



Crafty Kids Program

Lesson 1: Leapin' Lizards

There are so many lizards here at the monument! Through many years of changing habitats and adapting to their surroundings, most of our lizards are white in coloration. Take a look at a whiptail and some of the interesting patterns and colors that have been produced through selection and breeding over hundreds of years. Invent your own lizard with colors that would help him hide in your choice of environment!

Materials needed:

- Lizard coloring sheet
- Crayons

Materials needed:

- Lizard coloring sheet
- White glue
- Tissue paper squares
- Un-sharpened pencils (*)

* Wrap a tissue paper square on the end of the pencil, dab glue on the bottom of the tissue paper square and stick it to the lizard for a 3-D affect.

Additional ideas are below. Items can be purchased at websites like Oriental Trading.

Materials needed:

- Fabulous foam lizard doorknob hangers

Materials needed:

- Awesome Gecko! Sun Catchers
- Sun Catcher Paint Tube Assortments

For the craft just have the children decorate their lizard how they believe it should look and then they name it and choose where it lives.

* If a larger group, copy and cut lizard template and use crayons to decorate. Laminate to be used as bookmarks.

White Sands

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
White Sands National Monument



Lizards at White Sands National Monument have adapted in certain ways to survive in the dune field. Their eyes work like sunglasses and they have longer toes which may help them run in the sand. The white color of their skin means that their predators, like the great horned owl, can't see them on the sand.

Color the lizard and background to match each other.



