

## Children's Forest



The Modoc National Forest held the third annual Children's Forest outdoors educational program for Modoc County students at Stough Reservoir on the Warner Mountain Ranger District May 28-30, 2014. The 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students rotated through stations on wildlife, native plants, sustainable forest management, recreation, range management, fire, and environmental ethics such as the Leave No Trace program. At the stations they learned how to plant a Ponderosa pine and how to identify little creatures that live in a tree. They even planted willows that were harvested along Cedar Creek in the very early spring and grown in their classrooms.

The project included several days of classroom instruction before the field trip to learn about forestry and the Forest Service. One of the objectives of the project is to encourage students to pursue careers in the US Forest Service. About 200 students participated in the program.

The Modoc has established the 500-acre Children's Forest within the Cedar Pass Forest Health Restoration Project area to provide a living lab for all Modoc County students to experience the great outdoors. The program is funded by a \$24,000 grant.

Forest representatives want to extend a big thank you to the parent volunteers, teachers, retirees, program coordinators and agency staff for their hard work in making the event a huge success. Without their willingness to share their knowledge and time with the students, this awesome event would not have happened. THANK YOU!

Participants: Kay Antunez, Edie Asrow, Paul Bach, Cathy Carlock, Danny Cluck, Roy Cuzick, Michael Deblois, Jan Farschcon, Amy Hartell, Kenneth Heald, Jim Laacke, Jim Laudenslayer, Glenn Martin, Joseph McFarlen, Anne Mileck, Jared Panks, Deborah Peck, Dough Schultz, Christopher Stewart, Laura Vanackers.

