

**Media Release:**

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## **‘Creatures of the Night’ Holiday Feature**

Good Friday will be especially good for kids heading to the Alice Springs Desert Park as it marks the start of the Easter and April school holidays Desert Park Explorers Club ‘*Creatures of the Night*’ program.

Alice Springs Desert Park Guide Regena Medhurst said the program will investigate the amazing animal world of nocturnal hunting, feeding and living.

“Visitors will discover the Bilby, Bats, Pythons, Native Rodents, Owls and the elusive Night Parrot through educational children’s activities and giveaway booklets,” Ms Medhurst said.

“One of the special events is the Great ‘Night Parrot’ Search – we don’t even know if these birds actually exist, they’re thought to be extremely secretive, and no-one has ever managed to take a photo of it.

“Kids can use the Night Parrot habitat map in our free Desert Park Explorer booklet to try and rediscover the rare species.”

Presentations will take place daily at 9am and 2pm from March 21 until April 13 2008 and cover a vast array of subjects including:

- *Animal Survival in the Desert* - Follow us into the nocturnal house to discover some amazing desert animals.
- *Dine in, take away or home delivered?* - Discover the hunting strategies of three desert snakes.
- *Meet a Walking Fossil (Echidna)* - Come and learn about our unique wildlife.
- *Nocturnal Nibblers* - Bats are unique mammals that employ a variety of adaptations to find their food.
- *Surviving the Heat (animals)* - Join us in the nocturnal house to look at amazing animal adaptations.
- *Don’t tread on me!* - Encounters with some venomous creatures of the night.
- *Built to last!* - Discover a desert creature that constructs an amazingly sturdy home.
- *The Stranglers* - Pythons cruise the night in search of victims.
- *Desert Diggers* - Discover the brave little desert battlers which make a living by digging.

The Alice Springs Desert Park is open everyday from 7.30am – 6pm. For more information call 8951 8788 or visit the website <http://www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au>

Ends

**Media Note – for more information contact Regena Medhurst on 8951 8727**

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