

## **MASTER BLISTER BEETLE**



Have you joined the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department's Eco-BLITZ program yet? If not, what are you waiting for? It's a great opportunity to learn about desert wildlife and plants while contributing to science! This month's challenge is the **Master Blister Beetle**.

These colorful beetles can grow to be a couple of inches long with a nice mix of deep black and bright red/orange. They are often found in the springtime when the Brittlebush, a common desert shrub, is flowering. They feed on the petals and pollen as adults but live an entirely different life as immature larvae. Master Blister Beetles are great to watch but <u>do not touch!</u> Their yellow oozing blood is used to keep predators away and can cause blisters on the skin.