

MAY

# ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

## DESERT SPINY LIZARD

PHOTO BY UZN



### ECO-BLITZ REGISTRATION

<https://bit.ly/ECO-BlitzWebsite>



### LEARN ABOUT THE INATURALIST PROGRAM

<https://bit.ly/MCParksInaturalist>



### QUESTIONS

[@maricopacountyparks](https://maricopacountyparks)  
[@maricopa.gov](https://maricopa.gov)

## DESERT SPINY LIZARD



DESERT SPINY LIZARD

PHOTO BY @TAHOGEA

This month we are learning all about the **Desert Spiny Lizard** (*Sceloporus magister*). Here are some **fun** and **key facts**:

- They are large, about **5.6 inches from snout to vent**, stocky lizards with **large pointed keeled overlapping scales**.
- **Adults** have a **yellowish orange head** and males have two large bright blue/green patch on belly and throat.
- They **feed on a variety of insects**, some small mammals and plant material. Hanging out in breeding pairs, they **mate in spring, laying 2-12 eggs** that **emerge typically in July**.

Sources:

- Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum - [Spiny Lizards - https://www.desertmuseum.org/books/nhsd\\_spiny\\_lizards.php](https://www.desertmuseum.org/books/nhsd_spiny_lizards.php)
- Desert Spiny Lizard Facts for Kids - [https://kids.kiddle.co/Desert\\_spiny\\_lizard](https://kids.kiddle.co/Desert_spiny_lizard)