**ECOCHALLENGE #1**

Traveling Natural History Trunk

TRUNK ACTIVITIES

1. Play the Eco Challenge App. The App can be played on the included tablets (password 1864) or on any desktop computer at <https://myaccount.williamslearningsolutions.com/>. You should have received an invitation to set up an account via email, but if you aren’t able to access your account, please contact Stacy Irvin at 702-822-8746 or sirvin@nevadaculture.org.
2. Read the book *Mrs. Carter’s Butterfly Garden* to your students.
3. Use the magnifier and handheld microscope to examine the butterflies and moths. These are real insects and are very fragile. Please do not open the boxes. **(Safety Note: The batteries in the handheld microscope are potentially dangerous if swallowed. Please monitor your students closely and use your best judgement when deciding whether it’s appropriate for them to use the microscopes.)**
4. Use the enclosed diagram to discuss the different parts of butterflies and moths. Can your students find the different parts on the real butterflies? You can also use the costume to discuss the different parts of the butterfly and their functions.
5. Examine the different bird skulls. Discuss the different beak shapes, as well as different foods that birds might eat. The skull casts in the cardboard boxes may be handled by students. Please leave the finch skull in its plastic box.
6. Do the “Best-Adapted Beaks” activity (directions and data sheets included in binder).
7. Examine the examples of seeds found in Mojave Desert plants. Why do your students think there are so many different types of seeds?
8. Examine the plush birds and listen to the bird song each species makes. Why do birds sing, and why might there be so many different kinds of songs?