



Inside SDH

Volume 1, Issue 5 October 2004

Are you new to SDH or still feeling new? Then join us at the Newcomer Welcome Meeting on October 13 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 50 at St. Francis United Methodist Church (NW corner of River and Swan). Use the entrance on River Road and continue along the unpaved parking area to Room 50.

This is a chance to talk about homeschooling, find out how to get more involved with SDH and just meet other parents new to SDH in a smaller setting. Some topics we can discuss but we are not limited to: Talking to others about homeschooling, getting started homeschooling and homeschoolers in college. Please RSVP to Eileen D. or Heather M.

Welcome

by Audrey H., age 10
Welcome to this world,
Welcome to this life.
We'll love you forever,
Morning, noon and night.
We'll make sure you have
A good life, right from the
Start, and we really love
You, with all of our hearts.

October 26th Halloween Festival Vines

By Tara O.
Each year parents and/or children create and run carnival games and activities, sometimes with treats to give away. In past years, we have had a costume parade and crafts, depending on interest. Both parents and kids are encouraged to dress up. Have fun and be creative! Please take a moment during and after the day's fun to pick up the extra trash and materials that accumulate in the park. Contact me if you have any questions.

by Audrey H., age 10
Soft, green, vines,
Sticky and leafy.
Eye-catching (and clothes catching!),
Beautiful plant, glistening in the
sunlight.
All on my house front, clinging
To the past,
Vine, vine,
Soft green vine.

SDH T-Shirts and Sweatshirts

by Sharon A.
I am taking orders for SDH t-shirts and sweatshirts. Order forms will be available at the park. The long and short sleeve t-shirts are 100% cotton and come in colors ash or white. The sweatshirts are a cotton/poly blend and only come in

ash. There are various styles of hooded sweatshirts and regular crewneck sweatshirts available. Sizes range from toddlers size 2 to adult size 3XL (depending on the style).

See me at the park meetings to order. I will need the order form and the cash (no checks, please) by October 26th. Contact me by phone, email or at the park if you have any questions.

SDH Curriculum Share

by Eileen D.

On Thursday, September 9th, SDH members met to share books, games, web sites and other learning resources. Thank you to everyone who brought something to share or came to listen. Here is a summary of most of the resources suggested. If you have questions about anything here, contact the person listed with the resources.

Erin S.

Wild Goose Company Science Kits
[Rainbow Resource Company Catalog](#)
 888-841-3456

How to Get Your Child to Love

Reading By Esme Codell

The Usborne Internet-linked

Encyclopedia of World History

A Child's Introduction to Poetry

The Great " " Search, Animals, etc.

published by Usborne

Flat Stanley

Suggested web sites:

<http://www.abcteach.com>

<http://www.learningpages.com>

<http://starfall.com>

<http://janbrett.com>

Debbie G.

Software Picks

Puzzle Games:

Museum Madness by MECC (PC or Mac), Smart Games Challenge 1

(also 2 and 3) by Hasbro

Interactive, Time Warp of Dr. Brain

by Sierra, The Lost Files of

Sherlock Holmes - Case of the Rose

Tattoo by Electronic Arts, Sam and

Max Hit the Road, Zak McKracken

and the Alien Mindbenders, Day of

the Tentacle, The Secret of

Monkey Island, Night Shift, Loom

all by LucasArts, Timelapse by GTE

Interactive, Pandora's Box by Microsoft, Are We There Yet? by Electronic Arts (really old, only on 5 ¼" disks, hard to find)

Simulators:

Sid Meier's Gettysburg by Electronic

Arts, Black & White by EA Games,

SimCity Games by Maxis, Zoo Tycoon

by Microsoft

Textbooks:

Mathematics: A Human Endeavor by

Harold R. Jacobs, recommended for

middle school ages.

Algebra Survival Kit by Josh

Rappaport, good reference for

parents who need review.

Mathematical Mystery Tour: Higher

Thinking Math Tasks by Mark Wahl,

makes math concepts accessible.

Elementary Algebra by Harold

Jacobs, more abstract text book.

Punch out books: Look in thrift

stores and used book stores.

Scholar's Bookstore in Tucson is

good for finding used text books.

America as Story: Historical Fiction

for Middle and Secondary Schools by

Rosemary K. Coffey and Elizabeth F.

Howard, American Library

Association, 1997.

We selected the following books

based on the excellent descriptions

in *America as Story*.

Colonial Times:

The Sign of the Beaver, by Elizabeth

George Speare, 1983

Constance: A Story of Early

Plymouth, by Patricia Clapp, 1968

The Witch of Blackbird Pond, by

Elizabeth George Speare, 1958

Revolutionary Times:

April Morning, by Howard Fast, 1961

My Brother Sam Is Dead, by James

Lincoln Collier and Christopher

Collier, 1973

George Midgett's War, by Sally

Edwards, 1985

Jump Ship to Freedom, by James

Lincoln Collier and Christopher

Collier, 1981

War Comes to Willie Freeman, by

James Lincoln Collier and

Christopher Collier, 1983

Who Is Carrie? by James Lincoln

Collier and Christopher Collier, 1984

Civil War Times:

Who Comes with Cannons? by

Patricia Beatty, 1992

An Island Far from Home, by John

Donahue, 1995

With Every Drop of Blood, by

James Lincoln Collier and

Christopher Collier, 1994

Eileen D.

A Street Through Time, Dr. Anne

Millard (DK Book)

The Stars, H.A. Rey

Mathematicians are People. Too:

Stories from the Lives of Great

Mathematicians, Luetta and Wilbert

Reimer

Children Just like Me, Barnabas and

Anabel Kindersley (DK Book)

How Children Lived: A First Book of

History, Chris and Melanie Rice

Discovering Great Artists:

Hands-on Art for Children in the

Styles of the Great Masters,

MaryAnn F. Kohl and Kim Solga

Highlights Top Secret Adventures

Club (geography kits)

Take Off! (Geography Board Game)

Set (Logic Game)

Presto Change-O Board Game to

practice making change.

(continued on page 3)

SDH Curriculum Share

(continued from page 2)

"[Building Big](#)" Videos and Activity Guide. Library has videos, activity guide and other ordering info is online.

[Home Education Magazine](#)

(509) 486-1351 and at the library.

Sharon X.

Clifford ABC Bingo, inexpensive and the child can learn letters after just a few games

Tracy W.

Jose Luis Orozco DVD Spanish and English songs, Spanish Blues Clues Video, all good for learning Spanish
Jim Weiss CDs, Greathall

Productions. History, science, literature storyteller

Magic School Bus chapter books
Simple Kitchen Experiments
Science Experiments You Can Eat

Kim B.

What Your First Grader Should Know and the others up to Sixth Grade by

E. D. Hirsch

Bob Books are available in used and new book stores.

Reading Reflex (hands on teaching reading)

Kids Discover Magazine available at the Library or buy them used.

Cuisenaire Rods are fun

manipulatives for teaching math concepts.

What is a Noun? What is a Verb? What is an Adjective? Words are Categorical all by Brian P. Cleary

Celeste W.

Phonics book by McGraw-Hill.

Many worksheets are available free online for phonics, handwriting, math and more.

Arizona State Fair

by Amy G.

The Arizona State Fair has a homeschool day on October 22nd. The deadline is Thursday, September 30th -- so let me know by Tuesday September 28th how many adults, children and cars/vans -- and whether you want to go to the 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. Mad Science show. I will also make an announcement at the park Tuesday.

We can do the following:

Mad Science's Movie Magic: The Science Behind the Movies. Performances at 10 and 11 a.m. (THAT sounds interesting but the other advertisement makes me wonder - it says "A stage show extravaganza that lets you star in your favorite Hollywood movie films -- Legally Blonde, Agent Cody Banks, Pink Panther and Rocky.

Gruff Bluff -- Watch live goats play on the west end of the Cattle Barn.

United Dairymen of Arizona Barn Tours: Go behind the scenes of a working farm. Try the milking demonstration machine. East end of the Cattle Barn.

Macy's Petting Zoo -- Come visit exotic miniature animals and familiar barnyard friends. Located at the southwest end of the fairgrounds.

Open Booths and buildings:
Coliseum North Hall: Student Art, 4-H, and Mad Science.

Coliseum South Hall: Agriculture and Young Engineers.

Cruise America Home Arts Building: Culinary and Sewing.

Arizona Plaza Building: Hobbies, Photography and Fine Arts

Floriculture Building: Floriculture.

Cattle Barn: Beef & Dairy Cattle.

Agriculture Center: Pigeons,

Rabbits, Poultry, Swine, Goats and Sheep.

Note: Not all animals will be in the barn. The animals the group will see depends on the date of the field trip.

Location: 19th Avenue at McDowell

Directions: North on I-10 for about 110 miles. At exit 143C, turn RIGHT onto Ramp towards 19th Ave/US-60. Turn RIGHT (North) onto N 19th Ave. Turn RIGHT (East) onto West McDowell Road.

Report at 9 a.m. in the Spruce lot to gather as a group and catch the shuttle to the fairgrounds together. I will try to get a high flag for all of us to find each other. Be on time!

Western National Parks Association Store

by Heather M.

The [Western National Parks](#)

[Association Store](#) offers lots of FREE lectures, performances, and speakers at their store, 12880 N. Vistoso Village Dr. in Oro Valley. Lectures are free, but seating is limited. Call to reserve your seats at 622-6014. You MUST check in at least 10 minutes before show-time.

Here are a few of their many listings.

Saturday, October 2 at 2:00 p.m., Dolphins of the Desert Sea presented by Katie Iverson and John Gentile

Saturday, October 9 at 2:00 p.m., Flying Fingers Concert and Sing-Along.

Saturday, October 16 at 12 noon, Back to the Blue: The Return of the Mexican Gray Wolf presented by Bobbie Holaday, Author

Saturday, October 23 at 12 noon and 2:00 p.m., Anne Bonny: Tale of a Lady Pirate, presented by Bob Hoyt, Author

Leif Erikson Day Viking Party

by Kristen W.

In celebration of Leif Erikson's discovery of America and to learn more about Viking culture, Anna and I are having a Viking day celebration!

When: Saturday, October 9, 2004, 4 p.m. to 7:30ish

Where: Our house

Who: Parents and elementary age kids (younger and older ones are welcome, but activities are geared to interest the 6-10 year olds).

We'll have a cookout around 5:30. Hotdogs (beef or turkey), hamburgers, and all the fixin's will be provided along with ice tea.

Please bring a side dish or desert of your choice and the soda you like to drink.

Dress up! We'll be in costume on the big day. Kids are encouraged to dress up if they wish.

Activities: We'll have a giant board game out in the backyard. Kids can play for small prizes. We'll tell the story of Leif the Lucky around 4:15. We'll have ship building and later we'll race them. We will make a Viking pot out of clay and paint it. We will decorate paper-mache Viking helmets. We'll make twin brooches and bead the adjoining necklaces. We'll make our own "magic" rune

stones. Please RSVP by calling Kristen or Jerry W.

Please indicate the activities your child might be interested in so that I can purchase enough supplies and make enough paper-mache helmets.

We hope to see you there!

Saguaro Park West Field Trip

by Hilary L.

The date of the Hohokam workshop at Saguaro Park West has been changed to Monday, November 1st at 9:30 a.m. Unfortunately, the government will not pay for the park ranger to work on a holiday. I apologize for any inconvenience and hope everyone that signed up will still be able to attend. In addition,

there will be a pre-workshop that includes a slide show presentation and discussion about the National Park system, plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert and how kids can get involved. To fully prepare for the field trip, you are strongly encouraged to attend the pre-workshop.

The pre-workshop is Thursday, October 28th from 3 to 4 p.m. at Woods Library on 1st Avenue. If you have any questions, have signed up but are now unable to attend, or have not yet signed up but would like to attend please call or email me.

SDH Talent Show

by Eileen D.

The SDH Talent Show is October 16 at 3:00 p.m. in the Bookman's Community Room, 6230 E. Speedway. So far, children have signed up to do magic tricks, jokes, martial arts, dance, music, poetry and art. There will be a show program and certificates for the participants. If your children are not participating in the show, the performers would welcome an enthusiastic audience!

UApresents

by Alica M.

Our group was unable to get into the [UApresents](#) Peking Acrobats. I have refund checks for everyone, so please find me at park to get your check or contact me at home.

We are on the waiting list, so I will let everyone know if we do get in. For more show info, find me and I can show you the catalog.

September Treasury Report

by Teresa B. and Claire B.

Balance carried over from past "school" year	\$769.12
Income this month	\$690.00
Payouts this month *	\$597.29
Balance as of	
September 21, 2004	\$861.83

*Payouts include Newsletters, stamps, newcomer packets, website and pool party.

Mathematical Mystery Tour

By Debbie G.

The Mathematical Mystery Tour group will meet Monday mornings at the Main Library, at 11:00 a.m., starting October 18. The group will explore mathematical concepts and just have fun with numbers. Check the July 2004 SDH newsletter for more information about the group, and if you have questions, please contact me. Thanks!

Biology Class for Teens

by Michaela B.

The biology class for teens begins on Thursday, September 30 and goes from 6 to 9 p.m. Class will meet every Thursday at the Santa Cruz Recreation Center on 22nd Street and 10th. Textbooks have been ordered for nine students and the cost of the class will be about \$14 per week. It may be possible for latecomers to join if they are willing to catch up with the rest of the group. Contact Michaela at the Tuesday park meeting or at home for further information about the class.

Did You Know?

by Erin S.

At most Park Days there is a Free Box. This box is the place to put items you want to pass on, and the place to check for that something you've been looking for. Frequently there are outgrown clothes, catalogs, toys and other treasures. Check it regularly—you never know what you'll find. An SDH Craft Box is also available most park days. This box has coloring books and a variety of craft supplies waiting for you, or your child, to transform.

Barn Owl Pellet Activity

by Erin S.

Date: October 19th

Time: After announcements.

Approximately 11:15.

Where: Ramada on the north side of Ft. Lowell Park

Cost: \$3.20 to \$3.70

Deadline to order: October 5th

Order forms are available at the SDH web site and in the files section of SDH-Discuss.

Please mail your order me if it is after September 28th as I won't be at park until after the payment deadline.

For more information about Barn Owl pellets, please visit [Carolina Biological](#).

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Peking Acrobats and Cirque Eloize

by Alica M.

I am organizing groups to go to Peking Acrobats February 1st at 7:30 p.m. and Cirque Eloize February 13th at 2:00 p.m. If we get ten people or more we receive a discount. To find out about the shows, I have the [UApresents](#) catalog with me. I need to know

which show you want to attend, how many people there will be and which section you want to sit in. The prices for both shows are: A-\$24, B-\$20, C-\$15 and D-\$12.50.

I have been told that the Peking Acrobats has seats left in the balcony, but I am willing to try and get seats anywhere.

Checks need to be made out to me and I need the money by November 9th. Contact me at the park or email me.

Children's Book Discussion Groups

by Erin S. and Heidi H.

Children's reading group discussions are at 10:30 the first Park Day of each month. The groups are ability rather than age based. Select the group that best fits the child's reading ability. Parents are also welcome to use a selection as a read-aloud so the child is able to participate in the discussions.

October 5

Group 1: *The Little's Have A Merry Christmas*

Group 2: *The Little's* by John Peterson

Group 3: *Beezus and Ramona* by Beverly Cleary

November 2

Group 1: *Cat and Dog* by Else Holmelund Minarik

Group 2: *The Littles and the Great Halloween Scare* by John Peterson

Group 3: *The Wheel on the School* by Meindert De Jong

Music/Dance Recital

by Victoria M.

Get ready for the Music Recitals! The Winter Recital is on Thursday, December 2 at 3 p.m. at Washburn Piano. The Spring Recital will be Thursday, May 5 at Washburn Piano, 3 p.m. There is a stage with room for dancing, singing or playing an instrument. There is also a full size grand piano. All skill levels are encouraged to participate. There is plenty of seating, so even if your child doesn't want to perform you can come and watch the other children. Contact Victoria M. between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. to sign up.

SDH Roster Deadline

by Sharon A.

An updated SDH roster will be distributed in mid-October. The roster, the SDH online newsletter group and SDH-discuss group will contain only paid members. The deadline for payment and changes will be October 12th. If you have not already done so, contact one of the SDH treasurers, Teresa B, Claire B. or one of the yellow-shirted, SDH Newcomer Liaison Committee members to pay your dues. Please let Sharon A. know if you have any updates to your contact information.

SDH P.E. Classes

by Eileen D.

Athletes in Training (AIT) offers SDH P.E. classes each month from September 2004 to May 2005. Monday class is cancelled but Tuesday classes will continue at Ft. Lowell Park from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. *Please note the new start time.* The program is for ages 5 and up and the cost is \$15 per month for one child with discounts for additional children. Discounts are also given for paying in annual or quarterly payments. Typically a new sport is started each month, so you can start class any month you choose. Or, you may participate all year.

Leaving School Behind

by Debbie G.

The reality of public schools has shaped all of us. Our understanding of learning, and our expectations for our children, have all been influenced by public schools. One of the challenges of homeschooling is examining how our experiences both attending schools and living in a society built around public schools have shaped our assumptions about learning.

For instance, what are your expectations for your child when it comes to reading? "Is she reading yet?" is a question that you will hear frequently from family and friends. Children are measured by this yardstick, and if they are not reading by age (fill in a number), they are seen wanting. Parents are encouraged to worry about their children's reading ability by vendors of products from flashcards to books to computer games to complete packaged programs. But where does this concern come from? Why must a six-, seven- or eight-year old know how to read? To find an answer to these

questions, we must look at schools.

Public schools depend on children being able to read. Students need to read so teachers can cover the schools' mandated curricula. The manpower necessary to provide a reader for each child who cannot read the material himself is beyond the capabilities of public schools. Certainly by the time a child is in fourth grade, written material predominates. Any child who cannot read by that grade will find it difficult or impossible to learn the material required by the school. The ability to read is vital for a child attending a public school, not because it is necessary for the child, but because it is necessary for the school to function efficiently. Teaching young children to read is done solely for the convenience of the schools, not for any inherent benefit to the child.

But what about a young homeschooled child?

In a homeschool setting, a parent can read aloud to the child any necessary material. The parent is in a position to instantly know whether the child

is having trouble grasping the material, and can work with the child until she understands it. Consider the amount of time that children get to talk directly with an adult in a homeschooling family. Compare that with the amount of time that children get to converse directly with an adult in a typical school. Learning in a homeschool setting does not hinge on the child reading the material. Most of the learning that happens occurs in connection with talking.

Homeschoolers have the luxury of time - time to talk with their children, time to help their children learn, and time to wait for their children to be ready to read. There are so many other ways to learn besides reading written words, and homeschooling can give children the chance to explore those ways. Homeschoolers have the luxury of not being bound to routines and methods developed to increase efficiency. Instead, homeschooled children can learn at their own rates, taking as much time as they need.

Childsplay Presents A Year with Frog and Toad

by Heather M.

[Childsplay](#) presents a live theater production based on the Frog and Toad books by Arnold Lobel on Wednesday, October 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. We meet at 11:10 a.m. and *please be prompt!* The show is at Pima Community College Center for the Arts on the West Campus, 2202 W. Anklam.

Tickets are \$7 each for both children and adults. The NEW EXTENDED DUE DATE is Tuesday, October 5. It is recommended for K through 6th grade. PLEASE NOTE: Babies, toddlers, and children under the age of three are not permitted in the theatre!

The Story: Friendship is the secret to a happy life in this 2003

Tony-nominated musical that celebrates our differences with fun, flair and...amphibians. A truly charming story that celebrates diversity and what it takes for true friendship. Childsplay is a non-profit professional theatre company of adult actors, performing for young audiences and families.

Roots & Shoots Club

by Heather M.

[Roots & Shoots](#) is the Jane Goodall Institute's international environmental and humanitarian program for young people. Our club sponsors activities, field trips, and service projects regarding care and concern for the environment, for people, and for animals.

We typically meet the 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon. Any member of SDH is welcome to join us. If you want to join Roots and Shoots, get on our email list, or ask questions, contact Heather M.

Thanks to Kristen W. for planning the September 24th meeting with a young, enthusiastic herpetologist. He was so knowledgeable and great with the kids. He shared so many of his creatures with us--box turtles, a desert tortoise, gopher snakes (mom and one week old baby), a king snake and lots more! I apologize to those who didn't get notified of the meeting. I'm working on getting the phone list up and running. Until then, call me if you have any questions or suggestions.

The current issue of *Voices*, the newsletter of New Beginnings for Women and Children, has a photo of

our group delivering backpacks full of school supplies, our summer service project.

We recently learned that our application for the "Partnerships in Understanding Project" was accepted. Our new partner is the "Eclipse Kaindu Youth Group", composed of a group of 20 kids ages 6 to 12, in Mumbwa, Zambia! Let's plan a Zambia partner project day next month.

Thanks to all the helpers who assisted in flying our giant peace dove at Ft. Lowell park on "UN International Day of Peace," September 21, 2004. I wish I had brought my camera!

Here is the schedule for October: Saturday, October 2, overnight campout at Rose Canyon Lake Campground on Mt. Lemmon. The campsites are available to the public first come, first serve so you may want to head up early Saturday morning to be assured of a spot. The campsite fee is \$15 for the 1st vehicle and \$5 for each additional car per site. There is room for three to four tents per site. If you can't stay overnight, join us for the day. Location: milepost 16/17 on Mt. Lemmon highway. Please plan for extra travel time in case of road construction delays. Please RSVP to Hope K.

Friday, October 15, 10 a.m. Tour Tucson's recycling plant, Recycle America Alliance. Listen to a short talk on recycling, then go to the observation deck and see what is going on down below. Location: 3909 North Runway Drive, which is off of Prince, near I-10. Drive about 1/4 mile north on Runway and park in front of their building or across the street. Please RSVP to Heather M.

Friday, October 29, 10 a.m. to noon. We'll plant four trees at a neighborhood park with the assistance of Trees for Tucson. The location will be announced later. Bring shovels if you have them and others will be available if you don't have one of your own. Please RSVP to Heather M.

Upcoming Roots and Shoots events:

Astronomy night--Kristen W. is still working on organizing this for October or November

Flat water canoe trip in Blacks Canyon near Hoover Dam.

Tentatively planned for November with a Thursday (drive up), canoe 11 miles down the river over 2 days (Friday and Saturday), with an overnight camp site and drive home Saturday or Sunday. This is still in the planning stages by Ed C.

Life Learning Magazine Bulk Subscription

by Alica M.

I am putting together a bulk subscription for [Life Learning Magazine](#). You will receive six issues

a year, at \$12 per person. I need five people per group and I am willing to order more than one group. I have copies of the magazine. To sign up by

October 26th, see me at park, call or email.

This Months Featured Web Sites

by Debbie G.

Visit the [SDH Featured Web Sites page](#) and check out [past collections](#).

[Eyewitness to History](#)

from Ibis Communications, Inc.

View the Photo of the Week; listen to sound clips; read accounts of events throughout history

[Geology Toolkit](#)

From the BBC

"What is the United Kingdom really made of? Find out with our interactive Geology Toolkit. You can explore region-by-region how the rocks which make up these islands have developed, and use our rock analyser tool to identify the rock samples you've found."

[NASA Explores](#)

Articles, lessons, puzzles, and games from NASA

[Christopher Columbus... his gastric persona](#)

from Castello Banfi

What did Columbus bring along to eat on his voyages? How was it prepared? Find out on this page.

[American Indian Resource Directory - Indigenous People's Literature](#)

from American Indian Heritage Foundation

This site presents literature and stories from indigenous people throughout the Americas.

[Happy Halloween from Ben & Jerry's](#)

Ben & Jerry's presents online games, crafts, and information about Halloween.

[Daylight Saving Time](#)

From the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records

Read about the history of Daylight Saving Time in the Grand Canyon state.

Fall Clothing Exchange

by Christine G.

On Tuesday, October 5 bring your outgrown, unused, but still usable clothes for someone else to enjoy. Take home something that you can use. Excess clothing will be donated to a local women and children's

Homeschool Science Fair

by Laura C.

An informational meeting about the 2005 Pima County Homeschool Science Fair will be held on November 16th, 6:00 p.m. at the Bookmans on Grant Road.

Chess Club

Chess club continues to meet each month. The next meeting is October 14th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Bookman's on Grant Road. For more information contact Bob B.

Monthly Parent Opportunities

Every month of the year, SDH has opportunities for parents to meet, talk and get to know each other better.

Mom's Coffee Night

Currently Mom's Coffee Night is held on the last Wednesday of every month at Something Sweet located at 5319 E. Speedway. That's at the NE corner of Speedway and Beverly (the Office Depot store is on the intersection's NW corner), and Live Theater Workshop is in the same plaza. We get together at 7:30 p.m. but don't worry if you can't make it at 7:30, many of us stay until midnight! We chat, laugh, and generally have a

great time. It is a great way to get to know others better and there is always a mix of parents with younger or older children so you can ask lots of questions. Contact Kim B. if you'd like more information.

Men's Coffee Night

Men's Coffee Night is the first Wednesday of each month. This is an opportunity for fathers to discuss homeschooling issues, as well as other topics. Please join us at Borders on Oracle, for coffee, tea, good company and conversation. This casual meeting starts around 7:30 p.m. Contact Jeff O. or Brian M. for more information.

Parent's Book Discussion Group

A Parent's Book Discussion is held the 3rd Thursday of each month at Something Sweet, 5319 E. Speedway at 7 p.m.

October 21: *Opposite of Fate* by Amy Tan

November 18: *Opening Skinners Box* by Lauren Slater

December 16: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

Questions? Contact Erin S.

Upcoming Events

November

Saguaro Park West Field Trip, November 1st at 9:30 a.m.

Mathematical Mystery Tour Group, Mondays, 11 a.m., Main Library
Children's Book Discussion, November 2, 10:30 a.m. at Ft. Lowell Park

AIT P.E. Classes Tuesday's, November 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 9:15 a.m., Ft. Lowell Park

Men's Coffee Night, November 3, 7:30 p.m., Borders on Oracle

Biology Class, Thursdays, 6 to 9 p.m., Santa Cruz Recreation Center
Deadline for Peking Acrobats and Cirque Eloize, November 9.

UApresents, By the Hand of the Father, November 16, 10 a.m.

Homeschool Science Fair

Informational Meeting, November 16th, 6:00 p.m. at the Bookmans on Grant Road.

Make ornaments for the Tucson Zoo lights event, November 16, Ft. Lowell park.

Parent's Book Discussion, November 18, 7 p.m. at Something Sweet

Mom's Coffee Night, November 24, 7:30 p.m., Something Sweet

December

Men's Coffee Night, December 1, 7:30 p.m., Borders on Oracle

Mathematical Mystery Tour group, Mondays, 11 a.m., Main Library
Biology Class, Thursdays, 6 to 9 p.m., Santa Cruz Recreation Center

AIT P.E. Classes Tuesday's December 7, 14, 21 and 28, 9:15 a.m., Ft. Lowell Park

Children's Book Discussion, December 7, 10:30 a.m. at Ft. Lowell Park

Music Recital, December 2, 3 p.m. at Washburn Piano

Parent's Book Discussion, December 16, 7 p.m. at Something Sweet
Mom's Coffee Night, December 29, 7:30 p.m., Something Sweet

January

Children's Book Discussion, January 4, 10:30 a.m. at Ft. Lowell Park

Men's Coffee Night, January 5, 7:30 p.m., Borders on Oracle

AIT P.E. Classes Tuesday's January 4, 11, 18, 25, 9:15 a.m., Ft. Lowell Park

Parent's Book Discussion, January 20, 7 p.m. at Something Sweet

SDH Membership Form

To Join SDH, return this form and \$10 cash (\$5 after January 1st) to either a Newcomer Committee member in a yellow SDH t-shirt or SDHs' treasurers Claire B. or Teresa B.

Parents' Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Child(ren) Name(s) and Birthdate(s) (MM/YY) _____

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers FAQs

About SDH

- SDH is a home education network serving homeschoolers throughout Tucson and Southern Arizona.
- SDH was founded in January 1999.
- Over the years, an average of 95 families are SDH members, with children from infants through teenagers.
- SDH meets on Tuesdays at Ft. Lowell park, from mid-August through mid-May at 10:30 a.m.

What are the benefits of joining?

- Every month, Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers Newsletter will be sent to you either electronically or by mail.
- Get the SDH membership roster, plus regular updates.
- Participate in SDH-discuss, an e-mail list restricted to current members of SDH.
- Participate in and help organize SDH group activities for your children and children of all ages.

What does it cost?

- \$10.00 per year (after January, the fee is reduced to \$5 for the remainder of the year—SDH years run August through July)

How do I join SDH?

- To join, come to the Tuesday park meeting—you can submit the above form plus the fee to a newcomer committee member in a yellow SDH t-shirt or to Treasurers Claire B. or Teresa B.

[Questions](#)

From the Editors

This is a wonderful time of year in Southern Arizona. If you look at this month's *Inside SDH* or your local calendar, there are probably shows, cultural festivals and outdoor activities every week until the end of the year. We love having

the time and flexibility to participate in these activities as a group and with our families. Homeschooling allows us the time to travel, and experience life—not just read about it.

Send your submissions for the November *Inside SDH* by October 25.

[Erin S. and Eileen D.](#)

Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers

[Info](#)
[Newsletter](#)



Sonoran Desert Homeschoolers is an open, not-for-profit home education network, providing social and creative outlets for homeschooling families. We are not devoted to any one homeschooling approach, political platform, religious outlook, or philosophical ideal. Our homeschooling community supports all families, regardless of their personal lifestyle or educational choices in the area of home education. Our motto is "hozho," a Navajo word meaning "harmony" or "walking in beauty or friendship."

October 2004

For more information about the events listed on this calendar, see the newsletter articles.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Charlie & The Chocolate Factory 10 a.m. (see September newsletter)	2 Roots & Shoots Rose Canyon Lake campout
3	4	5 AIT P.E. class, 9:15 a.m., Reading Groups, 10:30 SDH Park Day, 10:30 a.m. Announcements 11 a.m.	6 Men's Coffee Night 7:30 p.m. Borders on Oracle	7 Biology Class, 6 to 9 p.m., Santa Cruz Recreation Center	8	9 Leif Erikson Day Viking Party, 4 p.m. to 7:30ish
10	11	12 AIT P.E. class, 9:15 a.m. SDH Park Day 10:30 a.m. Announcements 11 a.m. SDH Roster Deadline	13 Newcomer Welcome Meeting, 7 p.m. St. Francis UMC, Room 50	14 Chess Club, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Bookman's Grant/Campbell Biology Class, 6 to 9 p.m., Santa Cruz Rec. Center	15 Roots & Shoots, Recycle America Alliance Tour, 10 a.m.	16 SDH Talent Show, 3 p.m. Bookman's Community Room, 6230 E. Speedway
17 Mathematical Mystery Tour, 11 a.m., Main Library	18	19 AIT P.E. class 9:15 a.m. SDH Park Day 10:30 a.m. Announcements 11 a.m. Barn Owl Pellet Activity	20 UApresents Les Percussions De Guinee, 9:30 a.m. (see September newsletter)	21 Biology Class, 6 to 9 p.m., Santa Cruz Rec. Center Parent's Book Discussion, Something Sweet, 7 p.m.	22 Arizona State Fair Homeschool Day, 9 a.m.	23
24 Mathematical Mystery Tour, 11 a.m., Main Library <i>Inside SDH</i> submissions deadline	25	26 AIT P.E. class, 9:15 a.m. Announcements 11 a.m. Halloween Party	27 Frog and Toad, Meet at 11:10 a.m. Mom's Coffee Night 7:30 p.m., Something Sweet	28 Biology Class, 6 to 9 p.m., Santa Cruz Rec. Center	29 Roots & Shoots, plant trees, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	30
31						