

ZOO-PERIOR NEWS

March 2011

Superior, Colorado

Volume 1, Issue 4M/C

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 Markman-Raffeld (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)

My Dog Bell

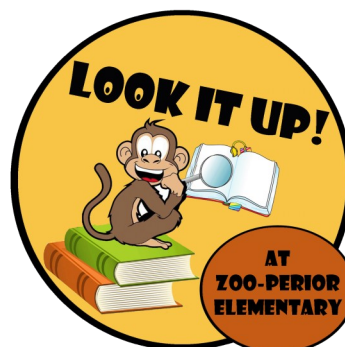
♦ **By Oz Markman-Raffeld**



One hot summer day, many years ago, my dad was driving down the road in his Israeli neighborhood when he saw a stray black dog. He took the dog home and my mom immediately fell in love with it. Unfortunately, a few days later, my parents ran into the dog's owner who took the dog back. My mom was terribly sad. At that point, my dad realized he had to do something to cheer her up. So, just a few days later, he surprised her with a black puppy he had bought from a dog breeder. Together, they named this loving Belgian Shepherd, Belle. This new companion made my mom's happiness come to life again.

Two years later, my parents decided to move to the United States. They loaded Belle in the cargo of the plane in a special kennel and hoped that she would be as comfortable as they were in the cabin. The flight was long and agonizing, but Belle did not even pee once during the 18 hour trip! Needless to say, Belle and my parents were so pleased and relieved when they reunited at the carrousel.

Two months after their arrival to Boulder, the first big snowstorm of that year hit the Front Range during the night. The next morning, as my dad opened the front door for Belle to go on her daily walk and playtime in the park, Belle noticed the snow. It was her first time and had no clue what it was. So she froze on the spot until my dad said "Come Belle, come, it's safe." At that moment, Belle put one paw in the snow timidly, but immediately loved the way it felt. Consequently, she started running straight forward all the way to the park with her nose in the snow generating a long trail behind her. Her first time experiencing the thrill of playing in the snow is a memory my parents have shared with me over and over. I feel like I was there myself. Over the years, their caring, loyal and loving companion grew older and by the time I was born, Belle was ready to take care of me too! When my parents brought me home from the hospital, Belle sniffed me from head to toe with no end. She chose to spend her nights in my room, next to my crib, and made me feel safe and protected. A year and a half later, when my brother Eytan was born, she did the same thing with him. I wish Belle was still with us today. If she were I would take her sledding on the hill across from my house, I would take her for walks in our neighborhood, and I would hope she would choose my room to sleep in at night. But Belle left us a few years ago, and I continue to miss her even though I know she is watching over me in spirit.



Inside this issue:

My Dog Bell	1
The King of the Wild	2
The Haunted House	3
Time Traveling	3
Mouse Days	4
The Bear	4
No Princess for Me	4

ZOOPERIOR NEWS

The King of The Wild ♦ By Max Shen



Long ago there was a lion named Jaures who lived in a mountain cave and dreamed about what it would be like to become the king of the wild. He knew of all the treasures and powers the king had, he also knew that there was a wise old owl that was smarter than any living animal who could tell him how to become the king of the wild.

So one day Jaures ran to the metal tree in the forest where the owl lived. He knocked politely on the owl's door trying not to disrupt the owl, the owl answered the door, Jaures asked the owl how to become the king of the wild, the owl told him that he would have to find the crystal of life. Jaures knew of all the dangers that he would meet on the adventure like monsters and whirlpools from the stories he had heard. Every animal knew that once upon a time a great warrior traveled through many scorching deserts to vanquish evil and dropped the crystal on a secret island. When the warrior found out the crystal was gone he was angry and formed many dangers like fiery volcanoes, a 100 headed dragon, and 2 terrifying scorpions. No animal had ever come back looking for the crystal but Jaures still decided to go, that night he packed for the adventure. He set off in the morning and said goodbye to the animal kingdom. Jaures sailed through many terrifying storms and had fought many monsters. He had run out of food at the end of the storms and also had many cuts and bruises but he was lucky when he reached an island with so many sheep and palm trees on it. He was very hungry. Jaures leapt off the boat and started swimming towards the island. He crashed into the rocks on the island but he didn't seem to care. He finally reached the delicious sheep and started eating them when he heard a loud groan. A giant monstrous shepherd with 20 heads leapt out of a mountain cave and started growling, the mountains started shaking and rocks started falling.

The monster grabbed a rock and smashed Jaures's ship into pieces then he chased Jaures all across the island. Jaures ran much faster than the monster and let out thundering roars. After 10 long months of chasing Jaures, the 20 headed monster gave up the chasing and fell asleep, while the monster was asleep Jaures got right to work. He ate 28 more sheep and created a ship out of all their bones, the ship was very weak but at least Jaures could escape the horrible island on it. When the monster found out Jaures was gone he was outraged, he turned into an eagle and followed Jaures, and he finally caught up with Jaures. Jaures tried to snatch the eagle out of midair but the eagle turned back into the monster, he crushed Jaures's ship again and grabbed Jaures. The horrified Jaures scraped one of the monster's faces. The 20 headed monster got so mad that he transformed into an even larger, more terrifying monster. Jaures was about to get eaten again but the massive monster got devoured by a whirlpool. Jaures struggled through many whirlpools and was about to get eaten up by one when a huge dragon came swooping down and grabbed him by the neck. After days of struggling to get free from the dragon Jaures did. He crash-landed on the island where the crystal was hidden.

Covered in black dust Jaures slowly stood up. 15 fiery volcanoes stood before him guarding the crystal. Two black scorpions came out of a cave. The warrior's silver sword suddenly appeared in front of Jaures. Jaures grabbed the sword and started fighting the scorpions. He finally managed to stab and kill both scorpions. A 100 headed dragon burst out of one of the volcanoes. Jaures was very stressed from fighting the scorpions, now he had to face a 100 headed dragon. The warrior's shield appeared in Jaures' claws. The dragon breathed tons of fire but Jaures blocked it all, Jaures cut off all of the dragon's heads, the dragon lay dead. Jaures was half dead already. He slowly approached the volcano without fire. Jaures grabbed the crystal of life, fainted, got amazing powers, and became the king. After that Jaures was the king of the wild and had the power of the universe. The volcano rocks started falling. Jaures got his energy restored, leapt into the sky, and journeyed his way home.

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

ZOOPERIOR NEWS

The Haunted House ♦ By David Wait



Sometimes I quiver with fear of shadows creeping across the wall laughing like drunken maniacs. Hee Hee Waa Haa Haa they would cry out. I ran, I shouted go away, but all it did was shout back. I froze with fear, trapped in my blanket, surrounded by the evil darkness. All I had left was a blanket and a, oh my goodness, a flashlight! Click. It works! Then out of nowhere, I saw a figure drooling, while hunting down it's prey. After that all of a sudden. SZZZ, oh no! My flashlight died. Right when I saw the creepiest, scariest, most terrifying creature ever. I was frantically trying to turn it back on, when CLICK, it went on. I shone it at the two red brown eyes. It was a scarry little puppy. It helped me find my way back out of what I call the haunted house now. Right when I got to the outside door, the light died. I struggled to find the door knob, when the eyes came back to where the puppy was sitting. And that's when I realized that the puppy turns into a monster when it is in the dark, and a puppy in the light. DING, I have an Idea. Why don't I be like a matador person and let it crash into the door to break it open for me. I took off my red jacket and held it out in front of the door, and CRASH. The monster ran into the door and it burst wide open. I ran out of the house and told all of my friends what happened that night.

Time Traveling

♦ By Maya Teaford



Dana a fifty-two spotted kind, nine-month old leopard gradually peeled her golden eye-lid off her hazel almond-shaped eye. All of a sudden Dana heard a horrid screech. Her precious dad must be dying. She dashed over to her beloved, elderly parent. "You can't do this." Spoke Dana softly feeling extremely sorrowful. Two sad filled minutes later Dana's father fell rapidly to the ground like a melting popsicle and his heartbeat slowed to a stop.

Three turtle moving years later, Dana was still as glum as a bird without wings and her tears were still rolling out of her gloomy eyes. She absolutely wanted her wonderful parent back that had passed away many years before.

One beautiful bright day, Dana was not down. She had a passion for looking at beautiful flowers and today there were millions in the grassy meadows. Most of all she was not unhappy because she had thought of the best idea, to visit her loving Dad again. The wonderful idea was to find a way to time travel. How do you time travel? I don't know, but at that moment Dana was ecstatic about the whole idea.

The next day, the air was murky and you could not see a single thing, but Dana was still eager to find a way to time travel. Later that day, the rain started dripping out of the gloomy sky-drip, drip, drip. Then Dana's mom decided to catch a scrumptious meal before all the animals went away because of the rain. Dana knew this was her only opportunity to go outside and search outside for any signs of time traveling. So, she began her journey. "First", remarked Dana, "I need to take a quick glance at an enormous nearby smooth tree". Then Dana scurried up the large, silky smooth tree. She saw nothing but a couple of other trees and a few black as night crows, with dirty yellow scratched up beaks.

After that Dana looked everywhere, and there was no sign of time traveling. When Dana thought that nothing could be worse it just got worse. It was raining so hard that it was like millions of buckets of freezing water splashing down from the cloudy sky. Dana could not spot home so she started digging a thin hole hoping that it would be a good stop to stay in while she waited for the rain to be washed away by the wind. As she was digging she saw something so golden that her eyes were stinging. The box read, "time traveling".

Dana opened it up. There was a button that said, "press to see someone you miss". Dana pressed it and then she saw her wonderful Dad. She spent all day with him. Once Dana was satisfied, she left, and the treacherous storm was no longer going. She carried the time traveler box home with her. She had finally found a way to time travel! From then on, Dana visited every day with her dad, with her Mom trailing along.

Mouse Days ♦ By Laura Ruby



One rainy day I walk outside dreadfully to get my bike. I step one foot on my bike, lay a finger on it and... a huge strike of lightening bounces on my hand. Suddenly, I shrink to the size of a mouse. I walk inside (what seems like a mile long) and squish under the door. My little footsteps patter on the floor. "Is that a mouse?!" my mom yelps. I scamper upstairs. I finally reach the top step. I look to my side and see a gigantic shadow hovering over me. I turn around and find our furious cat FuFu ready to eat me. Quick, what should I do? I run away but FuFu snatches my long wimmzy tail. I totally forget about my tail until... Chomp! Chomp! FuFu bites the top of it. I look down and it's like a 300 foot drop. Wooooshhhh! I felt like I was skydiving from the top of the Empire State Building. Kuplunk! I hit the dusty, rigid paved floor. I land in the basement. I guess I'll have to live in there forever but then... Purrrrr! I was really confused until like a 1,000 cats charged at me. I jump in a hole and get drained outside. I go hide under my bike. I get all comfortable and all of the sudden a huge strike of lightening bounces on my paw. I grow back

The Bear♦ By Ian McDonald

The gurgle of the river made Emily smile with delight which turned into a huge frown when she heard a low, deep growl. The growl echoed in her ear. Emily felt whiskers brush her right cheek. Her whole body shivered as the whiskers went back and forth. The hot terrible devastating breath of the giant golden brown grizzly bear reeking smell finally made Emily burst into the air! Then Emily sprinted towards the car but then she realized the giant brown grizzly bear didn't chase after her. After that she stopped and went back to the bear. Then she petted the bear and nothing happened. So they became best friends.

No Princess for Me ♦ By Kayla Schneider

Princess Danyel hopped out of bed, picked up her pink dress and slipped it on. "Ruff Ruff." Budy sang out. "Aahhh, I wish I was never a princess!" Danyel screamed. She walked down stairs for her first meal. Her maid, Amy, set the table with all the wonderful breakfast foods. There were apples, bananas, oranges, papaya, waffles, toast and of course triple pancakes with syrup, butter, and strawberries. It filled the room with a delicious smell! Danyel sat down and tried to enjoy her first meal. Amy gave Budy her special meal. After they eat, the went for a walk. They came to a valley with a lovely trellis with red flowers. They stopped at a tree stump. Inside were a bunch of fairies. Danyel snatched a blue fairy and asked it some questions. One of the questions was "What is your name?" She answered "I'm Tureena. What's yours?" "I'm Danyel and this is Budy" Tureena said "May I come home with you? We're a perfect match." The friends walked back to Danyel's castle. Danyel already had a fairy room. In the night, Tureena sprinkled fairy dust on Danyel and when she woke up Danyel was happier than ever. She was glad she was a princess!

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