



Crafty Kids Program

Lesson 4: Snake Celebration

Slithery snakes are not uncommon out here. We will cover a few snakes in this region and their different patterns that we can recognize them by. Discover their interesting biology and how they actually help us when it comes to rodents and disease. Kids will be able to create their own snake that can be hung up like a wind chime.

- Discuss venom (pit vipers) vs. constriction (constrictors) for snakes to kill prey.
- Explain overpopulation of rodents/jackrabbits and the risks associated, such as Hanta virus or vegetation deprivation.
- Print out large/zoomed pictures of the snakes for kids to recognize and point out shapes/patterns.

Types of snakes at White Sands:

Venomous

- Massasauga
- Prairie Rattlesnake
- Western Diamond Back Rattlesnake

Non-Venomous

- Gopher Snake
- Coachwhip
- Hognose
- Plains Blackheaded

Materials needed:

- Cardstock prints of snakes
- Crayons or markers
- Adhesive jewels or sequins (variety of shapes)
- Ribbon
- Pinto beans and glue (for rattle)

Directions:

1. Have kids color snakes first.
2. When finished, have them pick out patterns with the jewels/sequins to paste them on.
3. Cut out snake in a spiral and attach a ribbon under the head with tape to hang.
4. If the child wants a rattle, have them glue beans on the edge of the tail resembling one.

