

Through hands-on activities students learn to identify buffelgrass and to understand the threats this invasive plant poses to the Sonoran Desert. During a community service field experience, students remove buffelgrass from a natural area. The location for the buffelgrass removal project will be identified at the time of scheduling.

Native vs. Introduced Species

Grades: 4 - 6

Duration: 2 hours

Location: Agua Caliente Park

Students learn how native species play a specific function in Sonoran Desert ecology that is different from that of introduced species. Students explore through hypothesis-driven comparisons the biological and ecological role native and introduced species play. Students make observations to understand the interrelationships between plants and animals and the environment.

Exploring Watersheds

Grades: K-3

Duration: 1 hour

Location: Classroom

Students learn about the water cycle and construct

a watershed model to track the movement of water through the landscape to discover the connections that plants and animals have to water.

Grades: 4-6

Duration: 1 hour

Location: Classroom

Students track the movement of water through the landscape and learn about land use practices and how they affect water quality.

The Exploring Watersheds lesson is a good way for students to prepare for participation in Tucson's River of Words Youth Poetry and Art Contest. Visit www.pima.gov/nrpr for more information.

Earthkeepers

Grades: 4-5

Duration: 2 ½ school days at Agua Caliente Park (15 instructional hours)

Location: Agua Caliente Park and Classroom

4th and 5th grade students are immersed in a unique 2½-day experience at Agua Caliente Park to complete the Earthkeepers Level I training. The principle objective for this internationally-acclaimed program is to produce students who possess basic ecological understandings and appreciation for the earth and its life. Earthkeepers requires classroom work, homework, and 2½ school days at Agua Caliente Park.

Self-Guided Nature Study at Agua Caliente Park

Grades: K – 5

Duration: 1 – 2 hours

Location: Agua Caliente Park

Teachers or youth group leaders may reserve Nature Study Packs for groups with 5-30 students. Students explore nature and learn about the diversity of wildlife at Agua Caliente Park through self-guided activities and tools included in individual nature packs. Binoculars are available for loan along with the Nature Study Packs. Reservations are required.