



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 14, 2017
Contact: Jennifer Knight, Youth Services Librarian
360.417-8500 x7733 or jknight@nols.org
Re: Burke Museum Backyard Scientist Backpacks Available
Attachments: *Burke Backyard Scientist pack.JPG*

Backyard Scientist backpacks geared towards preschool-age kids and their families are now available at the North Olympic Library System through December 31. Funded through a grant from Thrive Washington, the Burke Museum created the backpacks to encourage parents and caregivers to explore nature with children. Each kit includes magnifying glasses, specimens from the Burke's collection, a book, and activities that jump start conversation and scientific inquiry.

"The backpacks and activity sheets do a great job of providing parent and caregivers with basic tools for open-ended conversation with preschoolers," says Jennifer Knight, Youth Services Librarian. "The Burke Museum's activity guide succinctly gives people some ideas for how to get kids talking, thinking and interpreting what they see, which is critical component of early literacy. The backpack also encourages people to explore nature, which can introduce kids to all kinds of new experiences and vocabulary words which will help them be more prepared for kindergarten."

Backyard Scientist backpacks are available at each branch of the North Olympic Library System. Search for "backyard scientist" in the library catalog or ask for them at your local branch.

About the Burke Museum

The Burke Museum is a research and collections based museum located in Seattle. It serves many audiences and communities including Washington state residents, tourists and visitors to Seattle, educators and students, Indigenous and Pacific communities, and researchers, scholars, and enthusiasts. The 16 million objects (and counting!) in the Burke collections are used for education and research throughout the state of Washington. The museum is responsible for the Washington state collections of natural and cultural heritage and sharing the knowledge that makes them meaningful.

For More Information

For information on this and other library services for families, contact the Port Angeles Main Library at 360.417.8500, the Sequim Branch Library at 360.683.1161, the Forks Branch Library at 360.374.6402, the Clallam Bay Branch at 360.963.2414, visit the NOLS website at www.nols.org, or email Director@nols.org. The Port Angeles Main Library is located at 2210 South Peabody Street in Port Angeles. The Sequim Branch Library is located at 630 North Sequim Avenue in Sequim. The Forks Branch Library is located at 171 South Forks Avenue in Forks. The Clallam Bay Branch Library is located at 16990 Highway 112 in Clallam Bay.



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