

# Santa Fe Science Café for Young Thinkers

## “Why Wolves?”



**David Parsons**  
**The Rewilding Institute**

**Tuesday, November 12**  
**6:00-7:30 PM**

**Georgia O’Keeffe Museum**  
**Education Annex**  
**123 Grant Avenue, Santa Fe**

The essential role of the gray wolf in our natural ecology has been misunderstood for a very long time. Demonized, and driven almost to extinction, the wolf is only now showing signs of recovery, but numbers required for sustainable populations remain controversial. Advances in our knowledge of their ecological roles, science-based criteria for protecting and recovering them, the use of modern science in conservation planning, and appreciation of the need to restore top carnivores over broad landscapes have yet to fully inform government proposals for wolf recovery. Another important consideration is the high level of public appreciation of these beautiful animals.

**Admission is Free.** Youth (ages 13-19) seating a priority. Light refreshments will be served.

David received a degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from Iowa State and a degree in Wildlife Ecology from Oregon State. From 1990 to 1999 he led the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. He is the Carnivore Conservation Biologist for the Rewilding Institute, a conservation think tank based in Albuquerque. He is currently serving on the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Team.

*Sponsors: Santa Fe Alliance for Science; Santa Fe Public Schools; Georgia O’Keeffe Museum; Santa Fe Institute. Call 603-7468 for more information.*