



## **DOCENTS OF THE MATURANGO MUSEUM OF THE INDIAN WELLS VALLEY Museum Tours and Outreach Programs**

### **SPECIAL TOURS *and* OUTREACH PROGRAMS**

The Docents of the Maturango Museum offer the following: a general tour of the museum and its displays including the art gallery; your chosen program and tour of the museum; or an outreach program (including the Beth Armogida Planetarium) at the school or other meeting place.

Each program covers one topic in depth designed to supplement and enrich classroom lesson as well as address science and social studies standards. Docent talks are complemented by PowerPoint presentations and prepared specimens and realia.

Museum tours and outreach programs must be scheduled in advance. These programs are presented by volunteer docents and are available Monday through Friday. The museum is open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Special arrangements can sometimes be made for trips to the museum after hours.

Teachers, leaders and others interested in scheduling a tour or program may call the Museum at 760-375-6900 or email the Educational Coordinator at [matmus7@matrurango.org](mailto:matmus7@matrurango.org) for information. Ask for the Education Coordinator, Nora Nuckles. Request forms are available at the museum or on the website. Request forms may be returned to the Museum by FAX.

### **ANIMALS ON THE EDGE (ENDANGERED SPECIES)**

How do animals and plants become threatened or endangered? What endangered species live in the Mojave Desert?

### **ART EXPERIENCES**

These presentations teach the elements of art-line, shape, form, color, texture and include hands-on projects.

### **ASTRONOMY/BETH ARMOGIDA PLANETARIUM**

The stars, our sun, the planets, comets, asteroids and meteors are always a great wonder to all. A PowerPoint program with wonderful photos is available to use the Planetarium. The Planetarium requires a space at least 11 ft. high and 20 ft in diameter. The Planetarium can be used in the Museum gallery. A PowerPoint presentation with wonderful photos is available if you cannot accommodate the planetarium. (Then leave info on the planetarium

### **BATS**

Victims of bad PR, bats are actually beneficial creatures. Man has yet to match nature's earliest radar.

### **BIRDS**

From the tiniest hummingbirds to the majestic golden eagle, from the roadrunner to eared grebe, meet the winged fauna of the valley. This presentation includes specimens birds from our desert environment.

## **BONES**

What is this? A skeleton, skull, ribs, . . . What is it for? Support, protection, muscle attachment? What animal is a mammal or reptile? How does it live? Children will learn the answers by observing and manipulating bones of many kinds.

## **CANINES AND/OR FELINES**

Various programs describe the lifestyle and adaptation of these successful desert predators.

## **CHILDREN'S HOUR**

Once a month usually on a flex Friday docents read stories, do action oems and songs, and provide a craft activity for preschoolers. It begins at 10:30. Check the website for dates.

## **DESERT ALIVE**

The Upper Mojave Desert is a unique environment. Presentations highlight local plant and animal ecosystems emphasizing characteristics that enable them to survive in the desert.

## **EARTHQUAKES**

This program explains where and why earthquakes may strike and what to expect when they do. The local area is featured showing the faults that have been active and where activity is expected in the future.

## **ETHNOBOTANY**

Desert foragers and hunters used plants for food, medicine, tools and shelter. This program identifies some of these plants and the different ways they have been used.

## **GEOGRAPHY OF THE LOCAL AREA**

The program covers local geographic features including samples of some natural resources and a discussion of how man has used these resources to make a living in the desert.

## **HISTORY OF INDIAN WELLS VALLEY & SURROUNDING AREA**

This presentation begins with the arrival of European explorers, continues with the development of the valley, including the miners, homesteaders and military, through present day Inyokern, Trona, Ridgecrest and China Lake.

## **INSECTS**

This program takes a close-up look at insects focusing on their physical characteristics, abilities, and metamorphosis. Arachnids are also discussed.

## **MANZANAR**

The program features Martha Shoaf's recollections and photos of Manzanar Relocation Center where she taught school during World War II. Martha Shoaf taught in Trona for many years after Manzanar was closed. The proximity of Manzanar to Ridgecrest makes it part of our local history.

## **NATIVE AMERICANS**

This presentation explains how these Indians survived the desert environment during the last 1,000 years. It includes examples and artifacts of the tools and baskets used, how food was prepared and types of shelters built.

## **PETROGLYPHS**

This presentation is an introduction to the petroglyphs-what they are and how they were

made. The Coso Mountains contain the largest known concentration of rock drawings in the Western hemisphere.

### **REPTILES**

The lizards, snakes and tortoises of the Upper Mojave Desert have adapted to their desert conditions. The presentation includes identification of local species, their characteristics, and habitats. We discuss poisonous reptiles and reptiles that are protected by the U.S. Government.

### **ROCKS & GEOLOGY**

This presentation examines rock specimens in the context of the geological events of this area. Sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks are discussed and samples are shown.

### **VOLCANOES**

The eastern side of California is a geologically active area. Earthquake faults, cinder cones, obsidian domes, explosion pits, lava flows, the Long Valley caldera, and hot springs are explained with samples of volcanic rocks and geological maps.

### **WEATHER ON THE HIGH DESERT**

We all know that the desert is supposed to be hot and dry. There are winter snows and summer morning fogs and afternoon rainbows. How do these things happen and why? It includes demonstration of the water cycle.

### **WILDFLOWERS**

In this spectacular presentation every color in the rainbow is represented. It is an introduction to the wildflowers of the Indian Wells Valley.