

2024 March Happy Camp for Kids

The 2024 Happy Camp is just a fond memory for the SCW Desert Garden Club!

We hosted 14 kids and at least that many adults!

A wonderful tour of the SCW Botanical Garden was led by Pat Wanta, our landscape designer. She showed dried plant parts of different cacti to the amazed learners. The jumping cholla was nothing to fear unless you brushed against one!

Several information sheets were given out and a guided wildflower hunt took place.

After the tour and hunt, Jim Consolloy, our botanist, shared many unique qualities of our collection of cacti and succulents. Campers were able to use a high-powered microscope to see parts of plants and even a cochineal bug used in red dyes.

Camp time wound down with every child choosing a flower pot and planting elephant food to take home. Each of the pots sported a miniature Arizona state flag.

Finally, the kids were treated to bread shaped like saguaro cactus with prickly pear jelly for a topping!

We thank our planning team of Jeanette Johnson, Jackie Jabens, and Mary Beth Kunze. Bob Buerrosse was there to capture the fun with his photos, and Jim Vanderpoel was a great volunteer too.

