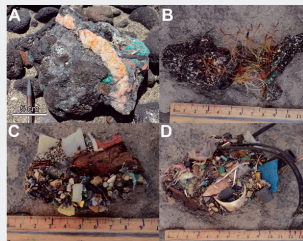


Welcome to the epoch of man-made plastic rocks



Anthropocene stones preserve our trash

It makes sense, in a way: If you can have a kind of fossil called “coprolite” that’s formed from dinosaur poo, why wouldn’t you some day have rocks called “plastiglomerate” that include bits of plastic trash?

Of course, dinosaurs didn’t have very large brains and weren’t smart enough to think of scooping their poop and disposing of it properly. Which doesn’t explain why humans leave their plastic around. Or maybe it does.

Whatever the reason, there is plastic trash all over the Earth, and a huge swirling island of it floating in the Pacific. Beachcombers and geologists in Hawaii are now finding rocks that are a combination of pebbles, sand and plastic garbage, sometimes melted together by campfires, but here to stay.

Scientists are starting to refer to the period since the 18th century as the “Anthropocene Epoch,” meaning the time when human action began changing the Earth itself.

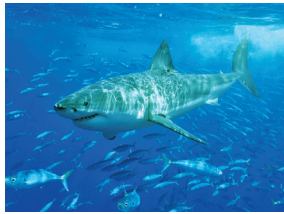
Photo/Geological Society of America

ColoradoKids

June 17, 2014



CK Reporter
Tripp Ceysens,
Arvada



WHAT COULD EAT A NINE-FOOT LONG GREAT WHITE SHARK?

Sometimes nature hands us a mystery that it would take a TV show to solve.

Eleven years ago, researchers in Australia put an electronic tag on a nine-foot great white shark and released it.

Later, the tracking device washed up on shore, and its readings showed that the shark had been dragged deep below the ocean’s surface, and the temperature readings suggested that the tag had been inside the stomach of whatever ate the shark.

The only natural enemy of the great white is the orca, and these weren’t orca waters.

What could have eaten a nine-foot great white shark?

How about a bigger great white shark? After all, they grow to be almost 20 feet long.

But if the answer were that simple, who’d watch the TV show whose producers are drumming up all this publicity?

Now, there’s a real mystery!
photo/Terry Goss

RIDING THE RAILS THROUGH TIME

If you’ve ever wondered what it would be like to go back to the Old West, your wish can come true Saturday at the Colorado Railroad Museum’s Wild West Day.



By Salina Garza,
14, a CK Reporter
from Westminster

Take a step back in time on a day filled with reenactors, booths, old fashioned train rides, and festivities for everyone!

Two of the actors who will be wandering about the rails, Lee Michels and David T. Wright, say that, when you come to this event, you’ll get a glimpse of the old life!

You might even run into Doc Holiday, Annie Oakley, maybe even Buffalo Bill!

Michels suggests you come in costume and have fun with it! After all, what’s the Old West without any prairie girls and farmer boys?

The reenactors know a lot about their characters and the history of the Wild West, so, if you have questions or want to know something about anything, they’ll know it!

The Old West characters are ready to take pictures with your



Days of Yesteryear Visitors will once more enjoy the fun and tall tales of Wild West Days Saturday. Photo/Colorado Railroad Museum

family, and there is always a competition between the men and women to see who will end up with the money from the train robbery.

Donald Tallman, executive director of the museum, added that there is something for everyone to do including story telling using sign language, a nationally recognized historic author, an Old West saloon complete with gambling and family friendly drinks, and rides on an 1880’s steam train!

The museum also offers other kinds of trains for you to experience first hand, and a new exhibit about the history of hobos and railroading.

You may want to grab your stick and bandana for that one!

Wild West Day is one of the most popular events at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden, so climb aboard and don’t miss this one of a kind “time traveling” event!

For more information, catch the link at ColoradoNIE.com

Get your summer reading off to a fast-paced start

Zooooom. Thirteen-year-old Lucas Benes rides down the streets of Paris.



By Vivien Weigel,
10, a CK Reporter
from Arvada

However, this isn't a vacation for him.

This is a mission to stop the so-called Good Company from

brainwashing another group of innocent children and selling them for child labor.

"Brainwashed" by Paul Aertker is a fast paced novel in the "Crime Travelers" series that will keep you at the edge of your seat.

Still, through all the excitement there are some life lessons hidden within.

The Good Company plays the role of the villain in this book, despite having most of

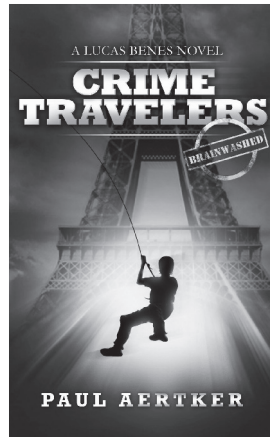
the public tricked into believing their name.

"If someone tells you something enough times, you will eventually believe them," Aertker writes.

What's riveting in this novel is that the people trying to stop the Good Company aren't grownups, but kids.

In this case, it's the children's problem not the adults'. Therefore the kids must solve it.

"Adults can't solve all the



problems in the world," Aertker says, who seems very confident in our generation's ability to clean up adult messes.

What originally started out as a travel-themed book like the "Magic Treehouse" became a realistic fiction novel, fun for boys and girls to read.

Though I recommend this book for 9-13 year olds, older kids will also enjoy this quick read.

Once you're finished, you've only just begun because in the next book "Lucas finds who he really is," Aertker says.

So I suggest you set out on your summer vacation with this unforgettable page turner.

Colorado Kids

is produced by

Denver Post Educational Services

Executive Editor: Dana Plewka

dplewka@denverpost.com

CK Editor: Mike Peterson

coloradokidseditor@gmail.com

We welcome your comments.

For tools to extend the learning in

this feature, look under

"eEdition lessons" at:

www.ColoradoNIE.com

eEditions of the Post are

free of charge for classroom use.

Contact us for information on all

our programs.

Denver Post Educational Services

101 W. Colfax Ave.

Denver CO 80202

(303) 954-3974

(800) 336-7678

BEYOND THESE FOUR PAGES

Plastic has now become part of the environment, according to the story on Page One.

Look through today's paper and find other things that are new to this generation but could become part of how the world works in the future.

Is that a good thing, or a bad thing? Explain why.

Itty bitty how-to book tells about kitty care

"The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee" by Laurie Cinotto is a fact-filled informative story about how to care and foster a new-born kitten.



By Natalie Huttner,
10, a CK Reporter
from Englewood

In the book, there are kitten comics, adorable kitten photos, and of course, facts on fostering a kitten to train a new-born kitten before the kitten gets adopted.

The author is a kitten wrangler and has fostered over 200 kittens.

In her book, she writes about some of the kittens she fostered and tells stories about people who adopted her kittens. Throughout the book, there

are little articles on ways to keep your kitten clean and some about toys you can make for your kittens to enjoy.

There are also numerous photos of all the kittens Laurie has fostered.

I would give the book a four out of five star rating.

I really enjoyed the book and I learned a lot, but I think the author was a little too personal about herself and training cats and I think she could have

added some more information about kittens.

I would recommend this book for anyone who is interested in learning about cats and for people who want to foster kittens for the first time.

If you like kittens, "The Itty

Bitty Kitty Committee" would be a great book for you to read and get a little information on fostering kittens.

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO ALL THINGS KITTEN



TAKE THE WORLD CUP QUIZ!

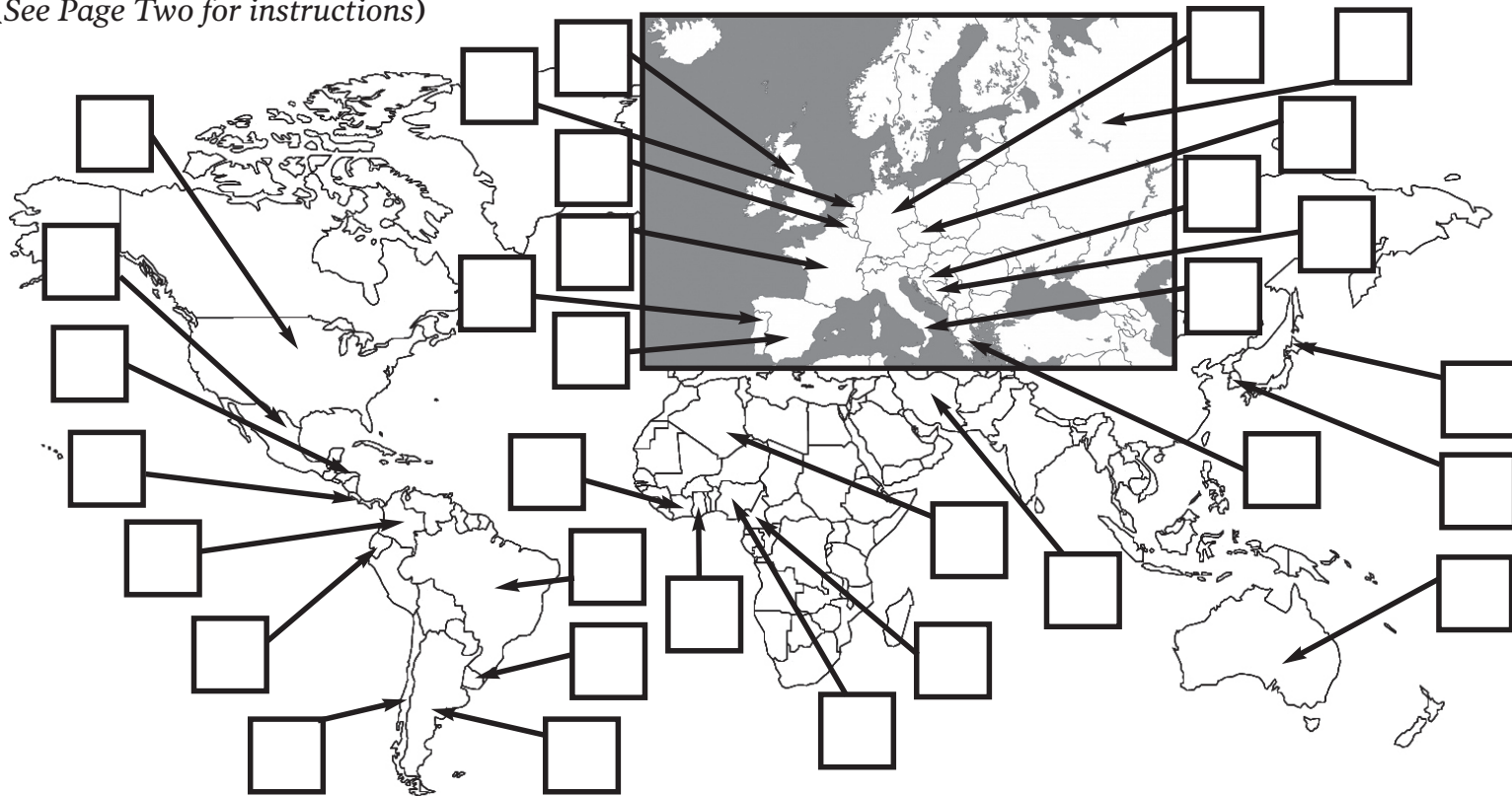
Place the number of each of these World Cup qualifiers on the world map on Page Three.

- 1 Algeria
- 2 Argentina
- 3 Australia
- 4 Belgium
- 5 Bosnia/Herzegovina
- 6 Brazil
- 7 Cameroon
- 8 Chile
- 9 Colombia
- 10 Costa Rica
- 11 Croatia
- 12 Ecuador
- 13 England
- 14 France
- 15 Germany
- 16 Ghana
- 17 Greece
- 18 Honduras
- 19 Iran
- 20 Italy
- 21 Ivory Coast
- 22 Japan
- 23 Mexico
- 24 Netherlands
- 25 Nigeria
- 26 Portugal
- 27 Russia
- 28 South Korea
- 29 Spain
- 30 Switzerland
- 31 United States
- 32 Uruguay

(Answers at ColoradoNIE.com)

How many World Cup teams can you identify?

(See Page Two for instructions)



Go to ColoradoNIE.com and click on Web Links for the Answer Key.

base map: <http://www.freeusandworldmaps.com>

ck Kids and adults can find live links to information about stories in Colorado Kids at www.ColoradoNIE.com

Youth Journalism Day

for 4th-8th grade students

Friday, July 18 • 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Student Cost for the Day: \$50 (includes breakfast & lunch)

Maximum 75 students. Here's a great chance for budding journalists, writers and photographers to spend the day with professionals learning about:

What makes a good story • Getting ready for an interview Asking good questions • Writing tips & Taking good photographs

Register today! Go to ColoradoNIE.com for a registration form. Limited to first 50 students



Call
303-954-3974
with questions.

Sudoku

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 Page 4.

		5		6	
				1	
		2			4
1	5				
	2		3		
	3				5

'DRAGON 2' CARRIES STORY INTO FUTURE

A family favorite movie is back: "How To Train Your Dragon" warmed our hearts with a story of friendship and adventure and its sequel does not fail to include these same features.



By Megan Goldin, 14, a CK Reporter from Highlands Ranch

The story of Hiccup (voiced by Jay Baruchel) and Toothless continues in "How To Train Your Dragon 2," set five years later in the changed town of Berk where all villagers now have dragons. While Hiccup and Astrid (America Ferrera) are out exploring they run into a group of people who could be threats to their new-found ways of life.

After trying to confront his father about the problem Hiccup decides to take it into his own hands.

Along the way he learns new things about himself and his priorities.

After a captivating couple of minutes of "How to Train Your

Dragon 2" you will be hooked.

You'll see that the bonds between Hiccup and other characters have matured and strengthened. This brings out sides of the characters that you did not see in the first movie.

If you go to see this movie, be prepared for all your emotions to be tugged on.

There are many different twists and turns throughout the plot that will change your mood in drastic ways.

This film is perfect for animal lovers as you get a good feel for the strong bond between Hiccup and Toothless, the same emotional bond that you might feel between yourself and a pet.

An improvement of animation quality and music choice really added to the overall execution of the film.

Watching the movie in IMAX 3D will make you feel like you're

riding on the backs of the dragons with the characters.

You may want to have seen the first movie before watching the sequel as there are some references back to the first, but it's not essential.

"How To Train Your Dragon 2" is a great summer movie for the whole family.



DMNS DOCUMENTARY TELLS LEMURS' STORY

"The Island of Lemurs: Madagascar," now showing at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, is an entertaining and educational 40-minute movie that delivers a message about preservation.



By Mreedul Gupta, 9, a CK Reporter from Littleton

In this non-fiction film, directed and photographed by David Douglas, there are many different types of lemurs including ring-tailed, bamboo, tiny mouse and sifaka.

Narrator Morgan Freeman's voice is rich and commanding, which enhances the story.

The lemurs' actions don't only speak for themselves, but their faces express feelings, too, so the audience can really connect with them.

They are charming, playful and have intensity in their eyes.

When they look right at the camera, not afraid, it seems that they can see through everyone.

Lemurs' voices leave a strong impression on the ears.

In one part of the documentary, lemurs call out for each other, their voices echoing in the forest.

There is only one place on Earth that lemurs call home: Madagascar.

The movie tells the story of how lemurs made it to Madagascar from the African continent between 62 and 65 million years ago by rafting out across the Mozambique Channel into the Indian Ocean on mats of vegetation.

In Africa, lemurs eventually went extinct.

The movie also shows the selfless dedication of American primatologist Patricia Wright.

She's dedicated her time and research to preserving lemurs at Ranomafana National Park.

But it gets difficult to find and protect them, when so much of their rainforest home has been burned

and cleared to make room for farming.

Watching this movie in IMAX 3D format gave me the feeling that I was in the Madagascar forest with the lemurs.

I would recommend this movie for all ages; Adults will like it as much as kids will.



Youth-written stories that appear here also appear on

nextGen

YourHub.com/NextGen

COME READ MORE STORIES, AND MAYBE WRITE ONE YOURSELF!

S
u
d
o
k
u

5	2	6	1	3	4
1	4	3	6	2	5
6	3	2	4	5	1
4	5	1	2	9	3
2	1	5	3	4	6
3	6	4	5	1	2

S
o
l
u
t
i
o
n