



March 31, 2023

University of Northern Iowa  
Yager Science Education Resources and Outreach  
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Dear Administrators and Teachers:

With generous support by the Yager family, the UNI Science Education Resource Center (SERC) has changed its name to the UNI Yager Science Education Resources and Outreach (YSERO). We are now taking science kit reservations for the 2023-2024 school year! The YSERO has a variety of materials available for checkout including recent releases such as Observing Nature (PreK-K) and the STEM Enrichment NGSS Modules: Variables & Design (Grades 6-8), Sound & Design (Grades 3-5), and Forces in Action (Grades K-2). We have several versions of FOSS kits available for check out including Pre-NGSS, and kits aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). For a list of available kits, please go to the links on our NEW website. [Complete List of Kits Available](#)

Checkout costs will be **\$25 for all Non-FOSS and Pre-NGSS (original) kits**. These kits will be checked out for a semester. Please note that the Pre-NGSS Kits will no longer be supported by FOSSWeb. **The second edition and NGSS FOSS kits will all be \$75.** The K-2 NGSS kits will be checked out for a semester, and the 3-8 grade kits for a trimester. Please see the attached dates. These prices do not include living organism cards. If you would like a living organism card, **please add \$50** to the *Life Cycle of Butterflies, Plants and Animals, Animals 2x2, Living Systems, and Structures of Life, Insects, Insects and Plants, Environments, Populations and Ecosystems, and Diversity of Life* kits. Please indicate if you need the card ordered when filling out the reservation form. If you do not indicate that you would like the card, it will NOT come with the kit. A live organism card includes a code(s) that enable you to directly order and receive the live organism(s) to carry out the kit investigations. FYI, weather will influence organisms' ship dates.

There is a special offer for middle school teachers who host UNI Science Education Level 3 (secondary science methods) students. These are the students enrolled in Methods of Teacher Secondary Science and Orientation to Science Teaching. The students in these classes can check out any available FOSS kit for free! Please contact Dr. Escalada for more information.

### **Checkout Dates for 2023-2024 School Year**

#### **Pre-NGSS (Original) Science Kits**

*First Semester:* August 21th - December 15th

*Second Semester:* January 16th - May 10th

#### **NGSS Grades K-2 FOSS Science Kits**

*First Semester:* August 21th - December 15th

*Second Semester:* January 16th - May 10th

#### **NGSS Grades 3-8 FOSS Science Kits**

*First Trimester:* August 26th - November 11th

*Second Trimester:* November 18th - February 10th

*Third Trimester:* February 17th - May 12th

Please consider all the kits you may need throughout the school year. We are able to make reservations for the entire year which will help you plan out your school year more efficiently. Please fill out a spreadsheet for each individual teacher. Teachers can submit their own form or a single person per building (principal, curriculum director, etc.) can submit all forms for a building. When filling out the form, be sure to fill in all teacher information. Also, indicate a second and third choice in the appropriate areas as some kits are limited due to popular demand. ONE spreadsheet is attached. This is being sent to everyone who checked out one or more science kits in the last couple years plus all administrators. Please share this with other teachers that are interested in using a kit.

**Please email the completed spreadsheets to: [SERC@uni.edu](mailto:SERC@uni.edu) (Although Dr. Larry Escalada is the Science Education Director and Dr. Alison Beharka is the YSERO supervisor, please do NOT send your reservations to either of them as they then have to forward them to the YSERO.) Also, **PLEASE DO NOT** just reply to the email we have sent, as it is likely to get lost.**

The sooner the reservation is submitted the better chance you have of getting your first choice for kits, though we will take reservations throughout the summer and school year. We try to honor all first-choice requests, but as noted above, some kits are more popular than others and we have limited duplicates of all kits. Thus, in some cases we must balance out reservations with a second choice. Once we have your reservation, a confirmation email will be sent letting you know what kits you will be receiving for the 2023-2024 school year. If changes are made, you will be notified via email. Please watch for the return email, and if there is no response email from you, we assume you agree to the reservation.

Thank you!

UNI YSERO Students  
Alison Beharka, YSERO Supervisor  
Larry Escalada, Director of Science Education

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