



**Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation  
Environmental Education**

**Desert Wildlife Ecology – Live Wildlife Presentation  
Grades K-12**

**Description:** Desert Wildlife Ecology

Live wildlife classroom presentations are available to enhance the study of desert wildlife. This program is useful as a preparation for field study trips to Pima County's natural resource parks or to enhance biology, ecology and conservation education classes. Presentation focus is easily adapted to the specific needs of each class.

**Linked to Arizona Academic Standards:** Science S4: C1: G2PO1; G4PO2; G6PO1, C2: G1PO1; C3: KPO1, KPO2; G1PO1; G1PO3; G4PO3; G3PO5, C4: G3PO1; G8PO1, G8PO6. Social Studies 2SS-R2, F2, E6, E7, D2

**Duration: 30 - 45 Minutes**

**Objectives:**

- Students are exposed to a live raptor.
- Students learn the ecological roles of desert wildlife.
- Students become aware of local wildlife and Sonoran Desert conservation issues.

**Conceptual Framework:**

- All living things are interrelated; and are a product of their environment and an integral part of it.
- The essentials of habitat, required by plants and animals including humans, are food, water, shelter, and space, in a suitable arrangement.

**Vocabulary:**

Adaptation	Field marks	Predator
Conservation	Flight patterns	Prey
Ecology	Habitat	Raptor

**Materials:**

Live animal (Harris' hawk and/or Swainson's hawk)  
Bird stand & kennel  
4' Table in front to room  
Raptor shapes handout  
Crayons, markers, scissors, pipe cleaners

**Description of activities:**

- Display raptor and discuss habits, habitat and conservation. Encourage student questions. Introduce concepts and vocabulary as part of presentation and discussion.
- With younger groups, introduce raptor shapes and allow them to do the raptor shapes activity. Color and cut out raptor shapes and insert pipe cleaner to make rings.