



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FACT SHEET

As the stewards of our future, children have been a primary consideration in the development, design and programming of activities at the Springs Preserve (Preserve). In addition to the classes, workshops and programs for school-aged youth that will begin in the fall including themed programs on archeology, animals, water and plants, there are a variety of activities designed specifically for young Preserve visitors.

CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND – Located in the Crossroad Commons, the Children's Playground offers little ones an opportunity to escape into a recreated desert canyon environment and experience all that comes along with it, including ambient sound effects. Oversized replicas of wildlife are a main focal point of the playground, including a gigantic replica of a Peregrine Falcon perched high upon a rock, the recreated skeleton of a Woolly Mammoth partially buried in the sand and a massive concrete Sidewinder snake winding through the canyon walls.

NATURE EXCHANGE – An area in the Desert Living Center is dedicated to a nationwide educational program called the Nature Exchange. This unique, free choice learning environment is a place young collectors can "trade" their natural found items and learn more about them. A trained staff initiates dialogue with the collector encouraging further investigation via the Preserve Resource Library. Participating collectors gain "points" that are tracked through the Nature Exchange computer database and can be used for trading for other items.

NEW FRONTIER GALLERY – Inside the Origen Experience is the New Frontier Gallery. Designed with children and youth in mind, the gallery is a globally connected arcade filled with games and activities that celebrate the cultural highlights of Las Vegas and allow visitors to engage with the principles of sustainability in a fun, hands-on way. Activities include multi-player games and game show experiences, an interactive multi-media attraction that allows guests to create their own public service announcement, a children's tactile play area and an animated show set displaying guests' messages and game scores.

LIVING COLLECTIONS – The Origen Experience features the Living Collections exhibit where visitors are introduced to a variety of native mammals, reptiles and invertebrates. The exhibit teaches how desert animals adapt to survive the extreme temperatures and dry climate of the Mojave. Domed "pop-out" windows built into the simulated canyon environment allow children to view the desert cottontail rabbit up close. The Living Collections include desert tortoises, kangaroo rats, pocket gophers and other animals in their underground burrows, a bat cave that allows a peek into the intriguing world of these nocturnal desert dwellers, a Gila monster and other wildlife.

WEB SITE: www.springspreserve.org

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