



## Huge talent shown in huge exhibit

Leonardo Da Vinci was the man who had it all and you won't need a time machine to meet him: He's right in our backyard at the Denver Nature and Science Museum.

Most people know that Da Vinci painted the Mona Lisa, but may not know about his other skills.

As DMNS archaeologist Steve Nash put it, "Da Vinci was STEAM before STEAM was a thing."

At the press preview, Nash proposed a puzzle for us to think about as we walked around the exhibit, "What would Da Vinci say if he were here now?"

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I know that I will be going back to this exhibit because I've still got more to learn

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Leonardo Da Vinci died 500 years ago, and we should appreciate his work today, because it hasn't always been appreciated in the past.

When you first walk into the exhibit, there is a room with plaques on the walls and signs that will tell you about his life.

Something I found really interesting was that Da Vinci wrote backwards, for reasons no one knows.

Some think it is because he wanted to protect his ideas, a kind of copyright.

Others think it was to teach him to write without smearing the paper with ink.

There are replicas of journals that he wrote in, along with drawings of his latest and greatest invention ideas.

After that, there's another room that is much bigger and is filled with his contraptions.

The main things in the first part are the bicycle, rolling ball bearings, and a self-driving car that was probably used as a stage prop.

Some of the artifacts, like the ball bearings, have a handle crank that you can touch and use to work the machine.

Moving on into the next part, there were war



photo © Grande Exhibitions

machines that Da Vinci created.

There was a giant crossbow, and other things that looked too vicious for me to want to read about, the scariest being swinging scythes!

A smaller portion of the exhibit is dedicated to teaching you about perspective. You draw on a piece of plastic with dry-erase marker that covers a mirror.

You draw yourself with one eye closed, and when you finish, slip in some laminated parchment to see it better and compare it to your actual looks.

Other things were on the table that you could draw too.

I selected a small re-creation of a tank to draw the second time.

Nearby, was another area filled with his studies and drawings of the human body.

In that same general area, there were lots of instruments that he built, for example, a portable

piano. Also, a flying machine hung from the ceiling.

Beyond that, there's a section about the Mona Lisa. This part explains how he painted it and points things out in it that you never would have noticed.

The exhibit has audio for a small charge and is available in both English and Spanish.

It also has re-enactors from that time period, in costume and accent to answer questions and a slideshow showcasing lots of his paintings.

I know that I will be going back to this exhibit because I've still got more to learn about Da Vinci, the man who had it all.



By Macy Gardner, 13, a CK Reporter from Golden

## Fun steampunk, but read the first one first

In the book "The Inventors and the Lost Island," by A. M. Morgan, there is loads of adventure, plot twists, and secrets.

This book fits into the genre of steampunk, inspired by 19th century industrial inventions and steam-powered machinery. Steampunk is also a subgenre of science fiction.

The main characters are George, the 3rd Lord of Devonshire; Ada Byron, his next door neighbor; Oscar, an artist and rock collector; and Ruthie, the orangutan that Oscar rescued.

When reading this book, I was unaware there was a first book called "The Inventors at No. 8." There wasn't really any indication that there was a first and I was super confused.

I found it hard to follow the storyline. Finally, I chose to stop reading the second book and started "The Inventors at No.8."

After I finished reading the first book, it was much easier to follow along with the story and I understood who was who among the characters.

My least favorite thing about it was that the characters kept fighting with each other.

I found it annoying, almost like I was there watching them fight, and it happened many times through the entire story.

I wanted to skip ahead from them fighting because after awhile it got really boring. Most of the time that they spent fighting was about



something that wasn't important. One thing I enjoyed about this book is that it kept your brain thinking and predicting what was going to happen next.

It reminded me of the Mr. Lemoncello's Library books, with multiple puzzles and clues for the reader to solve along with the characters from the book.

It also taught a little history throughout the book, though it was mostly fiction.

One of the characters, Ada Byron, was a real person and the book took what she actually did in real life and portrayed that in the story and in the character of Ada Byron.

I also found it a little hard to follow because I wasn't able to understand some of the British slang it used.

Still, if you like reading steampunk or about the scientists in the 19th century, I would definitely recommend this book, while if you enjoy reading about travel or remote places and times, you might also enjoy this book.



By Avery MacKenzie, 13, a CK Reporter from Fort Collins

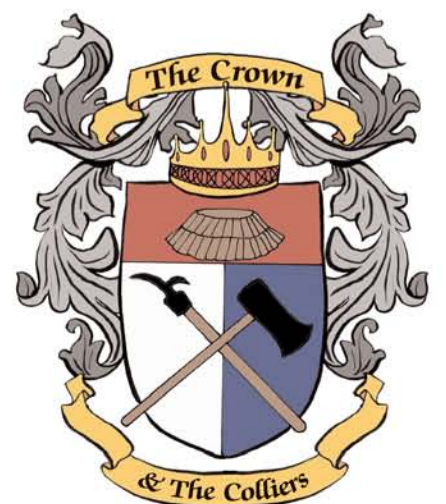


Coming Next Week!

### The Crown and the Colliers

A bi-racial boy finds himself between two hostile factions in a 16th Century kingdom -- His father's people, the short, dark mountain peasants, and his mother's, the tall, fair-haired people who rule the nation. He also finds himself caught up in political intrigue, a pawn of the Queen, who seeks to find and kill the girl who lives with the Short rebels and their allies, the reclusive colliers.

Free Teaching Guide: <http://tinyurl.com/ckserial>



# 'Train Your Dragon' finale a fitting end

**"H**ow to Train your Dragon: Hidden World" is a fulfilling conclusion to the entire three movie saga.

It has thrilling adventures with a quality closure to the fantasy world, and the stunning cinematography creates a captivating and enjoyable film to watch.

The movie begins with all the original characters from the previous films carrying out a raid on an opposing group of aggressive dragon captors.

As the newly freed dragons arrive at Berk, Hiccup (voiced by Jay Baruchel) begins to realize how overly crowded the dragon haven has become. The once peaceful utopia of dragons and vikings has morphed into a target which draws a deadly dragon captor onto their tails, "Grimmel the Grizzley" (F. Murray Abraham).

This new master criminal uses stealthy tactics to lure Hiccup and Toothless into his grasp, creeping into Berk unnoticed and threatening the safety of the island.

With this unwanted attention, Hiccup decides to lead the city of Berk away from harm and to a new island, on a quest in search of an ancient and hidden dragon refuge.

This migration makes the village vulnerable which leads to deadly complications threatening the existence of the Night Fury race and Berk along with it.

"How to Train Your Dragon: Hidden World" contains an engrossing dual lovestory, a fatal chase by a



dangerous villain, but, most important, an emotional choice between friendship and freedom.

It introduces new and compelling characters bringing new, gripping concepts to the movie.

The film also keeps the same actors/actresses playing the original crew, further developing their iconic and quirky personalities.

It contains plot twists that will make viewers hang off the edge of their seats, wanting to see more. This clever and comical film also had the entire theater laughing during several scenes.

It also appeals to younger and older audiences, and makes its original fans swoon with happiness after hearing the classic soundtrack from the first pictures.

This final installment of the trilogy would be most enjoyable after seeing the first two movies from the series.

This astounding motion picture was impressive, dazzling and entertaining on all levels.

It leaves all viewers wishing that its fantasy world were real.



By Haley Deison, 13, a CK Reporter from Arvada

# 'Whatever After' series scores another winner



**F**or all fans of the Whatever After books, Number 12 in the series has arrived!

"Seeing Red," by Sarah Mlynowski, is a short book that has a great message. It is the fractured fairy tale of "Little Red Riding Hood."

The story starts off with Abby and Jonah finally getting to spend time with their nana who lives in Chicago.

Abby is super excited about spending time with Nana, until she realizes that her friends are going to have a sleepover!

Nana says that Abby should have family time rather than go to that.

Angry, Abby wonders if Maryrose (the fairy trapped in her mirror) would transport her to the sleepover.

She knows that, so far, they have only gone into fairy tales, but wonders if Maryrose will make an exception.

While Abby sneaks downstairs at midnight, Jonah and Prince (the dog) tag along. They knock on the mirror and, whoosh, land in a treehouse.

Unfortunately, it's not the sleepover, but instead another fairy tale: "Little Red Ridinghood."

If you have read other Whatever After books, then you will know that what happens next is very common:

Jonah messes up the story!

In the original story, the huntsman saves Little Red and her grandmother.

So what happens if Jonah just knocked the huntsman unconscious?

And what if maybe they like the wolf?

This was a very good novel, but a little short at 155 pages.

However, it is still just as thrilling and the plot keeps you interested.

There are some slightly intimidating parts for younger readers, but I love how the author makes those parts funny, like when the wolf is wearing trousers.

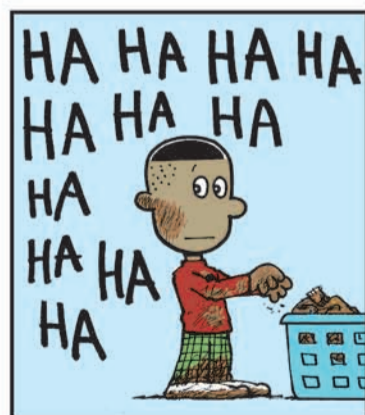
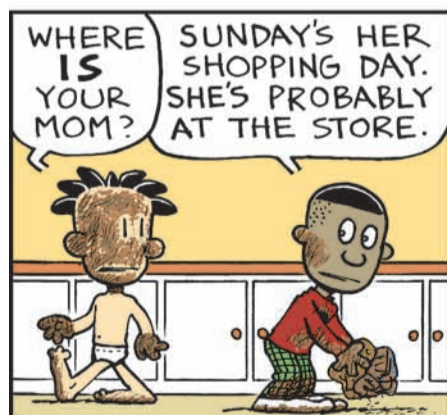
If you have read the other books, then you are in for a surprise! Abby discovers something about her family that shocked me!

I thought that this book had a great hidden message too.



By Izzie Intriago, 11, a CK Reporter from Aurora

# Big Nate



# Neglected item shows tats were here before Columbus



**W**e're used to the idea that space probes and Mars rovers send back a lot of data faster than it can be decoded and analyzed on Earth.

But even items you can hold in your hand might sit in a drawer for awhile before someone finds the time to check them out.

That's what happened with the item you see here, which dates back to the first century AD, and was found in the Bears Ears area of Utah in 1972.

It's two prickly-pear cactus spines, tied with cords made from yucca leaves around a stick from a sumac bush, and, if you look at the tip of those spines, you'll see black, which would be a sort of ink probably

made from black ashes.

For some reason, nobody had paid much attention to this stick over the nearly 50 years since it was found, but, once someone took a closer look, they realized it is the oldest evidence of tattooing we've found in the American West, dating back almost 2,000 years.

The Spanish probably discouraged tattooing among the Pueblan people, or the custom may have died off before they arrived, but there are pictures of people with tats on old pots found in the area so we do know some of the patterns that might have been made by this ancient artifact.

photo/ Bob Hubner/WSU

# Biography paints clear picture of beloved author

**"B**ecoming Madeleine" is a detailed biography that tells the life of Madeleine L'Engle Camp, an accomplished and famous writer best known for her book "A Wrinkle In Time," written by her granddaughters, Lena and Charlotte. They describe every aspect of her career including her

early life, her successes, and her personal life.

"Becoming Madeleine" describes in great detail L'Engle's upbringing, which took place in many countries over the course of her elementary, junior high, and high school years.

The Camp family (comprising Madeleine's mother Mado, Madeleine's father Charles, and Madeleine) resided in three places: New York City, The French Alps, and Jacksonville, Florida.

During this time, Madeleine was taught at boarding schools, usually near where Madeleine's parents were living, but as she grew older, she started attending boarding schools located further away.

For example, when she was a young girl and her family lived in New York City, Madeleine attended a local New York public school.

However, when Madeleine's family was living in Jacksonville, Florida, Madeleine went to a high school in South Carolina, and then, when her family lived in Switzer-

land, Madeleine attended a Swiss boarding school.

Madeleine's biography includes several of her report cards, class pictures, and excerpts from her diary about life at these various schools and also about what was going on at home.

Her time at each of these schools had a great impact on her and shows up in many scenes in books she authored as an adult.

Madeleine attended college at Smith College, a women's college in Massachusetts.

After college, she moved back to New York where she wrote and published several books that established her career.

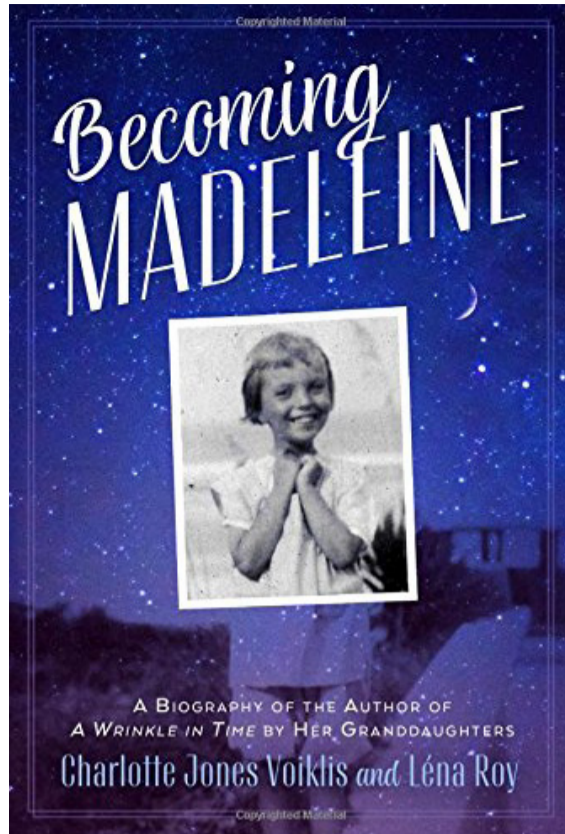
L'Engle then met and married her husband, Hugh, and gave birth to two children.

In 1962, she wrote "A Wrinkle In Time," a book that earned her many awards and helped her gain popularity.

What is notable about this book is that it was rejected by 32 publishers prior to becoming such a great success. During that time, Madeleine L'Engle never gave up.

"Becoming Madeleine" encompasses even more than this about her life and her literary works. It also includes images of her homes and her family members.

I would strongly recommend this book to fans of Madeleine L'Engle's work, to biography-lovers, and to anyone who enjoys a good book.



By Margaux Dempsey, 12, a CK Reporter from Arvada

# North Korea rebuilding its launch facilities

**W**hen President Trump met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Hanoi last month, one of the president's goals was to persuade Kim to get rid of North Korea's nuclear arms and nuclear processing plants.

However, Kim refused to do that, and, instead, said he wanted the United States and the United Nations to remove the sanctions on his country.

The Hanoi summit ended with no agreements and was seen as an embarrassment for the president, who had promised it would be very positive.

"Sanctions" are rules that restrict a nation from trading with others, and can be very strict or not strict, depending on why they were put on.

The first sanctions put on North Korea by the United States came in 1950, as part of the Korean War that divided that peninsula into two countries.

Although there have only been small flare-ups of violence between North and South Korea since then, the war is technically still going on, and American companies are not permitted to trade with North Korea.

But when North Korea began experimenting with nuclear arms a few years ago, the US and UN added more sanctions, most of them to prevent sales to North

Korea of material that could be used to build weapons.

Other sanctions limited North Korea's ability to sell coal and other natural resources, which put a strong limit on its economy.

There have been various agreements with North Korea about its testing of nuclear weapons and its experiments with missiles, but they have not always been followed and they have not been effective.

North Korea argues that, as a small and unpopular nation, it needs the same sorts of weapons its enemies have, and it has continued to develop missiles that could deliver atomic bombs to distant targets.

When President Trump met with Kim in Singapore last June, there were agreements to ease some sanctions if North Korea cancelled some of its programs, and the Sohae facility seemed to be being torn down.

There have been no new nuclear weapons or missile tests since 2017, either.

But now it seems the "tearing down" at Sohae may have simply been part of a process to rebuild and modernize the site.

The question is, will it be used to test missiles as weapons, or is it simply intended to help North Korea develop a peaceful space program?



A DigitalGlobe satellite image of North Korea's Sohae Satellite Launch Facility from the Associated Press indicates that the long-range rocket facility is being rebuilt.



## Sudoku

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

**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.



## Brainteaser

**The Girl Guides (later "Girl Scouts") in the US first met on this day in 1912, so our answers this week will begin with "L" for their founder, Juliette Gordon Lowe.**

1. Baton Rouge is this state's capital.
2. The organ that cleans your blood and produces chemicals needed for digestion. It is the largest of the internal organs.
3. A five-line comical poem with an A-A-B-B-A rhyme scheme, named for an Irish city
4. A machine upon which cloth is woven
5. Once proposed as Colorado's capital, this high-country Lake County gold, silver and molybdenum mining town might nearly be called the "Two Mile High City."
6. Southeast Asian country between Vietnam and Thailand
7. This chatty, oddly dressed Ravenclaw proved a true friend in the final struggle
8. Small, spotted beetle often used as a biological weapon against aphids
9. Dianne Primavera's job title
10. Though a fierce predator, this African feline often carries its prey up into trees to keep it from being stolen by larger lions and hyenas

(answers on Page Four)

## The Globe: Can you afford to take a spin?

**M**ost of us have played a simple game with a globe: You spin it, put your finger on it and then, when it stops, that's where you are going to go live.

If you've ever thought about playing that game for real, we found a website you'll need to visit before you pack your bags.

Numbeo -- <https://www.numbeo.com> -- is a website that offers cost of living figures for cities around the world, based on nearly half a million people who have provided information.

You can start with Denver, where they figure it takes the average single person \$901.47 a month to live, aside from rent.

They also say you can find a one-bedroom apartment for between \$1,267.77 and \$1,658.33, depending on how close to downtown it is.

But what if the globe stops with your finger on Cape Town, South Africa?

Living there will only cost \$540.49 a month plus rent, with apartments going for 6,998.63 to 10,632.35 Rand, so let's go to <https://www.xe.com> to convert those rands into dollars.

Turns out and apartment costs between \$482.63 and \$733.17, so you can live much less expensively there. (Except that it also says that the average person there makes \$1,221.45 a month, compared to \$3,493.77 in Denver.)

photo/Kskhh



# Beyond These Pages!

## Hot Links to Cool Sites!

### NASA's Space Place

<http://tinyurl.com/ckspace>

### NIE Special Report

<http://tinyurl.com/ckniereport>

### Headline Geography

<http://tinyurl.com/ckgeography>

### Pulse of the Planet

<http://tinyurl.com/ckpulseplanet>

## How to become a NextGen Reporter!

[tinyurl.com/COkidsReporter](http://tinyurl.com/COkidsReporter)



## To read the sources for these stories

Ancient Tattooing

North Korea's Launch Site

Global Economy

go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/ckstorylinks>

# Au Pays d'en Haut (To the High Country)

## Chapter Fourteen – Downriver

*(Our story so far: A hard Athabaskan winter has ended and, with the coming of spring, it is time for Antoine to begin the long journey back to Grand Portage, and then to Quebec and home.)*

The night before Antoine left the Beaver, there was another feast around the fire, with many long speeches of farewell and exchanges of presents.

Then, as he prepared to leave the next morning, the band gathered again, to make sure Antoine knew how they would miss him.

Antoine had expected to be sad leaving Alexis and Small Owl and Joseph and Spotted Deer, but he was surprised at how his eyes welled up when Small Owl's grandmother embraced him, presented him with a delicately beaded squirrel-fur bag and told him it was for Louise.

Grandmother was the oldest woman in the band and when she had accepted Antoine as family, he had become family. Her embrace now was the embrace of the whole community.

Antoine felt guilty that Alexis had told everyone he and Louise were to be married, but the more time went past, the less guilty he felt, somehow. Louise had always been his best friend, and, as he tucked the fur bag into his pack, he knew she would appreciate the gift, and would understand what it meant to him.

Then, as he and Alexis started down the deer trail towards the fort, Antoine's mind turned from leaving his Beaver family and he began to think about rejoining his family in Quebec.

That night, as they sat by their campfire in the gathering darkness, Antoine finally asked Alexis the question that had been on his mind since they had met by the river nine months before.

"Are you ever coming home?"

Alexis didn't reply right away.

"I am home," he said, after a few moments. Antoine had learned enough of Beaver culture that he joined in the silence, for Alexis was not done speaking.

"I miss my parents, and Louise and Maurice," Alexis went on. "I would dearly love to sit at the table by the hearth and see their faces around me. But I could never leave Small Owl and Joseph, and they could never leave the band." More silence. "Other voyageurs leave their families and their wives remarry. It is common and nobody blames them. But I could never leave my family."

He poked a branch deeper into the fire and the flames licked up.

"Anyway, I could never go back to the life of a poor farmer," Alexis admitted. "This life can be harsh. We nearly starved this winter. But I have never felt more free and more happy than I am here, among my family in Athabasca."

Alexis was done speaking, but now there was nothing Antoine wanted to say.

Two weeks later, the canoes were launched for Grand Portage. Marcel would stay up north this time, and it was hard for him and Antoine to say good-bye.

The river now flowed downstream, but the portages were just as hard and the days just as long, until at last they arrived at rendezvous.

As soon as the canoes were unloaded, Antoine worked his way through the throngs of shouting, singing, drunken voyageurs, looking for the most boisterous crowd of all.

When he found it, there in the middle was Jean Baptiste.

"Antoine!" he shouted, and, leaping from the table, he kissed Antoine on both cheeks.

"I delivered your letter!" he declared. "And I met your maman and your papa and your brother Jean Paul! I even went next door and met your friend Louise and her new husband! What a fine young farmer he is! They seem very happy!"

Antoine was stunned, and Jean Baptiste allowed him to be stunned until he could no longer keep from laughing.

"I got you!" he shouted with glee. "You should have seen your face! Of course, she is waiting for you, you fool!"

Antoine punched him on the arm, hard, but it only made Jean Baptiste laugh more, and they spent the evening telling stories, singing songs and catching up on news and gossip from both ends of the waters.

Antoine was not in Jean Baptiste's brigade going back, but it hardly mattered. He was so anxious to be home that he barely noticed anything but the rhythm of his paddle and the landmarks passing by: the portages, the campsites, and the beach where Jean Baptiste had "baptized" the new men.

The landscape over the last few days looked familiar, but the leaves were off the trees this time because it was nearly winter rather than early spring. He collected his pay at Lachine and walked with the other homeward-bound men up the road that ran along the St. Lawrence until he reached St. Sulpice and his own familiar gate.

His family was in the field near the house, gathering the last of the late hay, Papa and Jean Paul pitching it up onto the wagon while Maman, perched above, stomped it down to make room for more. When they saw him coming up the path, Maman jumped down like a child and ran to him, while Papa and Jean Paul tossed aside their hayforks and joined the celebration.

As they walked to the house, leading the oxen and the wagon, he told them of finding Alexis and they agreed he must go to the Gauthiers' at once. There, he shared with Louise and her family the gifts Alexis had sent and the news of his happiness, of Small Owl, and of their grandson, Joseph.

Then he and Louise walked down to the banks of the St. Lawrence. There, he gave her the squirrel-fur bag Grandmother had made. He tried to explain Grandmother, but realized that she, and Athabasca, and all that had happened since he left Quebec, was a story that would take a lifetime to tell.

So they stood silently watching the great river flow, down from Montreal and Lachine, bearing the waters of the Ottawa River and the Great Lakes.

There would be time. Antoine had just one more year on his contract. Next spring, he would go again up the Ottawa to Grand Portage, but this time, he would come straight home.

*Peut-être.*

*Text c. 2014, Mike Peterson – Illustrations c. 2014, Dylan Meconis*

**Next Week: Chapter One of "The Crown and the Colliers"**

## Sudoku Solution

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

## Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. Louisiana 2. liver 3. Limerick 4. loom 5. Leadville 6. Laos  
7. Luna Lovegood 8. ladybug (or ladybird) 9. lieutenant governor  
10. leopard

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