



## NATURE AT HOME

We hope to inspire kids of all ages to learn about the natural world and discover new connections to nature.



### Time Machines

View the video at [DishmanHills.org/Nature-At-Home](http://DishmanHills.org/Nature-At-Home)

This boulder was probably moved to where it is now by one of the great Ice Age Floods that repeatedly crashed into the Dishman Hills from about 18,000 to 12,000 years ago. Now its surface is almost completely covering by some form with life.

**Lichens** were probably the first to arrive when wind deposited their spores on this rock. A lichen is actually made up of two different organisms that working together. Over time, lichens slowly spread across the rock's surface. The lichens on this rock are stuck tight to its surface. They feel rough and dry. Over time they capture water and other materials until there was a bit of soil on the top of the rock.

**Moss** spores were also carried to this rock by the wind. Moss began to grow where it found enough water. Moss grows thick and feels soft where it captures enough water. It also collects needles, and other materials from the wind.

A **tree seedling** is growing out of a crack or fissure, in the rock. The water and nutrients it finds in the crack will determine how fast and large it will grow. It is already about seven years old. There are also some grasses and flowers.

*These little "time machines" are scattered all over the Dishman Hills. I wonder what we might see if we come back in 10 or 15 years?*



Share your Time Machine adventures or questions with us at [Education@DishmanHills.org](mailto:Education@DishmanHills.org)