



They're more at ease in a **desert** place...
 They don't shove a horned toad out of the path...
 They know the land belongs to spider and ant the same as it does to people...
 They say, "We share... we only share..."

They share the feeling...
 of being desert creatures together.

Thank you to our generous sponsors!



-DESERT DWELLERS KNOW-

DESERT COLORS

Coloring & Celebrating Byrd Baylor's Words

DESIGNED & ILLUSTRATED BY KARIN MELLIN

With inspiration from Desert Dwellers Know - A Celebration of Byrd's Words poster & Sonoran Desert Mandala designed by Paul Mirocha
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TUCSON AUDUBON SOCIETY'S Desert Dwellers Education Project **VISION:**

To encourage generations of desert dwellers to become life-long learners of resilient Sonoran Desert wisdom to support ecological health essential for community wellness & vitality.



Explore **Desert COLORS** to celebrate our **very special** home in the **SONORAN DESERT** with all its **beautiful** diversity of **LIFE!** Poet and author **BYRD BAYLOR** inspires us with her **magical** words to look closely at plants, animals, stars, clouds, water, sand, bugs, rocks and **everything else in nature!** Use your powers of observation like an environmental scientist or nature poet to think of everyday ways you can help protect our desert home. As Byrd says, **"TREAT IT WELL... the way you would treat an old friend."**

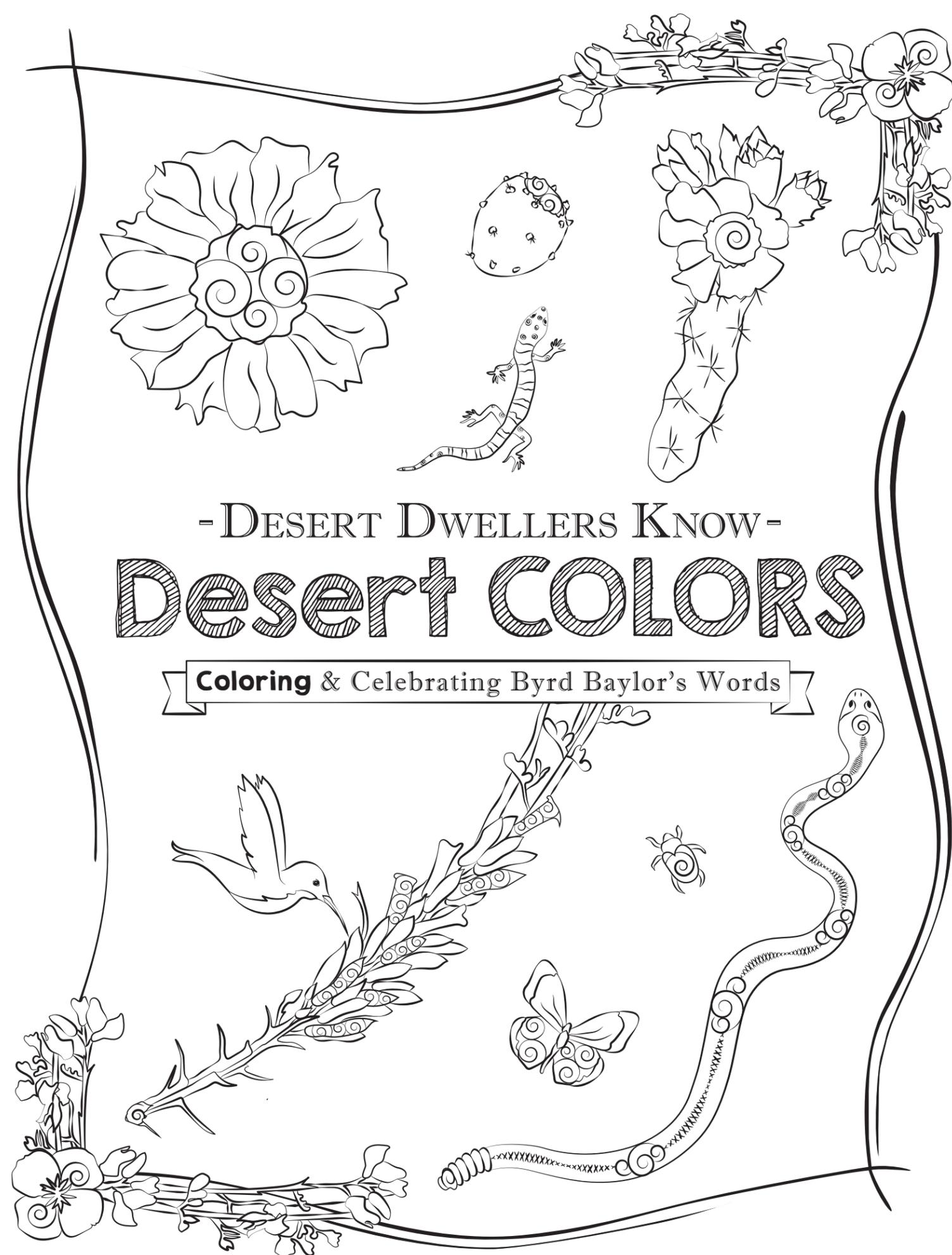


A BIT ABOUT **BYRD**

This tribute coloring book honors well-loved children's book writer and Caldecott Honor Award-winning author, **BYRD BAYLOR**. Her poetic Sonoran Desert wisdom has inspired desert dwellers for over six decades.



Byrd Baylor, photo by Jim Ambrose



-DESERT DWELLERS KNOW- **Desert COLORS**

Coloring & Celebrating Byrd Baylor's Words

Sometimes people ask me, "Aren't you lonely out there with just desert around you?" I guess they mean the beargrass and the yuccas and the cactus and the rocks. I guess they mean the deep ravines and the hawk nests in the cliffs and the coyote trails that wind across the hills. "Lonely?" I can't help laughing when they ask me that.

I'm in Charge of Celebrations, 1986

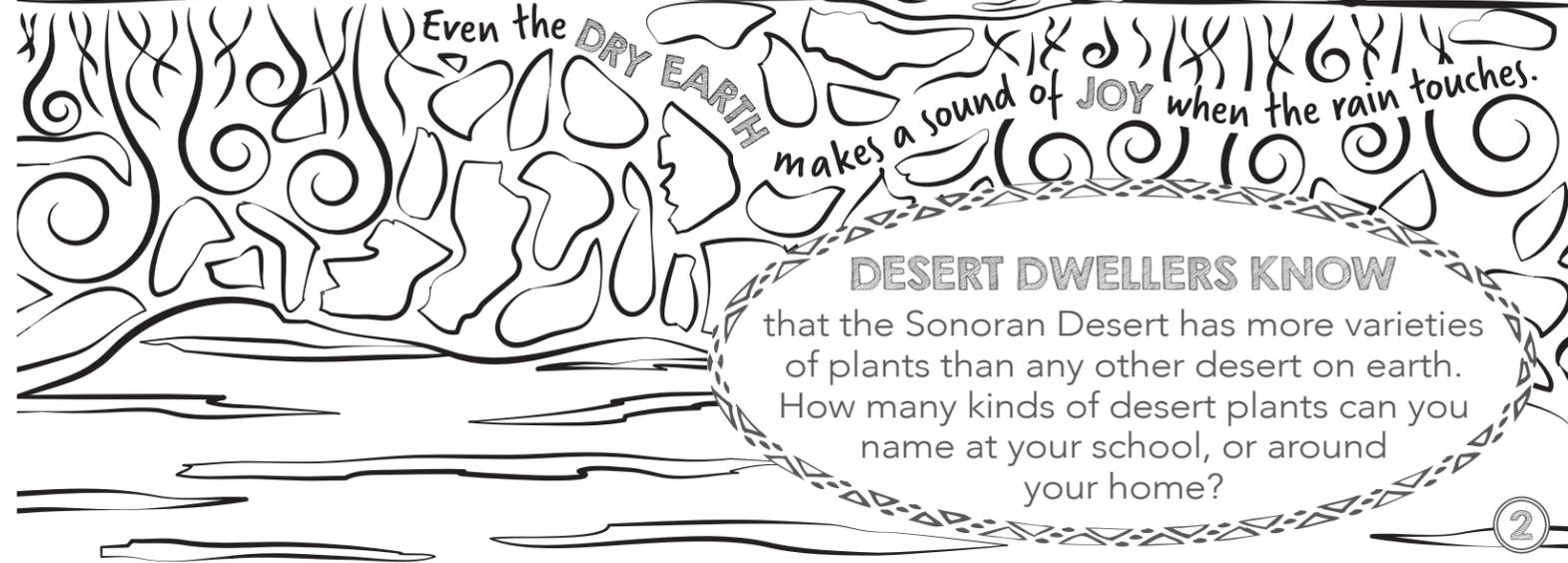


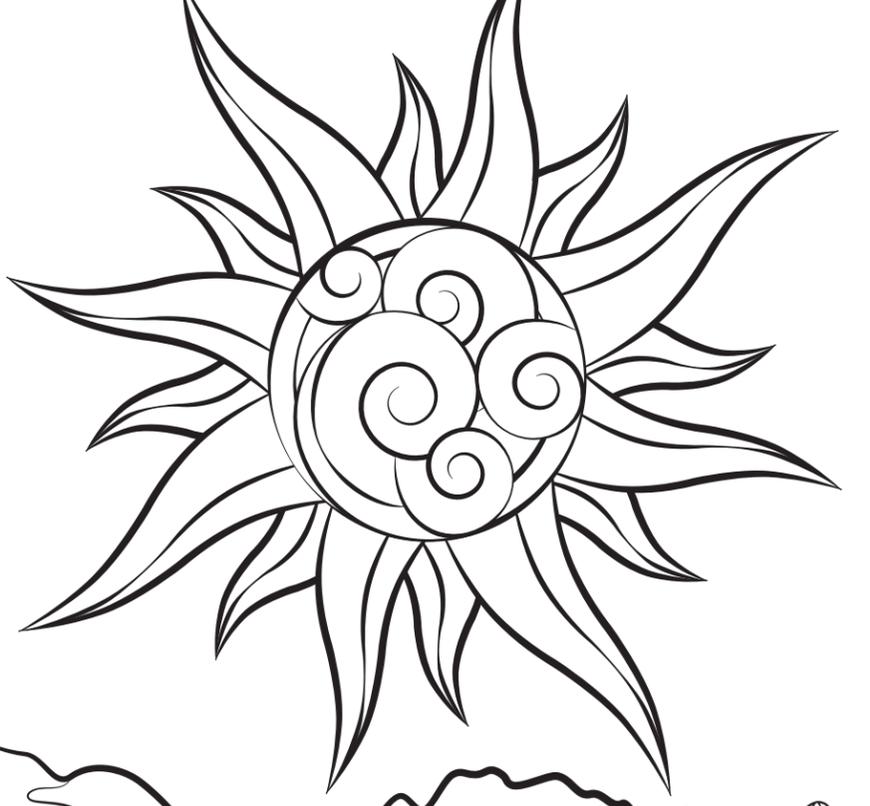
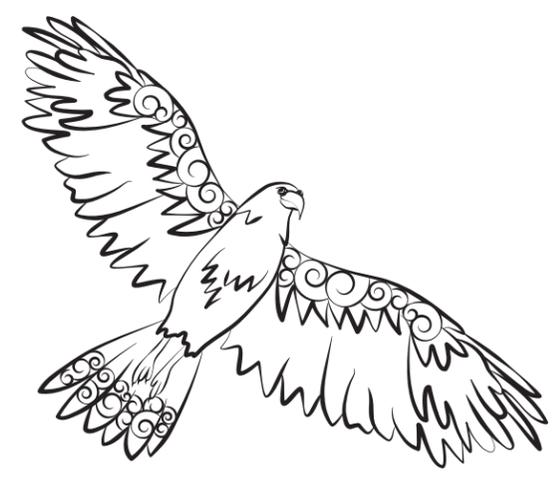
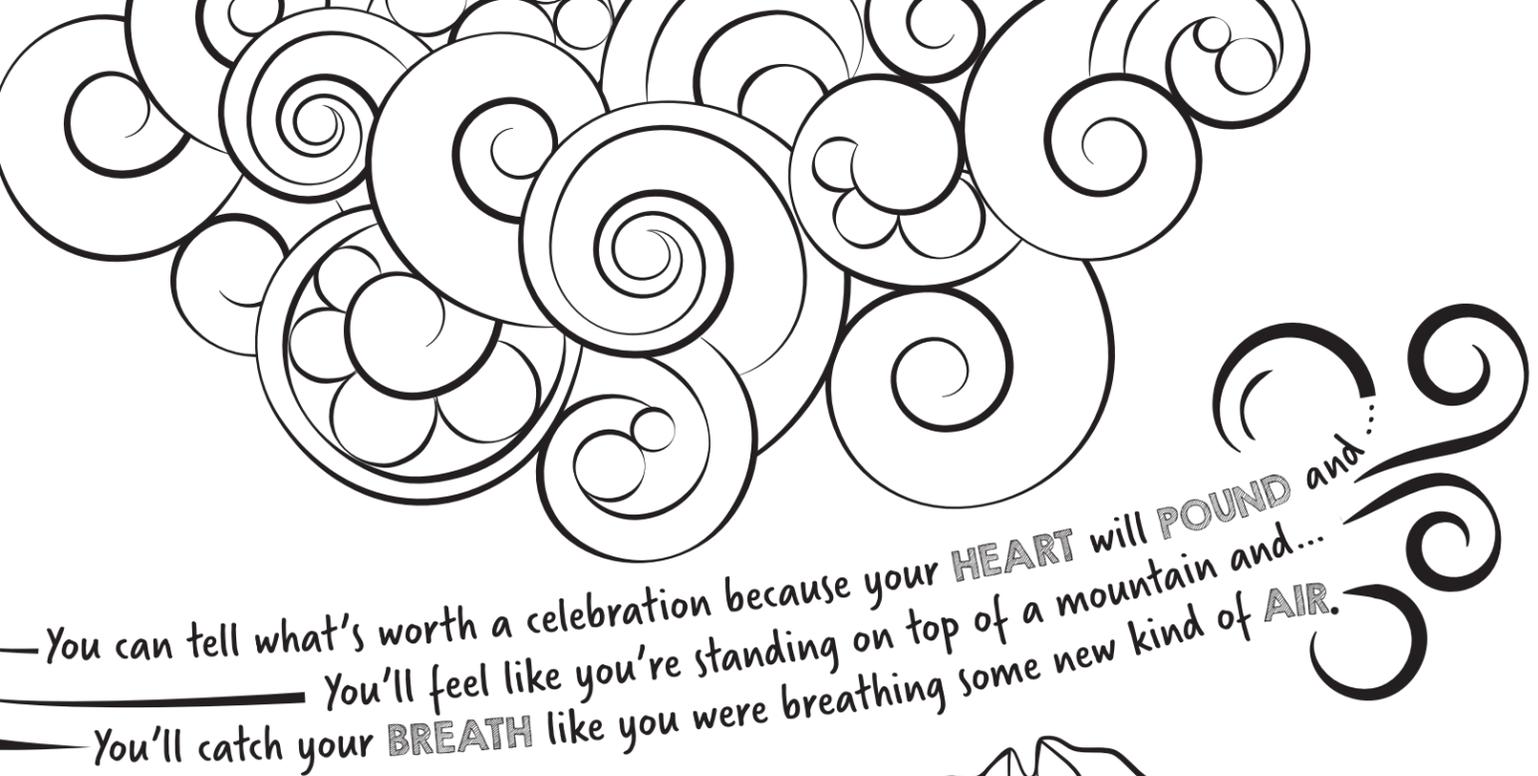
What is a desert?

Deserts are hot and dry regions, where rainfall is less than the amount of water that is lost from the earth's surface. Tucson is located in the Sonoran Desert where the annual rainfall is usually between 8"-12" per year, with over 300 days of intense sunshine each year. Desert temperatures can vary widely both seasonally and daily with as much as a 40 degree difference between daytime highs and nighttime lows.

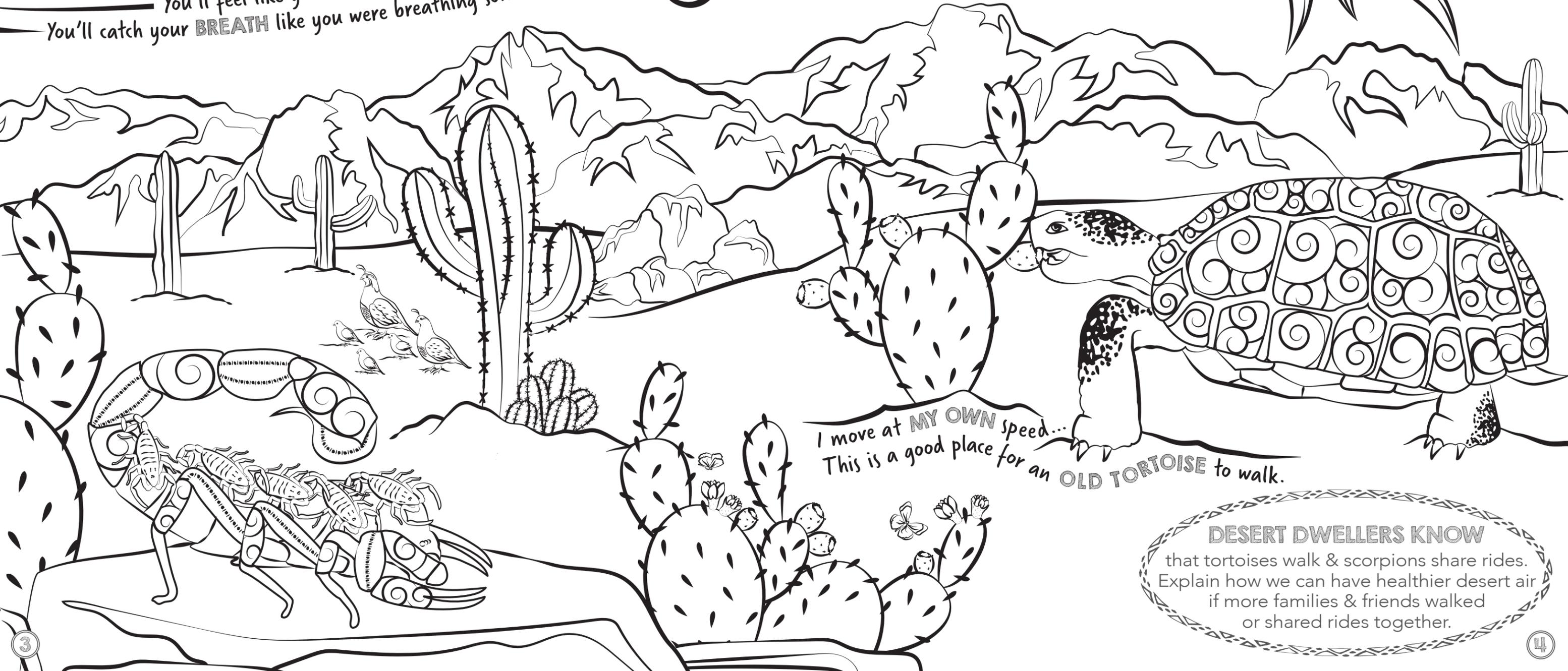
The Sonoran Desert is home to more than 130 native species of mammals, 500 birds, 20 amphibians, 100 reptiles, 30 fish and 3,500 plants, including more than 700 edible plant species.

How do desert dwellers, not just survive, but adapt well & thrive in the Sonoran Desert??





You can tell what's worth a celebration because your **HEART** will **POUND** and...
 You'll feel like you're standing on top of a mountain and...
 You'll catch your **BREATH** like you were breathing some new kind of **AIR**.



I move at **MY OWN** speed...
 This is a good place for an **OLD TORTOISE** to walk.

DESERT DWELLERS KNOW
 that tortoises walk & scorpions share rides.
 Explain how we can have healthier desert air
 if more families & friends walked
 or shared rides together.



inside its great stem.

Rain is a **BLESSING** counted drop by drop
Saguaro is fat after rain - fat with the water it's **SAVING**

Give it one summer storm.

It can last a **YEAR** if it has to. Sometimes it lasts to...

...You have to **RESPECT**... whatever it is you're with...
If you think you're **BETTER** than a horned toad, you'll never **HEAR ITS VOICE**...

DESERT DWELLERS KNOW

that saguaros & horned lizards gather rain drops. How do they do it & how can you?

DESERT DWELLERS KNOW

that coyotes live & sing in harmony with the desert. What can desert people learn from coyotes about desert-wise living?

DESERT DWELLERS KNOW

that packrats creatively reuse items found in the desert. What ways do you & your family reduce, reuse, recreate & recycle at home?



...I am going to **SURVIVE** in this dry rocky land ... and while I'm doing it, I'm going to **SING** about it.

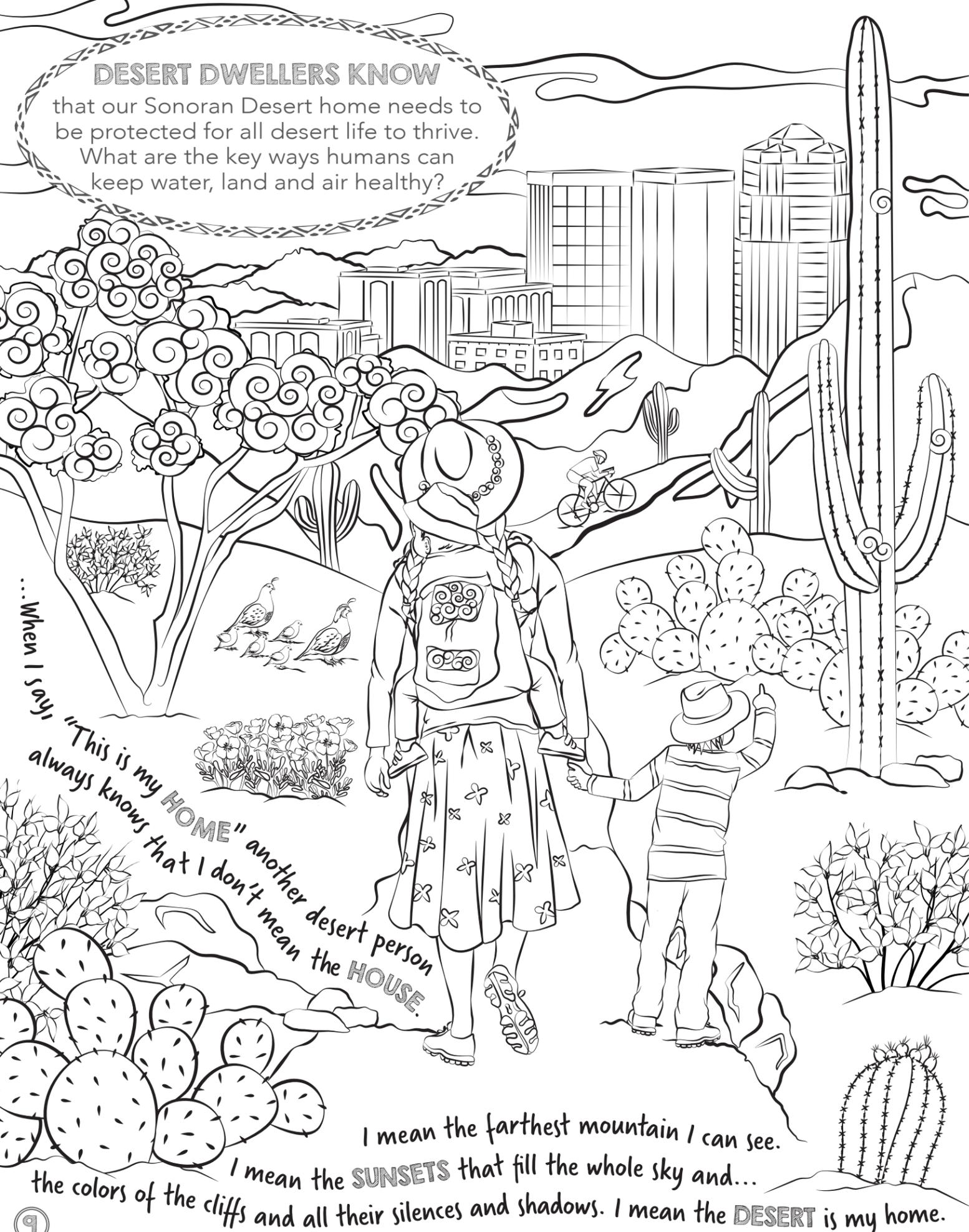
I **SING** about... new soft pups in a sandy den, and rabbit hunts, and the **SMELL** of rain.

I am a gatherer of **TREASURE**... Everything I want is **HERE**.

PACKRATS and people both know to save some for **TOMORROW** - or later. The **DESERT GIVES** what it can to each of its **CHILDREN**.

DESERT DWELLERS KNOW

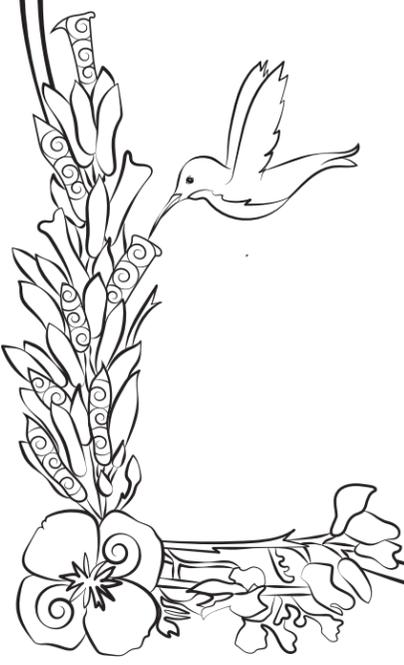
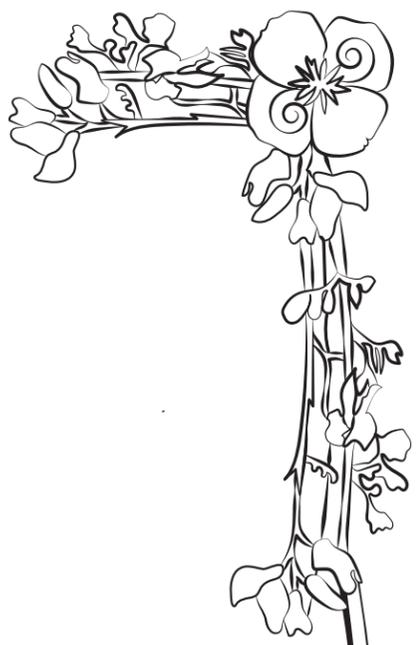
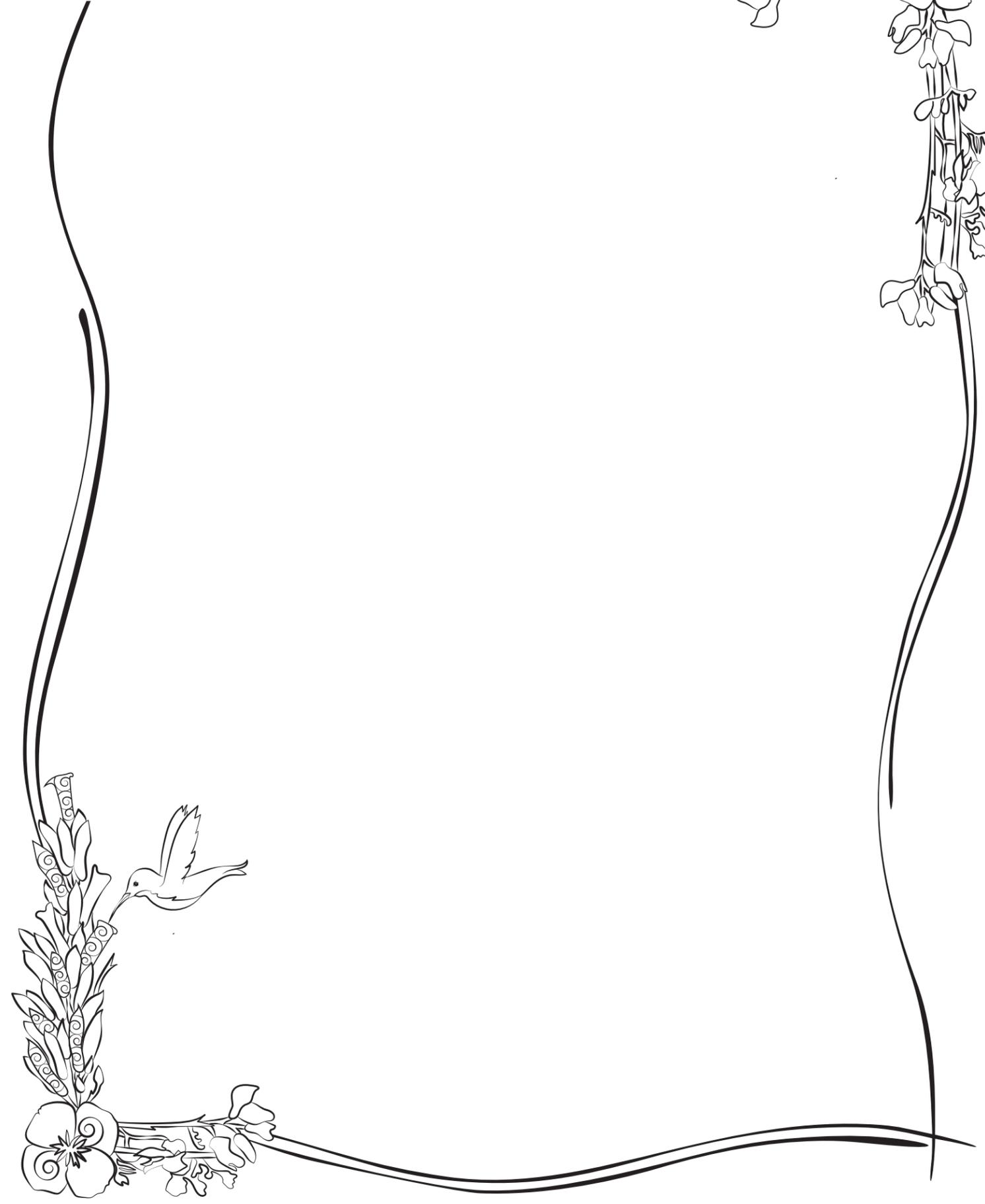
that our Sonoran Desert home needs to be protected for all desert life to thrive. What are the key ways humans can keep water, land and air healthy?



...When I say, "This is my HOME" another desert person always knows that I don't mean the HOUSE.

I mean the farthest mountain I can see.
I mean the SUNSETS that fill the whole sky and...
the colors of the cliffs and all their silences and shadows. I mean the DESERT is my home.

SKETCHES & NOTES



DESERT DWELLERS RESOURCES

These activities support S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math) educational goals:

Page 2

- Describe two environmental factors that would affect an organism's ability to grow. How do humans have any role in this? (Grade 3-Strand 4: Life Science, Concept 3, PO 5)
- What are some of the nonliving and living members in the Sonoran Desert? How do you interact with any nonliving or living members when you go to school or when you go hiking? (Grade 3-Strand 4: Life Science, Concept 3, PO1)

Page 3

- Describe interactions between plants, animals and humans. Consider the time of day and season of the year. (Grade 3-Strand 4: Life Science, Concept 3, PO 3)
- How do plants and animals survive the heat, cold, rain, and drought periods? (Grade 4-Strand 6: Earth and Space Science, Concept 3, PO4/ Strand 6: Earth and Space Science, Concept 3, PO 4)

Page 4

- The average speed of a desert tortoise is .2 miles per hour (mph) or .2 miles/1 hour. How many hours would it take a desert tortoise to walk 1 mile? (Grade 5-Strand 1: Inquiry Process, Concept 3, PO 5)
- If you and your friend decide to share rides/carpool to school 3 days each week instead of driving the 23-mile round trip in separate cars, how many miles would your families save each week? If one pound of pollution is created for every 69 miles driven, how many pounds of pollution would be saved in one month? (Grade 5- Mathematics, Number and Operations-Fractions, 5.NF.B.6)

Page 5

- Describe the water cycle in the desert. (Grade 4-Strand 6: Earth and Space Science, Concept 3, PO 2)
- How can water change the Earth's surface? (Grade 4-Strand 6: Earth and Space Science, Concept 3, PO 1)
- What are some unique survival adaptations of the saguaro and the horned lizard? What other plants have unique adaptations to survive in the Sonoran Desert? (Grade 3 and 4-Strand 4: Life Science, Concept 1, PO 2/ Strand 4: Life Science, Concept 4, PO 1)

Page 6

- Describe how plants, animals, and humans are affected by water, soil, and wind. How do plants, animals, or humans use their resources wisely? (Grade 4-Strand 4: Life Science, Concept 3, PO 3)

Page 7

- Name objects you can see in the sky. Name all the planets in our solar system. (Grade 6-Strand 6: Earth and Space Science, Concept 3, PO 3/ Strand 6: Earth and Space Science, Concept 3, PO 3)
- Describe how the night sky changes during the cycles of the moon and throughout the year. (Grade 6-Strand 6: Earth and Space Science, Concept 3, PO 5)

Page 8

- What is the difference between nocturnal and diurnal animals? Name any plants that also use the cooler temperatures of the night to become more active. (Grade 4-Strand 4: Life Science, Concept 4, PO 1).

Page 9

- What are some benefits and risks with using modern technology? (Grade 4- Strand 3: Science in Personal and Social Perspectives, Concept 2, PO 2).

Special thanks to Tori Davis (PDEQ's Spring 2017 Intern, University of Arizona's Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health) who created these engaging STEAM activities.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS & PARENTS



What do spiral designs mean?

From ancient times, cultures around the world have recognized spirals as powerful symbols of life. Byrd's words echo our integral connections with nature and the fundamental need of all life for healthy air, water and land.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF QUOTES :

- Page 2 : *The Table Where Rich People Sit.* (1994) and *The Desert Is Theirs.* (1975)
Page 3 : *I'm In Charge of Celebrations.* (1986)
Page 4 : *Desert Voices.* (1981)
Page 5 : *The Desert Is Theirs.* (1975)
Page 6 : *The Other Way to Listen.* (1978)
Page 7 : *Desert Voices.* (1981)
Page 8 : *Desert Voices.* (1981) and *The Desert Is Theirs.* (1975)
Page 9 : *Desert Voices.* (1981)
Back : *The Desert Is Theirs.* (1975)

ADDITIONAL BOOKS BY BYRD BAYLOR :

- 1963 : *Amigo*
1965 : *One Small Blue Bead*
1969 : *Before You Came This Way*
1971 : *Plink, Plink, Plink*
1972 : *Coyote Cry*
When Clay Sings
1973 : *Sometimes I Dance Mountains*
1974 : *Everybody Needs a Rock*
They Put On Masks
1976 : *And It Is Still That Way*
Hawk, I'm Your Brother
We Walk In Sandy Places
1977 : *Yes Is Better Than No*
Guess Who My Favorite Person Is
1978 : *The Way To Start A Day*
1979 : *Your Own Best Secret Place*
1980 : *If You Are A Hunter of Fossils*
1981 : *A God On Every Mountain Top*
1982 : *Moon Song*
1983 : *The Best Town In The World*
1986 : *Silver Burdett Ginn Social Studies*
1991 : *Halcon, Soy Tu Hermano*
1997 : *The Way To Make Perfect Mountains*

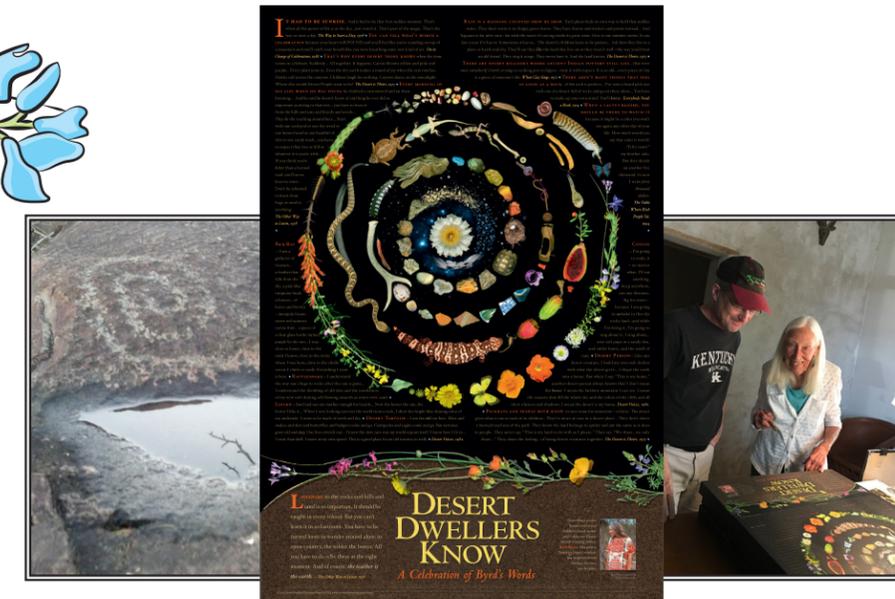


photo (left) by Paul Mirocha. photo (right) by Skye Siegel.

The **Desert Dwellers Know Desert Colors - Coloring & Celebrating Byrd Baylor's Words** introduces topics for supporting elementary level S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) educational objectives. **Desert Colors** is a companion piece to Byrd Baylor's tribute poster, **Desert Dwellers Know - A Celebration of Byrd's Words**, designed by graphic artist, Paul Mirocha with inspiration from an ancient Hohokam petroglyph on University of Arizona's Tumamoc Hill, Tucson, AZ.

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