



HOMESCHOOLERSWRITE **NEWSLETTER**

ISSUE 2 SPRING 2020

SAVE
our
EARTH

QUOTES OF THE WISE

APPLICABLE SAYINGS OF SOME OF
THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE
TO EVER LIVE

BAN THOSE BOTTLES!

THE MANY DRAWBACKS TO
DRINKING FROM A SINGLE
PLASTIC WATER BOTTLE



The Earth does not belong to us, we belong to the earth... Treat the Earth with respect so that it lasts for centuries to come and is a place of wonder and beauty for our children.



~Chief Seattle

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Whats going on at **RICHARDSON MONTESSORI**

This 2019-20 year at Richardson Montessori, the months have been overflowing with many exciting activities and events for homeschoolers. Following our studies of the Ancient Civilization Timeline, we had an Ancient Civilizations Fair in December 2019. The participants and the presenters equally enjoyed learning about ancient jewellery, medicine, technology, writing, the pyramids of Egypt as well as food and fashion. Moreover, we learned about ancient cultures such as the ancient Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Greeks and Romans.

More recently in February, we had the first annual Homeschooler's Passion Fair. This was our most popular fair yet where Richardson Montessori students had an opportunity to present projects about their personal passions. The inspirations of our students included galaxies, cats, the history of automobiles, Taekwondo, art & pastel, the animal kingdom, the human body, and last but not at all least The Canadian Avro Arrow project. From pastel making, to testing our knowledge on the human body, to Taekwondo demonstrations and learning about the amazing Avro Arrow project and the contributions of Canadian engineers to the NASA Apollo space program, the event was both enriching and inspiring for both parents and participants.

We are also looking forward to an upcoming film called "Geometry and The Big Good Wolf" in which most of our students are starring. The play, written and directed by one of our senior students, Maryam Bhatti, was inspired originally by a geometry assignment about the personality of



**Conducting
Classes From
Home**

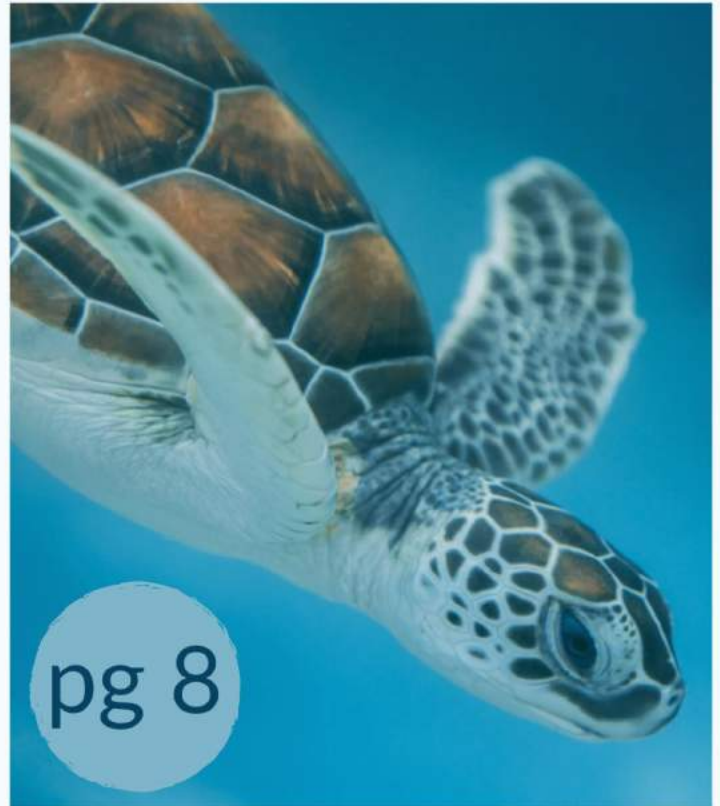
personality of different types of lines. From there, the ideas blossomed into a full story, set in the town of Lineville with such characters as: Sir Parallel Pig, Lord Virgil Vertical "...a most upstanding citizen", Lady Piggy Curved; and Horizontal, quite a lazy sort, whose only line is a prolonged snore from a horizontal position on stage, B-line Einstein, a crazed scientist working on zig-zag serums, The big "ba er uh" Good Wolf and Miss Piggywinkle. What happens when the Wolf comes to town? . Currently, there is a lot of behind the scenes work going on with set building, costume designing, and prop making.

As our senior students were in mid-production of the Richardson Montessori newsletter, sadly, due to the COVID-19 virus, we were forced to close our doors at the centre. In the meantime, we have shifted our classes to an online format. It isn't quite the same as meeting together in-person in our regular weekly classes, but we are all doing remarkably well. So even though assigning work online and having weekly Skype meetings isn't quite an ideal way of Montessori learning, we are doing great.

In the following pages of this newsletter, we will include stories, articles and poems written by RM students about many subjects including the ongoing dilemma of our polluted earth. Also included in this newsletter is a game page and a page of quotes by major influential people that have changed the world across the ages. The quotes include one by Walt Disney; "The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing." And so let's take a cue from this quote by getting started with the newsletter!

Article Corner

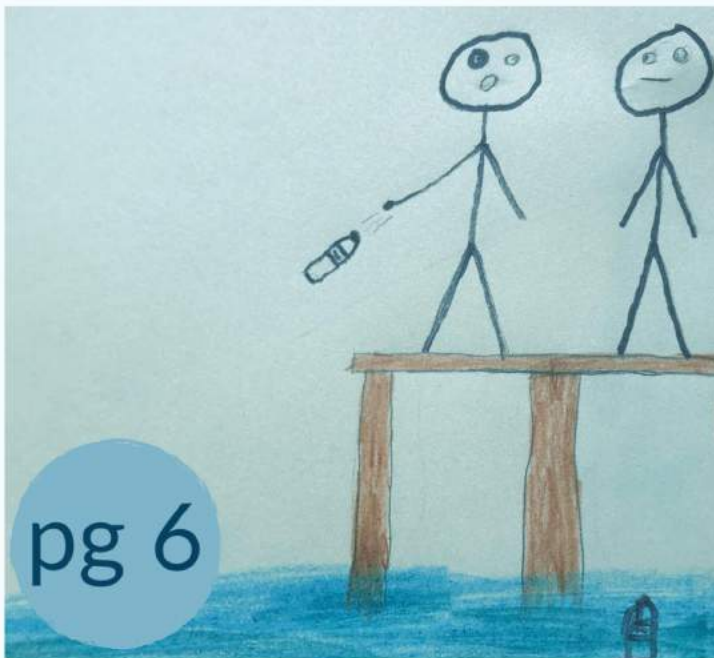
In the Article corner, we will explore the theme on how our earth is being polluted and how we can take action against it. Written by some of RM's older students, you will surely be inspired.



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BAN THOSE BOTTLES!

The Reason We Should Boycott Plastic Water Bottles

Article Written By: Maryam Bhatti



Trashed Water Bottles
Laying on a Beach.

The problems that come with plastic water bottles are many, including the effects on the environment, wildlife and humans. Some of the most detrimental effects are caused by the shocking practices of the plastic water bottle companies themselves.

An example of one such company is Nestlé, which sucks freshwater from communities before selling it back to the public in plastic bottles. In Canada, Nestlé pays \$503.71 for every million litres of groundwater that they pump, which is the same as 1/20th of a penny per litre, allowing them a huge profit and the communities very little. (canadians.org) Is this all our water is worth?

In Elora, Ontario, Nestlé's pumping is an object of growing concern. A local resident, Lindsey Bolger, who lives about 3 kilometres from Nestlé's pumping site, mentioned in a recent CBC article titled Nestlé Waters Canada plan to tap aquifer worries Elora, Ont., residents, "My neighbour's well has gone dry." (cbc.ca) This is extremely concerning for the residents of this small town. A further example of Nestlé's alarming practices took place during the summer of 2016. Drought in southern Ontario was severe, but, despite this, Nestlé continued to deplete our water supply and 4.7 million litres of water were taken from our natural sources. All this proves how the rights of farmers and those who truly need a water supply, including wildlife, are being abused. Not only

is Nestlé using our precious water supplies, but to produce just one 500 ml bottle of water, 5.5 litres of water are required. Worse, to produce a plastic bottle, fossil fuels are required, which contaminates another 5 litres. That's all wasted water that could be consumed just as well as the 500 ml that is bottled and sold back to the consumers. Companies such as Nestlé have only money in mind and continue to impose negative impacts on the environment, wildlife, and humans.

Not only are Nestlé's practices concerning from a financial point of view, but they are also harmful to the human body. Some plastic water bottles contain BPA or bisphenol, (an industrial chemical) which has been connected to many health problems, such as diabetes, obesity and cancer. (azocleantech.com)

After we are finished consuming, the bottles are thrown away. They can have one of three fates: Landfills, oceans or recycling. When plastic water bottles are thrown into landfills, rain water falls and absorbs the water-soluble compounds that plastic water bottles contain, some of which are very harmful. This can make a harmful liquid called Leachate which can spread into groundwater, soil, and streams, poisoning wildlife. Furthermore, plastic water bottles themselves can take 1000 years to decompose. Plastic water bottles can also end up in the ocean where they can be drawn by the ocean's currents into a plastic collection. One such place is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, which is 900 km off of the coast of California, 30 miles deep, and bigger in size than Quebec. There are five of these plastic islands in the world's seas. Plastic water bottles can be mistaken for food by sea creatures, and if consumed, harm the animals, and pass chemicals up the food chain to us.

The third and seemingly best outcome is that the plastic water bottles can be recycled by being compressed, shredded, washed and melted to create new things. Sadly, only 50% of the water bottles used in Toronto every day are being recycled. This means that 65 million plastic water bottles end up in landfills every year. In addition, the melting of the bottles during the recycling process releases poisonous fumes into our atmosphere. Is this a winning situation for anyone other than Nestlé?

If enough of us boycott Nestlé, we can stop the company from pilfering our water supply and charging us for what should be a basic human right. If we stop and consider, it seems that Nestlé needs us a lot more than we need them and we have a lot of power as consumers.

AUSTRALIA IS BURNING!

A Wake-up Call for the Entire World

Article Written By: Sarah Ihsan (February 2020)



A series of massive bushfires are blazing in Australia since July 2019.

A series of massive bushfires are blazing in Australia. Since July 2019, 10.3 million hectares have been charred - that's an area 10 times bigger than B.C.'s 2018 wildfires, and 20 times bigger than the Fort McMurray fires. The fire has affected over 2000 homes and a billion animals, including koalas and kangaroos, in a way that they might never recover. Who is to be blamed for this state of disaster? Scientists agree that the main factor behind these devastating fires has been Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) - an event where the difference in sea surface temperatures are strong; currently the strongest in 60 years. The scientists believe that this cyclical ocean phenomenon changed Australian weather patterns by pushing weather systems northward away from Australia. This in turn has led to droughts causing the fires to glow and burn. On the other hand, a few scientists strongly believe that the ultimate reason for these record breaking fires is climate change. Australian citizens blame the present Prime Minister Scott Morrison for not addressing the of one-third of the bushfires; however, it will take a long time before life returns to normal for those affected by this disaster.

issue of climate change. Australia, for example, is the world's largest coal exporter; coal burning, a leading source of mercury, lead and carbon emissions, is the main source of electricity in Australia. Moreover, climatologists had long warned Australians about their frequent intense heat waves. Australia overall has warmed slightly more than 1 degree celsius since 1910. The most severely affected areas are the states of New South Wales and Victoria. Countries such as New Zealand and Canada have sent their firefighters to help Australians. Unfortunately, fire is not the only danger now. Toxic smoke and plumes of "black carbon" are threatening the overall health of Australians across the country. The scientists, Australians citizens and the world are watching closely as to when this disaster will come to an end. Thankfully, mother nature brought rain in the month of February contributing to the extinguishing

For updates about the extinguishing of these fires, search this link:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/03/australia/new-south-wales-fires-extinguished-scli-intl/index.html>

SAVE THE SEA TURTLES!

It's Time for Action

Article Written by: Azka Ashraf



Sea turtles are beautiful, magnificent creatures that have been roaming in the great oceans for over 120 million years. Today, we humans are killing these poor, innocent turtles by polluting their homes to such an extent that nearly all sea turtles are classified as 'threatened' or 'endangered'. Sea turtles face many hazards including fishing nets, trashed plastic, and other sea garbage. Do we think of what happens to a piece of plastic we use after we throw it away? When we use plastic it may end up in the ocean and can either choke or get stuck in a Sea Turtle's nose. In some cases, it may even kill the innocent animal.

Even a single piece of plastic can kill a turtle. In 2017, researchers of the University of Exeter in England examined the way plastic affects Sea Turtles around

the globe. According to their findings, 91% of turtles have died because they were tangled in Nylon plastic fishing gear. Out of 106 marine experts they surveyed, 84% claimed that they had witnessed the death of turtles because of plastic. Researchers from the University of the Sunshine coast studied two turtles who had eaten a single piece of plastic, which was enough to kill them. They found that a turtle had a 22% chance of dying if they ate just one piece of plastic. Furthermore, once a Sea Turtle contains up to fourteen pieces of items in its gut, scientists have found there is a 50% chance that it will die. Globally it is estimated that approximately 52% of all Sea Turtles have eaten plastic. Sea Turtles are in great danger of extinction because we use non-reusable materials. So one thing we can do to help save them is to entirely stop using non-reusable plastics. At first, it may be difficult, but if we want our environment to survive and thrive, we will find a way to change our ways. Every time we use a reusable straw or a reusable bag we will remember that we are helping to save a Sea Turtle or another precious ocean creature's life. A single piece of plastic can kill a Sea Turtle and that is why humans need to be more responsible about using them - every piece counts.

THE LIGHTYEAR ONE

A Vehicle Evolving the Future

Article Written By: Haroon Sidique

How many times have you heard that cars have the largest portion of the effect of greenhouse gases accumulated on our planet Earth? Well, not anymore! The Netherlands has just introduced its first environmentally-safe, solar-powered car to the world. This is a great turning point for the future of our planet, as it's nothing like the Tesla Model 3, Audi E-Tron, and Honda Clarity EV electric vehicles. This car is called Lightyear One.

The Lightyear One is a prototype designed by a Dutch company, which won the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge in Eindhoven, Netherlands. They founded their company Lightyear in 2016, and the Lightyear One is the first car that they have made.

The Lightyear One is quite different from other cars as it does not produce any fumes. One of the best things about the Lightyear One is that it doesn't release any CO₂ emissions in the air. Furthermore, it uses half of the energy that other cars in its class use.

Although the Tesla Model 3, Audi E-Tron, and Honda Clarity EV do not emit exhaust flames, they do use batteries that emit toxic fumes. Most electricity used to power electric vehicles is made from non-renewable energy sources, which can have a negative impact on the environment. The fact that the Lightyear One is a



solar-powered 4-passenger luxury car makes it among the most unique cars in the world. "The Lightyear One is made out of top quality lightweight parts to make the most out of every ray of sunshine" (GoodNewsNetwork.org, 2019). It can accelerate 100 km/h from 0, in 10 seconds. This car is also quite easy to recharge because it can charge anywhere, from a power outlet at home to a fast-charging station for electric cars. With a charge of only 10 hours, it can travel up to 800 kilometres, in full daylight.

In conclusion, although there are several options for electric vehicles available, there are many qualities that make the Lightyear One stand out. These include its ability to eliminate toxic fumes and CO₂ emissions. Also, it consumes half of the energy as compared to other electric vehicles and can travel long distances on a short charge. Therefore, Lightyear One is a revolutionary prototype of solar-powered vehicles.

Quotes of the WISE

Here at Richardson Montessori, we try to implement the wise sayings of some of the most influential people to ever live. On this page we would like to display some of our most adored quotes in order to inspire you as the reader.

"Every act of goodness is charity, even if its a smile."

-Prophet Muhammad

"A room without books is like a body without a soul."

-Cicero

"BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD."

-Gandhi

"Work is love made visible."

-Gibran

"Of all things, love is the most potent."

-Maria Montessori

"Love learning, love life."

-S.R.

"WHY FIT IN WHEN YOU WERE BORN TO STAND OUT!"

-Dr Seuss.

"When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe."

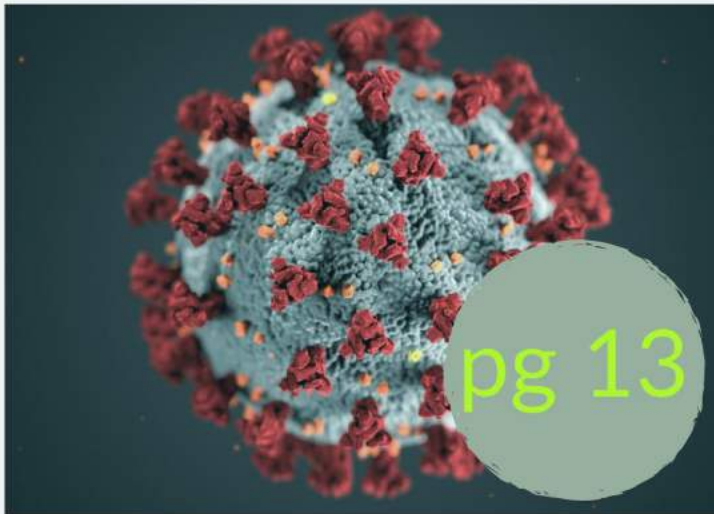
-John Muir

Poetry Junction

At Poetry Junction, you will explore poetry based on various topics. Written by some of RM's younger students, you will surely fall in love with these short poems.



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THE ART OF MUSIC

Music will never go away from your life.

Even when you die, music will be alive.

All the composers who lived a long time ago,

Beethoven, Bach, Mozart, Vivaldi, Chopin and Schubert are with us.

Their music keeps us company and gives us peace.

By: Sahana



SCHOOL TIME

It's school time,
Mom gave me a dime,
I burst out the door
So I'll be on time.
I walked to the subway
To say, "Hello,"
To a man who didn't know
Which way to go.

Poem By: Sydney Yee



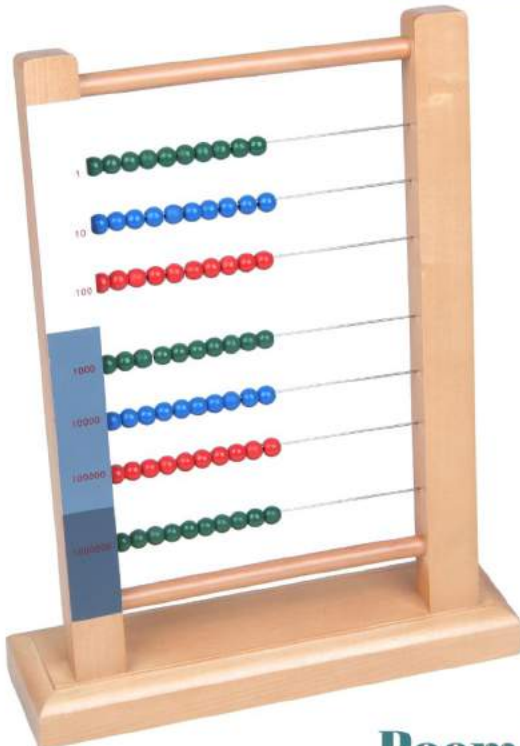


CORONAVIRUS ACROSTIC POEM

C ORONAVIRUS IS A NOVEL RESPIRATORY ILLNESS
O NTARIO DECLARED AN EMERGENCY STATE
R ELAX AND STAY SAFE
O PPORTUNITY TO COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS
N EVER SNEEZE WITHOUT COVERING YOUR MOUTH
A LWAYS WASH YOUR HANDS LONGER THAN 20 SECONDS
V IRUS CAN SPREAD EASILY; SO BE CAUTIOUS
I NDOORS ARE THE IDEAL PLACE TO BE
R EMEMBER TO HELP OUT ONE ANOTHER
U NTIL CORONAVIRUS DIES OUT; STAY HOME
S TAY PATIENT; THIS TOO WILL PASS

Written by: Zahrah

"RICHARDSON" ACROSTIC POEM



R eally cool
I nteresting
C reative minds
H ave fun
A rithmetic
R ocks and minerals
D o projects
S cience
O ccasionally quiet
N ewsletters

Poem By: Jibreel

GAMEPAGE

SPRINGTIME WORD SEARCH

P	B	I	T	O	L	R	R	P	E	F	L	E	S
W	R	R	D	S	E	E	S	L	E	F	W	E	T
L	F	N	E	S	A	T	W	D	E	I	C	K	W
R	E	V	I	V	E	R	F	S	R	P	V	E	E
F	E	G	E	V	T	W	U	S	S	I	T	F	F
R	V	R	P	L	T	S	K	N	R	A	B	A	S
N	E	L	I	F	E	T	E	S	F	B	E	E	G
A	E	I	A	A	L	A	S	S	A	L	G	E	T
T	E	A	I	L	D	N	O	P	I	I	R	A	V
U	N	E	T	C	E	S	N	I	W	I	A	L	G
R	E	T	N	W	I	T	N	E	R	I	S	A	F
E	E	E	N	V	W	A	T	E	R	A	S	W	E
I	D	P	E	S	C	V	F	L	L	A	K	E	S
T	R	E	E	S	S	L	C	I	F	S	V	I	T

LIFE
REVIVE
INSECT
BIRDS
WATER
TREES
NATURE
LEAF
GRASS
LAKES
POND

BRAIN POWER TIME

I am a 6 letter word

Letters 6-5-2 spell out the name of a drink.

Letters 4-5-2-3 spell out the name of a fruit.

Letters 1-2-6 spell out a pet.

Letters 3-2-6 spell out a pest, which often gets eaten by 1-2-6.

What am I?

Story Corner

In the Story Corner, you will explore stories based on various topics. Written by some of RM's younger students, you will surely fall in love with these short yet fun stories.



THE HEN STORY

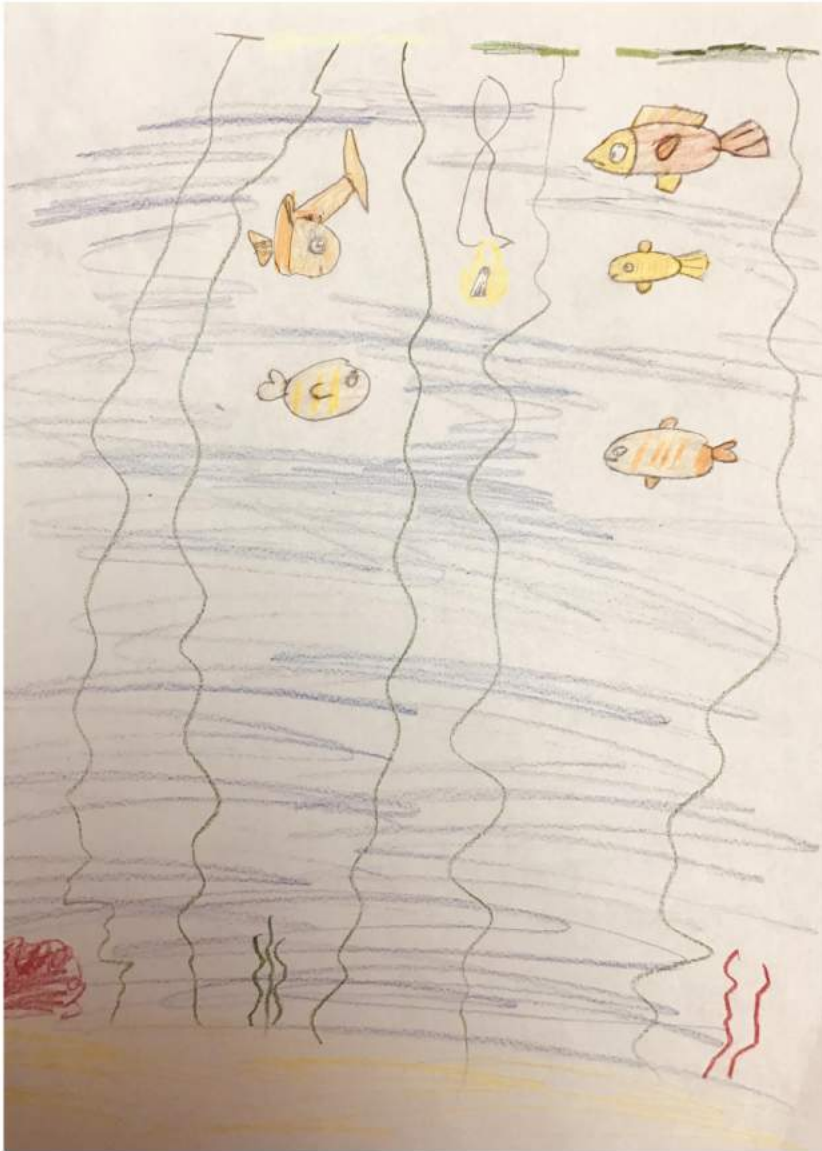
Once upon a time, there was a girl. Her name was Lee and she had a farm. On the farm, she had a very, very funny hen. Her name was Funny Hen. Funny Hen is funny because she is always getting into trouble. She runs out of the chicken coop and goes to the pigpen. She falls into the mud and climbs on the pigs. She is super muddy all the time and Lee always needs to clean her up.



One day, Lee left the house door open for her sister so she could come outside. Her name was Laura. Laura came out to feed the hens and Lee went to milk the cows. Then Lee wanted some orange juice so Laura went back to the house to get some for her sister. Laura left the chicken coop door open by accident! After Laura came out of the house with the orange juice, Funny Hen decided to go to the back door of the house. She knocked on the door with her beak. Mom opened the door because she thought it was Lee and Laura but instead, it was Funny Hen! Right away, Funny Hen ran in the house and spilled Mom's tea. Mom caught her and put her outside. She told Laura and Lee to lock her in the chicken coop with the other hens so she couldn't cause any more trouble that day.

Story By: Sahana

THE KING OF LILLY PAD LAKE



Once upon a time, in the shallow waters of Lily Pad Lake, there was a happy kingdom of adorable fish called Coral Cove. The fish of Coral Cove were very proud of their very fair and just leader, King Poisson. He was a big blue fish with a crown made of coral.

One gloomy day, the King was sleeping in his coral palace and awoke to the sound of a loud boom on his roof. The King and all the colourful fish rushed to the roof to see what happened. They all were very curious to see what had made the sound. Suddenly, the sleepy King called out excitedly, "Look! It's a lock!" All the fish gasped in shock because they had never seen anything so beautiful. The lock mesmerized King Poisson because it was gold and shiny. He brought it to his room and hung it up. To this day, he is captivated by the bright aura of the lock.

Story By: Victoria D.

THE TALKING BOOK

Once upon a time, there was a talking book. It talked so much because it liked to talk to everybody. It still tells happy stories. It cheers up the whole world.



Story By: Vikram Chaitanya

Recipe of the Season

One Pot Primavera Pasta

PREP TIME **COOK TIME** **TOTAL TIME**
5 MINS **20 MINS** **25 MINS**

SERVINGS **CALORIES**
4 **421**

INGREDIENTS

325 G WHITE FETTUCCINE PASTA

3 CUPS MILK

1 CUP CHICKEN BROTH

1 TEASPOON SALT

1/2 TEASPOON DRIED PARSLEY

1 LARGE CARROT (SHREDDED)

1 CUP FROZEN PEAS

1-2 CUPS CHOPPED SPINACH

INSTRUCTIONS

In a large pot, bring the milk, pasta, broth, parsley, salt, and carrots to a simmer over medium to high heat, making sure to stir often.

Reduce the heat to low and continue to stir until all the liquid is absorbed and the pasta is cooked. If the liquid is absorbed before the pasta fully cooks, add an additional 1/2 cup of water, and continue cooking.

Remove the pot from heat and add peas and spinach. Cover and let sit for >2 minutes.

Enjoy!



Answer key to: THE GAME PAGE

Carpet.

6-5-2: Tea

4-5-2-3: Pear

1-2-6: Cat

3-2-6: Rat

P	B	I	T	O	L	R	R	P	E	F	L	E	S
W	R	R	D	S	E	E	S	L	E	F	W	E	T
L	F	N	E	S	A	T	W	D	E	I	C	K	W
R	E	V	I	V	E	R	F	S	R	P	V	E	E
F	E	G	E	V	T	W	U	S	S	I	T	F	F
R	V	R	P	L	T	S	K	N	R	A	B	A	S
N	E	L	I	F	E	T	E	S	F	B	E	E	G
A	E	I	A	A	L	A	S	S	A	L	G	E	T
T	E	A	I	L	D	N	O	P	I	I	R	A	V
U	N	E	T	C	E	S	N	I	W	I	A	L	G
R	E	T	N	W	I	T	N	E	R	I	S	A	F
E	E	E	N	V	W	A	T	E	R	A	S	W	E
I	D	P	E	S	C	V	F	L	L	A	K	E	S
T	R	E	E	S	S	L	C	I	F	S	V	I	T

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Ban Those Bottles

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Australia is Burning

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Save the Sea Turtles

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The Lightyear One

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