



## Why I think the Voting Age Should be Lowered

Written by: *anonymous*

In the United States, people are not allowed to vote until the age of 18. I think that the voting age should be lowered to 13. Now, you may think that's a huge change and most thirteen year olds aren't mature enough to vote for the leaders of our country. I agree, and that is why I think that teenagers under the age of eighteen should be required to take a United States civics test and pass in order to vote. I have noticed that by the time kids turn thirteen (sometimes even earlier), many have started to develop strong opinions on problems facing our country. Allowing them to vote would give them a say in politics.

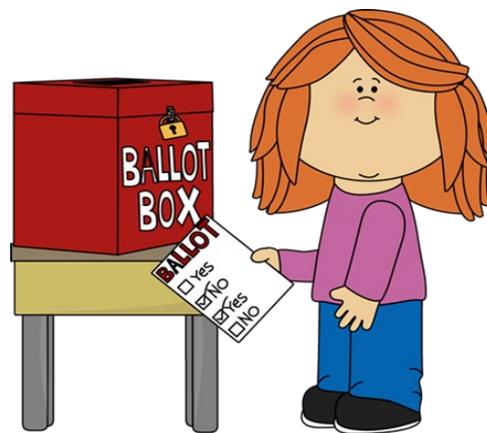
Recently in social studies class, we read an article that stated two different opinions on whether the voting age should be lowered or not. On the part of the article that talked about why the voting age should be lowered, they explained how young teens are the most vulnerable to school shootings, yet they don't have the ability to be able to make a difference regarding how these can be prevented. I agree with this and believe that giving teens the right to vote would give them the ability to elect leaders who share their views on certain issues, such as gun control.

People argue that many teenagers don't know how our government works and lack the knowledge needed to make decisions as big as who the leaders of our country will be. This is why I suggest that teenagers are given a civics test on the function and structure of the U.S. government before they are able to vote. If they pass the test, then they can vote in that election. This will ensure that only highly knowledgeable teens are given the right to vote.

Other than teenagers being able to voice their opinions, allowing teenagers to vote would increase voter turnout in our elections. The more people who vote, the better and more accurate the election is. Teenage voters would benefit our country's democracy.

Overall, I feel that young adults 13 and older should be given the right to vote. Many of us have strong opinions on political issues and we should be allowed to voice them by voting. Voting would not only benefit us, but the democratic system of our country.

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## Speak Up

By: Erin Hayes

Speaking up is a hard thing to do, especially when you are surrounded by people. People who you don't know that well (or people in general). Usually the reasons why many students don't speak up in class are because they are scared to see the reaction of others, they are afraid they will be wrong, they are just really quiet, or they just don't know the answer.

For me, speaking up is difficult because when doing presentations, I get very nervous. I am not a very good talker in front of crowds, and I usually am very quiet because usually, I just don't like to talk much. However, if you start asking questions and participating in class more you will learn more. Some kids don't like to ask or answer questions because they are either afraid of asking a "dumb question, or the wrong question. But there really is no such thing as a wrong or dumb question to me. Step out of your comfort zone and become an engaged student ; you'll be amazed at how much more you can learn!

# Book Recommendations

By: Irini Mihas

So, I can only assume that you are reading this article because

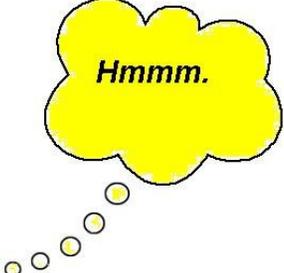
You're bored

You genuinely have no idea what to read

You're REALLY bored

Luckily I really like books, and I'm going to put a twist on this.

I'm going to describe the books in 20 words or less (If you're interested just look up the book)



Hmmm.

## One of Us Is Lying

5 kids walk into detention, but only 4 walk out.

## The Hate U Give

Starr witness a famous shooting, and she is the only one that knows what really happened.

## The Perks of Being a Wallflower

A course through the strange world between adolescence and adulthood.

## Watch You Burn

Will her arsonist ways be exposed? Or is the burning truth deep inside her a greater danger?

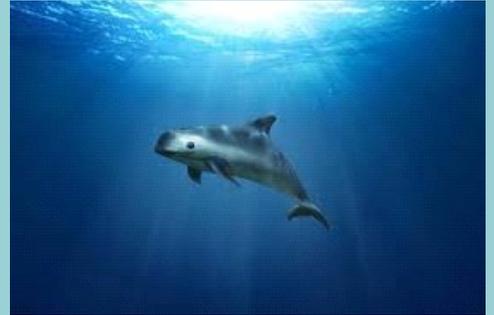
So those of some of the books I think people would enjoy. If you really like to read, I recommend going to the store Barnes and Noble.



# Discoveries on Marine

## Life

By John Pempek



## The Vaquita: the World's most Endangered Cetacean

If you have never heard of the vaquita, this is normal. Not many people know about these sea creatures. They are the world's smallest living cetacean (a whale, dolphin, or porpoise) and also the most endangered. The only surviving population of vaquitas is so small that it is located off the coast of a single fishing village in the Gulf of California, and the IUCN Red List lists them as critically endangered, the most threatened status on the list besides extinct or extinct in the wild. Last time they surveyed the population, there were under 30 individuals left, maybe even less than 20, and the population was still declining. That survey was taken in 2015. Many people support the conservation of the vaquita, but with such a minority of individuals left in the wild, their survival would be miraculous, that is if they haven't gone extinct unnoticed since the last survey. The reason they are going extinct is even worse. They get trapped in nets and then drown. The nets are not just any nets. The nets are set to catch a fish literally the same size and shape as the vaquita known as the totoaba. To make matters worse, the fish is also listed as critically endangered on the IUCN red list, and fishing for them is illegal. Poachers are hunting the fish and indirectly killing vaquitas because the bladder of the totoaba is believed to have medicinal qualities and can sell for thousands of dollars. Now these two creatures endemic to the Gulf of California have a big problem. People are killing an endangered fish in mass quantities for their bladders so they can get themselves money, and the nets designed to catch the totoaba accidentally snag vaquitas and pull them up. This is called bycatch. Many sea creatures, including the vaquita, dolphins, rays, blobfish, and many more are caught by accident. Also, when people are not overfishing the area, there are ghost nets floating around. These are fishing nets floating in the water after they have been used, and not just vaquitas are killed. Animals from dolphins to sharks to turtles to even gigantic whales have been snagged in these nets. The vaquita is in trouble, and not many people know it. If you happen to be reading this article, spread the word. Tell your friends and family about the vaquita, and tell them to tell their friends and family. The vaquita needs our help, and many other creatures, such as elephants, Cuban crocodiles, and many more need it too. These animals can't talk for themselves, but you can speak up to help governments, companies, and ordinary people help endangered species instead of hurt them.

## Supersonic Whales



If you read the article above, you learned about a rare cetacean called the vaquita. A more abundant, but a rarely ever seen cetacean, the True's beaked whale, was sighted more frequently than usual recently, it was said to be seen almost daily off the coasts of Georges Bank to Rhode island, scientists also tagged one of these rare creatures, and found out that it can make supersonic noises. Before we get to that, let's learn about the whale. The True's beaked whale was discovered back in 1913 by Fredrick W. True, hence the name. Until recent years, they were only known from animals that were stranded from beaches, but they were recently sighted at sea for the first time, and have been sighted other times after that. Up to a year after those sightings, the whales were sighted often on the expedition of several biologists. For the first time, they also got samples of the mammal's DNA. A dozen DNA samples were taken, also biopsy samples and underwater photographs of True's beaked whales were collected. One other great accomplishment was that they tagged a True's beaked whale. A device called a digital acoustic recording tag was attached to the whale. It records the acoustic behavior and movement of the animal for 12 hours before it comes off. They got the first ever definite recordings of True's beaked whales vocalizing underwater. They made supersonic noises. You cannot hear them, but a computer program shows the sound waves. They also made a series of clicking noises similar to the noises made by dolphins. This great discovery showed a glimpse into a rare whale's life. They may not be as rare as we thought in the past, just shy. What secrets could the other rare creatures of the Earth like the giant squid or the deep sea frilled shark hold?

## 3 New Species Discovered in the Deep Sea



Recently, on September 10<sup>th</sup> 2018, three new species were discovered in the depths of the Atacama Trench off the coast of Peru and Chile. This trench measures about 100 miles off from land. It is a whopping 3,666 miles long, an enormous 40 miles wide, and a staggering 26,460 feet deep. It covers an expansive 228,000 square miles. In these watery depths, animals still exist. Many bizarre animals, such as the frilled shark, the deepsea anglerfish, and the elusive megamouth shark (model shown) are found there in the deep trench. The animals the article focuses on live there too. Deep sea trenches hold many mysteries. The particular creatures are three species of snailfish. Snailfish are eel-like creatures that live in the deep sea. They are very strange. The new species were temporarily named the pink, the blue, and the purple Atacama snailfish. Snailfish are in the family Liparidae. They don't look like the anglerfish or viperfish most people imagine lurk in the deep sea. They may not have a menacing glow, or teeth so big and sharp that they cannot close their mouth. They are small and translucent, lacking scales and looking kind of pathetic, but in their environment, with so many invertebrates to feast on, they are the top predators in the place that they live. The three new species looked well fed on the video footage, signaling abundant prey for the slippery new discovered fish. Also, a dead mackerel fish was lowered into the deep sea. Many invertebrates flocked to the fish. Footage shows a snailfish eating them.



**How does a snailfish, a scaleless, small, slimy fish, survive in some of the deepest parts of the sea, where the water pressure could crush a human?**

Their flesh is almost entirely a mushy, gel-like substance, pretty much supported by the extreme pressure of the water. There is a problem, though. The fish's flesh is held in place by extreme water pressure. What happens when a snailfish is brought to the surface? The result is very creepy. Since the water pressure is lower at the surface, the fish literally melts. The fish falls apart at the molecular level. Scientists managed to bring one of the purple snailfish to the surface in a carefully controlled environment. Scientists are learning more about the deep sea every day.

**What will we discover next?**

# Coming up with Characters and Art Tips

Tips for artists who are either struggling with making characters or just drawing in general.

**By: Catherine Leanhart**

I am an artist, and many times I have found it difficult to come up with characters when drawing, but I've discovered ways to stop that from happening! Here are some of my tips on how to come up with characters when drawing.

There are many ways to help come up with characters. One way is to look up some pictures of inanimate objects, you can use them as inspiration of a character. Example: A Chocolate Covered Strawberry could be a character with features of the object. Another way is to look up color pallet images, the color pallets can help you come up with a personality, which can help with features and details for the character.

Now it's time for just some general art tips! Of course if you want to keep improving, you have to practice, which means you should at least draw once a week. Another way to improve is look at other art styles, try drawing them, that could help you come up with your own art style. More ways are to draw random shapes all around a piece of paper, then start trying to come up with either a character, object, etc. using the shapes.

## WOULD YOU RATHER...?

**BY: SAMANTHA MILLER J**

**Would You Rather... Go to the store with a silly wig on or with a funny mask?**

**Would You Rather... Eat a pound of jello or a pound of pudding?**

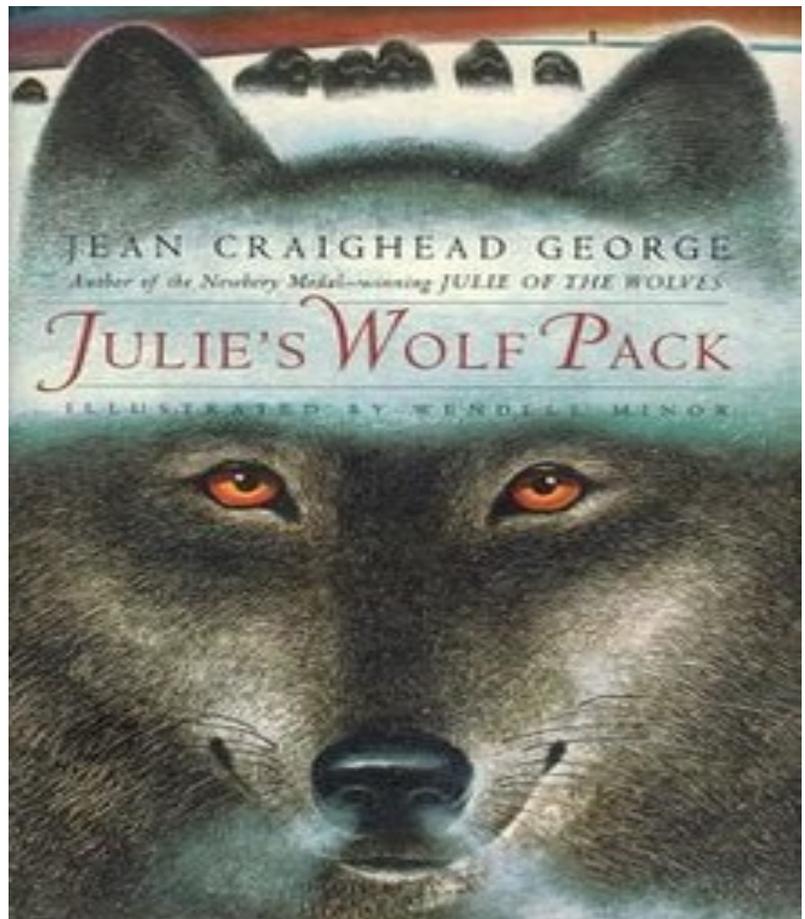
**Would You Rather... Prank call your favorite teacher or your principal?**

**Would You Rather... Have your favorite TV series get canceled or never eat your favorite food again?**

# Book review: Julie's Wolf Pack

By: Alec Cabrera

*Julie's Wolf Pack* is a really good book (this is, I believe the 3<sup>rd</sup> book in the series? So read the first book first!) I will give you the main story: Kapu, the new wolf pack alpha (the leader) has to face the hardships of being a leader and protecting his pack. He and his pack will face many dangers, human hunters, disease, starvation, and rival packs. Kapu has to deal with this and some rivals in his own pack that want to be the alpha. I will say this: you will definitely be confused if you don't read the first book: **Julie of the Wolves**. Now you may be wondering: why are we talking about Kapu if the title says, "Julie's Wolf Pack?" Well, Julie is an Eskimo (Native Americans that live in Canada and Alaska) that escaped from her old village and, to survive, lives with a wolf pack which is explained all in the first book: *Julie of the Wolves*. So than Kapu becomes alpha, but he is young and inexperienced, so his main enemy, Raw Bones, tries attacking him almost every chance he gets. Kapu also must protect his pack from enemy packs and starvation. But luckily, Kapu has some good allies. He has Zing, the beta wolf. (Second in control.) He also has sweet fur Amy, who can smell caribou from miles away. All of the others include Aaka, alpha female, silver, Amaroqs Widow, and of course, the main enemy, Raw Bones. This begins with a small pack in the beginning, but later there will be more characters, more pack members, and changes to the original story. I don't want to say too much because I am afraid that I will spoil the book. But I will say this: It is a Good Book! PLEASE read the first book. I recommend this whole series to people who like nature, native Americans, and good books with a twist.



# Elementary Vs. Middle School

By: Catherine Leanhart, Samantha Miller, and Ariana Iglesia

You know what elementary school is like and some or all of middle school as well. But do you know the big differences between the two?

First, elementary school doesn't have locks on their lockers. In fact, if you went to Palos East, you'll know that they don't have lockers at all. That is just one of the MANY differences between middle school and elementary school.

Next, this is a big one, in middle school, we switch for all classes. We only have 3 minutes to rush to our lockers, hope we make it on time, and get to our next class! Sometimes, you can bring your supplies for the next few classes so you don't have to go to your locker, but it is a lot to carry!

Then, the way the specials are organized is very different. In elementary school you have gym three times a week and in middle school you have gym every single day and you have to change for gym too. Also in elementary school you only have music and art once a week and in middle school you have Spanish, Art, Music, and Applied Technology every day, you have a different one each quarter.

In conclusion, Middle school and Elementary school are both very different, they may have similarities but they are more different than similar. They are both very fun, and we look forward to the future.

## What will high school be like?

# Pumpkin Bundt Cake

By: Ariana Iglesia

## Ingredients:

Box of white cake mix. One small can of pumpkin pack.  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of brown sugar.

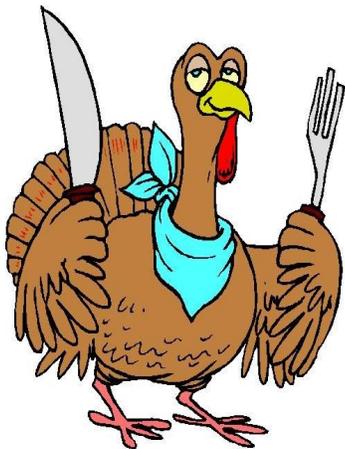
Teaspoon of all spice.

## Directions:

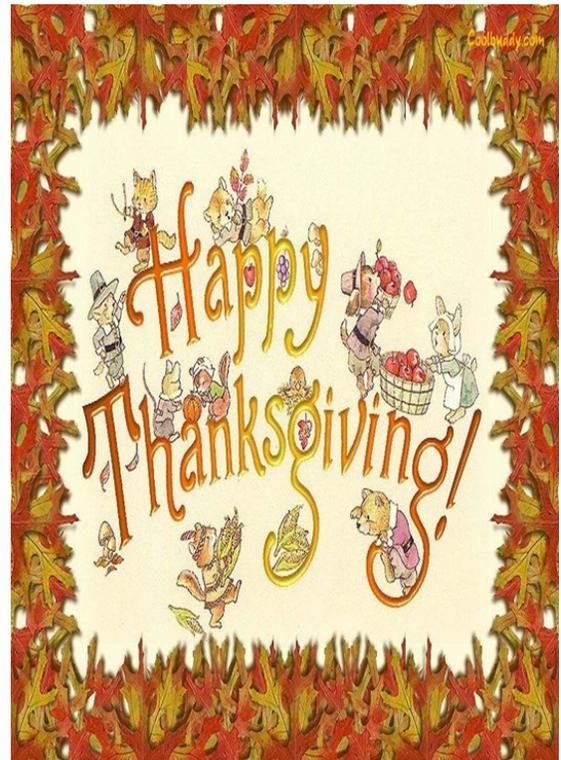
Mix cake to the directions on box. Grease a Bundt pan well. Pour half the batter in pan. Take the pumpkin pack mix, the sugar and all spice together. Mix well then spoon the pumpkin on the batter put the remainder of the cake batter on the top. Then take a spoon of brown sugar and  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon of cinnamon mix together and sprinkle on the top of the cake. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes to an hour depending on the oven. Let the cake cool. Remove from pan and flip over to top side drizzle with powdered sugar icing  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of powdered sugar and just a few drops of water mix and drizzle.

## THANKSGIVING UNSCRAMBLE!

BY ALEC CABRERA



Ukyert  
Aviten  
Pilring  
Eafst  
Pactoc  
Hanckstivign  
Ymaowfler  
Bbgloe  
Reavc  
Utmnua



# Mrs. Zdravlevich

By: Ariana Iglesia and Samantha Miller

## **Why do you like math?**

As a kid, it was the subject I enjoyed the most. Solving equations was always my favorite!

## **If you could teach another subject, what would it be and why?**

Language Arts, because I would love to read journal entries to get to know my students better.

## **What is the funniest thing your kids have ever done and why?**

My kids are always doing something funny! I don't know if I can recall just one thing. Something we did to them that was funny is put fruits and veggies in a donut box on April Fool's day. Their reaction was priceless-lots of cheers and whining.

## **Why do you teach 6<sup>th</sup> grade?**

I love 6<sup>th</sup> grade because I feel like most of my students are still excited about school and learning. It's my favorite grade!

## **What is your favorite TV show/movie?**

T.V. show- Friends or New Girl

Movie- Father Of The Bride, or The Greatest Showman.

## **What is your favorite music genre?**

I honestly listen to all types, but if I had to choose one, I'd pick country.

## **What is your zodiac sign?**

Aquarius.



# FIND THE MISTAKES

BY: Amariz Brooks

In order to participate, follow the challenge instructions. These are very simple instructions. These challenges will increase in difficulty by the



“round”. **GOOD LUCK!!**

## CHALLENGE #1 : FIND THE ONLY SAD/FROWNY FACE



## CHALLENGE #2 : FIND 3 SAD/FROWNY FACES



## CHALLENGE #3 : FIND THE ONLY SAME EMOJIS (EMOTICONS)



## CHALLENGE #4 : FIND THE 4 SAME EMOJIS (EMOTICONS)





# Q&A With Mrs. Duffer

Q1.) How does it feel to teach to South, for the first time?

It is the best teaching experience I've ever had.

Q2.) What is it like to be a Social Studies teacher instead of Math?

A2.) I enjoy both subjects but social studies is my passion, specifically US history.

Q3.) What is your favorite math formula?

A3.) Pythagorean theory

Q4.) What is your favorite instrument? Do you play it often?

A4.) I play many instruments, but I love piano, and drums is a close runner up.

Q5.) What do you like to do on your free time?

A5.) Golf, hiking, fishing, boating, scuba diving with my family, waterskiing, basically any outdoor activity.

Q6.) How did you feel leaving East? What is the biggest difference between the two?

A6.) I was apprehensive to leave East, I was stepping out of my comfort zone. I was scared, I knew it would be challenging, but it was the best career move I've ever made. East was my comfort zone.



# Q&A with Mrs. Duffer continued

Q7.) If you were a food what would you be and why?

A7.) Marinated octopus because it is absolutely the best.



Q8.) Who is your role model and why?

A8.) My mom, she was the most positive person I have ever met. She was the happiest and most positive person I have ever known.

Q9.) Were you interested in becoming a teacher when you were in middle school?

A9.) I didn't even consider being a teacher until I was 46 years old!

Q10.) What is the best vacation you took, and why was it the best?

A10.) I traveled around the world for a year; that was the best experience I have ever had. I was gone for exactly one year.



Q11.) Why do you like teaching?

A11.) I love being able to inspire others to become their best, I want to help them fulfil their destiny. I believe we were put on here for a reason; I want to help them find the reason why they are here.

# Flock-

## The sad and true story of the passenger pigeon extinction



By Elliott Cabrera

The picture above is not fake. That is what the flocks of passenger Pigeons looked like long ago. There were so much of them; they blanketed the sky. Hunters would point their rifles to the sky, and they would fire and bring down 5 or more at a time! The passenger pigeon was special because they would gather in huge flocks, 1000 sends at a time. They migrated to vast areas that ranged from southern Canada to Texas. People killed them for their meat long ago, and thought nothing of killing them daily. They were eventually dying off from mass hunting. It got to the point where there was just one more left, a passenger pigeon named Martha, kept captive at the Cincinnati zoo. She didn't lay a single egg, endangering the rest of the population for the years to come. When she died in 1914 the passenger pigeon was declared extinct. Forever Gone!

# The sad and true story of the passenger



## pigeon extinction (continued)

**How did this happen so quickly? How could one of the most abundant animals of all time just be gone?**

### FLOCKS-

Here is a quotation from NPR magazine, "Billions of passenger pigeons once flew over North America, flocking together in huge clouds of birds. "There are crazy historic records about this thing blocking out the daytime sky for hours at a time," Shapiro says."

### EXTINCTION-

Passenger pigeons always had a hard time with humans. Native Americans hunted them regularly. They depended on them for meat and feathers. But once the Europeans arrived, the hunting intensified. After all, you would kill more birds with a bullet than an arrow.

-Info from, [audubon.org](http://audubon.org)

### REFLECTION-

How can we stop over hunting extinction events from happening? Many other animals have suffered the same fate. Heath hen, Great auk, moa, dodo, and many other animals have died. Why does this keep repeating? People had done nothing about this. But recently, people have been changing laws to protect animals. The organization revive and restore want to clone the passenger pigeon. Though I think it might work, it is not a natural passenger pigeon. It won't act the same. Hopefully the day will come when no more animals will die from this. It is like an infinite loop that keeps repeating. It has to stop. Organizations like the WWF (World Wildlife Fund) and Revive and Restore are trying their best to save the animals, even resurrect them. Hopefully you learn the most important lesson from this article, #stop extinction.



PALOS SOUTH  
RED AND WHITE  
REPORT ROSTER



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