

Journey To The Great Salt Lake



Charismatic Microfauna Challenge



The Charismatic Microfauna Challenge is a STEM activity designed in support of the Intermountain Section of the American Waterworks Association's Water Week Festivities. It is designed:

- For 8-years-old to Adult Patrons
- To be completed in 15 to 30 mins
- To allow patrons to interact with the activity at their own pace
- To require minimal support from a librarian

Every library will utilize this activity in a different way, but we have found that large libraries prefer to keep this type of passive program up for two weeks, while libraries serving rural communities tend to keep the activity up for at least a month.

Activity Summary

Macroinvertebrates may be small, but these species play an important role in aquatic ecosystems. In this passive escape-room activity, patrons will have the opportunity to learn about different types of microfauna that call the Great Salt Lake's watershed home as they use the information in the posters to break a code.

Materials

- Charismatic Microfauna Posters
- Ecosystem Sheets
- Charismatic Microfauna Code Sheets
- Charismatic Microfauna Code Key
- Pencils
- Prizes - *Optional*

Instructions

1. Set up the escape room by hanging up the posters in an accessible location in the library. We suggest hanging the Charismatic Microfauna Posters (the ones with the descriptions of the different species) on the wall, while taping the three ecosystem sheets to a table, which makes it easier for patrons of all ages to interact with the information.
2. Designate a location in the library where patrons can pick up and turn in their Code Sheets.
3. Pass out Code Sheets to patrons. If a patron becomes stuck, remind them many some species live in multiple ecosystems.
4. Once the patron has broken the code (*We All Live Downstream*), give them an opportunity to turn in their code sheet. Provide praise for their achievement and remind patrons to not spoil the answer so others can enjoy the activity.

Curriculum brought to you by the



CENTRAL UTAH WATER
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

