



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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: June 13, 2018  
Contact: Jennifer Knight, Youth Services Librarian  
360.417.8500 x7733 or JKnight@nols.org  
Re: Burke Museum Backyard Scientist Backpacks  
Attachments: *Burke Backyard Scientist pack.JPG*  
*Burke logo.jpg*

Through September 2018, you can check out a backpack geared towards preschoolers to encourage exploration of the natural world. Designed by the Burke Museum, each Backyard Scientist kit contains a magnifying lens, specimen viewer, collection boxes, bug net, binoculars, ideas for nature walk activities, a book, a feather, rock, shell, and an insect. Funded through a Thrive Washington grant and the Burke Museum, the backpacks are perfect to explore the outdoors with your young one without leaving your own backyard!

“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 ideas on 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 that can 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, visit [www.nols.org](http://www.nols.org), email [Youth@nols.org](mailto:Youth@nols.org), or contact your local NOLS branch.



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*Backyard Scientist backpacks from the Burke Museum are available for checkout at NOLS.*

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