

**Teacher Notes and Background Information**

- **Desert** - a dry region with little rainfall (usually less than 10 inches of rain per year)
- The geography in the Sonoran desert is quite interesting. The Sonoran Desert is located in two states, Arizona and California, and two countries, Mexico and United States. The Sonoran Desert's location is at latitude 25° to 33° North and longitude 105° to 118° West.
- The Sonoran Desert is one of the wettest deserts. When it rains, the desert is damp, and the air is cool. When it has no rain, the desert is really dry. The Sonoran Desert can be very hot. When the desert is windy, the sand gets picked up and tossed around which creates a sand storm. Or if the wind is blowing in a certain kind of way, it creates a whirlwind or dust devil. These mini-tornados move across the desert floor, and they most often occur in hot weather. The desert valley can be hot while up in the mountains it is cool. Some mountains are even snow-covered. The mountains in the Sonoran Desert are Mount Kofa and Mount Catalina. Mount Catalina receives most of the snow.
- The rivers that flow through the desert are the Colorado River and the Gila River. The Salton Sea, the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean are bodies of water next to the Sonoran Desert.

**Teacher Folded Organizer Directions**

Use construction paper or a file folder

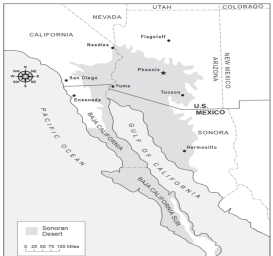
**Front:** (label/title and add mural)

**Inside/middle:** (sort pictures on sides and add sentences in the middle)

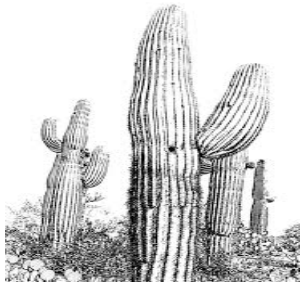
<b>Sonoran Desert</b>	
-----------------------	--

<b>Plants</b>	<b>The</b>	<b>Animals</b>
	_____	
	lives in the Sonoran Desert	
	_____	
	The	
	_____	
	lives in the Sonoran Desert	
	_____	
	The	
	_____	
	lives in the Sonoran Desert.	

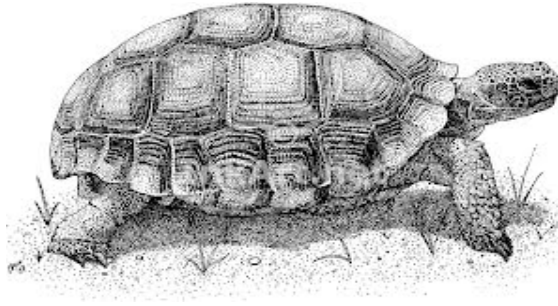
**Backside:** (add Sonoran Desert map and paragraph)

<p>The Sonoran Desert is hot and dry. Many plants and animals live in the Sonoran Desert. I live in the Sonoran Desert.</p>	
	

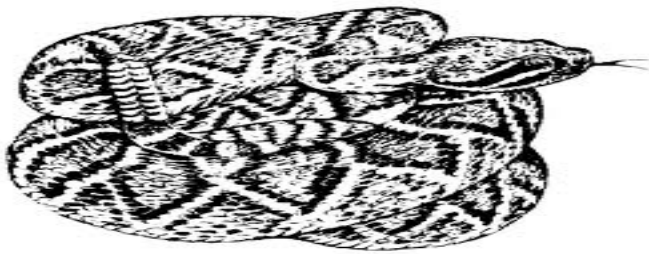
# Plant and Animal Sort



**Saguaro**



**Tortoise**



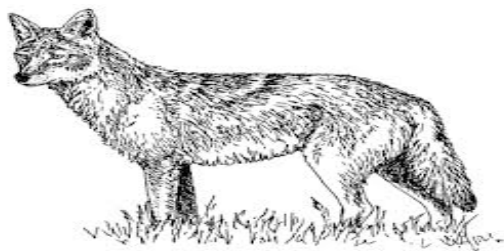
**Rattlesnake**



**Palo Verde**



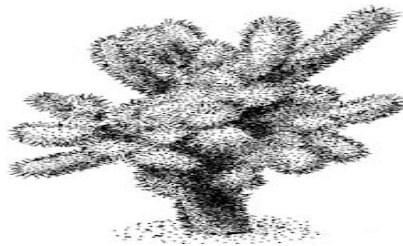
**Prickly Pear**



**Coyote**



**Jack Rabbit**



**Cholla**

**Student Handout:**

Cut out and glue inside folded organizer after completing and writing sentences.

## **Sonoran Desert Sentences**

The \_\_\_\_\_  
lives in the  
Sonoran Desert.

The \_\_\_\_\_  
lives in the  
Sonoran Desert.

The \_\_\_\_\_  
lives in the  
Sonoran Desert.

The \_\_\_\_\_  
lives in the  
Sonoran Desert.

**Student Handout:**

Underline the words Sonoran Desert with a red crayon. Cut out the paragraph and glue it to backside of foldable organizer.

## Sonoran Desert Paragraphs

The Sonoran  
Desert is hot and  
dry. Many plants  
and animals live in  
the Sonoran  
Desert. I live in the  
Sonoran Desert.

The Sonoran  
Desert is hot and  
dry. Many plants  
and animals live in  
the Sonoran Desert.  
I live in the Sonoran  
Desert.

## Folded Organizer Scoring Guide

Names \_\_\_\_\_

Folded Organizer	Points Possible	Points Earned	Comments
<b>Contents Required:</b>			
Label/title of front side of folded organizer	10		
Sorted objects in specific categories	20		
Completed sentence frames and/or sentences written	20		
Map on backside of folded organizer	10		
Paragraph on backside of folded organizer	10		
Retelling of folded organizer information	20		
Mural of the Sonoran Desert on front side of folded organizer	10		
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>		

## Folded Organizer Scoring Guide

Names \_\_\_\_\_

Folded Organizer	Points Possible	Points Earned	Comments
<b>Contents Required:</b>			
Label/title of front side of folded organizer	10		
Sorted objects in specific categories	20		
Completed sentence frames and/or sentences written	20		
Map on backside of folded organizer	10		
Paragraph on backside of folded organizer	10		
Retelling of folded organizer information	20		
Mural of the Sonoran Desert on front side of folded organizer	10		
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>		