

Schedule a School Visit with Award-Winning Children's Author Rhonda Lucas Donald!



New Release! Spring 2011

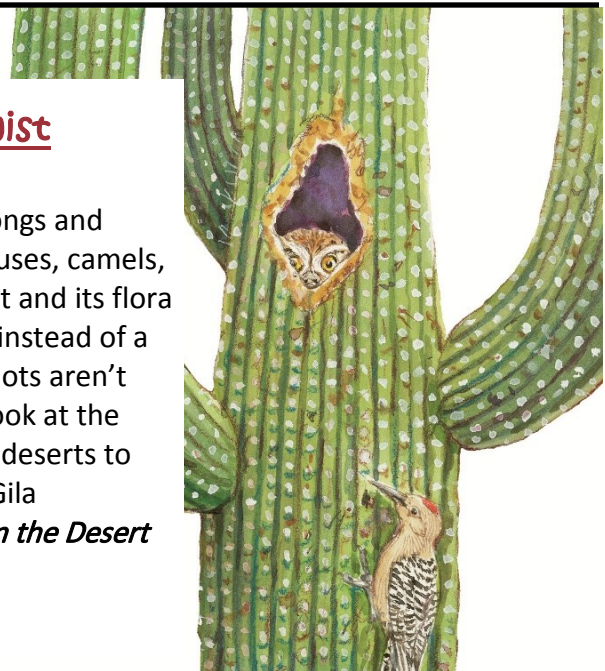
Deep in the Desert

Rhonda Lucas Donald 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 has always found desert life fascinating, perhaps because it's so different from where she lives in Virginia.

While researching for *Deep in the Desert*, she was intrigued to learn how plants and animals adapt to living in such harsh conditions. Rhonda and her husband, Bruce, share their home with dogs Maggie and Lily, and their very dignified cats, Darwin and Huxley.

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.



Not only is Rhonda's book fun, but it's educational, too!

Deep in the Desert features a "For Creative Minds" section (see below), Cross-curricular "Teaching Activities," English/Spanish eBooks and audio, child-friendly "Related Websites," and Comprehension & Math quizzes, all available at www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.

"For Creative Minds" Educational Section

- The Desert Habitat
- Desert Fun Facts
- Deserts of the World
- Matching Desert Adaptations

A School Visit with Rhonda...

Rhonda's school visits include:

- A 30-50 minute presentation which includes reading from *Deep in the Desert*, signing copies of the book, and learning more about the animals featured and their desert habitat.
- Desert craft time, including a fun cactus craft.
- Question and answer time, including questions on both *Deep in the Desert* and writing in general.



Rate is \$75 per presentation. Contact Rhonda at rhonda@browntabby.com, or visit her website at www.browntabby.com

Due to the hands-on nature of the presentations, small groups of one to three classes are preferred.

Interview With Rhonda...



How did you get the idea to write *Deep in the Desert*?

I love writing about different habitats and the plants and animals living in them. Living nowhere near the desert, I find these arid ecosystems exotic and fascinating

What was the most challenging thing about writing *Deep in the Desert*?

Getting the poems and the sheet music to mesh!

How To Schedule:

1. Coordinate with other classes (or schools or libraries), and decide what day works best.
2. Contact author directly to schedule date, time and details.
 - Rhonda Lucas Donald; rhonda@browntabby.com
3. Send letter home to parents announcing the author visit and offering them the opportunity to order autographed books for their children. (Form letter enclosed!)
4. Preorder books.
 - Coordinate book sales with author.

Dear Parents,

We are excited to announce that Rhonda Lucas Donald, author of *Deep in the Desert* will be visiting our school on _____ to meet our students, talk about her book and lead the classroom(s) in fun, educational discussions and activities! To purchase a copy of her book so that your child can receive an autograph and remember this special day, please fill out and return the attached order form by _____.

Best wishes,

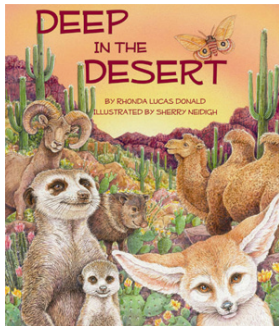
Yes! I would like to help my child remember Rhonda's school visit!

Name of Child:

Personalize Autograph To:

Grade:

Name of Teacher:



| Title | | Retail Price | School Fair Price | Quantity | Total |
|--|-----------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------|
| <i>Deep in the Desert</i> | Hardcover | \$16.95 | | | |
| | Paperback | \$8.95 | | | |
| Please make checks payable to (if applicable): | | | | SUBTOTAL | |
| | | | | SALES TAX _____% | |
| | | | | TOTAL | |

Parent Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____

For additional Sylvan Dell Publishing children's books, visit www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.