

# Animals of the Chihuahuan Desert

Create Your Own Animal Fact Sheet



Resource File 1: All About the Animals provides interesting facts on eight animals found in the Chihuahuan Desert.

- Western diamondback rattlesnake
- Desert cottontail
- Javelina
- Coyote
- Gambel's quail
- Roadrunner
- Mountain lion
- White-tailed deer

The Chihuahuan Desert is home to more than 170 species of animals. In this activity, your students will select another animal found in the Chihuahuan Desert and create their own Animal Fact Sheet following the same template found in Resource File 1 including the animal's physical characteristics, diet, habitat, senses, predators, and additional interesting facts. Students can work either individually or in pairs to do research on an animal of their choice (that is not one of the eight provided in this lesson plan).

## Set Up

Provide your students with animal options to choose from by writing on the board a list of animals found in the Chihuahuan Desert. Some other animals are provided below but more choices can be found on some of the resources provided at the end of this page. Decide if your students will work individually or in pairs and have the students break into pairs if needed. A template worksheet has been provided under the file name Create Your Own Fact Sheet\_Template. Students can fill in this worksheet either handwritten or typed (this file has been provided both in .pdf and .doc form) or on their own blank page, either handwritten or typed.

## Materials Needed

- Writing instrument
- Access to library, books, or computers for research
- Blank paper or Animal Fact Sheet template provided

## Other Animals of the Chihuahuan Desert (including but not limited to)

- Jackrabbits
- Vinegaroons
- Pronghorn antelope
- Kangaroo rat
- Wood rat
- Black-throated sparrow
- Chihuahuan raven
- Texas horned lizard
- Great-horned owl
- Desert spiny lizard
- Spadefoot toad
- Mexican wolf
- Texas banded gecko

## Suggested Resources

Below is just a few resources you or your students can use to help them get started on their research.

- Desert USA: [desertusa.com](http://desertusa.com)

- A Glimpse of the Chihuahuan Desert by Patricia R. Mihok
- A Look at the Chihuahuan Desert by Patricia R. Mihok
- Big Bend Country, from Texas Parks & Wildlife:  
[tpwd.texas.gov/about\\_texas/regions/big\\_bend/big\\_kids/](http://tpwd.texas.gov/about_texas/regions/big_bend/big_kids/)
- Frontera Land Alliance: [fronteralandalliance.org/conservation/maps-and-photos/local-species/](http://fronteralandalliance.org/conservation/maps-and-photos/local-species/)