

Library Presentation Series on Michigan's Forests

~ 6:30-8:00 pm, Mondays ~ January-June 2008 ~

Portage Lake District Library's Community Room in Houghton

6:30-7:10 pm Presentation

7:15-8:00 pm Hands-on activities (15 min. each) connected to the theme.

January 28 - *Who's Been There? Wildlife Tracking*

with experienced tracker, Brian Rajdl & daughter, Anna

Hands-On Activities:

1. Find and identify animal tracks hidden throughout the library
2. Read tracks to discover the story they tell
3. Animal walk relay race
4. Make a plaster cast of wildlife tracks, just like scientists do
5. Wildlife stories---share your wildest tales and identify animal sounds

February 18 - *A Bug's Life in Michigan's Forests*

with Andrew Storer, entomologist, MTU School of Forest Resources

Hands-On Activities:

1. Practice observation skills with live bugs
2. Do life cycle puzzles and play a memory game
3. Feed crickets to frogs
4. Explore Golden Rod galls
5. Learn Insect parts

March 17 - *Black Gold: Maple Syrup*

with Jim Rivard, forester, MTU School of Forest Resources

Hands-On Activities:

1. Syrup Taste Test
3. Be a Tree
4. Examine tree cookies
5. Learn how to collect sap
6. Maple Leaf ID/Leaf rubs

April 21 - *Birds of the North Woods*

with David Flaspohler, ornithologist, MTU School of Forest Resources

Hands-On Activities:

1. Bird Talk
2. Bird Behavior Bingo
3. Bird Beak activity
4. Name that Bird
5. Owl pellets

May 19 - *Wolves & Moose of Isle Royale: 50th Anniversary Presentation*
with *Isle Royale National Park rangers*

Hands-On Activities:

1. Oh Moose! - predator/prey game
2. Population Pressure activity
3. Skull box/Skull teeth activity
4. Wolf Talk
5. Checks and Balances game
6. Explore the Moose-e-um

June 9 - Kids in the Woods

Participants will meet at Tech Trails or Nara Nature Park and take a hike focused on one of the presentation themes: wildlife, insects, birds, trees. ~15 hikers per group leader.

Hosted by Portage Lake District Library in Houghton, MI
Coordinated by the Western U.P. Center for Science, Math and Environmental Education and Michigan Technological University
with funding from the Kinship Foundation