



CK Reporter of the Week
Reese Ascoine, Golden

A Purr-fectly delightful musical

We have all heard of the musical "Cats." Some people are huge fans of it.

The new movie adaptation of the stage play definitely captured all the Broadway spirit and characters you want.

The starring cat Victoria (*Francesca Hayward*) who is thrown out in the first scene, meets a group of cats calling themselves the Jellicle cats.

It is really cool what animation and costumes can do these days. Some people thought it was creepy, but I thought it was impressive.

She's dragged into their world, finding herself just in time for the Jellicle Ball, which is when the Moon is at its fullest and brightest.

During the ball there is a competition to see who will get reborn into a new life. It only happens once a year, so the stakes are high.

This movie certainly made a good impression on me, it being my first introduction into the world of "Cats."

This is a terrific movie that will make you laugh, cry, and sometimes sing along.

For example, Rebel Wilson's appearance as Jennyanydots and her singing mice and cockroaches cracked me up.

James Corden's performance of "Bustopher Jones" also made me laugh.

One of my favorite characters was Rum Tum Tugger, played by Jason Derulo. His ability to just show up and make a party out of anything amazed me.

Also, the bad cat, Macavity (*Idris Elba*), was a great part of the plot. Macavity is a cunning, ruthless trickster who will stop at nothing to restart his life, taking out his competition one by one.

Taylor Swift's role was an interesting one. She played Bombalurina, who was Macavity's sidekick.

She wasn't there much, but she played her role well.

There were parts that made me cry as well. When Grizabella (*Jennifer Hudson*) sang "Memories", it made me tear up.



The songs showed grit and emotion which made me like "Cats" even more.

The cat costumes also blew me away. It is really cool what animation and costumes can do these days.

Some people thought it was creepy, but I thought it was impressive.

I loved how in character the actors and actresses were. They embraced their inner cat and let it shine through in the movie.

They jumped like cats, they would run like cats, they would dance like cats.

Heck, they would even rub heads with each other instead of hugging!

This movie has some cons, however. I felt that there were some unnecessary parts like the song "How to Address a Cat" and Old Gus's (*Sir Ian McKellen*) song.

It is a little confusing, because it is from a cat's perspective of the world.

There isn't much talking in the movie, just song after song. It is very dance-based and musical, so I wouldn't

recommend it if you like action.

It would probably be for 9+, from romance and the fact it would not make much sense because the movie seems to switch around perspectives with each cat's story.

Overall, I would recommend it.

This is a movie full of emotion, acceptance, and compassion. Even if you have seen the play, go see this!

It is a wonderful addition to the world of "Cats," so go enjoy it.

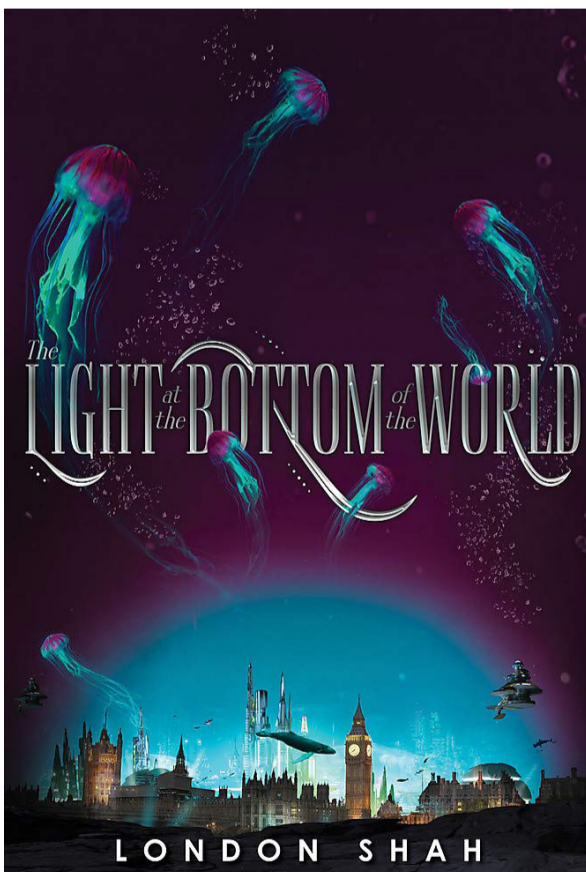
If you have never heard of "Cats" but it sounds interesting, be my guest!

It is a great introduction to this meow-sical world!



By Sophia Levy,
11, a CK Reporter
from Denver

Sci-Fi Thriller has a few too many mysteries



"The Light at the Bottom of the World," by London Shah, takes place in the future in the year 2099 and is about a girl named Leyla McQueen who lives in an underwater world of London.

Leyla's father is arrested by the English government and Leyla decides she must do something.

Leyla, 16, leaves behind all of her familiar securities in London and risks everything, including her own life, to go find and save her father.

Throughout the book, Leyla meets new friends and they help her with her mission.

As we start to learn more about the numerous conflicts between characters, the reader discovers how each character is contributing to the rescue of Leyla's father.

Parts of this book definitely kept me on edge, however, there were a few times when I couldn't follow entirely, and I had to go back a couple pages and reread to find the information I was missing to appropriately understand what was happening.

I wish that this book were a little bit more detailed, as I felt that the author skipped some important aspects of the book.

I had many questions like, How do they live here? Has the human race adapted to this? Is this a worldwide habitat?

Most of my questions were not answered, but I had my assumptions of how the characters in the future world survived.

If you decide to read this book, please be a fan of futuristic sci-fi and dystopia fiction where you as the reader

will have to speculate.

I prefer books where I do not have to speculate, it makes the book much easier to understand and I am not a huge sci-fi fan.

If you are, however, I would recommend her book.



By Addy Vandel,
12, a CK Reporter
from Aurora

From the Creators at 

Two Totally Awesome Activity Books!



MIND-BOGGLING ANIMAL PUZZLES
A Treasury of Fabulous Facts, Secret Codes, Games, Mazes, and More!

A KID'S GUIDE TO DRAWING CARTOON ANIMALS
by Vicki Whiting • Illustrated by Jeff Schinkel

Quick response limits damage in oil spill

Environmentalists and biologists gasped at the news out of Ecuador last week.

A crane working on a dock was removing a large electric generator from a barge when the load proved too heavy: The crane tipped over and fell onto the barge, which then capsized into the water.

It would have been a mess anywhere: Between the fuel used to power the barge and the fuel inside the generator, there were some 600 gallons of oil about to leak into the waters of the bay where they had been working.

Adding to the disaster? They were working in the Galapagos Islands, one of the most famous sites in the world for unusual animals, ecological tourism and historical significance.

The Galapagos are home to plants, iguanas and birds not found anywhere else, as well as to huge tortoises that are over a century old.

The islands, which are about 1,000 kilometers from the South American mainland, are a United Nations Heritage site because of their unusual, unique wildlife and because of their place in the history of science: In 1835, Charles Darwin spent time there and it inspired his work establishing the concept of evolution.

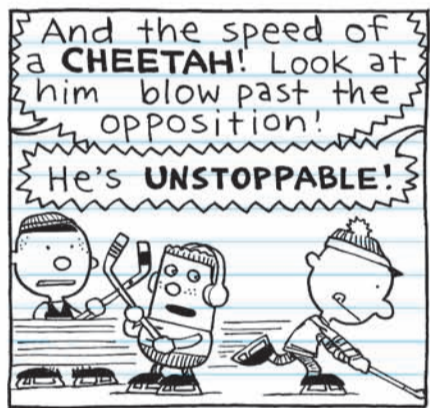
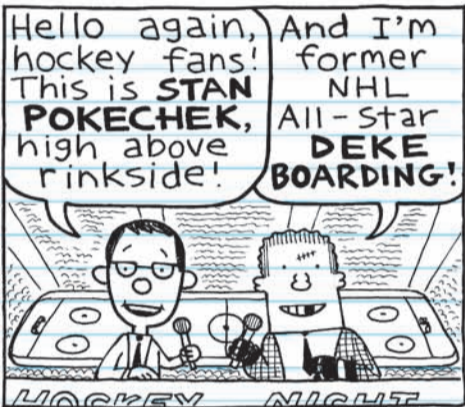
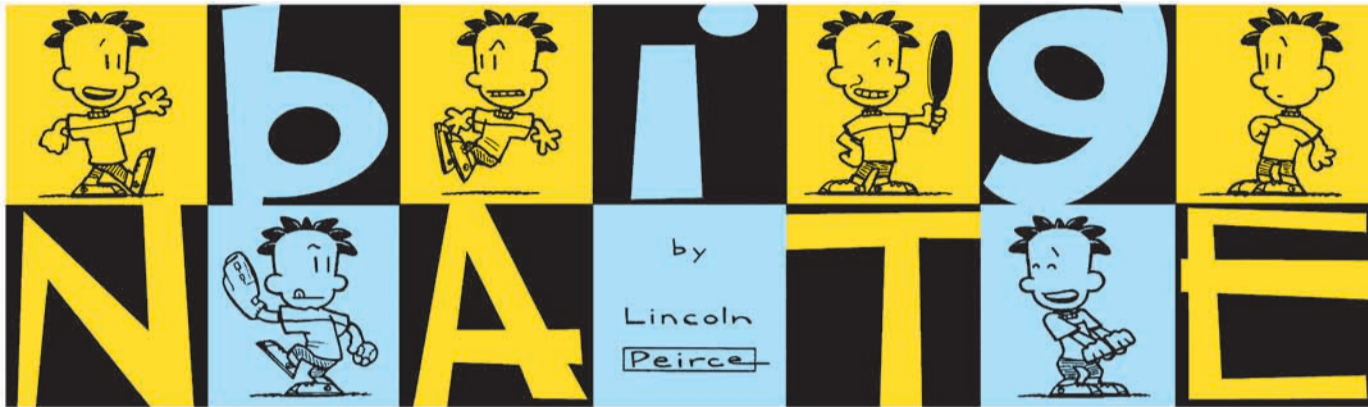
National Park personnel and the Ecuadorian Navy hurried to the site of the spill, put out booms to contain the oil and were able to plug the leak in the generator to contain its fuel.

It certainly could have been worse: in 2001, a tanker crashed into a reef and spilled 150,000 gallons of fuel oil into the waters of the islands.

However, this accident is a reminder that the mix of civilization and fragile ecological areas requires that everyone be very careful and, as the Ecuadorians were, ready to quickly respond to sudden emergencies.



Above, Ecuador scrambled to contain 600 gallons of fuel oil in the tanks of a barge, a generator and a crane that ended up in the waters of the Galapagos islands. (Photo/Ecuadorian Navy)



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 3.

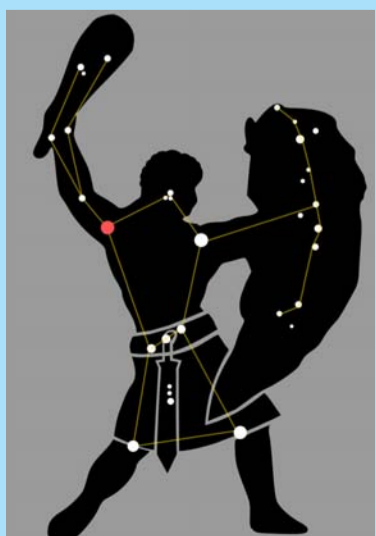


Brainteaser

On this date in 1857, Queen Victoria officially approved the choice of a small frontier town on the border of Ontario and Quebec as the capital of Canada, so our answers this week will begin with "O" for "Ottawa."

1. This Midwestern state is hi in the middle and round on both ends.
2. Large, tree-dwelling primate found on the island of Borneo
3. Herb associated with Italian cooking, often found in shakers at pizza parlors
4. Author of "The Magic Treehouse" book series
5. Nebraska's largest city, it is on the banks of the Missouri River across from Council Bluffs, Iowa
6. With a small "o," it's any long trip, but spelled with a capital "O," it's an epic poem about a hero's long and difficult return from the Trojan war.
7. The vegetable, associated with gumbo, is a pod that includes thick, sticky liquid.
8. Small wild cat native to Mexico and Central America, with black spots and streaks
9. A stop sign is one, so is the ring where MMA matches take place
10. Mr. Beckham, Jr., wide receiver for the Cleveland Browns

(answers on Page Three)



Is Betelgeuse about to explode in a supernova?

Astronomers are suddenly keeping a close eye on Orion's right shoulder, and many of them are not wishing him the best.

That red star in this diagram is Betelgeuse, which is normally one of the 10 brightest stars in the night sky.

It's not unusual for Betelgeuse to fade from time to time, and aboriginal people in Australia noticed the star's variable brightness a thousand years or longer ago.

But it's been fading more than usual since October, and astronomers are beginning to wonder if the red super giant is about to explode in the form of a supernova.

Of course, even if they're right, "about to" means something quite different in astronomy than it does in normal conversation.

"About to" in the heavens could mean now, or tomorrow, or in 100,000 years.

But it would be pretty cool if it meant "soon" in our terms, because the explosion of Betelgeuse would be harmless at a distance of 600 light years, but very spectacular.

Betelgeuse is many, many times larger than our Sun, and, if it went supernova, astronomers say, it would be like having a second Moon in our sky for several months: It would be bright enough at night to cast shadows here on Earth, and you'd still be able to see it during the day.

Nobody is wishing poor Orion bad luck with his shoulder, but, then again, having Betelgeuse go supernova would be, in the real sense of the word, awesome.

illustration/ Sanu N

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 CK Reporter!

<http://tinyurl.com/COkidsReporter>



To read the sources for these stories

Galapagos Oil Spill

Betelgeuse Supernova?

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

Hidden Treasures

Things we think you wouldn't want to miss.



Up Against the Wall

In January 2015, American rock climbers Tommy Caldwell and Kevin Jorgeson captivated the world with their effort to climb the Dawn Wall, a seemingly impossible 3,000-foot-high rock face in Yosemite National Park.

The pair lived on the sheer vertical cliff for weeks, igniting a frenzy of global media attention. But for Caldwell, the Dawn Wall was much more than just a climb.

Tuesday, January 7, Tommy Caldwell will be at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science for a special screening of the documentary film *The Dawn Wall*, after which he will make a presentation and discuss his adventure.

The event requires a special ticket, \$20 for museum members, \$25 for non-members. To buy tickets or for more information, go to <https://www.dmns.org/visit/events-and-activities/>

CK Calendar

Now until Sunday January 5

School break fun at the Denver Art Museum. During Winter Break, the Paint Studio and Create-n-Takes are open daily. See performances of the family-friendly play, *Art Emergency: Monet Edition*. Check <https://denverartmuseum.org/calendar/art-emergency-monet-winter-break-2019> for performance dates and times. All Winter Break activities are included in general admission, free for kids 18 and younger. *Claude Monet: The Truth of Nature* requires a separate ticket; advance purchase is highly recommended.

Now until February 17

History Colorado: Portraits of Courage: Photographs by Shane Sato. See intimate color and black-and-white portraits of Japanese American veterans of World War II, including nine Colorado veterans representing the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat-Team and Military Intelligence Service.

Thursday, January 9

Orchid Showcase, Denver Botanic Gardens, through February 16. This annual exhibit presents hundreds of colorful orchid blooms in the Orangery and Marnie's Pavilion. Common and rare species are featured, some even so special they must remain behind the greenhouse glass.

Friday, January 18

"Dolittle," a movie based on the Dr. Dolittle books and starring Robert Downey, Jr., opens in Denver.

Sunday, January 19

Enjoy some low-sensory time in the famous diorama halls at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, from 6 to 8 p.m., with reduced sound, increased lighting, and a supportive environment for families with sensory integration issues. Free, but registration is required. For more information, visit <https://secure1.dmns.org/family-programs>

Sunday, January 28

Middle School Teen Lounge: *Sci-Fi Odyssey*, 7 to 9 pm, Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Sixth to eighth graders take over the Museum at this totally free event. Blast off during a sci-fi, space-themed evening as you explore the stories of a place that continues to capture imaginations and spend some time in *Space Odyssey* before it closes for its transformation. Includes free snacks, entertainment, and activities.

Sunday, February 2

Last day to see the Monet exhibit at the Denver Art Museum, featuring more than 120 paintings spanning Monet's entire career and focusing on the celebrated French Impressionist artist's enduring relationship with nature. A special dated and timed exhibition ticket is required and you should definitely buy yours in advance. For more information, go to <https://denverartmuseum.org/exhibitions/claude-monet>

Saturday, February 8

"Cutting Edge," special dissection lab for kids in grades 4-6 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Observe and perform dissections to find out how the human body functions. Dissect hearts and lungs, eyes, brains, and frogs. Examine real bones, listen to your own heartbeat, and more! For tickets or information go to <https://secure1.dmns.org/cutting-edge-grades-4-6-2>

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. Ohio 2. orangutan 3. oregano 4. Mary Pope Osborne 5. Omaha
6. Odyssey 7. okra 8. ocelot 9. octagon 10. Odell

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