More Ideas for Tracks and Scat program:

**Tracks & Scat!**  
*Wild Tracks* by Jim Arnosky shows the actual size of many different animals we might see in Idaho. And kids love to talk about animal scat! Children will get to take home a nature journal to record any signs of animals they may see.

**Display idea:** Create large versions of animal tracks out of different colors of paper. Place them in a pattern along a wall or across a bulletin board. You can even laminate them and put them on the floor leading to different areas of the library.

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**Who’s Hiding in the Woods  
*(tune: London Bridge)*

Who’s hiding in the woods today,
Woods today, woods today,
Who’s hiding in the woods today,
(animal sounds: ex gobble, gobble, gobble)

(Use pictures of the animals with their names spelled out)

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**Poem: Tracks**

Raccoons and rabbits,
Foxes and does.

See all those tracks,
Whose are those?

Some have two feet,
Some three toes.

See all those tracks,
Whose are those?

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**Game: Follow the Leader**

Encourage kids to think about being out in the woods and doing things like smelling flowers, climbing a tree, picking up rocks, climbing a hill, running from a bear, jumping over a stream, walking on a log, walking quietly, slapping at mosquitoes, etc. *(idea from 2004 CSLP Summer Reading Program)*

**Printables and other Resources:**

Ranger Rick’s “Tracks in the Snow” game.  
[www.nwf.org/gowild/kzPage.cfm?siteld=3&departmentId=154&articleId=1293](http://www.nwf.org/gowild/kzPage.cfm?siteld=3&departmentId=154&articleId=1293)

Here’s another tracks and scat match up activity.  
[www.brandywinezoo.org/games/animal_tracks.pdf](http://www.brandywinezoo.org/games/animal_tracks.pdf)
This site has some graphics and charts to help identify tracks and scat. 
http://heartwoodpress.com/

Craft: Making Tracks

What you need: plastic animals • poster paint • paper

What you do: Dip the feet of the animals into paint then print them onto colored paper.

Craft: Making Plaster of Paris Tracks

What you need: poster board • scissors • stapler or masking tape • plaster of paris • water • Ziploc bags (to hold 2 cups of plaster of paris and water)

What you do:
• Cut a 2” strip of poster board about 18” long and make it into a ring by stapling its ends together or taping it securely.
• For each track, measure two cups of dry plaster of paris and pour into a Ziploc bag.
• When you find a good, clear animal track, place the poster board ring around it. Add enough water to the plaster of paris so that it is the consistency of thick mud. Stir with a stick. Pour the mixture quickly into the poster board circle about a half-inch thick.
• Allow plaster of paris to dry for 15–20 minutes. Remove poster board ring and scrape the dirt from the bottom of the track. What kind of track did you find? (idea from 2004 CSLP Summer Reading Program)

More great books to share:

Big Tracks, Little Tracks, Following Animal Prints, by Millicent Selsam

Field Trips: Bug Hunting, Animal Tracking, Bird-Watching, Shore Walking With Jim Arnosky, by Jim Arnosky

Henry Hikes to Fitchburg, by D. B. Johnson

Stella & Roy Go Camping, by Ashley Wolff

Tracks in the Wild, by Betsy Bowen

We’re Going on a Bear Hunt, by Michael Rosen

Mammal Tracks and Scat, by Lynn Levine and Martha Mitchell is a life-size and waterproof tracking guide that will help turn your tracking adventure into a magical experience. This field guide is designed to be carried through brush, bramble and snow banks, and emerge unscathed. By moving alongside a set of tracks, or finding scat, you can discover that the animal climbed a tree, found a mate, or marked its territory. Their website has some information about tracks and scat that you might be able to use for your program.