

MAY

ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

CHUCKWALLA

MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION



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QUESTIONS

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CHUCKWALLA



Chuckwalla
Photo by Maricopa County Parks

This month we are learning all about the Common Chuckwalla, *Sauromalus ater*. Here are some fun and key facts:

- Chuckwallas are members of the Iguana family! But these lizards are superbly adapted to life in a dry, hot desert.
- Chuckwallas escape predators by hiding in crevices and sucking in air. This causes their bodies to swell and, combined with their rough scales, helps to wedge them tightly between rocks.
- Like some lizards, Chuckwallas can lose their tails and grow a new one. But that tail serves another purpose: storing fat for use when times are tough!

Source:

Stebbins, Robert C.,(2003) A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians, 3rd Edition. Houghton Mifflin Company, [ISBN 0-395-98272-3](https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118111111)