



By: Nick Teague  
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On a sunny and bright San Juan Islands day, BLM volunteer Sara Waugh hosted, in partnership with the Lopez Island Library, a Kids Nature Exploratorium as part of the "Take It Outside" initiative. Youth and adults enjoyed hands-on Environmental Education stations with materials including compasses, fur samples, insect lenses and a "find your favorite tree" team-oriented outdoor activity. Using an innovative approach Sara was able to weave multiple sensory activities into the day's event. One of the most popular interpretive programs was the interactive bird calling devices mimicking activities in the wild.

Youth and parents took turns calling to each other from different locations in a game of "where are you? - here I am". Environmental art activities were also available as children colored animal images and created tree disc jewelry. Visitors of all ages had fun while learning more about nature leading one young boy to ask, "When can you do this program again?" With help from our volunteers and partners, the San Juan Islands National Monument will keep our commitment towards educating children and adults alike in a festive and environmentally friendly way.