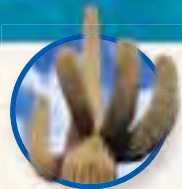


LIFE IN THE DESERT





Talk About It

What is life like in the desert?



Find out more about life in the desert at www.macmillanmh.com



Vocabulary

burrow
beyond
warning
lengthy
ranger's
distant




Context Clues

A **possessive** noun shows ownership. An apostrophe (') and s are added to a singular noun to make it possessive.

The *ranger's* map fits in his pocket.

The map belongs to the ranger.



THE COATIS OF THE SONORA DESERT

by Nya Taylor

Coatis (ko-WAH-tees) are animals that live in the desert. They look like raccoons and are about as big as cats. They have long tails that help them balance as they climb.

Coatis like to eat plants and insects. They use their claws to dig for small animals that may be living underground in a **burrow**. Some coatis eat while hanging from trees.



Coatis live together. They do not wander **beyond** their group. Staying close helps them hear **warning** calls if danger is near. Coatis spend hours taking **lengthy** rests in the shade. During the hot days, they need to stay cool. At night, they climb into trees to sleep.

You can see coatis at the Sonora Desert Museum in Arizona. The park has workers to help you. You may ask to use a **ranger's** binoculars to see far away. The binoculars will help you spot coatis in the trees in the **distant** mountains.



Reread for Comprehension

Summarize

Author's Purpose

One way to summarize an article is to explain the author's purpose. Ask yourself about the reasons why the author wrote this information. Reread the selection and use the chart to summarize the author's purpose.

