

SMART FUN FOR COOL KIDS

Kid Scoop News®

SEPTEMBER 2026

HARVEST OF THE MONTH

Pears are in season! It is said that gold seekers traveling west brought pears with them.

FAIR OR FOUL?

Most of us have encountered a disagreement with another person. Be The Referee on these pages and decide how the kids in the cartoons could best handle a conflict.



There are 20 butterflies on this page. Can you circle them all?



SEPTEMBER IS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH



All too often when there is a disaster, what people talk about are all of the devastating losses. An organization was started as a solution for people who lose their homes due to natural disasters and even to conflicts.

This copy of
Kid Scoop News
belongs to:

Who: Families with children in grades K-3
What: Books Bring Us Together!
When: October 2026 & January 2027
Where: Next Chapter Café
Why: Teach your child to LOVE to read!

All Ludington families of students in grades K-3 are invited to

Books Bring Us Together!

- Join us for **Breakfast for Dinner** at Next Chapter Café. Dinner will be prepared and served by staff of Next Chapter Café.
- Parents and ALL the children in the family will be included, for the first 20 families who respond by emailing RSVP with names and grade levels of family members and phone number to info@ontrackreader.com.
- Students do NOT need to be selected for **ON TRACK READER** Tutoring Program.
- Parents:**
Parents will receive training in the **Science of Reading for Parents** taught by nationally known educator, Marcia Kosanovich, PhD.
Parents will receive training in the \$FREE materials used in the ON TRACK READER tutoring program.
- Children:**
 - After dinner at Next Chapter Café, we will have:
 - Game Time** where children play reading games with tutors and other children.
 - Story Time** with readings by talented, local authors, actors and puppets to generate an interest in reading and writing among attendees.
 - A **Free Book** will be given to each child.

ON TRACK READER Tutoring Program

During the 2026-27 school year, the **ON TRACK READER** Tutoring Program will provide free tutoring for children in grades 2 and 3 (sponsored by Book Mark, Nautical Yarn & Next Chapter Café). Students ride the school bus from Ludington Elementary School to Book Mark on Tuesdays and Thursdays for tutoring which includes:

- After-school Snack
- Tutoring (one-on-one or small group tutoring sessions with dedicated, experienced educators).
- Story Time

If you are interested in the ON TRACK READER tutoring program for second and third graders:

- Download **Parent Permission Slip** at <https://ontrackreader.com/documents/OTRPermissionSlipwithConsent.pdf>
- Download **Transportation Permission Slip** at <https://ontrackreader.com/documents/TransportationPermissionSlip.pdf>
- Download the **2026-27 Calendar** at <https://ontrackreader.com/documents/Calendar202627.pdf>
- Return both permission slips** to Book Mark (Program limited to first 20 eligible students.)

Tutoring sessions will run from:

- Fall Session Tuesday, October 20, 2026 through Thursday, December 10, 2026
- Winter Session Tuesday, January 5, 2027 through Thursday, February 25, 2027
- Spring Session Tuesday, March 2, 2027 through Thursday, April 29, 2027

Please email info@ontrackreader.com if you have any questions about the **Books Bring Us Together!** or the **ON TRACK READER** Tutoring Program.



WOODWORD'S CORNER

Dear Readers,

We're excited to put together the first **Kid Scoop News** edition of the new school year!

Going back to school is exciting, but it can also be a little scary. So, we've got pages and cartoons in this issue that will really help you if you find yourself (or others) in a disagreement with someone. Finding solutions is the key to figuring out what's **FAIR** and what's **FOUL**.

Just like you, **Dolphins go to School**. Do you think you could be a dolphin trainer? Read the steps that show you how it's done.

If you ever listen to a baseball game announcer on the TV, they talk about sinkers,

sliders, splitters, cutters and more. It might sound like a foreign language, but the **STEM** (science, technology, engineering and math) of **Baseball** is what makes a pitch curve in the air to fool a batter — amazing!

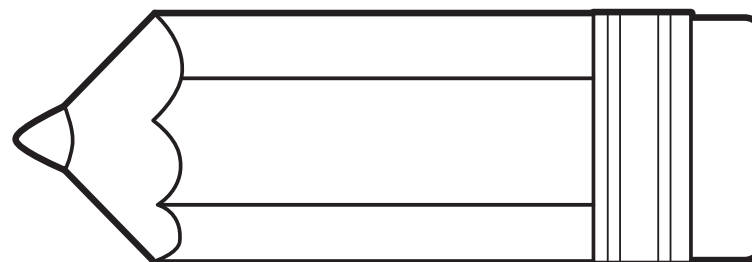
From baseball to **Unicorns!** Those magical, mysterious creatures have a fascinating origin story. You can learn how to draw one too.

Jam-packed full of puzzles, games and activities, this September issue will welcome you back to school and provide each and all of us with reading fun.

Happy September,

Woodword

Color It! Color this artwork, then cut it out and display it in your classroom, at home, or show it off on social media and tag **Kid Scoop News**.



MY NAME: _____

Kid Scoop News®

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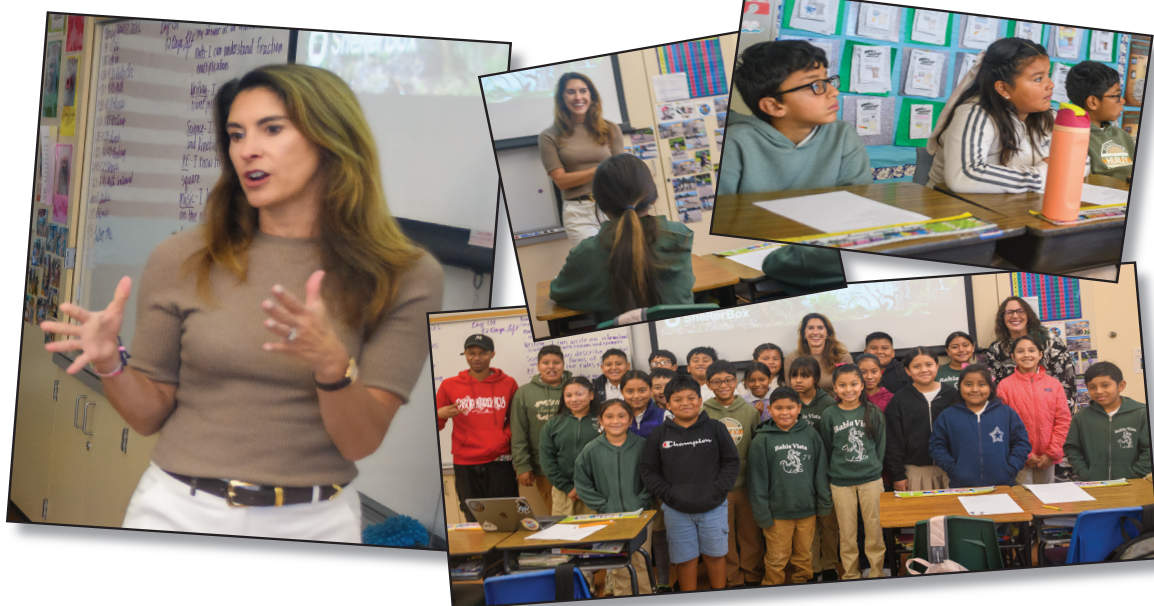
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Kids Interview: ShelterBox USA

ShelterBox USA provides emergency supplies to people all around the world after a disaster.



Photos: Randy Baker/ShelterBox USA

Students in Ms. Koller's class in San Rafael, CA, had the chance to be reporters for *Kid Scoop News*. They interviewed **Kerri Murray**, President of ShelterBox USA, and learned more about this organization that has helped millions of people around the world. **Here are their questions and what they learned from Kerri Murray.**

"Where does ShelterBox get all of the supplies?"

ShelterBox works with partners and companies around the world to get their emergency shelter and supplies. Some examples of the supplies they use are tents, solar lights, blankets, kitchen tools such as pots and pans, water filters and sleeping bags.

"Have you gone and delivered the supplies in person?"

She has traveled to some of the world's worst disasters and conflict zones — from the Haiti earthquake and war in Ukraine to the wildfires in Los Angeles and, most recently, Jamaica after Hurricane Melissa.

"Do you help in every natural disaster on the planet?"

No, because ShelterBox has to choose locations that have the most damage and where people have the most needs.

"How many supplies has ShelterBox delivered in total?"

ShelterBox has delivered supplies to over 3 million people.

"Where did you grow up?"

She grew up in Connecticut, went to a small Catholic high school, and later went to college in Rhode Island.

"When did you start working with ShelterBox?"

She started working for ShelterBox in 2015. That was before we were born!

To read more about ShelterBox USA, turn to the Disaster Preparedness page in this issue of *Kid Scoop News*.

"What are your feelings after you deliver supplies?"

Happy, excited, grateful, hopeful and proud. It is hard to see the suffering, but hopeful to see people come together to help.

"Did you ever travel through a hurricane to deliver supplies?"

Yes, she has traveled through areas where the ground is still shaking from earthquakes, and she has traveled through a hurricane while it was still happening!

Ms. Murray has responded in Morocco after an earthquake, Ukraine after the Russian invasion, and in Grenada and North Carolina after hurricanes.

"How do you rescue people during a flood, and how do you get supplies to them?"

First, search and rescue teams bring people to safety. Then ShelterBox comes by train, boat, car, plane, mule or helicopter to deliver supplies once people are in a safe location.



"How do you know when people are in trouble and need help?"

ShelterBox is always checking the news, weather and radio to see what people need the most help.

"Why did you start working with ShelterBox?"

When her daughter was born, she needed a lot of medical care. Her daughter eventually got better, and Ms. Murray decided to dedicate her life to helping others who need care.

"Do you help animals too?"

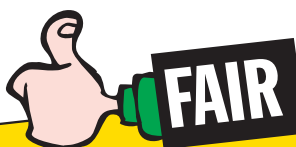
People have pets, so sometimes a pet might benefit from the supplies ShelterBox brings to a family. However, ShelterBox's first priority is to help people who need it the most.

FAIR OR FOUL

Has this ever happened to you?

It is recess time. You and another kid want to play with the same ball. You feel angry. This is called **conflict**. A conflict is a disagreement between people.

While many conflicts start with bad feelings, they don't have to end that way. Sometimes people act in an unfair or "foul" way when they are in a conflict. Fouls make people feel more and more angry. People can also act in a fair way that settles a conflict and makes everyone involved feel good. This is called **resolution** to the conflict.



Chance

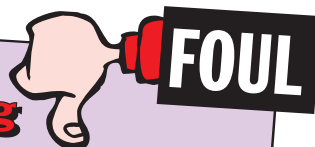
Luck decides who will get their way. Both sides must agree to "flip the coin," "draw straws," etc.

Take Turns

Everybody gets a turn.

Compromise

Both give up something and both get something.



Name-Calling

Using hurtful names to make another person feel bad.

Threats

These frighten people into doing things one person's way.

Blaming

Thinking the whole conflict is the fault of the other person.

YOU'RE THE REFEREE!

Read the lists of fair and foul ways to handle a conflict. Then look at how the children in these cartoons below handle the conflict over the ball. Decide if the children are being fair or foul.

Standards Link: Health: Students know the difference between positive and negative behavior in conflict situations.



News Navigator

What’s a lead?

The first sentence of a news article is also known as the **lead**. It tells the main idea of the article. It should also make the reader want to learn more details.

A lead sentence tells the reader the *who*, *what*, *when* and *where* of the news event. Reporter Rita Weil has made notes in her reporter’s notebook about a strange news event in the town of Nada Vista. Read her notes and find the who, the what, the when and the where of the news event. Using that information, write a lead sentence about the news event on the lines at right.

REPORTER’S NOTEBOOK

Pete’s Pizza Parlor, near downtown mall police find gorilla in kitchen wearing chef’s coat

gorilla’s name is Cuddles

Cuddles escaped from the Nada Vista Zoo

Police Chief Mike Jenkins responded to call from a neighbor who saw the lights go on after the pizza parlor was supposed to be closed.

The call came in to the police department at midnight.

Police arrived at Pete’s at 12:15 AM

Standards Link: Language Arts/Research: Understand the organization of newspapers.

Fair Play at Recess

Describe a playground conflict. Then describe a fair way to resolve it.

CONFLICT: _____

RESOLUTION: _____

Standards Link: Health: Students know the difference between positive and negative behavior in conflict situations.

Double Double Word Search

CONFLICT

COMPROMISE

FEELINGS

REFEREE

FOUL

FAIR

OPPOSITE

FAULT

STRAWS

LUCK

FLIP

ANGRY

TURN

HANDLE

HURTFUL

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

R	F	R	S	W	A	R	T	S	C
L	E	T	I	S	O	P	P	O	E
U	E	F	S	Y	R	G	N	A	H
F	L	T	E	F	O	F	L	T	A
T	I	U	R	R	L	V	O	L	N
R	N	R	C	I	E	I	E	U	D
U	G	N	C	K	A	E	P	A	L
H	S	T	P	R	O	F	B	F	E
E	S	I	M	O	R	P	M	O	C

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FAIR OR FOUL

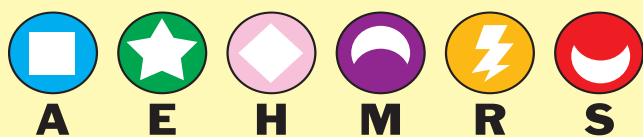
Has this ever happened to you?

After a long day of schoolwork and play, Tom was tired. He couldn't wait to rest and watch his favorite TV show. Just as he got settled, his sister walked in and flipped the channel to a different show. Tom felt angry! How would you feel? What would you do? Tom knew this was the time to STOP and think about what he would do next.

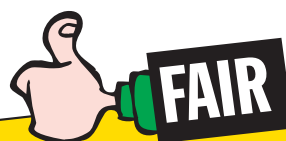
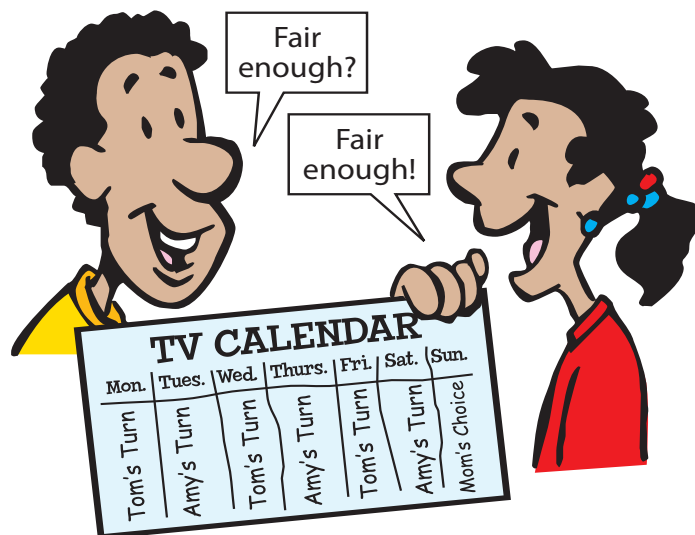
He knew that the next thing he said or did could make the conflict worse. This would be a **foul**. Look at the fouls described on the **FOUL** card. Do they sound familiar?

Getting Things Resolved

Tom decided to try one of the FAIR ways to resolve his conflict with his sister. Look at the FAIR card. Which one do you think he tried? Use the code to find out his resolution to the conflict.



Standards Link: Health: Students know the difference between positive and negative behaviors used in conflict situations.



Share
When people share, good feelings become more important than things.

Postpone
Put off resolving the conflict until you calm down.

Get Help
Find someone you both trust to make a fair decision.



Put-Downs

Saying things that hurt the other person's feelings.

Pushing or Hitting

Any way of acting that can hurt the other person's body.

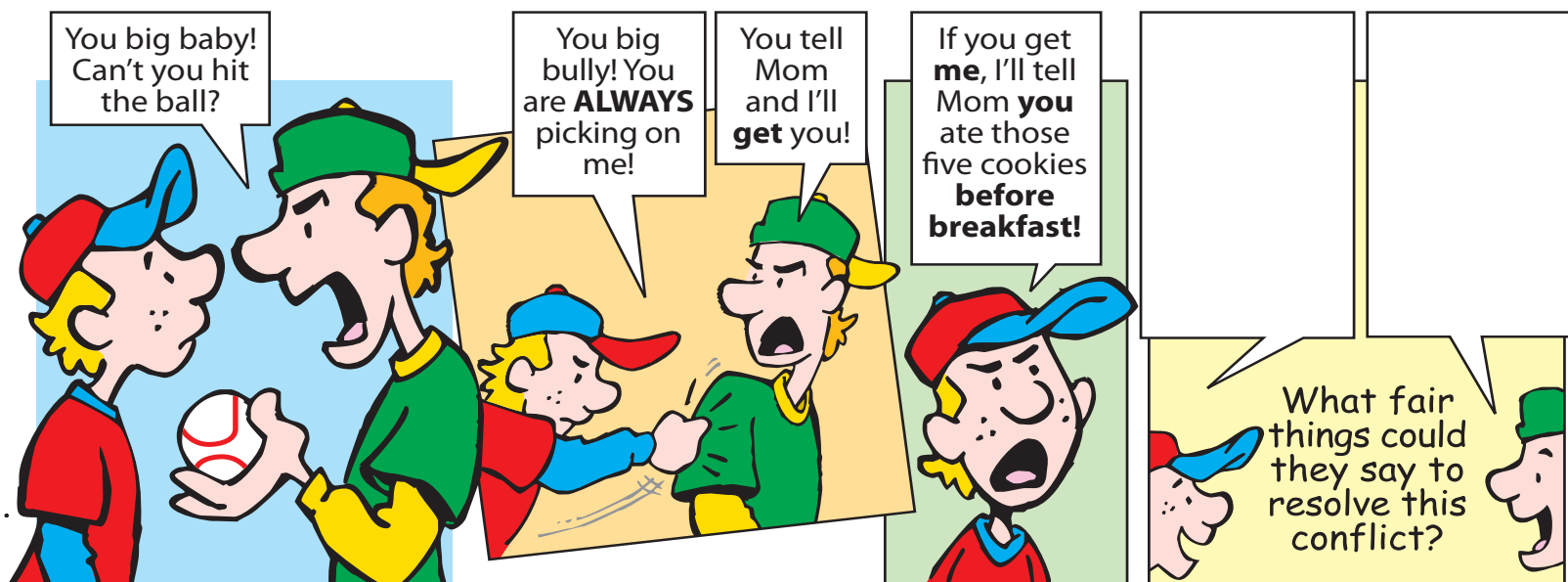
Bringing Up the Past

Talking about things a person said or did in the past.

You're the Referee!

Read the above lists of fair and foul ways to handle a conflict. Then look at how the children in the comic strip below handle the conflict over the ball. Which foul is each child doing?

Matt and his younger brother, Trevor, are playing baseball. Trevor keeps missing the ball ...



Disaster Strikes!

What happens if there's a disaster and you lose your home? What if you can't find food or safe water? That's a scary thought. Yet, every year, children around the world face disasters like floods, hurricanes, earthquakes and conflict.

That's where ShelterBox comes in!



ShelterBox Sends Lifesaving Aid

When disaster strikes, not everyone needs the same thing.

After an earthquake, families might need strong tents and tool kits to rebuild.



In flooding, families may get water filters and blankets.

In conflict zones, aid could include solar lights and cooking sets.

Every package is different, but all are designed to help families survive and recover when they've lost everything.

What's in a ShelterBox Aid Package?

Do the math problem under each item. If the answer is an even number, that item may be included in a ShelterBox package. Circle it in green. If it's an odd number, the item is not in the box. Cross it out.

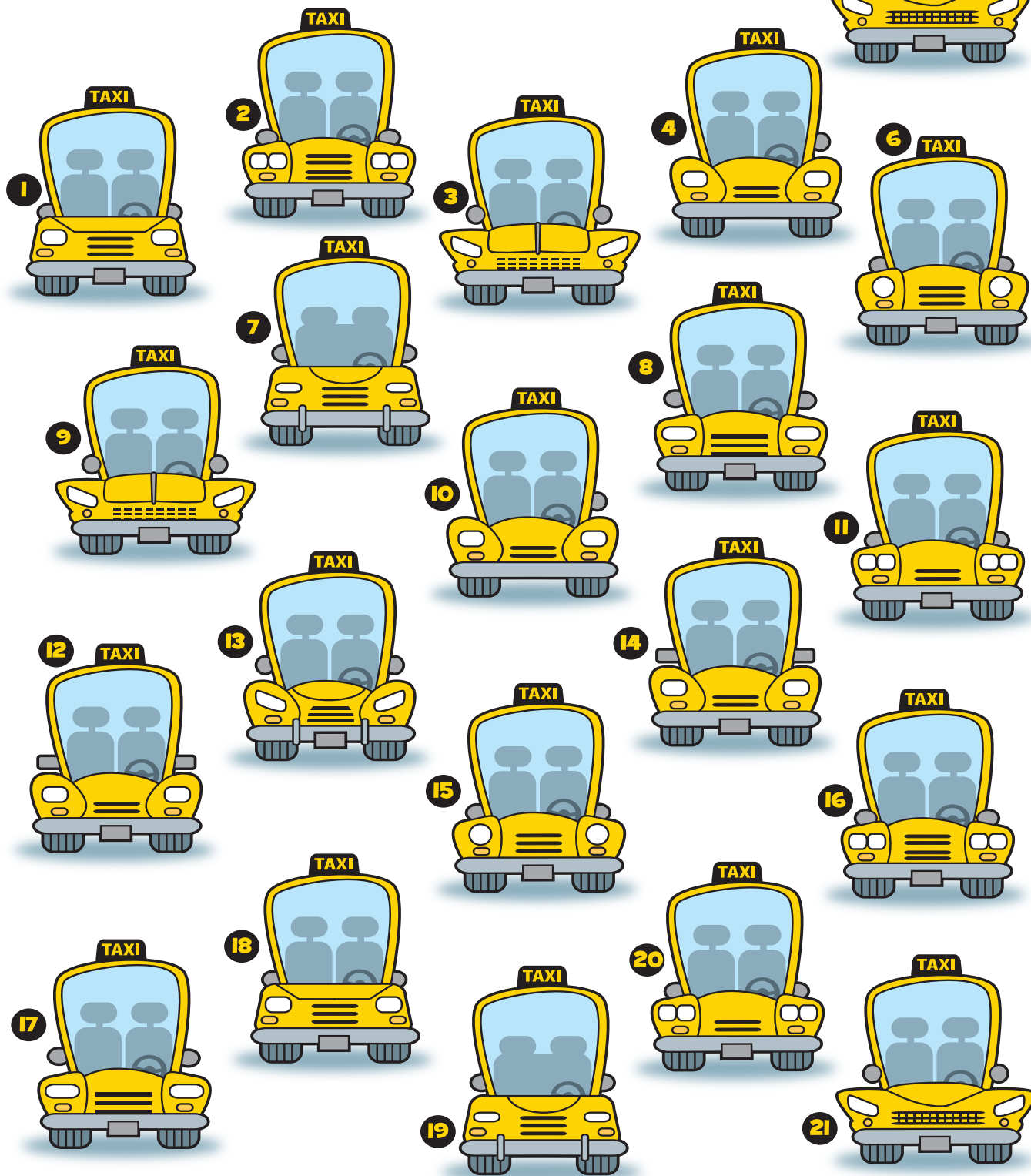
ShelterBox aid is tailored to local needs. Sometimes the package is a sturdy tent—a safe space to call home. Other times, it's a set of tarps, ropes and tools to help families repair damaged homes. To find out more, visit shelterboxusa.org

pots and pans $4 + 4 = 8$	gloves $2 + 8 =$	frozen pizza $5 + 4 =$
hammer $12 + 6 =$	saw $4 + 8 =$	rope $6 + 4 =$
water containers $1 + 7 =$	waterproof ground mats $6 + 6 =$	water filter $3 + 3 =$
	thermal blankets $11 + 3 =$	children's activity pack $4 + 4 =$
		solar light $10 + 6 =$

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences to 100.

Taxi Twins

Look carefully! All but one of these taxi cabs has an **exact** twin.
Can you find the one unique taxi?



Where do cars get the most flat tires?

To reveal the answer, circle every other letter.

OWTHL
ENRBE
ATKHL
EDRSE
MITSYA
XFROV
RGKQIW
NBTYH
VESRP
OFALD

W H _ _ _

_ _ _

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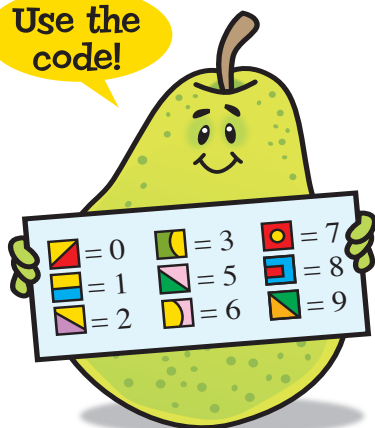
THE WIZARD of OZ

Performing Arts WSCC

7PM
OCT 23-24, 30
& Nov 6-7

2:30PM
OCT 24-25, 31
Nov 1, & 7-8

Use the
code!



HARVEST OF THE MONTH

PEARS

Did you know...

- There are more than  varieties of pears.
- In the United States, % of pears are grown in California, Oregon and Washington.
- Pear trees can produce fruit for up to  years.

A Slice of History

The ancient Romans grew pears and introduced them to other parts of Europe with the rise of the Roman Empire. Europeans brought the pear to the Americas. They were brought west across the United States by people headed to the 1849 California Gold Rush. **Unscramble the letters to reveal what these gold seekers were called:**

YFTOR-SENIRIN
F _ _ _ _ _ S

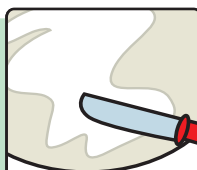
How many pears can you find here?



Su-PEAR Wraps

You'll need:

- one sliced pear
- cream cheese
- lettuce
- tortilla



Spread the cream cheese on a tortilla.



Add the lettuce and pear slices.



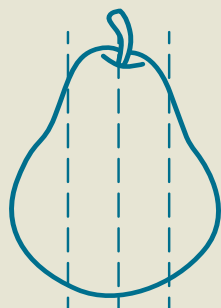
Roll up the wrap and eat it up!



You can use peanut butter instead of cream cheese.

PEAR SCIENCE

Have you ever opened your lunch bag and found your yummy pear slices have turned brown? **Enzymes** in your slice of pear cause this to happen. Foods like apples, potatoes, bananas and pears all have enzymes inside their cells. When these enzymes are exposed to **oxygen** in the air, the flesh of the fruit turns brown. This is called **oxidation**.



Question:

Which slice of pear will turn brown first?

Hypothesis:

(What you think the answer is)

Observation:

Which slice turned brown first?

- ☐ pear in water
☐ pear in plastic
☐ pear with lemon juice

Conclusion:

(What you learned from performing this experiment)

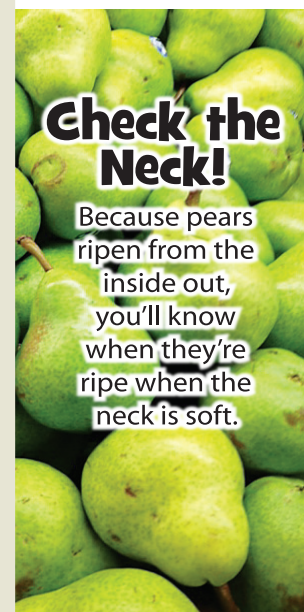
STUFF YOU NEED:

- one pear cut into four slices
- one plastic baggie
- one lemon
- small bowl of water
- small plate

Put one slice of pear into a bowl of water, one slice in a plastic baggie, and cover the third slice with lemon juice and leave it out. (You can eat the fourth slice!) Wait for 20 minutes and observe.

Check the Neck!

Because pears ripen from the inside out, you'll know when they're ripe when the neck is soft.



Content on this page adapted from Network for a Healthy California Harvest of the Month program and www.usapears.com

REMEMBER TO EAT AT LEAST FIVE SERVINGS OF FRUITS AND VEGGIES EVERY DAY!



ACTIVITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2026

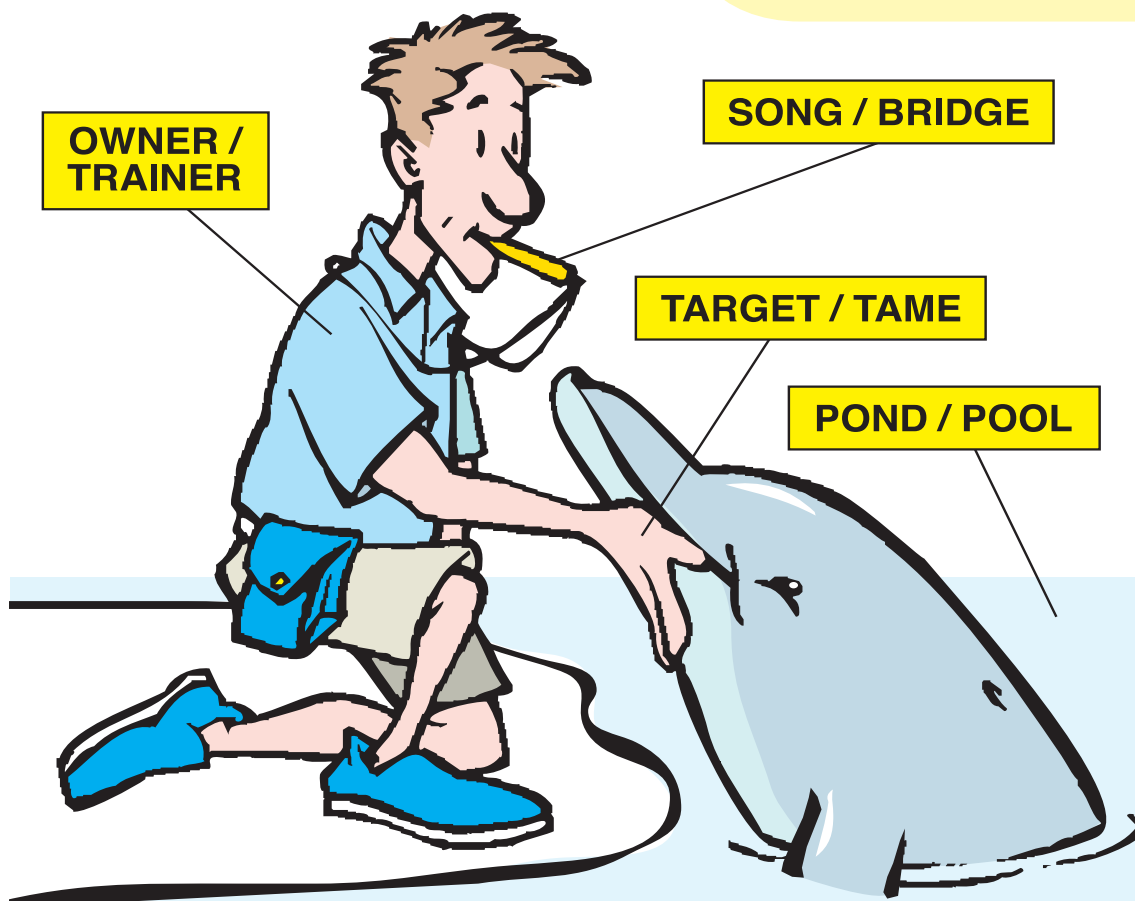
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Tick the box on each day when you have completed 20 minutes of reading. Children who develop a love of reading will become better students and build a better future. ☒		1 Eat leftover biscuits with honey. Read <i>The Honey Hunters</i> by Francesca Martin National Honey Month	2 <i>Write a letter or e-mail to your favorite actor or athlete. Will they write back to you?</i>	3 FAMILY GAME NIGHT Gather the family for an evening of your favorite board or card games.	4 Gather up some newspapers today and make a craft using paper mache. Newspaper Carrier Day	5 Check the batteries in your home smoke detectors today. Be sure to test them monthly. Child Injury Prevention Week
6 Do you have a library card? September is the perfect time to check out your local library, get your library card and check out a few books. Read a Book Day	7 Talk with your family about careers that interest you. What kind of education or training do those jobs require? Labor Day	8 Discuss the services of your local library. Why are libraries important? International Literacy Day	9 Be a super secret superstar! Do something really nice for someone without them knowing it. Keep it a secret!	10 Think of 10 things in your life that are really good. Then think of something not-so-good and a way it could be improved.	11 Tidy your bedroom today. Make your bed and leave your room as nice as possible.	12 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT Comedy tonight! Rent a funny movie for the whole family to watch.
13 Write a poem for a grandparent and draw a picture to go with it. Grandparents Day	14 It's time to feel good about what you can do. Have an "I can do it" day!	15 Get some construction paper, scissors and tape and cover your books for school.	16 Help clean up in the garden today and think about planting something now that will bloom next year.	17 Celebrate the signing of the Constitution by flying the flag and reciting the Preamble. Constitution Day	18 Arrrrr! Look in books and online for some great pirate phrases to get ready for "Talk Like a Pirate Day!"	19 Talk Like a Pirate Day
20 Look for a recipe that uses citrus and ask if you can help prepare it.	21 Write a thank you note of appreciation to one of your friends. World Gratitude Day	22 This is the first day of autumn. Use a crayon and a sheet of blank paper to gently do some leaf rubbings. Ask a parent to help you. Fall Equinox	23 The September bird of the month is the hawk. If you can't see one where you live, see if you can draw one.	24 Tonight, see if you can write down all the names of the kids in your class from memory. Did you forget anyone?	25 What is your birthstone? If you were born in September, your birthstone is a sapphire. Find your birthstone online.	26 Build a backyard obstacle course.
27 Take a hike to search for signs of autumn.	28 A kind word, a chore, a helping hand—these things make good neighbors. Can you do something today to help a neighbor? National Good Neighbor Day	29 Write about one great thing that happened to you this month. Show it to a teacher or parent.	30 Goals for October. Write down five things you would like to achieve in the coming month.	Count each color of falling leaf on this page. How many of each did you find?		

Dolphins Go to School!

“For dolphins, training sessions are great exercise and a lot of fun,” says **DolphinTrainer.com**’s marine mammal consultant, Terry Samansky.

Dolphins aren’t the only ones learning in animal park training programs. The trainers are learning about dolphins. In fact, much of what we know about dolphins has been learned at marine parks.

Read **“How to Train a Dolphin.”** Then circle the word that best describes each picture below.



How to Train a Dolphin

1. “The first step is for the dolphin and the trainer to get to know and trust each other,” Samansky says.

A trainer may start by sitting by the pool, dangling feet in the water, and feeding and playing with the dolphin. This fun process helps the dolphin and trainer get to know each other and build strong bonds of trust.

2. As trust is established, the trainer introduces a “bridge” such as blowing a whistle or saying “good job” each time food is given.

3. Soon the bridge is paired with other things the dolphin likes, such as a rub on the skin, a toy, some ice or a squirt of water on the tongue. After a while the dolphin learns that the bridge goes with a reward and means “good job.”

4. Next the trainer will usually train the dolphin to follow a target, such as a hand or other object. If a hand is the target, the trainer puts up a hand and waits for the curious dolphin to touch it. As soon as that happens, the trainer blows the whistle and “bridges” the behavior to let the dolphin know, “Yes, that’s what I wanted you to do.” Eventually the dolphin knows to touch and follow the target.

5. Next the trainer must pair the behaviors with a signal or “cue” so the dolphin knows what behaviors to do and when to do them. Cues can be hand or body movements, special sounds or words.

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know animals have characteristics and structures that serve different functions.

What are the hands saying?

Trainers never say that they teach dolphins tricks; they teach **trained behaviors**. “It is not magic, or an illusion, and that is why we don’t call their behaviors tricks,” says Samansky.



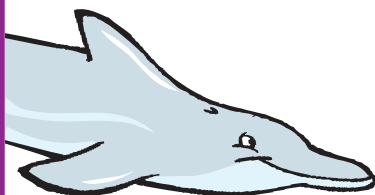
Draw a line from each hand motion to the dolphin doing the behavior it communicates.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Treat Time

Different dolphins like different treats.

This dolphin is named **Cody**.



Which treats does Cody like best? Do the math problem next to each picture. Circle the ones that add up to an even number. These are the treats Cody likes most.

 fish	$\begin{array}{r} 13 \\ - 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$
 ice cubes	$\begin{array}{r} 15 \\ + 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$
 toys	$\begin{array}{r} 16 \\ - 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$
 tongue squirted	$\begin{array}{r} 14 \\ + 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$

Standards Link: Math: Compute sums; recognize even and odd numbers.

Double Double Word Search

DOLPHINS
TRAINER
BEHAVIORS
SIGNAL
TREATS
TRUST
SOUNDS
BRIDGE
REWARD
GOOD
JOB
MARINE
PARKS
SKIN
LEARNING

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

G	S	R	O	I	V	A	H	E	B
N	N	D	O	L	P	H	I	R	E
I	I	S	K	R	A	P	E	G	N
N	H	S	S	O	U	N	D	S	T
R	P	J	T	G	I	I	G	K	R
A	L	S	O	A	R	G	O	I	U
E	O	O	R	B	E	T	O	N	S
L	D	T	E	N	I	R	A	M	T
D	R	A	W	E	R	S	T	C	H

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

STEM OF BASEBALL

*Science, Technology, Engineering, Math

Does a curve ball really curve?

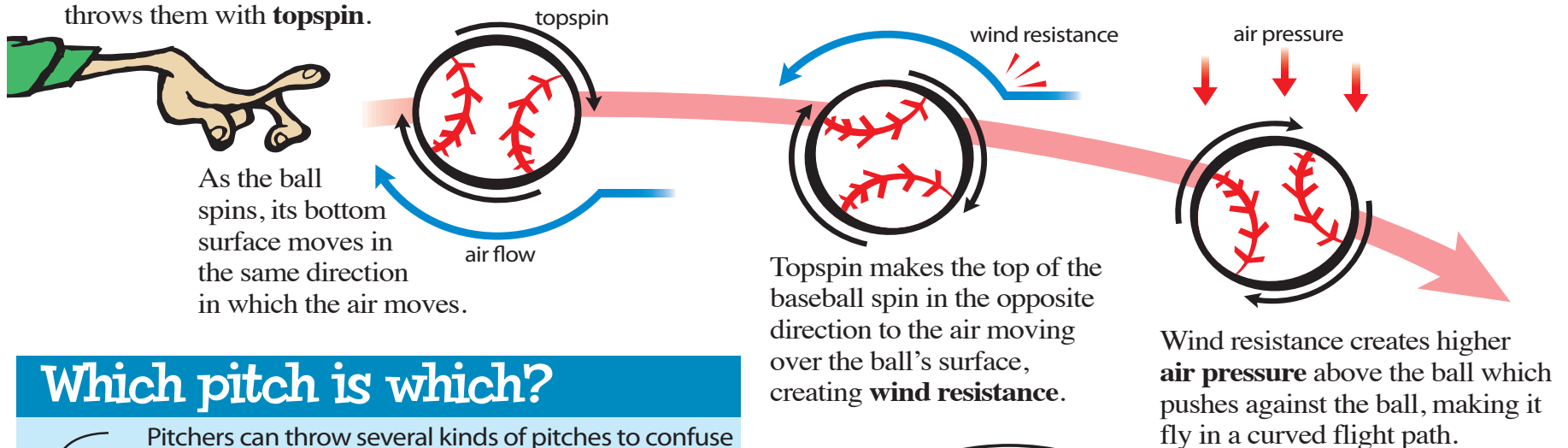


People used to think curve balls were just an illusion. But thanks to technology and the

science of physics, we now know that a baseball actually does curve, as much as 18 inches, when thrown by a skilled pitcher.

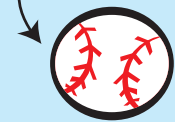
Curve Balls: Forces and Motion!

Curve balls start when a pitcher throws them with **topspin**.



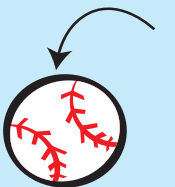
Which pitch is which?

Pitchers can throw several kinds of pitches to confuse the batter. Do the math to discover which is which.



13: _____
This pitch makes the ball curve away from the batter.

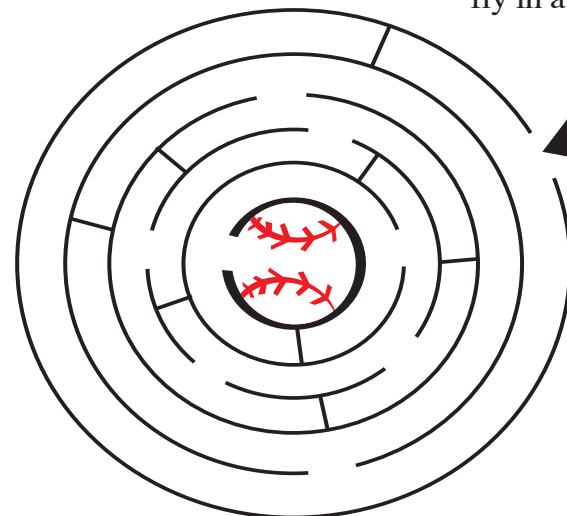
9: _____
This ball curves down and away from the batter.



10: _____
This ball drops suddenly just before it reaches home plate.



$7 + 3 = \text{SPLITTER}$ | $7 + 6 = \text{CUTTER}$ | $11 - 2 = \text{SCREWBALL}$

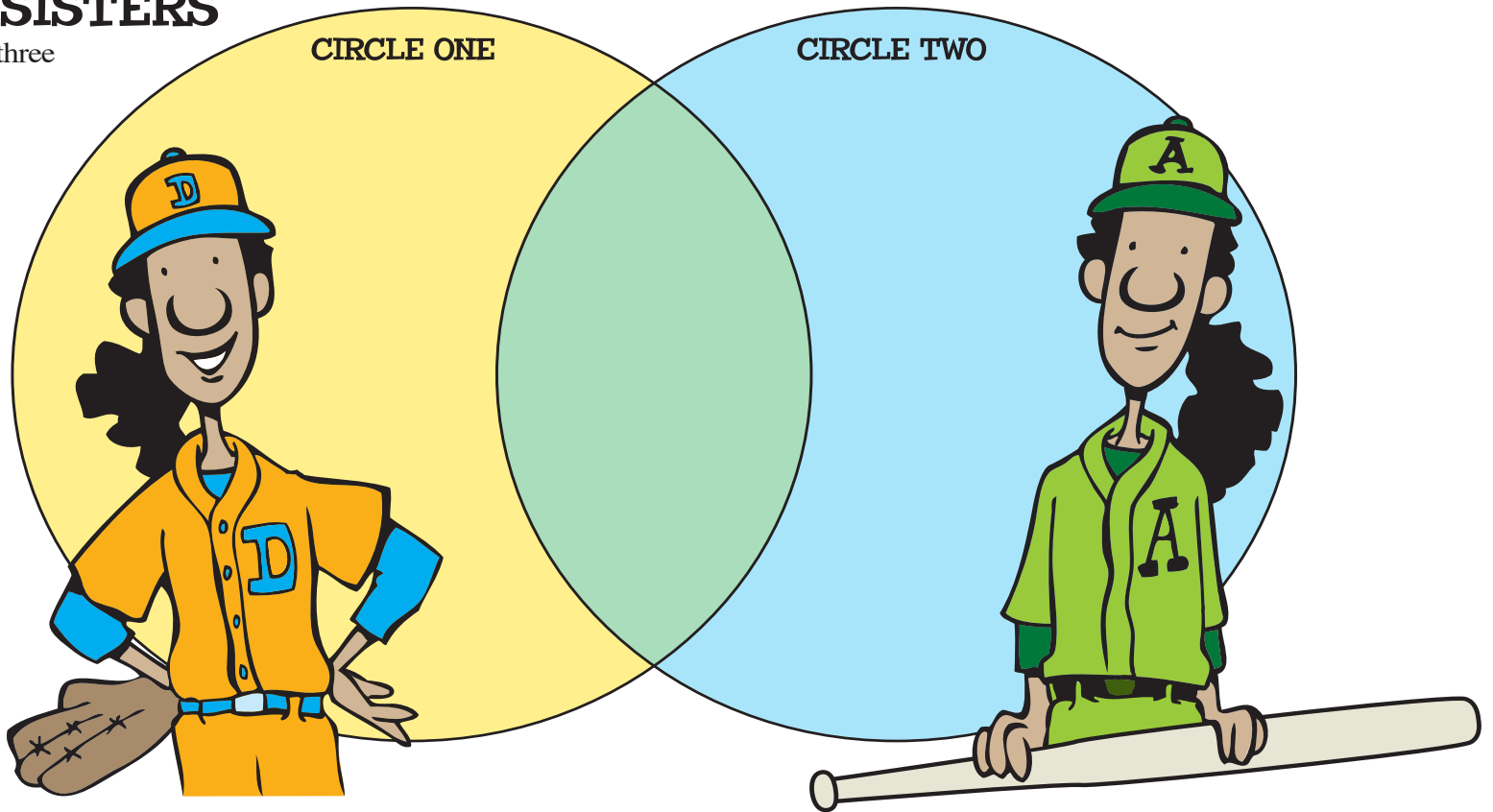


Follow the curved paths to reach the baseball.

SLUGGER SISTERS

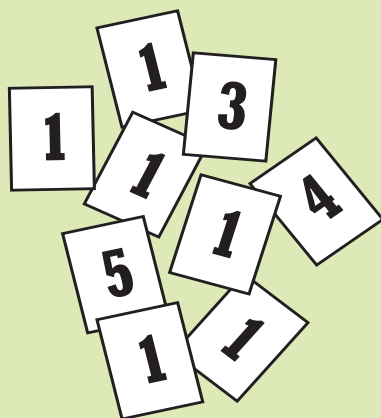
In Circle One, write three words that describe Stacy Slugger. In Circle Two, write three words that describe her sister, Sandy Slugger. Where the circles intersect or cross over each other, write three words that describe both Stacy and Sandy.

This is called a Venn diagram.



Kid Scoop[®] Puzzler

At the end of the ninth inning, the numbers fell off the baseball stadium scoreboard. Add up each team's runs to see who won the game.



DRAGONS:

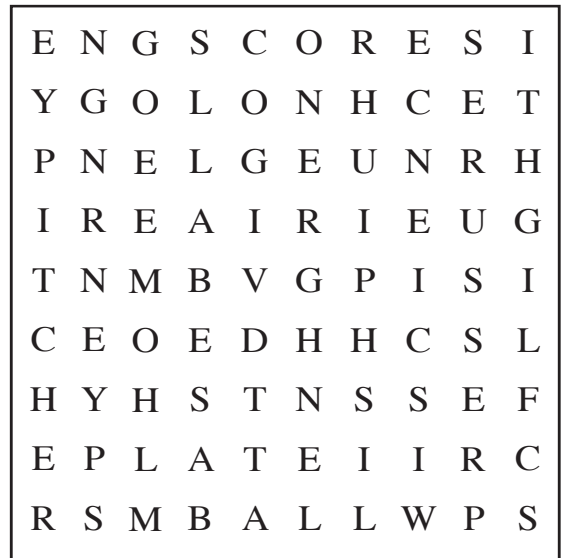


WOLVERINES:

Double Double Word Search

TECHNOLOGY
BASEBALL
PRESSURE
SCIENCE
PITCHER
SCORES
FLIGHT
CURVE
PLATE
MATH
GAME
HOME
WIND
BALL
AIR

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.



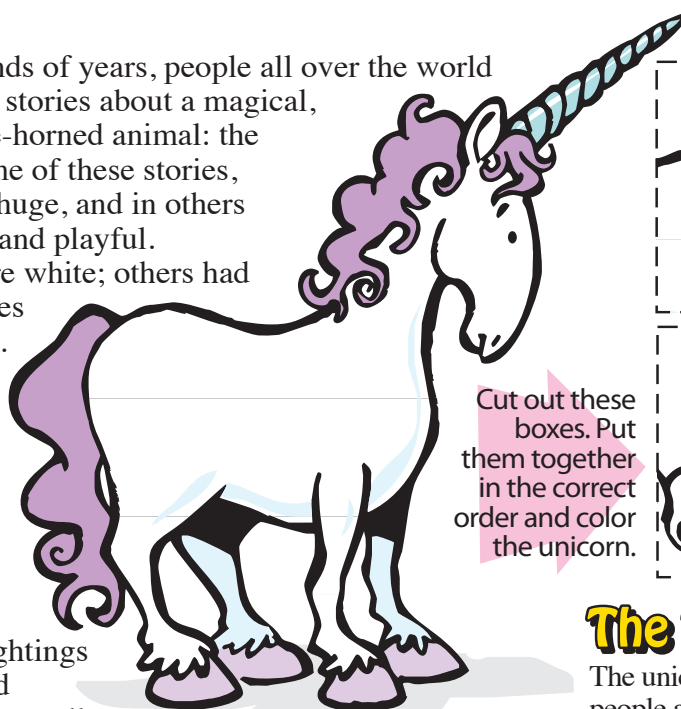
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Puzzle of the Unicorn

Did unicorns ever exist? Explore the mystery on today's puzzling *Kid Scoop News* page!

For thousands of years, people all over the world have told stories about a magical, mysterious one-horned animal: the unicorn. In some of these stories, unicorns were huge, and in others they were tiny and playful. Some were pure white; others had horns and bodies of many colors. Some were fierce and brave. Others were peaceful.

Some people think that unicorn stories started from sightings of a one-horned rhinoceros or a gazelle in profile.



Cut out these boxes. Put them together in the correct order and color the unicorn.

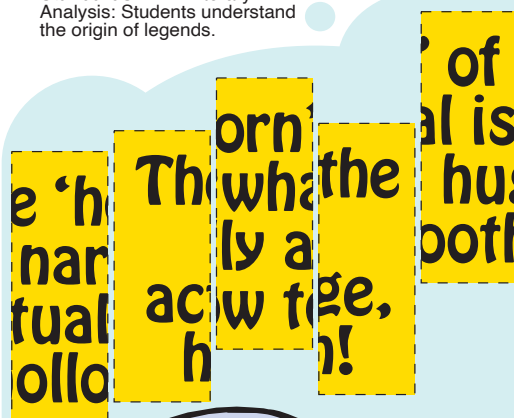


The Truth About Unicorns

The unicorn is usually described as an ideal being, possessing qualities people admire. While the animal does not exist, the qualities do.

Each unicorn below has a puzzle piece in its mouth. Match each piece with an identical piece that contains a word describing a unicorn quality.

Standards Link: Literary Analysis: Students understand the origin of legends.

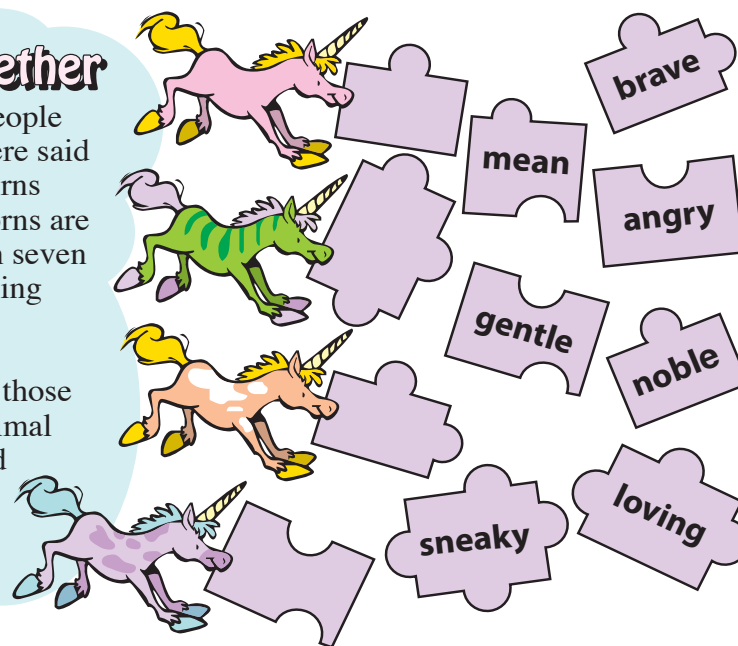


Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have features that help in survival.

Put the Puzzle Together

Several hundred years ago, people sold mysterious horns that were said to be unicorn horns. These horns were straight; most animal horns are curved. Some were more than seven feet long and had spirals running down the entire length.

Today we know that many of those horns were from a shy sea animal called a **narwhal**. Cut out and assemble the puzzle pieces to learn a surprising fact about these "unicorns of the sea."



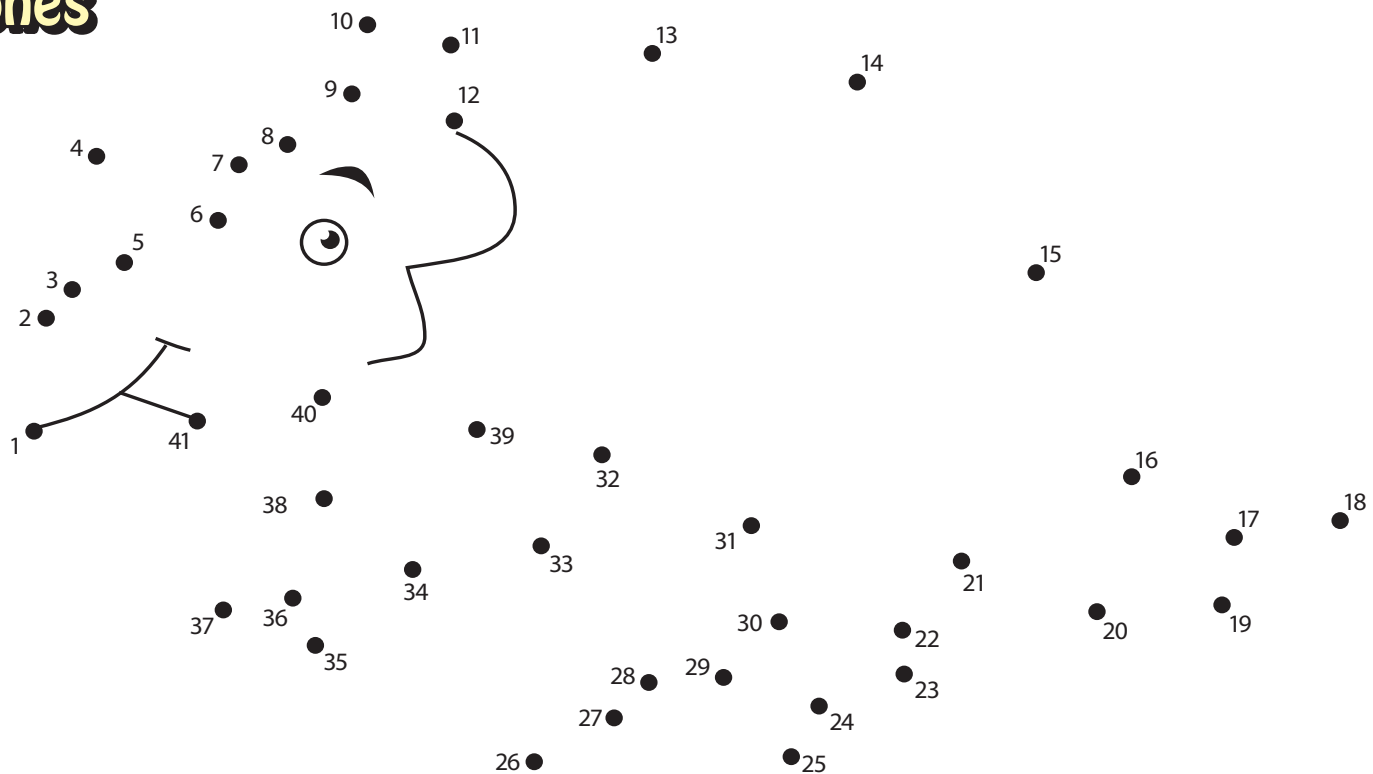
Unicorn Bones

Scientists have found the bones of a “dinosaur unicorn.” The **bagaceratops** was a small, plant-eating dinosaur that was about 3 feet (1 m) long and lived in Asia about 80 million years ago.

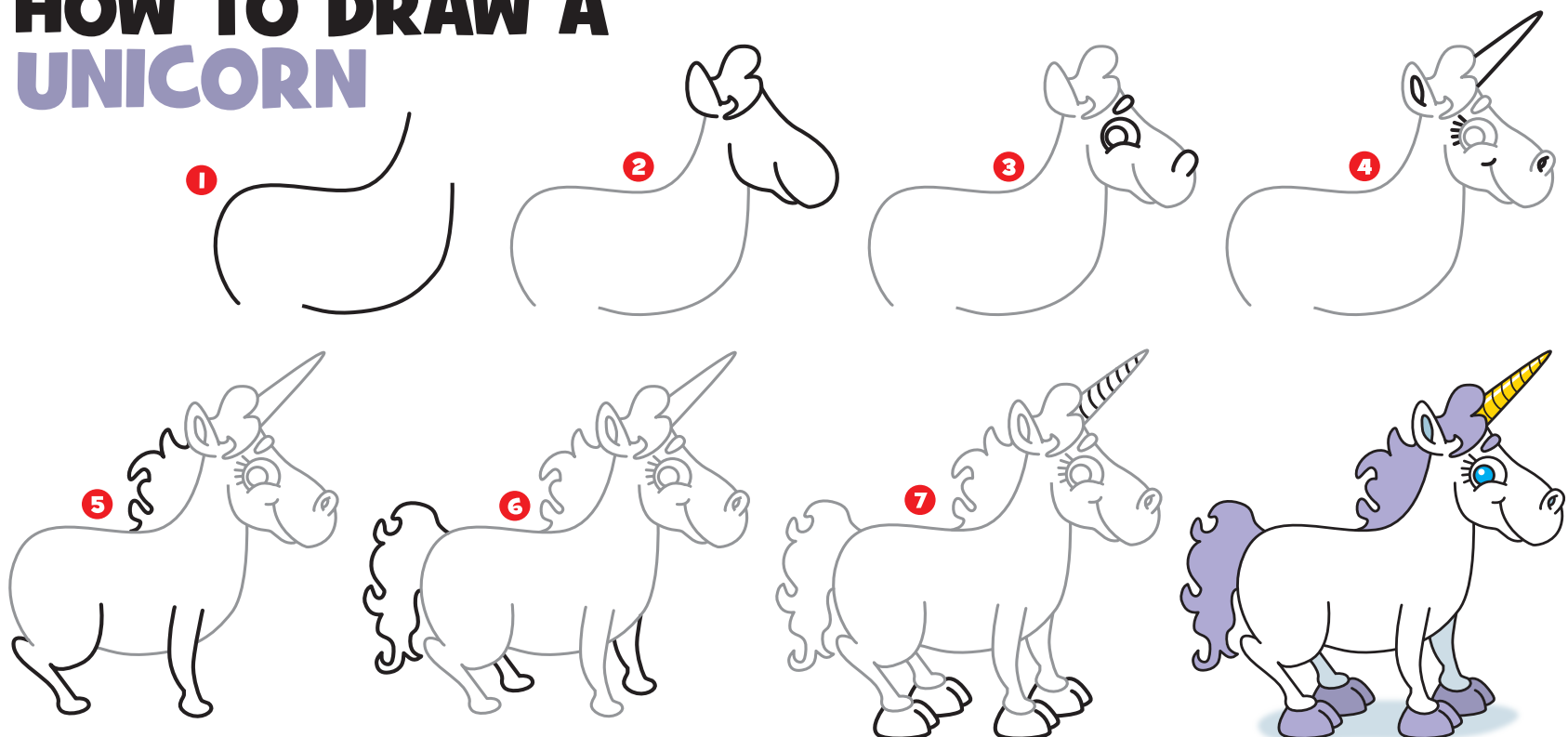
The name bagaceratops means “small horned face.”

Connect the dots to see what bagaceratops looked like.

Standards Link: Life Science: Students know that some animals that once lived on Earth have completely disappeared.



HOW TO DRAW A UNICORN



INTEREST

It pays to save!

It's important to save at least some of your money instead of spending it all. But where's the best place to save it?

In a book?



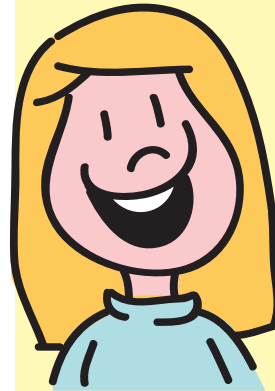
In a shoebox?

In a sock?



If you save your money in a **savings account**, the bank or credit union **pays you** for letting them hold

your money. That payment is called **interest**. Over time, interest adds up and your money starts to grow!



Penny's Savings

Penny McThrifty has been saving her money for a couple of years. Between birthday gifts and earning money on her own, she's doing pretty good. She's made a lot of **deposits**, and some **withdrawals**. The money that is in her account is called a **balance**.

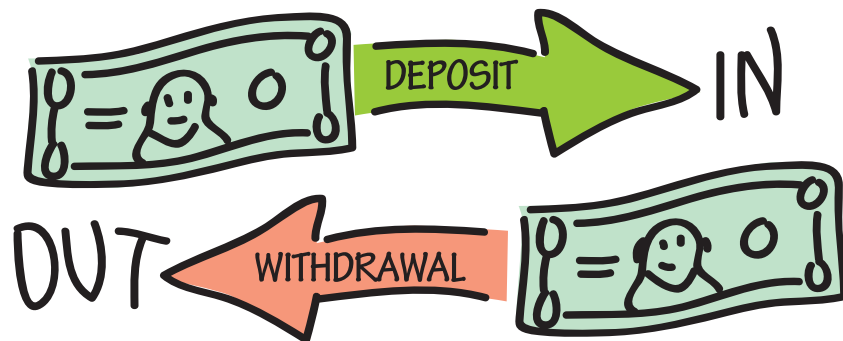
Fill in the missing numbers in the balance column to discover how much is in Penny's account.

Date	Description	Withdrawal	Deposit	Balance
10/1/26	Birthday Gift		\$25.00	\$125.00
10/5/26	Babysitting		\$8.00	\$133.00
10/10/26	Movie ticket	\$7.00		
10/13/26	Bowling	\$11.50		
10/22/26	Interest		.50	
11/5/26	Babysitting		\$8.00	
11/22/26	Interest		.55	
11/23/26	Babysitting		\$10.00	

Money in, money out

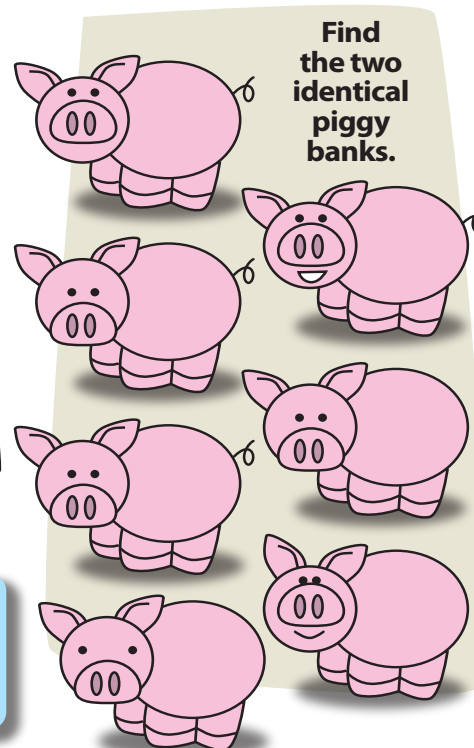
When you put money into your savings account, it is called making a **deposit**.

When you take money out of your account, that is called a **withdrawal**.



Let's Talk!

Ask a parent to tell you about something they saved their money to buy. Was it hard to save the money? How did it feel when they finally reached their goal?



Pop Quiz

- Taking some money out of a savings account is called a:
 - deposit
 - withdrawal
 - balance
- Putting money into a savings account is called a:
 - deposit
 - withdrawal
 - balance
- The total amount of money you have in a savings account is called a:
 - deposit
 - withdrawal
 - balance



Calendar Contest

Celebrate the First Day of the New School Year with MCDL!

Calling all Artists! All of September, download the Calendar contest form (www.mcdlibrary.org) or pick one up in the Libraries to draw a page for the 2027 Calendar! All age groups can participate. Winners will be notified in November.

Tuesday, September 8 after school is out, we'll have ice cream treats (and gluten/dairy-free popsicles) at both libraries.



The secret word is Blue Moon

Preschool Story Time
Wednesdays 10am Ludington
Fridays 10am Scottville

TEEN EVENTS—Both Buildings

The First Tuesday: Teen Tuesday with Brianna in Ludington

September—Game Day 12:30-2pm

October—Sock Pumpkins 3:30-5pm

Every Monday starting 9/14: Anime Club in Ludington, 3:30pm

Every Thursday in Scottville: Teen activities 3pm

September 8: Back to School treats at both buildings, 3:30pm

September 19: Limelights! 2:30pm in Ludington

September 25: Teen Movie Night in Ludington, 6-8pm

We are wrapping up our 2026 Summer Reading Program and are so happy that many of you participated! We gave out prizes along the way for readers who completed their time tracking sheets, and will be awarding Adults in September with their prizes, too. Kids & teens, bring in your sheet by September 5 to make it into the Grand Prize drawing! Many thanks to our community sponsors: Britter's Twisted Whisk, Culver's, House of Flavors, Hungry Howie's, the Jaycee's Mini Golf, the Lighthouse Keepers Association, Taco Bell, 10 Spot, Walmart, Wesco, & more.

Family Bingo Night in Scottville Tuesday, September 1 & October 6, 6-7pm

Drop in and play a round of Bingo with us!

All MCDL

Programs are

FREE.

Children

under 8 must

be

supervised.



Creative Kids meet after school for games, crafts, and more. In Ludington on Monday from 3:30-5pm, and in Scottville on Monday and Wednesday from 3:30-5 pm.

Legos Out!

Saturdays, 11am-2pm

Come and build with your friends! Thousands of Legos to choose from.

1-2-3 Rhyme with Me!

Mondays at 10:00 am

Join Ms. Emily for rhymes, songs, and early literacy skills! Perfect for ages 0-3 with a caregiver.

Mason County District Library

217 E. Ludington Avenue, Ludington 231-843-8465 www.MCDLibrary.org 204 E. State Street, Scottville 231-757-2588

Conflict Resolution

LEARNING TIP OF THE MONTH

Newspaper Noun Match-Ups

Car, train, cat, fish — these words are **nouns**.

A noun is a person, place, thing or idea.

A car and a train can be grouped together as **transportation**. A cat and a fish could be grouped together as **pets**. With your child look through the newspaper or *Kid Scoop News* for words or pictures that go together as a group.



Photo: BART.gov

Noun One:

train

Noun Two:

car

These two nouns could be part of a group called:

transportation

Noun One:

Noun Two:

These two nouns could be part of a group called:

Noun One:

Noun Two:

These two nouns could be part of a group called:

Helping your child respond to conflict is a part of parenting. When conflicts happen at home, or in front of you, it is easier to respond and discuss a situation with your child. But a lot of conflicts happen at school when you aren't there to understand and help.

This month, *Kid Scoop News* offers a special feature to help you discuss conflict resolution with your children.

Review the cartoons and discuss the difference between words and actions that make conflicts worse, with those that can diffuse or calm a conflict so that it can end with everyone feeling good.



EDITOR'S PICK by Vicki Whiting, *Kid Scoop News*

Paper John

Story and pictures by David Small



Paper John lives by the sea. He makes paper toys, boats, flowers, kites and more. Everything in his house is made of paper!

He rescues a little man tangled in his fishing lines and makes him a paper bed. The little man turns out to be a thief who conjures devils to blow down the town.

Can Paper John do anything to help save the town and the friendly people who live there?

This book is beautifully illustrated and with a certain amount of charm, produces an imaginative, creative solution.

