

Science Corners: Going from Eeeeeek to Awww!

Pine River Library
Becky Van Den Berg & Michaela Wilson



About Us & Our Library

- Becky Van Den Berg - Young Adult Services Coordinator
- Michaela Wilson - Public Services Librarian
- Our Branding opened up new avenues for:
 - Learning environments
 - “Outside of the box” thinking
 - “Connecting Community”
 - Beyond the books outreach & community engagement



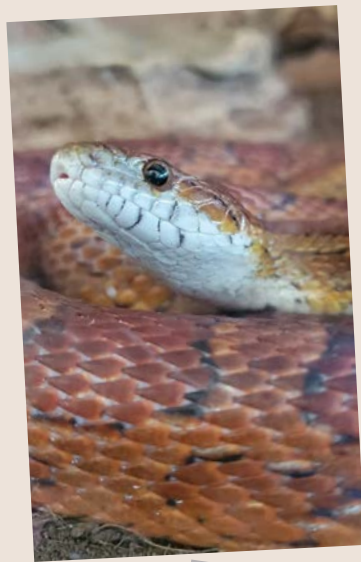
STEM in Our Library

- The year of STEAM
- Bridges the equity gap in learning opportunities for rural youth
- Allows people to look at something and find their own ways to learn about it:
 - Natural curiosity is the best!
 - For example: why is he orange?



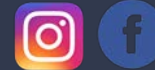


Meet Our Critters



Asmo, the Library Snake

- Asmo's story and how he became a library snake
- <https://www.instagram.com/p/CQwbvQANdk9/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
- Check him out on social media!
 - @asmothelibrarysnake
- And if you have questions, you can email him!
 - asmothelibrarysnake@gmail.com



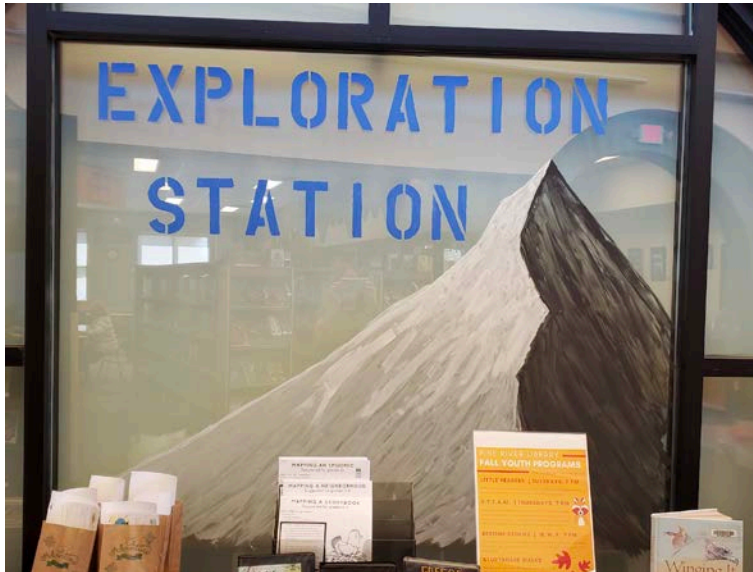
Community Engagement

- Everyday interactions
 - “I want to see the snake!”
 - “Is he a real dragon!”
- Fun programs
 - Interactive
 - Self-directed



Exploration Station

- Science based, interactive display
 - Every two months
- Snake sheds



Outreach



- Pop-up outreach
- Expanding the experience
- Our spiel for patrons
 - Demonstration (with fake snake!)



Summer Learning: Animal Events

- Non-traditional involvement for Summer Reading
- Creates amazing partnership opportunities
- An environment for kids to experience new animals





Say Hi to a Horse!



Reptile Day

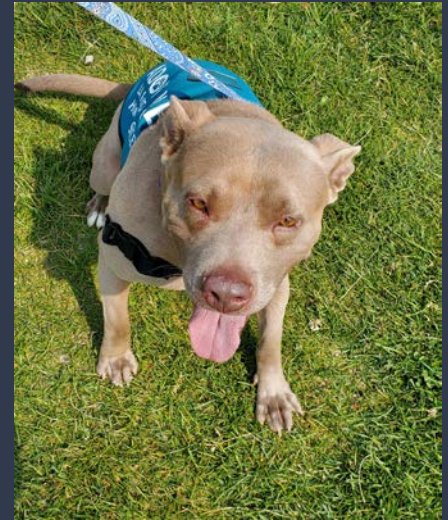


In-House

Wolfwood Wolf
Rescue



La Plata County
Humane Society



Partnerships

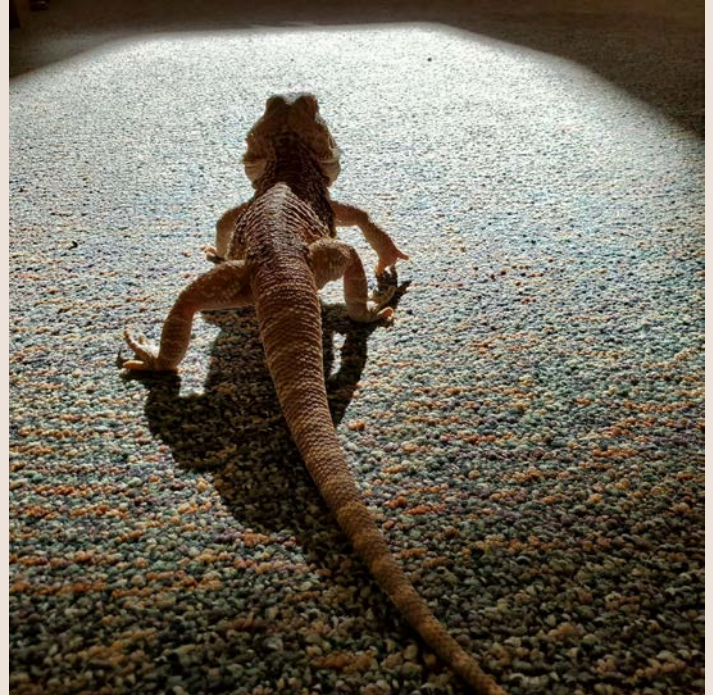
The logistics

- 64 hours a year (estimate)
 - Daily/weekly
 - Monthly
- Taking a vacation?
- Research mode
- Funding
- New additions



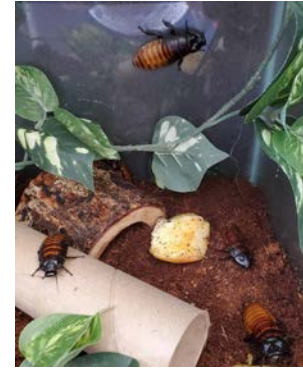
Tad Cooper, Book Hoard Protector (dragon)

- Taking on new critters
- New addition in June 2023
- Pros/Cons
 - More engagement opportunities
 - Creates more diversity (he's got legs!)
 - Time involved
 - Food/Supplements



Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I hold Asmo?
2. Does he bite?
3. How hard is maintenance?
4. How long do they live?
5. Would you like to add ___ to your science corner?
6. Do your cockroaches really hiss?
7. Can I hold a frog?



What questions might you have?

