NO BOUNDARIES TO THE BOUNDARY WATERS is an educational program of Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness designed to bring the ecology and wonder of the Boundary Waters into CLASSROOMS across Minnesota. The program also provides the means and opportunity for diverse and underserved students to go on WEEKLONG CANOE TRIPS into the Boundary Waters.

WHAT A VISIT LOOKS LIKE. Visits are conducted at no cost to the school by Alison Nyenhuis, Education Manager at Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness. School visits may include multiple grade levels and class periods, or can be presented to a single classroom. All materials will be provided.

Sample lessons include:

SKULL INVESTIGATION: Students work in groups to make observations and gather evidence to solve the mystery of: What animal skull is this?

DESIGN A TRIP: Students will have an opportunity to develop problem-solving skills needed on a canoe trip. They will plot a route, calculate distance, and make hard decisions about what they can and cannot pack. Depending on the location, they may also learn how to build a fire or portage a canoe.

HUMANS IN THE BWCA: Through a number of artifacts, students will learn about the different ways humans have interacted with the Boundary Waters and how human behavior impacts an ecosystem.

The kids were interested right away. To hear and see kids excited about one of my favorite places on the planet is exciting and motivating! The notion of stewardship is vital if we are going to continue to have places such as the BWCAW; what you are bringing into the classroom is a seed, of sorts, that may bloom bigger than you ever imagined! — 6TH GRADE TEACHER