

Bring Idaho Alive 2023 Syllabus

When: 6 asynchronous sessions Dec- May

Where: Canvas Online Classroom

Supervising Instructor: Rod Hansen

Instructors: Chloe Doucette Gregg Losinski

(208) 522-1400 ext. 3002

(208) 201-5257

gregg.losinski@inl.gov

education@museumofidaho.org

Welcome to Bring Idaho Alive 2023! Bring Idaho Alive is a course designed to teach educators about the natural and cultural history of Idaho and to show them how they can use this information in their classrooms. Educators will spend 3-5 asynchronous hours per month with local natural and cultural history experts on “virtual field trips” learning about topics ranging from weather in Idaho to plants, animals, geology, and people. Please note that the last month of the course will require a few additional hours (see schedule below). Each participant will receive a kit of hands-on activities to complete with each “virtual field trip” which can then be reused over and over again as an in-class resource kit. We are invested in your success in this course. Please feel free to reach out to the course facilitators at any time for questions or assistance regarding your class performance.

Course Goals:

- Provide teachers with monthly scientist forums and related lesson ideas each month (attendance required) that increase their understanding of the natural and cultural history of Idaho.
- Provide hands on experience with Idaho's natural and cultural history with the context of the pandemic in mind.
- Increase the use of place based education in classrooms throughout Idaho so that learning becomes more fun and meaningful to students.

Learner Outcomes:

- Participants will gain a better understanding of the natural and cultural history of Idaho and be able to pass that understanding on to their students.
- Participants will each complete several hands-on activities and share a plan that incorporates something that they learned during the class into their instruction.
- Participants will learn to use and apply the Framework for K-12 Science Education.

Credit Requirements:

This is a two credit course (credit offered through Boise State University). Your fees will be paid by the Idaho State Department of Education. In addition, each participant in this course will be receiving nearly \$1000 worth of materials and services at no cost to them. As such, in order to successfully complete this course and receive the credits, you will have to fulfill the below listed requirements.

- Full and focused attendance at each asynchronous session. You can complete the monthly activities whenever is most convenient for you during the month, but they MUST be thoughtfully completed no later than the due date listed.

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- Engagement with the course content and other participants in the course via reflections on each month's topic.
- Professional and timely communication with the course facilitators and other course participants.

Grading:

You will receive a pass/fail grade for this course overall, but each assignment will be graded individually to determine your success in the course. Your grades will be determined based on the following criteria:

- Class participation (including reflections)
- Professional and timely completion of assignments
- Quality of work

Materials:

- Laptop or Notebook and Writing Utensil
- Access to the internet
- All other materials will be provided to you

Bring Idaho Alive 2023 Course Schedule

Date	Time	Presentation	Activity	Assignments	Due Date
December, 2022	Approx. 3-5 hours	<p>Geology of Idaho, Alana Jensen— We will discuss the unique geology of Idaho and how it has shaped our region. Participants will receive a “Geology Field Trip in a Bag” and use hands-on activities to explore geology.</p> <p>OPTIONAL: Join Alana Jensen for "Office Hours" to get your questions about Geology in Idaho answered. See Canvas for date, time, and zoom link. This is not required, and not graded, but a great opportunity to learn more.</p>	Geology Field Trip in a Bag (rock classification)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register for the credits through BSU • Read over the syllabus and schedule and acquaint yourself with Canvas by exploring the “Our Journey Starts Here” Module. <p>Complete all activities in Module 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Group discussion (<i>What surprised you about Idaho's geology based on what you learned in Alana Jensen's presentation...was that surprise associated with any emotion like excitement or fear? Idaho's geology is active and all around us, how can we use science to help our students who might have strong emotions surrounding the topic of geology?)</i> • Hands on activity • Connect to the Framework discussion (<i>Choose at least one of the following elements selected for this month from the Idaho Content Standards Framework for k-12 Science Educators to reflect on in the context of this Geology Virtual Field Trip. How did you use this standard in your experiences during this month's module? How could you create an activity for your own classroom based on what you learned about geology to tie to at least one of these standards).</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because the class starts during the holiday season, you'll have until January 31 to hand this in alongside the Weather in Idaho work.
January, 2023	Approx. 3-5 hours	<p>Weather in Idaho, Timothy Axford, National Weather Service— Because of its location in the Rocky Mountain range, Idaho has some interesting weather patterns and southeast Idaho is ranked as one of the coldest areas in North America. In this virtual field trip, we'll explore how weather affects our region and each participant will receive a mini weather station to experiment in their own backyards.</p> <p>OPTIONAL: Join Timothy Axford for "Office Hours" to get your questions about Weather in Idaho answered. See Canvas for date, time, and zoom link. This is not required, and not graded, but a great opportunity to learn more.</p>	Mini weather station (7 days of weather observation), sunlight and atmosphere experiments	<p>Complete all activities in Module 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Group discussion (<i>What is one stand out "weather memory" that you have? Did you visit the beach on a perfectly sunny day? Have you experienced a tornado or a flash flood? How does this weather memory shape your understanding of our natural environment?)</i> • Hands on activity • Connect to the Framework discussion (<i>Choose at least one of the following elements selected for this month from the Idaho Content Standards Framework for k-12 Science Educators to reflect on in the context of this Weather Virtual Field Trip. How did you use this standard in your experiences during this month's module? How could you create an activity for your own classroom based on what you learned about weather to tie to at least one of these standards).</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 31

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February, 2023	Approx. 3-5 hours	<p>Idaho's Animals, Gregg Losinski— Animals in Idaho have specialized adaptations that allow them to live in both hot and cold temperature extremes. We'll explore living things in our region and discover classroom activities to illustrate the principles of how they are able to survive. Each teacher will receive a set of animal footprint molds for use in their own classroom.</p> <p>OPTIONAL: Join Gregg Losinski for "Office Hours" to get your questions about Animals in Idaho answered. See Canvas for date, time, and zoom link. This is not required, and not graded, but a great opportunity to learn more.</p>	Animal footprint modeling and food chain scavenger hunt	<p>Complete all activities in Module 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Group discussion (<i>Think about the term Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) that Gregg mentioned. Have you seen your city or urban area expand in the time that you've lived there? Have you noticed how that has had an impact on wildlife first hand? If not, what types of impact do you think it might have on the types of wildlife in your specific area? What kind of behavioral adaptations do you think animals might be making in your region?</i>) • Hands on activity • Connect to the Framework discussion (<i>Choose at least one of the following elements selected for this month from the Idaho Content Standards Framework for k-12 Science Educators to reflect on in the context of this Animals Virtual Field Trip. How did you use this standard in your experiences during this month's module? How could you create an activity for your own classroom based on what you learned about animals to tie to at least one of these standards.</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 28
March, 2023	Approx. 3-5 hours	<p>Archaeology and History of Idaho, Chloe Doucette and Kristian Frandson, MOI— Over 13,000 years ago, people survived on this landscape by understanding the resources it had to offer. As time went on, people came en masse to “settle” the west. They were lured by the hopes of free land and abundant water. What they found in Idaho was not always what they expected. We'll discuss the history of our region and share activities educators can use in the classroom to bring the past alive for their students. Each teacher will receive an observation and inference kit that highlights the art and science of history.</p> <p>OPTIONAL: Join Chloe and Kristina for "Office Hours" to get your questions about Archaeology/ History in Idaho Answered. See Canvas for date, time, and zoom link. This is not required, and not graded, but a great opportunity to learn more.</p>	Observation and inference lab	<p>Complete all activities in Module 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Group discussion (<i>Think about all the ways that stories can be passed down from one person to another. You might even think of a story that you've learned or that has been passed down to you about a person, place, or event in Idaho. This could be a personal family story, the story of a famous (or infamous) event, or even a song, poem, or visual representation recounting some aspect of Idaho's past. How might it be important to use stories like these to inform our understanding not just of human events, but of changes to the living and nonliving elements of the landscape?</i>) • Hands on activity • Connect to the Framework discussion (<i>Choose at least one of the following elements selected for this month from the Idaho Content Standards Framework for k-12 Science Educators to reflect on in the context of this History/ Archaeology Virtual Field Trip. How did you use this standard in your experiences during this month's module? How could you create an activity for your own classroom based on what you learned about history/ archaeology to tie to at least one of these standards.</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 31

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April, 2023	Approx. 3-5 hours	<p>Idaho's Plants, Zachary Van Abbema, NRCS— Plants in Idaho have adaptations to help them live in the varied weather and conditions that make up their habitat. We will learn about these adaptations, and the biodiversity throughout different regions in Idaho and learn how scientists measure that diversity. Each teacher will receive a plant press and plant guide for use in their own classroom.</p> <p>OPTIONAL: Join Zachary Van Abbema for "Office Hours" to get your questions about Plants in Idaho answered. See Canvas for date, time, and zoom link. This is not required, and not graded, but a great opportunity to learn more.</p>	Plant collection and pressing, plant adaptation analysis	<p>Complete all activities in Module 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Group discussion (<i>Although we often don't think about all the ways that plants impact our daily lives, take a moment to consider the ways that plants are important to you. With that in mind, what did you find most useful from this month's presentation and how might that impact your understanding of land management in Idaho?</i>) • Hands on activity • Connect to the Framework discussion (<i>Choose at least one of the following elements selected for this month from the Idaho Content Standards Framework for k-12 Science Educators to reflect on in the context of this Animals Virtual Field Trip. How did you use this standard in your experiences during this month's module? How could you create an activity for your own classroom based on what you learned about animals to tie to at least one of these standards).</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 30
May, 2023	Approx. 5-7 hours	<p>Backyard Field Days- Over the course of June, you'll be asked to complete a variety of activities in your own backyard and/or community. Each teacher will receive a field day kit with essential materials to complete the labs.</p>	Field day activities	<p>Complete all of the activities in Module 6 Complete all of the Backyard Field Day labs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Join your colleagues in a Group Discussion regarding how you will use something you've learned from the course in your own educational context. • Develop an idea from the online discussion into a lesson or activity plan of your own <p>Complete all of the activities in the "Our Journey Concludes" Module</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey and evaluation • CEU confirmation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 31