

THE MONTHLY FOX

February 2025

DESERT SKY ELEMENTARY

Vol 2 Issue 5



What's In This Month's Issue:

- All about Valentine's Day
- Interviews with students & teachers
- Reviews
- All about Salmon
- Honesty stories, comic strips, and more!

JANUARY ASSEMBLY

By: Libby Torres
Photos by: Mats Mirick

During the January assembly three big fun things happened.

1. We honored all of our hard working students with an award for persevering through hard moments and challenges.
2. SubZero gave us foxes, a lesson about gas works and showed us about how it goes with cool air, and warm air, and all the other cool things about it.

3. With the most donation at the fox trot Mrs. Smith's 1st grade class got to turn Mrs. Blake and Mrs. Dejong in to ice cream sundaes. They dumped whipped cream, marshmallows, chocolate, caramel, and strawberry syrup, sprinkles and last but not least some cherries on top. DSE had one of the funnest assemblies ever!

WHAT DOES THE FOX SAY: HOW DID YOU PERSEVERE IN JANUARY?

By: Lacey Gjerdevig
Photos by: Ayden Davis



Doing AIMS Web

McKenna- 5th grade



Getting work done before
the deadline

Grayson- 3rd grade



Doing chores

Logan- 1st grade



Being strong when I had to
pull my teeth out

Noah- Kindergarten



During 4 Square

Harper-2nd grade



Doing iReady math and Reading

Liliana- 4th grade

GET TO KNOW A 4TH GRADER

By: Quinn Hackler

So, you want a new friend? Well, here is a person that can fill that spot. Welcome, Cora! I interviewed Cora at Boys and Girls Club on Friday February 7, 2025. We discussed some of her favorite things about school at Desert Sky Elementary.

Quinn: What is one of your favorite activities in 4th grade?

Cora: Art because I like creating stuff!

Quinn: What is your favorite whole school celebration or activity, for example, Field Day?

Cora: The Fox Trot!

Quinn: Why do you like Fox Trot the most?

Cora: Cause we just get to run!

Quinn: What is your favorite school subject and why?

Cora: Probably reading because it helps me calm down.

DONALD TRUMP BIOGRAPHY

By: Nikolas Draskovic

Hello my fellow readers, today I will be talking about the President Donald J. Trump. He was born on June 14th, 1946 in Queens, New York. Donald J. Trump was elected to serve as the 45th President from 2017 to 2021. He is currently serving as the 47th President since January 2025. He is a member of the republican party. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in economics. In 2017 he signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. He is the first President to meet the North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un, the meeting took place in 2019.

Did you know that Trump is 78 and he has a place called Trump towers! Did you know that Trump prefers the red(cherry) and pink starburst(strawberry) flavors!

WHAT IS PRESIDENTS DAY

By: Claire Gill

Presidents' Day is celebrated on the third Monday of February. It is a Federal holiday that was established to honor presidents who have served our country.

It was originally called Washington's Birthday and was established in 1885 to honor George Washington, who was the first president of the United States of America following the American Revolution in 1776. It also was meant to honor Abraham Lincoln.

George Washington's birthday is February 22nd and Abraham Lincoln's birthday is February 12th. George Washington would have been 293 years old on the 22nd of this month. Abraham Lincoln would have been 216 years old on the 12th of this month.

The 1968 Uniform Monday Holiday Act established the third Monday in February as the official date for Presidents' Day.

Some states, including Delaware, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Rhode Island, do not celebrate Presidents' Day.

I'm glad we live in a state that celebrates Presidents' Day so that we can pay the previous presidents the respect that they deserve and also have a three day weekend! 😊

WHAT IS VALENTINE'S DAY

By: Trinity Jones

Valentine's Day is a holiday where we celebrate love. It is named after St. Valentine. Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday because my family gives cards, chocolates, and all sorts of things, but my favorite of all is the love we share together. Valentine's Day is also about love for each other, and the care for each other by being kind and giving hope. The normal colors for Valentine's Day are red and pink.

I hope you enjoyed my topic on Valentine's Day. I'll see you next time.

VALENTINES COMPETITION

By: Tessa Quigley

Valentine's Day was right around the corner, and Mrs. Garcia's 6th grade class was preparing for their annual Valentine's day box decorating competition. Each year students are paired up with another classmate and have two days to decorate the best box.

Molly, a shy 6th grader was asked by Nash to be his partner. Nash was so kind and Molly secretly had the biggest crush on him, so she agreed and they started gathering items.

They were going to make a Valentines arcade box with a claw to pull out the Valentines cards. They worked really hard and had their box done by the end of the first day. The boxes were left in the classroom over night.

The next day Molly showed up to class and their box had been torn apart. As Molly looked around the classroom she noticed another box that had all of the decorations on it that her and Nash had made. Someone had stolen their decorations!

Molly was sad and discouraged, she was not sure what to do. After talking to Nash they both decided they would rebuild their box and make it even better. They were able to rebuild their box in time, and it looked even better than before. They ended up winning the competition and had the best Valentine's Day ever!

SUPERBOWL INTERVIEW

By: McKinley Howard

I got to choose a student to interview. I chose Madison Esplin. Madison is a fourth grader in Mrs. Shea's class. As many know the SuperBowl is coming up so I asked Madison some questions about the SuperBowl

McKinley: Which team do you want to win the SuperBowl

Madison: The Kansas City Chiefs.

McKinley: Why do you want that team to win?

Madison: So they can have a three-peat.

McKinley: What are you doing on the day of the SuperBowl?

Madison: I am going to a friends house to eat dinner and watch the game.

McKinley: do you watch the SuperBowl every year?

Madison: Mostly, yes.



PLEASE, OH, PLEASE TELL THE TRUTH

By: Maya Andebrhan

This is a story of why you should tell the truth and please oh please do, because you don't want to end up like Ana!

Ring, Ring, Ring, Ring, "oh no we're going to be late Rose said, come on Ana!"

"I'm coming, I'm coming," Ana replied.

Rose and Ana are both in kindergarten. Their teacher is Mrs. Ronald. Once Rose and Ana were in their classroom they put their backpack and jackets away and went to sit down and then class started.

Mrs. Ronald started to teach math. "So who can tell me what $5+5$ is?" Ana raised her hand and surprisingly she was the only one with a hand raised. Now this is only a shock because: number 1- Ana never raises her hand and number 2- "our class has been working on $5+5$ so we should know what it is," said Rose.

"Anyone else besides, Ana?" When Mrs. Ronald said that Rose decided to raise her hand, so she did. When Rose raised her hand sure enough she got called on.

The next day Mrs. Ronald asked the class if anyone wanted to bring Mr. Snicker's ladybug home for the weekend. Mrs. Ronald said that Rose could bring him home but Rose said Ana could take him home next week.

Rose and Ana worked together on their math and then it was time for lunch. Everyone had left and Rose, Ana, and Charlotte were about to leave when Ana noticed that Mr. Snickers was not in his cage!! So Ana went over to take a look at Mr. Snickers's cage.

"Hey what are you doing?" asked Charlotte.

"Well," said Ana, "I had just noticed that our pet ladybug isn't in his cage."

"What!!!", said Rose who had been listening to the whole conversation.

"Where is he then?", asked Charlotte.

"Oh wait, false alarm he's right here," said Ana.

"He is so cute," said Charlotte.

"I want to hold him," said Rose.

"I am going to hold him", said Ana.

"You better not. You might get in trouble," said Charlotte.

"No, I won't," said Ana. That's what you think Rose said. So, Ana lifted the top and out fluttered Mr. Snickers!!!

(continued on page 7)

(continued from page 6)

“ Oh no!” Charlotte, Rose, and Ana shrieked. Ana, Rose, and Charlotte didn't dare go after him instead they raced to lunch.

The next day Mrs. Ronald noticed that Mr. Snickers was not in his cage. So Mrs. Ronald pulled aside all of the students and asked them if they had let Mr. Snickers out.

When Mrs. Ronald pulled Ana aside.

Ana said, “no I didn't let Mr. Snickers out of his cage.”

When Ana sat back down Rose asked her why she did not tell the truth and Ana said, “because I didn't want to get in trouble”.

Two days later Ana found out that apparently a boy in her class named Scott was in the classroom when Mr. Snickers flew away! And sure enough Scott told on Ana. Ana and Mrs. Ronald had a long talk. So now do you get why it is important to be honest, asked Mrs. Ronald?

“Yes, it is important because being honest helps you be a better you” said Ana.

HOW TO SHOW HONESTY

By: Madison Esplin

Honesty is are character trait this month. Showing honesty is important to show because if we don't then people will be angry and not be kind to other people. So, here are some ways to show honesty.

1. First to show honesty you have to admit that you did it.

1. Saying when you had your fair share.

1. Saying the truth instead of keeping it away.

1. Returning something that belongs to others.

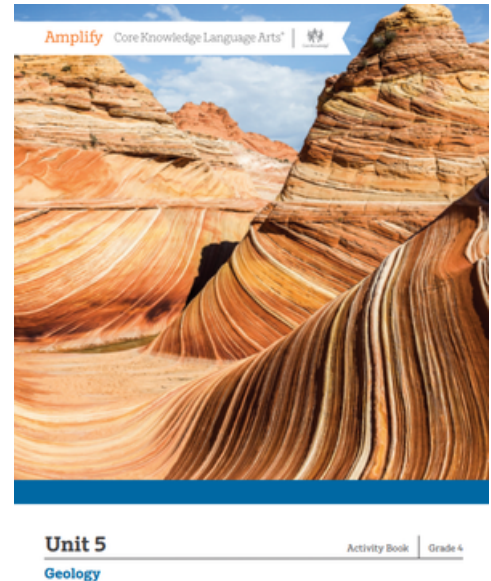
I hope you guys enjoyed how to show honesty.
So go home and show honesty.



MY FAVORITE CKLA UNIT

By: Zoey Barton

Geology is my favorite CKLA lesson because it tells about how the earth was millions of years ago. Years back there was a scientist named Alfred Wegener. Alfred concluded that all the present day continents had been joined together as one huge landmass long ago. This is why the Pangaea theory started a lot of scientist didn't believe him at first but over time they realised that Alfred may have been right. AS you can see this is why Geology is my favorite CKLA lesson.



NATIONAL LOVE YOUR PET DAY

By: Siyona Singh

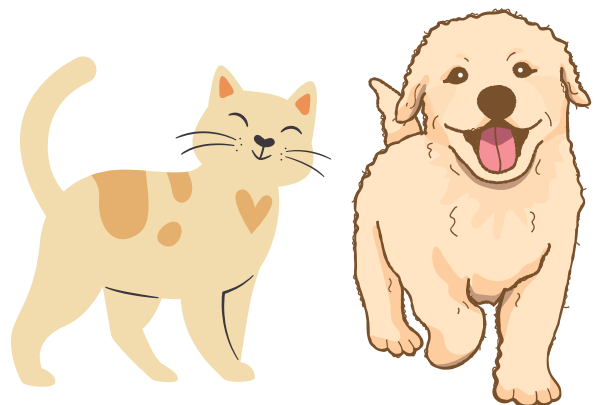
Hi do you have a pet that you love and you think if there's a special day to celebrate them (Well, except their birthday). In case you haven't read the title, it's national love your pet day which is the perfect day to start your pets day and that day is drum roll is February 19 and here is how you can celebrate your pets special day.

- *get them a puppuccino from Starbucks
- *go on a hike maybe in the mountains just make sure your pet is not afraid of heights
- *Give them a spa they make you so happy they need love too
- *Buy them a dog toy

*Get them lots of snacks

*give them cuddles

Well there's a lot more things to do for your dog it just depends on what they like so thats everything i got for your special dog Until next time.



ALL ABOUT SALMON

By: Madelyn Weaver

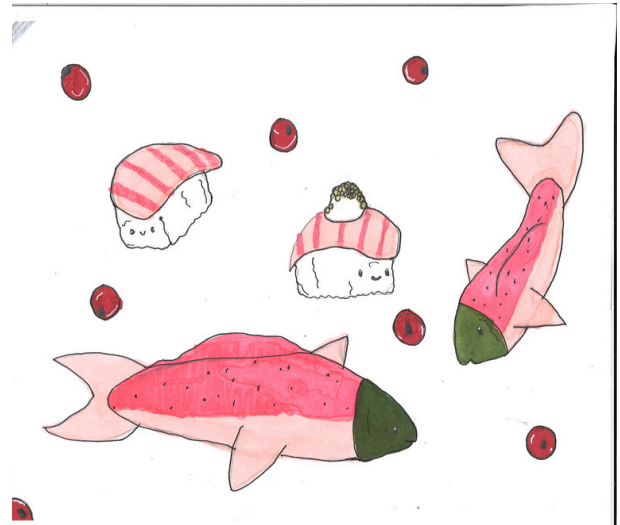
Artwork by: Aubree McAndrews

If you have not seen, the 4th graders are raising salmon. And I'm here to tell you all about them. First the adult female salmon lays the eggs and then the adult will evenly float down the stream and die. We call the eggs redd (not the color). They stay in their eggs for about sixty days. And then around sixty days they hatch.

After they hatch they become alvin but they still have their egg sack because it is giving them all the nutrition to grow up. They stay in this phase for thirty days.

Then they become a fry (not the food). Next they become a smolt. When they become a smolt they are able to breathe in salt water.

Lastly there are adults now they can head to the ocean. You might think "what kind of salmon do we have here in our Columbia River?" We have five different types of salmon. Sockeye, chum, king, silver, pink. Fun fact salmon all have the same life cycle. That is it for these month.



ALL ABOUT FOXES

By: Abigail Gropper

Artwork by: Joslynn Keehr

Foxes are amazing animals. Foxes live in forests, grasslands, deserts, mountains, and Urban Areas. Foxes live on every continent except Antarctica. They eat rabbits, rodents, birds, frogs, earthworms, and carrion. The lifecycle is mating, giving birth, raising young, and dispersing. The stages of the fox lifecycle are kits, young fox, and adult fox. A baby fox can also be called a pup or cub. Types of foxes are Fennec Foxes, Arctic Foxes, Red Foxes, True Foxes, Gray Foxes, and Tibetan Foxes. Did you know that foxes behave more like cats than dogs? Well, they do. Foxes are considered solitary animals. Foxes live in underground dens in the places I listed earlier. Foxes also are great nighttime predators. I hope you had fun learning about foxes! Good-Bye!



TIME TRAVEL

By: Hunter Ehlert

Lightning flashed over Dr. Jeff's laboratory where two best friends and one dog were about to learn the secrets of the past. Let's listen to see what's going on.

"Crash! Bang! Woooooo!"

"Calm down, girl," Jeremy said to Rover, his dog.

"Hey Jeremy, can you pass me a wrench? It's almost done," said Dr. Jeff, Jeremy's machinery genius best friend.

"Yes, I can, but what are we making?" Jeremy asked curiously.

"Don't you remember? We are making a time machine that goes on the back of Rover," Dr. Jeff reminded him.

Jeremy walked over and grabbed the wrench. As he was walking, the wrench slipped out of his hand, bounced off a stool and slipped into a vat of acid. Jeremy knew he had messed up, so he apologized to Dr. Jeff. Without anyone noticing, the drops from the wrench splashing into the vat of acid made the machine whirl on. Suddenly, a huge zap hit Jeremy and Rover. In that quick second, all you could hear was static, then nothing.

Everything was black, but Jeremy could still hear stomping and shaking. Then he felt a wet stroking of slobber. He saw the sky and Rover sitting on him, licking him.

"What happened?" Jeremy said as he looked around. He was no longer in the lab, but in a green forest he didn't recognize.

Then Jeremy saw the time watch on Rover, but one of the most important parts was missing—the tar holder. Jeremy knew what he had to do. He had to find out what time he traveled to and where he could get tar.

"Thump! Thump! Thump! Thump! Smash!"

Right in front of him, a tree was smashed into thousands of sharp pieces that flew everywhere. Jeremy and Rover ran down the hill they were on and into a clearing where they heard a stomping sound. Then a triceratops ran right by them. Beyond the dinosaur, there was a tar pit.

Jeremy made a spoon out of sticks and leaves and scooped the tar out of the pit and into the time machine, but it did not turn on. They waited and watched anxiously, hoping something would happen. The sun began to set.

Suddenly, they heard a distant rumbling sound. The ground began to shake, and Jeremy looked up to see a herd of stegosauruses approaching, he had to think quickly. As the dinosaurs got closer, he remembered Dr. Jeff saying the tar needed to be heated up to activate the time machine. He frantically searched for a way to heat the tar.

Just then, they saw a fiery meteor streaking across the sky. The meteor crashed nearby, causing a small explosion and setting a tree on fire. Jeremy and Rover ran to the tree and found a small piece of rock glowing brightly. He used a stick to move the rock into the tar holder to heat up the tar.

(continued on page 12)

TMF

HONESTY

Story and artwork by: Ethan Kippes



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(continued from page 10)

The tar started to bubble and steam, and the time machine began to glow. The machine hummed to life, and just as the herd of stegosauruses reached them, the time machine zapped Jeremy and Rover back to Dr. Jeff's lab.

"Where did you go?!" Dr. Jeff exclaimed.

"Well, you're not going to believe this..." Jeremy began.

TOWER SHUFFLE: PART 4

By: Theo Eastman

Artwork by: Nora Eastman

Byte then charged at Max, but before it could catch him, Max slid under Byte then jammed the HoloBlade into its back. Byte screeched then threw Max against the wall and started to punch him, and slice him, and cause all manner of pain.

Max was defeated. He couldn't stop Byte now, the only thing he could... Wait!

Max thrust his hand through Byte's screen visor thing, and grabbed a strange glowing thing: The Core. Byte used his last moments to try to finally destroy Max, but he missed and finally powered down. Max had won.

After everything was over Max went and got an apartment in the newly rebuilt city, The Core was placed in a safe secured in the highest level of the tower, and a proper funeral was held for Logan. THE END



LIFE CYCLE OF TREES

By: Anthony Boadas

Artwork by: Emmerson Boyd

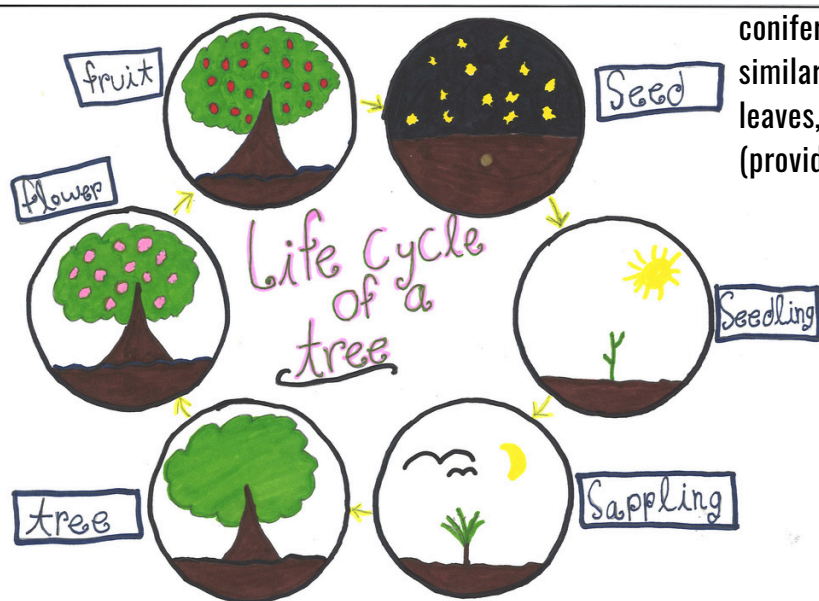
The life cycle of trees begins when a seed falls from a tree. The seeds are like eggs with a miniature tree inside it. The seed cracks open and the miniature tree pops out and reaches its way through the soil. Then, the tree gets bigger and has more leaves. It might look like a tree but it's way smaller. After that, the seed has now turned into a tree, it might have fruits or grow taller than 100 feet. Over time, the tree starts getting older and older, then loses all its leaves and eventually falls over and dies. Now the tree is a dead log and a home to all kinds of bugs, lizards and more.

The longest living tree to lived close to five million years old. It's the great Basin Bristlecone pine. They were found on White Mountain in Eastern California, but its exact location is a secret. Most trees live to be a few decades or even a thousand years old. It depends on what type of tree it is.

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The difference between most trees are their leaf shape, growth habits, and if they're deciduous (dih-sij-oo-uhs) or coniferous (koh-nif-er-uhs). If a tree is deciduous it loses its leaves in the fall and if it is coniferous it stays green all year long. The similarities of trees are their structure (roots, leaves, branches) and their role in the environment (providing oxygen and water vapor into the air).



FOX TALES: KNIGHT TALE

By: Abby Gallaher

Artwork by: Raya Pope

Felix followed what the students were doing. He wanted to know everything they were up to. When he heard about the fifth graders learning about knights in ELA he just had to know more. He decided to become a knight himself, however he didn't know how. He asked Owl about it.

"If you want to be a knight you first need to learn to talk like a knight, they used to talk differently."

"Me thinks I can do that thou jolly fellow." Quoth good Felix.

"Carlos I require your help, blacksmithery is not possible without a forge, I see no in the area." Quoth Felix.

"But my good sir, have you considered 3D printery? The children have some." Quoth Carlos.

"Thou are correct, I thank you for your advice." Quoth Felix.

So after the kids agreed a helmet and sword were printed.

Felix practiced with the sword after school by holding it in his mouth. And yet he hungered for more. "A jousting tournament, a shooting of the yew bow, perhaps a duel?" Pondered Felix.

Therefore Felix made a shooting match everybody showed up. Of the competitors were Felix, Carlos, Owl, Ralph the racoon, Pete the parakeet, Mont the mongoose, Gwen the iguana. The crowd colousel.

"Ahem! Shooting will commence soon and the winner shall get four score chicken nuggets." (80) Boomed Felix. "Shoot your suction cup arrows thrice first round three will be eliminated, second two, last the final two will compete. After the first two rounds it was Felix and Owl Felix only made it since carlos shot and missed. No! He missed! Olw won.

"How did you do it?" Felix asked.

"Ha Ha for I am Owlhood!" he shouted.

The

End



SUPER BANANA SAVES THE PRESIDENT

Story and artwork by: Adonis Draskovic



PRESIDENTS DAY INTERVIEW

By: Ledger Vance Paulus

Today I am going to share an interview with you about Presidents day with Mrs.Bay. I asked questions about Presidents day. Let's get started

Ledger: What is your favorite president?

Mrs. Bay: I don't know much about Presidents day...but I'll say Abraham Lincoln.

Ledger: Why do you like this President?

Mrs. Bay: He abolished slavery.

Ledger: What do you do for Presidents day?

Mrs. Bay: I do a vacation because my birthday is a couple days before Presidents day.

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