

THE MONTHLY FOX

March 2025

DESERT SKY ELEMENTARY

Vol 2 Issue 6



What's In This Month's Issue:

- All about Saint Patrick's Day
- Interviews with students & teachers
- Reviews
- All about Spring
- Stories, comic strips, and more!

WHY DO WE HAVE READ ACROSS AMERICA?

By: Trinity Jones
Photos by: Keaton Johnson

Why do we have read across america? Well I think that Read Across America is celebrated because it helps to improve literacy rates in the country. At my school all the classrooms come out and sit in the halls and read.

Many kids read books made by Dr.Seuss. These books are known for their fun and imaginative stories that often include themes of diversity and cultural awareness.

When I have Read Across America I like to read The One and Only Bob. Read Across America was so fun! I can't wait for next year.

READ ACROSS AMERICA INTERVIEW

By: McKinley Howard

I got to choose a student to interview for Read Across America Day. The student I chose is Raya Pope. Raya is a fourth grader in Mrs. Shea's class. I asked Raya some questions about the book she read for Read Across America Day.

McKinley: What book did you read for Read Across America Day?

Raya: Spirit Animals.

McKinley: Have you read that book before?

Raya: Yes.

McKinley: What do you like about that book?

Raya: The character traits.

McKinley: Did you enjoy Read Across America Day?

Raya: Yes.

MY FAVORITE BOOK

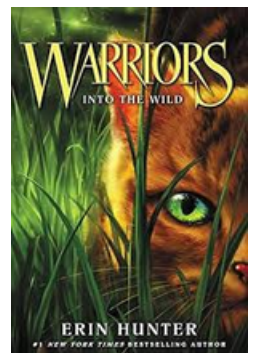
By: Zoey Barton

My favorite book is by Erin Hunter and the series is called Warriors. This book series is about cats. There are four clans: thunderclan, riverclan, shadowclan, and windclan.

The first book set is about fireheart. Fireheart is a noble warrior of thunderclan, but there have been minor bumps in his journey but he is still not going to let his clan fall apart. Fireheart is a ginger cat. Tigerclaw is a big dark brown cat with unusually long front claws. Bluestar leader of thunderclan has did something that only fireheart knows, even know tigerclaw looks like a nice guy he is NOT. he has done some things that will shock you!

Anyhow, if you want to find out more about the warrior series go to the library in the novels and in the H's section at the library.

Anyway my favorite book of the Warrior cat series is the... well i have not finished the first series yet but so far i think it's going to be the third one;) As you can see this is why Warrior cats is my favorite book and book series.



WHAT DOES THE FOX SAY: HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY?

By: Lacey Gjerdevig
Photos by: Mats Mirick



Go to the mall

Maxine- 5th grade (March 26)



Have a slumber party

Kamryn- 3rd grade (March 13)



Go skating

Lincoln- 1st grade (March 2)



Go to Quake

Isabella- Kindergarten (March 12)



Have a party at home

Sadie-2nd grade (March 26)



Go bowling and then have a sleepover

Taylor- 4th grade (March 30)

INTERVIEW WITH MS. CLEVELAND

By: Ledger Vance Paulus

Today I will show you an interview with Mrs.Cleveland the 5th grade teacher.
I interviewed her for her March birthday.

Ledger: Have any of your wishes that you made came true?

Mrs Cleveland: Not yet.

Ledger: What is your favorite cake?

Mrs.Cleveland: Carrot cake!

Ledger: When is your birthday?

Mrs.Cleveland: March 10th

Ledger: How do you celebrate your birthday?

Mrs.Cleveland: I go and play trivia with my friends.

HOW TO CATCH A LEPRECHAUN

By: Cam Humphrey

Artwork by: Emmerson Boyd

St. Patrick's day is almost here. It is a day about the Leprechauns. It is on Monday, March 17, 2025. Some people make traps to catch the Leprechaun each year as they deliver gold coins and cause mischief.

If you want to catch a Leprechaun you should make a trap. To make a trap, you need glitter, glue, a box, and a hot glue machine. You need the glitter to attract the leprechaun. The leprechaun is attracted to the glitter because it is shiny like the coins he leaves at your house.

Leprechauns originated from Irish folklore. They are known for their intelligence, and their love for mischief. While they may look cheerful, legends warn against trusting them.



HISTORY OF SAINT PATRICKS DAY

By: Nikolas Draskovic

Hello fellow readers, today I will be talking about the history of Saint Patrick's Day. First things first, is that Saint Patrick's Day is on March 17th, 2025. Saint Patrick's Day is packed with parades, luck charms and the color green. Saint Patrick's Day is a religious and cultural holiday honoring Saint Patrick. Saint Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. Saint Patrick was believed to die on March, 17th 461 BCE.

People celebrate Saint Patrick's day by attending festivals, wearing green and listening to music. People celebrate Saint Patrick's Day to commemorate the life of Saint Patrick, and to celebrate Irish culture. Saint Patrick's Day's spiritual meaning is that it is rooted in the christian faith and the spread of christianity. In Boston there's a big parade people attended because it is known for its vibrant green colors and celebrations.

ALL ABOUT SPRING

By: Abigail Gropper

Artwork by: Aubree McAndrews

Spring is a great season! This year Spring starts on March 20th. It lasts about 93 days. Popular flowers that grow in spring are Daffodils, Tulips, Crocus, and Snowdrops. Did you know many animals have babies in the Spring?

Also, the Vernal Equinox happens in the Spring. Vernal Equinox happens when the Sun is exactly above the equator and day and night are the same length of time. Sakura also happens in the Spring. Sakura is when cherry blossom trees bloom in Japan, and everyone goes to see it!

Top five interesting facts about Spring:

1. Spring is very different world-wide
2. Lots of flowers are in bloom in the Spring
3. More babies are born in Spring
4. You get a bit more daylight in Spring than in Winter
5. Some plants bloom flowers only in the Spring
6. It gets warmer in the Spring because the earth is tilting towards the sun more

Do you have a favorite thing about Spring? Hope you liked my article, see you next time! Goodbye!



ANNA'S PICKS: SPRING ACTIVITIES

By: Anna Burt

These are my 3 favorite spring activities:

1. go on walks
2. go on the trampoline
3. listen to the birds

Why I like to go on walks is because it is warm enough to go on walks. Why I like to go on the trampoline is because during the summer you have a lot of energy. Why I like to listen to birds is because it gets me ready for the day.

FOX TALES: SAINT PATRICKS DAY

By: Abby Gallaher

Artwork by: Raya Pope

Close to St Patrick's Felix wanted to plan a surprise with his friends for the kids but didn't know what to do. So he asked his friends for help.

"What should we do?" Asked Felix at a meeting with his friends.

"Something silly. Kids like silly things." Said Carlos.

"We could dance and dress up with like a hat." Suggested Icicle.

"And carry around a pot of gold coins except it is a plastic pot not metal with chocolate coins." said Owl.

"Well then, lets get to it." said Felix.

They couldn't find a full sized pot, but they found two buckets that looked like pots at Party City and a bunch of gold coins. Next they went to Target and found the right sized hats. They were able to borrow a small speaker to play their music, now they just needed to practice their dance. They were ready just in time. They all wore leprechaun hats and went around to the classrooms. Owl carried one of the buckets, Carlos carried the other one, Icicle passed around the coins, while Felix danced.

So at the end of the day snuggled up in the library Felix the fox, Icicle the arctic fox, Carlos the coyote, and Owen the the arctic owl a.k.a Owl, fell asleep together.

The
End



FEBRUARY ASSEMBLY

By: Francisco Arellano
Photos by: Ayden Davis

The February assembly happened on February 28 in the gym/cafeteria. The assembly happened to give the honesty awards and for Student Council to talk about Lucky Grams.

The people that talked were student council and Mrs. Larsen. What happened was people got their honesty awards and Student Council talked about Lucky Grams.



NATIONAL PARKS

By: Claire Gill

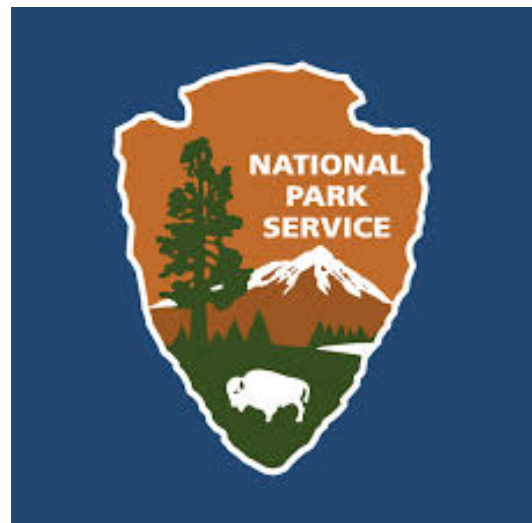
Have you ever wondered what a National Park is? A National Park is a place set aside by the government to help preserve the natural habitat in that area. National Parks serve as destinations for recreation. They often have opportunities for hiking camping, wildlife viewing, and other outdoor activities. They also play a role in learning and research and providing good opportunities to learn conservation.

At a lot of National Parks, they have activities in a book pamphlet that help you learn about the National Park and once you do a certain amount of pages in the book, you get a ranger badge saying you are a junior ranger of the specific national park.

The National Parks we have here in Washington state are the North Cascades National Park, Olympic National Park, and Mount Rainier National Park.

A fun fact about National Parks-three of the 10 highest waterfalls in the world are located in Yosemite National Park in California.

I hope you like my article about the National Parks!



5TH GRADE CKLA REVIEW

By: Theo Eastman

CKLA is the curriculum that our school uses with multiple units, but which ones are the best, and the worst. Today I'll be ranking the fifth grade CKLA (So far) units from worst to best.

#5 The Renaissance

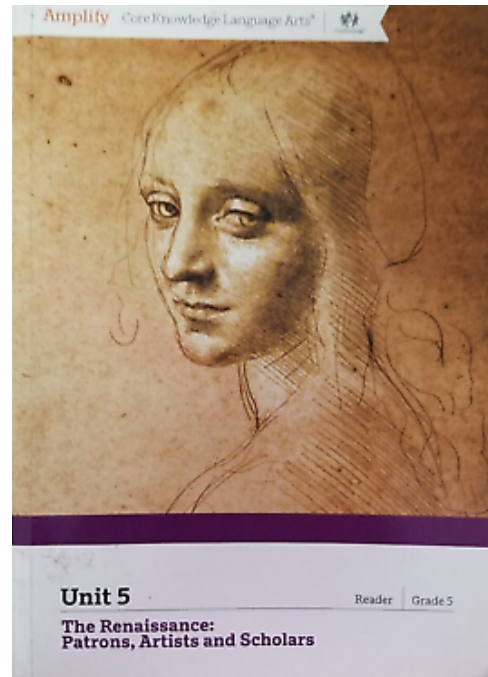
The Renaissance unit is all about the cultural event in history known as the Renaissance. The Renaissance is a movement in history when ideas were reborn and people made art, architecture and literature inspired by the art, architecture and literature of the ancient Greeks and Romans. Honestly my review: It was just boring. It was probably one of the most boring units.

#4 Personal Narratives

The Personal Narrative unit was a unit where we read personal narratives of some people that actually happened then we wrote our own based off of things that us fifth graders have lived through.

The couple of things that make a personal narrative a personal narrative are, it has to be real no fiction, it has to be told in first person (i.e. I, Me), it has to have happened to the author.

My opinion is that it's okay. I like it. The only reason this gets a better rank than the Renaissance is because it's narrative writing and not having us make a biography about one of the people in the book



#3 Ancient civilizations: Maya, Inca and Aztec

This one's cool. My main reason is because of the myths, but first let's talk about what this unit actually is. This unit is about the different ancient civilizations who are, The Maya, The Inca and The Aztec. They were ancient civilizations that thrived before either, being brutally murdered, conquered or just leaving.

My main (And only) reason for having this be number 3 is because of the myths they had of just how the world works. For the Maya 2 gods work to create the perfect people first out of clay then out of wood and finally out of corn. For the Inca myths they say that one god first created men out of some rocks but they were just stupid, so he destroyed reality pretty much. He tried again and created smaller rock men, and painted them so they wouldn't just be blank rocks.

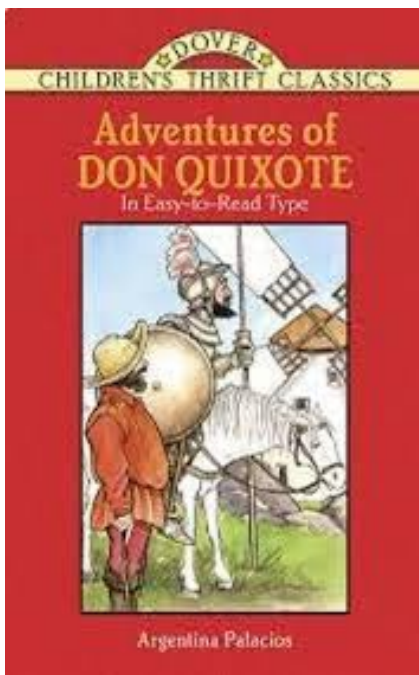
(continued from page 8)

He created different cultures and everything then left. For the Aztec it was just a bunch of jumbled worlds all of them were eventually destroyed and the inhabitants fled to what is known as earth and they became the animals of earth. Those magical weird creation myths were just what people believed to be real but they're honestly pretty cool the art of the clay men was probably my favorite.

#2 The Adventures of Don Quixote

This is a great unit, but also just an infuriating one too. It is about this 50 YEAR OLD MAN wanting to be a knight and literally going crazy.

Honestly it was pretty funny. Also, somehow Don Quixote had some wins (More like barely) but it also is just pure insanity too. I mean he got himself a word in the English dictionary: Quixotic. Which just means idealistic (looking on the bright side thinking things are going to be fine) to the point of being delusional (Being so crazy that your reality doesn't align with actual reality) One last thing this good because it's narrative and narrative writing is cool



#1 Poetry

This is the best unit in CKLA. Why? Well to answer that question we need to talk about The Rules of Poetry. The rules of poetry are simple, and non limiting.

Here are the rules of poetry. The blocks of text in poetry are called stanzas, and the equivalent of sentences are called lines and instead of ending like sentences, lines end just when the poet thinks it should end. Same with capitalization and punctuation. They appear when the poet thinks they should appear.

Another part of poetry is the rhyme scheme. The rhyme scheme is how the rhyming works so for one stanza (or possibly whole poem) you could have an ABAB rhyme scheme where the first line goes and then the second and the third, but the third rhymes with the first and then there's the fourth and the fourth rhymes with the second so the first rhyming words are A second are B, and so on. And the rhyme scheme can be changed however the poet wants throughout the poem.

Poetry is just super fun and you get to write about whatever you want and you don't have to worry about grammar and punctuation being in the right space because it can be wherever you want it to be. Wherever a word is to be important or for people to pause and think about the poem it's honestly amazing. One last thing about the poems is that they usually follow a rhythmic pattern so they can be converted to song and just are fun to say.

In conclusion CKLA is good, but not good at the same time. Some are just boring like the Personal Narrative and the Renaissance, some are good like the Ancient civilizations, and The Adventures of Don Quixote, but all in all Ckla has some good units and some bad ones too.

BELLE AND THE LEPRECHAUN

By: Maya Andebrhan

Artwork by: Joslynn Keehr

Hi, I'm Bella and I love the month of March. I live in Florida, the school I go to is Red Mountain Elementary. I love setting up traps to try and catch a Leprechaun even though I have never caught one. I always set up traps with my best friend, Shelly. This year Shelly took a vacation to Hawaii to visit her grandmother, she will not be back until April, so this year I'm on my own. It's March 10th. I have 7 days to make a trap, well got to go, I have school.

"Hi Bella," said a voice from behind me. I turned around to see who it was, and to my surprise it was my best friend Shelly!

"Shelly?" I said in amazement, "what are you doing here?"

"My grandma got sick and my mom and dad didn't want to get sick and didn't want me sick so we came home."



"That's great I, I mean that's sad about your grandma but now that you're home you can help me with my trap, do you want to?"

"Of course, I'd love to," says Shelly.

"Great," I said.

After school Shelly came over to my house and we got to work on a trap, it took us about 30 minutes and then the trap was done.

We decided to test the trap out just to make sure it works and doesn't flop during the night, so we tested the trap out on my cat, Donut. But, sadly the trap broke into tiny pieces. So we had to make lots of different traps until the 27th trap did not break into tiny pieces.

Finally it was March 17 (that's St. Patrick's day). After school Shelly went over to my house and we got the trap ready. Then Shelly went back to her house but told me to tell her what happened with the trap.

That night I tried to stay up to see the Leprechaun but at 9 o' clock my eyes began to droop and then I fell fast asleep.

Then around 1:00 in the morning, I heard a noise coming from the corner where the trap is!!! So I got out of bed, and to my surprise there was a Leprechaun in the trap!!! I went over to the trap and was about to take a picture, but then thought that Leprechauns were supposed to be secret. If I post this, Leprechauns would be, well not secret any more.

So I decided to let the Leprechaun go. I never caught any more Leprechauns. But one day when I was 26 (when I had stopped believing) a Leprechaun came to me!

MARCH MADNESS

by: Blake Maxfield

68 college basketball teams face off in a tournament every March.

How do teams get into March Madness

- 32 teams receive automatic bids by winning their conference tournaments
- 36 teams receive at-large bids based on their season performance

Why is March Madness called March Madness? The term "March Madness" for the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament is attributed to Henry V. Porter, an Illinois High School Association official, who first used it in 1939 to describe the excitement of the annual high school tournament.

The March madness schedule

- First round: March 20-21
- Second round: March 22-23
- Sweet 16: March 27-28
- Elite Eight: March 29-30
- Final Four: April 5 at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas
- NCAA championship game: April 7 at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas



WHAT IS COOPERATION

by: Brailyn Elzie

What is cooperation? Working together to accomplish the same goal.

Why is cooperation important? It's important because it helps you get stuff done faster, it takes longer to do it by yourself.

Suggestions for ways to cooperate:

- Sharing work utensils with other people on your team
- Working on projects as a group
- When the teacher is giving a lesson, you must cooperate and listen to the directions



ALL ABOUT CORGIS

By: Madelyn Weaver

Corgi are a type of dog. They can be red, white, tan, and black. They are very soft and cuddly. They are longer than taller like a wiener dog. They are actually known for their large ears and small legs.

Some corgis are actually herd dogs [dogs that put farm animals in their gate if they escaped]. The word corgis actually means dwarf dog. Dwarf has lots of meanings. They can live up to twelve to fourteen years. They are one of the top ten of the smartest dogs. That is it for this month.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

By: Anthony Boadas

Chinese New Year happens in late January or early February. This year, it began on January 29th, 2025 and ended on February 12th, 2025. Chinese New Year goes on for 16 days.

There are 12 Zodiac animals that represent the year you were born and represents what your personality is like. I was born 2016 guess what animal I am. Any way he are the Zodiac animals for the most recent years :

- Rat 2020
- Ox 2021
- Tiger 2022
- Rabbit 2023
- Dragon 2024
- Snake 2025
- Horse 2014
- Sheep 2015
- Monkey 2016
- Chicken 2017
- Dog 2018
- Pig 2019

When you celebrate Chinese New Year, you decorate your home in red to have good luck. Give a red envelope with money to children for a blessing. You can give friends and family wishes for the new Year. These wishes are a way to express happiness, prosperity, and good fortune. You can watch traditional dragon and lion dances to scare off bad luck. Eating dumplings will give you wealth in the New Year.



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SUPER BANANA AND LEPRECHAUN

Story and artwork by: Adonis Draskovic



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TIME TRAVEL: GREAT GREECE

By: Hunter Ehlert

It had been hours since Jeremy had arrived back from their time travel back to the cretaceous era with his dog Rover. Dr Jeff and Jeremy talked for hours until they both agreed that they were going to use their new time machine power for good and they were going to go and collect artifacts that were lost to time. They decided their first stop was going to ancient Greece to find the golden mirror. Jeremy then fell asleep.

“Jeremy, wake up!!” a voice said.

“Huh... whaa...why?” Jeremy asked, confused.

“Because you’re going to Greece to get the golden mirror in 20 minutes” Dr. Jeff explained.

“Oh!” Jeremy jumped up and ran to the cupboard and made himself a bowl of Plucky Charms and then he and Dr. Jeff put the time travel watch on Rover. Suddenly, everything went black and there was no sound and then there were the sounds of people walking, people talking and people chopping wood. Jeremy spotted someone dressed formally and then he walked over and said, “Excuse me, do you know where I can find the golden mirror?”

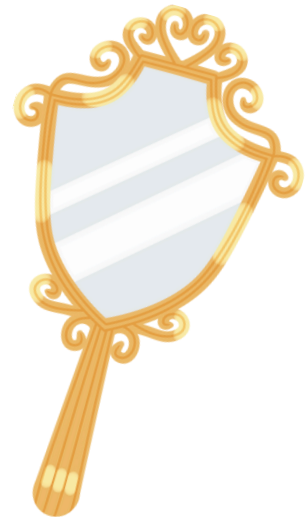
“Oh, you will not be able to find that until King Perseus gets back. He keeps hold of it to ensure its safety, but he has not come back from his journey to the Foloi Oak Forest.” said one of the merchants in the square.

“Oh no! That is bad, we need to find him.” Jeremy turned to his dog, “Rover we need to go to the Foloi Oak Forest.” Jeremy said. They grabbed their map and ran to the forest. As they entered the forest, they saw a pack of wolves chasing the King. Rover ran in and scared away the wolves just as the wolves were getting closer and closer to the King.

The king walked over to Rover, “Thank you for saving me” exclaimed the King. “As a token of my thanks please take this mirror.” he gave Jeremy the golden mirror.

“Wow thank you your highness, I hate to come and go so quickly, but we have to get back before the energy on the time machine runs out.” Jeremy said. Jeremy tucked the mirror into his coat, grabbed Rover and started the time machine. They arrived home just in the nick of time, with seconds to spare before the energy ran out.

Jeremy walked over to Dr. Jeff, who was waiting for them in the lab and pulled out the mirror. “Where to next?” Jeremy asked....



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CRAZY HAIR DAY PICS



GET TO KNOW A 4TH GRADER

By: Quinn Hackler

I interviewed Colton from Mrs. Smith's 4th grade class. We talked about spring activities.

Quinn: what do you do on spring break or what was your favorite thing you have done?

Colton: what I have done for spring break is, going to church camp and catching crawdads

Quinn: what is your favorite activities or spring related?

Colton: fishing because the bass get active.

Quinn 🤔 what is a fun fact about your favorite activity?

Colton: fishing in spring because the bass get active.

Quinn: what is a fun fact about your favorite activity?

Colton: i've caught a 35in and 15 pound steelhead

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