

# Bull Trout's Gift

## A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

**Themes:** Nature, Responsibility, American Indian Culture

**Book Brief:** Follow along as a group of fifth graders learn the importance of protecting every part of our environment.

**Author:** The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

**Illustrator:** Sashay Camel



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading, make predictions:** What is a bull trout? What do you think the bull trout's gift will be? How can a fish give a gift?

**While reading, make connections:** Can you think of any "gifts" you get from nature? How do you help protect the earth every day?

**After reading, ask questions:**

- ◆ Why isn't the Jocko River healthy anymore?
- ◆ Why are the bull trout in trouble?
- ◆ Why do the Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation want to restore the river?
- ◆ Why is it important to take care of our environment?

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### FISHING FOR SNACKS

Ingredients: pretzel sticks, peanut butter or cream cheese, baked cheese fish crackers, small bowl

Place the cheese crackers in a bowl. Use the pretzel sticks as fishing rods. Add "bait" (peanut butter or cream cheese) and dip the rod into the fish bowl to catch a tasty treat!

### FOR THE BIRDS

Materials: cardboard toilet paper rolls, peanut butter, plastic knives, bird seed, oat cereal, string

How can humans give back to the nature? Spread peanut butter on the outside of a toilet paper roll. Roll it in bird seed and oat cereal. Thread string through the hole in the roll. Hang your bird feeders in trees around your home.



Put them near windows so your child can watch the birds enjoy their gifts!

### FIELD TRIP DAY!

The kids in the book take a field trip to learn more about how to protect the environment. If there's an environmental center or science center in your area, go for a visit. If not, you can explore hundreds of exciting science exhibits online at [www.exploratorium.edu/explore](http://www.exploratorium.edu/explore) and <https://www.mos.org/mos-at-home/virtual-exhibits>.



### TECHNOLOGY LINK

To learn more about the bull trout and efforts to protect it, visit <https://www.fws.gov/species/bull-trout-salvelinus-confluentus> or watch this short video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u2Gz0PcSSV0>.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

*Beaver Steals Fire: A Salish Coyote Story* (2005),  
*Ktunaxa Legends* (1997).



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