



CK Reporter of the Week
Charles Hewitt, Denver

Attitude helps overcome burdens

Although Blake Bates, a Rock Canyon High School student shaved his hair off during Wish Week to demonstrate support for Hope, a child with a life threatening condition, he didn't realize that he was deserving of a wish as well.

But, taking into account his frequent stays at Children's Hospital and severity of his seizures, his mom submitted a wish referral inquiry to Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Recently, he was granted a wish because he too has a potentially life-threatening health condition.

Make-A-Wish made it possible for Bates and his family to attend The Anime Expo in Los Angeles, a gathering similar to Comic Con, but for anime fans.

Blake Bates experiences eight types of seizures, caused by a stroke he had as a young child.

Some include grand mal which he described as "movie seizures" where he crashes on the ground while his muscles spasm erratically.

Others are cluster seizures, while some are a combination of seizures, for example, hand numbness and vision loss.

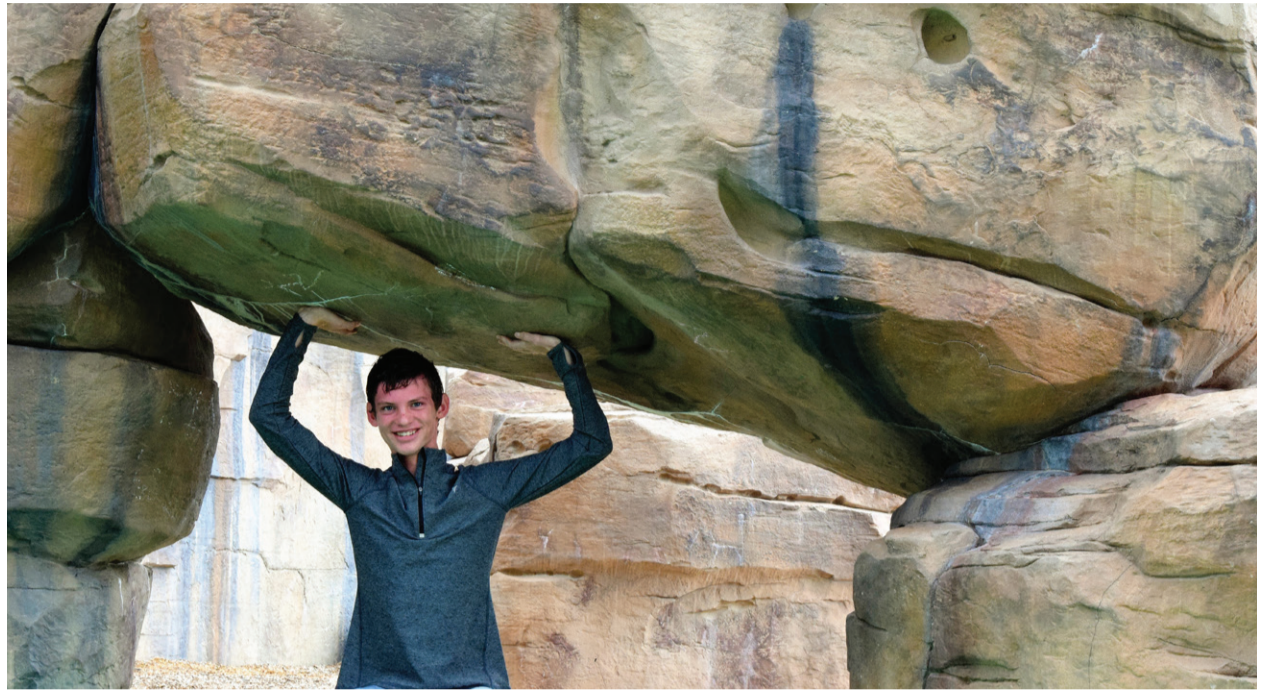
Another kind of seizure Blake experiences is a partial complex psychic seizure where he feels as if he is in a YouTube video that is speeded up.

His seizures are triggered by noises, environment, temperature change, not taking his pills, and stress of activities.

Blake comes up with solutions to help with everyday aspects in his life.

He innovatively came up with a "MacGyver" invention to assist with the left part of his body's weakness, also known as hemiplegia. He screwed a nail clipper into a block of wood so that he could press down on the nail clipper to make it work instead of squeezing it because of his left hand's weakness.

Since he regularly uses 1 1/2 times as much energy as people without hemiplegia and epilepsy, he is



photo/Becky Gaccetta

constantly tired, and his brother, Cole commented, "I want to play with my brother, but he's always tired."

But he does have fun: A support group from Children's Hospital helped Bates discover his passion for snowboarding, and it is presently one of his main hobbies along with online gaming.

When helping someone out who has seizures, stay calm and give them a safe space to be until the seizure is over.

If someone is having a grand mal seizure, call an ambulance.

During these situations in life, true colors shine through and Blake Bates has vibrant, effervescent, vigorous, and positive colors brimming with inner strength that inspire others to be strong like him.

He keeps a positive attitude through the bullying he endures, the tough medical experiences, and being

called "seizure boy," by persevering and finding his way by means of humor and positivity, and by acting years beyond his age and developing his maturity.

His words of inspiration for kids with seizures are, "You will be sent everywhere to tons of doctors and appointments, but you will eventually find what works for you."

Blake Bates demonstrates daily that attitude can make a huge difference, and that a positive outlook on life is essential.



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

New Lego film: Few surprises, but lots of fun



"The LEGO Ninjago Movie" is an excellent, action-packed animated film that describes a very, very hard father-son relationship.

The movie also shows a family being reunited and a high school outcast being revealed as a hero.

Lloyd (voiced by Dave Franco) is the main character of the movie.

Secretly the Green Ninja, Lloyd is a teenage high school student by day, and the leader of a top secret elite force of five other ninjas (Fire, Ice, Earth, Lightning, and Water) in times of trouble.

He is also the son of an evil warlord named Garmadon (Justin Theroux), who hopes to conquer the island nation of Ninjago as his own kingdom.

Garmadon lives inside a volcano, along with his generals and weapons, and constantly attacks the peaceful nation.

Luckily for Ninjago, they have six defenders who use their customized vehicles that are equipped with their own special powers.

My favorite character was Jay (Kumail Nanjiani) who played the character of the Lightning Ninja, because he had a lot of personality.

Even though he was a superhero in the city of Ninjago, he is also a super scaredy cat who got confused a lot.

His power is that he can generate lightning

with his hands, but like the other ninjas, he had to learn how to use this power in order to be able to summon it without his vehicle.

Lloyd and his friends were constantly bullied at school.

For example, on his birthday a group of cheerleaders made a song about how bad they thought he was, and how bad his father was and they shared it with a radio that played it all over Ninjago.

If you have seen the "The LEGO Movie" or "The LEGO Batman Movie," then you will understand the type of animation that is used.

The movie features the general theme of action-packed comedy with a hero who is not very likely to save the day.

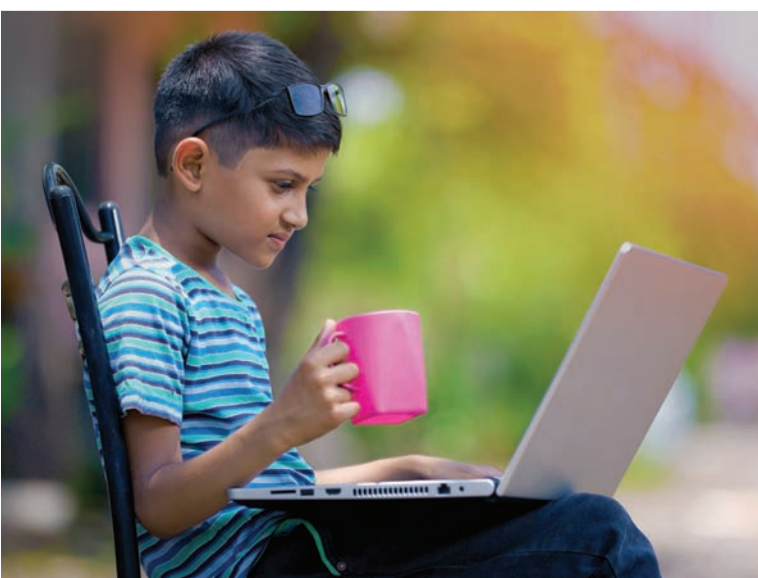
For children to be able to understand this movie, I would recommend they be five or older.

I thoroughly enjoyed this movie and would enjoy seeing it again.

Although LEGO has its own toys and TV series by the same name of Ninjago, I have not used or watched any of them, and I still perfectly understood the movie.



By Ben Vanourek,
11, a CK Reporter
from Littleton



Writing Is Cool!

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Kidbox a good custom fashion sampler



there was a card inside with my name on it, neatly wrapped clothing in bright patterned tissue paper sealed with a sticker, and seven garments.

A surprise ball was included as well, which was composed of tightly wound layers of tissue paper strips.



All of the clothing in the box was name brand such as Bebe, DKNY, Tractr, 7 for All Mankind, and Lucky Brand.

All of the articles of clothing fit my preferences and were of high quality.

Each Kidbox costs 98 dollars if you choose to keep every item.

At the end of the survey, there is a giving-back option, and a portion of your Kidbox cost can be sent to the charity of your choice.

There are multiple meaningful causes such as kids in low-income families experiencing homelessness, kids in military families, and kids who are victims of natural disasters.

The element of anticipation is highly emphasized with Kidbox, a company that specializes in choosing clothing that fits your fashion and size preferences.

Once you've filled those in and the box is ordered, it is delivered to your house in a matter of a few weeks.

Kidbox arrives with externally bold, exciting colors and in an eye-catching font, KIDBOX.

Seeing this colorful mystery box on the doorstep creates a real sense of excitement; The feeling of wonder and surprise is indescribable as you ponder the contents of the box and what goodies are in store for you.

In my style preferences, I chose artistic and sporty. Then, as a petite 13 year old, I chose size 12, but when the Kidbox came, the clothing was a bit snug.

I ended up sending this box back to the company. It was a simple return and there was a bag provided to send the clothing back just in case it didn't work out.

When the second Kidbox, in which I ordered a larger size, arrived, it was ornate with kid-friendly special touches.

When I opened up the box,



As the ball became unraveled, a chiffonade of diverse colors of tissue paper emerged and revealed two trinkets nestled in the paper as well as a joke, which was truly a special touch.

All of the clothing items fit perfectly this time, and coordinated with each other for mix-and-match outfits.

In my box, there were velvety camouflage leggings, black leggings with embroidered, pleather flowers on the side, a fleece navy romper, a grey shirt with a flowery heart design, a white shirt inscribed with the word "love" in a glossy gold color, a cranberry cardigan, and a cargo vest in army green.



photos by Sierra Zizzo

Kidbox pushed me out of my comfort zone to try innovative styles I wouldn't have attempted before.

The clothes were cozy, stylish, and fit all of my requirements.

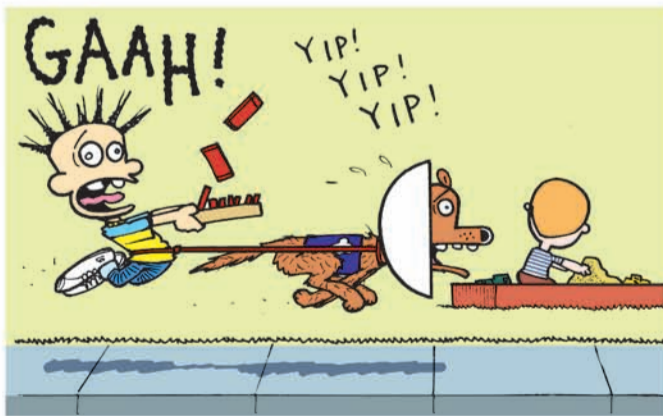
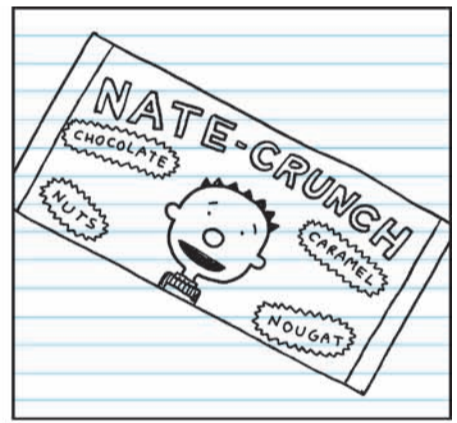
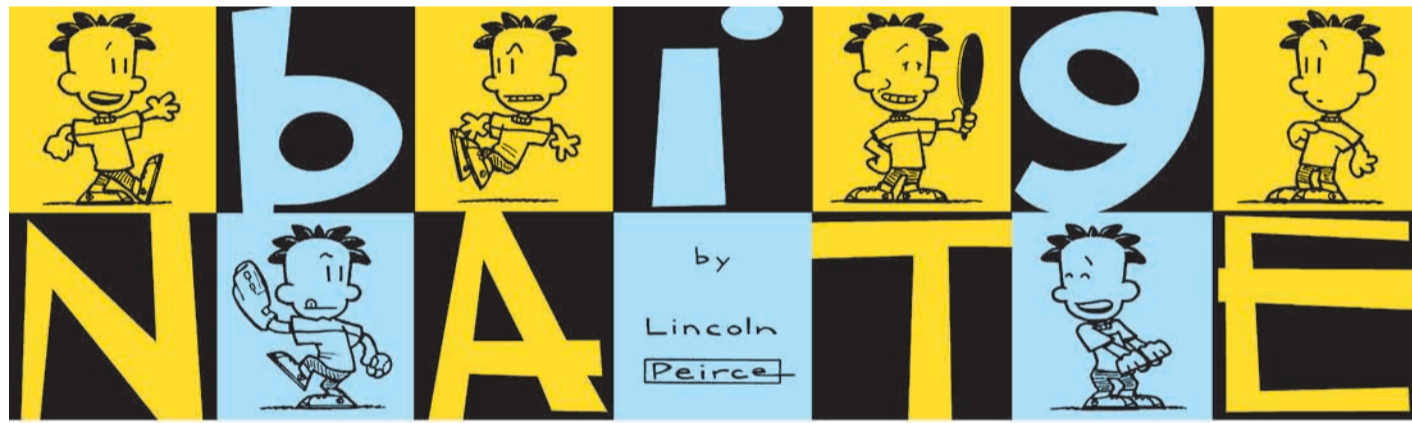
The box was bold, inviting, and bright both internally and externally.

It was an extremely kid/user-friendly experience from the survey to the unboxing to the clothing.

I highly recommend Kidbox for anyone sizes newborn to 14 who would like a to shake things up in their wardrobe and enjoy giving back to the community.



By Kira Zizzo, 13, a CK Reporter from Highlands Ranch



Martian city will grow in the desert sands of Dubai



If humans are ever going to live on Mars, they will have to solve many problems and overcome many issues.

The government of the United Arab Emirates has announced a plan to do both those things in Dubai over the next century.

"Mars Science City" will be an experiment to try living the way people would live on the Red Planet, as well as a laboratory in which to explore the technology

they would need.

To start with, those walls seen in the artist's illustration, once they really exist, will have been made by 3D printers using desert sand.

The idea is that, once on Mars, printers would be able to do the same thing using Martian sand, which would save the expense of transporting building materials from Earth.

In addition to the dome in which researchers will live as they

would on Mars, the 1.9 million square foot center will include a museum and an educational facility for young people who want to learn more about space.

The government of the UAE is expecting that Mars Science City will not only help teach us how to live on Mars, but, as it studies ways to live in that harsh environment, will also teach us better ways to provide food and water to people on Earth. photo/UAE news service

Kids' 3D printer a messy disappointment

The IDO3D Print Shop is a kid's 3D printer toy.

The set comes with 18 molding plates, 3 pre-made molds, the printer, the cover, and 2 very small ink tubes for printing.

The molds are small. Very small. As in 1.5" by 1" for the largest size.

This is supposed to make cool designs by melting 3D printer ink, putting it into a plastic mold, then letting it cool in that shape after it has cured.

The instructions do not tell how to order more ink.

The directions were clear, but the printer just did not work for me.

I tried over and over, but the lights for curing would not turn on, and the 3D printer fluid was randomly oozing and making a small mess.

The ink is hard to clean off of everything and was very sticky. I checked their website, the box, YouTube videos, and the manual's troubleshooting section, but nothing worked.

The IDO3D Print Shop was a good idea, but it just would not work.

Everything that you make turns out red or blue because you use red or blue ink. Also, they only give you a very small amount of ink (*less than 1 ounce*) in the cartridge because of the size of the space in the printer.



I would have really liked to have seen a bigger mold creator, so that we could make bigger molds.

The box says that "Formula 4D allows you to simply create or clone any 3D object you desire," but even if I did get the printer to work, that is a bit misleading.

Because of the size constraints you cannot make anything that is long or that is wide.

Most of the 18 molding plates that the kit comes with are for boys.

A few are designed for girls, for jewelry or other designs.

They include a shell, a key, a guitar, a ladybug, a dog bone and more.

This would be a nice toy if it had worked, and I do not know why mine didn't.

I might have done something wrong, or just gotten unlucky: who knows?



By Jack Vanourek, 11, a CK Reporter from Littleton

Saudi Arabia begins to give women rights

Saudi Arabia has taken a large step in what may be a long, long-overdue journey.

The kingdom has announced that, beginning in June, Saudi women will be permitted to drive cars. Until now, Saudi Arabia has been the only nation in the world that did not allow women to drive.

While the law has been used by critics as an example of silly restrictions, it was part of a set of conservative religious laws that kept Saudi women from doing many things women elsewhere in the world did regularly.

Middle class and wealthy families would have two cars, and would employ a chauffeur.

The man of the family would drive one car and the chauffeur would then take the woman on errands.

This restriction annoyed more and more Saudi women, because they were allowed to go to school and get graduate degrees and good jobs, but had to be driven to class or to work.

Manal al-Sharif, one of the women who pressured the government to change the law, was an IT security expert for a Saudi oil company that sent her to work in Boston for a few years.

While she was there, she got a driver's license

and drove the way any woman working in an American city might.

But when she returned to Saudi Arabia, she had to give up her license. That was when she became determined to see the law change.

Another Saudi woman who has pushed for the change is Latifa Al Shaalan, who is a member of the Shura Council, which acts as a parliament, though only the king can actually make laws.

Al Shaalan arrived at a council meeting to be greeted by women with flowers and other members of the council who gave her a picture of the first reserved parking space for a woman in their garage.

She made a speech later that day saying that she was very excited and happy about the change, but that the Council needs to begin to focus on more women's rights and other social changes to bring the kingdom up to modern standards.

The new driving laws may not be the only change coming: A day after the announcement, a woman was appointed deputy mayor of al Khubar, a large city on the coast of the Persian Gulf. This made her the first Saudi woman to be named a senior government official.



A Saudi woman drives during a demonstration against the old law, which will soon be gone. Starting in June, Saudi women and men can both drive starting at age 18. (AP Photo/Hassan Jamali)



Sudoku

			3	1	
4					
				5	1
	4		6		
			5	3	
6	3				

Rules: Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only.

The solution to this week's puzzle is on Page 4.



Brainteaser

Today is the Day of German Unity, celebrating when, in 1990, East and West Germany became one country again for the first time since World War II. This week, our answers will begin with "G" for "Germany."

1. The country directly between Mexico and Honduras
2. A device that helps space craft know which way is up, or a spinning toy you can make balance on a tightrope made of string.
3. One of the world's major rivers, it flows through India to a delta in Bangladesh
4. Tall, slender, very fast dog bred for hunting rabbits, it is now mostly used for racing, except in places where the sport is considered cruel and is no longer legal.
5. First American to orbit the Earth, he landed on the Moon and was later a Senator.
6. Cold soup made of raw, blended vegetables, often including tomatoes
7. The largest island in the world that is not a continent
8. Introduced in "The Hobbit," this unpleasant creature was also in "Lord of the Rings."
9. Like a xylophone, but with metal keys, carried in parades in a lyre-shaped frame
10. This large, venomous lizard is native to Mexico and the US Southwest.

(answers on Page Four)

New giant rat discovered, though old people knew it was there



For generations, there have been stories in the Soloman Islands about Vika, a giant rat that lives in trees and is so powerful that it can bite through coconut shells.

But it was mostly considered a folk story to tell children.

However, Tyrone Lavery, a researcher working in the islands, became interested in the rat when elders told him it was one of the odd animals he might find on their island, Vangunu.

With their help, he began to look for the rat, which was said to live in trees, particularly the kapuchu tree.

He went back to Vangunu several times

over the years, and the people of the village of Zaira were eager to help him, because they wanted to stop loggers from cutting trees in their part of the island.

Finally, loggers cut down a kapuchu tree and a giant rat a foot and a half long fell with it.

Knowing of Lavery's interest, local people caught the animal, but it had been hurt in the fall and died.

Still, he was able to take samples and prove that it was a species of rat that had never been documented before.

The next step is to see if there are more Vikas, and to protect them and the kapuchu trees in which they live. photo/Tyrone Lavery

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

Mars Science City

Saudi women's rights

Vika the giant rat

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

Ariadne and the Magic Thread

Chapter Four: Among the Hostages

Our story so far: Princess Ariadne discovers that among the 14 young Greeks who will be sacrificed to the Minotaur is Prince Theseus, the son of the Athenian king.

"You don't have to let us die," Theseus said, as the hostages walked up the Royal Road towards the Labyrinth.

Ariadne kept looking straight ahead. She wasn't there to make friends with the hostages. She was just there to keep them from being injured by the angry crowd.

She walked at the head of the line, ignoring the screaming from the people who tried to lean past the guards lining each side of the road, and ignoring the handsome prince who walked directly behind her and continued to talk.

"Did you notice the girl with the light blue scarf over her head?" he asked. "Her name is Korinna, and she is the most wonderful singer you have ever heard. The old people have taught her songs that nobody our age knows anymore. Some of those old people are dead now, so, when she dies, their songs will die with her."

Ariadne wanted to walk faster, to get this over with, but it was important to keep all the hostages together. If some fell behind, the crowd might attack them with stones as they had four years ago.

Theseus continued to talk. "And the young man with the scar on his eyebrow? His father died when he was three years old. He and his mother gather driftwood along the beach and burn it to make charcoal to sell. Now she will have nobody to help her."

"I can't do anything about that," she said, not looking back.

"But you would if you could?" he asked her. "If there were something you could do to save our lives, would you do it?"

Ariadne said nothing. She was sorry she even understood the Greek language. She didn't want to hear what Theseus had to say. She didn't want to think about what he was telling her.

"The ship's crew told us that there was a girl among the Minoans who was good and decent, and who protected the hostages from the mob," he said. "They told us that the daughter of Minos came to meet the ship each year, that the Princess Ariadne was kind and caring."

Theseus stopped talking for a moment, then added, "I expected someone much younger. I thought they were speaking of a little girl."

Ariadne said nothing, and they walked a little further before Theseus spoke up again. "Are you a good boxer?"

"What?" She didn't mean to answer, but the question took her by surprise.

"I've heard that Minoan girls box, just like the guys. Do you box against the guys?"

"No!" she replied, almost laughing. "Well, when we're little. But, no, of course not! Boys fight boys and girls fight girls."

"Tell me about bull-jumping," he said.

"What about it?" she couldn't understand why he was talking about sports all of a sudden.

"Are we going to see any bull-jumping? Is that part of what they do before they put us in with the Minotaur?"

"I don't know," she said. "I mean, yes, there will be some bull-jumping, but I don't know if you'll be able to see it from where you are."

"Tell me about it, then," he said. "How do you do it?"

"I don't," she said. "My father won't let me."

"Oh, I see," Theseus said. "My mother never wanted me to do things where I might get hurt, either. But I did them anyway. Did you ever try bull-jumping without letting him know?"

Ariadne ignored him.

"How do they do it?" he asked.

She glanced back at him for a moment. He seemed genuinely curious. This young man who was just two days away from dying wanted to know about bull-jumping.

"You line up one behind another, and when the bull charges, you leap forward, grab his horns and vault over him. Or you land on his back, if you can do it without getting hurt."

"But you've never tried it."

"You don't just 'try it,'" she snapped. "You have to train for it, you have to learn. What do you think? You can't just sneak off somewhere and jump over a bull!"

"Have you boxed?"

"Of course I've boxed," she said. "Everybody boxes."

"You any good at it?"

"Not as good at it as you are at asking rude questions," she replied, and now she did start to walk a little faster.

"I'm going to kill the Minotaur," Theseus suddenly said, and she stopped so quickly that he nearly ran into her.

Ariadne turned to face him. "That's ridiculous," she snorted. "You have no idea how powerful he is."

"You have no idea how powerful I am," he replied quietly, looking steadily into her eyes as they stood inches apart in the middle of the street.

Ariadne stepped aside. "Keep moving," she ordered. "The prison is just ahead."

One of the Minoan guards stepped closer to Theseus and pushed at him with his shield. The line of hostages filed past Ariadne, up the street to where the prison gates stood open for them.

Theseus paused at the gate and looked back. His eyes once more met hers, and she saw his mouth move, silently saying, "Help me."

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

Sudoku Solution

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

Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. Guatemala 2. gyroscope 3. Ganges 4. greyhound 5. (John) Glenn 6. gazpacho 7. Greenland 8. Gollum 9. glockenspiel 10. gila monster

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