

# CANYON CRITTERS KIDS QUARTERLY MINI-MAG!

## FALL 2018



Welcome to Canyon of the Eagles! We hope you enjoy your stay with us as we head into a wonderful time of year!

Fall brings glorious color to our environment, the leaves change from green to shades of yellow and orange and the weather gets cooler. It's the start of the Holiday season, S'more making around fire pits, hot cocoa, and pumpkins galore!



Did you know that fall in Texas also means hundreds of Monarch Butterflies fly through as they head South for the winter? Like birds, each year in late September and October, hundreds of Monarchs from North America and Canada migrate south to Mexico for the winter, using Central Texas as their common meeting ground. We are extremely lucky to be on their flight path so look out for them, they are amazing creatures. More about the Monarch Butterfly later.



With the cooler weather comes more outdoor fun! Here at Canyon of the Eagles you can enjoy some long walks on our trails with our Master Naturalist, or join in one of her Bird Watching walks and see how many species of our feathered friends you can spot. The American Bald Eagle returns to nest from November though to mid April and they are a treat to see. If you see one, please let us know.

*"Where the Road Ends, the Adventure Begins"*



## CANYON OF THE EAGLES AT NIGHT



Do you have your flash light ready? Our night sky is very beautiful with twinkling stars, but also very dark!

Listen out for the sound of Owls, they come out to hunt for their food at night. Owl's sleep most of the day, tucking themselves away in rock crevices or shady, leafy trees where they can safely tuck their heads into their feathers and dream the day away.

If you hear one, please let us know!



## THANK YOU FOR VISITING!



We hope you enjoy your stay with us and that you'll return to stay with us in the winter months when outdoor opportunities are plentiful, there is something special to be found in every season and we will ensure we celebrate it.

*"Where the Road Ends, the Adventure Begins"*



## WHAT'S COMING ?



The fall and winter months bring a welcome relief to our furry friends. Bring your fur family out to the resort, wrap up warm and walk our trails. Gather around our fire pit, toast festive S'mores and drink hot cocoa, delicious!

We have plenty of fun things to do as we head into the holiday season, try your hand at cookie decorating, a fun class for all, including adults, great prizes to be had for the best in class! Our movies get festive and we bring out favorites like Christmas Vacation and The Grinch and nature based movies like March of the Penguins.

Ask an adult to guide you to our "Eaglets Corner" on our Website where you'll find our Canyon Critters Magazines. You'll find fun facts and articles and information about our ongoing activities here at Canyon of the Eagles!



## FUN FACTS ABOUT BEES



**Fact #1:** Bees require a temperature of 50 degrees Fahrenheit or higher to fly easily without using up all of their nectar stores. But they prefer it hot: 80-90 degrees.

**Fact #2:** Bees sleeping outside the nest will sleep under a flowerhead or inside a deep flower like a squash blossom where the temperature can be up to 18 degrees warmer close to the nectar source.

**Fact #3:** The bee asleep in the flower on a cool morning may be a female forager who got caught outside the nest when the temperature decreased rapidly. Her job is to forage for nectar and pollen and she stores it in (yellow) pollen baskets on her hind legs to take back to the nest.

Save our bees by keeping plants that bees like In the fall. They make a "bee-line" for Goldenrod, Calendula, and Witch Hazel amongst others.





## MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

The Monarch Butterfly is a most fascinating creature. Their lengthy flight during their migration is a spectacular, miraculous event and if you are lucky enough to be on their flight path, you will see these delicate little insects flying in groups, they look like orange confetti floating around when they are flying together.

Monarch butterflies are not able to survive the cold winters of most of the United States so they migrate south and west each autumn to escape the cold. The monarch migration usually starts late September/October of each year, they travel 2,500 miles to reach their destination in Mexico.

As their little wings begin to get tired, they search for safe places to rest and refuel. They feed on the Milkweed Plant and here at Canyon of the Eagles you will find our Monarch Waystation which is our very own "hotel" for butterflies. If you take a walk down to the lake you'll find our Way Station situated at the back of our Labyrinth and hopefully you'll find the Monarch's eating or sleeping on the Milkweed. They also breed and develop new healthy butterflies.

The Monarch overwintering sites are under threat because of people cutting down their favorite trees to build roads, houses and farms. What will happen to the Monarchs if they do not have their special trees to spend the winter? They are now on the verge of becoming an endangered species. How can you help them?



## SPECIAL PROGRAMS DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

Monarch Butterfly Migration Talk

Spot the Butterfly Guided Walk

Flight of the Monarch Butterflies  
Movie on the Patio at Sundown



**SEE OUR ACTIVITY GUIDE OR OUR  
FRONT DESK TEAM FOR DATES**



## FALL ACTIVITIES

We have plenty of fun, outdoor activities for all the family to enjoy. Our Master Naturalist, Celia, leads group nature walks, hikes and bird spotting walks. Don't forget your binoculars and camera! Celia also hosts nature talks and arts and craft programs.

## SPECIAL EVENTS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>th</sup>

Our Fall Appreciation Day is a great opportunity to snap some fun photos and choose your pumpkin. See you at the Park Store at 10am for some fun activities, including a nature talk on the Monarch Butterfly Migration, plus delicious baked goods, yummy!

Lunch in the Overlook Restaurant will include fresh pumpkin soup with bread and muffins.

Show off your creative talent and join our Pumpkin Decorating Competition on The Patio at 6pm, followed by S'more making around the fire pit. All pumpkin decorating entries will be on display around the patio for judging! There will be some great prizes in store!



## HOW YOU CAN HELP THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY

Create a Way Station for these creatures that will provide them a habitat for thriving. Way stations consist of host plants to lay eggs, as well as the nectar plants for the adult butterflies to feed on. Way Stations should be created in a sunny location, and should be covered with attractive and colorful flowers to attract the Monarch butterflies. When they acquire a destination full of host and nectar plants, they will start to breed and thereby develop a batch of healthy Monarch butterflies.



Raise awareness. Tell your friends and family about the beautiful butterfly and it's struggle for survival. Encourage them to create their own Way Station. The Monarchs will reward us with one of natures miracles, the wondrous site of their migration.



# BUTTERFLY WORD SEARCH



## Butterfly Word Search

B Y A D Q R M C C Q A N M E R  
 S I L A S Y R H C H Y E J E S  
 W Z J F V L W M H O C C T Y M  
 I M I G R A T E D A W T V M L  
 P Y P E L E L F T N U A A E E  
 S K N A J D T E Q L A R L H F  
 G A V R A L R T F J N R B D I  
 G T B B Z P L V U C N B C C M  
 E O U A I X G Z S B E D T H K  
 A T Q L M T W L B M T W K P W  
 S V L V Q Y B J K T N V Y I O  
 Z A G L O K W G X P A T N H V  
 R Y Q B E Y U N N X D G E R P  
 B P C N Y E A D G Z S L K W B  
 Q S N V R W M T J M W K L M N

### Word Bank

ANTENNA  
 BUTTERFLY  
 CATERPILLAR  
 CHRYSALIS  
 EGGS  
 FLUTTER  
 HATCH  
 LARVA  
 MIGRATE  
 MONARCH  
 NECTAR  
 WINGS



# TAKING CARE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

Arrange pots on a patio with plants that attract insects

Respect nature and it's wildlife by not disturbing it's habitat

Conserve water



Switch to reusable bags and containers

Take part in a local river/water cleanup day

Minimize the use of insecticides

Provide nesting boxes and feed for B.

Recycle and pick up litter

