



CK Reporter of the Week
Lauren Walters, Denver

Cherry Creek celebrates diversity



Candles, tamales, jewelry, cupcakes, candy, crepes, pasta, samosas, burritos, Oh my!

On February 2, Cherry Creek High School hosted an Ethnic Fest where many people in the community celebrated the diversity we are surrounded by.

There were a number of performances that showed off the unique culture of many different people around the world.

Everything from Hellenic dancing to Irish dancing was featured at the high school as 23 clubs that explore the cultures of various countries had set up booths to raise money by selling foods from the country their club represented.

Along with the different booths and performances, a hallway highlighted the National Art Society working on the Memory Project.

Every year, the club is assigned a country which is facing hardships.

Each kid is given a picture of a child who has faced many adversities in his or her life. This year, the country chosen was Ukraine and all the children are orphans.

The artist can choose the medium to create the portrait (*drawing, painting, digital art, collage, etc.*).

When they finish the portrait, the Memory Project team delivers the portrait to the child and take photos to show the artist.

This project helps the artists “see themselves as a work of art.”

Hellenic dancing is traditional Greek Dancing. The dancers say that, even though the dances are simple, they love to carry on the traditions that started a long time ago.

A henna artist had a booth and applied simple designs on anyone who wanted one to give people a taste of Indian culture.

Two people from Koffi Togo Cultural Center performed traditional African music.

They are proud of their African heritage, and the rich music and traditions carried by their ancestors fascinate them.

Teaching children with African heritage about the diverse group to which they belong is their goal.

A room was reserved for poetry.

Along with learning about different cultures, people got to share the diverse feelings they possess through the art of poetry.

The event informed many people about the diversity that one school possesses.

In the words of one student, “I think it is important to be aware about those who are different from yourself. Especially in this time of politics. The Ethnic Fest is a great way to do this.”

Another student said, “It’s cool to see a bunch of diversity with all the different clubs and students at the school.”

The Ethnic Fest is a way for people of all backgrounds to come together to share their differences with the world.



photos/Saloni Agarwal



By Saloni Agarwal,
14, a CK Reporter
from Centennial

Cool art in Breckenridge’s annual contest

The drive from Denver to this year’s Breckenridge International Snow Sculpture Championships was really long.

Traffic was very heavy, so it took over twice as long to get there as usual. This time of year, you need to be sure to time your drive away from rush hour ski traffic!

There were 16 snow sculptures. They were all really big.

There was not a common theme because each team got to pick their own.

There was a giant tree with a bunch of deer around it, from Mongolia, and one from Iceland with a huge Viking ship with a giant mast.

There was a sculpture from Italy that reminded me of a prince in a castle with a dragon that was pretty cool.

My favorite was the Viking ship because it was the easiest to understand.

There were also two special ice sculptures.

One was a bunch of coral with a lot of fish, including angel and clownfish.

The other was two ice poles that were connected. There was a turtle on one of them and an angel fish on the other. They were about a tenth of the size of the snow sculptures and you have to search for them in the festival.

Some carvers put snow in the ice carvings and LED lights behind them to help you see them better.



photo/Ben Vanourek

Besides looking at the sculptures, you could round out the day in the area by skiing, tubing, ice skating, shopping, and enjoying lots of food.

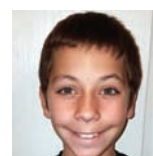
My favorite restaurant there is Q4U, it wasn’t really easy to find, since the sign was covered in snow, but they have great barbecue.

There also was a sculpture not in the competition that looked like a big dump truck. The coolest feature for children was a slide in the front that kids could play on.

There was also an example of one of the huge blocks of snow that the teams had to start with, so that you could see how it morphed into a beautiful work of snow art.

I have gone to this festival three times, and I have had fun each year.

I highly recommend it, but remember next year to watch the traffic patterns!



By Ben Vanourek,
11, a CK Reporter
from Littleton



Limited to first 75 students.

Youth Journalism Day

for 4th-8th grade students

Thursday, July 20, 2017
7:30am to 5:00pm
Metropolitan State University, Denver

Student Cost for the Day: \$65 (includes breakfast & lunch).
Spend the day with professionals learning about story writing, interviews and photography.

Register today! Go to ColoradoNIE.com for a registration form.
Call 303-954-3974 with questions.




All kids belong in the sweet kingdom of story



photo/Jonah Rupe

“It is stories that connect us,” said Nikki Grimes at the 2017 Colorado Council of the International Reading Association conference. Recent winner of the 2017 Laura Ingalls Wilder award, the popular author and poet shared her idea that writing about characters of different races, cultures, and backgrounds should be more commonplace in literature today. She said people need to “feel the heartbeats” of other races. The focus of her work is on the human story and that we are more alike than different. Grimes used poetic language such as referring to the common denominator of characters being the human heart.

During the conference, she read from many of her books, including “Garvey’s Choice” and “Planet Middle School.” Among her many poetry and children’s books, she also said that she often wrote from her life experiences or from a conversation she overheard. She believes that it is alright to portray a character from a different race or culture from your own, as long as it is done accurately, authentically, and naturally. She added that it is important to include a wide variety of cultures in the background of a story to reflect the world around us and to connect with all types of readers. She wants all children to feel like they are “part of the crew” and see themselves reflected in literature. Grimes reminded us that literature can change the way kids look at the people around them who are different from themselves. It can bring groups of people together. Grimes shared her insights as to who would like her work: “those who like to read and those who don’t, those who like poetry and those who think they don’t, kids who like to laugh, kids who like drama and all kinds of kids.” After her presentation, she shared with me that her ideas for books sometimes don’t come from anywhere but her own imagination. That’s how she retreats to the “sweet kingdom of story”.

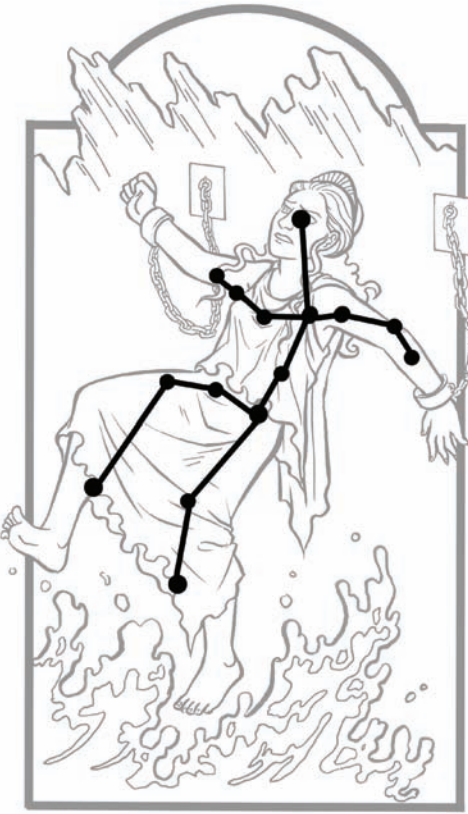


By Jonah Rupe, 12, a CK Reporter from Evergreen

Stories in the Stars: Andromeda

The Stories

Andromeda was the daughter of Cassiopeia, the proud queen whose boasting had annoyed the beautiful sea-nymphs, the Nereids. When the Nereids told their father, Poseidon, Ruler of the Seas, that Cassiopeia said she was more beautiful than they were, he sent a horrible sea monster to destroy Joppa, the city on the Mediterranean where Cassiopeia’s husband, Cepheus, was king. There was only one way to stop the monster, Cepheus was told: He had to chain his daughter to a rock at the edge of the sea for the beast to devour. Andromeda was a beautiful young woman, and her royal parents had already found her a noble fiance, Phineas. Now, instead of becoming his bride, she was going to be sacrificed to a sea monster. Fortunately, just as the sea monster spotted the girl chained to the rocks, she was also seen by Perseus as he was flying home from slaying the Medusa. Perseus swooped down in front of the monster. He warned Andromeda to shut her eyes, and then he took the head of Medusa from the sack in which he carried it. As soon as the sea monster looked at the horrible face of the gorgon, it turned to stone, and Andromeda was saved. But her troubles were not quite over. Perseus freed her from her chains and flew her back to the palace. Cepheus and Cassiopeia were delighted that he had saved her, and they were even happier when he told them he wanted to marry their daughter. But Andromeda, remember, was already engaged, and now that rich young nobleman stepped forward and insisted that she marry him. Perseus frowned. “If you care for her so much,” he asked, “why did you leave her chained to the rock?” Phineas had no answer to this, so he and his friends drew their swords and tried to attack Perseus, until he showed them the head of Medusa and ended the battle. Andromeda then flew away in the arms of her hero, and they became the parents and grandparents of many more Greek heroes.



The Stars

If you stand so that Cassiopeia is a W, Andromeda will be the first constellation south of her, going away from Polaris. Andromeda has three bright stars that line up, starting with Alpheratz, which is her head. The second is Mirach, which means “girdle” and is at her waist, and the third of her bright stars is Almach, which is her foot. But the most important thing to look for in Andromeda isn’t a star. It’s millions of stars, and it’s the farthest thing you will ever see just using your eyes. It’s the Andromeda Galaxy, and its light took about two and a half million years to get here! All the stars in all the constellations are in our galaxy, the Milky Way Galaxy. The bright band of stars that we call the Milky Way is only part of the galaxy, which is shaped like a fat pizza. We’re a little bit in from the rim, about halfway between the top and bottom, so we have some stars above and some stars below us, but billions in the flat part that surrounds us. When we look out through that wide rim, we see lots of stars. That’s what we call the Milky Way. Seeing the Andromeda Galaxy calls for a dark night. With a full moon, or a lot of lights from the city, you might not be able to find it. But here’s how to try: Go to Mirach, the girdle, and then up (towards Cassiopeia) to the next star, and then up again to the next star, the third of the three stars that, in our picture, is her upraised knee. Just above it and to the right is a little smudge of light. That’s the Andromeda Galaxy, an entire collection of stars, and the only galaxy besides our own that you can see without a telescope. Think of it this way: If you took a picture of your friend at a playground, your friend would be close, a picnic table might still be sort of close, and a ballfield a little farther away. But if you could also see a mountain far away in the background, you wouldn’t say it was part of the playground. All the stars you can see are in our “playground.” The Andromeda Galaxy is in a completely different neighborhood!

NEXT WEEK: Perseus

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Artwork copyright 2006, Dylan Meconis

Download a teaching guide at ColoradoNIE.com

Restaurant gives families a “good kids” discount



A restaurant in Padua, Italy, may have found a way to keep children from cutting up and annoying other customers. Or, at least, it may have found a way of attracting families whose children know how to behave in public. Like many other restaurant owners, Antonio Ferrari was often frustrated when a table of noisy kids -- and sometimes noisy kids running around instead of being

at their table -- bothered the other customers at his small bistro. Though he has no kids of his own, Ferrari says he likes them and even cooks food for young customers that isn’t on his menu, which is aimed more at dishes to go with the wine he serves. So when a party of six adults and five kids came in one Sunday, he was delighted to see that the kids, who were between four and six years old, had brought pens

and paper. When they were done eating, while their parents talked and sipped wine, the kids colored and worked on multiplication tables. Ferrari was so pleased that he gave the group a five percent discount of about \$13.80 American, and one of the parents happily shared their bill on Facebook. “Sconto bimbi educati” translates into “Well-behaved children discount.”

photo/Facebook

An exciting, if freezing, view of live history

Seeing the Presidential Inauguration was an exciting experience, despite the freezing weather.

At around 5:30 in the morning, thousands of us crowded around the capital, waiting for the ceremony to begin.

People from all over came; there were people from all different states and from both parties.

As the crowd waited, a marching band began to play, performing familiar songs, such as “America the Beautiful” and the National Anthem.

The sun slowly rose, and soon, the swearing-in began. 11:00 came, and so did famous people as they walked on to the stage.

Hillary Clinton, Paul Ryan, Barack Obama, and, of course President Donald Trump were there, welcomed by excited cheers and whistles.

At 11:30, the ceremony began. The Chief Justice, John Roberts Jr. administered the oath to President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence, who repeated it back word for word.

At the end of the oath, vice president and president both say “So help me God”



photo/Grace McClung

and they are officially sworn into office. This ceremony is always held on the 20 of January, however, if this day falls on a Sunday, the Chief Justice administers the oath to the president and vice president privately on Sunday and publicly on Monday. After the swearing in, the crowd exploded, celebrating the future term of the new president. Celebrations and other demonstrations continued throughout the weekend, including the Women’s March. This event is now part of our history, and shows once more the peaceful transition of power from one president to the next.



By Grace McClung, 12, a CK Reporter from Denver

We asked you, you told us:

Hanging out happens inside

Maybe it’s the winter weather; we should ask this again in July. But when we asked CK Readers where they get together with friends, the message came back loud and clear: Indoors.

Nearly half of those who responded said they get together at each other’s homes, while about a fifth said at a mall or other indoor place, and a few others meet up on line.

Only a fifth chose a park or other outdoor place. Here’s what we asked you, and what you told us:

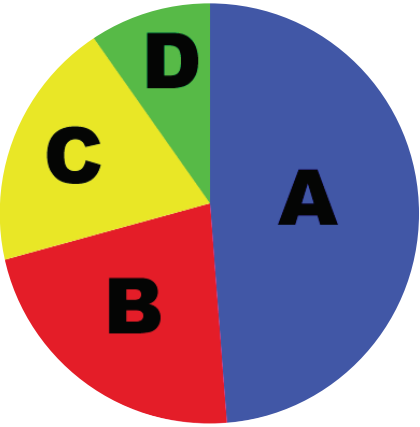
On days with no school, what’s your favorite way to get together with friends?

- A. At somebody’s house 49%
- B. At a commercial place like a mall or a coffeeshop 22%
- C. At a park or other open space 20%
- D. Online 10%

Now here’s our next question:
Which of these statements best reflects how you and your good friends share books?

- A. If one of us likes a book, we’ll all end up checking it out.
- B. We share sometimes, but our reading tastes vary a lot.
- C. I’m the only really eager reader in my circle.
- D. I don’t even read half the books I recommend to myself.

To answer this question, go to <http://nextgen.yourhub.com>



India puts 104 satellites into Earth orbit at once



At the start of the Space Age, every satellite required its own rocket to carry it into orbit. That didn’t last for long and soon space agencies were saving money by using one rocket to put two or three satellites in place around the Earth. And then it became more than two or three. Until last week, the record for most satellites in one launch was 37 and belonged to the Russians. But on Valentine’s Day, the Indian Space Research Organization shattered that record by putting 104 satellites into orbit with one rocket. Three of the satellites in that payload were full-sized satellites that belonged to India. The other 101 were small “nano-satellites” from several countries: The U.S., the Netherlands, Israel, Kazakhstan and Switzerland. The American company, Planet, owns 88 of the small Earth-scanning satellites, called “Doves,” which are a foot long by four inches wide and four inches deep. The best part of this record-breaking launch for space fans may be that the screenshot above is from an ISRO video you can find at <http://www.isro.gov.in/>

Sudoku

		2		3	
		5			4
				2	1
6					
			3		
	1	3	5		

Rules: Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only. The solution to this week’s puzzle is on the back page.



Brainteaser

- On this date in 1885, the Washington Monument in Washington, DC, was officially dedicated, so our answers will begin with “O” for “obelisk.”**
- This small, spotted wild feline is native to Central America.
 - This Western Slope county near Montrose and Gunnison is named for a chief of the Ute nation.
 - Mixed Martial Arts fans know this name for an eight-sided shape.
 - An herb so popular in Italian food that pizzerias keep shakers of it out for people to sprinkle on their pizzas
 - This author’s character, “Fancy Nancy,” recently went from picture books to chapter books for younger readers.
 - The opposite of transparent
 - The Sooner State
 - Aviation pioneer Wilber Wright’s brother and pioneer, or a popular musical play.
 - This mountain was the home of the Greek gods.
 - Arab nation at the mouth of the Persian Gulf

(answers on the back page)

Dinosaur ancestor may have given birth live rather than by eggs

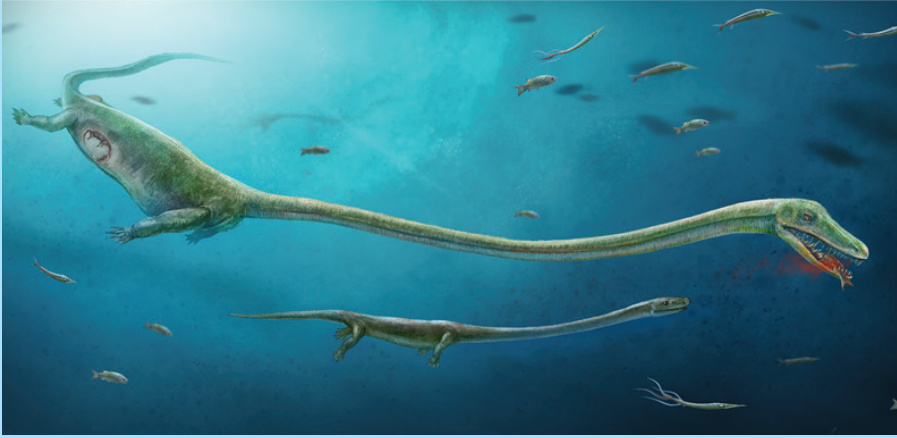


illustration: Dinghua Yang

When Chinese archaeologists found a fossil of *Dinocephalosaurus*, an aquatic reptile from some 245 million years ago, they discovered something startling inside it: An embryo. As good scientists must, they began by trying to think of explanations that made sense: Was the tiny animal a meal the beast had eaten just before it died? But it was head-forward, and the old reptile had such an extraordinarily long neck that it would have eaten prey head-first so it would go down easier. It might have been an embryo in an

egg inside its mother, but it was much too well developed for that. After a great deal of thought and of examination of the evidence, the scientists decided the best explanation was that this particular relative of what would later become dinosaurs, birds and crocodiles had given birth to live babies rather than laying eggs. This makes sense, because, with its long neck, it probably could never go on land to lay eggs like a turtle or alligator. But it didn’t pass on its ability to skip the egg part to any of its reptile descendants.

