



## Youth Journalism Day, 2017

Speakers from Metro State's journalism program and working journalists from regional media provided 75 participants in the Denver Post Education Program's annual Youth Journalism Day a grounding in reporting and photography.

After learning about topics like basics of journalism, interviewing techniques, review writing and photography, the students fanned out across the campus in small teams to conduct interviews, gather information and take photos.

Once they had the information and photos they needed, they went to the school's computer labs to

write their stories on a very short but realistic deadline and post them, along with photographs, to the NextGen website.

As we do each year, we've chosen some of their stories and edited them lightly for this special Colorado Kids issue.

To see these articles in their original forms, and to read the rest of the young reporters' stories for this annual event, visit <http://yourhub.com/nextgen>

For more information on our educational programs for young people, including classroom programs, visit <http://www.coloradonie.com>



## Denver's history led to current water issues

by Emma Davis, 13,  
Aurora

In the middle of the Auraria Campus, right off historic 9th Street, is an aqua-colored metal horse trough.

The plaque at the bottom reads, "Horse Trough originally located at 19th Street and Broadway, Denver 1898."

This historic landmark is a symbol of not only the thriving history of Denver, but also of the water issues in Colorado from 1898 to today.

In the 1800s, when Colorado was still mainly a mining community, Denver was a thriving town, the cultural center of the state.

It was also the main source of food for the miners and homesteaders living in the mountains and on the Eastern Plains.

While those areas were food deserts, Denver was the optimal environment for growing at the time.

The only problem with that was horses.

Denver may have had many resources, but constant uses of those resources caused many issues, including some we have today.

Farmers in Denver needed horses to plow their fields, but the horses needed food so that they could survive, so the farmers began growing alfalfa for the horses, digging irrigation ditches to water the fields.

And so began the never-ending cycle that has created many of the water issues that plague Colorado to this day.

Above the building next to the horse trough, a new skyscraper is being erected.



photo/Emma Davis

The symbol of man's expansion, it is almost as large as our famed "Cash-Register Building," a monolith rising high above the city and into the vast Colorado sky.

As our city expands, so do our water issues.

More pollution and more water usage are a negative among the changes rapidly spreading across the city, and will bring about inevitable problems in the coming years.

One half of the water that is pumped into Denver is from the Colorado River, causing environmental issues and a potential for water shortages as our city grows.

It is estimated that in the next 15 years, almost a million people will move to Denver.

This will pose problems for the city's water supplies, also causing more and more damage to

Colorado's environment.

Tom Cech, who is director of the One World, One Water Center in Denver, says that the biggest issue for Denver's water over the next 15 years is "population growth."

Cech believes that, as our population grows, "that means more people here, straining limited water resources."

Denver's water problems have been chipping away at our resources for over one hundred years.

From the days of the miners all the way to 2017, the Mile High City has had a history of issues with water supply.

Colorado's citizens must consider what will be done about this, or else the problems will multiply exponentially in the future.

## How an orphaned bear became a dear friend

by Cora Delmonico, 8,  
Aurora  
and Addyson Orr, 9,  
Littleton

Holly Arnold Kinney wrestled a bear, slept with one and grew up at The Fort restaurant in Morrison, a replica of Bent's Fort.

As an adult, she still tells tales about the bear today, in her book, "Sissy Bear at the Fort."

One day the Kinneys received news that there was a rescued bear that had been abused.

Tuffy Trussedale had been offered the bear but could not train it. So he gave the bear to the Kinneys and also taught them how to take care of her.

The Kinneys agreed to take the bear, and named her Sissy Bear.

As Sissy Bear grew up, the Kinneys started to teach her tricks.

One of her most famous tricks was eating a cherry out of someone's mouth; this was referred to as kissing.



photo/Erin Chapman

She was so well-trained that even if she got mad at you she wouldn't hurt you. If you accidentally swallowed your cherry and Sissy Bear got mad and started to charge, they had backup cherries to calm her down.

If this didn't work they smacked her on the nose.

Sissy Bear was a loving bear and a loved bear. But nobody loved her more than Lobo the German Shepherd.

The family found Lobo one day when they were driving through a city neighborhood when they found a dog that was being yanked around on a wire some kids were pulling.

Holly's father stopped the car, opened his door and said "I'll give you twenty dollars for the dog."

They agreed and he put the dog in the back of the car.

Once they got the dog home, they named him Lobo, and, when Sissy Bear met Lobo they immediately became best friends forever.

To this day, Holly Arnold Kinney says, Lobo and Sissy Bear are still best friends in heaven.



## Love to Write?

Apply to be a Colorado Kids Reporter!  
It's fun and there are cool perks

Get all the details at [ColoradoNIE.com](http://ColoradoNIE.com) today!  
Or email [dplewka@denverpost.com](mailto:dplewka@denverpost.com)

# Chasing storms only part of meteorology

by Ariana Bates-Ehrlich, 11,  
Arvada

**B**ecky Ditchfield is a meteorologist for 9 News who creates forecasts and chases storms to find a news story and to warn people in the area.

Cory Reppenhagen is also a meteorologist for 9 News, her partner who films Ditchfield and other meteorologists while driving around looking for storms.

Ditchfield told us that, as a kid, she was afraid of thunderstorms and would always run to her parent's room when she heard thunder.

When she got older, however, it turned into curiosity about weather, and that's why she became interested in meteorology.

Nine News has a new truck they have been using called "Weather Titan," a safer, sturdier truck than they had before, with all the weather-forecasting equipment.

It is also better because they can film from the front seat if they have to keep driving; it has cameras on the roof so they can look outside with the camera while in the truck.

Ditchfield's experiences go from chasing tornados to interviewing people about the recent hailstorm.

One of her most memorable experiences, she said, was when she was living in Nebraska: On June 22, 2003, in Aurora, Nebraska, there were reports of hail the size of basketballs.

Later when the hail was measured it was 7 inches in diameter which still held the national record at the time.

She has also lived in Arkansas. When Hurricane Katrina hit, a lot of evacuees were put up in mobile homes in Arkansas.

She said a lot of people there were scared a tornado would come up from Hurricane Katrina because



photo/Ariana Bates-Erlich

a mobile home is the worst place to be during a tornado.

Luckily tornados never hit where most of the evacuees were staying.

One of her more recent storm-chasing events was when she was in Wyoming.

She and Reppenhagen were out chasing a tornado and it actually touched ground, and

she said, she was "celebrating in the car."

She also told us about the Windsor tornado in 2008.

She was in the 9 News office watching the weather when she saw that it was perfect conditions for a tornado and that there were already funnel clouds.

There were only two minutes until the noon show

but she insisted they go on and warn people.

She said the most important part of her job is saving lives by warning people about incoming weather

Ditchfield also told us that one of her greatest challenges is forecasting in the winter because it changes quickly.

She said that meteorologists get a lot of criticism that they have to overcome.

Many people say that they could do her job and that meteorologists jobs are easy.

"People just don't understand the science behind it" said Ditchfield.

Meteorologists are very important in our lives because they risk their lives to warn us.

They are also just everyday helpers, like letting us know what to wear based on the temperatures.

Ditchfield's advice, if you want to be a meteorologist, is to talk to all the meteorologists you can.

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**She said the most important part of her job is saving lives by warning people about incoming weather**

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photo/Sibi Sivaram

## A tour of historic 9th Street

by Sibi Sivaram, 11,  
Broomfield

**N**inth street is on the Auraria Campus. On this street, Professor Robert Amend gave a group of kids a tour, telling them the history of the place and of each building.

The city of Auraria was first owned by Native Americans.

Today, there are many houses along 9th street, and each house has a plaque that shows when each building was built.

The first house on the street was a Mexican restaurant for 25 years, and was family run.

In the last 40 years, there have been many restaurants inside it.

There is also a building for the One World One Water Center, which addresses water issues along with funding for other environmental issues.

In the next house, you will see that the roof is not as high as roofs nowadays. This is because over time, people started to get taller.

In another house, the inside has been filled with many modern things, such as the fan that was on the ceiling.

However, the house has many small windows everywhere, including above the door.

These are for light, because during the times the house was built there was no electricity.

This house is a duplex, which means that there are two houses, but in one building.

There are two front porches, and each one has venting underneath it.

You can tell that they are old houses because there are more designs than modern houses.

In some of the houses, the people were taken away from the homes, but were given a small sum of money.

Some people argued that the money given to the people was not enough.

Recently, they invited the people who were uprooted for a celebration of their lives.

Also, at the end of the street, there is a 40-year-old fountain.

Ninth street has much history, and is west of downtown Denver. It is always open to the public.

## Industrial Design calls for special talents

by Bella Clark, 13,  
Lakewood

**P**rofessor Ted Shin gave us a tour of Metro State's thriving industrial design program.

He told us about the five categories his students should know:

- Creative problem solving,
- Ability to convey concepts with sketches,

- Verbal and written communications,
- Computer proficiency, and
- Mechanical aptitude.

Shin is striving to teach his students the process of going from the identified problem to the final production of the solution.

We also learned that industrial design is really the crossroads of engineering and art where the artists can take their ideas and use them to innovate everyday products to look and feel aesthetically pleasing.

These intelligent students must have good people skills as well as an artsy side to them.



**Metro State Professor Ted Shin shows a visitor a display explaining the elements you'd learn in an Industry Design major.** photo/Bella Clark

Professor Shin, for example, was set on being a cartoonist since first grade, until his father told him he would not make enough money.

He thought all hope was lost until one night he saw a documentary on industrial design and decided he would pursue that.

He is responsible for the clamshell phone from Samsung as well as many other designs and innovations.

Metro State is just launching a new engineering and industrial design building that will allow them more space for their growing program.

The Metro State industrial design program is NASDA approved and teaches with the STEAM program which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Aesthetics, and Mathematics.

Their program includes multiple 3D printers as well as a plasma metal cutter and multiple wood saws.

Metro State's program is important to the future of our ever-changing world.

This program, with all of its newer equipment and innovations, will surely turn out the world's next leaders in industrial design.

# Campus artwork is part of student success

by Avery Myhra, 11,  
Castle Rock

The Student Success building is the heart of the campus, where students go to find financial help or the admissions office.

Once they walk in, they will discover the wondrous imagination of artists expressed through art.

The Student Success Building at Metropolitan State University of Denver, was built in 2012, to later be renovated in 2016.

Deane Pytlinski, an art history teacher there, helped choose the artwork that would tell the past and present of the local community.

While Deane Pytlinski is an art history teacher, she can also be an exquisite guide through the building, telling you the story of each piece of artwork.

The architect, RNL Designs, thought that the building was the heart of the campus.

So they used that concept for the design of the building, and the surrounding area.

Outside the building, there is a small area with hills portraying the waves of the ocean.

Where the waves of grass end, there is a beautiful piece of artwork by Rik Sargent: A piece of metal that

looks like the ocean, and all the beautiful

things it holds.

While it is portraying the ocean, the shape of the piece is like a clear glass ball, with splashing water at the top.

Inside the building, you can find many different pieces of artwork, one of which is a hanging group of boxes, with red plastic on the inside.

When the sun is aligned with the boxes, and you



photo/Piper Addenbrooke

can see through them.

The sculpture re-creates the building you are in.

Proceeding upstairs, there is an amazing display on a wall.

The artist, Susan Porteous, collected old textbooks from some of the teachers at the university.

She and a couple of other students folded hundreds of pages of paper into

cones.

The end result was a wide-spreading mosaic.

There is another outstanding piece of artwork, a mural done by Carlos Fresquez's class.

When creating the mural, the class was hoping to get across the idea of success, with the many pathways leading from Denver in the middle of the painting.

The mural was painted downstairs on the wall, near the entrance.

The building holds the many hidden treasures of the campus, each with its own story and meaning.

Although there are many pieces of artwork inside, the building in whole is the true treasure.

As Pytlinski explained, "The Student Success Building is the heart of the campus, it is the home of the students.

"Every piece of art is of value to the building, even if it is not seen."

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## Editing techniques make videos stand out



photo/ Corinne Ray

by Spencer Peck, 12,  
Broomfield  
and Margaux Hartgrove, 12,  
Denver

Professor Robert Amend teaches students at Metropolitan State University of Denver how to make and edit movies just like the films on the big screen. He demonstrates how to change audio, make smooth transitions, and manipulates video clips to his liking.

Teaching movie makers and movie editors of the future is his profession. Amend records raw footage and brings it to the computer lab. After that, the editing process begins. He does this with Adobe Premier Professional Software.

First, he adds transitions. This can be cutting, dissolving, cube, fading and more. When changing scenes, transitions help the video run smoothly; adding transitions isn't something you have to do, but it can make the video more interesting, grabbing the audience's thoughts during the program. Then Amend can bring in visual effects, such as different light settings, as well as color.

He uses contrasting hues, instead of displaying the original color shot. This makes the film look more appealing to the viewer and can give it feeling or emotion.

He also can modify the speed of the video to be fast or slow, making the audio speed up or slow down. He does this because it can add humor or suspense to the film, or possibly make a slight change to character development. Doing so can really help keep the viewers' attention.

Amend can play with audio, too. There are three different types of audio; music, sound effects, and voice. Music can be layered under the voice, adding different emotion or intensity. Sound effects can be sounds like explosions, or simple notes like footsteps.

Finally, a voice audio is someone (*or something*) talking. Whether it's a person, dog, or tree talking, there is almost always a voice in a film.

Another possible audio is a voiceover. This is when there is a scene and someone is talking, but they are not on screen.

Video editing is very important in cinematography. It can add drama, action, and life into a theater.

The effects which are shown in a film affect the viewer's understanding of the picture. Professor Amend helps college students with their awareness on the topic of video editing; and helps with their becoming video editors for big-time directors and producers.

## Performance center is Metro's crowning jewel

by Leighton Larson, 11,  
Fort Collins

The King Center is on the campus of Metropolitan State University on 9th Street Plaza and Lawrence.

The building was completed in the 2000's and is named after Kenneth King.

It has three halls: The Concert Hall, Eugenia Rawls Hall, and the Recital Hall.

The Concert Hall seats 520 people, the largest seating capacity of the three halls.

Some parts of the stage can drop down ten feet to create an orchestra pit for performers.

While the Concert Hall features music, the Eugenia Rawls Hall immerses the audience in the world of acting.

The Eugenia Rawls Hall is named after the actress Mary Eugenia Rawls because she donated to build the Center.

The hall has about 300 seats to seat an eager



photo/Leighton Larson

audience.

What is so unique about this hall is the backstage. It is many floors high with ropes attached to a set of metal that lifts and lowers objects.

There is also a rumor about a ghost that haunts this hall, so the theater leaves a night light for the ghost before a performance.

Recital Hall is known for its acoustics and audio favorability.

To accomplish this feat the theaters bricks are angled in a certain way to make the tone of the speaker smooth.

The performers like this theater the best because of the small size, with only 200 seats.

This room is also used for 8th grade graduations of local schools.

These three halls make the performers of this generation shine as bright as the lights.

This beauty is found in the heart of Metropolitan State University.

# Child miners worked in Pikes Peak Gold Rush

by Demarcos Marquez, 10,  
Littleton  
and Claire Jensen, 10,  
Longmont

Miners came to Colorado to mine and get rich from the gold that they mined out of the ground or out of a river.

This time was called the Pikes Peak Gold Rush.

Miners used pans to get the gold out of a river or streambed.

They used picks and other tools to get the gold out of the mines or caves.

Adults weren't the only workers in mines. Small boys as young as ten years old worked in mines.

Why? They could lay dynamite and squeeze into small places that the grown men couldn't.



YJD participants learn from History Colorado experts on a variety of topics. photo/Zoe Zizzo

This was a very difficult job because there was a high chance that you could get injured or even killed.

This all happened in the 1850's. People mined in Cripple Creek and Leadville.

There are several ways to mine.

One way is to take a pan with holes in the bottom and pick up things from the bottom of a river, and swish it around in the pan.

Then you pick out the pieces of gold ore from the dirt and rocks.

Another way to mine is to take picks and shovels and go into a cave or mine and hack pieces of gold out of the dirt or walls.

For more information about the Gold Rush, History Colorado Center is located at 1200 N Broadway in Denver, or go to <http://historycoloradocenter.org/plan/>

# Libraries face the future in the Information Age



photo/Jacob Reimer

by Jacob Reimer, 12,  
Denver

Kevin Seeber, a librarian from the Auraria Library at Metro State, showed kids from Youth Journalism Day all of the amazing stuff at the library.

Seeber started the tour by telling the kids how the library had replaced most of their books, putting them online.

The library went from having 1,000,000 books on site to just having 400,000 there.

Then Mr. Seeber asked the kids questions like "Why do we have libraries?" and "How can librarians help journalists?"

Then he asked the campers what they thought libraries would look like in the future.

People all over the world are talking about whether paperback or electronic books are better.

Did you know there are more libraries in the US than there are McDonalds?

The Auraria Library is a multi-level building but on the bottom level it is more computers and classrooms and the top level is all books and study rooms.

This library put 600,000 out of its 1,000,000 books at a warehouse near DIA.

Students can order books from the warehouse and have them delivered by car.

The library has only kept the paperback books on site that are non-fiction and are helpful for students.

But the library does not just rent out books; they also lend things like park passes, video cameras, and 3D pens.

The library is being renovated and they are making a wood shop for the students.

The Auraria Library is a great place to study, read, do homework, or just hang out.

It is a pioneer in a new version of the library.

# A retiring CK reporter tells why you should join us

My name Parker Secret and I became a Colorado Kids (CK) Reporter when I was 9 years old.

I will age out of the program September 1, since I'm turning 14 next week.

Over the years I have written 22 articles including this one and one blog.

My 22 articles include reviews of books, movies, and toys. I also did an article on the National Western Stock Show.

There are many reasons someone should be a CK Reporter and here are a few thoughts that I had on the program.

First, you learn a lot of new things. Most of these things are about writing and how to improve your writing.

However, there are a few things that you can learn that are not related to writing, such as social skills.

Second, there are a lot of unique opportunities that you can get when you're a CK reporter. One of them is the chance to meet and interview new, interesting, and well-known people.

You can also get special access to events such as movie previews and festivals.

Finally, being a Colorado Kids Reporter is fun!

Here are some thoughts on the overall CK Reporter program.

I think that the program is great and is run quite well.

The system of receiving the weekly email Blast and emailing your requests for articles works very well, and the website including writing tips is very helpful.

The annual workshops are great, especially for those who are new CK reporters, and, even if you are not new to CK, the workshop remind you of things that you may have forgotten and gives you a chance to

## Kong offers thrills for older kids

"Kong: Skull Island" directed by Jordan Vogt-Anderson, takes place right after the Vietnam War on a previously undiscovered island full of mythical monsters and, of course, King Kong.

When a secret government program called Monarch finds images of a mysterious uncharted island in the Pacific ocean, they launch an expedition to map the surface structure of the island.

The expedition soon finds out that they are not alone on the island, however.

Their entire fleet of helicopters is taken out by Kong, and the survivors are scattered and have to regroup and get to the north side of the island in three days so they can be rescued.

The movie, however, starts out during World War II with an American and a Japanese pilot crash landing on the island.

They soon begin fighting each other and later encounter King Kong.

Overall, the movie was very good.

The special effects were extremely realistic and added to the sense of reality in the movie. Everything from the explosions to the colossal creatures, looked very real.

Another thing that was good about this movie was that, while it was long (two hours), it wasn't painful to watch and the movie didn't spend too much time dialing on unimportant details.

This Kong movie was also a lot more so than the others have been, with a lot more huge creatures and fictional animals than in previous versions.

Another good thing about the movie was that it was in 3D, which really added to the whole sense of realism, especially when there were things like giant monsters on screen.

One thing you should note is that it is a very violent movie and has a lot of gore in it as well.

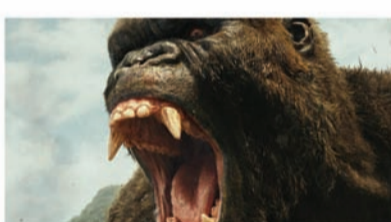
While "Kong: Skull Island" was a good movie, there were some things that were not so great about it.

Samuel L. Jackson's performance as Preston Packard was not so great. It seemed like his character was very he is attacked by an abnormally large octopus. King kills it almost effortlessly as if he weren't injured at all.

The time during which the movie takes place also doesn't make very much sense and it was hard to tell if there was some hidden meaning to it.

If you are into movies with a lot of special effects and are alright with violence and gore then this movie is definitely worth seeing.

The movie is approximately rated PG-13, though, and you won't want to bring a six-year-old to see it.



By Parker Secret, 13, a CK Reporter from Denver

## New series off to an action-packed start

"Bodyguard: Recruit" by Chris Bradford, is the first in an eight book series.

It is about a teenager who lives in the UK named Connor Reeves and who is a kidnapping champion.

After winning a kidnapping tournament, he is recruited by Guardian, a top-secret organization that recruits young people to act as bodyguards for people who might be the target of some sort of attack.

The point of hiring young people is to make the bodyguards undercover and to not arouse suspicion.

As a part of this organization, Connor undergoes training in surveillance, anti-ambush exercises, hostage survival, and unarmed combat.

This is to prepare him for all of the dangerous missions that he has ahead of him.

However, nothing can truly prepare him for his first assignment, protecting the President of the United States' daughter, when the Secret Service.

Now his job is even more vital because, unbeknownst to the Secret Service, there is an active terrorist group in America whose mission is to kidnap the one person Connor is expected to protect.

"Bodyguard: Recruit" sets the stage for a potentially exciting series.

The beginning of the book plunges you headfirst into action that gets you engaged in the story and makes you want to read more. The ending also leaves you wanting to read the next book.

The novel moves at a very good pace. There are no moments that feel like they were unnecessarily long and pointless.

"Bodyguard: Recruit" is 250 pages long and is used for ages 10 and up.

This is an appropriate age as the plot, which includes topics such as terrorism, might not be appropriate for younger ages.

The reading level should also be suitable for most people of the recommended age.

The downloading process for the Digital Viewing software was also simple and easy. It is secure, durable and is a good tool for examining very small things such as insects, teaching, or just having fun looking at things.

The microscope is egg shaped and can fit in many different sizes of hands so it is easy to use with smaller children.

The Learning Resources website says that this can be used with people in pre-K to sixth grade, but it could be used by people much older than that too.



By Parker Secret, 13, a CK Reporter from Denver

## 'Zoomy' microscope a good fit for all ages

"Zoomy" is a handheld digital microscope that uploads images to your computer at a resolution of 640 x 480 pixels.

It magnifies things up to 43x and comes with two different adapters to go on the front for viewing different things, plus you can go in to take pictures and record videos of what you are seeing.

The microscope comes with a disk that has a program called "Digital Viewer" which is used with the microscope to view images.

You can also go to the Learning Resources website and download the Digital Viewer software there.

"Zoomy" works with Windows or Mac OS, but is not compatible with Mac version 10.5. The microscope is compatible with any applications that support the viewing of USB Video Class Devices on Mac OS.

Its shutter button for taking pictures only works with Windows operating systems right now. To take videos in Windows open the Digital Viewer software and press capture. When you are finished recording press the escape key on your keyboard to stop the recording.

The process to record is a little different with the software downloaded from the Learning Resources site, though. To record just press the record button and press it again to stop recording.



By Parker Secret, 13, a CK Reporter from Denver

connect with the other writers.

The only thing that was not very good about the program was the change from printing the kids section in the newspaper to putting it online. I think that led to people not being as motivated to write articles.

However, the regular Denver Post has begun to publish our book reviews on Sundays, which is good.

If CK Reporters could get more published in the regular Denver Post that would help make up for it: I loved when I got a book review published in the Sunday Denver Post next to the book reviews for adults!

Those are my thoughts on the Colorado Kids program and why you should be a part of it.



By Parker Secret, 13, a CK Reporter from Denver

## Becoming a Colorado Kids Reporter

Our youth journalism program provides an opportunity for students under the age of 14 to join a community of writers, have a forum, increase their writing and photography skills, review products, books and movies, and share ideas with other youth.

There is no charge to participate and no minimum or maximum levels of participation. Reporters (and their families) decide how much time to commit.

To find out how to join us, go here:

[https://nieonline.com/coloradonie/ck\\_reporters.cfm](https://nieonline.com/coloradonie/ck_reporters.cfm)

# ColoradoKids

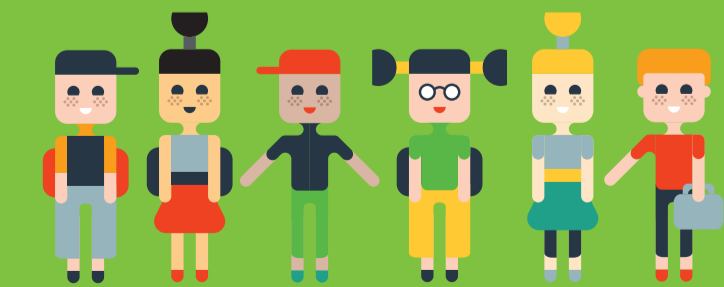
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