

CONNECTION

Sharing the day-to-day learning experience
at

Community Homes & Services
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Summertime!

What do we love about June?

- **Getting Outdoors:** The rains have abated and we can go outside and enjoy the sunshine!
- **Summer Solstice:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 marks the summer solstice, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. Yay sunlight! Many people celebrate the arrival of summer and enjoy outdoor activities like hiking, picnics, barbecues, and beach trips.
- **Pride Month:** June is Pride Month, a time when the LGBTQ+ community and its allies come together to celebrate diversity, promote equality, and raise awareness about issues affecting the community.



- **National Donut Day:** The first Friday of June is National Donut Day. Mmm!
- **Father's Day:** The third Sunday of June is Father's Day, a day dedicated to honoring and celebrating fathers and father figures for their love and contributions to their families.
- **Strawberry Season:** June is the peak of strawberry season in many parts of the world, with farmer's markets and grocery stores offering fresh, juicy berries that are perfect for snacking or baking.

Andrew's Corner

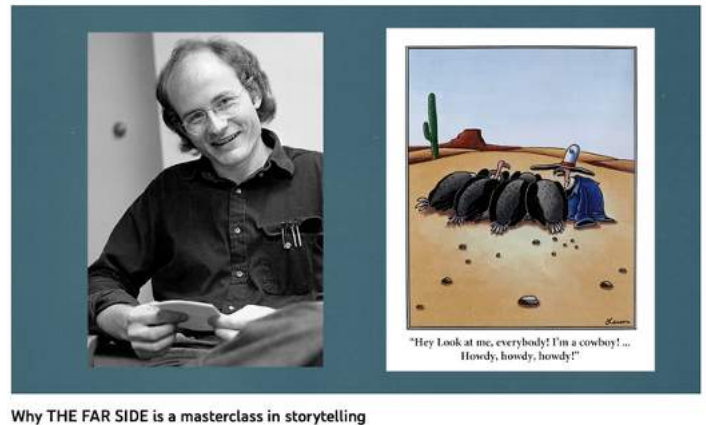
The Far Side Facts

The Far Side comic strip was made by Gary Larson. The Far Side <https://www.thefarside.com> helped introduce surreal humor to comic strips. The Far Side had its own animated special on TB called Tales From The Far Side. The least liked Far Side comic was called "cow tools" because nobody understood the joke. The Far Side comics are shown in a rectangular panel showing the gag of the day.



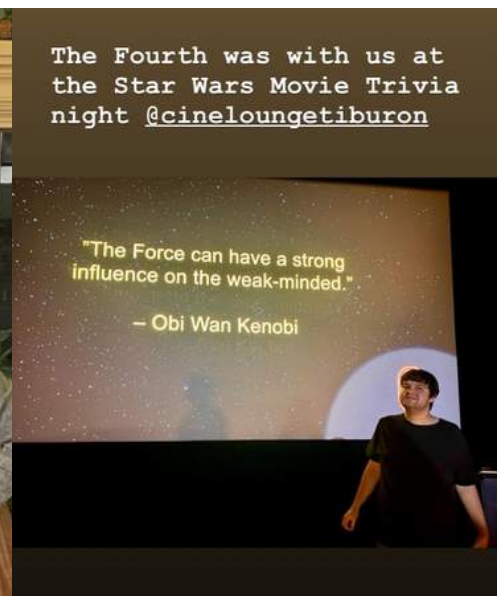
The Far Side was responsible for the naming of the Thagomizer, the distinctive arrangement of four spikes of stegosaurine dinosaurs. Gary Larson's background in biology led to the frequent use of animals and nature in The Far Side's gags. I chose to write about The Far Side because it was my favorite comic strip as a kid.

Larson is a storyteller and his art influences movies today as this YouTube video "Why The Far Side is a Masterclass in Storytelling" <https://youtu.be/jQjGW5Mxk58> explains.



Bio: Andrew Newson is a student at Life College and is 25 years old. He likes comic books, video games, hiking, exploring new places with his mom.... and babies. He is an authority in all things Star Wars, Star Trek and great places to go in the Bay Area. He is currently learning Mandarin and loves to research and learn new things.

Andrew Won a Star Wars Trivia Contest!



June 19th is Juneteenth!

with Darnell's class

Hooray Juneteenth is upon us! But hold on, what exactly is Juneteenth? And why is it a holiday? And why should you care? Let's learn more about it: On June 19th, 1865, some soldiers from the government went to Galveston, Texas to make sure that the slaves there were set free. Before the Internet and cell phones, please know that Texas hadn't received the news for two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation (the document guaranteeing freedom) was signed. Juneteenth became an official holiday in June 2021.

Here is why it's important: Juneteenth is a time to reflect on the struggles and challenges faced by people fighting for freedom and equality. One person who understood this well was Coretta Scott King, an activist and Civil Rights leader. She once said, "Struggle is a never-ending process. Freedom is never really won; you earn it and win it in every generation." This quote is meant to inspire us whenever we face difficult times. It reminds us that the fight for freedom and equality is ongoing and that it's up to each generation to continue the journey.

"We all require and want respect, man or woman, black or white. It's our basic human right"

Aretha Franklin

***"We are not ready to fight because we like fighting.
We are ready to fight because we are worth fighting for."***

Zoe Samudzi, Author and activist

Juneteenth marks an important milestone in the quest for freedom. It's a time to honor the past, celebrate progress, and inspire ourselves to keep striving for a better future. Here is what some of our students had to say after learning about Juneteenth:

"Every day I want to get better with reading and spelling"

Randall Martin, student and professional reacher-of-things-on-high-shelves

"Maybe I'll see my good friends. It makes me happy!"

Nino Gaetani, CH&S Ambassador

"I like everybody"

Cat Berry, appreciator extraordinaire

"Just do it for you"

Katie Church, hostess with the mostest

"When I wake up I stretch my arms. I like the morning!"

Martha Ela, ray of sunshine

"Won't it be wonderful when Black history and Native American history and Jewish history and all of US history is taught from one book. Just US history."

Maya Angelo, Author and human rights activist

Mare Island Fieldtrip

with Joe's and Rebecca's groups



Mare Island became the first U.S. naval base on the West Coast in 1854. It received its present name from Mexican cavalry commander General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo in 1830. Before California became a state, this land was the property of General Vallejo, and it is said that the island gets its romantic name from the miraculous survival of the general's prized horse which they thought had died in a ferry accident. The mare was later miraculously discovered unhurt, roaming on the island.

The first U.S. warship (1859) and first dry dock (1872-91) constructed on the West Coast were built here. To this day, Mare Island holds the record for building the destroyer USS Ward in 17½ days during World War I. Wow, that's fast—just over two weeks to build an entire destroyer!

To learn more, check out the National Park Service's Mare Island Naval Shipyard webpage:

<https://www.nps.gov/places/mare-island-naval-shipyard.htm>

Or check out this article on Atlas Obscura: "Mare Island, Vallejo, CA: The former Naval shipyard is open for exploring - mostly."

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/mare-island>



Visiting Mare Island

Mare Island is a hop-skip-and-a-jump from Enterprise, so Joe's and Rebecca's groups decided to go on a field trip to take a closer look. It was fun to spend a sunny day exploring the island.



Did you know that St. Peter's Chapel on Mare Island was built in 1901? it is the oldest Naval chapel in the United States. It is home to one of the largest collections of Louis Comfort Tiffany stained glass windows under one roof and is filled with historic naval memorials. Yes, we're talking about THAT Tiffany:



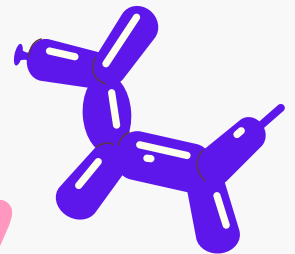
Trailer screenshot, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



For more info, check out this article: "Peter's Chapel Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, CA: The oldest Naval chapel in the United States is home to an incredible collection of Tiffany stained-glass windows." <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/st-peters-chapel>



**Happy
BIRTHDAY**



to

Adara (6/13) and Nino (6/14)!

JUNE 2023 NATIONAL DAYS

National Great Outdoors Month

National Aquarium Month

with Jennifer



6/1 - National Pen Pal Day

6/4 - National Cancer Survivor Day

6/5 - World Environment Day

6/6 - National Day of Sweden

6/7 - VCR Day

6/8 - World Oceans Day

6/9 - National Strawberry Rhubarb Pie Day

6/10 - National Iced Tea Day

6/13 - National Weed Your Garden Day

6/14 - Flag Day

6/15 - National Nature Photography Day and Megalodon Day

6/16 - National Sea Turtle Day

6/17 - National Mascot Day and World Juggling Day

6/18 - Fathers Day

6/19 - Juneteenth-Holiday OFF

6/21 - National Selfie Day and the First Day of Summer

6/22 - World Rainforest Day

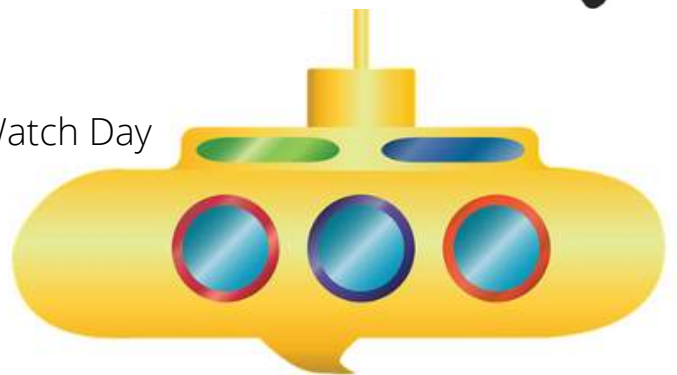
6/23 - Take Your Dog to Work Day

6/25 - World Beatles Day

6/27 - National Onion Day

6/29 - National Camera Day

6/30 - Social Media Day and National Meteor Watch Day



The Little Free Libraries of the North Bay

with Joe's group

There are a ton of Little Free Libraries in Marin, and even more if you're willing to go to Sonoma. Bert, Phoebe, Tyrone, Mike and Joe took two trips all over the two counties looking for special books for the program - or for ourselves. The majority of what we saw were works of fiction, though there were several do-it-yourself books, as well as the occasional biography/autobiography.

If you've got a book that you no longer have shelf space for, consider donating it to a Little Free Library (Bruce built a LFL in front of Life College on 837 Sweetser in Novato and one in Cotati). Check out their website for more information: littlefreelibrary.org.

Have you ever been walking down the street, minding your own business, when suddenly you came across a little box filled with books?

Did you open the little door and take a peek inside?

Did you find something you'd like to read and take it home?
If so, you're a patron of a Little Free Library!



The Little Free Libraries of the North Bay

with Joe's group



The Little Free Library is a non profit organization that is based in St. Paul Minnesota. The organization's aim is to have "...a Little Free Library in every community and a book for every reader." Some people don't have access to a public library, so the Little Free Library project is trying to make the power of the written word accessible to everybody. "We believe all people are empowered when the opportunity to discover a personally relevant book to read is not limited by time, space, or privilege." There are over 150,000 Little Free Libraries in over 120 countries all over the world!



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**We accept and appreciate donations
of any size or kind.**

**All donations to CH&S are
tax-deductible.**

**CH&S is a 501(c)(3) non-profit
organization.**

We Love Compassion Corner!



Did you know...?

- There are over 75 million pet dogs in the U.S.—more than in any other country.
- Forty-five percent of U.S. dogs sleep in their owner's bed.
- Human blood pressure goes down when petting a dog. And so does the dog's!
- Guinea pigs do not originate from Guinea and they are not in the pig family! They are in the rodent (cavy) family.
- When dogs kick backward after they go to the bathroom it's not to cover it up, but to mark their territory, using the scent glands in their feet. Who knew?

Test yourself:

- One dog actor has been nominated as Best Actor in a Motion Picture. Can you guess which dog that was?
- What sort of noise does a guinea pig make?

Nino Takes a Survey

with Jennifer



World Oceans Day is June 18th. If you lived in the ocean, what sea creature would you be?

Yvette: Starfish

Michelle: I'd like to be under the sea in an OCTOPUS' garden in the shade.....

Andrew: Stingray

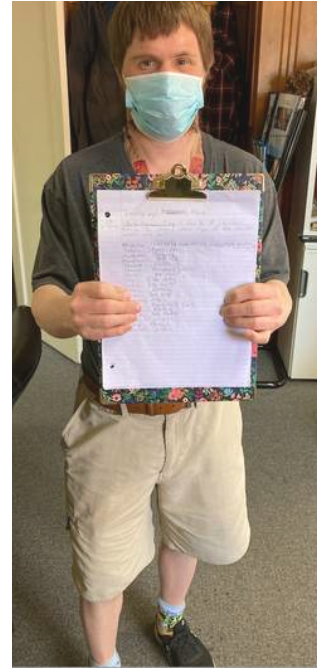
Connor: Humpback whale

Katie: Mermaid

Bruce: Sea Otter

Cat: Sea Turtle

Thea: Box Jellyfish



**There is nothing better than a good hotdog in the month of June!
How do you like your hotdog?**

Martha: mayo, mustard and ketchup

Nino: ketchup and mustard

Iris: ketchup, mustard and mayo

Jennifer: A LOT of yellow mustard and A LOT of sweet pickle relish

Darren: Plain, just bun and dog!



National Mascot Day is June 17th. What was your school's mascot?

Darnell: Prospector

Zachary: Trojan

Devlin: Bulldog

Justin: Peregrine Falcon

Randall: Mustang

Amy: San Rafael Bulldogs

Thea: Tornado



Joke Corner

What do you call a train that has a cold?

Achoo-choo train!

-Zachary

How does NASA throw a party?

They planet!

-Darren

Knock knock!

Who's There?

Oldies.

Oldies who?

Oldies jokes being told!

-Connor

Answers to Compassion Corner quiz: 1) Rin Tin Tin 2) "wheek"

Remember Our Easter Egg Hunt?



XXX



It was great to see each other a couple of months ago! It was a day full of games and eggs and good cheer!



Our Favorite Chips

Zayde and Jehann's group (David G, Mike, Gina, Jenet, Arthur, and Gregory) have been working on a knowledge class that is near and dear to many of our hearts—chips. Be they potato or Dorito or Cheetos, people love chips!

Did you know that in Britain, potato chips are called "crisps"? When they say "chips" they mean french fries.

Did you know that the sound of crunching adds to the pleasure of eating chips. Snackers who eat chips with headphones on report becoming bored with chips more quickly. We don't know anyone who's been bored eating chips!



More chip facts:

- Cheetos come in 50 flavors around the world, including fizzy Pepsi in Japan, ketchup in Poland, strawberry in Russia, and peanut-covered in Europe.
- The world's largest bag of potato chips weighed as much as a small car! In 2013, Corkers Crisps set a world record for the largest single bag of potato chips. According to Guinness World Record regulations, the bag measured 18 feet tall (almost as tall as a two-story building) and contained more than 2,515 pounds of chips all of which were cooked in a single batch over a 17-hour period!
- Ridges are an engineering marvel. People wanted a heftier, more sturdy chip that wouldn't break when dipped in various sauces, so manufacturers introduced the ruffled chip, which is a full four times thicker than a standard chip. Let the chips and dipping begin!
- No flavor is too weird. In the U.S., bestsellers are barbecue and sour cream & onion, as well as offbeat options like buffalo wing, dill pickle, and Old Bay crab seasoning. In the UK they eat prawn cocktail and roast beef flavors, while people in Greece love oregano-flavored chips. People in Japan eat soy sauce, seaweed, and butter potato chips, while other countries sell chips flavored with paprika, cassava, mint, mayonnaise, hoisin duck, and, of course, "Cajun squirrel."

What are your favorite chips?

Zayde: Hot Cheetos

Rickina: Salt and Vinegar Lay's Potato Chips

David F: Lay's Classic

Jonas: Doritos

Andrew M: None

Cindy: BBQ chips

Harold: Tie between sour cream and cheddar chips



Rebecca: Hot Cheetos

Valerie: Doritos

Linda: Tortilla chips

Frank: BBQ potato chips

Jehann: Cheetos puffs

Billy: Doritos

No one: Cajun Squirrel

Jenet Was Inspired to Make Potato Chips!

When Zayde and Jehann's group worked on a Knowledge Class on chips, Jenet said, "I love chips!" Then Jenet was inspired to show off her cooking skills and make potato chips to share with everyone! After reviewing cooking safety, Team Double-J (Jenet and Jehann) got to cooking. Predictably, the cooking class was a big hit!

Here is how it went:

Jehann: "How was it to cook chips for everyone?"

Jenet: "It was a nice experience. I helped you with the chips."

Jehann: "I think I helped YOU! What were the steps that we followed?"

Jenet: "I dumped it [sliced potatoes] in the water. And then dried them. Then I fried them until they're brown."

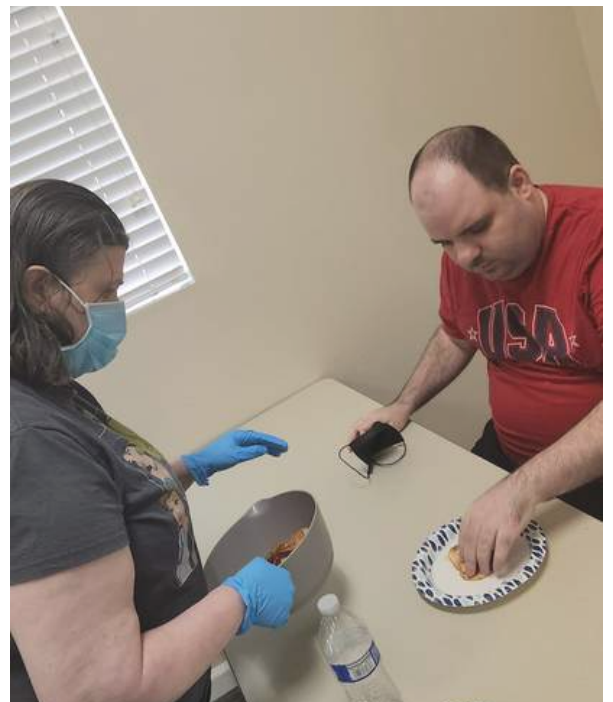
Jehann: "Did you turn them over?"

Jenet: "I flipped them to get the other side brown, too. Then I took them out of the frying pan."

Jehann: "We sprinkled the chips with salt."

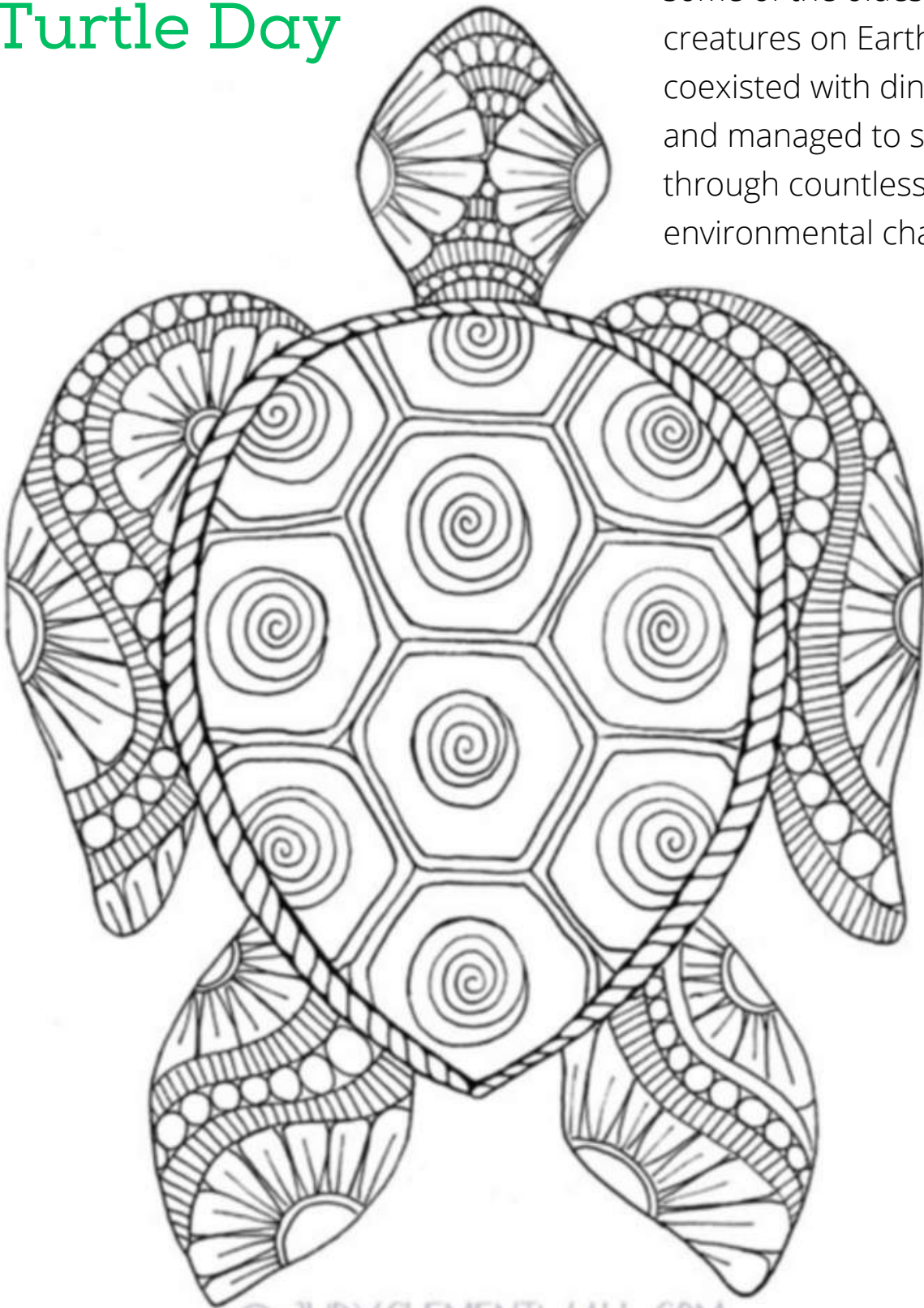
Jenet: "I shared the chips with my friends!"

Check out a video of chef Jenet on our CommunityHomesAndServices Instagram, [here](#).



June 16 is National Sea Turtle Day

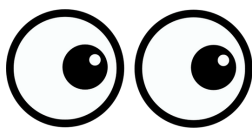
Sea turtles have been around for more than 110 million years, making them some of the oldest creatures on Earth. They coexisted with dinosaurs and managed to survive through countless environmental changes!



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What Have We Been Up To?

With the weather warming up, we are taking the show on the road (or at least out the door) and utilizing our patio as a bonus classroom! Here's a lively/lovely philosophy class.



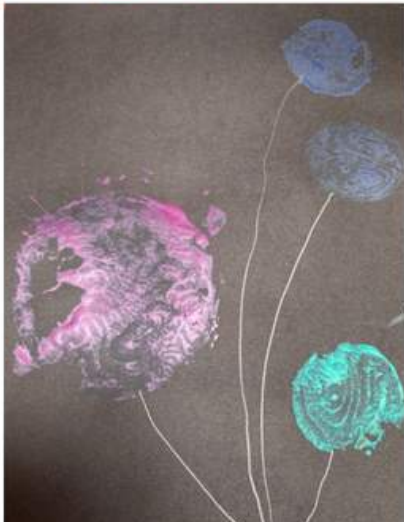
This Aquarium Month, we are showcasing our fish tank decor. Check out all the themed decorations we have on rotation!



This Is What We've Been Up To!



Look how cute our lil' picnic table squirrel feeder is!



**I AM
Strong**



Mascot Madness

Here is an excerpt from a Knowledge/Cultural Literacy class by Cat, Martha, Courtney, Randall, Andrew, Justin, Connor, Phoebe, and Yvette.

*What is the role of a sports team mascot? They are at the games on the sidelines, cheering on the team, strutting and leading cheers. Mascots are there to bring their team luck, and tell everyone, "This is who we are!"

*As part of their routine to excite and entertain the crowd, mascots might dance, do flips and dunks, perform skits, and interact with people in the stands and on the sidelines.

*Mascots have a "personality" and a role to play for their team, whether it be tough, goofy, silly, or footloose.

*Off the field, mascots pose for photos with fans, meet and greet people at special appearances, and promote the team at events like parades, races, farmers markets, county fairs, etc.

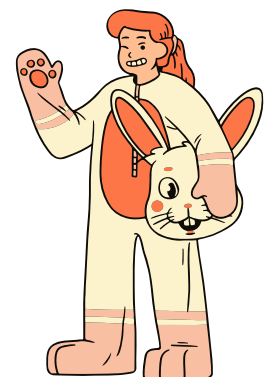
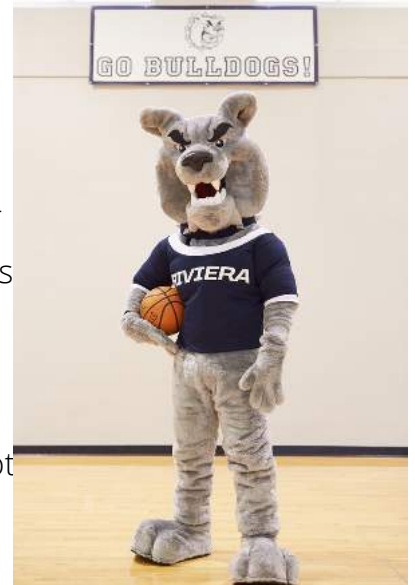
*Chas' Trivia Question: Who is the most hated mascot of all time?
Answer: Our very own San Francisco Giants' "Crazy Crab"

*After the end of the 5th inning at home games, the Pittsburgh Pirates Pierogies take the field to run the 280 yard Great Pittsburgh Pierogi Race. If they haven't already, they ought to get together with the Milwaukee Brewers Racing Sausages!

*Mascots aren't limited to representing sports teams! Many food and entertainment brands have their own (hopefully) highly recognizable mascot tied to their product. Think Chuck E Cheese, The Burger King, and Ronald McDonald!

*The most recognizable mascot on earth can be represented by three circles—can you guess who he is? If you need a hint, he is a mouse...whose name starts with the letter "M". And he works at Disneyland.

*Cereal Mascots: It's no coincidence that the faces of cartoony characters on cereal boxes seem to be staring right at you in the cereal aisle—they're meant to literally catch your eye to tempt you to buy them! Can you name some mascots you've seen staring at you from your breakfast cereal?



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