Your Spooky, Scary Skeleton
Target Grade Range: 3-8
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Overview
We all have skeletons in our bodies, but have you ever wondered why we have a skeleton? Learn about the evolution of the skeleton, what your bones do for your body, and how your skeleton is not so different from a dinosaur's as you might think! Join MOR Paleontology Field Professional Lee Hall for a journey through time, evolution, and biology and learn all the wonderful secrets of your skeleton!

Student Objectives
Students will be able to:
1. Explain the difference between a vertebrate and invertebrate organism.
2. Give examples of a few basic functions of a skeleton in vertebrates.
3. Make comparisons between the skeletons of dinosaurs, humans, and other animals, and how their bones have changed and adapted based on their environment, diet, evolutionary lineage, etc.

Montana Science Standards

Grade	**Subject Area**	**Content Standard** *Each student will:*
3rd	Life Science	Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms.
4th	Life Science	Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.
5th	Physical Science	Use models to describe that energy in animals' food was once energy from the sun.
6th-8th	Life Science	Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of life forms throughout the history of life on Earth under the assumption that natural laws operate today as in the past.
6th-8th	Life Science	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth and development of organisms.

Next Generation Science Standards

Discipline and Core Idea	*Students who demonstrate understanding can:*

3-LS3-1. Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits	Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from parents and that variation of these traits exists in a group of similar organisms.
4-LS1-1. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes	Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.
5-PS3-1. Structure and Properties of Matter	Use models to describe that energy in animals' food was once energy from the sun.
MS-LS4-1. Natural Selection and Adaptations	Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of life forms throughout the history of life on Earth under the assumption that natural laws operate today as in the past.
MS-LS1-5. From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth and development of organisms.