



2011 Silver Moonbeam Award Winner  
2012 Editors Choice Selection for LMC  
Kansas NEA Reading Circle Catalog

# DEEP IN THE DESERT

Written by Rhonda Lucas Donald

Illustrated by Sherry Neidigh

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## Desert Flora and Fauna with a Twist

Catchy desert twists on traditional children’s songs and poems will have children chiming in about cactuses, camels, and more as they learn about the desert habitat and its flora and fauna. Tarkawara hops on the desert sand instead of a kookaburra sitting in an old gum tree. And teapots aren’t the only things that are short and stout—just look at the javelina’s hooves and snout. Travel the world’s deserts to dig with meerkats, fly with bats, and hiss with Gila monsters! Whether sung or read aloud, *Deep in the Desert* makes learning about deserts anything but dry.



### “For Creative Minds”

Teachers and Parents will love the educational section, which includes the following educational activities:



- The Desert Habitat
- Desert Fun Facts
- Deserts of the World (With Map)
- Match the Desert Adaptations

There are also “**Related Websites**,” “**Interactive Math, Reading, and Comprehension Quizzes**,” and “**Teaching Activities**” on Sylvan Dell Publishing’s website, <http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com>, to help parents and educators extend the learning possibilities. Thanks to Lisa Evans, Education Specialist, and Kelly Holler, Visitor Use Assistant, Amistad National Recreation Area and David Elkowitz, Chief of Interpretation, Big Bend National Park Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River for verifying the desert information in this book.

## About the Author/Illustrator



Rhonda Lucas Donald (*Deep in the Desert*) has written more than a dozen books for children and teachers including her most recent titles: *Animal Rights: How You Can Make a Difference* and *Life on Other Planets*. In addition, she has won awards for articles and stories appearing in *Ranger Rick* and *Your Big Backyard* magazines. Rhonda specializes in writing about science, and especially likes to write about animals and space. She fell in love with science as a kid, and read every dinosaur book in school library. Weaving science into verses and songs is her way of making it fun. Rhonda shares her Virginia home with husband Bruce, dogs Maggie and Lily, and her very dignified cats, Darwin and Huxley. For more information about Rhonda, visit her website at <http://www.browntabby.com>.

Sherry Neidigh, a graduate of Ringling School of Art and Design, has been freelance illustrating since 1987. Sherry's love of animals and nature comes through in her bright, colorful art. In addition to illustrating *Deep in the Desert*, *Count Down to Fall*, and *The Best Nest* for Sylvan Dell, Sherry has illustrated several trade and education titles including *Who Needs That Nose?*, *If I Had a Tail*, and *Black and White*. Sherry lives in upstate South Carolina. For more information about Sherry, visit her website at <http://www.sherryneidigh.com>.



## Contact Information

For additional information on *Deep in the Desert* and other Sylvan Dell books, please contact our sales team at 877-958-2600 or [Info@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:Info@SylvanDellPublishing.com).

For media inquiries or to schedule an event for your store, please contact Ashlee Rowe at 877-958-2600 or [ashleerowe@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:ashleerowe@SylvanDellPublishing.com).



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