

CK Reporter of the Week
Ben Vanourek, Littleton

Preserving Colorado's heritage

“We can't change the past, but we can change how long people remember it.” These were the words of 12-year-old Elly Weber as she opened her speech at the conclusion of 2017's Preserve America Youth Summit in Colorado. Weber was one of 46 students from across Colorado who attended the tenth Preserve America Youth Summit in the Southern Rockies this year.

The program began in 2007 in Colorado, and summits now take place in Texas, New Mexico, and other areas as well. These one-week summits for students 12 to 18, while differing slightly from year to year and place to place, have a common theme throughout: preservation.

The 2017 summit began with a four-day stream of activity in Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, a beautiful and lesser known area in the Southern Rockies.

The monument is notable primarily for its giant fossilized redwood stumps which, dating back around 34 million years, are relics of the completely different climate once present in Colorado. Activities at the Monument and during the rest of the summit centered on natural preservation, and were even more closely tied to the Park Service than usual.

In addition to allowing the Youth Summit to utilize the Florissant Fossil Beds Monument at the start and finish of the camp, the Park Service also played a large role in the funding of this year's program, and those before. Ann Pritzlaff, the summit founder and director, says funding from the Park Service and other sponsors, including History Colorado, Newmont Mines, The History Channel, and the Gold Belt Scenic Byway, meant students were completely provided for.

For students, this is a wonderful experience, but the summits are also incredibly beneficial to the areas in which they operate. Not only do the summits bring tourism and money to communities, but students are also expected to directly do things to aid these communities.

Students perform community service, and the event closes off with a “town hall.” This year, students did community service in the town of Cripple Creek, which is near Florissant National Monument. Groups worked for almost two hours washing windows, sweeping sidewalks, and pulling weeds in and near vacant lots in Cripple Creek, before taking a short tour of the city itself.

On the last day of the Summit though, the young preservationists travelled back to Florissant. In the same theatre were they got their introduction to Florissant and to the Gold Belt Scenic Byway, they began another tradition of Preserve America Youth Summits, the town hall.

Youth Summit town halls are a flip on traditional town halls.

Instead of officials accepting questions from the populace, these town halls bring together representatives and change-makers from both the private and public sectors, to ask questions of Colorado's youth.



Summit participants pause for photos with a huge Euclid truck during a tour of the Newmont mining company facility, where the company is extracting gold at Cripple Creek while working to protect historic sites in the area. photo/Thandi Glick

On the final day of the 2017 Colorado Summit, a panel that included representatives from Senators Bennet and Gardner and the regional director of the National Park Service asked questions about preservation, attracting tourism to the area, and youth voice of the Summit attendees.

Alumni of the program and community leaders confirm that the advice students give out in these town halls is taken seriously, and it is for this very reason that change is coming to the Gold Belt and other areas of Colorado.

Those going into any grade between 7th and 12th are eligible to participate in this program. For more information, go to the Preserve America: Youth Summit website, <http://www.preservationyouthsummit.org>



By Thandi Glick,
13, a CK Reporter
from Denver

Celebrating Colorado's 141st Birthday

Happy 141st Birthday to Colorado! It may be the 38th State, but it's first in our hearts.

On August 1st, 1876, Ulysses S. Grant admitted Colorado into the Union.

Naturally, because this is an important part of Colorado history, the History Colorado Center puts on a celebration every year.

From 10 am to 4 pm this year, the museum had numerous fun and interesting activities for families to do.

Inside and outside the museum, there was an alpaca petting zoo, an interactive adobe brick demonstration, a gold panning adventure, and numerous other small activities.

And, of course, the whole museum was open for you to enjoy as well.

All day there were other fun events that happened every few hours.

At 10:30am members of the Cheyenne Tribe performed traditional dances.

At the end of their dances they let you join in and dance!

At 11:15 the Governor of Colorado, John Hickenlooper came out for a birthday celebration.

Before the cake was served, he made a short speech about Colorado history “...that allows us to see where we have been so that when we go forward we make wiser and better decisions, that our future will always



Lieutenant Governor Donna Lynne, two young members of the Cheyenne Nation and Governor John Hickenlooper prepare to cut Colorado's birthday cake. photo/Carson Butler

be better than our past.”

Hickenlooper also added a note on the future of Colorado and said “I am happy to see the next generation here in the museum to support and recognize the importance of history.”



By Carson Butler,
14, a CK Reporter
from Littleton



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Spacey pet causes a hole lot of trouble



One summery night Stella leaves the job of watching her little brother Cosmo to go deliver a sound track of all the happy and best noises in earth to NASA so that if they find life on another planet the life will know that earth is a happy place, but after not being let it, she heads back home.

What she doesn't realize is that a vast black ball of trouble followed her home, and is about to take her on an adventure of a lifetime, as told in "The Care and Feeding of a Pet Black Hole," by Michelle Cuevas.

Larry is what Stella names the black hole, she teaches him how to sit, stay, and roll over.

The only problem is that anything Larry touches he absorbs and transports it into his vast darkness.

One day Larry absorbs Stella's favorite picture of her and her dad (*her dad is not with them, and the book does not say what happened to him, but I assume that he died somehow.*)

Anyway, Stella gets very mad at Larry and Larry slinks away causing chaos in Stella's neighborhood.

Soon Stella finally gets the dog she wanted, but, since Larry is attracted to anything small and fluffy, that's going to

be a problem.

Soon the problem happens: Their dog's ball goes flying into the black hole and, sure enough, the dog goes flying in after it.

Now its up to Stella to go on a adventure inside a black hole to rescue her dog, and, perhaps, the planet.

I think this book was very good. It may have been a little old for my age but that didn't make it bad.

I think this book would be good for eight or older just because kids younger than that I think wouldn't understand it.

From learning about space to its humorous parts, "The Care and Feeding of a Pet Black Hole" is a fun read that will keep you involved!



By Katherine Gagner,
12, a CK Reporter
from Boulder

Starting fresh each day, in a frightening way

Imagine going through life not remembering what you did the day before. "The One Memory Of Flora Banks," by Emily Barr, is about a seventeen year old girl who has amnesia.

When Flora Banks was only ten years old doctors found a tumor growing in her brain.

When they removed the tumor, they took a piece of her memory with it, she wouldn't be able to make new memories for the rest of her life.

As time goes by, Flora comes up with a system to help her with her memory on a day to day life: A notebook.

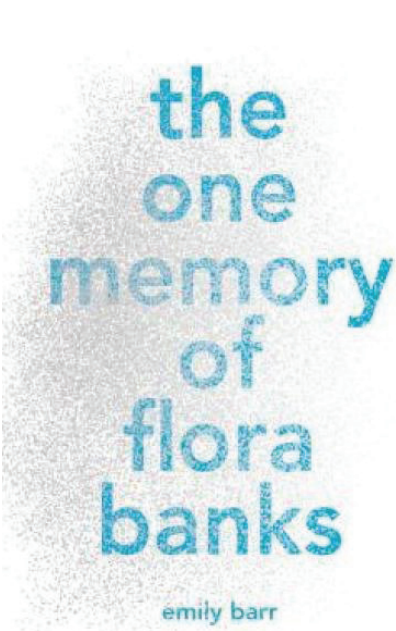
She writes everything down in her notebook that will be important throughout the day, like what her favorite tea cup is.

Without her notebook Flora wouldn't be able to navigate life.

After something extraordinary happens, and Flora is able to remember, she sets out on an adventure, out of the country.

She chases her memory to a freezing cold island, thousand of miles from her home. She navigates the island all by herself and finds her dream.

Just to find out her whole life was a lie.



This book by Emily Barr is a great book that takes you into the mind of someone who struggles to remember.

If you like reading a book from a different view on life than yours, then this is a book for you.

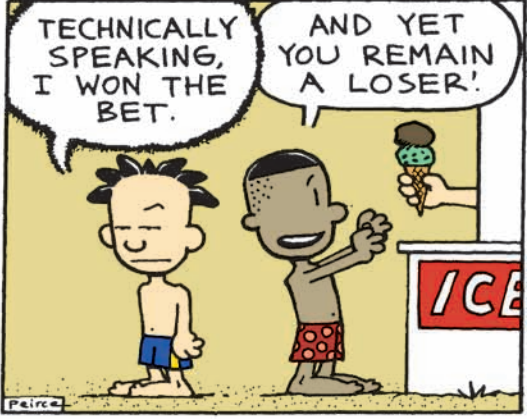
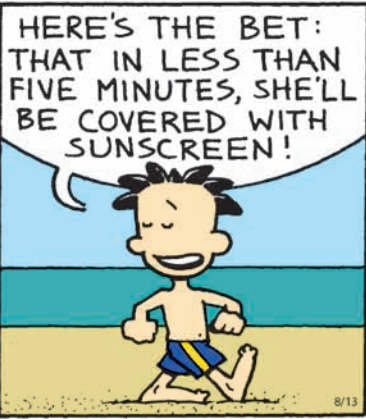
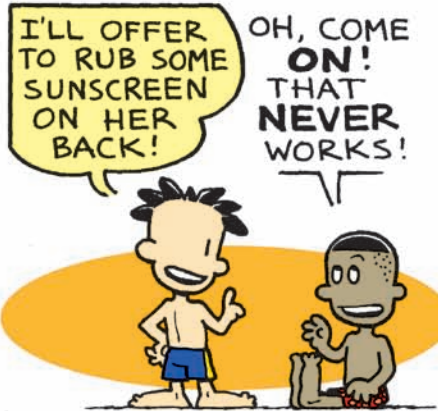
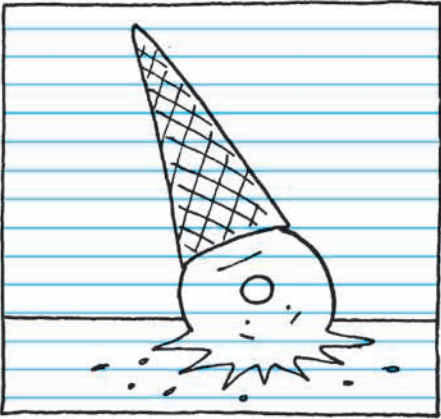
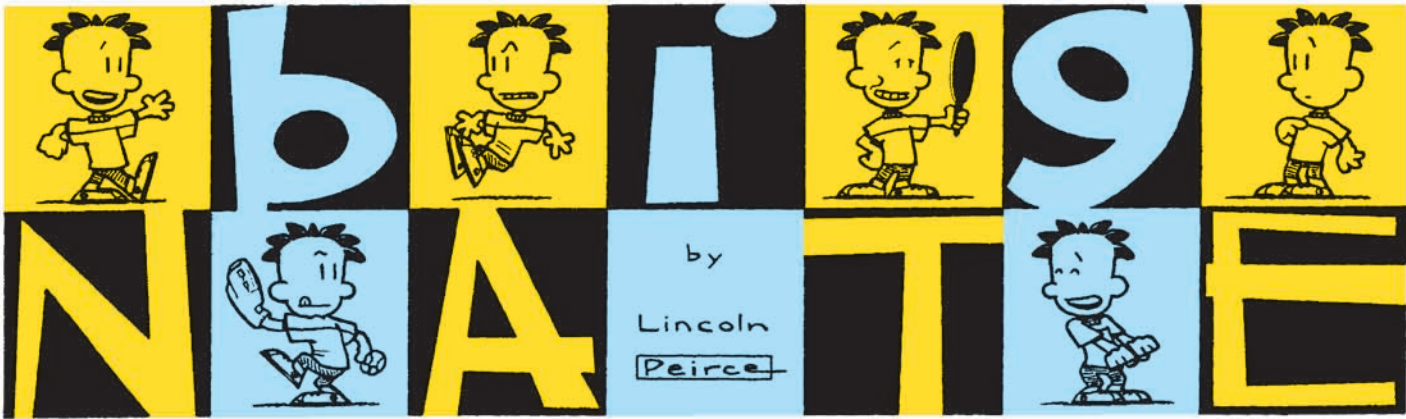
This book starts off with Flora's thoughts, which can definitely be confusing.

It is told from the first person, and her thoughts are written, which can confuse some readers at the start of the book.

Even though it is confusing at first, however, the book does get clearer the more you continue reading.



By Ashley Gaccetta,
13, a CK Reporter
from Longmont



Another 'missing link' in the evolutionary chain



There may never be a complete set of fossils to show how primates divided up into their various categories, but a skull unearthed in Kenya has added an important piece to the puzzle.

The skull is of an ape that lived in the Miocene Period, which stretched from 2.6 to 23 million years ago, and is both our ancestor and that of chimpanzees and other apes.

The extraordinary thing is that the skull was complete. Most fossils of apes from that period are just a bit of jaw or

other bone, because the rainforest was not a good environment for preserving them long enough to be fossilized.

However, the skull is that of an infant, so it's hard to compare it to other fossils from similar, mature creatures.

Still, it was well-preserved enough that, after two years of testing and careful examination, paleontologists have made some interesting discoveries about our ancient ancestors.

One thing that links this creature to us, and to Great Apes like the gorilla

and chimpanzee, is a structure in its ear that tells how it kept its balance.

This particular animal walked on the ground, like a human, chimp or gorilla.

It's only one piece in a very large puzzle, and there is still much to be discovered about how we came to be.

But just as fitting a particular piece into a jigsaw puzzle can help you figure out where other pieces go, finding a complete skull of this ancient ancestor has provided important clues to the puzzle of evolution.

photo/Fred Spoor

We asked you, you told us:

Graphic novels produce a split among Colorado Kids readers

Readers sent a very clear message about graphic novels when they answered our question: They are divided. About a quarter of the readers who responded consider them sometimes as good as traditional novels while a third would rather have a traditional text-based novel, and another third said they're mostly just for fun. Only a small number actually prefer them over traditional, text-based novels.

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

Which of these statement best matches your feelings about graphic novels?

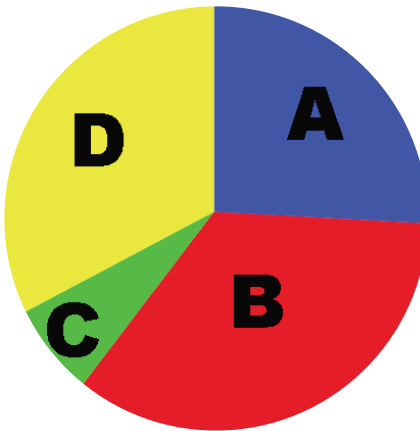
A. The good ones are as good as traditional novels. 26%

B. They're like candy: Mostly just for fun. 34%
C. I'd rather read graphic novels than traditional ones. 7%
D. None for me, thanks. Give me a "real" novel. 33%

Now here's our next question:
What one thing would you change about school lunches?

A. More choices in the fruits and vegetables offered.
B. Don't serve the same main dishes so often.
C. More desserts and snacks. Junk food isn't so bad.
D. More time so we can eat at a relaxed pace.

To answer this question, go to
<http://nextgen.yourhub.com>

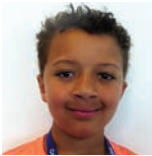


Sometimes you need to work hard to be yourself



If there's rule you should live by, it's the first rule of punk: Be yourself. That's the message that Celia Pérez has in her book "The First Rule of Punk." The book is about a 6th grader who is half-Mexican named Malú who moves to Chicago with her mom. Not only was Malú moving into a new house, but moving to Chicago changed her life. At home, she would rock to punk music. Now Malú's living life with her mom trying to turn her into the perfect little *señorita*, and when Malú starts a band called the Co-Co's, the trouble only begins.

Celia Pérez writes a great book about being true to yourself, with twists all around the book that kept me interested. The novel starts out slow, but later you'll want read it to the very end. I would recommend this to all the trouble-makers out there!



By Marcus Turner, 11, a CK Reporter from Aurora

A part of the 'Hermit Kingdom' in the news

North Korea, or "The People's Democratic Republic of Korea," is the northern half of the Korean peninsula, with South Korea the other, a split that occurred after World War II. Korea has a very long history of other nations trying to control it, including its nearest neighbors, China, Russia and Japan. Over the centuries, Korea was so unfriendly to outsiders that it was called "The Hermit Kingdom," and kept to itself, apart from the world. On this date in 1945, Japan surrendered to end the war, and Korea was supposed to be independent once more, after nearly half a century of being forced to be part of Japan. But the Soviet Union and the United States divided the peninsula into two parts, and there was disagreement over which of the two should finally become Korea's government. The result was the Korean War, in which the United Nations, mostly with American troops, fought on behalf of South Korea against North Korea, which was aided mostly by China but also by the Soviet Union, a large country that included Russia.

The war went on for three years, from 1950 to 1953, and it has never really ended, even after five million people died, including nearly 40,000 American servicemen. There was no peace treaty, only an agreement to stop fighting, and the two countries have looked on each other with suspicion ever since. Over the years, there have been outbreaks of fighting between the two countries, as well as between North Korea and US troops in the area. The current dictator of North Korea is Kim Jung Un, who is the grandson of Kim Il Sung, the nation's first leader, and the son of Kim Il Jong, who took over when his father died. (As in many Asian cultures, Korean family names come first.) North Korea has developed nuclear arms and threatens other nations with them. The United Nations, including Russia and China, agreed to cut off much trade with North Korea until it agrees to behave less aggressively. But with Korea's history of resisting outsiders, we'll have to see how North Korea now reacts to pressure from the UN and threats from the US, both aimed at ending its nuclear program.



Above, thousands of North Koreans participate in a rally to protest United Nations sanctions and the threats of President Trump in response to their nation's nuclear weapons program.

(AP Photo/Jon Chol Jin)



Sudoku

				5	1
5		4			
	2		1		
			5		2
1				3	
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 1947, India gained its independence from Great Britain and was divided into India and Pakistan, so our answers this week will begin with "I" for "Independence."

1. A type of African antelope, or a type of Chevrolet automobile
2. The use of words, humorously or sarcastically, to mean the opposite of what they literally mean
3. The nation where you would find the cities of Naples, Florence and Milan
4. In the Bible, he was Abraham and Sarah's son, and the father of Jacob and Esau.
5. In football, a pass that misses the receiver or is dropped (*three syllables!*)
6. "Flu" is short for this medical term.
7. In winter, water dripping from a roof forms these, similar to a cave's stalactites.
8. The capital of Pakistan
9. Author of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," "Rip Van Winkle" and a biography of Christopher Columbus
10. A city on I-70 in Clear Creek County, it shares part of its name with a state.

(answers on Page Four)

Braces: They're good for your teeth but they're not good to eat

If you've got braces, you know that they can cause you some pain from time to time. But, if you're like most people with braces, you know it's only for a year or two and then you'll have a better smile. And, after all, it's not like they're going to stop growing corn. There will be corn on the cob for plenty of summers to come. Still, that's the future, and it's hard not to feel at least a little sorry for yourself right now. Here's a story to let you know it's not so bad. Or, at least, that it could sure be worse. A 30-year-old woman in Australia went to the hospital and told the doctors that she was having

severe stomach pains. They thought perhaps it was a problem with her gall bladder, but then she felt better and so they sent her home. Later, however, the pain returned and was worse, so they gave her a CT scan and discovered a piece of thin wire about four inches long in her intestines. They took her to the operating room and removed a piece of wire from the braces she had had 10 years before. Then the mystery wasn't why she was in pain. The mystery was how she could have swallowed a four-inch piece of wire without noticing it. Chew carefully, please.

photo/Giorgia226



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

Ape fossil

North Korea

Swallowed wire

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

The Path to Freedom

Chapter Five: At The Campsite

(Luke and Sylvie Van Gelder have gone with the local militia to help the Americans stop General Burgoyne's invasion. While Luke and their father are out with the troops, Sylvie works alongside the other patriot women.)

Sylvie felt sick to her stomach. She didn't want to talk about Jane McCrea. She didn't want to think about Jane McCrea.

But that was all anyone was talking about.

And there was no way to get away from the other women. The sun had finally come out and this was their chance to do laundry, gathered around the big kettles the army had furnished, dipping the clothes and bedding in the hot water and scrubbing them with lye soap.

Clean, wet clothing was spread over bushes to dry, but there was plenty more to tend to. It had been over a week since there had been a day without at least some rain.

"And her a tory!" Mrs. Van Vleet exclaimed, wringing out a shirt with an extra twist of anger. "Didn't Burgoyne promise we'd all be safe from his Hurons if we swore allegiance to the king?"

"Well, tory or patriot, she didn't deserve to be killed and scalped anyway," Mrs. Morrison said. "And don't tell me they didn't know; they were taking her to her boyfriend in Burgoyne's own camp."

"At least her cousin was spared," another woman said, and Sylvie softly said, "She wasn't her cousin."

The women paused, and Mrs. Morrison softened her tone. "Did you know them?" she asked.

"I knew Mrs. McNeill better," Sylvie said, then corrected herself. "I know Mrs. McNeill better."

Sarah McNeill, after all, was still alive.

"But Jane's brother came to the sawmill for lumber when he first moved to Fort Edward a few years ago, and she came along now and then," Sylvie went on. "She seemed nice."

"For a tory," Mrs. Van Vleet sniffed, but Sylvie corrected her.

"Her fiancé is a tory," she admitted. "I don't know what she thought. Her brother John is in the Albany militia and most of the family is patriot."

"Well, she didn't deserve it, whatever she believed," Mrs. Morrison said. "Especially since Burgoyne promised we'd all be safe if we were good loyalists, and killed by his Hurons if we weren't."

It was true: Opa had brought one of the posters home when he went into town. Burgoyne had written that anyone who signed a promise to be loyal, and who supplied the army with food from their farms, would be safe, but that those who refused would be attacked by his Indian scouts.

Mrs. Morrison finished and Sylvie took her place at the kettle, dipping a pair of her father's breeches into the hot, soapy water first. It would be easy enough to get Luke fresh clothing, but, if Papa came through the camp, she wanted to have some dry, clean clothing ready for him.

Opa, Mama and the little ones had left for Uncle Peter's in Schenectady after British foragers came through and took the cow. They carried off the rest of the feed and as many of the chickens as they could catch, but some of the hens fled into the woods and, after charging them bravely a few times, the rooster flew up on the peak of the sawmill roof, where it wasn't worth powder and shot to bring him down.

Luke, Sylvie and their father had found the house and sawmill empty as the army passed by, moving to stay ahead of the British who were now camped at Fort Edward.

"Ol' rooster will have gathered those hens and raised up a whole new flock for us by the time this is over," Papa had said, when he read Opa's note by the hearth. Before they moved on, he propped open the side door to the empty barn so the chickens could find shelter and clean up the spilled oats scattered over the dirt floor.

Many of the local farmers had left in a hurry, and now Luke and the horses had gone with a troop of soldiers foraging. Any grain or animals left behind was to be gathered up for the Continental Army or destroyed to keep it from the British.

Sylvie didn't like being left in camp to worry about Luke and their father, but she had the company of the other women, and they were all worried about their men.

It didn't make for a happy company, but it was company nonetheless, and Mrs. Morrison, whose husband was also a wagoner, had pitched camp next to Sylvie and Luke so they could share whatever food and tools they had.

Other women had even brought children, so there was laughter and play throughout the day, when they weren't all huddled in their tents and lean-tos against the frequent rains.

A bare-chested soldier sat under a nearby tree, and Mrs. Morrison took a damp shirt and went towards her tent for mending tools.

"I'll have this patched up for you and you can stay until it dries or take it wet," she told him. "Have you eaten? I've a bit of cold pease porridge I was saving in case my husband came back, but I don't think he'll be here before nightfall."

The soldier stood to walk with her. "That sure would be fine, ma'am," he said. "I need to get back. I wasn't supposed to be gone longer than to carry a message."

"Well, you can't go back with your shirt torn," she insisted, and he nodded agreement.

"I'm gone long enough now, I'll be in trouble anyway," he smiled.

"Then you'll be in trouble with a full belly and a clean, mended shirt," Mrs. Morrison told him.

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For a teaching guide, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ckserial>

Sudoku Solution

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

Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. impala 2. irony 3. Italy 4. Isaac 5. incomplete 6. influenza 7. icicles
8. Islamabad 9. (Washington) Irving 10. Idaho Springs

ColoradoKids

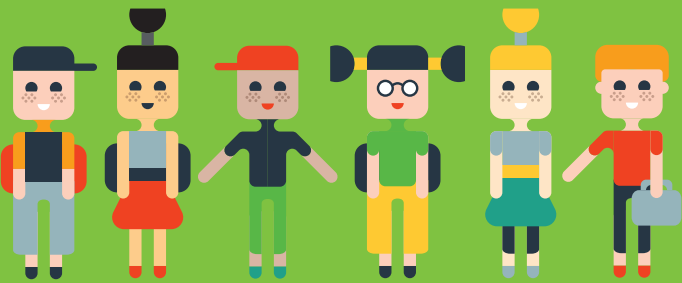
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