Tricks of the Trade
5th Grade - Field Trip Station

Overview
This field trip station introduces students to some of the tools scientists use to capture and identify animals. They are introduced to a number of different trap types; learn how to identify many common animals from their skulls; and practice using a dichotomous key to identify an unknown animal.

NM Science Standards Addressed
1-1-1-2 Use appropriate technologies (e.g., calculators, computers, balances, spring scales, microscopes) to perform scientific tests and to collect and display data.
1-1-1-4 Describe how credible scientific investigations use reproducible elements including single variables, controls, and appropriate sample sizes to produce valid scientific results.
1-1-2-1 Understand that different kinds of investigations are used to answer different kinds of questions (e.g., observations, data collection, controlled experiments).

CCSS Language Arts Standards Addressed
SL.4.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly.
SL.4.1.B Follow agreed-upon rules for discussions and carry out assigned roles.
SL.4.1.C Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information, and make comments that contribute to the discussion and link to the remarks of others.
SL.4.1.D Review the key ideas expressed and explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.