# Conservancy Kids

We bring the Sonoran Desert to you!



M C D O W E L L S O N O R A N C O N S E R V A N C Y

### Welcome to Conservancy Kids!

Become a junior scientist, exploring the natural world, asking questions, and making discoveries. Join us for an adventure that will take you outdoors, around the house, and into the incredible Sonoran Desert. Welcome to Conservancy Kids! We're excited to see you!

### Reptiles are Rad!

Snakes, lizards, and tortoises are all reptiles that call the Sonoran Desert home. There are more than 11,000 species of reptiles in the world! Reptiles are ectotherms and need external heat to warm themselves, but they're still able to survive in cold places. During the winter, reptiles will experience an incredibly slow metabolism, basically remaining dormant through the winter months in underground burrows. Wood frogs have a habitat range that extends all the way into the Arctic Circle. These frogs can actually survive freezing and then thawing out in the spring! Learn more about why reptiles are so rad with Luke in the video below.



Click to watch!



#### Do Gila Monsters Hula?

Gila monsters are probably the Sonoran Desert's most famous lizard. They're striking red and black coloring, bumpy texture, and elusive nature make for a fascinating reptile. Did you know, the bumps you see on the Gila monster's head are actually part of the skull itself?? Check out the video below and learn more about Gila monsters with Luke and Nicole.



Click to watch!



#### Connect!

Check out more Conservancy Kids Newsletters at <a href="https://www.mcdowellsonoran.org/education">https://www.mcdowellsonoran.org/education</a>





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## Connect a kid to nature



Nicole Kallman, Education Manager

Nicole loves science and exploration. In college, she studied physics and biology. Now, she shares her excitement about science with others, encouraging everyone to follow in the footsteps of Miss Frizzle: "take chances, make mistakes, and get messy!"

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#### Luke Challis

Luke loves science and being out and about in nature! He studies a lot about biology, ways of thinking, and philosophy. Luke also loves to teach and encourage kids and adults to always keep learning.