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Science in the Community: A Look at Informal Science Organizations in Clark County

Public Lands Institute

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Science in the Community

A Look at Informal Science Organizations in Clark County
Informal Science

• Field trips of the past
• Field trips now:
  – Support standards, curricula
  – Can prepare students for testing
  – Opportunities for authentic learning
Informal Science Opportunities in Clark County

• Professional education staff
• Professional partnerships/organizations (PLI, CHOLLA, NNREC, Partners)
• Conferences, trainings
• Teacher survey
Fact or Fiction:
In Clark County, you can …

• see a reptile with a skull three feet long
• see a tree that clones itself
• drive across a structure 171 feet taller than the Washington monument
• see the highest concentration of endemic species in the U.S.
• come face-to-face with an animal that can grow 20,000 teeth
• see paintings that are thousands of years old
• see 3.5 million acres of tortoise habitat
• help train a marine carnivore
Eight Congressionally Designated Areas Surround Las Vegas

1. Spring Mountains NRA
2. Desert NWR
3. Pahranagat NWR
4. Ash Meadows NWR
5. Moapa Valley NWR
6. Lake Mead NRA
7. Red Rock Canyon NCA
8. Sloan Canyon NCA

...plus BLM Public Lands and 18 new Wilderness Areas
Resources

• Field Trip Resource Guide: enviroedexchage.org
Resources (con’t)

• Interact: Beyond the Classroom
• http://nnrec.org/
• http://www.lasvegastourism.com/museums.htm
UNLV’s Public Lands Institute is partnering with area-wide Informal Science Organizations to provide experiences that can have significant and lasting impacts on student learning.