Dear Coati Kids Club Members,

Welcome to the adventure! We're thrilled to have you join or renew your membership with us. Get ready for a year packed with excitement, exploration, and endless fun as part of our Coati Kids Club family!

As you embark on this journey, remember to print your membership card at home - it's your passport to a world of discovery. Your membership is valid for an entire year from the date of purchase, unlocking a treasure trove of benefits that will ignite your curiosity and fuel your imagination.

What's in store for you? How about eight exclusive events tailor-made for Coati Kids Club members and their families? Picture this: up-close encounters with fascinating animals and plants, hands-on art projects

inspired by our themes, and guided expeditions through the Desert Museum and beyond. It's a calendar filled with unforgettable experiences that you won't want to miss.

But that's not all. New members, get ready to receive your very own Coati Kids Club stainless-steel water bottle and our "Let's Explore the Desert Family Go Guide" – your essential companion for adventures in the wild. Renewing members, don't worry, we've got something special for you too – the "Hummingbirds of the West GetGo Guide" awaits you in 2024.

Feeling adventurous? Dive into our hands-on projects, experiments, and extension activities designed to spark your curiosity and inspire creativity. Plus, we'll equip you with ideas to keep exploring in your community, your backyard, and beyond – because the world is your playground!

Oh, and did we mention the perks? Your membership covers two adults and siblings aged 5 and younger at our special events. Plus, Coati Kids Club members enjoy free entry to the Desert Museum anytime they visit – talk about endless adventures!

Ready to dive in? Register for programs now or whenever suits your schedule. Just remember to let us know you're coming so we can prepare enough materials for everyone.

Got questions? Don't hesitate to reach out. Whether it's a query or a suggestion, I'm here to help. Drop me a line at <a href="mailto:rkropp@desertmuseum.org">rkropp@desertmuseum.org</a> or give me a call at 520-883-3034. For help registering for events contact <a href="mailto:education@desertmuseum.org">education@desertmuseum.org</a> or call at 520-883-3025.

Thank you for being part of the Coati Kids Club. Your membership means the world to us, and we can't wait to make memories together. Get ready for a year filled with wonder, laughter, and unforgettable adventures!

Excitedly yours,

Robin Kropp Coati Kids Club Coordinator 520-883-3034 rkropp@desertmuseum.org



## Mark your calendars for these fun 2024 events, please preregister!

Bonus Event: Rockin' Minerals – Family Fun Fair and Mineral Sale: Saturday and Sunday, January 13-14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily on grounds. Start your own mineral collection at stations around the grounds and enjoy our mineral sale to add more! Coati Kids Club members (and two accompanying adults and siblings 5 and younger) get free admission to the events either day. No need to pre-register – the Ticket Window will have the list of current Coati Kids Club members. Just give your child member name when you arrive for them to reference. Two accompanying adults and siblings age 5 and under will receive free admission.

No Hurry, We're Thirty: Saturday, January 27, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Education Annex Classrooms 1-2. The Coati Kids Club is turning 30 this year! Celebrate this milestone by meeting some long-lived desert dwellers and identify how they thrive at 30 and beyond. Click to Register for this event

Outdoor Explorers: Ironwood Forest National Monument Hike. Saturday, February 24, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.\* This protected area northwest of Tucson is home to amazing plants and animals including hardy ironwood trees, desert tortoises, and bighorn sheep. Join Friends of Ironwood Forest naturalists on a hike to explore this little-known natural treasure. \* We will meet at Marana Airport at 9:30 to be led to the site. Longer event time includes commute and option to bring and eat lunch there. Click to Register for this event

**Bountiful Beans: Saturday, May 4, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Education Annex Classrooms 1-2.** Our desert is full of plants in the legume family – their fruits are a bounty of beans. Explore the many varieties of wild and cultivated beans in our region and how they benefit desert dwellers. Click to Register for this event

Riveting Roadrunners: Saturday, July 27, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Education Annex Classrooms 1-2. Roadrunners are one of our region's most charismatic birds. Investigate truths and myths about these curious cuckoos. Click to Register for this event

Bats Incredible! Saturday, August 17, 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Education Annex Classrooms 1-2. With their super-senses and athletic flight, bats perform amazing feats. Uncover the secrets of these night flyers then enjoy the desert evening throughout the grounds on a bat-themed Cool Summer Night. Click to Register for this event

Exceptional Eyes: Saturday, September 21, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Education Annex Classrooms 1-2. Special color vision? Reflective mirrors? Lots of lenses? Heat sensors? You may not believe your eyes as we explore the many ways different animals see the world. Click to Register for this event

Ravin' About Raptors: Saturday, October 19, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the Ed. Annex Classrooms 1-2 and on grounds. From falcons to owls to hawks, discover the wonders of our desert's birds of prey. We'll figure out what tools these winged hunters need to find, catch, and eat their prey. And we'll meet some of our Raptor Free Flight Program's trainers and birds as they prepare for their upcoming flight season. Click to Register for this event

Packrat Playhouse Overnighter: Saturday, Nov. 16-17, 5 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. in the Ed. Annex Classrooms 1-2 and on grounds.\* Explore the beauty of a desert fall night as we meet nocturnal animals, take a night hike, stargaze, and more. We'll also play like a packrat and set up cozy sleeping spots in our Packrat Playhouse! \*Space limited to one adult per child member. \$20/person additional fee includes dinner and breakfast. Click to Register for this event