Virtual Field Trips



We worked with Arizona teachers to develop a tour that meets educational goals, all the while ensuring stops along the way for the students to have a good time. Learning and laughter make field trips memorable for schoolchildren and that is our commitment to Arizona schools. To schedule a virtual trip, visit here.



Explore the mystery and complexity of an extended network of communities and irrigation canals. An Ancestral Sonoran Desert People's farming community and "Great House" are preserved at Casa Grande Ruins. Whether the Casa Grande was a gathering place for the Desert People or simply a waypoint marker in an extensive system of canals and trading partners is but part of the mystique of the Ruins. For virtual trips, visit here.



The iconic design of Biosphere 2 offers tremendous opportunities for research in earth and ecological sciences. The striking 3-acre physical structure is paired with a unique approach to education and outreach that is intimately linked with cuttingedge research activities. Visitors to Biosphere 2 can see science in action, interact with university research, and have hands-on experiences with earth-systems science. To take a virtual trip, visit here.



The rocks of Picacho Peak have seen the passing of prehistoric humans, Spanish explorers, gold miners on their way West, Mormon soldiers, and, most notably, Civil War combatants. On April 15, 1862, Union and Confederate troops clashed in the Battle of Picacho Pass, the only Civil War battle in Arizona and the westernmost battle in the war. Picacho Peak is part of an eroded volcanic flow and is famous for its spring wildflower display, mostly Mexican poppies. The wildflowers are especially impressive after a rainy winter. For a google street virtual trip, visit here.



Physically, Hoover Dam is a massive, concrete arch-gravity dam, 660 feet thick at its base and wide enough at its crest that traffic on old U.S. 93 coursed right over its top. Some 726 feet in the canyon below, or the equivalent of a 60-story building, the Colorado River lies tamed behind this great concrete wedge, its base as wide as two football fields are long. To take a virtual trip, visit here. Find lessons here.



Located in Arizona, Grand Canyon National Park encompasses 277 miles (446 km) of the Colorado River and adjacent uplands. The park is home to much of the immense Grand Canyon; a mile (1.6 km) deep, and up to 18 miles (29 km) wide. Layered bands of colorful rock reveal millions of years of geologic history. Grand Canyon is unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers visitors from the rim. For virtual trips, visit here.



The Arizona Museum of Natural History (AZMNH) is the premier natural history museum in Arizona. It is dedicated to inspire wonder, respect and understanding for the natural and cultural history of the Southwest. The Museum is a place for family fun. Where else can you see a flash flood cascading down a three-story mountain inside a museum? See Tom the soft-shelled turtle and a live Gila monster. Experience a real territorial jail, pan for gold in the History Courtyard, and wend your way through the Lost Dutchman's Mine. For a virtual trip of the museum, visit here.



VFT's are topic based interactive and educationally rich experiences captured during real expeditions with scientists doing current research. Some are built with adaptive feedback and adaptive pathways. (Look for the designated icons). This adaptivity allows for non-linear experiences with varying pathways, as well as individual feedback, that is tailored to the users input and responses. These VFTs are being used in high school and college classrooms to supplement a wide variety of topics and are actively in development with new VFTs continually coming online. For a variety of virtual trips, visit here.



The Boyce Thompson Arboretum brings together plants from the planet's many deserts and arid lands, displaying them alongside unspoiled examples of native Sonoran Desert vegetation - all within a spectacular natural setting. To take virtual walks along the gardens at Boyce Thompson Arboretum and get a taste of what can be seen along the many trails, visit here.



Discover the joy of the desert and the joy of learning alongside our expert Desert Museum educators and scientists. Each week is different- check back often for upcoming programs and make sure to register! Virtual programs are limited to 500 attendees. For Virtual Programs, visit here.