



## Tour Theme: Animals (grades 3-5)

### Pre-Visit Activity #2: Animal Poetry

#### Animals that are found at the Springs Preserve:

Gila Monster

Lizard

Grey Fox

Bobcat

Sidewinder Snake

Pallid Bats

Mallard Duck

Desert Tortoise

Big Horn Sheep

Kangaroo Rat

Cottontail Rabbit

Pocket Mouse

Antelope Ground Squirrel

Red Tailed Hawk

#### Lesson:

1. Have students choose an animal from the above list. You may want to have pictures displayed.
2. Ask students to close their eyes for a few minutes and imagine that they are the animal living in its natural environment.
3. Guide them by asking questions: Imagine how big your animal is. Where is it living? What does it eat? Is it nocturnal? How does it travel? Is it kind? Is it aggressive?
4. Once you have given the students time to imagine that they are the animal, have them open their eyes.
5. Have them write a poem about their animal. They may choose to do Haiku, Cinquain, Diamante or free write.
6. Have the students present their writing to the class.
7. Completed poems can be displayed with images of the animals.

#### Debrief:

- Ask the students why they chose their animal.
- Have them describe their animal, including what they liked and did not like.
- Inform them that they will get the opportunity to see some of these animals at the Springs Preserve.