



CK Reporter of the Week
Suhani Agarwal

Movie tells story of a good man

The man who understood the vulnerability of childhood, the man who helped us love ourselves and our neighbors, and the man who introduced us to each other with a snappy, new day through a warm welcome with a serenade at the start of each episode: Mister Rogers.

This man who revolutionized children's television and was a prime example of humanity has just had his life and moral intentions transformed into a beautiful, moving biopic, "Won't You Be My Neighbor?"

"What we see and hear on the screen is who we become." -- Fred Rogers

This hour-and-34-minute movie is concise, yet packed with meaning and depth of thought.

"Won't You Be My Neighbor?" was built with footage of Fred Rogers interviews, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood programs, behind the scenes of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, and modern interviews of people he was associated with.

Laced throughout the lovely cinematography lies a symbolic animation of Daniel Striped Tiger, a puppet Mister Rogers used in Mister Rogers' Neighborhood to represent himself.

In this movie, the animated tiger represents Fred Rogers' emotions and mental health.

At the time Fred Rogers was introduced to television, he felt that TV was misused in ways that weren't beneficial to children.

Entertainment for children on TV was insignificant, such as pies being thrown in faces, and he wanted to use TV as a tool to help others.

He felt that he could have a relationship with his TV audience of kids without having to jump through a hoop or put on a funny hat.

He believed that children deserved more from television.

Mister Rogers said, "What we see and hear on the screen is who we become."

Due to the constant changes in technology and entertainment, time was speeding up, but Fred Rogers used time differently.

He used it to exponentially improve the young minds of America through love, acceptance, and understanding.

Through children's television, he had the chance to build a community out of a whole country.

He did this by helping kids through difficult periods in life, using the mass media to help children.



For example, he dealt with real-life events in Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, such as the assassination of JFK, the Vietnam War, and segregation.

Through his 10 puppets, he helped children grasp the concept of these current events, making it comprehensible so that they could be informed citizens of the United States.

For instance, Mister Rogers shed light on the issue of segregation.

When a horrid hate crime occurred in which black people were swimming in a hotel pool with white people and somebody poured cleaning chemicals in the water with them, Mister Rogers didn't miss a beat as he aired an episode subsequent to that atrocious hate crime in which he washed his feet in a pool on a hot day and invited a black man to come to wash his feet with him.

Throughout "Won't You Be My Neighbor?," there is a constant emotional connection from the screen to the viewer.

Each part of this movie is well planned out and executed as it truly portrays the angelic, accepting, and rare person Mister Rogers was, and his widespread love for children and the world.

"Won't You Be My Neighbor?" is the true definition of a "feel-good" movie where Mister Rogers' legacy is deeply inspiring and the movie sticks with you long after you watch it.

This movie does include a few thematic elements such as language and hateful happenings, so this movie is geared for a bit of an

older crowd.

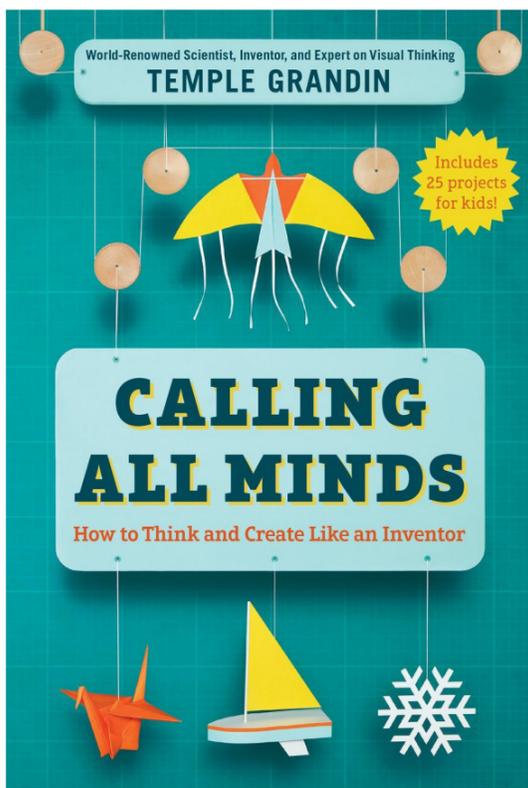
Still, I would give "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" five out of five cardigans.

This is definitely a cinematic masterpiece I recommend you watch with your neighbor.



By Kira Zizzo,
14, a CK Reporter
from Highlands Ranch

A book about "Why" that teaches you "How"



"Calling All Minds, How to Think and Create Like an Inventor," by Temple Grandin, is a whole lot more than a how-to book.

"Calling All Minds" is a non-fiction book that combines history and how-to projects that will make you think.

Grandin talks about the science behind the inventions we use every day and answers questions you've always wanted to ask, including, "Why do golf balls have dimples?" or "Why is your computer keyboard not in alphabetical order?"

The book includes 25 projects kids can do to get their minds thinking like an inventor.

Some examples of these projects are water bombs and puppet theater!

She also weaves in her own personal stories of her life as an inventor, scientist, and visual thinker.

The book is broken up into five main chapters: "Made of Paper," "Levers and Pulleys," "Made of Wood," "Things that Fly," and "Optical Illusions."

Each chapter has its own five projects with a background story for each.

One of the many things she addresses in her book is patents.

Grandin talks about getting her own patent and blueprint for her Squeeze Machine, a machine that

would help calm her during panic attacks.

This machine has been used in agriculture as well as in autism therapy, and Temple Grandin is famous for her research in livestock and for the invention of the Squeeze Machine.

She teaches and works at Colorado State University as a professor and has a Ph.D. in animal science.

Grandin was named one of Time Magazine's 100 most influential people and is the author of 14 books including bestsellers "Thinking in Pictures" and "Animals in Translation."

Many of her book deals with her journey with autism and the science behind many things.

This book was easy to follow even when it got a little technical. The stories and directions were straightforward and many of the project steps had pictures to go along.

I would recommend this book for 11+ because many of the projects are more on the difficult side.

This book was very good and insightful for all!



By Reese Hitzler,
14, a CK Reporter
from Littleton

Youth Journalism Day

For 4th-8th grade students

Thursday, July 19, 2018 • 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

Metropolitan State University, Denver

Student cost for the day: \$65 (includes t-shirt, 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.

ColoradoNIE.com 



Limited to first 75 students.

Two girls share a story about performing

It's almost time for the school talent show, and everyone is excited... well, almost everyone. For two girls who are polar opposites of each other, it will change their lives.

"Positively Izzy," by Terri Libenson, tells the story of two girls, Brianna and Izzy, and the effect that Lakefront Middle School's talent show has on them and their families.

Izzy — that's not her real name, but everyone started calling her that because of a joke she made when she was little — loves art, theater, and creative writing.

Labeled as "The Dreamer", Izzy has a vivid imagination but struggles to focus (*all her teachers use that same word*) in school.

Brianna — she goes by "Bri" — is labeled as "The Brain".

Despite being the daughter of Mrs. D, the new drama teacher whom everyone loves, Bri is nothing like Izzy or her mother.

She does well in school and is very serious about her studies, but absolutely hates acting.

Despite Bri always saying she doesn't want to join the drama club — even after her mom's persistence — she learns that one of the actors in the talent show got sick and she will have to take her place!

Fortunately, her mom said it's just a short, simple piece... or not.

The script is five pages long, very dramatic, and she only has a few hours to memorize it!

Bri starts to panic at first, but gains a bit more confidence after learning that she'll be doing the scene with Dev Devar, one of her classmates.

Meanwhile, Izzy is all set for the comedy skit she'll be doing.

She had her clothes picked out the previous month and has all her props ready.

But when her mom finds out about another assignment that Izzy turned in late, she's banned from going to the talent show.

Everything seems hopeless for Izzy until her younger sister, Ashley, offers to help her sneak out.

Izzy accepts the offer, but although Ashley planned for almost every possible outcome, she's still scared that her mom and big sister Dani will find out.

Bri and Izzy both go to the same school, are (*seemingly*) in the same talent show, and there are a lot of parts in the story suggesting that they see each other's skits.

However, the two girls never actually interact with each other... at least not in the way you might expect.

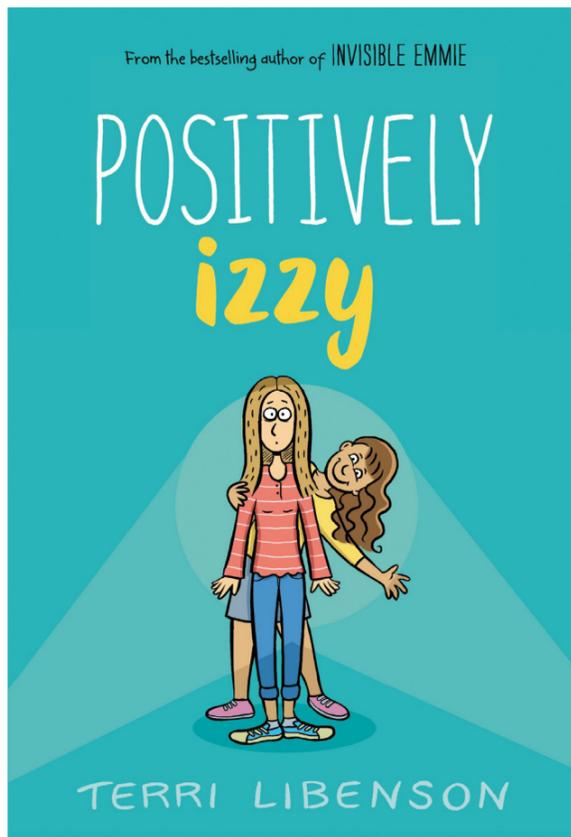
Libenson does a great job of expressing the main characters' thoughts and emotions in the book.

She does an even better job at keeping the secret behind the story hidden until the very end.

The graphic novel alternates between the girls' points of view and switches between two styles of writing as it does so: when Bri is narrating, it's more like a comic, and when it switches to Izzy, it changes to be mostly in writing with a picture every few sentences.

Unlike what the title suggests, I felt like the book mostly focused on Bri.

It's pretty short and easy to understand, so I would recommend this book for kids ages 9 to 13.



By Nandi Strieker, 11, a CK Reporter from Antonito

Baby orangutan brightens the Denver Zoo

On Sunday, March 25, at the Denver Zoo, a baby orangutan, Cerah (*pronounced chare-uh*), was born.

Her name means "bright," in the sense of sunshine.

Cerah, along with her mom, Nias, her dad, Berani, and her half-sister, Hesty, is a Sumatran orangutan. In the wild, they would live on the island of Sumatra in Indonesia.

There are only about 14,600 Sumatran orangutans globally. They are critically endangered due to their shrinking numbers.

Although Cerah lives with her mom, dad, and big sister, she doesn't interact with her dad yet.

In the wild, the males live separate from the females and children.

For now, her dad Berani has to wait until Cerah is old enough to come over to him before he can be with her.

Cerah's sister, Hesty, however, plays with him because she is older.

Two keepers at the zoo, Michelle Valois and Cindy Cossaboon, talked with me about the orangutans.

They told me the main reason for the orangutans'



photo/Kayle Lamar

endangerment is because of farming and housing.

Most of the time people there farm palm oil, which comes from palm trees, because it is really easy to grow.

The palm oil industry is causing deforestation and making many species of animals become extinct or critically endangered, including the Sumatran orangutan.

The farmers take up forest space in order to get more area to plant palm trees and harvest their oil.

People also want to build more houses in the forest area.

I would highly recommend coming to the zoo to see Cerah. She is a cute, sweet little baby.

She holds on to Nias, her mother, as she swings on ropes.

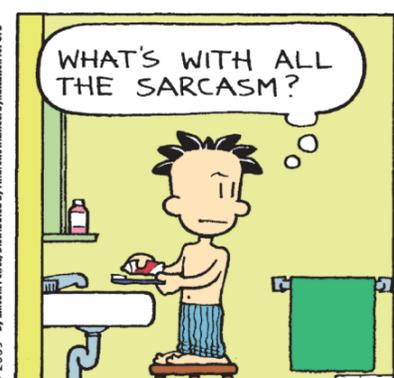
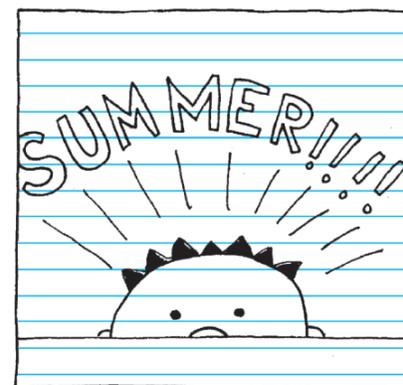
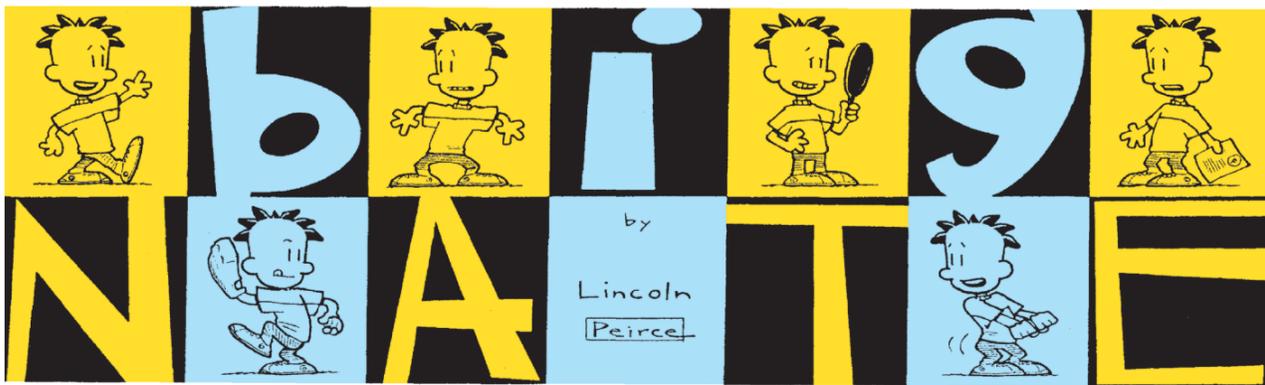
Cerah will be dependant on her mom until she is about two years old.

The keepers told me that, even though Berani keeps his distance from Cerah, he is a kind and gentle father.

It is totally worth seeing these amazing animals.



By Essie Lamar, 12, a CK Reporter from Denver



Annual Chalk Festival a colorful start to summer

The Denver Chalk Art Festival is an annual two-day wonder of talented artists showing off what they can do on the pavement, accompanied by other fun activities.

In early June each year, Larimer Square downtown becomes a colorful place, the streets lined with squares of chalk drawings by over 200 artists: Students, amateurs, and professionals.

Anybody can rent a square of pavement beforehand and come to show off their skills with chalk.

The art styles range from realistic to metaphorical, from fiction to abstract.

One of the best parts of the festival is that the art created there is all from people like you, Colorado citizens. Anyone can participate, from high schoolers to professional artists.

You get to see the work put into detailed art, and what methods and techniques real artists use.

Onlookers are encouraged to talk to the artists to learn more about their art, and how they make it.

There is also a section of sidewalk open to kids who want to try out drawing with chalk.

This is a totally free event, but you can purchase things there, so bring money, though, warning: DCAF merch is expensive.

This festival isn't just about chalk, though. It's about connecting with fellow citizens, and realizing that the people around you can do really cool things.

Also at the festival this year were other attractions, such as a band playing live music, face painting and henna artists, bungee jumping for kids, and food vendors.

The surrounding shops on Larimer Square were open as well, though they are always pretty crowded when the Chalk Art Festival rolls around.

This event uses variety and creativity to be appealing to the public, and honestly, the festival really lives up to expectations.

The whole family can expect to have fun here, as there are lots of things for all ages.

A child would enjoy the section for kids to try chalk drawings, and also the bungee jumping. An adult might like the spirits tent, or the live 80s music being played.

Really, this event caters to everyone.

It does get a little crowded -- actually, a lot crowded -- and sometimes it's hard to see the art because of all the people crowding it.

This can be frustrating, but coming to see the chalk art is still totally worth it.

For people who would like to see the final artwork instead of the process of its creation, I would recommend going on the second day.

The artists start working on the first day, so if you go then you won't get to see the finished product.

Watch for when the Denver Chalk Art Festival comes again next June!



Story and photo by Sylvia Goodman, 12, a CK Reporter from Centennial

From the CK archives: The Waldo Canyon Fire

Editor's Note: On this June 26, 2012, the Waldo Canyon fire entered Colorado Springs, forcing evacuations and ultimately destroying nearly 350 homes. The family of CK Reporter Rebecca Bloomfield -- a seventh grader at the time -- was one of those forced to leave their home, and she filed this report.

The Waldo Canyon Fire was only 2600 acres, five percent contained and with no structures burned when my mom and I went to Denver for the day.

By the time we headed home to Colorado Springs, the highway was clogged with evacuees headed to safety and the sky was dark with smoke, the obscured sun red.

The smoke was so thick across the sky it gave the illusion of night.

When we returned to our house above Mountain Shadows, burned bark and ash dotted our yard.

We had barely been home 15 minutes when we got a reverse 911, a call telling us we were under mandatory evacuation.

It was hard to decide what to bring. My parents had a lifetime of photo albums, and we had a house full of stuff we didn't want to lose, but we couldn't bring everything.



photo/Rebecca Bloomfield

We packed up everything we couldn't live without -- like our pets -- and left our neighborhood, with a plume of smoke and a cloud of uncertainty following us.

My family stayed the next couple nights at a friend's, and at my dad's work, with our pets.

We had lots of offers of a place to stay. Before this disaster I had no idea that so many people would be so willing to help us out.

For those days we ate mainly sugar cereal and fruit. It was like camping in some else's house. The days passed in a blur of news casts and damage reports that we anxiously watched, waiting for news.

Our evacuation order was lifted Thursday evening and we were overjoyed to return home. My bedroom was covered in a layer of fine ash, but we were grateful to have a house to return to.

One of my close friends lived in a neighborhood ravaged by the fire. Though her house was left standing, the house next to hers and other houses on her street had burned to the ground.

No one ever expected that her neighborhood would burn, a reminder of the immense powers of nature, and a tragedy for all of us.

Sudoku

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

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

Mildred "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias, perhaps the greatest female athlete ever, was born on this date in 1911. She was an All-American in college basketball, won three track and field medals, set two records and tied a third in the 1932 Olympics, then won 10 LPGA titles in golf. Our answers will start with "B" for "Babe."

1. Mr. Cumberbatch, who plays Dr. Strange in the movies
2. When some kids eat this green vegetable (a relative of cabbage) they like to pretend they are giants eating trees.
3. The cerebrum is the largest part of this organ.
4. Singer, songwriter, actress and superstar, she's also married to Jay-Z
5. Sofia is the capital of this European nation
6. Disney animated classic based on a novel about a young deer
7. A light hoop-style bracelet particularly associated with South Asia
8. He built a fort near what is now Las Animas and married into the Cheyenne tribe.
9. George Herman Ruth
10. The capital of Maine, it shares its name with towns in Wales and Northern Ireland
(answers on Page Four)

There's still time to join in Saturday's Race Against Extinction



We've often covered the activities of Denver Zookeeper Dave Johnson in CK as he travels the world to help save endangered animals.

This Saturday, Coloradoans have the chance to meet Johnson and to race to help him and the animals he works to save.

The Katy Adamson Conservation Fund will be holding its annual "Race A Zookeeper" fundraising event Saturday at Regis University campus, starting at 8:30 in the morning.

Kids in kindergarten through eighth grade can race Dave Johnson in their

choice of a 5K race or a 1K fun run, and for every kid who beats him to the finish line, \$50 will be donated to the Running Wild charity of their choice.

There are other races as well.

There will also be a party after the races, with food booths and other fun, plus, of course, opportunities to learn more about the animals who are in danger of extinction around the world.

You can enter at the event that day, starting at 7:15. For details, entry fees and more information, go to <http://www.katieadamsonconservationfund.org/>

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!

<http://tinyurl.com/colokidsreporter>



To read more about these stories

The Waldo Canyon Fire

Race a Zookeeper

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

Flying Plates

Story by Frances Milburn/Illustrated by Emily Lesch

Chapter Five: The Search

The story so far... The next day, the family goes through the Mark Twain House and Museum. They then take a tour of the Mississippi River Caves. The guide turns off the lights to show how dark a cave can be. When she turns the light back on, Conner has disappeared. The tour is immediately canceled and an emergency crew arrives to find the missing boy.

I sat with Mom and Nate in the Visitor's Center while the crew, including several police officers, searched the cave.

I could see that Mom was very stressed. "What in the world inspired Conner to take off like that? He should know better. I just don't get it."

"He did say to me when we got into that main cave area that he hoped we could go off and explore on our own," I told her.

Mom shook her head. "But he knows better! It's just not like him to take off on his own in a place like this." She sighed, "I can't believe this is happening."

"Mrs. Manchester, can I go look at the souvenirs?" Nate asked quietly.

"Sure. Ben, why don't you go with him?" She dug in her purse and gave us each ten dollars! That was not like Mom. I didn't say anything but quickly followed Nate to the gift shop.

There were shelves full of little toys, key chains, polished stones, flashlights and other stuff. It was better to be here with things to look at than sitting with Mom.

I found one flashlight that was on a band, so you could put it on your head. Probably to walk in a cave.

I tried it on. "Look, Nate. I could wear this under my blankets when I want to read after lights are out."

He came over. "Hey, that's cool. Too bad Conner didn't have one."

I shrugged my shoulders, "Maybe he had his penlight he uses to read at night. He's probably having fun exploring."

I walked over and glanced through some of the books. One about these caves had photos of the tunnels. Some tunnels went on for a long distance with smaller tunnels taking off in other directions.

Some had an exit, but others just dead-ended. It didn't really hit me until I looked at the book that Conner might be in danger.

We each bought a flashlight band and then slowly headed back to Mom. It seemed like we'd been there for hours, but Mom said it was only a little over one hour since they'd started searching.

Another crew of six arrived with ropes and climbing gear. There were big search lights too. "What's all that for?" Mom demanded.

One of the crew, a young woman, stopped to answer Mom. "There are several drop offs in a couple of the tunnels. If he fell, he might've broken a leg and is immobile. Maybe even unconscious. Then we'll have to belay down and get him."

"Oh no!" Mom put her hand over her mouth, and looked like she was going to cry.

"It's probably not the case." The woman quickly responded, looking miserable. "But we want to cover all bases." She hurried with the rest of the crew and disappeared through the doors.

Mom was so nervous that she was shaking. "I just hope he's okay."

Then the most bizarre thing ever happened. Conner walked through the front door! My eyes bulged. "Hey Mom," he said, "those caves are really neat!"

Mom jumped up and gave Conner a big hug. "You're safe!"

He looked surprised. "What do you mean?"

Then slowly an angry look came onto her face, and she put her hands on her hips. "Where were you? Do you realize there's a whole crew looking for you?"

The staff and several guides were staring at him.

Conner hung his head. "I'm sorry. I guess I wasn't thinking. I feel stupid..."

"You caused a huge problem!" Mom interrupted. "There's at least twenty people with rescue equipment looking for you in those caves? They think you fell and are injured."

She shook her head. "Where were you?"

Conner looked really sick. "I was so curious, that I just headed down one of those tunnels to take a peek. But I lost my footing in the dark and slipped off a ledge. Couldn't get back up. So I used my penlight to walk out."

He looked defensively at Mom. "It took a long time! Finally, I came to an opening. Got out near the river and asked some old guy how to get to the cave entrance. He drove me back here."

"We gotta let the staff know you're back." She sighed again. "I'm glad you're safe, but my gosh, what an uproar you've caused."

She rushed to the front desk and explained the situation. "Please get word to the rescue crew with our apologies. Thank them for their effort. I'm so sorry for all of this trouble. If you need to find me, we're at the campground. Here's my cell number. But I need to get these kids back."

Conner came up next to Mom. "Hey, I really am sorry. I didn't mean to cause so much trouble. I want to write them a thank-you note when I get back."

She turned to Conner. "And we will discuss this at length on the way back! Let's go."

She quickly pushed us toward the exit, and we all walked as fast as we could to the car without saying a word. Mom drove back to the campground.

That night, my eyes really bothered me. Mom said it was probably allergies.

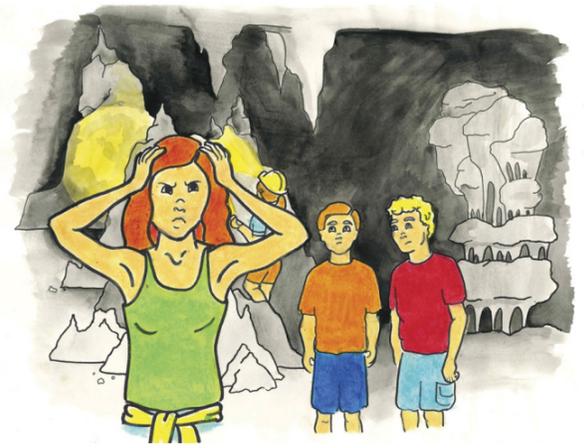
I was so miserable that I went right to bed after supper. But I couldn't get to sleep, even though it was much quieter without the party camper next to us.

Mom and the other two sat out by the lantern and read for a long time. I turned back and forth in my sleeping bag but just couldn't get comfortable. My eyes plus everything else itched.

When Mom finally came to bed, I was still awake. "Mom, do you have something for my eyes? They itch like crazy."

"No," she turned the other way in her sleeping bag. "We'll stop at a drugstore before leaving town tomorrow and pick up some allergy medicine."

Finally, after turning one way and then the other, I fell asleep.



Sudoku Solution

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

Brainteaser Solution

(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!



1. Benedict 2. broccoli 3. brain 4. Beyonce 5. Bulgaria 6. Bambi
7. bangle 8. (William) Bent 9. Babe 10. Bangor

ColoradoKids

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.

eEditions of the Post are
free of charge for classroom use.
Contact us for information on all
our programs.

Denver Post Educational Services
5990 Washington St.
Denver CO 80216
(303) 954-3974
(800) 336-7678

For tools to extend the learning in this feature,
look under "Youth Content" at:
www.ColoradoNIE.com

Stories without bylines were written by the editor.



ColoradoNIE.com