



CK Reporter of the Week
Macy Gardner, Golden

Ant-Man and the Wasp bring action

"Ant-Man and the Wasp" takes place 2 years after "Captain America: Civil War" and a little bit before "Infinity War."

The movie gets to the plot almost immediately, unlike the first movie.

"Ant-Man and the Wasp" opens with Scott Lang (Paul Rudd) under house arrest when he suddenly starts to get visions of the Quantum Realm.

This causes him to call Dr. Pym (Michael Douglas) and Hope Van Dyne (Evangeline Lilly), sending them on the adventure of a lifetime.

There are new characters such as Ghost, Bill Foster, Sonny Burch, and Jimmy Woo.

The movie, which is 2 hours and 5 minutes long and rated PG-13, is set in San Francisco.

Scott Lang is Ant-Man and a father at the same time. He works hard to entertain his daughter while he runs a company called XCON from his home with his ex-convict friends.

The movie is funnier than the first and has both more action and a stronger story line.

When Scott learns he has to become Ant-Man again, it conflicts with the fact that he has to help his family and friends and that he is just days away from getting off of a house arrest caused by the last time he did superhero work.

The acting is quite good: Paul Rudd creates a compelling character with a laid back personality, while Evangeline Lilly does a great job portraying Hope, who wants to enter the Quantum Realm and get what she needs to do it as the Wasp.

Dr. Pym is the opposite of Scott and is very serious. Laurence Fishburne was great as Professor Bill Foster, another mysterious character.

Michael Peña returns as the ever humorous Luis,



and Ghost (Hannah John-Kamen) is a character with a mysterious past and ties to the Quantum Realm.

"Ant-Man and the Wasp" is a fast paced movie, but not confusing. There are some twists, but not any humongous story-changing twists.

Whenever Ant-Man shrinks or grows, they make it look very cool, with other outlines of his body that get smaller or larger as he quickly grows or reduces in size.

"Ant-Man and the Wasp" is also one of the funniest superhero movies that I have seen.

The movie is funnier than the first and has both more action and a stronger story line.

My only real criticism is that the main villain's backstory could have been explained a little bit better.

Therefore, "Ant-Man and the Wasp" is a movie that I would recommend to all my friends.

It is worth the money and you can still enjoy it if you haven't seen the first film.

"Ant-Man and the Wasp" is an excellent movie.



By Bennett Erickson,
12, a CK Reporter
from Centennial

Og provides a frog's eye view of mascot's life

Meet Og, a green frog who's just moved into Room 26. There are a lot of things that are new to Og there (and his new neighbor, a "hamster" named Humphrey, won't stop squeaking).

In spite of this new environment, he finds ways to make himself at home.

"Life According to Og the Frog" by Betty G. Birney tells the story of a regular classroom from an unusual point of view.

Birney has written several books about Humphrey's life in Room 26, and this is the first one she's written that's told by Og.

The students (whom he calls "big tads") and teacher, Mrs. Brisbane, are all nice.

The classroom is quieter (and has fewer predators) than McKenzie's Marsh, the swamp where Og was born, so he gets plenty of time for his favorite pastimes: to sing and simply Float. Doze. Be.

Even Humphrey is nice — although he and Og can't understand each other — and he's definitely better than George, the mean bullfrog from the classroom Og was in before.

He even starts to think that he and the hamster are friends.

Even though Og misses his old friends at the swamp (despite all the predators and bullfrogs), he loves Room 26 and is "hoppy" to stay there.

Just when he thought life couldn't get any better, the big tads start arguing about whether Og should be sent to a wildlife center!

Og would love to return to his swamp, but a wildlife center?

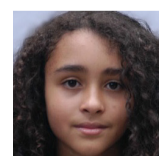
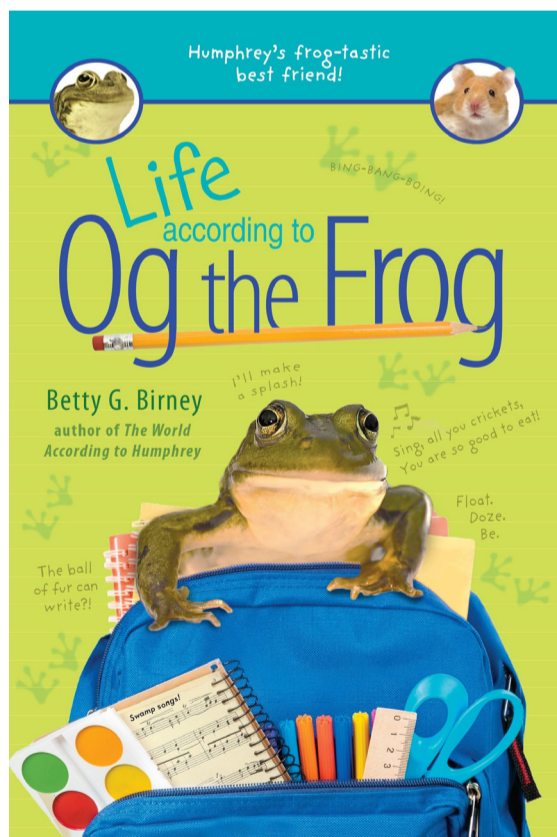
Even Humphrey doesn't seem to like that idea. Og would much rather stay where he is in Room 26.

Og has already had to leave his old friends at McKenzie's Marsh, but will he have to say goodbye to all his new friends too?

Og would love to return to his swamp, but a wildlife center? Even Humphrey doesn't seem to like that idea.

With several subplots such as preserving frog habitats and learning to stay positive when life seems to be at its worst, "Life According to Og the Frog" is definitely a terrific book.

It's an easy read with only 150 pages, but I would still recommend it for anyone ages 8 and up.



By Nandi Strieker,
11, a CK Reporter
from Antonito



Writing Is Fun!

How Would You Like To Be A Real Reporter?

Find out about all the cool benefits when you apply to be a Colorado Kids reporter at Colorado NIE.com or by emailing dplewka@denverpost.com.

First novel shows a flash of brilliance

The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl" by Stacy McAnulty is her first novel.

The tale is absolutely terrific! I haven't been able to find a book that was truly compelling enough to satisfy myself for a long time, and McAnulty worked her magic. Lightning Girl is a character that we can all side with.

McAnulty starts off the book with Lucy Callahan telling the reader all about her backstory.

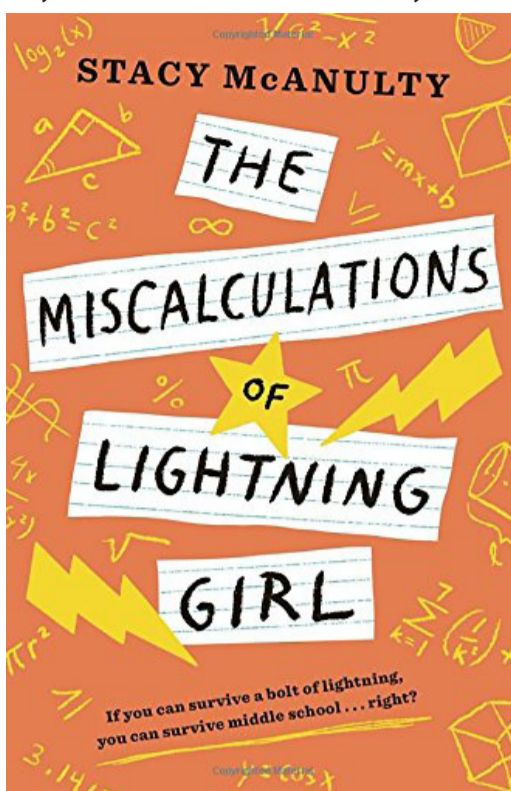
McAnulty paints a vibrant and colorful picture that made it easy for me to imagine Lucy's life.

Lucy was struck by a fulmination (a violent flash like lightning) and was given "genius-level math skills," hence the name "Lightning Girl."

Later in the book, she gains strong friendships and meets Cutie Pi, a dog who procures a steady place in her heart.

One key element in "The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl" was that Lucy has OCD, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder.

Her OCD interferes with her social life. For example, people start calling her "Cleaning Lady" because she always wipes down her desk and her other objects.



In actuality, I didn't think that I would love this book. My expectations were completely risen above.

McAnulty paints a vibrant and colorful picture that made it easy for me to imagine Lucy's life.

Plus, Lightning Girl makes it easy to see from her viewpoint, being smart and courageous.

McAnulty's novel features some topics revolving around social life, and mild insecurity, so this book is perfect for mature 5th grade readers to 9th graders, because the topics covered in this book will become a little less relevant when you enter high school to some degree.

However, I also feel this book would still be suitable for adults looking for something new. Books like this may have a specific target group, but are mostly for everyone.

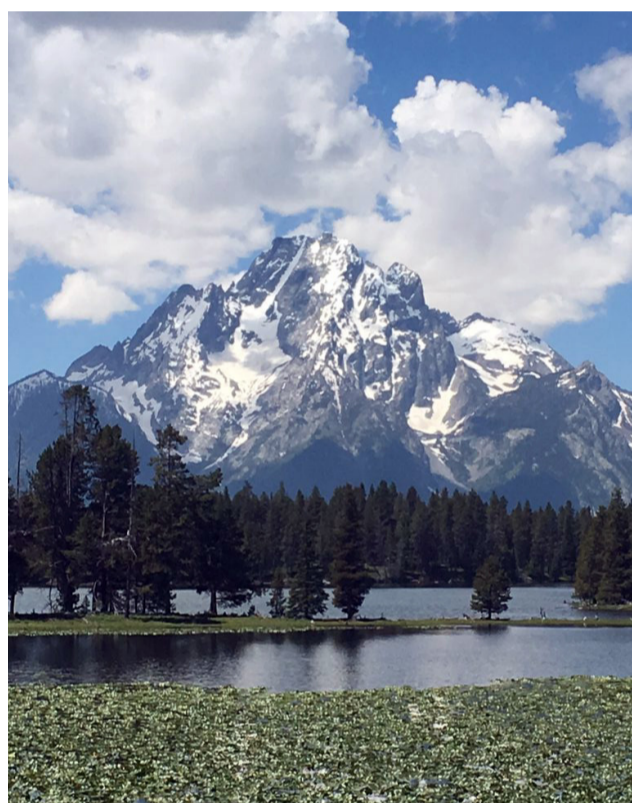
If you are a fan of realistic fiction, or are looking for something different, "The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl" might just be perfect for you!

You can find more information about Lightning Girl and Stacy McAnulty by visiting her website, stacymcanulty.com/!



By Talia Schanman, 10, a CK Reporter from Cherry Hills Village

Grand Tetons offer visitors beauty and variety



photos/Grace Ascoine

Grand Tetons National Park, just north of Jackson, Wyoming, is really beautiful.

It is believed glaciers formed the majestic peaks over 650,000 years.

One of the largest glacier-carved lakes in the park is Jackson Lake. It is really pretty, with the snowcapped jagged peaks of the Grand Tetons in the background.

Jackson Lake is very clear because it is made from runoff from a melted glacier.

It is fun to kayak and paddleboard in the lake. The fishing is really good, too, and you can see schools of minnows in the crystal clear water.

I went on a three-mile hike around Swan Lake and Heron Pond next to Taylor Reservoir and saw great views of beavers, swans, and geese.

The lakes were full of yellow water lilies!

There are also fun hikes around Jenny Lake that reveal more of the Grand Tetons.

I started at Leigh Lake and hiked a couple of miles

and ended at Jenny Lake.

We had heard there was a mother bear and cubs seen in the area and found a cub pawprint in the mud, but did not see any bears.



The last place we visited was Colter Bay Visitor Center. It is a great learning experience and you can get a Junior Ranger booklet and badge there.

There is a Native American art exhibit and horns from moose, bison, elk, big horned sheep, and antelope.

There are stores nearby that you can drive to and pick up ice cream

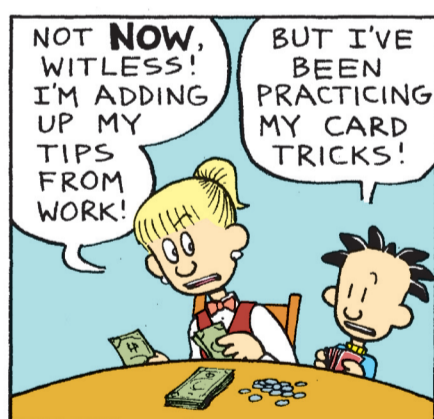
and wood for a campfire.

Grand Tetons is a wonderful experience and I look forward to visiting again!



By Reese Ascoine, 8, a CK Reporter from Golden

Big Nate



Hawaii bans popular sunscreens to protect coral reefs



Visitors to Hawaii will find the selection of sunscreens in local stores limited beginning in 2021, due to a new law banning two chemicals that damage coral.

Gov. David Ige signed a new law this week banning sunscreens that contain oxybenzone and octinoxate.

The ingredients are very effective at keeping you from turning red in the sun, but researchers say they are also very effective at

bleaching coral reefs, too.

Hawaii's beautiful coral reefs are a large part of its tourist trade, and lawmakers were much more in favor of the law than the makers of sunscreen, who are furious over the ban.

Oxybenzone and octinoxate are in many leading sunscreens, and the companies that make them say that Hawaii is risking people's health by banning them.

However, some other sunscreen

makers either have versions of their products without those two chemicals or are prepared to start making them for the Hawaiian market.

The new law only limits the sunscreens sold in Hawaii.

Tourists coming from the mainland will not be searched for the banned products but will have to search their own consciences to decide if they want to assist in preserving reefs. photo/ Bernard Spragg

Mesa Verde: A long trip back through history

Mesa Verde is a National Park in the very southwest corner of Colorado. Here you'll find the preserved work of ancestral Pueblo Indians.

Even though these places are pretty difficult to get to, the fascinating works of Native Americans make up for it.

The homes that they built out of raw materials and the key-shaped worshiping places are captivating, the advancement from pit houses to adobe apartments interesting, and the fact that it was all preserved through more than 1,000 years is surprising.

Even though it is in our state, it is a seven to nine hour drive to Mesa Verde National Park from Denver.

Montezuma County is a very hard place to get to; Mancos and Cortez are the nearest cities to Mesa Verde.

Inside the park there are many places where Native Americans had settled.

Some of the most popular are The Spruce Tree House and Cliff Palace.

The Spruce Tree House is currently not open to the public except from distant viewpoints because of rockfall.

It has been this way for three years and counting.

The Cliff Palace, however, is a place that is open to the public, though taking



Spruce Tree House photo/Chloe Whiteside

one of their tours is necessary for those who would like to see the wonders of the ancestral Pueblos.

There is also a museum focusing on the ways of the Native Americans who lived there. Inside there are spearheads, pots, jewelry, etc.

Near Mesa Verde is the Four Corners Monument, where many Indians from regional tribes get together to sell the goods that they have made.

This place is also very difficult to get to, as it is in the middle of the desert.

Four Corners is where the four corners of Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado meet.

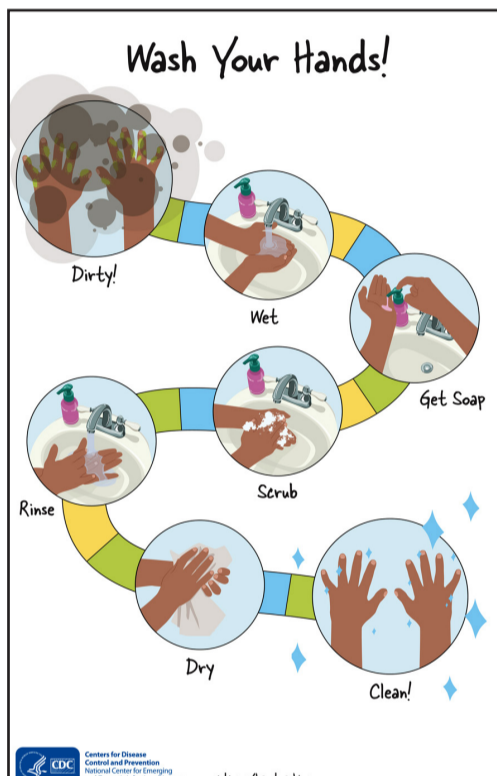
Besides crafts, jewelry and other hand-made items, there are some food stands that sell tacos, fry bread, water, and other things like that.

Even though these places are pretty difficult to get to, the fascinating works of Native Americans make up for it.



By Chloe Whiteside, 12, a CK Reporter from Broomfield

Employees must wash hands; so should you



You've seen the signs in bathrooms, in restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores and anywhere food is sold: Employees must wash hands before returning to work.

You've probably also seen people either splash a little water on their hands and walk out, or maybe not wash their hands at all.

Whether or not you think it's disgusting, it's dangerous, especially if the people who aren't washing their hands are handling food for other people.

They could be cooks, deli workers cutting meat and cheese, or people stocking fruit and vegetables in a store.

Or they could be friends hosting a party. In Charlotte, North Carolina, last week, there was a birthday party with 100 guests, and one cook who didn't wash up properly before making food for the party.

Forty people became sick and authorities waited to see if there are more, because it can take a few days for these types of food poisoning to show up.

Who handles food in your house?

It's not just the person who cooks or makes a salad. It

could be the person who sets the table or who puts groceries away after a shopping trip.

It could be you.

Do you know how to wash your hands?

The US Department of Agriculture tested 383 people on their handwashing skills, and 97 percent failed.

According to the Center for Disease Control, handwashing isn't hard, but you have to do it right:

1. Get your hands wet. (*Turn off the tap now to save water.*)
2. Soap up.
3. Rub the soap over your hands, front and back and in between fingers and under nails. Take 20 seconds -- Sing the Alphabet Song to time yourself!
4. Turn the tap back on and rinse off the soap.
5. Dry with a clean towel, not that nasty

one that's been hanging there for a week.

Now you're ready to handle and prepare food, either for money or because they're family.

And you're ready to turn that skill into a healthy habit.



Sudoku

					1
	4			3	
5					4
4				2	
	1	3	2		
		4	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

On this date in 1962, the world's first communications satellite was launched into orbit, so our answers this week will begin with "T" for its name, Telstar.

1. Small bits of wood or paper used to start a fire, or a popular dating app.
2. These shelled reptiles are the longest-living land animals.
3. This Japanese automobile maker sells the most cars worldwide.
4. Darjeeling, Earl Grey, Jasmine and Pekoe are all types of this beverage.
5. Dorothy Gale's dog, it was carried off when a tornado hit their house.
6. A percussion instrument, it is generally hoop-shaped, with jingling discs and sometimes a drum head.
7. Colorado county that includes Cripple Creek, Victor and Woodland Park.
8. Samuel Morse invented this communication device in 1837.
9. Author of "The Hobbit" and "The Lord of the Rings"
10. This country has become infamous for putting reporters and political cartoonists in jail for criticizing its leader, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

(answers on Page Four)

Invasive species destroying Australia's native reptile population

Because it was isolated for so long from the rest of the world, Australia has some of the most unique animals on the planet.

But the oddness of these animals has made them vulnerable to the invasive species that have come to Australia along with people from other continents.

Rabbits, cane toads and other animals were brought in on purpose and turned into disasters.

And, as in America, rats and mice arrived on the same ships as the settlers.

However, Australia is now struggling with the invasive species nobody is supposed to talk about: Kitty cats.

In Australia, as in America, cats are a serious

ecological problem, killing many songbirds, but so cute and loveable that nobody wants to think of them as an "invasive species" like those nasty cane toads.

This photo is of a feral cat -- one born and living in the wild -- that has killed one of Australia's parakeets.

But the latest finding is that cats, both the feral type and pets, are killing and eating huge quantities of small reptiles, pushing some species to the brink of extinction.

A study of cat poo and the contents of stomachs showed that cats kill an estimated one million small lizards and other reptiles each year.

Australia, like other countries, is facing the threat of a loveable invasive species. photo/Brisbane City Council



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 the sources for these stories

Hawaii and sunscreens

Handwashing skills

Invasive species

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

Flying Plates

Story by Frances Milburn/Illustrated by Emily Lesch

Chapter Eight: Chaos

The story so far... Conner changes the tire, and they spend the night in a motel. The next morning, they continue west through the flat prairie of Kansas. They drive a long way, and the boys get restless. They start teasing each other. Finally, Mom finds an "off the beaten track" campground far from the highway. It is a beautiful place, but they are the only people there.

"Hmmm," Mom muttered. "I'd feel better with some other campers here. Oh well, at least it's a pretty spot." She pulled in next to one of the 3 picnic tables. "Let's get moving."

Conner got the two tents out of the back of our RAV4 and began setting up the first one.

Nate helped. He was a better helper since the first night of camping in Hannibal when Conner had to show him every step. Next, they unloaded the sleeping bags and clothes bags. "Who's with who tonight?" Conner called out to Mom.

"I guess it's you and Nate together, and Ben with me tonight."

Meanwhile, Mom and I unloaded the food box and kitchen supplies.

She handed me an onion, bag of carrots, and a breadboard. "Chop these. Make them small so they don't have to cook long."

She began browning the beef on our cookstove. The smell started my tummy growling. She'd turned on our lantern as the sun was sinking.

We sat down at the picnic table. No one talked as we all ate like starving hyenas, stuffing in as much and as quick as possible. We ate up the entire pan of sloppy joes.

Mom pulled out a bag of cookies to munch on as we watched the darkness chase away the last sun ray.

It was so quiet, except for the stream singing in the still air.

Mom leaned back and sighed. "Not bad for spur of the moment. It's a nice campground.

Hard to believe we're the only ones here. I thought there always was a host. Just in case there's problems.

Maybe this campground is just too far off the highway. I mean, I like the privacy, but I wish there was at least one other person here."

"I feel like we're the only ones for a hundred miles," Nate added.

Mom grabbed a big pot and handed it to Conner. "Please get some water out of the stream to do the dishes."

She started to gather the plates. "We'll have to start looking for campgrounds earlier from now on." Mom added.

The first stars appeared. "You guys should turn in and get some sleep. I'm going to quickly clean these dishes and lay them on the picnic table to dry. We'll be out extra early tomorrow since we have to drive the 30 miles back to the highway." She gave a big yawn.

The other two went to their tent, but I helped Mom by laying out the clean dishes on the table.

When she finished, she dumped the water.

I sat at the table next to the glowing lantern just enjoying the quiet. "This is fun, Mom, even if it was a lot of driving today."

"Good," Mom smiled. "But you need to get to bed now. I should put the stuff back in the car, but I'm too tired. I'll just sit for a minute and catch my breath. Be right in."

I walked to the tent, kneeled down and unzipped the flap. Looking back, I saw Mom busy writing in her journal.

She kept a record of what we did. I wondered what she actually wrote and if some day she'd let me read it.

Laying in my bag, I grabbed my book and put on my new headband light to read. I always seemed to fall asleep easier if I read.

But mostly, I wished that Mom was in the tent too.

I awoke with a start. It was dark. I heard a long screaming noise. The tent was fluttering wildly. "Mom! What's going on?"

"Feels like a storm," she answered sharply. "The wind is howling."

She crawled out of her sleeping bag. "Stay here, I'll check it out. Zip up the door when I get out." I felt the rain coming in when she left.

"Oh my gosh!" I heard her cry through the tent. Then the sound of glass breaking and the clanging of the frypan made me realize how strong the wind was.

"Conner! Nate! Get up," I heard her yell.

I crawled to the entrance and stuck out my head. I couldn't believe the wind. I felt like it would grab me and pull me out of the tent.

I was getting soaked and ducked back into our tent. I was real scared.

"What's happening, Mom?" Conner asked sleepily, from the other tent

"It's a big storm!" Mom shouted.

Just then, I heard our metal dishes sliding along the table where I'd left them to dry.

Seconds later, I heard them bounce and clank along the rocks. The plates were flying away!

But things only got worse. The side of our tent collapsed. Water started to come in.

"What're we gonna do?" I yelled, now in a panic.

I remembered that we were in the middle of nowhere. There was no one to help us, and we were miles away from anything.

I couldn't help myself and began to cry.

The pole on the other side buckled, and the tent collapsed. I felt like I was suffocating.

I also could feel the cold water coming through the bottom of the tent.

Soon I would drown.

No, I wouldn't let that happen. I crawled to the opening.

The flaps tried to wrestle me down, but I stepped out into pouring rain. The cold drops slapped against my face and arms.

I'd never been so scared. So far from any town, not even a house nearby!

We were all alone. Tears filled my eyes. I figured we were all going to die.



Sudoku Solution

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

Brainteaser Solution

(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. tinder 2. tortoise 3. Toyota 4. tea 5. Toto 6. tambourine 7. Teller
8. telegraph 9. (JRR) Tolkein 10. Turkey

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Executive Editor: Dana Plewka
dplewka@denverpost.com
CK Editor: Mike Peterson
coloradokidseditor@gmail.com
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Denver Post Educational Services
5990 Washington St.
Denver CO 80216
(303) 954-3974
(800) 336-7678

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