



# **Educational Trunk Directory for Montana**

Compiled by the Montana Environmental Education Association  
and the Montana Natural History Center

## Astronomy and Space

### **Starlab**

Students can take a look at the night sky in detail at any season or latitude in a Starlab traveling planetarium. The planetarium comes complete with audiotapes and astronomy programs on the northern sky and constellations visible at each season. Additional cylinders on Greek and Native American star myth, the biological cell, and plate tectonics are available on a limited basis.

Grade level: suitable for students of all ages

Contact: Museum of the Rockies, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717-0272; call (406)994-5282

Cost: \$35 per week, plus shipping costs onto the next school.

### **Telescope Trunk**

Capture students' interest in the "Big Sky" using a Telescope Trunk from the Museum. The Telescope Trunk contains an easy-to-use 4 inch Edmund Astroscan telescope, star charts, and activities on astronomy and the sky.

Grade level: 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade

Contact: Museum of the Rockies, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717-0272; call (406) 994-5282

Cost: \$35 per week, plus shipping costs onto the next school.

## Cultural Resources: History and Archaeology

### **Archaeology Trunk**

Sign up to use our trunk introducing students to archaeology. This trunk contains artifacts, models, activities, videos and resource materials. The trunk focuses on regional prehistoric and historic archaeology projects.

Grade level: 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade

Contact: Museum of the Rockies, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717-0272, call (406) 994-5282

Cost: \$35 per week, plus shipping costs onto the next school.

### **Bannack Homesteading**

This trunk covers the early years at Bannack, Montana's First Territorial Capital. It includes artifacts, a Bannack video and activities designed to allow children the opportunity to participate in homesteading type activities.

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 3-6

Contact: Tom Lowe, Bannack State Park, 4200 Bannack Road, Dillon, MT 59725, (406) 834-3413

Cost: Return postage via UPS or U.S. Mail

### **Bannack Mining**

This trunk includes activities and artifacts depicting the gold mining history in Bannack. Hard rock and placer mining are covered.

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 5-8

Contact: Tom Lowe, Bannack State Park, 4200 Bannack Road, Dillon, MT 59725, (406) 834-3413

Cost: Return postage via UPS or U.S. Mail

### **Basque Culture**

Students explore Basque culture, past and present, with artifacts, clothing, a flag, cards, music, and curriculum packet. The trunk is available for a maximum of two weeks.

Grade level: 2-12

Contact: Jeni Stillwell, The High Desert Museum, 59800 South Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702, (541) 382-4754

Cost: \$10.00 per week plus shipping; refundable deposit required

### **Dinosaur Trunk**

Contains real dinosaur bones, casts and molds of bones, teeth and eggs along with the latest information about dinosaurs for use in the classroom. These materials, accompanied by resource books, a CD-ROM, videos and posters can be used to create activity stations in the classroom or support more teacher-directed activities.

Grade level: 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade

Contact: Museum of the Rockies, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717-0272; call (406) 994-5282

Cost: \$35 per week, plus shipping costs onto the next school

### **Dinosaurs**

This trunk provides activities and lesson plans pertaining to dinosaurs in Montana, especially those in the Glendive/Makoshika State Park area. Included are posters, bones, and videos. Geared toward younger students, although older students may be able to use some of the contents. Because the trunk is very large and may be costly to ship, it is recommended that a number of schools or organizations in an area arrange to share the trunk for a few weeks, transporting it from one place to another as needed.

Grade levels: K-12; geared mainly towards K-6

Contact: Ryan Sokoloski, Makoshika State Park, Box 1242, Glendive, MT 59330, (406) 377-6256

Cost: Shipping

### **Frontier Cowboy Trunk**

This trunk focuses on the American cowboy in the 1880s to 1890s. The cattle drive and cowboy life are explored through books, photos, clothing, and a curriculum.

Available for two weeks at a time.

Grade level: 5-8, adaptable to K-12 and up

Contact: Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS, 266 Warren Lane, Deer Lodge, MT 59722; contact Education Specialist at (406) 846-2070 ext. 226

Cost: Return shipping or next destination

### **Japanese-American Culture**

Contains special objects from traditional and contemporary Japanese-American culture. The trunk is available for a maximum of two weeks.

Grade level: 3-12

Contact: Jeni Stillwell, The High Desert Museum, 59800 South Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702, (541) 382-4754

Cost: \$10.00 per week plus shipping; refundable deposit required

### **Lewis & Clark Expedition**

This trunk covers the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, as well as daily life on the journey. The trunk includes video, books, beaver skin, wool blanket, writing utensils, sewing utensils, trading items, and personal items such as clothing and eating utensils. A curriculum is included.

Grade level: K - 12

Contact: Lynette Kemp, Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, PO Box 489, Whitehall, MT 59759; (406) 287-3541.

Cost: Return postage.

### **A Life Cycle of Giving: Gift and Exchange Among the Plateau Indian Nations**

Follows Indian life from birth to death, examining objects that were made and exchanged by Plateau people.

Available for a maximum of two weeks.

Grade level: 3-12

Contact: Jeni Stillwell, The High Desert Museum, 59800 South Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702, (541) 382-4754

Cost: \$10.00 per week plus shipping; refundable deposit required

### **Liquid Treasure History Trunk**

Everything needed to conduct a one-week study of Montana's water history is included in this trunk. Historic artifacts, photographs of water history topics, historical documents and film footage, and a teacher's guide are included. The lesson suggestions are useful in language arts, math, history, and science classes.

Grade level: K-12 and adults

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or [mtwatercourse@montana.edu](mailto:mtwatercourse@montana.edu)

Cost: \$25 for up to two weeks, \$35 for three weeks, plus shipping (est \$25 one way)

## **Mining**

This trunk brings geology, Montana history and the story of mining minerals into the classroom with hands-on learning with rocks and minerals, formation of rocks, history of mining and equipment, how minerals are found, why mining continues and what mined minerals are used for.

Grade level: 3-9

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

## **The Oregon Trail**

This trunk is filled with objects and activities that represent different aspects of life on the Oregon Trail.

The concepts covered by the trunk include family life, journeying through a new land, and the hardships of the 2000-mile trek. The trunk is available for a maximum of two weeks.

Grade level: 2-12

Contact: Jeni Stillwell, The High Desert Museum, 59800 South Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702, (541) 382-4754

Cost: \$10.00 per week plus shipping; refundable deposit required

## **Pictograph Cave Interpretive Trunk (Life at Pictograph Cave)**

Focuses on archaeology in Montana. Contains pictograph and artifact replicas, a video, slide show, and lesson plans.

Grade level: 4-12

Contact: Terri Walters, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings, MT 59105, (406) 247-2955 or

Montana Historical Society, PO Box 201201, Helena, MT 59620-1201, (406)444-4789 Cost: Shipping

## **Natural Resources**

### **Cave and Geology Trunk and Curriculum Guide**

This trunk is designed for classroom use and can be used in conjunction with a field trip to Lewis and Clark Caverns. The trunk includes two videos, books, hardhat, carbide lamp, climbing gear, rock samples, speleothems, poster, and a cave mapping game. A curriculum is included.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Lynette Kemp, Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, PO Box 489, Whitehall, MT 59759, (406) 287-3541

Cost: Return postage

### **Clark Fork/Pend Oreille Watershed**

This trunk offers a glimpse into our local watershed. Take an imaginary journey using a hand-painted floor map and wooden figurines to tell the stories of historical characters whose lives were dependent on water. Curriculum and multimedia materials addressing watershed issues are included. Themes covered are the water cycle, water quality, bull trout, aquatic life, and human impacts.

Grade level: 3-6

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Enviroscape Model**

The Enviroscape is a three-dimensional model for demonstrating a variety of water and watershed concepts. A Users Guide provides background information, set-up instructions, specific activities to demonstrate pollution sources and best management practices. The unit includes: a colorful molded landscape top emphasizing non-point source pollution, trees, cars, buildings, pollution buffers and simulated pollutants. A Economics curriculum incorporating social components such as property rights, cost / benefit analysis is also available upon request for middle and high school educators.

Grade: K-8 (+7-12)

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or mtwatercourse@montana.edu

Cost: \$25 up to two weeks, \$35 for three weeks, plus shipping (est \$15 one way)

### **Fireworks**

Hands-on learning about fire ecology. Themes include: wildfire behavior, forest change, plant and animal adaptations to fire and management of wildland fire. Included is a curriculum guide, tree cookies, posters, games, puzzles, books, slide show, videos, and everything you need to experiment with fire (plus a fire extinguisher!). For more information, take a look at the fire lab's website about the fireworks trunk.

Grade level: 1-9

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental

\* *Cannot be shipped due to weight.*

### **Forest Stewardship**

Created by Swan Ecosystem Center in Condon, MT, this trunk is a powerful tool to get students outside using the tools of the trade in forest stewardship. Equipment, art, research materials, forester's tools, lesson plans, and more help support your forest and science curriculum.

Grade level: 5-12

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Forestry Box**

This box is designed for use in conjunction with an interpretive trail in the Wenatchee National Forest in Washington state. It includes a teacher script, student study questions, and hands-on activities that teach about disease, forest succession, habitat, geology and topography of Washington. A three-part slide show examines forest ecosystems, forest disturbances and land management issues. Through pre- and post work activities, students examine management scenarios, learn debating skills and implement community service projects.

Grade level: 6th grade and up

Contact: Susan Thomas, Environmental Education Coordinator, Wenatchee National Forest, 600 Sherbourne, Leavenworth, WA 98826, (509)782-1413

Cost: None, but not able to ship boxes

### **Fungal Jungal**

Developed by the Western Montana Mycological Association, this mushroom educational trunk includes an amazing slide show highlighting various species of mushrooms, collection trunks for the classroom, identification posters, videos, dried mushroom specimens, and a teacher's guide full of activities and flashcards.

Grade level: 5-8

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Glacial Lake Missoula**

This trunk provides everything necessary to conduct a detailed investigation of the dramatic ice-age floods that shaped our landscape over 12,000 years ago. Full of lessons, maps, pictures, and extension activities your students won't be able to get enough! A great geology source and an amazing natural history detective story with evidence in our own backyard.

Grade level: 6-9

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Groundwater Flow Model**

Groundwater Flow Models (GWFM) are used to demonstrate groundwater movement principles. A model, constructed with a clear Plexiglas front, allows observers to watch how ground-water moves and is affected by wells, sediment layers, etc. GWFM's demonstrate two aquifer types: an unconfined aquifer of white sand just below the surface, and a confined aquifer at the bottom of the model. Dyes are used to show water movement patterns and as tracers showing contaminated water migration. Comes with model, user's manual, video, activity guide, and reference books. Teachers, 4-H leaders, adult education, civic planning meetings, and resource professionals can benefit by using GWFM's.

Grade level: K-12 and adults

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425. or 994-6671 or [mtwatercourse@montana.edu](mailto:mtwatercourse@montana.edu) Also try your local Conservation District and Community or Tribal College.

Cost: \$25 up to two weeks, \$35 for three weeks, plus shipping (est \$25 one way)

### **Healthy Air, Healthy Communities**

Air pollution in the intermountain west is the focus of this unit, empowering learners to protect our precious air quality. Hands-on activities integrate the subject areas of science, mathematics, health, social studies, and language arts. Includes an experiment trunk for creating miniature inversion layers, puppets, posters, books and a curriculum guide.

Grade level: 3-5

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Liquid Treasure History Trunk**

Everything needed to conduct a one-week study of Montana's water history is included in this trunk. Historic artifacts, photographs of water history topics, historical documents and film footage, and a teacher's guide are included. The lesson suggestions are useful in language arts, math, history, and science classes.

Grade level: K-12 and adults

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or [mtwatercourse@montana.edu](mailto:mtwatercourse@montana.edu)

Cost: \$25 for up to two weeks, \$35 for three weeks, plus shipping (est \$25 one way)

### **Living With Winter**

This trunk is designed to supplement ecological studies with the opportunity to think about complex relationships and systems. Concepts such as snow metamorphosis, animal and plant adaptations, and energy transfer are examined through the inquiry-based, experiential activities. The trunk includes posters, pelts, books, videos, and games.

Grade level: 5-8

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Mount Jumbo**

Two-to-four week thematic unit that involves students in a hands-on exploration of the geologic and human history of this Missoula landmark. Specific plant and animal relationships are also covered. A slide show, books, transparencies, field guides, posters, and biological specimens are all included.

Grade level: 3-5

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Native Plants**

Learn the magic of Montana's native plants! Created by the Montana Native Plant Society, this trunk is rich in materials, field guides, curriculum, and visual aids to identify plants native to this Rocky Mountain palouse prairie region.

Grade level: 3-8

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Pond Life**

This well-known Montana Watercourse resource has everything you need to bring the wonders of ponds and wetlands to your students, including books, slides, posters, flannel board, games, viewing tank, hands-on activities, and curriculum guides.

Grade level: Pre-school - 4

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or mtwatercourse@montana.edu

Cost: \$25 for up to two weeks, \$35 for three weeks, plus shipping (est. \$35 one way)

### **Prairie Ecosystem**

Lying in the shadow of the Rockies, the prairies comprise nearly one third of the continent. Discover this unique ecosystem and the many creatures that depend on the grassland habitats. The trunk contains curriculum materials, books, videos, prints, and hides.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Stream Ecology Trunks - Elementary and Secondary**

These trunks are designed for educators to use in the field when studying water quality and monitoring on ponds and streams. They contain magnifying glasses, pH paper, macroinvertebrate guides and collection tools, stopwatches and instruments to measure stream flow. The secondary kit also includes a HACH Surface Waters Chemical Test Kit and pocket calculators.

Grade level: Elementary Kit: K-6; Secondary Kit: 7-12 and adult education groups

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or mtwatercourse@montana.edu

Cost: \$25 for up to two weeks, \$35 for three weeks, plus shipping (est \$25 one way)

### **Tree Trunks**

These trunks promote a better understanding of trees and forest communities. Contents include audio tapes, books, activities, a board game, videos, posters, and guides for tree identification.

Grade level: K-9

Contact: See Part III (page 12) for locations

Cost: Cost of return shipping

### **Water and Bug Box**

This box includes a curriculum guide, books, posters, videos, relief maps, waders, kick nets, water quality testing kits, all focusing on "what is a watershed?"

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Susan Thomas, Environmental Education Coordinator, Wenatchee National Forest, 600 Sherbourne, Leavenworth, WA 98826, (509)782-1413

Cost: None, but not able to ship boxes

### **Water Literature Trunk**

This trunk contains books, books, and more books! Inside are books on the following themes: the water cycle, rivers and streams, lakes and ponds, pollution and the environment, Native Americans, and the history of water. The trunk is too heavy to ship all of the books. You decide which sets of books you need; we'll send the one's you request. Contact Montana Watercourse for a complete list of books, or view the list on our website:

<http://www.mtwatercourse.org/Educators/trunks.htm>

Grade Level: K-5

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or [mtwatercourse@montana.edu](mailto:mtwatercourse@montana.edu)

Cost: \$25 for up to two weeks, \$35 for three weeks plus shipping (est \$15 one way)

### **Wetlands**

Wetlands are an excellent tool for teaching basic science concepts and a great introduction to the outdoor classroom. Curriculum guide include.

Grade level: 3-6

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Wilderness and Land Awareness Box and Curriculum**

This box contains interdisciplinary lessons, activities, and teaching tools. The goal of the box and curriculum is to provide classroom teachers, land managers, and outdoor educators with an interactive resource to promote awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the cultural, environmental, and experiential values of our natural resources.

Grade level: K-8

Contact: Liz Close, U.S. Forest Service, Northern Region Regional Office, 200 E. Broadway, PO Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807, (406) 329-3587

Cost: Return shipping via UPS or U.S. Mail

## **Wildlife—Bears**

### **Bear Box**

This trunk on grizzly and black bears is available for pick-up only at various Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks locations. It includes a bear hide, video, casts of bear prints, and lots of other hands-on materials.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 542-5500

Cost: Free; pick up at FWP office

### **Bear Box (#2)**

Materials in this box include activities, videos, pelts, skulls, scat, tracks, and a teacher curriculum.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Susan Thomas, Environmental Education Coordinator, Wenatchee National Forest, 600 Sherbourne, Leavenworth, WA 98826, (509)782-1413

Cost: None, but not able to ship boxes

### **The Bear Facts**

Grizzlies and black bears are studied through books, news articles, posters, activity guides, brochures, and plenty of hands-on materials - puzzles, stuffed toys, black bear skull and pelt.

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 2-5

Contact: Beth Paragamian, Idaho Panhandle National Forest, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-8363, (208) 765-7409

Cost: Shipping

### **Bear Trunk**

Background material, research guides, and props to facilitate discussions about bears of the world, their habitats, and food sources. Emphasis is on black and grizzly bears including how to tell them apart and how to hike/camp safely in bear country. Activity guide and sample lesson plan included. With additional materials available on the web, upper grades can benefit from information regarding scientific method and results of the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem DNA research study to determine population size as well as information about listing of the grizzly bear as an endangered species.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: laura\_law@nps.gov, Glacier National Park Headquarters, P.O. Box 128, West Glacier, MT 59936, (406) 888-7800

Cost: Free

### **Grizzly Bear Teaching Trunk**

Includes bear and prey pelts, skulls, tracks, books, puppets, games, a radio collar, Native American stories, posters, videos, and a curricular package. Available for 2-3 weeks at a time.

Grade level: K-6

Contact: Grizzly Discovery Center, P.O. Box 996, W. Yellowstone, MT 59758, (406) 646-7001, FAX (406) 646-7004

Cost: Not available

## **Other Wildlife**

### **Antelope Box**

Includes male and female skulls, a hide, and rubber molds for casting. Provides activities, but does not include a comprehensive curriculum.

Grade level: K-12, geared mainly toward 5-12

Contact: Wildlife Lab, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6357

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Aquatic Education Resource Trunk (Aquatic Box)**

Includes materials, supplies, and lesson plans to teach about fish habitats and food sources.

Grade level: K-12, with an emphasis on K-8

Contact: John Fraley, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 752-5501 (at FWP, trunk is for pick-up only).

Cost: Not available

### **Bat Education Trunk and Curriculum Guide**

Focuses on bat truths and myths, bat characteristics and habits, and bat conservation. The trunk includes a curriculum, bat skeleton, two videos, slide show/tape, poster, books, and activities. Two trunks are available.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Lynette Kemp, Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park, PO Box 489, Whitehall, MT 59759, (406) 287-3541

Cost: Return postage

### **Hats Off to Bats**

Offers an informative look at bats, through the use of books, videos, posters, activity guides, brochures, puppets, and even a dried bat (look don't touch!).

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 2-5

Contact: Beth Paragamian, Idaho Panhandle National Forest, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-8363, (208) 765-7409

Cost: Shipping

### **Bighorn Sheep Box**

Includes a hide, male and female skulls, sheaths, and droppings. Provides activities, but does not include a comprehensive curriculum.

Grade level: K-12, geared mainly toward 5-12

Contact: Wildlife Lab, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6357

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Birds of Prey**

A thorough look at predatory birds, with activity guides, books, brochures, posters, videos and an audio tape.

Hands-on materials include stuffed toys, binoculars, track and foot molds, and mini-puzzle.

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 2-5

Contact: Beth Paragamian, Idaho Panhandle National Forest, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-8363, (208) 765-7409

Cost: Shipping

### **Bison Box**

Includes a hide and sheaths; skull also available. Provides activities, but does not include a comprehensive curriculum.

Grade level: K-12, geared mainly toward 5-12

Contact: Wildlife Lab, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6357

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Bull Trout**

Take a plunge into the world of the Northwest's native Bull trout. With this multifaceted educational trunk, experience the historical decline and subsequent efforts to return our Bulls to their native habitats. Includes actual bull trout eggs, sac fry and fry for observation. Also includes resources, curriculum, videos, mark recapture population estimation activities, and other exciting hands-on materials.

Grade level: 3-8

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Cat Box**

Contains hides and skulls.

Grade level: Not available

Contact: John Fraley, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 752-5501

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Fins, Scales, Fishy Tales**

This trunk helps students learn about fish, with activities focusing on fish life cycles and fishing. Books and posters cover topics such as endangered species, aquatic plants, and water quality.

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 2-5

Contact: Beth Paragamian, Idaho Panhandle National Forest, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-8363, (208) 765-7409

Cost: Shipping

### **Furbearer Box**

Includes hides of a bobcat, raccoon, beaver, otter, pine martin, fox, badger, mink, muskrat, coyote, and fisher, and skulls of a fisher, beaver, raccoon, fox, pine martin, bobcat, and coyote. Provides activities, but does not include a comprehensive curriculum.

Grade level: K-12, geared mainly toward 5-12

Contact: Wildlife Lab, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6357;

John Fraley, FWP, 490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 752-5501; or FWP, 1420 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59620, (406) 444-1267

Cost: Free; pick up at FWP office

### **Insect Investigations**

Introduce your students to the beauty and benefits of six-legged animals. Themes include classification, body parts, camouflage and life cycle/metamorphosis. The trunk is available for a maximum of three weeks.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Jeni Stillwell, The High Desert Museum, 59800 South Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702, (541) 382-4754

Cost: \$10.00 per week plus shipping; refundable deposit required

### **Loons**

This exciting hands-on trunk consisting of a loon mount, costumes, puppets, books, posters, and more was created by Donna Love, author of Loons and member of the Montana Loon Society. Discover the legend of loons and their remarkable lives with this engaging trunk.

Grade level: K-6

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, [youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org](mailto:youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org)

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Montana's Threatened and Endangered Species**

A trunk designed especially for Montana. Includes grizzly bear hide, books, cassettes, videos, puppets, posters, and curricular package.

Grade level: K-12; geared largely towards K-6

Contact: Wilderness Institute at the University of Montana School of Forestry, Missoula, MT 59812, (406) 243-5361

Cost: \$10.00 plus shipping

### **Moose Box**

Includes a hide and rubber molds for casting plaster.

Provides activities, but does not include a comprehensive curriculum.

Grade level: K-12, geared mainly toward 5-12

Contact: Wildlife Lab, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6357

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Mountain Goat**

Includes a skull and hide. Provides activities, but does not include a comprehensive curriculum.

Grade level: K-12, geared mainly toward 5-12

Contact: Wildlife Lab, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6357

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Predator Box**

Includes the skull and hide of a bobcat, mountain lion, wolf, and coyote. Provides activities, but does not include a comprehensive curriculum.

Grade level: K-12, geared mainly toward 5-12

Contact: Wildlife Lab, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59715, (406) 994-6357

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Skulls**

This trunk comes with a box of animal skulls and a teaching guide filled with hands-on activities. The kit provides an intensive opportunity for younger students to learn about the animal world, where animals live, and how they survive.

Grade level: 3-6

Contact: State 4-H Office, Taylor-MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-3501

Cost: Round-trip shipping

### **Songbird Blues**

Explore the natural history of migratory birds with this award-winning trunk! Learn about their life in Mexico and Montana, and find out about the increasing problems they face in their summer and winter homes. Help students appreciate songbirds and learn how to help insure that their songs always herald spring in the Rockies. The trunk includes a curriculum guide, specimens, books, puppets, tapes, videos, and a felt storyboard.

Grade level: K-6

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Songbirds**

Attract, view, and identify backyard birds and learn about their life cycles. Contains a curriculum, books, audio-visual materials, posters, and plenty of hands-on materials (including binoculars).

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 2-5

Contact: Beth Paragamian, Idaho Panhandle National Forest, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-8363, (208) 765-7409

Cost: Shipping

### **Threatened and Endangered Species Trunk**

Many of Montana's animals face the danger of extinction due to habitat loss. Learn of the tenuous existence of these animals and what steps are being taken to recover their populations. Inside the trunk you will find hides, specimens, books, posters, videos, plaster tracks, and a curriculum guide.

Three versions: #1 for Grades 2-6; #2 for Grades 5-8; and, #3 for Grades 7-12

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Waterfowl and Shorebirds**

This trunk emphasizes bird identification and explores the habitat of water and shore birds. Books, magazines, posters, audio-visual materials, and various track molds are included.

Grade level: K-12, with a focus on 2-5

Contact: Beth Paragamian, Idaho Panhandle National Forest, 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-8363, (208) 765-7409

Cost: Shipping

### **Wild About Elk**

This curriculum trunk uses elk as a tool for teaching the importance of wildlife habitat and conservation. Includes an elk hide, mountain lion hide, whitetail deer hide, antlers, horns, plaster tracks, deer and elk scat, a video, slide show, books and more.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Jodi Bishop, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, 2291 W. Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802, PO Box 8249, Missoula MT 59807-8249, 1-800-CALL ELK

Cost: Not available

### **Wolf Box**

Materials in this box include activities, wolf and coyote pelts, skulls, scat and tracks, videos and a moveable wolf model.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Susan Thomas, Environmental Education Coordinator, Wenatchee National Forest, 600 Sherbourne, Leavenworth, WA 98826, (509)782-1413

Cost: None, but not able to ship boxes

### **Wolf Ungulate Box**

Contains a wolf skull and hide, whitetail deer hide, and elk video.

Grade level: Not available

Contact: John Fraley, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, (406) 752-5501

Cost: Free; pick-up only

### **Wolves and Humans**

Absent from Montana for nearly 50 years, the gray wolf is coming back, but not without controversy. Explore the natural and cultural history of wolves and invite students to consider how we can coexist with one of nature's wildest and most symbolic animals. Included in the trunk is a curriculum guide, hides, fur samples, skulls, plaster casts, videos, and cassette tapes.

Grade level: K-12

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping

### **Science Trunk**

Students engage in science process skills using the contents of this science trunk. Materials include all the science toys needed for the "Toys in Space" astronomy activities, an activity guide, posters and resource materials.

Grade level: 1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade

Contact: Museum of the Rockies, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717-0272; call (406) 994-5282

Cost: \$35 per week, plus shipping costs onto the next school.

### **Geospatial**

This toolbox contains data CDs, workbooks, and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) units. It is accompanied by a curriculum guide with over 25 lessons for introducing students to map reading and interpretation, GPS mapping, and using GIS.

Two versions for Grade levels K-5, 6-12

Contact: Montana Natural History Center, 120 Hickory St., Missoula, MT 59801, (406) 327-0405, youthcoordinator@montananaturalist.org

Cost: \$25 for 2 weeks, or \$35 for 3 weeks, plus shipping (approximately \$40) if necessary; can pick up trunk at MNHC Tuesday-Friday 10AM-5PM; limited scholarships available to help with rental and/or shipping  
Upper Clark Fork Teaching Trunks

### **Clark Fork Science Trunk**

This trunk contains a multi-media CD on the Upper Clark Fork basin developed by Montana Tech's Technical Communications. *The Summer Ride*, an original by Peggy Schmidt, ties the seven science lessons into a cohesive package. All materials for the science lessons are included in the trunk.

Grade Level: 4-8

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or mtwatercourse@montana.edu

Cost: No cost

### **Clark Fork Social Studies Trunk**

This trunk contains historical photos, literature resources, videos, CD's, DVD's and lesson plans. Designed to change as the Clark Fork basin clean up efforts continue, users are invited to add to the contents of the trunk. This trunk also contains a multi-media CD on the Upper Clark Fork basin developed by Montana Tech's Technical Communications and *The Summer Ride* by Peggy Schmidt.

Grade Level: 6 – 12

Contact: Montana Watercourse, 332 Culbertson Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-6425 or 994-6671 or mtwatercourse@montana.edu

Cost: No cost