

innovative
new ideas; original
and creative in
thinking



A Lion's Life

Spring Avenue Elementary School

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6th Grader Looks Back on Spring

By: Nayeli V.

As a sixth grader I've gotten to know Spring Avenue Elementary School better than most other students in the lower grades. I know my way around here like the back of my hand, even with the new classrooms that we have developed over the years. So let me tell you how it is to be a sixth grader here at Spring Avenue.

As a sixth grader you have to be the role model for the school. All the other grades look up to you and try to be like you because you know all the rules and expectations that the teachers want from you. What this means to me is that I have to work extra hard by being quiet in the



halls, using proper language, controlling the tone of my voice in the halls, and trying not to disrupt the teachers. All the teachers at Spring Avenue are the smartest and kindest teachers you will probably ever meet. As long as you follow the teachers' rules of course.

Mrs. Webb tries her best to be the best principal ever. In my opinion, she is. Ms. Kim, or Mrs. Dagner, is one of the most helpful and

magnanimous custodians at this school. If you have a messy or sticky problem the person to call is Ms. Kim. Ms. Marek and Mrs. Blazek are our librarian and LLC Coordinator. These ladies are a bundle of joy. They love reading books as well as helping someone choose a "just right book" at their level. If you need a book or are looking for some book recommendations, look no further but to these women here.

Continued on page 5

Author Carolyn Crimi visits Spring Ave

By: Grace B.

Carolyn Crimi is coming this Friday! I got some information from her through an email, and here it is! When asked if she is excited to come to Spring Avenue she replied "Yes, I am positively THRILLED!" It will be so much fun!

Mrs. Crimi enjoys being a writer. "I love to snuggle with my dog, hang out with my friends, go for long walks, read, draw, paint, shop, and play Scrabble on my iPad," said Mrs. Crimi, "and of course WRITE! That

is probably my favorite thing to do."

Mrs. Crimi has written a lot of books! "My favorite book I've written is Dear Tabby. I think it's my funniest book, and I especially like the message at the end," she said.

When asked her favorite book by any author, she answered, "my favorite book I've read is probably The House at Poor Corner. I laugh every time I reread it."

The last question I asked Carolyn Crimi was

What are your brothers and sisters names? Lastly her response was: "I'm the youngest of five. My brothers' names are Bob, Gary, and Michael. My sister's name is Pam."

She also said in her letter that she was in Italy for a writing conference. This was fun, but very exhausting, she said.

Visit her website at www.carolyncrimi.com.



SPORTS PAGE



NHL Playoff Predictions

By: Nathan D.

The run for the Stanley Cup is in full swing! The 2nd round of the playoffs began on May 15th. This year the season was shortened because of a disagreement between the players and the owners for how much money the players and owners would receive. The season was shortened to 48 games after the disagreement, so every game counted in the 2012-2013 season.

The race was very tight for the last playoff spots. The Penguins and Blackhawks clinched their conferences early, and the Blackhawks got home ice advantage through the entire playoffs. The Blackhawks face the Detroit Red Wings, and the San Jose Sharks are playing the L.A. Kings in the Western Conference. The match-ups in the Eastern Conference are the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Ottawa Senators and the Boston Bruins are playing the New York Rangers.

The format for the playoffs is that in each conference after the first round teams are shuffled; the highest seed in the second round plays the lowest seed in the second round and the other two teams in the conference play. I think the Chicago Blackhawks will play the defending champion L.A. Kings in the Western Conference Final. I think the Hawks will win the series in 6 games, and Corey Crawford will be the best player in the series. In the Eastern Conference I think the Pittsburgh Penguins will play the Boston Bruins and the Penguins will pull it out in five games. Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin will be the stars of that series. I think the Penguins will play the Hawks and the Hawks will win the Series in 7 games. Marian Hossa will win the Conn Smyth award handed out to the MVP of the series. It should be a great end to the 2012-2013 season.

The Bright Future of Steve Novak

By: Joseph P.

Steven Michael Novak was born on June 13, 1983 in Libertyville, Illinois. He moved to Brown Deer, Wisconsin and was raised there. He went to high school at Brown Deer High School and played basketball. As a junior, Steve averaged 22 points, 12 rebounds, and 3.4 assists. His senior year he averaged 20.6 points, 10.4 rebounds, and 5 assists per game. In 2002 Novak was named Wisconsin High School Boys' Player of the Year, which is a fantastic feat.

Steve Novak played at Marquette University which is a very prestigious basketball school. He showed perseverance and played all 33 games his freshman year and made it to the Final Four alongside Dwayne Wade. Unfortunately, they lost to Kansas University 61-94. Steve made the Big East 1st team in 2006, and left Marquette with the most three point field goals made in school history. He made 68 consecutive free throws made, which is the 3rd best in Division 1 history.

With the 32 overall pick in the

2006 NBA draft, the Houston Rockets selected Steve. On February 13, 2008, Steve hit the game winning 3 with 2.5 seconds left in the game against the Sacramento Kings to keep the Rockets' historic 22 game win streak alive. After two years with Houston, Novak was traded to the Los Angeles Clippers.

On March 15, 2009, with the Clippers, he hit the game winning 3 at the buzzer to defeat the Nets. Novak signed a free agent deal with the Dallas Mavericks in 2010. In 2011, he signed with the San Antonio Spurs. Later that year Novak signed with the New York Knicks. In the 2011-2012 Steve Novak led the league in three point percentage with 47%. He tied for most three pointers made with 133. The Knicks resigned Steve to a 4 year deal.

Steve Novak doesn't get enough recognition and respect. He has a bright future ahead of him filled with championships and MVP awards.



Steve's famous belt move.

Picture Credit: http://espn.go.com/blog/new-york/knicks/category/_/name/steve-novak/count/31

SPORTS PAGE



Bo Jackson's Diverse Career



By Ben E.

You may know Bo Jackson as Bo Knows from the Nike commercials. Bo Jackson recently won the recognition of Greatest Athlete of All Time on ESPN's Sport Science; he won against Jim Brown of the NFL. Bo Jackson played both football and baseball. He won the Heisman trophy for football in 1985 at Auburn University. Vincent Edward "Bo" Jackson was born on November 30, 1962. Bo Jackson is the first player to named an all star in two major sports, but he is not in the Hall of Fame for either sport.

Bo Jackson played in MLB for the Kansas City Royals. Bo only played Major League Baseball for five years (1986 through 1990). In 1982 Bo Jackson tied the high school single season home run record with 20 home runs. In 1987 he broke the Kansas City Royals rookie home run record with 22 home

runs. In 1989 he led American League All Star balloting with 1,748,696 votes and was selected as leftfielder on the USA Today All 1989 Team. Also in 1989, he won the MVP for the All Star game. But Bo Jackson is not in the Hall of Fame for the MLB. One of Bo Jackson's most famous plays was in a regular game when he caught a ball while running and to avoid a collision with the wall, he ran up the wall instead.

In the off-season Bo Jackson would play in the National Football League for the Los Angeles Raiders. He played running back and went to Auburn and played football not baseball. He won the Heisman while he was at Auburn University. In 1985 he set Auburn's career rushing record with 4,303 yards. Also in 1985, he set Auburn's career touchdown record with 44 touchdowns.

Who Am I?

By: Michael M.

Do you know who I am? Turn to the last page to see if you're right!



- I was born on February 17, 1963 in Brooklyn, New York.
- I played on the North Carolina Tar Heels for three years.
- I was also called one of the best defensive players.
- I was 6 feet 6 inches tall, and I weigh 216 pounds, when I played basketball.
- I got elected into the Hall of Fame in 2009.
- I missed 64 games in my second season because of a broken foot.
- I starred in a movie as myself.
- I won six championships with the same team.
- Now I am the majority owner and head of the basketball operations for the Charlotte Bobcats.
- I have three kids now and their names are Jeffery, Marcus, and Jasmine.



Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

By Alexis H., Gabriella S., and Nayeli V.

Look closely, can you guess what the objects are below? Find the answers on the back page.



Continued 6th Grader Looks Back on Spring

By: Nayeli V.

Continued from page 1.

We also have many other wonderful staff that will help you if you need anything like Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Weiland, Mrs. Stec, Mr. Tooth, Mrs. Gorman, the gym teachers, Ms. Wierenga, the lunch ladies, Mrs. Kurfurst, and many, many more.

The kids at Spring Avenue are also the best. The kids here can help you if you have a question, need guidance, or you just simply want to say hi, they will give you a reasonable and kind answer. There are many different kinds of clubs that you can join to meet new kids from every grade and get to know them better.

There are also a bunch of different after school or during school activities/parties such as the Fun Fair, Spirit Days, The Variety Show, The Musical, Band, Orchestra, Holiday Parties, Ellis Island, Apple Valley, Halloween Parade, The Back to School Picnic, Patrol, Newspaper, Speech Team, Choir, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and many more.



As a sixth grader I had the opportunity to join most of these clubs and meet some friendly people on the way. I've been at this school for almost seven years, and I have loved it. The best thing that this school teaches you is not math, reading, social studies, or science but, to become a better person and prepare yourself for middle school.

I love this school, and I hope that the rest of the students here will have as good a time as I have had. As you develop and grow here at Spring Ave, you will enjoy and love it here. You also should look forward to the amazing sixth grade teachers; Mrs. Wanta and Ms. Charlton.

Once you finish sixth grade it's a new beginning for you because you start off at a new school and have some same friends. So the last thing I will say to you is have fun being a little kid. It's awesome to be one, and enjoy it here at Spring Avenue Elementary School, there's not time for being grumpy; time flies by fast!



Favorite Summertime Poems



By: Devon W.

Sásta Tsamhraidh! (That's Irish for Happy Summer) As you all are aware, Summer Break is right around the corner. Which means soon, you will be out of school and free to party for 12 whole weeks! Pretty sweet if you ask me. So I'm just here to show ya'll some poems about summer. Just thought that'd be cool. I'll pull 3 poems from various authors and genres, and then I'll write one of my own. Enjoy! (note: I abbreviated poems 2 and 3)

Summer Night

A short poem by: Kobayashi Issa

Summer Night-
Even the stars
Are whispering to each other

Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer Day?

A poem by: William Shakespeare

Shall I compare thee to a summer day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate.
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summers lease hath all too short a date.
Sometimes to hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimmed;
And every fair from fair sometimes declines,
By chance, or natures changing course, untrimmed.

Summer Nights

A poem by: Deborah Ager

The factory siren tells workers time
to go home
Tells them the evening has begun
When living with the tall man
Whom I didn't love, I would wander
The streets, dreaming of Italy
Trekking the handful of avenues
With him, he would say look there
Between pink cobblestones
There's manure like motor
The siren, my love is home
These summer nights, we stay home,
and X the days

Summer Break

A poem by: ME!!!

I bolt from the school, riding along
the throng of
stampeding feet,
And when realization hits me, my
heart skips a beat.
Summer's finally here,
schools out at last,
It's time to have a
huge summer blast!
Jump in the pool,
soak your best friend,
I never want this break to end!
Sleep in super late,
Lose track of the date,
But of course time,
how cruel,
Has put me right
back in school.



Facts About Your Birthday Month

By Olivia W.

Have you ever wondered what's cool about your birthday month? Well that's what I'm here for today! When your zodiac sign comes up, look to the bottom of this page for further information on the dates.

January- The birthstone for January is garnet. The garnet signifies eternal friendship and trust. A garnet is a red gem. Your zodiac sign is either a Capricorn or an Aquarius.

February- The birthstone for February is an amethyst. The amethyst is known as a stone of spirituality and contentment. An amethyst is a transparent purple gem. Your zodiac sign is either an Aquarius or a Pisces.

March- The birthstone for March is an aquamarine. The aquamarine is said to protect health. It also is associated with courage. An aquamarine is a pale blue gem. Your zodiac sign is either a Pisces or an Aries.

April- The birthstone for April is a diamond. The diamond is worn to strengthen the body and soul of the wearer. A diamond is a usually a clear gem. Your zodiac sign is either an Aries or a Taurus.

May- The birthstone for May is an emerald. The emerald is worn to help sharpen the mind and allow healing of the body. The emerald is a deep, beautiful green gem. Your zodiac sign is either a Taurus or a Gemini.

June- The birthstone for June is a pearl. Pearls are meant to eliminate misfortune and thought to relate to purity. The pearl is a creamish-white gem. Your zodiac sign is either a Gemini or a Cancer.



January
Garnet



February
Amethyst



March
Aquamarine



April
Diamond



May
Emerald



June
Pearl



July
Ruby



August
Peridot



September
Sapphire



October
Opal



November
Citrine



December
Blue Topaz

July- The birthstone for July is a ruby. Rubies can mean contentment. The beautiful ruby is a vibrant red color that shines in the light. The zodiac sign for July is either a Cancer or a Leo.

August- The birthstone for August is a peridot. The peridot protects against envy, fear and irritation. The peridot also is a wonderful healing stone. The peridot is a light yellow-green gem. Your zodiac sign is either a Leo or a Virgo.

September- The birthstone for September is a sapphire. The sapphire is known as the stone of wisdom and fortune. The sapphire is a deep blue. Your zodiac sign is either a Virgo or a Libra.

October- The birthstone for October is the opal. The beautiful opal symbolizes love, faithfulness, and loyalty. The opal is usually a sparkly blue or white. Your zodiac sign is either a Libra or a Scorpio.

November- the birthstone for September is the topaz/citrine. The topaz symbolizes cheerfulness and hopefulness. The topaz is usually an orange color. Your zodiac sign is either a Scorpio or a Sagittarius.

December- The birthstone for December is the turquoise/blue topaz. The turquoise provides insights and leadership. The turquoise is usually a blue. Your zodiac sign is either a Sagittarius or a Capricorn.

Zodiac Dates

Capricorn- December 22-January 20

Aquarius- January 21-February 19

Pisces- February 20-March 20

Aries- March 21-April 20

Taurus- April 21-May 20

Gemini- May 21-June 21

Cancer- June 22-July 22

Leo- July 23-August 22

Virgo- August 23-September 22

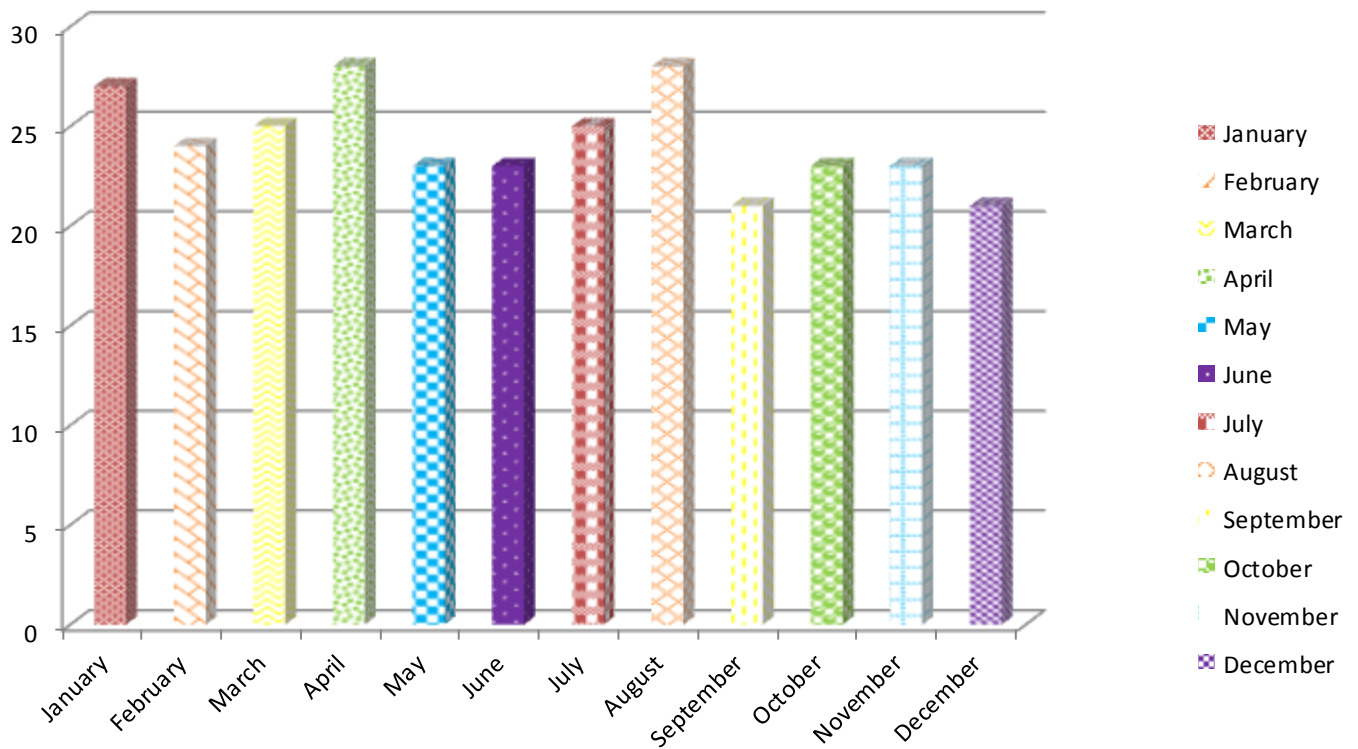
Libra- September 23-October 24

Scorpio- October 25-November 22

Sagittarius- November 23-December 21

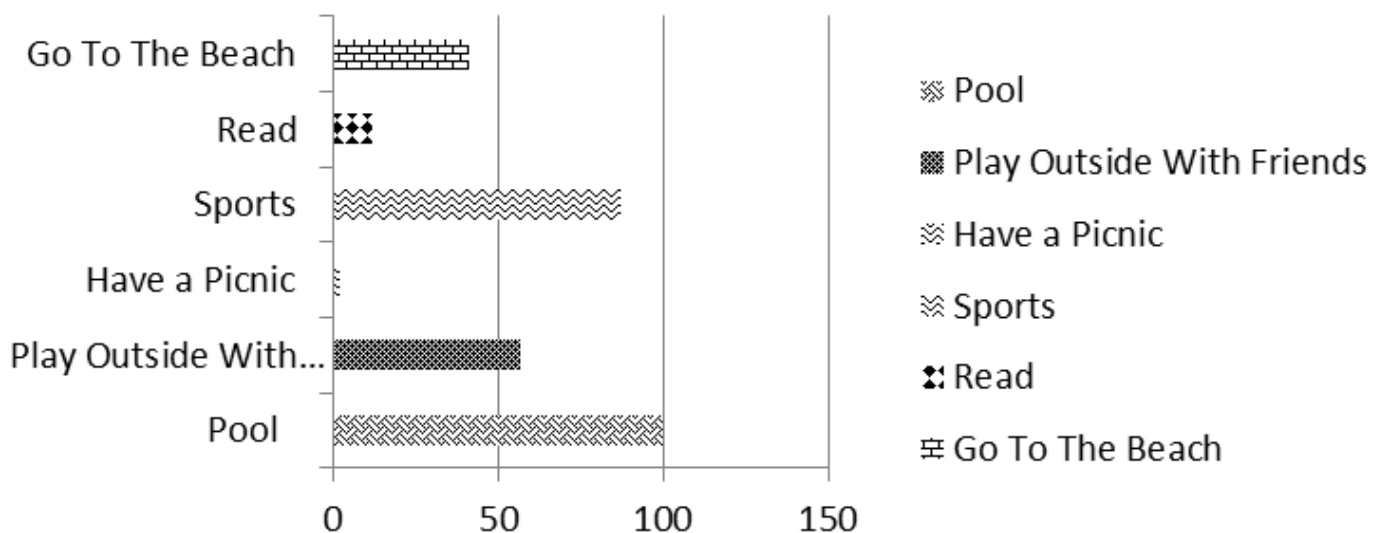
Survey: What Is Your Birthday Month?

By Alexis H. and Alison T.



Favorite Activities to do in the Summer

By: Elizabeth T.



The Lost City of Atlantis: Fact or Fiction?

By: Sarah L.

The legend is that the Lost City of Atlantis collapsed under all of its weight because of the city's greed. A Greek philosopher named Plato believes that the Lost City of Atlantis existed 9,000 years ago. Plato was also the person who first told the story of Atlantis and wrote a book about it in 355 B.C. Plato described Atlantis as having the best engineers and architects. He also said that Atlantis's city capital was built on a hill surrounded by rings of water which were connected by tunnels large enough for a ship to fit through. A large canal connected the rings to the ocean. Some scientists believe that the Lost City of Atlantis does exist, while some scientists think otherwise. Over all, most people think the Lost City of Atlantis is real. Scientists think that the Lost City of Atlantis is located near the southern tip of Spain. One way someone found Atlantis was by using sonar, which is sound navigating and happens when a ship sends out a sound and it hits something and bounces back. Scientists sent the sonar out and found a manmade wall that the sonar hit. Scientists continue to search that area.



Picture Credit: <http://www.aqualise.com/atlantis.php>

Largest, Deadliest, and Most Interesting Reptiles

By: Sean M. and Joey P.

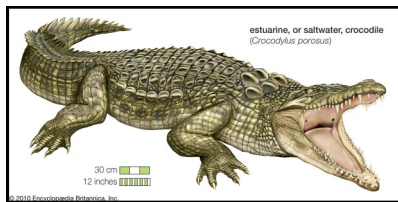
Reptiles are fascinating creatures. Unlike mammals they are cold blooded. Some species of reptiles can grow to immense sizes.

One of these huge reptiles is the saltwater crocodile. This bone chilling reptile could grow up to a whopping length of 20 feet! The saltwater crocodile could also crush a cow's skull, and easily eat a human. We don't have to worry about this man eating monster because it lives by southeast India and Northern Australia. Just know this, there are A LOT bigger things to worry about in the water!

The next reptile is the world's longest venomous snake; it's called the king cobra! These monsters can grow from 18.5, to 18.8 ft. long, and primarily feed on other snakes! When this snake is confronted, it rears up the anterior portion of its body to show its fangs, and hisses loudly. After a bite, its deadly venom

immediately starts to attack the central nervous system, leaving you drowsy, and in a whole lot of pain! All in all this is one cobra that you do not want to mess with!

The basilisk is one of the strangest creatures in the wild kingdom. It can run on water. The basilisk does this to get away from danger. This strange creature is usually about two to two and a half feet long. Their feet have special webbing that keeps them from sinking. The lizard could run 5 feet per second when running across the water. It's like it has superpowers! Not only can they run across water, but they can stay underwater for more than 30 minutes! They can only run across the water for 15 feet. These lizards are also omnivores that feed on plants, insects, and small vertebrae. Reptiles are very strange creatures that could be giant, deadly, or very interesting.



Saltwater Crocodile



King Cobra



Basilisk

Crocodile Picture Credit: <http://www.britannica.com/blogs/2011/09/giant-saltwater-crocodile-captured-destined-ecotourism-park/>

King Cobra Picture Credit: <http://www.ineedcoffee.com/13/king-cobra/>

Basilisk Picture Credit: <http://www.documentingreality.com/forum/f241/basilisk-lizard-123808/>

Mythical Creatures

By Abbey P.

Mythical creatures are animals that people say don't exist. A few examples are werewolves, fairies, vampires, mermaids, and unicorns. I've seen TONS of pictures, videos, and information about those creatures and more. I believed some of them; but not all. Werewolves are people who can shift into a wolf-like creature. Fairies are tiny people with shiny wings. Vampires are undead blood-suckers who can't be exposed to sunlight. Mermaids are half person, half fish and can breathe underwater. Unicorns are magical horses with a shiny horn. There are hundreds more mythical creatures than that.



Most of these creatures have magical powers and use their features for defense. Others use their attack abilities to defend themselves. Others don't attack at all. There are 3 types of mythical creatures. Paranormal, Supernatural, and Extraterrestrial (ET). Paranormal is all types of ghosts and ghost-like creatures, such as spirits. Supernatural is a type of magical creature, such as a fairy. Finally, extraterrestrial is a type of creature from space or another dimension, such as a Martian. Mythical creatures you see or hear about online don't always exist. But even though mythical creatures aren't proven real or fake yet, I believe in them no matter what other people say.

Picture Credit: <http://sims.wikia.com/wiki/Unicorn>

The Hedgehog

By Sam M. and Will T.

The hedgehog is a small, cute mammal that is fierce. This omnivorous little animal is a common prey to the European eagle owl. They live in many places, such as Europe, Africa, and the Americas. This mammal actually performs a ritual called anointing. They do this whenever they discover a new scent. The hedgehog will lick and bite the scent, then spread it on themselves to create a camouflage. Because of certain liquids in the animal's immune system, they are actually immune to any snake venom. It will hurt the hedgehog, but not affect them enough to kill them. They are color-blind and can only see shapes. A hedgehog's defense is to roll around in a ball, causing their sharp spines to protect them. They are most likely to run away, though, if an intruder alarms them. Most hedgehogs are nocturnal, but it varies depending on their species.



Picture Credit: <http://rosecityhedgehogs.com/>

Comic

By Joise B.



Two Great Kids Movies Out This Summer

By: Olivia W.

If you have seen Despicable Me or Monsters, Inc., you'll love the sequels! During the summer, you can go see Despicable Me 2 or Monsters University! I personally loved the first movies, so I absolutely will go see the sequels!! I bet you'll enjoy them too! Here are some quick descriptions of Despicable Me 2 and Monsters University!

Despicable Me 2: Despicable Me 2 is coming out on July 3rd, 2013. There are a few new characters included in this film. The voice of Ms. Hattie (Kristen Wiig) will be voicing an agent named Lucy Wilde. Another new character that will appear in the movie is Eduardo. Eduardo will be voiced by Benjamin Bratt. Eduardo is Gru's nemesis who will be stealing Gru's minions in space ships. (The little yellow dudes.) Another new character that will be appearing in the movie is Silas Ramsbottom who will be voiced by Steve Coogan. Agnes (Elsie Fisher), Edith (Dana Gaier), and Margo (Miranda Cosgrove) will still be appearing in this movie along with Gru (Steve Carell).



Monsters University:

Monsters University is coming out on June 21st, 2013. There are some new characters in this film such as Mike's grade school teacher: Ms. Karen Graves. The voice of Ms. Flint in the first film will be voicing the Karen Graves

(Bonnie Hunt). Billy Crystal will be returning to his normal role as Mike Wazowski, as will John Goodman as James P. Sullivan (Aka: Sully). Randall will still be appearing in this film as the bad guy (voiced by Steve Buscemi). This movie will take place 10 years before Monsters, Inc. Mike Wazowski will be majoring in Scaring in college. Little does he know that James P. Sullivan is also majoring in Scaring and is also in the same fraternity. Sully appears to be the exact opposite of Mike though: playful. They soon become enemies in a rivalry that will separate their worlds, including going to jail, but ultimately bringing them together.

Thanks and I hope you will go see these AMAZING movies! I sure will!!!



Summer Open Library

By Samantha R., Taylor S., and Nora W.

The school libraries will be open again this summer! It begins on June 10 and ends on August 8. These are the hours of operations for the District 105 libraries:

The Spring Avenue library will be open on Mondays from 1:00 to 4:00.

The Gurrie library will be open on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 4:00.

The Ideal library will be open on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 and Thursdays from 2:00 to 4:00.

The Seventh Avenue library will be open on Wednesdays from 4:00 to 7:00.

The Hodgkins library will be open on Thursdays from 1:00 to 4:00.

We hope that you will be able to come to some of these libraries in the summer!



Teachers' Favorite Movies

By: Sarah L.

Ms. Eck — High School Musical and Shrek

Mrs. Dahlin — Elf

Mrs. Kay — Enemy Mine

Ms. Daly — Sound of Music and Rudy

Ms. Parrino — The Sound of Music

Ms. Walsh — Once

Ms. Dickerson — Billy Madison

Ms. Demer — The Princess Bride

Ms. Wanta — Sound of Music

Mrs. Charlton — The Princess Bride

Ms. Richardson — The Sound of Music

Mrs. Faldani — Raiders of the Lost Ark

Ms. McGinnis — The Sound of Music

Ms. Melone — Remember The Titans and Father of the Bride

Mrs. Jones — The Sound of Music





Teacher Dream Vacations



By: Alejandra M. and Melissa R.

Have you ever wondered what your teachers' dream vacations would be? Well you're in the right place! Keep on reading!!!

1st grade: Mrs. Caylor:

Mrs. Caylor would like to go to Hawaii! Hawaii is a tropical island where it is very sunny and hot. You can swim and lay under the sun. If you want to cool off you should go surfing or scuba diving. Who knows, you might see a shark! "I like Hawaii because of the sun and nice weather. I also like it because it's peaceful and relaxing. It's so quiet and beautiful! The thing I would do most is sight-seeing!" said Mrs. Caylor. We both agree!

2nd grade: Mrs. Daly:

Mrs. Daly would like to go to an all inclusive trip to Mexico; an all inclusive trip is a trip that is already paid for. She would go there because the water and the sun are great for relaxation. She has been to Mexico and has had an all inclusive trip to Mexico. Her favorite thing to do in Mexico is swimming in the ocean. "It's so fun and peaceful; it's a perfect getaway," Mrs. Daly said. It must be a really fun and cool trip!

2nd grade: Mrs. Walsh:

Mrs. Walsh would like to go back to New Zealand. New Zealand is an island country in the Southwestern Pacific Ocean. Cool! "There's so much to see! I love to walk through the little towns!" said Mrs. Walsh. New Zealand sounds awesome! Would you like to go there?

3rd grade: Miss McGinnis:

Miss McGinnis' dream vacation is a trip around the world. She has never done this. She would like the trip to be all expenses paid. "I'm just so fascinated by people!" Miss McGinnis exclaimed. She also wants to go because the world has so many different cultures and so much diversity. The world really is a fascinating place!

3rd grade: Mrs. Dahlin:

Mrs. Dahlin would like to go to Fiji. She would like to relax and learn about exotic animals. Her favorite thing to do there would be to swim in the amazing warm water. Mrs. Dahlin would also love to swim with the dolphins. Fiji is a very nice place, and we see why she would decide to pick Fiji!

3rd grade: Ms. Melone:

Ms. Melone would love to go to Hawaii! She has never been there and would like to surf, swim, and play with the dolphins! Ms. Melone thinks she would love the beach and the warm sunshine! Many people love Hawaii and lots of people would like to go there on a dream vacation!

These are some of our teachers' dream vacations. Where would you go for your dream vacation? A sunny, warm place or a cold, icy place?



All About the Crested Gecko

By: Daniel C.

Have you ever wanted a cool interesting pet, that will keep the company rolling in? This pet is a reptile that lives for 20 years. You may think that's a long time, but it will be all quality time with your pet. Ok drum roll please, this animal is a crested gecko!

If you are still not hooked, here are some facts that might make you change your mind. Crested geckos were recently discovered in the 1980's and are native to New Caledonia. They were not even known until then, and scientists discovered that they were almost extinct. They bred them back and there are now over a hundred types of crested geckos and over a million crested geckos living today. Now you may think they are cooler than before.

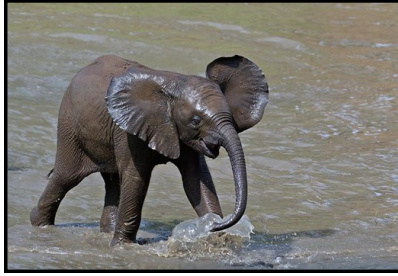
If you think you might want to have a crested gecko as a pet these are the things you need. For a baby you need a paper towel for the bottom, a tank where you can keep the humidity in, a place for the crested gecko to hide, and a bottle cap. You put the paper towel on the floor instead of on the substrate (the

gravel you often see in aquariums). This is necessary because they have a bad aim when they eat. You need to spray the tank at least once or twice a day to keep humidity around the gecko. You need the bottle cap to put their food in. They eat a crested gecko diet, and as a treat, insects.

Sometimes your gecko doesn't want to eat the diet when they're babies, so what I did was I fed my crested gecko only crickets for a week then I mashed up a cricket in the diet and he recognized the smell. He would eat the diet and each day I added less and less. Then one day I put no crickets in and he ate only the diet. When they are older geckos will eat a lot more and will become really good eaters. Also when they get older you can have a sub straight and a neat looking tank set up. I highly think that crested geckos are awesome animals and great pets.

Picture Credit: <http://www.geckotime.com/interview-with-matthew-parks-of-pangea-reptile-llc/>





By: Angelina G.

What is your favorite part of elephants? Their humungous ears? Their long trunks? Their tusks? Those huge ears of theirs help keep them cool, and their trunk is actually a long nose they use for smelling, breathing, trumpeting, drinking, and grabbing. They also like to shower by sucking water into their trunks and spraying it on themselves. After showering, African elephants sometimes spray dust on their skin as a protective coating. Unlike most creatures, both males and females have tusks they use to dig for food and water and strip bark from

African elephants have a longer pregnancy than any mammal. Females are pregnant for almost 22 months! About every 2 to 4 years, females give birth to one calf (baby). At birth calves already weigh about 200 pounds and are 3 feet tall! Females (cows) live in herds with their young but males (bulls) tend to roam by themselves.

- Their ears like somewhat like the shape of Africa, which is their habitat!
- The elephant trunk contains about 100,000 different muscles!

Summer Tagxedo

Make your own at tagxedo.com

By Samantha R. and Nora W.



COOL CAKES

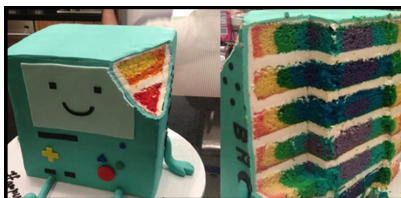
By: Jennie B.



Wow, look at these! YUM! This is an article on a few different inventive cakes and such that people uploaded to the Internet. These are so cool that I wanted to share them. Enjoy these beautiful pictures of treats!

The Rainbow Beemo Cake

This is one of the most inventive cakes I've seen. Not only is it from Cartoon Network's popular show *Adventure Time*, but it has a lot of beautiful fondant work on it to make it look like Beemo. Fondant is a colored strip of frosting that you have to cut and put on your cake, like play-dough.



Colossal Legoland Cake

This cake is an amazing 5 layer cake that I find extremely impressive. Not only is its size more than average, but it has impressive fondant work with nice little designs here and there. One thing that I think dulls down its pizzazz is it was something from the anniversary of Legos so it's most likely been created by a team of professional bakers, rather than just a piece created by a talented fondant artist.



My Little Pony Cake

This cake is impressive because of the cute little homemade fondant characters on the side. Also, the clouds amaze me and really just make the My Little Ponies more awesome (if it's possible to get My Little Ponies better than they already are)!



Minecraft Birthday Cake

This cake isn't the MOST impressive cake, but I do like the excellent fondanting for the people and pattern on the green monsters. It is also very cool because of how the green monsters have that pattern on them which is impressive for a homemade cake.



Skittles Cake

This cake is just one of my top favorites. I actually didn't even find it myself, one of my friends showed me. Sure, it has certain cool things with skittles and stuff, I know. But frankly, IT'S A GIANT SKITTLES BAG CAKE. How much better can you get? Everything on this cake is perfect, and it has got my seal of approval.



How To Draw a

By: Abbey P

Horse

Step 1: Draw 3 circles and connect them as shown.



Step 2: Draw the snout and the flank.



Step 3: Add the eyes and nose



Step 4: Draw the neck and back.



Step 5: Add the front legs.

Step 6 Add a tail and leg.



Step 7 Add the hind legs and the belly.



Step 8: Draw on the mane.



Step 9: Add any other features you want (unicorn horn, pegasus wings etc) and erase the unneeded details.



Important Dates

May 24 — Carolyn Crimi visits Spring Avenue
 May 24 — All Library Books due
 May 27 — Memorial Day, No School
 May 28 — Kindergarten Celebration
 May 29 — Awards Ceremony, 9:40 am
 May 30 — Field Day and Fun Lunch
 May 30 — 6th Grade Stepping Up, 6:30-8:30
 May 31 — Last Day of School

June 9 — Open Library Begins at Spring. The Library will be open on Mondays this summer from 1:00-4:00 pm.

Lost and Found

Please check with Mrs. Jones to make sure you have collected any lost items before the school year ends.



Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

Answers



1

6th Grade Banner



2

Spring Ave Sign



3

Marcel the shell



Who Am I?

Michael
Jordan



Reader Feedback

Please share your thoughts!
 Email the advisors:

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A Lion's Life Newspaper Staff



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