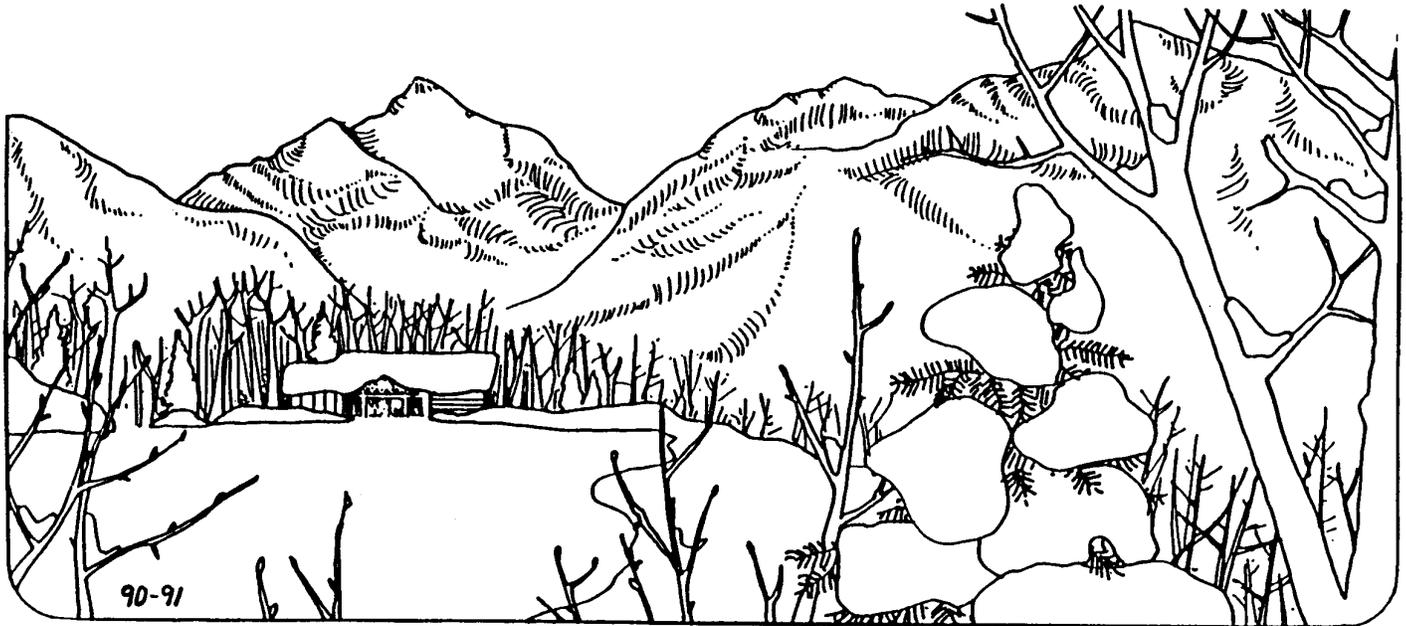


Eagle River Nature Center
32750 Eagle River Road
Eagle River, AK 99577
(907) 694-2108 www.ernc.org

February 2019

Winter Building Hours:
Fridays-Sundays, 10am – 5pm
Groups by appointment



Friday, February 1, 7pm

Astronomy Series: OXYGEN ON EARTH: A Four Billion Year History

The air we breathe is 21% oxygen, an amount higher than on any other known world. While we may take our air for granted, Earth was not always an oxygenated planet. How did it become that way? How did life come to depend on oxygen? Volunteer naturalist **Beth Baker** will try to explain this fascinating story in an hour.

Astronomy Series meets the first Friday from October to March. If skies are clear, be ready to go outside and view the night sky. Students ages 10 and up can earn their Jr. Astronomer certificate and astronomy supplies by attending 4 astronomy programs and writing brief synopses of what they learned.

Saturday, February 2, 11am

Special Event: ICY RIVER RAMPAGE

This 20/10-mile winter bike race is a fundraiser for the Nature Center. Race will start and end at the Center, with some riding on the frozen Eagle River. There will be awards, bonfire and food after the race. *Pre-registered entry fee is \$35; on day of the race the fee is \$40. 120 racer limit. Thanks to the **Trek Store of Anchorage** for race sponsorship! Details and registration at www.ernc.org.*

Interested in volunteering? Contact admin@ernc.org

Sunday, February 3 *No formal program today*

Wednesday, February 6, 1-3pm

Homeschool Class (\$15; Registration required)

NATURAL RESOURCES CAREERS

What does a Forester or a Wildlife Biologist do? Explore a few different Natural Resources career paths with us. Participate in some Citizen Science Projects, including monitoring water quality and surveying wildlife and vegetation. *For students ages 8-12, accompanied by parent; details and registration at www.ernc.org.*

Saturday, February 9, 11am

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING FOR BEGINNERS (Registration required)

Join volunteer **Lilly Goodman-Allwright** for an introductory class in nordic/classic cross-country skiing (not skate skiing). Bring your own equipment and dress in non-cotton layers. *Subject to cancellation in case of bad weather or icy trails. Register at www.ernc.org.*

Saturday, February 9, 7pm

Special Event: CANYONS AND ICE: THE LAST RUN OF DICK GRIFFITH

Watch the PBS documentary about the wilderness adventures of Dick Griffith when he attempts to run the Grand Canyon's infamous Lava Falls at age 89. **Dick Griffith** and author **Kaylene Johnson** will be attending the event. *Advance tickets with pre-assigned seating are available \$15 at www.ernc.org. Tickets are \$20 on the day of the event.*

Sunday, February 10, 2pm

All Ages: ARMCHAIR TRAVEL TO TURKEY

Turkey is a culturally vibrant country filled with a rich history, gorgeous landscapes, and delicious food. Join us as travel enthusiast **Lisa Nkonge** of Anchorage shares photos and stories of meals with locals, dabbling at learning the language, and even going skiing.

Saturday, February 16, 2-4pm Open House

Jr. Naturalist Program (K-6th)

THE NATURE OF SOUND

Explore the nature of sound and music-making with simple instruments made from various natural and found materials. Naturalist **Samantha Russell** and music teacher **Wolfgang Olsson** are setting up an "instrument petting zoo" for some fun hands-on discovery and inspiration to make your own instruments.

Sunday, February 17, 2pm

All Ages Program: IN SEARCH OF THE WATER OUZEL

The only truly aquatic songbird, the American dipper, or water ouzel, often visits the viewing decks on the Rodak Trail during the winter months. Join naturalist **Samantha Russell** on an investigation of this intrepid bird. After the presentation, join us on a brief (3/4 mile) expedition in search of the water ouzel.

Thursday, February 21, 10:30am-12:30pm

Homeschool Class (\$15; Registration required)

MOUNTAINS, GLACIERS AND RIVERS

Unearth the mysteries of how rocks form, how mountains are built and worn down again, and how glaciers have shaped our landscape. We'll do some hands-on activities such as "mining a cupcake" and a "jello glacier". *For students in K-6th, accompanied by parent; details and registration at www.ernc.org.*

Friday, February 22, 2-4pm

Teen Hike: WINTER FUN (Registration required)

Get outside! We'll go on a short snowshoe excursion (weather permitting) and then create some tasty snacks like s'mores, stockbrot, or pudgypies over a fire. *Subject to cancellation in case of bad weather, icy trails, or low enrollment. For grades 6 and up; details and registration at www.ernc.org.*

Saturday, February 23, 2pm

Jr. Naturalist Program: ANIMAL PUPPETS

Have you heard of Aesop's Fables? They're short stories featuring animals -- maybe you would like to tell a story too? Join us for a fun afternoon bringing the Nature Center's puppets to life!

Sunday, February 24, 2pm

All Ages Program: NATURE'S MEDICINE CABINET

Did you know that willows contain salicin, nature's aspirin? Cottonwood buds have long been used to make a healing salve, and while devil's club may not be a hiker's friend, it has long been valued as a medicine. Naturalist **Ute Olsson** will introduce some common medicinal plants of Alaska, followed by a demonstration making "Balm of Gilead" from cottonwood buds (take-home salves will be available for a donation).

COMING IN MARCH:

Spring Break (March 8-17th): Look for owl walks and several fun **Jr. Naturalist programs**, including survival skills such as shelter and fire-starting.

March 16 or March 23, 8pm-1am:

Nighttime & Aurora Photography Workshops with Colin Tyler Bogucki. *Details and registration on www.ernc.org*