

## Issaquah community and zoo team up to build family wildlife geocaching game

SEATTLE — Imagine this: A safe, fun family outing that’s not only educational — it helps protect local wildlife. It exists in Issaquah, and it’s called the Great Carnivore Discovery Adventure Lab. All you need to play is a phone! Discover cool spots around downtown Issaquah while sharing a great learning experience about regional wildlife including bears, bobcats, coyotes, raccoons and cougars, and why we need to coexist.



### So what exactly is an Adventure Lab?

Geocaching Adventure Lab is a new app from the team at Geocaching HQ that allows you to create, play, and share location-based experiences and games. The app guides players through finding clues, solving puzzles and completing adventures one location at a time.

This Adventure Lab was created by Woodland Park Zoo and the Carnivore Coexistence Action Team (CCAT), a group of Issaquah residents who work to reduce human-wildlife conflict and foster appreciation for local wildlife.

One of those volunteers, Tereza Marks, says that as a former biology professor, she feels everyone should have an appreciation and understanding of the world around them. “Community science is a way for anyone to get involved in learning about their own world and participating in ways that can make a difference,” Marks said.

### How to play:

There are 10 adventure stops across downtown Issaquah, which can be tackled in any order. The game takes about an hour and a half to finish, by walking from stop to stop. Have fun!

1. If you don’t already have a geocaching account, register for a free Basic membership at <https://www.geocaching.com/play/search>
2. Download the free Adventure Lab app on your mobile phone.
3. Head to downtown Issaquah. Best parking options to start your adventure include the Issaquah Community Center, Confluence Park or E. Sunset Way trailhead. Once there, you can find this Adventure on

the map or list in the app.

4. Read the descriptions and answer questions at each stop to reveal more information about our local carnivores and to discover how we can coexist!

The CCAT and the Issaquah Parks Carnivore Project camera trapping study are components of the [Coexisting With Carnivores](#) program. Woodland Park Zoo, Issaquah School District, and the City of Issaquah co-facilitate this school and community engagement program focused on community-developed strategies to prevent human-wildlife conflict in the region and garner a sense of pride for local wildlife.

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. IMLS advances, supports, and empowers America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grant-making, research, and policy development. IMLS' vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities. To learn more, visit [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov) and follow IMLS on Facebook and Twitter.

For more information about Woodland Park Zoo, visit [www.zoo.org](http://www.zoo.org) and follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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