

# ZOOPERIOR NEWS

March 2011

Superior, Colorado

Volume 1, Issue 4B

## 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 fourth grade  
classes read more than  
749 hours!*

## **Fourth Grade Art Stars:**

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

## **Fourth Grade Writing Stars:**

1. Max Shen (4C)
  2. Tie: Maya Teaford (4C)  
David Wait (4C)
  3. Laura Ruby (4C)
- 
1. Jacob McGann (4B)
  2. Ian Greene (4B)
  3. Bridget Duncan (4B)
- 
1. Oz MarkmanRaffeld (4M)
- 
1. Karen Zhang (4S)
  2. Austin Armstrong (4S)
  3. Tie: Nyree Christianian and  
Peyton Cullaton (4S)
- 
1. Wyatt Sales (4Sh)
  2. Youngbin Yoon (4Sh)
  3. Kyle Sylvester (4Sh)

## **A Remarkable Dog** ♦ **By Jacob McGann**



Hello, I am Jacob and I am ten years old. I have a dog named Fenway. He's really remarkable. I bet you are wondering why he is such an amazing dog! I was watching television after walking Fenway when suddenly there was breaking news. Geologists just found thirty-six random letters on a rock under the John Hancock Building in Boston! I paused the television and wrote all 36 letters on a piece of paper. Fenway saw the letters on the paper and barked while walking to the right and then to the left. I figured out that he wanted me to write the letters backwards! When I did this, it said "Amazon Trail, read the letters, then go there." When I read this, I decided to take this to the police station with Fenway. They said that I was on the way to solving the puzzle. They then sent Fenway and I with the top three scientists in the world. Their names were Bob Einstein, Ben Einstein and Bill Einstein. They were all relatives of Albert Einstein. We went directly to Denver International Airport and got on a plane in Tabatinga, Brazil in the heart of the Amazon! We thought the Amazon Trail must be the Amazon River. We followed the river all of the way to the ocean where we made our camp for the night. In the morning, Fenway cuddled up to me and woke me up. His brown and black soft fur felt good against my skin dirty and dry skin. Suddenly Fenway's ears perked up and he barked loudly just one time. "What is it?" I asked. He began to dig and dig until he hit something hard. It was a case. I opened the case and there was a worn out yellow piece of paper that said Ayer's Rock. What was even more amazing is that this was written by John Hancock. I knew this because he signed his name below Ayer's Rock just like it looked on the Declaration of Independence. We went to the Tapatinga airport and flew directly to Australia and drove from the Sydney airport to Ayer's Rock. This is the biggest rock in the world! We found a crack in the rock so we used tools to crack it even more. We found a large hole in the rock and walked in. It was dark, so the Einsteins and I lit torches and Fenway followed closely at my side. We all heard Fenway bark continuously until we hit a wall that flipped over and put us in another area of the rock. I felt scared and I wished I would have listened to Fenway's warnings. We kept walking and Bill's torch fell and lit a pool of oil that went up into flames. The flames made two lines on each side of the room that lit up the entire inside of the rock that was bigger than a football stadium. We saw a stone that had two arrays with 13 letters in each of them. They were carved into the stone. There was also a string attached to top of the rock that was attached to a small hammer. Fenway ran to the stone and put his paw on the letter Z. It hit the hammer on the letter Z and from the top a trap door opened and dropped a large rock that hit the ground so hard it went

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## A Remarkable Dog (Continued)

through the bottom making a bottomless hole! Fenway cried when he saw the bottomless hole. Fenway started to touch his paw to several letters. I hit each one he touched with the hammer. Everytime a rock would drop from the ceiling and create another bottomless hole. After all of the letters Fenway touched were hit, the remaining letters spelled John Hancock! We then followed Fenway as he walked in-between the bottomless holes through the large room and we hit a wall that we thought would swing open like last time. It didn't and Ben thought we hit a dead end! Fenway started to bark and jumped into the wall. It finally opened! We all hollered, "Good boy Fenway, good boy!" He went through two more doors and a large pile of \$100 bills fell onto all of us! It was like opening your closet and having all of your clothing fall on you but this was money! We were literally swimming in millions and millions of \$100 bills. It was bigger than a pool the size of a football field and was at least 20 feet deep! I saw Fenway doggy paddling through the money and decided to follow him. I was wondering how we would get all of this money out of Ayer's Rock! Just then, Fenway put both of his paws on a rope that was attached to the wall of the rock. When he did this, the whole pool started to sink and the rope snapped! Next the pool of money started to rise faster and faster with us in it! Just as we were all going to hit the top of the rock, it opened and we the blue sky above us. Fenway, the Einsteins and I were flying in the air with all of the money. Suddenly, hundreds of helicopters with large pieces of tarp caught every single bit of the money and we all landed on the same piece of tarp. We could see the top of Ayer's Rock slowly close and it looked just like it did when we arrived. We flew back to the United States and brought the money to Washington D.C. We learned there that John Hancock had hidden all of his money in Australia and that his family had been looking for it for years! Fenway, the Einsteins and I were given a large reward for finding the money. We had enough money so that Fenway and I were set for life! Fenway and I now live in a mansion filled with doggy treats, bones and T-bone steaks! I have an indoor ice rink and a grand piano. We have a professional pianist play Van Halen for us as we eat, and Bobby Orr giving us hockey lessons for our exercise. I guess you now know why my dog Fenway is so remarkable!

## Selvest's Adventure ♦ By Ian Greene

Once a polar bear was born on the night of the full moon. His parents named him Selvest. He had traveled every inch of his territory and had a great sense of navigation. He had listened to old polar bears like Columbus and had learned how to use Canadian geese to tell direction. If it were the warmer season the Canadian geese would be headed north and if it were the cooler season then the Canadian geese would be going south. From this, he could figure out what direction he was going. One day, late in the hunting season, he was way out at the edge of the pack ice. He had just pulled up a seal out on a piece of ice that stuck out into the current. As he dug hungrily into it, CRACK! CRACK! the ice he had been standing on broke away and was being pulled quickly to the South by the strong current. The South was a bad place for polar bears to go because there was little food there. He stared at his just caught seal. It could be his last seal he realized. He would probably die in the south. All the bears knew that if you tried to swim against this current you would probably drown. Even the strongest polar bear couldn't swim against the current. It was called the Emper Current because it took you to the land of the Emper. The Emper were scary creatures to bears. The Emper walk on two legs and in the other legs they would sometimes hold something black in their paws and when they pushed a lever, BOOM! A tiny thing would shoot out. Where it hit a bear, blood would come out from where the tiny thing hit. He had seen one tiny thing hit a polar bear and it was not a pretty sight. If they did not carry the black weapon, the Emper would run and scream when they saw a polar bear. He had no choice but to sit on the

### 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

### 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

**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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## Selvest's Adventure (Continued)

About four days later, he bumped into some rocks. It turned out to be land. Happy to get off the floating ice, he came ashore to a strange land with no snow or ice. It was just rocks. Small ones, big ones, all different kinds of rocks, but no snow or ice. He also found out that the heat was intense. Then, he sat miserably on a rock close to sea, his stomach growled hungrily. He waited one day at this rock trying to figure out what to do and decided to head inland. About half a mile in he saw a vast place of brown and green stuff he had never seen. He wandered into it feeling better because the brown and green stuff blocked the sun. CRACK! CRUNCH! He turned around and something black was moving in the shadows of the green and brown stuff. All of a sudden it said in bear language, "Who are you?" Selvest answered "I'm Selvest and I'm a polar bear."

It said "I'm Gamble and I'm a black bear." As Gamble stepped out of the shadows Selvest saw that Gamble looked like him, but was smaller and had black fur. Gamble said "Strange to see polar bears so far south. You must have had quite a journey!" "I floated down on a iceberg," said Selvest. "Aren't you hungry" asked Gamble. "Yep" Selvest replied "There are no fish or seals here, what do you eat?" Gamble replied "I eat some animals like deer, I also eat berries and fruit." "What are deer, fruits, and berries?" asked Selvest. "Well a deer is a four legged creature that is brown with white spots. They have antlers and skinny legs," Gamble answered "and berries are small things that when you squeeze them they squirt out juice and they are different colors like red, blue, and purple. Fruits are round things that are bigger than a berry and taste good." Gamble brought back some berries and fruits and a chunk of deer meat. The deer meat tasted saltier and didn't have blubber like a seal. The berries tasted a lot sweeter than the food back home. The fruits weren't quite as juicy, but still were as sweet as the berries. Gamble taught Selvest how to catch deer and find berries. Gamble also taught him how to make a safe sleeping place and dig around in trashcans. Two days later Selvest left and promised to comeback. As Selvest headed north he spotted some deer in a low wet area. He managed to corner one and kill it. He ate hungrily and made a safe sleeping place like how Gamble showed him. He slept silently until dawn, when he headed north again until he found some Emper's and their homes. He found some left over fish in an Emper's trashcan like Gamble had showed him and that settled as his dinner. He moved out of sight of the Emper's and made a safe place to sleep. Twelve days after seeing the Emper's he managed to find Emper's current. He debated all day what to do. He had just finished a late dinner when he heard OOO-HOO. He looked up the mountain side and saw those gray small animals called wolves. He finally came up with an idea before falling asleep. His idea was to hike to the most northern point of Canada that still touched Emper's current and to swim across. He would probably end up in the southern parts of Greenland. Selvest dove into the strong current and began paddling as hard as he ever had in his life towards Greenland. When he finally pulled himself up he was completely exhausted. He slept for two days straight. When he woke up he was happy to be home, but sad to leave Gamble. Selvest traveled back to see Gamble later, but that is another story.

## Sam ♦ By Kyle Pfromer

Hi my name is Sam and I'm a dog. My owner is Jack. Jack treats me like a toy. When I have a chance to run away, I will take it. A month later, I saw the door right open and ran as fast as I can. I ran to the train station and took a train to Boston so Jack would not find me and he probably would not want to find me. When I arrived I had nowhere to go. Dang I heard in my head. I will go to the dog center. So I walked to find an address book. I saw a book and looked for a dog center. It said 49 Brooke Street. When walking to 40 Brooke Street I saw street signs then I saw 49 Brooke Street then I saw a dog center sign. I sneaked through the gate to the dogs. I met Joe and Connor, two other dogs. This is a great place! This is my home. The End

## Dragon Release ♦ By Bridget Duncan

First, let's not get off on the wrong start. I have a pet dragon who's name is Flesher. But he's not an old, haunted, crazy dragon... he's a cool reptile! Flesher was just a baby when I first got him. He was as cute as a newborn puppy playing in the fields on a warm sunny day. He was 15 months old and living in the dragon baby center when I adopted him and brought him home. My name is Catheline and I live in the Viking world. The Viking world is just 5 miles south of the Bermuda Triangle and 5 miles west of the Sargasso Sea. We Vikings used to fight dragons but now they're like our own personal amusement park rides. My mom taught me how to ride dragons when I was 8 and then one year later I got Flesher. I have two parents – one mom who takes care of me and one dad who I've only seen a few times in my whole life. My dad is a big time monster catcher for creatures like ogres and other haunted things, *not* including dragons. It was on one of the few days I have spent with my father, that I met my best friend Seamus. I was 9 years old. He walked up to me carrying the ball I had dropped. "Hi" says Seamus, he looked around and then sighed. "I know I don't know you, but tomorrow we start training for the dragon release. Uh...bye." He hurried away. In 5 seconds I was passed out cold. The dragon release is when the entire village gathers at the dragon stadium where people fight the most fierce dragons ever! Not the sweet, cuddly dragons like Flesher, but the most heartless, dangerous kind. But the reason I was passed out was knowing that my small, weak, tiny, body could be accomplishing it.

If you're wondering why I'm training for the dragon release, because I am well, for two reasons:

1. I could earn some money
2. My dad would die if I didn't because he fights monsters everyday and... that's kind of his thing.

CHOMP...SHH...CHOMP... SHH, I awoke to the sound of Flesher chewing at the end of my bed. As soon as I got dressed I headed down to the stadium and for the next 2 months we did training exercises that are impossible to describe. Soon, I felt like I was fighting like a pro! I was almost kind of excited! "Hi mom" I said as I walked into the old wood hut we called home. I walked to the cupboard to get a bowl of ogre muscles but was completely caught off guard by a note reading:

*Dear Catheline,*

*Just to let you know, your father will be attending your dragon release! I'm probably sleeping right now so don't bother to wake me with your excitement! Sincerely, Mother*

My excitement? Sure I wanted to see my father but *trust me*— not like this! I thought I was ready but now I'm terrified. On the day of the dragon release, I woke up sort of ready. I met Seamus at the stadium did a few training exercises and in no time at all, a ton of people were there in the bleachers. I could see my dad in the front row with a wide smile and thumbs up. I didn't realize that I wouldn't be fighting anyone like in practice until today. But luckily that did take part of the terrified expression off of my face. There was a final count down and I sweating like a pig, 5...4...3...2...1...START! I started walking around the rink and watching to see which cage my opponent would exit. Suddenly I heard a loud screechy sound behind me. I turned quickly only to see a large dragon which I started to hit with my club and the battle was on. CLING, CLANG the dragon and I were off crashing down the side of the rink. Before I knew it, I had tied the chain around the dragon so tight it could have been his last breath. It was! The dragon fell to the ground with what seemed like a huge sigh of relief. I think the dragon was just as tired as I was. The crowd cheered as I fell to the ground with a sigh of happiness. My tiny, body had accomplished one of the greatest challenges ever! And the best part was that my dad was there to see it. The End

## Penguin ♦ Ronnie Driscoll

My favorite animal is a penguin because it can stay under water for more than an hour. I like the penguin because it has a cute baby penguin. Baby penguins are cute because they have gray backs. The penguins are sensitive and that's why they go under water. They use their beaks to catch food and they have yellow beaks. The penguins are really cool and pretty. They can hatch out of one huge egg. I love these animals because they are cute and fuzzy.

# ZOOPERIOR NEWS

## Animal Fever

◆ By Jackson Bennett

This is a tale of a very rich man in which he becomes the next abominable mop man.

Once, in a town called Strunch there lived a man named Crunch. On July 4<sup>th</sup> {Crunch's birthday} Crunch got very sick. So sick, he couldn't do anything himself. Crunches wife, Grunch, and a couple of his friends, Stunch, Lunch, and Brunch took care of him and thought they did a good job. But the more Grunch, Stunch, Lunch, and Brunch took care of him the worst the sickness got. One day, it got so bad, that when Grunch came in Crunch was dark, **dark** green, and his skin was baggy, like a mop everywhere except his eyes and mouth.

When Grunch saw Crunch she earsplittingly screamed. After the torched scream, she fainted, striking the ground with such force, the ground beneath her crumbled as she plummeted to the floor.

Meanwhile, on ground floor, Stunch, Lunch, and Brunch heard Grunch's scream and were barreling to the stairs when Grunch collapsed on Stunch which tripped Lunch which also made Brunch lose his balance and fall. Lunch got up, then got a pale of water, and splashed it in Grunch's face. That woke her up. She stood up and raced to the phone to dial "911". "Hello, yes, my husband is the new mop man. Oh, what color? He's green. What do I do?!" barked Grunch.

"Give him cold cocoa," replied the officer. "O-o-ok." CRASH!!!!!! Crunch's friends ran upstairs to see what happened. "It turns out Crunch isn't there. He's not in his bed and the windows shattered." said Lunch.

"Let's go find him then," encouraged Grunch. And from then, they were out month after month looking for him. Finally, a year after starting the search, they found him. "YOU'RE HERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" screamed Grunch, running over to him, hugging and kissing him. Stunch gave him the change of clothes. Brunch gave him the now chilled-to-the-bone cocoa. And Lunch gave him a hug. Crunch drank the cocoa and changed. IT WORKED!!!!!!!!!! The human Crunch got dressed. "Why'd you leave?" asked Grunch, getting to the point. "I wanted some fresh air but didn't want to disturb you. Then I felt tense so I took a mud bath but fell asleep. Apparently mop men hibernate," replied Crunch. "Well, I'm glad you're back," said Grunch. "It's good to be back," said Crunch.

Now our tale is almost to an end. First I must warn you. Whoever hears the tale of the last mop man is the next victim. So that would be.....YOU!!!!!!!!!!

THE END

## The Secret Garden

◆ By Maya Vought

Lilly-Ann was walking through her garden, when she tripped on a rock and fell onto a patch of ivy on her fence. The ivy started to clear away until she saw a door. Lilly-Ann tried hard to open the door, but it would not open. Then, she saw a key hole. She found the key under the rock she had tripped on. Lilly-Ann pushed the key into the knob and turned. She gulped hard as she opened the door. She thought what if I go and a vampire bites me or what if a witch turns me into a frog. Then she opened the door but she did not see anything to be afraid of because the world was made of candy everything but a beautiful pond with lots of lily pads. Lilly-Ann started to explore the garden. About five minutes later, she saw an enormous footprint on the ground. Just then a tail flipped out of the woods. It was red with tall spikes coming out of it. She peeked through the peppermint stick trees and saw a twenty foot t-rex. NO, NO, NO t-rex are extinct. Lilly-Ann started to run back to the door when she saw the strangest thing. She saw a frog with wings but it gets stranger. The frog did not only have wings, it could also talk. He said his name was Robbert Martines. Then he said follow me. Robbert took Lilly-Ann to the lake that had a lot of pretty lily pads and said "bipity boppety tickety takety ricety rockety," one of the lily pads started to expand until pop a book. Please read page 2, 22, 222, 225, 374.

"Ok," said Lilly-Ann. The page read: In 1982 evil t-rex Rexor found this book and said a spell that made all of the animals lose their voices for the past eight years have gotten out and tried to learn sign language but none have learned how. "Robbert, how can you talk?" asked Lilly-Ann. "I have a few tricks up my sleeve," said Robbert. "Anyway," said Robbert "all of the animals in the garden team up and fight Rexor. "Great," said Lilly-Ann. Robbert made a funny whistling noise. All of the animals you could imagine, they all ran into the woods with peppermint sticks. You could see the magic float out of Rexor. Now all the animals can talk again. They gave Lilly-Ann a starfish necklace with a red gem in the middle. "Press the gem and you can come back anytime you want." When Lilly-Ann got home even her hamster could talk to her!

## Junior Paw's Adventure ♦ Connor Parkes

Hi, I'm Connor and this is a story about what I would want to do with my dog, if I had one. First of all, I would name him Junior Paw. One fine summer morning, Junior Paw and I were walking down the rickety road and decided to take a path through the green woods. As we were walking, Junior Paw started to bark at a dead tree.

"What's the matter boy?" I asked him. Then all of a sudden, he sprang up and his paw hit a hole in the side of the tree. It wasn't a hole at all! It was a button cleverly disguised as a hole! We instantly fell through the dirty ground, and went down, down, down and hit the damp ground. It was covered in icky sticky slime. I started to walk around, but soon found out that we were trapped in a dead end! We sat down to try to think of a way out. All I had found was a (probably useless and not worth it) hieroglyphic tablet that might lead to a secret passage way out. Wait, a hieroglyphic tablet that might lead to a way out! I picked it up and studied it. All it had were 3 symbols, stairs, a boat, and a swirly thing. I knew what the first two meant, but I didn't know what the swirly thing was. Then Junior Paw started to pretend he was underwater and started to spin.

"Are you trying to tell me something? It means a whirlpool?" I asked and Junior Paw nodded his head. Smart dog! Just one thing, there were no stairs! I tried to find them, but it was no use. Then I stepped on what looked like a leaf. It revealed a secret staircase! Junior Paw and I walked for what seemed like forever! When we finally reached the bottom, there was a boat on water! There was a whole sea! We climbed into the boat and set sail. We sailed for days on end. One week later we saw a pitch black mist that looked like it dared us to go through. When we went into the mist, we couldn't see anything. We sailed for another week and we came upon a patch of light.

"How strange," I said. "The light is floating on air." As soon as I said it, we were spinning into the water. We were caught in a monstrous whirlpool! We spun round and round and deeper and deeper and round and round until we got to the bottom of the sea. The monstrous whirlpool vanished and we were all alone at the very depths of the deep, dark sea. That's when I realized we could breathe!

"Why can we breathe underwater?" I asked Junior Paw. Junior Paw shrugged his shoulders. I walked, or rather swam, around until I found a deep, deep abyss. I leaned over the edge and looked down. All of a sudden, it erupted! It was actually an undersea volcano! I swam for my life to the boat. When it stopped erupting, it revealed a GINORMOUS treasure chest, filled to the brim with treasure! There were rubies, gold coins, a crown, and even a golden doggie bone! There was so much treasure; I didn't know what to do with it all! All of a sudden, we were shot into the air with the treasure. We flew far, far away from where we found the treasure and landed in our house. I hid the treasure and gave some to my wonderful dog, Junior Paw since he helped find it. It had been the greatest adventure ever! I wanted to go on another adventure soon, but I thought we had had enough excitement for awhile! THE END

## The New Pet ♦ Joe D'Souza

One day Roger goes to the pet store and tries to buy a mouse, but there aren't any left. So Roger says to the owner, "What animal is closest to a mouse?" and the owner answers, "A monkey." "Oh really, okay, I'll take a big, muscular one then!" Then Roger walks out to his nice porsche with his muscular monkey, named Billy, and he drives to his mobile home and farm.

He has 50 chickens, 5 cows, and 4 horses in his farm, and now he has in his house, 5 parrots and 1 monkey. Then one night Roger and his wife go to dinner, and they leave Billy all alone with all the other animals. As soon as Roger and his wife leave, Billy grabs a bunch of bananas and swings on the chandelier, gobbling them up and throwing the peels all over the house. Then he lets the parrots out of their cages and opens the front door. They fly away, flapping and squawking, in a rainbow of colors.

Next he goes to the chicken coop, where he lets all the chickens out screeching 'bak, bak, bak'. After that, he lets the cows trample all over the garden, destroying the flowers and plants in their path. Then he goes to the trailer, where he opens the door and lets the horses gallop away as fast as lightening. All of the other animals besides Billy have gone. Now he is alone, until Roger gets back and sees the terrible mess. Then it's straight back to the pet store for Billy the monkey, until his next new owner appears!

## Kiwi

◆ **By Connor Monette**

I have a pet bird named Kiwi. She is very cute. It is weird to have a pet bird because people usually have a dog or a cat but I have a bird. She flies everywhere. She flies to the couch and flies to people's shoulders. She is very soft like a blanket. I can not tell you how colorful she is. She is all colors, blue, green, yellow, and orange. She is very fun to have and really loud. Kiwi was meant to be for my sister but we decided that she should be a family pet instead of my sister having her own pet. We decided this because we learned that birds are very social animals and like to be around all of us. So we moved her from Carolyn's room to the main floor so she could be with all of us. She is so messy. When she eats she throws seeds everywhere. On Saturdays and Sundays as a treat she eats pancakes for breakfast. She also plays on her jungle gym. She flies back and forth from her cage to her jungle gym many times during the day. I think Kiwi is really fun to have as a family pet.

## Pets 'R Us

◆ **By David McGovern**

One day I went to Pets R Us. Its a new pet store in Boulder. I went with Jackson. I had 700 dollars so I could buy anything in there. I didn't know what to get so I asked Jackson. He told me to get the small goldfish, but I didn't want a tiny fish that's only 1 inch long. I finally got an idea. "I'll get the monkey!" I said.

"Okay," said Jackson. The monkey cost 49.99\$. He was huge and hairy so I named him.... Mike. When we got home I couldn't wait to play with Mike. We played with him for about 5 hours. Then we had to go to church but after that we went to Connor O' Niels, but we left Mike at home, free to do anything he wanted. Then he found our catapult to fling unwanted guests 1,000,000 miles away. He hopped on a flung himself 1,027,498 miles away. There was a huge group of hobos hanging around the Great Wall of China and saw Mike flying in the sky. "It's a bird," one guy said.

"No, its a plane," another guy said. "It's a monkey," another guy said. Then it came rocketing down to the hobo. He recognized the collar we made for him. It said where he lives. He brought it to where we live, it was a long walk.

When we came home there was a hobo holding Mike. "Who is that?" my mom said.

"I don't know and I don't care. He has Mike!" I said. I darted toward the hobo and took Mike. "Why do you have him?" I asked. "Uh, I forget." the hobo said. "I'm just happy to see Mike again!" The End

## Thank you...

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

## Island Called Muwanaelie

♦ Kaylie Rick

Once upon a time there was a far away Island called Muwanaelie. There lived eight Russian blue kittens. Their names were Cheerio, Puppet, Teddy Izzie, Milk, Coco, Teaford and Cookie. They all loved their owner Cilia.

One day Cilia took all the cats across the Island. The cats were riding in the trunk, and all of a sudden bump all of the cats went flying out!

I believe I can fly said Izzie. Just then splat all of them hit the ground hard. No Izzie screamed with loud tears, why why? How are we going to get home or survive? Its ok cookie comforted No it's not what should be happening cried Izzie. She cried till her heart ached and her fur ached

They walked and walked till they came to a big rock that went far out into a ten mile wide lava pit.

"I'm gonna call this death rock! Teddy announced. You mean I'm going to die here, save me mommy Milk cried. Teddy pushed Milk off the edge of death rock and into the lava pit.

That's what's going to happen, Milk yelled at all the other cats!

To any one who annoys me understands? Yes the rest of the cats said at the same time.

"Boom" the sound of gun fire filled the air. A hunter came out of the woods, all the cats slipped down the lava pit holding with their nails so they wouldn't slip. Sketching their claws into the rock and they tried not to slip. Oh except Izzie she fell and never stopped till she died.

Teddy saw some wood floating down the river, Teddy grabbed Tea ford and Tea ford grabbed coco and they all jumped onto the log and floated down the river.

It was all peaceful until they approached a lava water falls they never will make it out, they were about to give up and suddenly a giant eagle swoops down and carries them away.

They weren't dead yet but they were on their way. All the cats saw Cilia's house and slipped out of the eagle's feet and ran home when they got there Cilia and all of her friends were there. How did you get home Tea ford asked? Cilia found us Cheerio and Puppet said at the same time. They were all home safe and sound.

