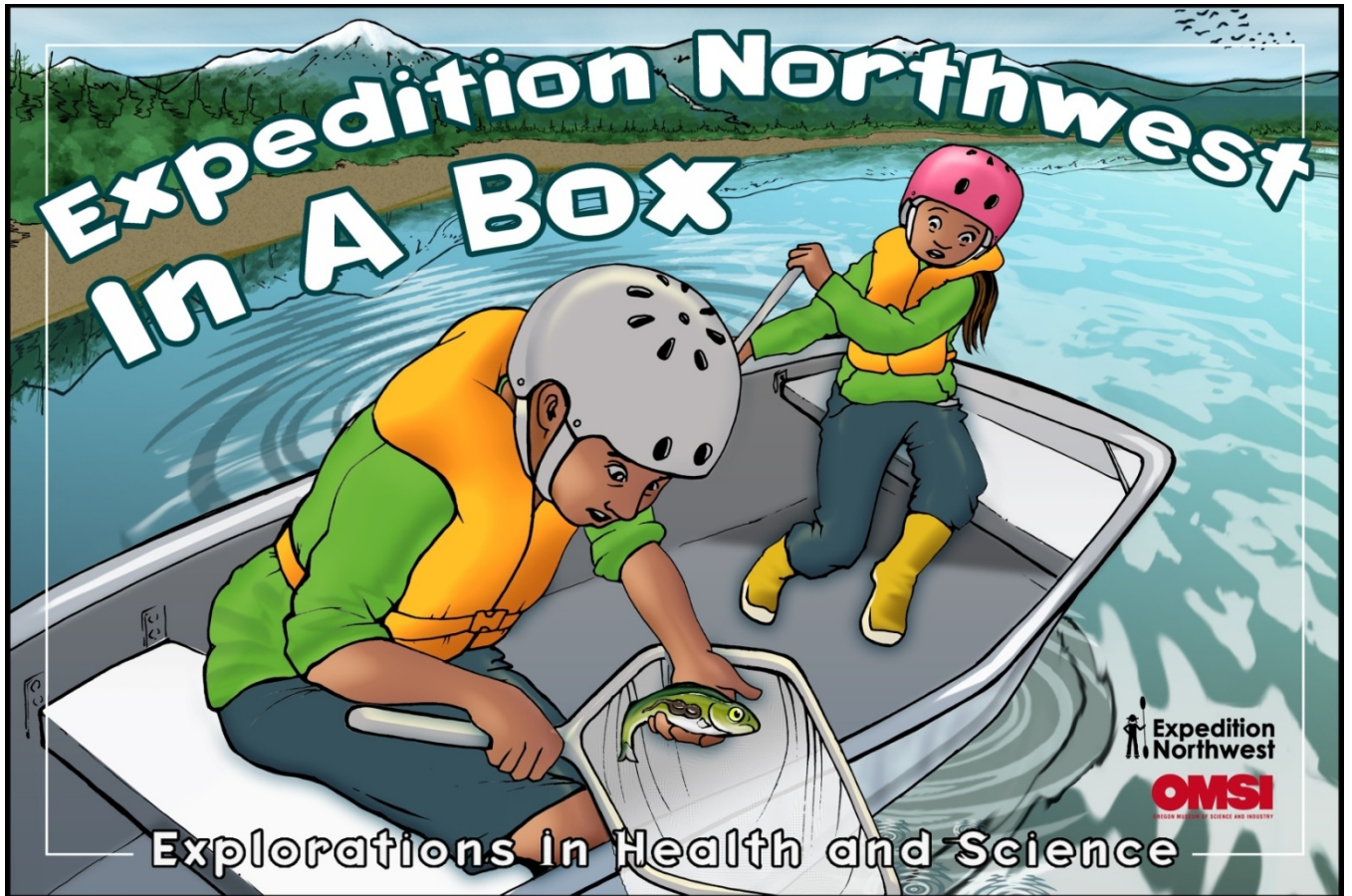


Ambassador Handbook



Thank you for agreeing to share your career choice with local students!

The goal of **In-A-Box** curricula is to encourage *Explorations in Science and Health* with rural students of Oregon. Oregon Health & Science University, Area Health Education Centers (AHEC), and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute have teamed up to create this program. You are a vital part of the inspiration.

This guide outlines:

1. Your role as ambassador
2. The stations students will use for their activities
3. The contents of the box which students will be able to look through

I. The format for you (the ambassador) is as follows:

- A. Connect with the teacher whose class you will be visiting to confirm schedules (which can vary with this lesson depending on the teacher's day).
- B. If you do not arrive at the class with the box, you may want to review its contents by viewing the box contents below.
- C. Be sure to stop at the school office on your way into the building to get a visitor's name badge.

When you arrive at the classroom:

II. Introduce yourself and what your career is called. Describe how you came to choose this career and what you really like about it. Mention the team you work with, or depend on, and how science is part of your job. Spend 10 minutes and ask if students have questions.

Emphasize wherever possible that "Science is about asking questions and solving problems."

- If you can stay and participate, walk around and see what kinds of problem solving the students are doing on behalf of their activity goals.




This format is very flexible and should work with your unique job as well as the teacher's time frame and unique students.

Enjoy and thank you again!

The following is a preview of the station activities:

Teachers may start with any of the three lessons, and they take various times to complete, from 45 minutes to two hours.

Lesson Content and Objectives

Units	Activity	Resources	Lesson Objective
<p>Northwest World</p> 	<p>Students role-play employees designing a model of the Northwest region built around a river and its population of Chinook salmon.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Posters -Blank paper -Colored pencils 	<p>Understand that the health of a watershed, like any natural system, is affected by all of its component parts, including humans.</p>
<p>Journey to Lost River</p> 	<p>Creating a field guide focused on species evolution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Field guides -Colored pencils -Hole punch -Cardstock for field guide covers 	<p>How species evolve through the process of natural selection.</p>
<p>Mystery of the Disappearing Cottonwoods</p> 	<p>Explore the scientific mystery behind a disappearing group of trees by examining data and attempting to explain the decline.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Single hole punches -Colored construction paper -Colored butcher paper -Plastic cups -Meter sticks -Blindfolds -Scotch tape -Index cards 	<p>Learning that a complex set of factors can influence populations of organisms in their environment.</p>

Box Contents

Three lesson envelopes:

- **Northwest World:** Students role-play employees designing a model of the Northwest region built around a river and its population of Chinook salmon.
- **Lost River:** Students create a field guide to “Lost River,” an imaginary, geographically isolated Northwest river system where species have developed.
- **Disappearing Cottonwoods:** Students will explore the scientific mystery behind a disappearing group of trees by examining data and attempting to explain the decline.

Artifacts:

Expedition NW In-A-Box- This poster is yours to keep for the classroom.

Bill Nye Rivers and Streams DVD and curriculum

Water Resource poster

The Story of the Pacific Northwest Salmon poster

Magnificent Journey booklet

Evolution video- This two hour long NOVA video has two separate one hour segments. The first is on transformation of species, the second on extinction.

Three microscopes- students can take turns looking at the specimen slides. These and the enclosed slides support the evolution of species focus in the Lost River lesson.

Six specimen slides-

Salmon Run game- there are six game boards with pieces so that the whole class can play in groups. This game was created by a teacher. This game is a good pre or follow up activity to the NW World lesson.

Books:

- **Come Back Salmon:** reading level ages 9-12
- **Life in a River** ages 9-12
- **Evolution** ages 9-12