

# FORTUNATELY, THERE IS ONE MAJOR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR SONORA DESERT AND THE REAL ONE.



Female black widows sometimes confuse the smaller males with insects and eat them.

When our research team returned from the Sonora Desert in Arizona, they knew exactly what our

new exhibit would need. Hundreds of

different species of plants and animals, tons of rocks, some sand, and one very important watering hole.



Vampire bats don't always fly, but crawl and hop to within striking distance.

All together, these things make our Sonora Desert just like the original. Except a little more bearable.

One step inside and the dry air makes you feel like you're somewhere south of Tucson. Live 1,000 lb. saguaro cacti act as tour guides as they point you toward the elusive roadrunner

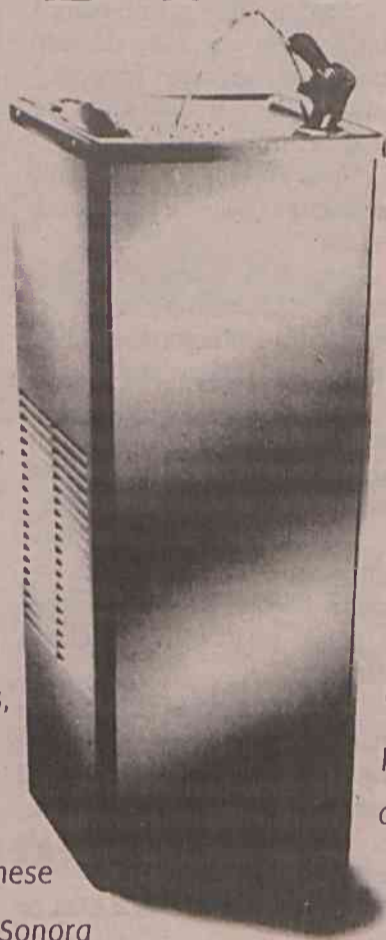


The Scorpion can survive more than desert heat-like being frozen for over a week.

(pö-p-u-lar-üs car-tün-ius) and black-tailed rattlesnake.

Crawling between the bur sage and creosote bushes live the feisty western whiptails.

These inquisitive little lizards pursue



anything that moves, even rustling leaves. Look up and see gila woodpeckers, Gamble's quail, and other birds moving freely about the thickets of mesquite.

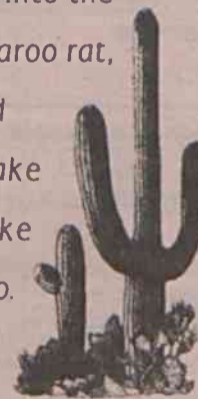
Just up ahead, down a dark, narrow path, day turns to dusk and the desert night comes alive.



Whiptail lizards constantly search for food. They'll even dig underground for a meal.

While your eyes adjust,

the mysterious vampire bats dart between stalactites. Deeper into the darkness, the amazing kangaroo rat, raccoon-like cacomistle, and striking sidewinder rattlesnake find themselves at home. Make no mistake. This is no petting zoo.



A saguaro cactus can grow up to 45 ft. tall and weigh 20,000 lbs.

This is, however, as close to the Sonora Desert as you may ever get. So come on out to the Zoo, but leave your canteen behind. Because unlike a real desert, relief is in sight. And it's not a mirage.

**THE SONORA DESERT**  
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