

PLUGGED IN FUN FOR KIDS

A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE, PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY AND ART

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Foxes and Eagles and Islands... Oh My!



Photo courtesy of National Park Service

Island foxes live on six of the eight Channel Islands and nowhere else in the world. Over the years, conditions have threatened the survival of island foxes. Overgrazing by cattle, sheep, and wild pigs has destroyed some of their island habitat. In recent years, foxes on Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, and San Miguel Islands have been preyed upon by golden eagles from the mainland. In 1999, two islands had only 14 or 15 foxes left!

Today, partners are working together to save this species. The island fox is now listed as an endangered species. Channel Islands National Park and The Nature Conservancy have moved golden eagles and brought back native bald eagles, which have already been seen chasing away golden eagles to protect their territories. The cattle and sheep are gone, and wild pigs are being removed. Some island foxes have been captured and allowed to breed in captivity.

The Santa Barbara Zoo is helping save them, too, through public education and work by zoo veterinarians. Be sure to visit the island foxes and bald eagles in their zoo exhibits.

Learning About Island Foxes

The 6th Annual Fox Festival is Sunday, October 8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Santa Barbara Zoo and is free with admission.

Kids just like you have put together a cool event for you and your family. Come see what students from a local Roots and Shoots group, founded by Dr. Jane Goodall, have in store!

Discover the Channel Islands fox and other endangered or threatened species at the Santa Barbara Zoo, such as snow leopards, golden lion tamarins, bald eagles, and both ring-tailed lemurs and black and white ruffed lemurs.

This event features student displays, craft projects, Zoo Keeper talks, and more!

Follow the island fox tracks to a cool contest!



Contest Rules

1. Color the island fox.
2. After doing some research, draw in and color the fox's native habitat on one of the Channel Islands. This may include native plants and animals, and general island scenery. Search for "island fox" at www.nps.gov/chis and www.nature.org for more information and pictures.
3. Mail your entry to:
Carol Peterson
Channel Islands Nat'l Park
1901 Spinnaker Dr.
Ventura, CA 93001
4. Entries must be received by September 30.
5. Winner will be notified by October 7 and will receive a special prize package from the national park.
6. Entries will be displayed at the park's visitor center in Ventura.

Create-a-Habitat Coloring Contest



name _____ age _____
phone number or email _____

 **Wildling Art Museum**
805-688-1082 www.wildlingmuseum.org

 **The Outdoor School at Rancho**
805-686-5167 www.theoutdoorschool.org

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