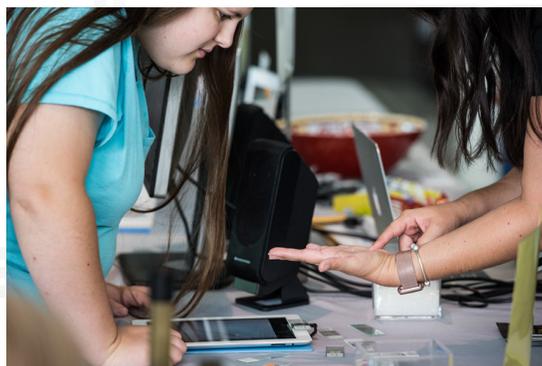


# THE MID-COLUMBIA STEM NEXUS MICROSCOPY STEM KIT

## Oh, the Discoveries You'll Make!

**Who are we?** The Mid-Columbia STEM Nexus initiative is a multi-pronged, community-engaged approach to bolster STEM education among historically underserved student populations. Through leveraging our community partnerships, our desire is to bring the fascinating world of STEM to as many curious young minds as possible through experiential learning opportunities.

**Why the microscopy STEM kit?** We understand that one of the most critical ways to generate interest in STEM subjects is through hands-on experiences. We also realize the unique challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has presented in bringing these experiences to the classroom. That's why we are coming to you. Our goal is to create accessible, engaging content that aligns with next-generation science standards and encourages students to get curious about the world around them. We hope these kits prove useful to you and your students!



**What's included?** Inside each kit, you'll find materials such as the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory developed smartphone microscope—a small device that packs powerful magnification, a composition notebook for young investigators to make notes about their discoveries, prepared microscope slides to explore, microscope slides to examine their own findings, and a compass with a ruler. To guide students through associated learning activities, we have developed accompanying lesson plans in alignment with math common core and next generation science and engineering standards.

**A unified approach starts with you.** Together, we can enrich students' learning experiences, ignite their passion for learning, and remind them of the exciting STEM career possibilities that exist right here in our own backyards. Your support is crucial in helping us achieve the greatest level of impact. Our ask is that you share these kits with the teachers and students in your network, so they make it into the hands of as many local students as possible. Over the coming months and years, we look forward to partnering with you and other members of the community to serve the students of the Mid-Columbia region.

[www.pnnl.gov/stem-education](http://www.pnnl.gov/stem-education)

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