

ZOOPERIOR NEWS

March 2011

Superior, Colorado

Volume 1, Issue 3

Superior Stats

Our students read
200,674
minutes during
Read-A-Thon!

That's more than....

- 3,344 Hours
- 139 Days
- 19 Weeks

**Our students
raised over
\$7,000**

*The third grade
classes read more than
430 hours!*

Third Grade Art Stars:

1. Avery Conaghan
2. Josie Fox
3. Maddy Bridge

Third Grade Writing Stars:

1. Etyan Markman-Oz
2. Maddy Bridge
3. Katy Sun

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My Fabulous Dog Belle ♦ By Etyan Markman-Raffeld

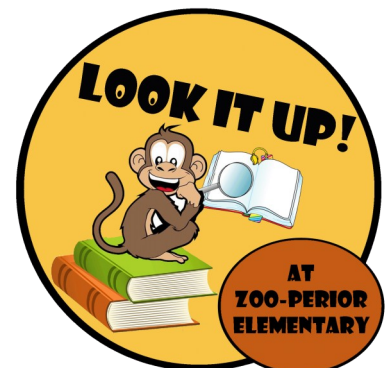
One day, way before I was born, and while my parents still lived in Israel; my dad saw a black, Belgian Shepherd dog roaming around the streets with no owner, no collar, and no tag. Worrying about the lonely dog, my dad decided to bring him home. When my mom saw the beautiful dog, she immediately got excited; it was love at first sight. However, a few days later, as my parents were walking their new companion down the street, a person stopped them and said "Hey, that's my dog!" When they saw that the dog recognized the stranger, my parents knew they had to return the dog to its rightful owner. After that day, my mom turned really sad because she missed her new friend. Seeing that my mom's sadness was not going away, my dad had a great idea! He took my mom to a dog breeder who was raising seven black and fluffy Belgian Shepherd puppies. Soon, my mom spotted one precious, playful, and happy puppy that she really wanted to keep. The dog breeder agreed to sell that puppy to my parents, who then took that puppy home. They named her Belle.

Two years later, my parents decided to move to America. For the flight to the United States, Belle had to be kept in a kennel. Of course, Belle didn't know and didn't understand why she had to be put in a kennel. She was really scared, but she was amazing and didn't even pee once during that 18 hour trip.

When my parents finally got to Colorado, Belle discovered a whole new life. Israel's warm weather and sanded beaches were replaced by snow storms and spiky mountains. One night, there was a big snow storm. The next day, Belle wanted to rush outside for her usual morning walk, but she stopped right at the door's threshold when she saw this unfamiliar and suspicious white carpet. It was clear that she didn't know what that was all about. My dad stepped outside first and said "Come out, Belle; it is safe!" When Belle put her paws into the snow, she went crazy with excitement, and instantly dipped her head into the snow too. She ran to the park in that position, creating a funny trail behind her.

The challenge for Belle was to learn to stay indoors alone whenever my parents went somewhere by themselves. Belle was very unhappy then, and would rip every single toilet paper roll she could find into a thousand shreds. My mom and dad would come back to a house covered with white toilet paper everywhere! That was Belle's way of bringing snow into the house, I guess.

Belle grew to be a loving, caring, and loyal dog and brought a lot of happiness to our family. Sadly, she is no longer with us today. Belle passed away a few years ago and is buried in our backyard. But I keep her close to my heart, and cherish every opportunity I have to tell special stories about her.



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Tigey The Friendly Tiger ♦ By Maddy Bridge



Tigey is a very brave tiger. He climbs trees, he races, and he is cuddled by his beloved human friend, Maddy. Maddy likes racing Tigey, Tigey mostly wins, but Maddy can sprint. This is the story of how they became friends.

It all started one day in the meadows of the Rocky Mountains, where Tigey was hunting around, looking for food. He smelt something very strange, and knew it wasn't something to eat. It smelt like a mammal! A few minutes later, Tigey found a girl, he found a girl picking flowers in the meadow. The brave tiger crept up on the girl and purred. "AAAAAAHHHHH!!!!!" screamed the terrified girl, running away with fear. "I just wanted to be your friend," Tigey croaked, running after her. Then the girl came to a sudden stop. "Well instead of coming up to me and purring, you could have just told me that you wanted to be my friend!" she exclaimed. Tigey thought for a moment *I could have just yelled from there that I wanted to be her friend.* Tigey apologized for scaring her, but before he left he asked what her name was. "My name is Maddy, what's yours?" "Well I'm the bravest tiger in this meadow, and my name is Tigey," he told Maddy. They both broke into a big conversation, introducing themselves, then they started a new subject: it was to meet up in the meadow every day.

So, they continued to meet up in the meadow and started having lots of fun. A few days later, Tigey was captured by the zoo keepers of Denver Zoo, and that day Maddy went to the meadow, but there was no sign of Tigey. Where could he be?

The next day, Maddy's parents Natalie and Paul, suggested that they go to the Denver Zoo to cheer her up. They went to look at the tigers first, because Maddy wanted to check that Tigey may have been captured by the zoo keepers. And sure enough, there he was sitting there by himself looking really sad. Then he noticed Maddy staring at him. She pressed her nose against the window, and Tigey jumped up on the window

ledge: "Rescue me!" he shouted desperately to her. Maddy shouted to her parents "I need to rescue Tigey. He is my best friend whom I meet in the meadow every day!" Then they took aside one of the zoo keepers and asked him if they could have their daughter's best friend set free. The zoo keeper gasped, and asked them why they would want a tiger set free! "We just want our daughter to have her best friend back – he was happy in the Rocky Mountain meadow. He's not happy in the zoo!" they answered him. So, the zoo keeper sent a warning to the entire zoo to cover themselves up because a tiger was going to be set free, but that this was no ordinary tiger, it was a friendly Rocky Mountain tiger. He got his shiny key and opened the door to the tiger cage. Tigey ran out as fast as he could and licked Maddy all around the face! He truly was Maddy's big buddy. Then they got into a big truck which carried Maddy, her parents and the tiger right back to his meadow in the Rocky Mountains. Now as you can see, Maddy truly does have the best friend in the whole entire meadow. She keeps a stuffed version of him in bed with her at night, but you can sometimes see the real Tigey living happily in the Rocky Mountain meadow. Aren't we glad that he is free again at last! THE END

Kindergarten Art Stars:

1. Shawn Chin
2. Yasmin Felfli
3. Rushil Ghirmire

Kindergarten Writing Stars:

1. Pushupman Brar
2. Prerana Vishwanath
3. Yasmin Felfli

First Grade Art Stars:

1. Kristen Sheng
2. Annika Holecek
3. Luke Tobin

First Grade Writing Stars:

1. Deepa Sunkad
2. Divya Sunkad
3. McKenna Selby

Second Grade Art Stars:

1. Siddharth Bharthulwar
2. Chloe Smith
3. Maddie Fox

Second Grade Writing Stars:

1. Ferial Felfli
2. Blythe Sales
3. Jamie Zhang

Fourth Grade Art Stars:

1. Tie: Wyatt Sales and
Maya Vought
2. Youngbin Yoo
3. Henry Rock

Fourth Grade Writing Stars:

1. Max Shen (Mr. Currie)
 2. Maya Teaford (Mr. Currie)
 3. Laura Ruby (Mr. Currie)
-
1. Jacob McGann (Ms. Belasco)
 2. Ian Greene (Ms. Belasco)
 3. Bridget Duncan (Ms. Belasco)
-
1. Oz MarkmanRaffeld (Ms. Mallet)
 2. David Wait (Ms. Mallet)
-
1. Karen Zhang (Ms. Sanders)
 2. Austin Armstrong (Ms. Sanders)
 3. Tie: Nyree Christianian and
Peyton Cullaton (Ms. Sanders)
-
1. Wyatt Sales (Ms. Shelby)
 2. Youngbin Yoon (Ms. Shelby)
 3. Kyle Sylvester (Ms. Shelby)

Fifth Grade Art Stars:

1. Tie: Rachel Fu and
Sahba Setareh
1. Emily Gallegos
2. Makayla Jacobsen

Fifth Grade Writing Stars:

1. Rachel Fu
2. Reilly Ernst
3. Emily Smith

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A Nutty Case

◆ By Katy Sun



As a breeze blew by, the birds were chirping, the flowers doing their spring dance among the softly brushing crispy grass. The trees' leaves dappled and blew with the wind. Murmurs of the nearby waterfall matched the rhythm of the darting fish. Nutina was a young squirrel. She had eyes that shined the sun above her, and her tail was as bushy and blowy as the trees. Nutina loved to pick flowers with her best friend Karrot. Karrot, a skinny rabbit, was also rather small. Karrot always wore her lucky pink bonnet. She loved to bounce her fur up and down and up and down. That day, while Nutina and Karrot were heading for the meadows, as usual to pick flowers, Nutina noticed the flowers were especially pretty. There were royal red roses, and blue morning glories. There were shiny yellow sunflowers and dainty pink tulips. Karrot said, "Wow! Aren't you excited to pick the flowers?" "Yeah. Hey, do you want to have a contest to see who can get the prettiest flowers?" exclaimed Nutina. "Of course!" Karrot smiled, skipping up and down making her bonnet jiggle. Soon after, when they arrived at the meadows, Nutina had a big grin on her face and murmured, "Hee, hee, hee. Karrot will never beat me. I'm naturally better!" But then Nutina glanced over at Karrot by the stream and noticed she all ready had a basket full of flowers. "Hey," Nutina thought, "that's not fair..." While Karrot was still busy picking flowers, Nutina when over and gave her a good shove, knocking all her flowers into the stream. "Hey!" shouted Karrot. "Sorry," teased Nutina sarcastically. Nutina quickly scurried away and hurried to pick as many flowers as she could. Just then, Nutina stumbled upon the most beautiful petunia she had ever laid her eyes on. "This is definitely the prize winner," she thought. The bright orange petunia put Nutina in a trance. She gazed and gazed at its perfect shape and color. Its petals were so bright that it could have sparkled and glowed. But then a furry white paw began to wrap around the stem. "Strange... why is that rabbit paw there?" Nutina snapped out of her trance. Suddenly, just when Nutina was about to pick it, the furry rabbit paw got it. "Wow! This is such a pretty flower," exclaimed Karrot. Anger exploded out of Nutina. "KARROT why did you take my prize

winner?" yelled Nutina. "What are you talking about? I just picked this flower. And besides, you have ten flowers and I have none," Karrot pointed out. "Karrot, you know what I'm talking about." "No, why are you being so mean today?" "Humph. I don't need you anymore. So why don't you just give me the flower, you big at jerk!!" growled Nutina. "Well if that's how you want it then fine!!" Karrot cried and cried and dropped the flower then ran home. As she picked up the flower, Nutina thought, "Humph. I'm right. I don't need her, I'm fine." All of a sudden, a storm broke out and it started to rain. Nutina sprinted towards her home, but soon she tripped on a rock and started crying. "This is the worst day ever," thought Nutina. Just then, a pink bonnet popped out. "Karrot? It is Karrot!" cheered Nutina. Karrot was carrying her big red flower umbrella. Karrot quickly sheltered Nutina. Then, Nutina picked up the shiny petunia and handed it to Karrot and said, "Here." Karrot smiled and Nutina handed it to Karrot. Nutina apologized, "I'm sorry Karrot, "I didn't mean what I said." "It's okay, I forgive you," replied Karrot. As the two friends walked home, the storm settled. The birds started to chirp. The trees were still bushy, and their leaves still danced when the breeze blew. The waterfall's sound could be heard again with the rain gone. And the best friends remained best friend. They learned how much their friendship meant to them.

Lucie The Turtle's Great Adventure ♦ **By Rachel Krams**

Erin glanced around the pet shop looking for a pet. Her mother Mrs. Burke, approached her looking as though she smelled the terrible smell of pasta her father made each Monday. Trailing off behind her was her twin brother, Ari. "Do you really want a pet?" she said to Ari and Erin. "Yes!" they half yelled in unison "Oh alright fine!" Mrs. Burke said. "Can I get a frog?" Ari asked pleading. "We who would want a boring old thing like that! I'm wise and am choosing not to get an old lump that just sits there! BORING!" Erin said to her brother. "Hey! Frogs are not lumps and they are not so boring! But mom can I get a frog?" said Ari. A short while later, back at home, Erin's new pet turtle had a new home. It has a bowl to live in, it had a rock to lay on, it had a cave to sleep in, it had bright colored rocks at the bottom, it had plastic plants for decoration, it had tunnels to swim through. All it needed was a name. Then it came to Erin, Lucie. That night Lucie was moving non-stop. It sounded like she was digging a hole right through the rock hard wood. Erin was hoping Lucie was happy, but when morning came, she had a feeling something bad would happen. As Erin woke up she got dressed and packed her bag for Kansas. As she did she noticed Lucie was gone! Erin scanned the house looking. Two hours later Erin was in the car on the way to the airport. The airport was a glass building with open floor boards everywhere! Erin tripped in a couple and when it came to a clear one Erin fell right through! Erin felt herself fall about to hit the floor when something pulled her up but she continued to fall in a cloudy purple mist. The thing that pulled her up stood in the corner. Lucie. Erin glances at Lucie her mouth wide open. Lucie began to speak with a worried voice. "We have gone to my world it's called Pet Palace. The evil cat from the west has come and it's up to me to save Pet Palace. Can you help me?" Erin looked around the mist had gone and they were standing on a flat blue surface covered in all types of purple footprints. "Ok but my family!" Erin said with a voice that told Lucie she was nervous for the turtle adventure. Next thing Erin knew she was holding a sword and Lucie stood in front of her scowling at Lina the evil cat. Lucie took action! She held her sword up high and stepped forward. She took a swing and Lina fell into a heap of fur. Lucie had defeated Lina! Lucie stood as a rush of pets toppled over the dead Lina and ran over to Lucie. Lucie grinned broadly and winked at Erin. Thanks she mouthed Erin smiled to just as the King and Queen came. "Why thank you Lucie you saved us all. Our world is safe because of you. How can we thank you!" said the queen happily. "Oh well my friend Erin helped a lot!" "Well you were both absolutely purrfect! You saved our world and we are ever so grateful!" the king replied. "We are all safe and sound!" The End

Lost in The Jungle ♦ **By Sarah Tang**

It was a hot, humid August day when I ran into the dry grass with my sister at my side and my Campbell Russian dwarf hamster bouncing up and down in my hand. I plopped down in the grass with my hamster digging his claws into my cloth. "Let's play Jungleman" my sister said. "All right" I said. Jungleman was a game in the grass because to my hamster the stalks of grass were like tall trees. My sister grabbed the fur ball off my cloth and set him in the grass. I watched the stalks of dried, yellow grass move swiftly when suddenly the grass stopped moving. I ran over to see if our little hamster Cheezo was all right. I uncovered the grass slowly and saw a hole! I called my sister over and I went inside our house. My mom and dad came dunning out with Cheezo's cage making a metal banging sound. My sister was laying down like a stream of water would be flowing. I jogged inside the house and opened the steel metal refrigerator door and grabbed the cheese as the cool wind was blowing on my sad face. I ran outside and the cage was propped outside of the hole. I placed the cheese stick slightly peeking out of the beautiful colored cage. Questions raced through my head. What if he met a rat? What if he didn't come out and starved f food? I thought of the questions racing through my head, but I was positive that my smart little hamster would explore through the tubes and find his way out into the enormous world looking for him. I pictured Cheezo exploring the tubes when I saw a miniature head with whiskers poking out of the rusty pipe. "CHEEZO", my sister plunged for him. Cheezo ran into the greasy tube frightened of that surprised shout. My dad and mom, my sister and I all waited for the little hamster to come out. Then out of nowhere there the miniature face and whiskers came poking out of the pipe again. This time we made sure that his whole body was out and then we grabbed him. That was a moment of joyfulness and happiness.

The Best Halloween Ever ♦ By Erin Citarella

I am a rabbit named Cotton Ball. My brother's name is Big Foot. Oh, okay, I call him Big Foot, but his real name is Cotton Tail. It's Halloween and our family is going to be the scariest! Mom is going to be Mummy, Daddy is going to be Deady, and Big Foot and I are going to be the two-headed child! Big Foot has an ugly, slimy-green blanket we're going to put over us. There's a hole in the top so we can stick both of our heads through to be two headed! My friend Floppsy thinks it's a great idea also. Too bad she can't be the scariest this year! I can't *wait* for tonight! Ding Dong. Big Foot, Floppsy, and I were trick-or-treating. Our bags bulged with candy even though we had just started. Big Foot and I were squeezed together under the big blanket. "Oof! Move over!" I said. "You move over! I'm giving you the whole blanket almost!" Big Foot retorted. "Can you please stop arguing?" Floppsy asked politely. "Oh, sorry Floppsy." I said. I could feel my ears turn pink in embarrassment. Floppsy must have noticed because the next thing she said was, "Don't be embarrassed, I was just feeling a little awkward next to you two arguing." I think that was supposed to make me feel better, but all it did was make me more embarrassed. "Look!" said Big Foot suddenly, pointing to a big, old, creepy looking mansion. Let's go!" I said. Big Foot and I started running and tripped over each other landing in a pile. Floppsy giggled. "Let's walk there instead." she said giggling. I went pink with embarrassment. Floppsy was still giggling as we made our way to the old house. Ding, Dong. It was silent for a second and then suddenly-! An ugly, rotting, greeny brown hand shot out and grabbed us! "Help! Help! Help!" all of us shouted. Floppsy screamed. I followed her gaze and saw that the ugly hand, was just a hand! Finally, I looked up and said "Guys! Look!" It was all a joke! We had been grabbed by a robotic hand, and pulled into a Halloween party. We ran over to the warm carrot juice and laughed together. In conclusion, this was truly the best Halloween ever.

The New UFO ♦ By Prashath Satish

One day, an alien named Ciclops was flying to the Milky Way from the Andromeda galaxy in a UFO. The UFO was very, very old. The UFO had broken several times earlier. He kept begging his wife, Triclops, to go to the dealership with him and buy a new UFO. She said, "Why don't you get a new job, where they have higher salaries?" Ciclops said, "Okay". He found a new job, where the salary was \$1,000,000,000 per year. Pretty soon, he had enough money to buy a new UFO. He and Triclops went to the dealership of UFOs. There was an endless collection of UFOs inside. They chose one and paid for it. Then, they flew home in their new UFO. Until they had kids, it didn't even break once! Ciclops and Triclops were blessed with triplets after 3 years. The babies played with the gadgets inside the UFO, and eventually, it broke again. But Ciclops didn't worry. If he worked for 2 more years he'd have \$5,000,000,000, really close to striking rich. His wife Triclops was very, very proud of him. "I told you, you could do it," she said.

The Explosion of the World ♦ By Megan Finnigan

A lot of people think that the end of the world will be in 2012. Of course it's not true, but if it is true, I think I have an explanation. A long time ago, there was a man. The man made friends with an animal more fierce and bigger than a t-rex. The animal agreed with the man to go down to the middle of the Earth and smash the world in 2012. I, however, near the end of 2011, had recently made friends with the nicest kangaroos one living soul could ever meet. The kangaroos knew everything about what had happened with the man and animal, so they told me. Then I called NASA. NASA happened to have training the very next day! I signed up myself and the kangaroos. We were informed that take off would be in one week. I called my family, told them to come with us, and got my gear ready. I also called everyone I knew, and told them to go on the other rocket ship. The two rocket ships reached orbit the day right before the world exploded. Everything ended happy, and the two ships came together so that everyone could be with their friends for the rest of their lives. The end

Thanks!

This year's Read-A-Thon focused on Zoo themed activities with an emphasis on Colorado State Animals. Each class contributed their reading minutes into blocks to shape a grade level animal across from the office. The kids were entertained each day with an animal mishap (ie: snakes in the cafeteria, trout in the toilets and scat on the playground!) Literature was planted in the library each day for the students to "LOOK IT UP" in efforts to show the kids how many resources exist to help them solve any curiosities. We had visits from Gary Gorilla each morning, and the energy at SES for reading went ZOO-ey! Be sure to ask your child about the state animal names they can recite with 5 fingers (Rocky Mountain Big Horn Sheep, Green Back Cut Throat Trout.) The art and writing submissions were terrific displays of all the creativity that abounds in SES and the reading efforts were a new experiment in "appropriate times" of reading opportunities that could be hopefully be repeated in weeks to come! Thanks for all the support and energy for another successful FUNdraiser! We would like to thank the sponsors, volunteers and supporters of our annual Read-A-Thon. Special thanks to: ♦ Catherine Davis of the Davis Financial & Insurance Group who sponsored The Canyon Critters' wolves (Harper and Lupa) who were the special guests at our celebration on February 10th. ♦ Jen Tucker and Tami Fox for the beautiful animal incentive wall, Michele Muckle and Lisa Kyle for all the fun animal prizes, Kathryn Messman, Jenn Barsky and Stacey Hartmann for the art and writing contests coordination.

We are already thinking about themes and ideas for next year's Read-A-Thon. If you would like to help or have suggestions, please contact Kate Sales (katebsales@comcast.net) or Beth Robertson (bethr1997@comcast.net). We would love to hear some fresh, new ideas!

Sincerely, Kate and Beth