

**National Forest Association**  
**602 South Tippecanoe Avenue**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Story Time Saturdays at the Discovery Center bring the National Forest Alive  
with Discovery and Wonder**

The Discovery Center is launching a Story Time series two Saturdays a month beginning Saturday, February 20, through Saturday, April 17, 2010 (see schedule below). Children 6 years old and under are invited to hear forest-themed stories read and animated by Lana Allen, assistant manager of the Adventure Outpost, a nature-themed gift store located inside the Discovery Center. Children can snuggle up with complimentary snacks in a cozy corner of the Center and listen as Lana brings forest creatures to life, often including puppets or amusing voices.

Story Time is free; begins at 11:00am on scheduled days until 11:30am and no reservations are necessary. A parent or guardian must remain with their participating child or children. For more information please call the Big Bear Discovery Center at (909) 382-2790. The Discovery Center is co-managed by the nonprofit National Forest Association and the U.S. Forest Service.

“It’s so much fun and rewarding to see kids enjoying the books and the heartfelt lessons that go along with them,” said Lana Allen. “Many of the stories are about the adventures of young animals in the forest and relate well to the joys and fears children experience.”

Children can take the experience home with them to re-read and enjoy. The featured book along with other select children’s books and related merchandise will be available for sale at a 10% discount at the end of each session. Although the merchandise will continue to be available at the Adventure Outpost; the discount is only valid post session.

Purchases may apply to the Residents’ Rewards program at the Adventure Outpost available to Big Bear Valley residents and National Forest Association volunteers. Shoppers can earn a FREE \$50.00 certificate through store purchases; the certificate can be redeemed at the Outpost only. The program runs annually from November to May. The Outpost carries the most extensive collection of books relevant to the San Bernardino National Forest and Big Bear Valley including some of the newest local authors. Purchases support the nonprofit National Forest Association and provide a source for unique gifts.

The dates and a description of the day’s featured story are listed below:

February 20: Stellaluna by Janell Cannon

A young bat learns about survival and friendship in humorous and touching ways.

March 6: Sounds of the Wild, Nighttime by Maurice Pledger

A pop-up panorama adventure exploring the mysterious sounds of creatures in the moonlight.

- March 20: The Three Bears illustrated by Frances Brundage  
The classic story of an adventurous girl named Goldilocks.
- April 3: Wake Up Bertha Bear by Chad Mason, Illustrated by Chad Wallace  
The charming tale of a bear cub separated from his hibernating mother and his friends' rescue efforts.
- April 17: Lost in the Woods by Carl R. Sams II and Jean Stoick  
A photographic springtime story of a newborn fawn's lessons in trust, patience, and waiting for your time.

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**About the National Forest Association:** The National Forest Association, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and key partner to the U.S. Forest Service, is committed to three initiatives addressing conservation, education and responsible recreation through a year-round portfolio of programming aimed at reaching Southern California's inland urban and mountain communities, and visitor populations on public lands. Through partnerships and a strong volunteer backbone network, the NFA brings communities of people, partners and funding resources to important public lands projects focused on health, stewardship and sustainability. For more information call (951) 682-7513 or visit [www.SBNFA.org](http://www.SBNFA.org).