

## DISCOVERY KIT TEACHER INFORMATION

Discovery Kits are hands-on learning trunks that focus on Routt County history in the broader context of state and national history. Each box consists of 10-20 artifacts, a comprehensive teacher's manual, videos, books, and other resources that focus on a central subject of topic. The Kits are interactive and have lessons and activities that give students a greater appreciation and understanding of history and the people who came before us. The lessons have been aligned to state standards according to their subjects and include: Mining, Mountain Man, Homesteading, Archaeology, Native American, and Ute. For more information on reserving and borrowing a Discovery Kit, contact the Tread of Pioneers Museum at 879-2214, or [topmuseum@springsips.com](mailto:topmuseum@springsips.com).



**Provided courtesy of the  
Tread of Pioneers  
Museum**

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# *Hands-on* Discovery Kits



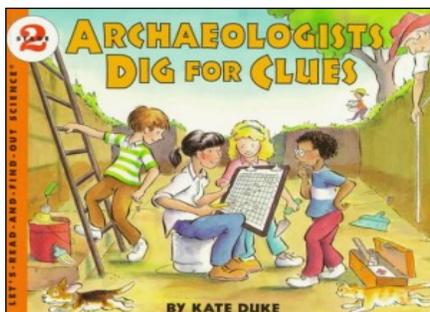
If a picture is worth a thousand words,  
what is the value of hands-on  
experience?

## DISCOVERY KITS

**Mining Discovery Kit (appropriate for grades 2-12):** The cry of “gold” lured thousands of people to the Rocky Mountains in 1859. Out of the wave of settlement following the discovery of gold, the State of Colorado was later born. Although gold and silver were the treasures that many sought, it was coal that sustains the mining industry in this area. This box contains maps, artifacts, information sheets, activity worksheets, books, posters, and curriculum to enhance the learning process.

**Ute Discovery Kit (appropriate for grades 2-6):** This amazing box is filled with hours of activities and information to meet many of your educational needs. Subjects covered include: the Utes of Colorado, Colorado Ute Bands, treaties with the United States, Ute culture (art, customs and more), contact with other cultures, political alliances, the Yampatika Band, the White River Agency, and the Battle at Milk Creek. Through student activities, information sheets, teacher resources, videos, books, maps, pictures, and artifacts, students in grades 2-6 can learn much of the history of the original inhabitants of the valley– the Utes.

**Native American Discovery Kit (appropriate for grades 2-6):** This box provides students with an overview of Native American culture and history. Through useful artifacts, tools, books, posters, crafts, and CD-ROM, students also learn about Native American customs, language, skills, and much more.



**Mountain Man Discovery Kit (appropriate for grade 4):** The mountain man era was a time of exploration. The contributions mountain men made to their fellow citizens’ knowledge of geography was tremendous. Through student activities, artifacts, books and more, this box provides insight into the life of a mountain man including overviews of the fur and mineral trade.

**Homesteading Discovery Kit (appropriate for grades 2-4):** Inspired by the resilient frontiersman that developed the foundations for the cities and towns currently in our area, this box is designed to provide students with a real perspective of the life of the pioneers. This box contains artifacts, books, videos, games, and craft supplies to facilitate the learning process.

**Archaeology Discovery Kit (appropriate for grades 3-7):** Instructs students about the professional field and gives an introduction to the “tools of the trade” and its methodology through “hands on” experience. In addition, this box teaches students about history and prehistoric man. By examining the box’s artifacts, students can participate in a “dig” and learn about a society’s lifestyles.



### How to check out a Discovery Kit:

For more information on reserving and borrowing a Discovery Kit, please contact the Tread of Pioneers Museum:

Phone: **970-879-2214**,

E-mail: [topmuseum@springsips.com](mailto:topmuseum@springsips.com),  
P.O. Box 772372, Steamboat Springs,  
Colorado 80477

In 2011, the Tread of Pioneers Museum updated the kits by aligning the lesson plans to the new Colorado Dept. of Education State standards (revised Dec. 2009), and reviewing and updating resources, supplies, and more.

The original Discovery Kits were created courtesy of the Tread of Pioneers Museum in cooperation with Partners in Interpretation, the Museum of Northwest Colorado, the Museum of Northwest Colorado Foundation, the Longmont Museum, the Colorado Historical Society, the Steamboat Springs Arts Council, and the Yampa Valley Legacy Education Initiative. A special thanks to all the numerous teachers, educators, community members and volunteers who helped make this project a great success.