

Critter Crates

The Outdoor Campus East 4500 S. Oxbow Ave Sioux Falls, SD 57106 362-2777 Email: toc@state.sd.us.

Bat Crate

Books; activities; an echo-locator; a bat skeleton and 2 bat skulls.

Beaver Crate

Activities books; beaver pelts and pelts from other aquatic mammals; skulls; a chiseled tree piece and bark strips; a DVD of beavers building a dam. Includes the Eco-Beaver activity for dressing a volunteer in the many beaver adaptations, i.e., a paddle board for the tail, goggles for eye membranes, etc.

Bird Box

Activities, books and posters. Bird song identifiers; beaks, feet and feathers; 3 fragile bird skulls; owl and other raptor studies; a chick life cycle set, 3 turkey calls and pictures of common land and water birds.

Binoculars Box

Contains 12 pairs of binoculars with instructions for adjusting and maintenance; an activity using binoculars; information on bird shapes and several Stokes guides to bird identification.

Camera Crate

10 Canon PowerShot SX 160 IS cameras; 2 tripods available; interface cables and a card reader; activity on photo composition; a nature photography example, and a Power Point instruction for beginner, intermediate and advanced nature photographers.

Coyote Crate

Coyote activities; print materials; coyote and beaver pelts, skulls, scat and tracks; coyote track mold; coyote bands.

Discovery Bags A and B

Pelts, skulls and track replicas of 10 common native species; photos of the animals in the bags; Bag B works well with the Track Sack below. We recommend a Discovery Bag for younger learners.

Endangered Species Crate

Examples of products made from exotic species that were poached and seized by the federal government; photos of those animals; print materials on protected species and a copy of *The Wildlife Detectives* about the national wildlife forensics lab in Oregon; a black-footed ferret skull and pelt, one of the 10 most endangered species in North America; activity suggestions.

Fishing Crate

Contains 10 rods and reels, tackle box and plastic Backyard Bass practice fish.

GPS Crates 1 and 2

Each crate contains: 8 Garmin eTrex GPS units; an interface cable; a Quick Start Guide; laminated copies of simplified instructions; a Cash, Stash and Swap game to give learners early success; print materials on activities and the history of the GPS

Ice Fishing Kit

20 ice fishing rods and reels; 1 ice auger; ice dippers; Polar Ice safety picks; a First Aid kit and a tackle box.

Mammal Crates

2 crates containing 20 pelts of common native species with corresponding natural and replica skulls, tracks and scat. Includes suggested activities, animal photos and print and resource materials.

Prairie Crate

Puppets and play scripts; many prairie activity suggestions; books on prairie life; flannel boards of prairie plants and animals with text narration; pelts, pelt samples and skulls; photos of animals included and mentioned in the crate.

Prairie Grass Bag

Several posters that show cross sections of soil, its colors and the root systems of prairie plants; photos of native prairie flowers; a roll-up of a leafy spurge root system; 24 laminated samples of prairie grasses; print material on noxious weeds.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Crate contains reptile & amphibian card game, magnetic frog life cycle, take along guides, lizard and turtle skeleton, rattle snake skin & skull, rattle snake puppet, snapping turtle shell, reptile bingo game, snake science book, life cycle frog book, I Don't Want to be a Frog" picture book, Professor Noggin's Reptiles Card Game, Frog craft and Dress a Frog activity.

Snowshoe Crates

2 Group Crates containing 15 to 20 pairs of snowshoes in youth, medium and adult sizes; 3 Family Crates containing 7 pairs of youth and adult sizes. Crates may be used when the snow cover is at least 3 inches deep. Group crates are very large and will not fit in compact cars.

Track Sack

Contains track molds for the 11 animals in Discovery Bag B to be used with Model Magic or Plaster of Paris; 11 large track stamps of the native species in the bag; 18 small track stamps of 5 native and 13 exotic animals; 16 rubbing plates of animal tracks; activity suggestions.

Tree Trunk

Activities from Project Learning Tree; Mystery Tree Challenge with 14 dichotomous keys to learn to identify trees; books, field guides and tree cookies; What Leaf Is This? activity and a video from Eyewitness Explorers.

Wetlands Trunk

Activity guides; activity suggestions and prepared activities, including Peek at a Pond, Wetland Food Web and Wetland Metaphors; puppets and scripts; 3 different puzzles for 3 different age groups.

THE OUTDOOR CAMPUS CRITTER CRATE USE POLICY

For information on crates, go to https://gfp.sd.gov/critter-crates

CRITTER CRATES AND ACTIVITY CRATES

Bat Crate	Grasslands Bag
Beaver Crate	Ice Fishing Crate
Binoculars Box	Land Navigation (GPS) Crates I & II
Bird Box	Mammal Crates A & B (similar contents)
Camera Crate	Prairie Crate
Coyote Crate	Reptile and Amphibian Crate
Discovery Bag A & B	Track Sack
Endangered Species Crate Fishing Crate	Tree Trunk
	Wetlands Trunk

 Requires a \$75 check or money order reservation deposit to The Outdoor Campus before sending.

- Deposit check will be shredded, or returned upon request, when crate is returned with all contents in good condition.
- ***** Reserve early. Spring and fall months are heavily booked.
- Any GFP employee can use a crate without paying the deposit.

SNOWSHOE CRATES

(Must have 3 inches of snow on the ground before release) 2 Group Crates of 16 pairs each 3 Family Crates of 7 pairs each

Must be picked up, not mailed

- Can be reserved by any adult for a period of one week
- TOC needs a \$75 deposit before the crate will be released

If you would like to see the inventory sheet for any of the crates listed above, call 362-2777 or email toc@state.sd.us. They will be glad to send what you need or to answer any questions about Critter Crate contents or use.