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Desert Food Webs in Action

Ariel Woodbury

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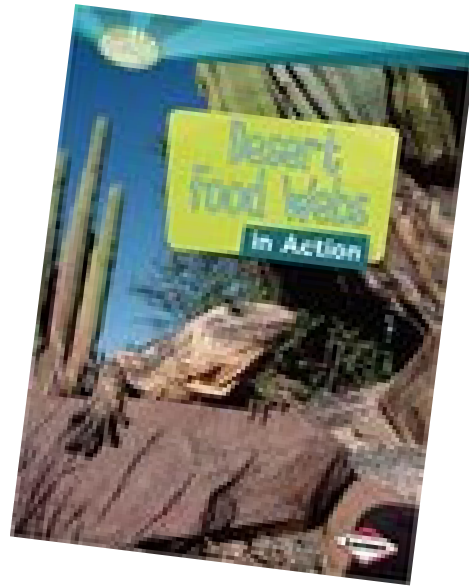
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Book Review

Title: Desert Food Webs in Action
Author: Paul Fleisher
Reviewer: Ariel Woodbury
Publisher: Lerner Publications Company
Publication Year: 2014
ISBN: 9781467712941
Number of Pages: 40
Interest Level: Preschool
Rating: Excellent



Review

Despite how barren the desert may appear on the surface, there are many plants and animals who live there and go unnoticed. These plants and animals rely on each other for food in the desert. Deserts do not have much water, so the plants and animals that live there must learn how to adapt. Desert plants get energy from the sun and adapt to store water. Herbivores get energy and water from the plants when they eat them. Carnivores also receive energy when they eat other animals. Decomposers get energy and nutrients from dead plants and animals.

There are some features that are really well done in this book. For instance, the author is very good at emphasizing that the energy from the sun (that feeds the plants which in turn feed the animals) is the same energy when it reaches decomposers at the bottom of the food chain. The sentences were simple and short, perfect for young readers. However, many of the paragraphs do not flow smoothly and have to be read multiple times to understand what the author is trying to express. This may trip up readers and distract from their learning experience.

*Contains some pictures of dead animals and other animals eating each other.