



## Schoolyard Habitats & Animal Diversity 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Classroom Program

### Program Summary

Many arthropods (*organisms that have exoskeletons and jointed legs, such as insects and arachnids*) live in the desert. Some arthropods in the desert may have very specific requirements that are found in some areas of the desert and not in others. This could lead to different number of species living in different habitats. For example, a particular kind of beetle may be found in a grassy area but not one that has tall plants. This activity will allow students to examine these relationships. Students will use pitfall traps, simple tools to collect ground insects and spiders, to investigate types of ground arthropods in three different habitats in the Chihuahuan Desert. They will use this information to make predictions about other animals and plants.

### Phenomenon

The diversity of animal and plants varies in different habitats in the Chihuahuan Desert.

### Next Generation Science Standards

2-LS4-1 Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the diversity of living things in each of a variety of different habitats.]

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
Planning & Carrying Out Investigations  Asking Questions & Defining Problems  Analyzing & Interpreting Data  Using Mathematics & Computational Thinking	LS4.D Biodiversity and Humans	Patterns

### Common Core State Standards

2.MD.D.10 Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems using information presented in a bar graph.