

Bottle Fed Babies are a Delight and oh so cute!

By – Annemarie Eveland

I had so much fun feeding the baby goats of Fossil Creek Ranch in the Arizona Rim Country!

During May and June, if you visit Fossil Creek Ranch about 11:30 a.m.- noon, you may be able to help feed the baby goats. It is a disarming and endearing adventure that leaves a happy memory ...and gets the little baby goats fed their mother's milk by bottle feeding. You can tell from my smile :>), I loved the experience and you will too.

Where is the Ranch at Fossil Creek? You can find this charming, interactive Arizona adventure tucked away in the famous Mogollon Rim area. Located one mile from the famous Fossil Creek trailhead, with natural travertine springs and dazzling aqua waters, it is an active working ranch where llamas and goats are raised to produce on-site products. Their Fossil Creek Creamery (certified by the State of Arizona) makes fresh, creative artisan goat milk cheeses and fudge for sale. I have tried several myself and find them absolutely healthy and irresistible delights. They also make soothing goat milk soaps and creams. My favorite cream is the Lavender.

Their products are conveniently available online or at the Flagstaff Farmer's Market from Memorial Day Weekend through the summer.

Joyce and John Bittner, owners of Fossil Creek Ranch, also offer classes on making goat fudge and cheeses, rich hand creams and natural soaps and they also do workshops on using their llamas' wool. They offer guided tours for groups or you can take your own self-guided tour. Perhaps your kids would like to celebrate their birthday party with their "kids." Or if you are hikers, you can "take a Llama to lunch" – a hike and packed lunch with your guide into the pristine wilderness area.

For more information on times and prices, contact them directly through their website: www.ranchatfossilcreek.com or call 928-476-5178. They are open to the public, Thursday-Monday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. To reach their Ranch, drive north on

Hwy. 87 from Payson to Strawberry, turn left (or west) on Fossil Creek Road and follow the signs for 3.4 miles. A fun time awaits the whole family.

Photos by
Annemarie Eveland /included with article.

First photo of Author feeding baby goat.

Second of Mom with her very newborn baby.



