



Geocaching

Navigate through pristine wilderness, pose for a picture next to a Giant Saguaro Cactus, learn the natural history of the Sonoran Desert and celebrate victory all in two to four hours! You already outperform, outwit and outplay your competitors, now let's see how you measure up to your fellow workmates! You can lay by the pool any day and almost anywhere. This is your one chance to participate in a uniquely Arizona event. Ever wonder if you could find your way back to civilization if you were dropped off in the middle of the desert? When you complete this event, you will walk away with the skills and confidence to know you could be a survivor! Learn about the desert, its plants, its mountains and its history, all while you compete against your peers in this highly interactive event.

Your teams will be participating in an event called Geocaching. **Geocaching** is an outdoor treasure-hunting game in which the participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver and other navigational techniques to find hidden containers (called "geocaches" or "caches") anywhere in the world. A typical cache is a small waterproof container containing a "treasure". Arizona Outback Adventures has adapted this activity into a group format, allowing teams to compete in an educational and exciting activity. With each team member proficient in a specific navigational skill, teams will work together to navigate their way through a series of control points throughout the course. It challenges team members to utilize many different types of information to form an overall strategy, which is efficient and best suited to their individual talents. Decision-making and teamwork, not physical speed, are required to excel.

How it works: The team will be provided with a clue sheet, map, camera, envelope, compass, team bandanas, bottled water. With each team member proficient in a specific navigational skill, teams will first navigate their way through a series of control points throughout the course. Upon completion of this first phase, teams are judged based on accuracy and creativity. They will be given 10 minutes to review the strategy implemented during the first session and make any adjustments needed to perform more efficiently during Phase 2. For the second phase of this exercise, the teams are issued GPS's and PDA's, have 5 minutes to strategize a course of action and search for those Geocaches. Decision-making and teamwork, not physical speed, are required to excel.



Arizona Outback Adventures

16447 N. 91st Street. Suite 101. Scottsdale, AZ 85260
Tel: 480-945-2881 Toll Free 866-455-1601 Fax 480-970-1825

www.aoa-adventures.com

THE EVENT

Be prepared for a twist! The teams will be issued Geocaching supplies: GPS (Global Positioning System), maps, directional clues, cameras and compass. Here is where the true Geocaching comes to play. The teams will search for treasure boxes, strategically hidden throughout a new course. The team must reach the Finish Line with the piece of the treasure from each box.

SKILLS STATIONS

GPS Expert: These teammates will understand the navigational features of a GPS (Global Positioning System). They will be able to zero-in on the specific Latitude and Longitude coordinates for each Geocache.

Map Reader: These teammates will understand how to read the aerial satellite map of the area which will be supplied to your team. All of your Geocache points will be marked on the map.

Photographer: These teammates will understand how to operate the supplied digital camera. Your team will have to take a group photograph at each of the Geocache points.

Team Leader: This is you! None of your teammates have any idea what is going on so it is your job to explain the game's concept, collaborate their individual skills, define roles and create a cohesive unit working to efficiently complete the game.

Team Challenge Coordinator (if applicable): These teammates will understand the key elements that make or break the team's success in the challenges that they will encounter.

GEOCACHING SCORING

Each team will be awarded points based on order of arrival at the Finish Line. 1st place team receives 200 points, 2nd place receives 100pts,...

Each team will also be awarded 20 points for every photograph that meets these following requirements:

- Correct Location
- The team with the most creative photographs will be awarded an additional 100 points.
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Penalties will also be assessed. Here are some penalty situations:

- Sabotaging any Geocache (hiding the box in a different location and/or taking all the pieces of the treasure)
- Disrupting Wildlife (plant or animal)
- Safety violations

GEOCACHING - SAMPLE CLUE:

Point #7

Amongst the many Saguaro cacti, you are looking for one specific saguaro at this location:

N 33°49.02 W 112°09.023

Hint: it has many tiny arm buds winding around the top of it. Take a picture facing East that includes this Saguaro.

From this sample clue you should do the following:

- Have your map reader locate Point #7 on the map.
- Have the Directional Coordinator find the coordinates for Point #7 on the clue sheet
- Using the map and GPS, navigate to Point #7.
- Take a creative photo with every team member in the photo, except the operator
- Look for the "cache" or treasure box and retrieve its content.
- Move on to the next check point



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