

## EXPLORING HUMAN ORIGINS

What does it mean to be human?

January 5–February 2, 2016  
North Spokane Library

As humans, we possess an innate curiosity to understand where we come from and who we are as individuals. Groundbreaking research in the scientific study of human origins reveals significant milestones in the evolutionary journey of becoming human. From walking upright, eating new foods, and creating technology, to brain enlargement and the development of symbolic language and complex societies—all of these advancements define the unique position of humans in the history of life.

The Smithsonian’s national traveling exhibit, *Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean to Be Human?*, invites audiences to discover what we know about human evolution and how we know it. Visitors may view replicas and images from the Smithsonian’s popular human origins exhibit at the National Museum of Natural History. Experience more than 40 educational panels, interactive kiosks, hands-on displays, videos, 3D skull casts, and a large reproduction bronze statue.

The exhibit seeks to encourage a positive and respectful dialogue among community members. Accompanying programs and events provide opportunities to discover how human origins may relate to diverse cultural and religious perspectives on what it means to be human.

*Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean to Be Human?* is organized by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History in collaboration with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. This project is made possible through the support of a grant from the John Templeton Foundation and support from the Peter Buck Human Origins Fund.

### Library Locations

AIRWAY HEIGHTS  
1213 S Lundstrom St  
509.893.8250

ARGONNE  
4322 N Argonne Rd  
509.893.8260

CHENEY  
610 First St  
509.893.8280

DEER PARK  
208 S Forest Ave  
509.893.8300

FAIRFIELD  
305 E Main St  
509.893.8320

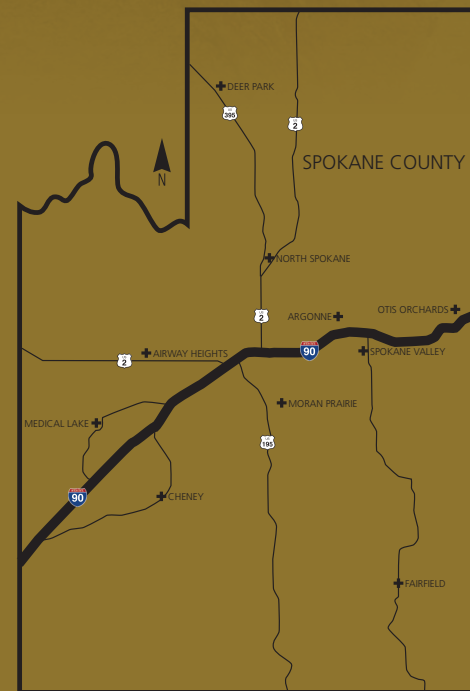
MEDICAL LAKE  
321 E Herb St  
509.893.8330

MORAN PRAIRIE  
6004 S Regal St  
509.893.8340

NORTH SPOKANE  
44 E Hawthorne Rd  
509.893.8350

OTIS ORCHARDS  
22324 E Wellesley Ave  
509.893.8390

SPOKANE VALLEY  
12004 E Main Ave  
509.893.8400



[www.sclcd.org](http://www.sclcd.org)

## EXPLORING HUMAN ORIGINS: What Does It Mean to Be Human?

TRAVELING EXHIBIT & PROGRAM GUIDE

CURATED BY:  
Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural History  
American Library Association





Scientific discoveries about human origins influence how we understand the world and our place in it. While cultural and religious differences exist, the milestones in the evolutionary journey to becoming human shape the unique position we as humans hold in the history of life.

To explore the science and meaning behind human origins, the Spokane County Library District presents a selection of programs: from a class about what could be the next big revolution in food production and community conversations about human evolution led by Smithsonian scientists, to exploring the wonders of the modern brain and learning about Stone Age survival techniques. Discover for yourself what it means to be human.



## HUMAN ORIGINS UNEARTHED

### Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean To Be Human?

How can scientific discoveries on human evolution connect with larger understandings of what it means to be human? Dr. Rick Potts, paleoanthropologist and curator of the traveling exhibit, defines the main themes and messages of *Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean To Be Human?*. Explore how fossils, archeological remains, and genetic studies all shed light on our connection with the natural world.

NORTH SPOKANE      Tuesday, Jan 5      7pm

### Exploring the Meanings of Human Evolution: A Community Conversation

How do scientific discoveries about human origins relate to people’s personal understanding of the world and their place in it? Dr. Connie Bertka and Dr. Jim Miller, committee co-chairs of the Smithsonian’s Human Origins Program, lead an engaging community conversation about human evolution. The conversation is designed to help us understand each other’s perspectives, to identify areas of common interest or concern, and to explore how human evolution connects to personal meaning.

NORTH SPOKANE      Wednesday, Jan 6      7pm

### Stone Age Survival: How and Why Humans First Used Tools

Early tool technologies provide a unique perspective for looking at the creative behavior of our human ancestors. In this hands-on workshop, Spokane Falls Community College anthropologist Teri Tucker presents compelling facts about the technologies, dexterity, particular kinds of mental skills, and innovations that were within the grasp of early human toolmakers.

MORAN PRAIRIE      Monday, Jan 11      6:30pm  
ARGONNE      Tuesday, Jan 19      6:30pm  
NORTH SPOKANE      Monday, Feb 1      6:30pm

### Salish Language and Culture

Immerse yourself in the language and culture of the Pacific Northwest’s indigenous people. Enjoy traditional and contemporary Salish language songs and skits performed by the Salish School of Spokane. Plus, learn how to say some basic Salish words and phrases.

NORTH SPOKANE      Thursday, Jan 14      6:30pm

### Brain Evolution: Neuropsychology with Dr. Christine Guzzardo

Explore the wonders of the modern brain and learn how to separate fact from fiction. Clinical neuropsychologist Dr. Christine Guzzardo presents a brief overview of the evolution of the brain from prehistoric people to modern times.

NORTH SPOKANE      Wednesday, Jan 20      6:30pm

### Early Americans: Paleoanthropology with Jim Chatters

Discover what scientists have learned about early Americans through archeological findings and research. Paleoanthropologist Jim Chatters—the first scientist to excavate and study Kennewick Man—presents about his recent work studying Naia, the ancient skeletal remains of a teenage girl discovered in an underwater cave on Mexico’s Yucatán Peninsula.

NORTH SPOKANE      Sunday, Jan 24      2pm



### Waiter, there’s NO fly in my soup!

Have you ever swallowed a bug? More than 80 percent of the world’s cultures eat insects—why don’t we? According to the United Nations, insects could very well be the food of the future. Raising grasshoppers as a food source could combat world hunger and reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 60 percent. Join David Gordon, the author of *The Eat-a-Bug Cookbook* for an adventure in entomophagy (eating bugs), and prepare yourself for the next big revolution in food production—using crickets, mealworms, and other eco-friendly alternatives to meat. Plus, enjoy free samples of edible insect snacks.

ARGONNE      Wednesday, Jan 27      6:30pm  
NORTH SPOKANE      Thursday, Jan 28      6:30pm

Sponsored by:



## EVOLUTION THROUGH FILM

### Born to Learn: Brain Science and Early Learning

New imaging technology allows scientists to see the brain in action: how it grows, how it acts, and how it reacts. This documentary explores the fascinating science behind brain development and early learning. Some of the world’s leading experts on the subject reveal what is actually going on in a baby’s brain. Born to Learn is part of the KSPS Kids Forward Initiative on Early Learning.

SPOKANE VALLEY      Thursday, Jan 7      6:30pm  
DEER PARK      Wednesday, Jan 27      6:30pm  
AIRWAY HEIGHTS      Sunday, Jan 31      2pm

### Cave of Forgotten Dreams

Travel to Chauvet Cave, home to the most pictorial art ever discovered, with this Werner Herzog documentary. The film provides a unique view of nearly inaccessible, pristine works dating back 30,000 years. Tap into your wonder and curiosity with this look into the very beginning of human culture.

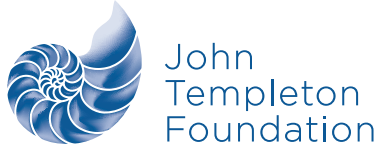
CHENEY      Sunday, Jan 10      2pm  
OTIS ORCHARDS      Tuesday, Jan 26      6pm

### Your Inner Fish Part 3: Your Inner Monkey

“Inside every organ, gene and cell in our body lie deep connections with the rest of life on our planet,” observes Paleobiologist Neil Shubin. In this PBS documentary, Shubin explains how many aspects of our form and function have evolved. We learn that a genetic mutation in our primate ancestors conferred humans’ ability to see in color, but it was an advantage that led to a decline in our sense of smell. Shubin concludes by tracing the evolution of the human brain—from a tiny swelling on the nerve cord of a wormlike creature, to the three-part architecture of a shark’s brain and the complex brain of primates.

FAIRFIELD      Saturday, Jan 23      11am  
MEDICAL LAKE      Wednesday, Jan 20      6pm

Presented by:



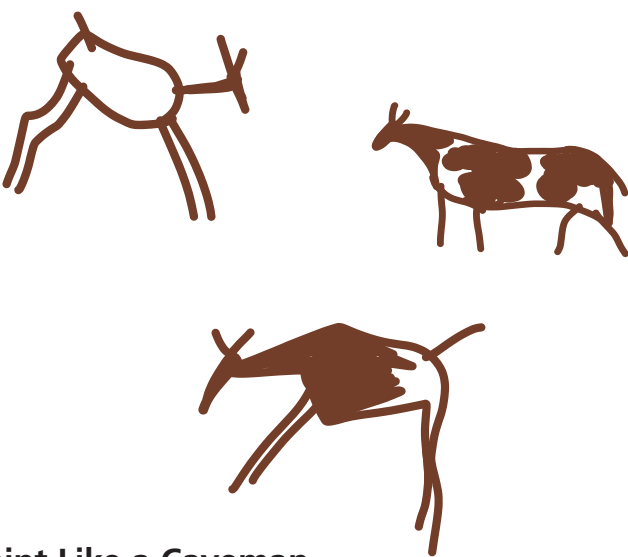
## DISCOVER YOUR INNER CAVEMAN

### Our Genes Aren’t Blue

What makes us human and makes you, well, you? Hint: it’s in your DNA. Discover what you and an onion have in common with this fun, hands-on class from Mobius Science Center.

*For grades K–8. Children under 6 must bring an adult.*

AIRWAY HEIGHTS      Tuesday, Jan 12      4–5:30pm  
ARGONNE      Monday, Feb 1      4–5:30pm  
CHENEY      Monday, Feb 29      4–5:30pm  
DEER PARK      Monday, Feb 22      4–5:30pm  
FAIRFIELD      Tuesday, Feb 16      4–5:30pm  
MEDICAL LAKE      Monday, Feb 8      4–5:30pm  
MORAN PRAIRIE      Monday, Jan 25      4–5:30pm  
NORTH SPOKANE      Tuesday, Jan 26      4–5:30pm  
OTIS ORCHARDS      Tuesday, Jan 19      4–5:30pm  
SPOKANE VALLEY      Monday, Jan 11      4–5:30pm



### Paint Like a Caveman

Did you know that children found some of the oldest cave paintings ever? Learn about the very first artists in the world, how they were discovered in modern times, and try your hand at creating pictures of prehistoric animals—caveman style!

*For grades K–5. Children under 6 must bring an adult.*

NORTH SPOKANE      Thursday, Jan 21      4–5pm