

Living Desert University

Learn
at the Zoo!



THE LIVING DESERT
ZOO | GARDENS



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Living Desert University

Through Living Desert University we are pleased to offer adults the chance to learn more about our desert biome.

We have nature themed walks, including luncheon, to one of the Coachella Valley's most interesting locations—the world renowned Smoke Tree Ranch.

Returning this season, everyone is invited to attend many of the classes we conduct to train our staff, focused on the plants and animals found at The Living Desert!

And, if you've got a 'bit of wanderlust', you can always join one of our Carpool Caravan Salton Sea Birding trips in January.

***Space is limited, so reserve your
adventure in learning today!***

Please register at LivingDesert.org or email LDU@LivingDesert.org for more information.



LDU @ Smoke Tree Ranch Tour & Luncheon

Through our partnership with Smoke Tree Ranch, we are pleased to again offer this very popular Walk & Luncheon series.

Situated on 375 acres at the top of a gently rising alluvial fan and sheltered by the San Jacinto mountains, you will find the historic enclave of homes renowned for its native smoke trees and natural desert landscapes adorned with irreplaceable plants and a kaleidoscope of wildflowers (seasonally).

Join your Living Desert University guide on a themed walk through this desert gem and be awed by breathtaking landscapes while we enjoy the local flora and fauna.

After our morning walk, we will enjoy an amazing noon-time lunch in Smoke Tree Ranch's renowned Ranch House. Definitely an experience not to be missed!

All Walks & Luncheons run from 9am to 1pm
Please bring water & wear comfortable walking clothes

Member Price \$58 / Non-member Price \$68

Friday, November 9th: *Bird Walk & Luncheon*

Friday, December 14th: *Gardens, Landscapes & Luncheon*

Sunday, January 6th: *Geology, Local History & Luncheon*

Thursday, February 21st: *Gardens, Landscapes & Luncheon*

Friday, March 1st: *Bird Walk & Luncheon*

Salton Sea Birding Carpool Trips

Located 226 feet below sea level, the Salton Sea is a temporary home to heavy bird migrations. Join Consummate Birder Kurt Leuschner and The Living Desert Staff in search of this rich and varied bird life. Tour leaders will bring spotting scopes. Please be prepared to drive your own vehicle and bring lunch and water. NEW \$5-\$7 per vehicle charge for the State Park – *so let's carpool!*

7:45am-5pm *Location: Carpool from The Living Desert*

Sunday, January 13th Saturday, January 26th

Members \$35 / Non-members \$40

Wonderfully Wild



Training Classes

Join The Living Desert Staff & Volunteers in these fun and informative sessions, facilitated by The Living Desert Directors, Curators, Specialized Professionals and Seasoned Volunteer staff.



Each of these sessions will include in-class instruction, followed by an on-grounds walk (weather & time permitting).

Be sure to bring a bottle of water and dress according to the weather, with comfortable walking shoes.

Member Price \$20 / Non-member Price \$30

(Staff & Volunteers need to register through the Education Office)

Bird Basics

Sign up for one, or both, of these avian adventures! Each session will cover bird **basics** and may include a bird walk. (Note: These are not species identification classes.)

Session A - Anatomy

Friday, March 8th: 9am-noon

Session B - Behavior

Friday, March 22nd: 9am-noon

Conservation Projects @ The Living Desert

Join our Conservation Team as they explain the many conservation projects, local *and global*, that we are a part of.

Friday, January 11th: 9am-noon

Ecology - The Basics

The interconnections in our desert biome are intricate and fragile. Come learn how it all fits together.

Wednesday, February 13th: 9am-noon

Geology - The Basics

Learn more about the geologic forces that created the Coachella Valley, and continue to influence valley life today.

Wednesday, December 12th: 9am-noon

Tuesday, February 26th: 9am-noon

Going Green @ The Living Desert

Join our 'Green Team' as they share what The Living Desert is doing to limit our environmental impact now, and what actions we are planning on taking in the future. We'll share some strategies you can use in your own home, and show you some of our successes here on grounds.

Wednesday, March 13th: 9am-11am



Just by visiting The Living Desert, or taking part in one of our events or education programs, you help support our conservation efforts.

THANK YOU!

Invertebrates of The Living Desert

Insects and arachnids are among the most abundant and diverse organisms on Earth. Familiarize yourself with this misunderstood part of the animal kingdom.

Friday, December 7th: 1-4pm

Friday, February 15th: 1-4pm

Mammals of The Living Desert

From North American cottontails to African giraffe, learn more about our 'furry friends'.

Focus on Predator Species

Thursday, November 29th: 9am-noon

Saturday, February 9th: 1-4pm

Focus on Prey Species

Saturday, December 1st: 9am-noon

Tuesday, February 5th: 1-4pm

Plants of The Living Desert

Desert plants have learned how to make the most out of the scarce resources available to them. Come learn about these drought tolerant wonders!

Friday, January 18th: 9am-noon

Saturday, February 23rd: 9am-noon

Reptiles of The Living Desert

Nothing says 'desert' like our scaly residents! Come find out more about these desert survivalists.

Monday, December 10th: 1-4pm

Sunday, March 10th: 1-4pm

Potting & Propagation Projects @ The Living Desert

Hands-on Workshop

Join our Garden Staff and spend the morning in our greenhouse learning the specialized techniques The Living Desert's propagator, Bob Linstead, uses for propagating and growing beautiful native and desert adapted plants. See firsthand all of The Living Desert's current propagation projects.

You're bound to go away with new appreciation, as well as a few 'samples' you've potted up to take home!

Sunday, February 24th 9am-noon

Members \$30 / Non-Members \$40

SEE WHAT'S
new at the zoo!



Free for Members!

Or with paid admission

La Gran Fiesta	Oct 13
HOWL-o-WEEN	Oct 27 Daytime
HOWL-o-WEEN	Oct 31 (Members)
WildLights Preview	Nov 21 (Members)
Fairytales & Frogs	Feb 16
Eggstravaganza	Apr 20
Train Day	May 4

Visit us at LivingDesert.org for more information.

Ticketed Events!

Some for Members ONLY

Wine Makers Series (Members)	Select Thursdays, Jan-Apr
Brunch at the Zoo (Members)	Select Saturdays, Nov-Mar
WildLights	Select Nights, Nov 23- Dec 24
Mildly Wild New Year's Eve	Dec 31
Brew at the Zoo!	Feb 9
Zoobilee!	Mar 2

Wonderfully Wild



ZOO CAMP is the place for your budding naturalist to have some wild fun while exploring the natural world. ZooCampers will be enthralled by the special activities, behind-the-scenes tours and animal encounters you can only find here, at The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens!

HOLIDAY ZOO CAMP

FALL / WINTER / SPRING

Ages 4-12; select dates 8:30am to noon

PRICING 2-DAY MINI-CAMPS:

Members: \$85 / Non-members: \$105

Please visit us at LivingDesert.org for complete details, or contact us at ZooCamp@LivingDesert.org.

SUMMER ZOO CAMP

JUNE / JULY

Ages 4-12; select weeks, Monday through Friday, from 8am to noon

PRICING PER WEEKLY SESSION: Members: \$186 / Non-members: \$216

MEMBERS ONLY are eligible for Summer ZooCamp Early-Bird registration, April 15 to April 30. Non-member booking opens May 1.

STARRY SAFARI OVERNIGHT ADVENTURES

Enjoy an extended nighttime experience at the zoo!

1st Friday of the month, October – June!*

Each overnight will feature an up-close animal encounter, a guided night-time walk, and a campfire experience - including s'mores you roast yourself! You'll enjoy a night of slumber and awake for an early morning continental breakfast. After stowing your gear, you're free to enjoy the park for the entire day!

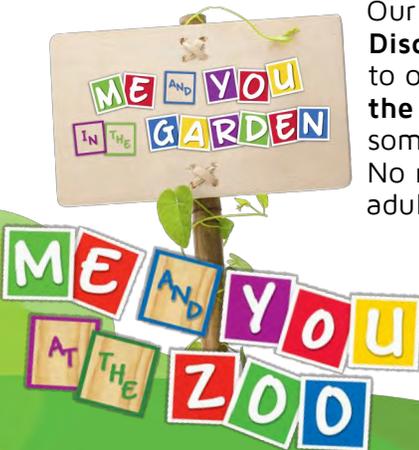
We'll have themed evenings, where Bats, Night Predators, WildLights!, Astronomy, Giraffe, and Scorpions will be featured. This season, you'll have the opportunity to choose either an indoor sleepover in our beautiful Discovery Center, or in milder months you can have a true camping experience at our Safari Campground.

Please visit us at LivingDesert.org for complete details, or contact us at StarrySafari@LivingDesert.org.

**Groups of 20 or more should contact us for group pricing, and may qualify for a private night!*



Me and You at the Zoo adventures for children ages 18 months through 3 years of age & accompanying adults are offered at 9am Wednesdays, Oct-May. Activities may include an animal encounter, tactile experiences, and active play.



Our adventure begins in the **Discovery Center** and moves to our special **Me and You in the Garden** play-space for some outdoor nature play. No more than 2 children per adult, please.

FREE for members!

Non-members are welcome to join us for a 'test run' with paid admission.

STEM GROUP FIELD TRIP DAYS

Science-Technology-Engineering-Math!

Join the Education team for these highly interactive events geared to encourage student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking skills. These popular events take place at the Education Center, and feature engaging **STEM** stations where students interact, reason, create and assess results.

Learning at the zoo has never been more fun! For more information on these exciting events Group Leaders/Home School Coordinators please email us at

SchoolFieldTrips@LivingDesert.org

- ▶ November 5th, 2018: Home School Day
- ▶ January 19th, 2019: Scout Day
- ▶ April 1st, 2019: Home School Day

At-a-Glance

Date	LDU Classes / Walks / Workshops	Start
Friday, November 9	LDU @ Smoke Tree Ranch: Bird Walk & Luncheon	9am
Thursday, November 29	Mammals of The Living Desert - Focus on Predators	9am
Saturday, December 1	Mammals of The Living Desert - Focus on Prey	9am
Friday, December 7	Invertebrates of The Living Desert	1pm
Monday, December 10	Reptiles of The Living Desert	1pm
Wednesday, December 12	The Basics of Geology	9am
Friday, December 14	LDU @ Smoke Tree Ranch: Gardens, Landscapes & Luncheon	9am
Sunday, January 6	LDU @ Smoke Tree Ranch: Geology, Local History & Luncheon	9am
Friday, January 11	Conservation Projects @ The Living Desert	9am
Sunday, January 13	Salton Sea Birding 1	7:45am
Friday, January 18	Plants of The Living Desert	9am
Saturday, January 26	Salton Sea Birding 2	7:45am
Tuesday, February 5	Mammals of The Living Desert - Focus on Prey	1pm
Saturday, February 9	Mammals of The Living Desert - Focus on Predators	1pm
Wednesday, February 13	The Basics of Ecology	9am
Friday, February 15	Invertebrates of The Living Desert	1pm
Thursday, February 21	LDU @ Smoke Tree Ranch: Gardens, Landscapes & Luncheon	9am
Saturday, February 23	Plants of The Living Desert	9am
Sunday, February 24	Potting & Propagation Projects @ The Living Desert	9am
Tuesday, February 26	The Basics of Geology	9am
Friday, March 1	LDU @ Smoke Tree Ranch: Bird Walk & Luncheon	9am
Friday, March 8	Bird Basics - A: Anatomy	9am
Sunday, March 10	Reptiles of The Living Desert	1pm
Wednesday, March 13	Going Green @ The Living Desert	9am
Friday, March 22	Bird Basics - B: Behavior	9am

**For more information, or to book your
Adventure in Learning, please visit us at LivingDesert.org,
or contact us at Education@livingdesert.org;
(760) 346-5694, ext. 2501.**



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Wonderfully Wild