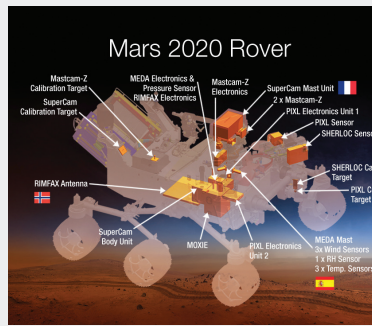


# NASA's next Mars mission beginning to take shape



The Mars rover Curiosity is still hard at work, two years after it began exploring the Red Planet, but NASA is now getting ready to send another rover to Mars, and this one will be able to do much more than Curiosity was ever designed to do.

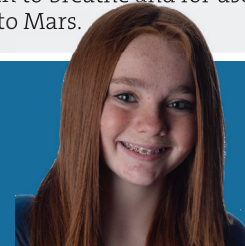
NASA considered 58 different proposals from around the world before deciding on the design for the Mars 2020 Rover that will launch in six years. The new rover will not simply explore the planet but will do more complex research with an eye to future Mars projects.

For instance, besides analyzing samples and streaming data to Earth, the rover will gather them so a future rover can actually carry them back. It will also collect information on how manned projects could make oxygen there, both to breathe and for use as rocket fuel, rather than having to carry it to Mars.

Photo/NASA-JPL

# ColoradoKids

August 19, 2014



CK Reporter  
Nikki Dresen,  
Winter Park

## 'GIVER' WELL-CAPTURED ON FILM



NEVER MIND LEGO: HERE'S A REAL STEM ROLE MODEL

Last week, we told how Lego is making minifigures of women in STEM careers so little girls can have toy role models to play with.

Since then, they've gained a real one: Maryam Mirzakhani, a math professor at Stanford University, became the first woman ever to win the Fisher medal, one of the most important awards in mathematics.

Mirzakhani knows how important it is to be encouraged: She almost quit studying math as a young girl growing up in Iran because a teacher told her she wasn't any good at it.

But her teacher the next year believed in her and now Mirzakhani says she hopes her example will help other girls realize that they can do math and that solving difficult problems is even fun: "It is like being lost in a jungle and trying to use all the knowledge that you can gather to come up with some new tricks, and with some luck you might find a way out." Photo/Stanford Univ.

"The Giver," written by Lois Lowry over 20 years ago has finally

been made into a movie starring Brenton Thwaites as Jonas and Jeff Bridges as The Giver with Meryl Streep, Odeya Rush, Taylor Swift, and Katie Holmes.



By Kaitlyn Pierce,  
12, a CK Reporter  
from Arvada

This is an extraordinary film.

Even without reading the book first, the movie is very easy to understand. The whole concept of the society and plot was explained well.

It follows the book pretty closely; only a few changes were made, and, whether or not you have read the book, this is a movie worth seeing.

Jonas's story is one you will never forget.

In his society, people live by the concept of Sameness.

Everybody lives in an identical dwelling, with the same family structure.

They have no emotions and senses like sight are dull.

Jonas is chosen to become the Receiver of Memory and during his training, Jonas receives memories of the time before



Sameness.

Having never seen colors or felt emotion, Jonas is now able to truly appreciate everything he learns about the world, from things as simple as the color red to the complexity of love.

He begins to see the world as it really is, but when Jonas realizes that only he and the Giver have any knowledge of this beauty, he is anxious to share it with his family and friends.

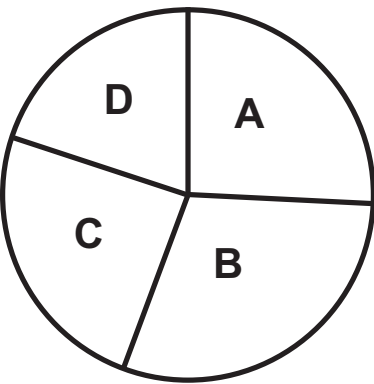
When he discovers there might be a way to give the memories to everyone and save lives, he

knows he has to try.

But is he strong enough to get there?

The movie is a little over an hour and a half long and very emotional. You will feel what Jonas is feeling throughout the movie, and will be entertained the entire time.

"The Giver" is PG-13 and definitely a movie for mature audiences. The violent scenes are over quickly, but younger kids might not understand the plot, so I recommend it for kids 12 and up.



# Back-to-school leaves readers divided

When it comes to the end of summer and the start of school, there wasn't much agreement among CK readers who answered our question.

Only a quarter of you were truly excited about the new school year, and that barely outnumbered those who were completely bummed out by it.

A little over half of those who responded pretty much shrugged it all off.

Here's what we asked you, and what you told us:

*Summer vacation is down to its last bits. How do you feel about school starting up again?*

- A. I can't wait! 26%
- B. I don't mind. Summer's long enough, I guess. 30%
- C. I want to see my friends, but you can keep the "school" part. 24%
- D. Are you kidding me? 20%

**Here's our next question: The Broncos are about to kick off the new season. How do you feel about that?**

- A. Best time of the year! Go Broncos!**
  - B. I enjoy watching the games with my friends.**
  - C. I might check out a game or two, if they're winning.**
  - D. Not on my radar.**
- To answer this question, go to [www.nextgen.yourhub.com](http://www.nextgen.yourhub.com)

ck Kids and adults can find live links to information about stories in Colorado Kids at [www.ColoradoNIE.com](http://www.ColoradoNIE.com)

## Colorado Kids

is produced by

Denver Post Educational Services  
 Executive Editor: Dana Plewka  
[dplewka@denverpost.com](mailto:dplewka@denverpost.com)  
 CK Editor: Mike Peterson  
[coloradokidseditor@gmail.com](mailto:coloradokidseditor@gmail.com)  
 We welcome your comments.

For tools to extend the learning in this feature, look under "eEdition lessons" at: [www.ColoradoNIE.com](http://www.ColoradoNIE.com)

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Denver Post Educational Services  
 101 W. Colfax Ave.  
 Denver CO 80202  
 (303) 954-3974  
 (800) 336-7678

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# Yasidis rescued by their fellow Kurds

There was a bit of good news from Iraq last week, where ISIS, a violent movement of religious extremists, has been trying to take over the region.

ISIS forces had trapped a group of people known as the Yasidis on a mountain and were closing in on them.

American and other Western forces dropped food and other supplies to the Yasidis, but it seemed they might all be killed, until Kurdish fighters from Syria crossed over the border and came to their rescue.

These Kurds fought to clear a safe pathway for thousands of Yasidis to escape to Syria, where there were refugee camps with food, shelter and medical help.

The rescue came at a time, and in a place, where there has been very little good news for a long time.

Like those who came to their aid, the Yasidis are Kurds, an ethnic group whose homeland is spread throughout northern Iraq, Iran, Syria and Turkey.

The Kurds have their own language and culture, and have long wanted independence. They have fought against the governments in their homeland to try to secure their own nation. Since the first Gulf War in 1991, the Kurds in



Yasidi refugees, no longer trapped in Iraq, cross a bridge over the Tigris River into Syria AP Photo/Khalid Mohammed

Iraq have often been able to act almost as if they were an independent country, because they were far enough from Baghdad and well-organized enough that the Iraqi government, of which they were a part, had other problems to concentrate on.

When ISIS first began to sweep through Iraq, the Iraqi army did a poor job of fighting back, but the regional forces in the Kurdish part of the country resisted.

What is particularly interesting about the way the Syrian Kurds came to the Yasidis rescue is that, unlike nearly all other Kurds, the Yasidis are not Sunni Muslims.

In fact, they aren't Muslims at all. Yasidis follow an ancient religion that is older than Islam and is not related to any of the sacred teachings that Muslims, Jews and

Christians -- "The People of the Book" -- follow.

Sunni Muslim and Shiite Muslims have been fighting with each other for years, while ISIS members, who are extremist Shiites, have killed both Sunnis and Christians for being different.

But the Kurds from Syria were not interested in fighting or hating over religion. They simply declared that they wanted to help protect their fellow Kurds, and so came to the aid of the Yasidis.



## BEYOND THESE FOUR PAGES

CK Readers who responded to the question about going back to school were divided on the topic. Take a poll in your classroom and see what results you get.

Educate yourself! Find out how taking a poll is different than letting people answer a question if they feel like it. This year, watch for news reports that misuse the term "poll." (CK just asks questions.)

# Easy, fun kids' book

**“H**umphrey’s Really Wheely Racing Day,” by Betty G. Birney is a cute little story for little kids to read.



By Natalie Huttner, 10, a CK Reporter from Englewood

It’s about a little hamster named Humphrey (who lives at school) who goes home with a classmate named Mandy on the weekend.

Over the weekend, Humphrey finds out that Mandy’s hamster has a really cool hamster race car that Humphrey really, really wants.

When Humphrey returns to class on Monday, Mandy shows her teacher the

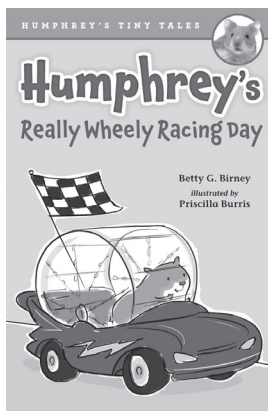
car and she also mentions how Humphrey really wants one.

The next day, Humphrey receives a box with something secret in it.

Humphrey can’t wait to open the box to see what it is.

Could a brand new hamster car be in that box?

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



The book was cute and all, but it’s pretty simple, so if you’re age eight or older, you won’t care about this book unless you have a younger sibling or cousin to give it to.

If you are six or under, however, this would be a great book to enjoy.

“Humphrey’s Really Wheely Racing Day” is a short

little book and little kids will enjoy it.

# Great man is honored

**R**ecently, a memorial service was held for Vincent Harding, a civil rights activist, at the New Hope Baptist Church in Denver.



By Thandi Glick, 10, a CK Reporter from Denver

He was very active in churches of all different religions, and everybody who spoke about him expressed how understanding he was of everyone and everything.

Dr. Harding worked with Martin Luther King Jr. and was the first director of Atlanta’s MLK Center for Social Justice.

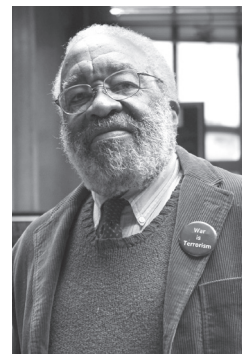
He was not just a black rights activist but an activist for all races and religions.

Dr. Harding taught the spirituals in Denver for some time, and was appreciated both within his community and for the work he did worldwide for civil rights.

Vincent Harding was valued by the many members of his community as being thoughtful and understanding.

One striking thing was said about him by Michelle Alexander:

“His love made me want to grow and blossom, and actually be the person he saw within me.”



Denver Post photo/ Joe Amon

One example of this is that when Dr. Harding first came to Denver, he saw a black church with a sign out front that said “Free my people.”

He went inside to the leaders of the church, and asked them “Do you want to be free, or do you want everybody to be free?”

People from all across the country came to honor this great man at his memorial.

## Back To School Time!

Be sure to be ready for the school year with ColoradoNIE.com. Brush-up on current events and review what happened in Colorado and the world this summer.

ColoradoNIE.com



## Brainteaser



On this day in 1812, the USS Constitution earned the nickname “Old Ironsides,” so all our answers will begin with the letter I.

1. Steel is a combination of this metal and carbon.
2. He was Abraham’s son and the father of Jacob and Esau.
3. Mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani, who just won the Fields medal, was born in this country.
4. You could drive from Iowa to Indiana through this state.
5. Long-legged wading bird with a downward-curved bill.
6. Superhero invented by himself: Tony Stark.
7. He wrote “Rip Van Winkle” and “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow,” and a biography of Christopher Columbus.
8. The Emerald Isle
9. The science that studies fish.
10. Lizard found in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.

(answers on Page Four)

# ARTISTIC DETAILS MAKE 'FICTIONS' APPEAR REAL



Image courtesy Denver Art Museum  
backgrounds of each portrait strongly contrasting with the darker shades of the person depicted: It seems to give off a glow of sorts.

The Denver Art Museum has consistently magnificent displays of art, be it sculptures, paintings, or anything in between.



By Hannah Pederson, 13, a CK Reporter from Denver

Another illusion is that the oil painting is on canvas. In fact, according to Sprick, it is a hard material painted to look like canvas with the help of wire brushes.

Each piece takes approximately two to four weeks to paint, but Sprick is constantly adding to the portraits and changing details.

This exhibit is a must-see, along with the other new exhibits.

Note that there is female nudity in a painting or two, which should be kept in mind if that is an issue for you.

I think the works in general are a little more geared toward adults, but anyone can appreciate these stunningly real portraits.

They will be at the DAM through the end of October.

One such exhibit is Daniel Sprick's "Fictions."

The Colorado artist's works seem as if they are photographs, but, upon a closer look, the incredibly realistic portraits' edges show obvious brushstrokes, revealing that they are, in fact, paintings.

The concept for this is reality dissipating into fiction, emerging and disintegrating realism.

They almost seem to be backlit, glowing slightly, but there are no lights or glow-in-the-dark paints used.

Incredibly, the "illumination" is just the pale yellow

# BOOK IS A MIXTURE OF TEXT AND NOVEL

Sunny is just a normal girl, listening to the Beatles, wanting to be left alone in peace.



By Cara Dulin, 12, a CK Reporter from Castle Rock

Also, people who have read "Countdown" may remember the sophisticated, mysterious Jo Ellen.

"Revolution" not only tells us what she's been doing, but it also lets us know more about her "thinking friends."

"Revolution" is a great fiction book, though it's not all fiction.

In various places, Deborah Wiles puts in a non-fiction part and pictures about the Civil Rights movement.

That way, you can enjoy a story and actually learn things.

But those non-fiction breaks seem to be rather frequent in this book.

It's a lot of good information, but at times, it almost feels like Deborah Wiles had so many facts to choose from that she decided to put them all in, which kind of takes away from the story.

I would recommend Revolution to kids 10+, only because it is a bit longer.

Protests.  
Beatles.  
Revolution.

What's not to love?

Revolution is a riveting read, and a great addition to the Sixties Trilogy.

I think you should start reading it right ... now!

But how can she be at peace with a new stepbrother, stepsister, and (worst of all) stepmother crowding into her life?

Everything just gets weirder when protesters barge into town with hopes to make men equal.

Not to mention the mysterious boy in high-top sneakers, who has the power to change everything.

Everything just gets weirder when protesters barge into town with hopes to make men equal.

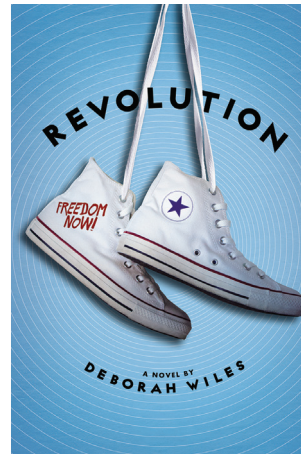
"Revolution," by Deborah Wiles, proves to be every bit as good as the first book in the Sixties Trilogy, "Countdown."

It has a great plot, lots of interesting facts, and a well thought-out main character.

Which leads us to another discussion.

People who have read "Countdown" remember witty, brave Franny.

I can assure you that Sunny is just as strong a character and an excellent narrator.



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## Brain teaser Solution

(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow! 7 right - Great! 5 right - Good  
3 right - See you next time!

1. Iron 2. Isaac 3. Iran 4. Illinois 5. Ibis  
6. Iron Man 7. (Washington) Irving 8. Ireland  
9. ichthyology 10. iguana

