

PROTECT THAT VACCINE!

In 1925 when the original Serum Run took place, they actually sent antitoxin down the trail. An antitoxin is used once bacteria have infected someone. They put the antitoxin in glass vials and wrapped them in animal fur. The fur was then also put into a metal box. The package had to be warmed periodically along the trail as well. The total package weighed twenty pounds

Aliy Zirkle and Martin Buser will be carrying vials of vaccine down the trail this year to bring awareness to the need for immunizations to villages and towns along the trail and beyond. As you can imagine, neither wants to carry an additional twenty pounds on their sled!

And with today's modern materials, maybe they don't have to! They will each carry ten vaccine vials in one box. The box and vials weigh 2.3 ounces!

Your challenge is to find the most effective and light-weight method to carry the vials.

Using the egg to represent the vials, can you and your partner create a safe and lightweight method for carrying the vials from Anchorage to Nome?

To test your packaging, your package will be weighed. You will then drop your package from a height to simulate the trauma that could face the package on the Iditarod Trail. Once the package has been dropped, you will open it and see if your vials (egg) survived the fall! The winner will be the package that successfully cushioned the egg AND weighed the least.