

# ZOOPERIOR NEWS

March 2011

Superior, Colorado

Volume 1, Issue 4S

## 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 Yoon
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)

## **Zumi's Story ♦ By Karen Zhang**



It all started with a little hedgehog named Zumi. Zumi doesn't have any friends. There are three animals that like to bully Zumi. The first one is a cat named Tigger, and the second one is a horse named Fancy, and the last but not the least is a bird named Bunky, who are all boys. One day Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky went up to Zumi and said together, "Hey, Zumi give us your lunch money." Zumi was very sensitive but tough so she just ignored them. Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky were burning with anger. So they stomped up to Zumi and shouted, "Hey, Zumi didn't you hear us we said GIVE US YOUR LUNCH MONEY!". Zumi was calm and she went into her backpack, threw out half of her lunch money, and walked to the line. When the bell rang, animals went inside their classroom and sat down at their desks. Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky were sitting next to Zumi. When their teacher Mrs. Ruby entered the classroom, her first words were, "Good morning class." The animals answered back, "Good morning Mrs. Ruby." When Mrs. Ruby continued her lesson, Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky were whispering to each ears. Zumi heard them whisper her name. *They must be saying something about me* Zumi thought. When it was time for lunch Zumi couldn't eat much because Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky took half of her lunch money. When lunch was over, they went out to recess. When recess was over, the animals went back to their classroom. It was time for read aloud. Another hedgehog accidentally spilled her hedgehog treats to the floor. Zumi couldn't help not to taste the hedgehog treats so she picked one up and popped it into her mouth, and it tasted like the best cupcake she ever tasted. Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky saw Zumi eating the treat and then they laughed and lied, "Zumi stole a treat from another hedgehog!" Then the whole class stared at Zumi for a long time. Zumi was so sad and embarrassed that she almost cried but like I said that she is pretty tough so she didn't. When the bell rang, Mrs. Ruby dismissed the class. When Zumi was walking back home she thought she was a little mouse. When she told her mother that she felt like a little mouse, her mother said, "Zumi there are always hard times in school." Zumi already knew that there could be hard times in school but not this hard. When Zumi was getting ready for bed, she thought how fun it would be if she had a nice friend. When Zumi fell into deep sleep, she dreamed about she and her friend having play dates and sleepovers. When she woke up, she promised herself she will get a friend. When she went down to eat breakfast, she is so excited that she couldn't eat her breakfast. When her mom dropped her to school, she was asking animals if they have friends all of them said yes. Finally Zumi found a dog named Brenda who doesn't have a friend. Then Zumi asked "Do you want to be friends with me?" Brenda said "Of course." So when Zumi entered her classroom, she

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## Zumi's Story (Continued)

couldn't wait till recess. Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky saw that Zumi was excited they asked her "Hey Zumi why are you so excited?" Zumi wasn't paying any attention to them so they shouted "HEY, ZUMI WHY ARE YOU SO EXCITED?" Zumi flinched and answered, "I just found a new friend ." Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky were laughing so hard and then Tigger said "Who wants to be friends with you Zumi?" "A dog named Brenda." "Oh you made friends with Brenda huh?" "Wait how do you know Brenda?" Zumi asked "We also often bully her too." Zumi didn't say anything. "Well I don't think bullying people is very nice at all." Zumi said at last. Tigger, Fancy, and Bunky turned around and walked away. When the bell rang, the animals raced to their lines and waited until their teacher let them in. When Mrs. Ruby let her class in, the animals sat at their seats and got ready to learn. As Mrs. Ruby continued her lesson, it seemed like forever until she said "Time for lunch." All of the animals got up and went to lunch. When lunch was over, the animals headed out for recess. Zumi went to look for Brenda, and not for long Zumi did find Brenda. When Zumi saw Brenda, she had holes in her cloths and other stuff. Zumi had her mouth open wide and said "Brenda w-w-w-what happened to you?" "Oh it's just Tigger and his gang of bullies." Brenda answered. "I don't like Tigger and his gang of bullies. The only way I know is to make a plan to stop all this bullying." Zumi replied. "That's a great idea" Brenda said. "Ok lets meet at the flagpole and then we can walk to my house after school and think of a plan." Zumi said. When the bell rang, the animals lined up by their classroom door. Mrs. Ruby read a book called "Once Upon a Animal Life."

After a few more hours of teaching, it was time for P.E and most of the animals love P.E especially the dogs in my class. Today we got to run in a big circle four times, and I am not a big fan of running but the dogs in my class are like professionals at running. After forty-five minutes of P.E the bell rang and our P.E teacher dismissed us. When Zumi exited the school, she walked to the flagpole and saw Brenda waiting for her there. Zumi went up to Brenda and asked "Are you ready to go?" Zumi asked, "Yes, I am ready to go." When Zumi and Brenda walked to Zumi's house, they hurried up to Zumi's room and Brenda said "First let's do our homework and then we could think of the plan." "That sounds great." Answered Zumi. When Brenda and Zumi were done with their homework, Zumi pulled out a piece of paper, from a drawer and said to Brenda "Got any ideas when you were walking home?" "No, I wasn't thinking and I was just enjoying my walk." answered Brenda. Silence filled the room then Zumi finally said "I got an idea! We will bully Tigger and his gang and then we will tell them how it feels to be bullied, and maybe they will be nicer after!" "That's a great idea Zumi!" Brenda said. "The only problem is that we don't know that much about bullying animals, because we've been good for so long and now we are going to be bad for a couple of minutes so I really don't know what to do." Zumi moaned. "But Tigger and his gang have been bullying us for four years so we must learn a little bit of bullying not too much." Brenda said. "That is true but I don't think I am good at it too." Zumi said. "We could practice tomorrow at your house." Brenda suggested "Good idea, and let's walk to my house again and practice. But remember we are just bullying for a couple of minutes not for the rest of lives." Zumi warned, "Yeah, I know that." Brenda answered. The next day, when Zumi got dressed and went down to eat breakfast her mom asked Zumi "Is your backpack ready?" "Of course it is." Zumi answered. When her mom dropped her off to school she walked to the line and dropped her backpack at the end of the line, then she went to find Brenda. After a long time of looking she, finally found Brenda but the bell just rang so she turned around and walked to the line. Mrs. Ruby let the animals enter the classroom. When it was lunch recess, Zumi and Brenda met together and Brenda asked Zumi "Are you ready to stop the bullying at our school?" "I'm ready." Zumi answered. Brenda and Zumi went off to find Tigger and his gang. When Zumi and Brenda finally found Tigger and his gang, Tigger asked "What do you want?" Zumi said, "Give us your fur." Zumi and Brenda burst out laughing and then Brenda said "Didn't you hear us? We said give us your fur!". Tigger and his gang were sooo embarrassed. Bunky started to cry and Fancy tried to hold back his tears but failed and then burst out crying. Tigger didn't cry but he asked "Why are you so mean?" "We wanted you to know how it feels to be bullied and wanted you to stop." Zumi answered. Tigger nodded his head and said "Now I know how it feels to be bullied and we will stop." The next day the animals were curious why Tigger and his gang are so nice all of a sudden. Zumi and Brenda explained what happened yesterday and the animals didn't get bullied in elementary school ever again. **The End**

# ZOOPERIOR NEWS

## Bauer the Hockey Dog ♦ By Peyton Cullaton



It was a warm Saturday afternoon. Bauer was playing with his brother Max, his sister Sissy, and his friend Chloe. "Come catch me guys". He sped around the yard with delight. He made a stop. He wondered why the other dogs wouldn't chase him. Then Bauer noticed that Boxer, the bully of the neighborhood was walking up toward the fence, this made Bauer run as fast as ever to the back door. All the other dogs followed him to the door and began to scratch frantically to be let in. Once in the house Bauer's owner Peyton called out "Bauer it's time for hockey." Bauer said a big goodbye to Max, Sissy, and Chloe and hopped into the Jeep and left for the hockey rink. When he got to the rink, he saw two beagles in their hockey gear talking to Coach Husky. He thought to himself "I wonder who these guys are." When the two Beagles went into the locker room, Bauer followed. He asked the beagles "what are your names?" The two beagles said nothing. Bauer thought that was pretty rude not to answer a simple question. He ignored them and went on with getting dressed for hockey and proceeded to go onto the ice. For the beginning part of the practice Bauer played games and for the other half the team did ten drills all of which the beagles said nothing. Bauer left the rink wondering what the deal is with those Beagles. Once Bauer got home his owner Peyton and her first best friend Bridget decided to take Bauer for a walk. Halfway down the back path Bauer spotted Boxer, the neighborhood bully, running at top speed right at them. Boxer suddenly halted two feet in front of them and said in a raspy voice "hi, Bauer, oh look how scared you are" and then just as quick as he appeared he disappeared. After the run in with Boxer Peyton decided it was best if they went home, besides Bauer needed new hockey gear from the store. They got home and immediately loaded into the car, Peyton's mom offered to drive them to the hockey store. Bauer browsed the aisles looking for the newest and coolest doggie hockey gear. He ended up getting Bauer S50 skates and a shiny new Easton doggie helmet. As Bauer was leaving the store he was daydreaming about skating on the ice with all his new equipment. They arrived home to Peyton's dad singing.....TIME FOR DINNER!!!! Bauer was excited because he knew he was going to get a big bowl full of Beniful, his favorite meal. Just as Bauer was finishing up Bauer heard his best, best friend Ernie scratching on the doggie door. Bauer went over and let Ernie in. Bauer asked "what ya doing here?" Ernie replied "Oh just came to see what you were up to." Suddenly Nico, Peyton's hamster yelled as loud as he could "I know the names of the two Beagles." Bauer was thinking about those Beagles all night trying to figure out what their deal was. Bauer immediately ran over to Nico's cage and said "Nico, seriously you know their names? How do you know their names?" "Yap-o-rooni I do. I'm psychic." Bauer said "Well what are their names?" Nico said "Before I tell you I want you to let me play in my hamster ball." Bauer went over and fetched the ball and dropped it right in front of Nico all slobbery. "There, you happy?" Bauer said. "Yes I am" Nico said. Finally, Bauer thought to himself. Nico said with a smarty pants voice "Their names are Dodger and Belmont. They can't talk all they do is howl, that is why they didn't say anything." Bauer finally could stop thinking about why those beagles wouldn't talk to him, thanks to his crazy psychic hamster Nico. Bauer thought to himself I sure do live in a crazy house! The End

## Peter the Hero Frog ♦ By Grant Myers

One boring day, green spotted Peter the frog was sitting on his boring rock listening to the water. Suddenly he heard a weird crack. Then it stopped and then it went again and again! Until Peter went to investigate then the sky looked darker that moment. Suddenly out of nowhere BARK! A giant blood hound right in front of his face. He saw himself go white in the every place. Suddenly he heard the croak again and now in a deeper tone. He know knew he had to help. But he had to get past the stubborn blood hound. Then he saw it a gardener snake was eating his best friend Billy the horned frog. Suddenly, the blood hound tried to eat Peter but Peter was too quick and the blood hound missed him by an inch. He thought he wasn't going to get out of this heck of a mess. Then he heard Billy croak in alot of searing pain. Peter started to jump to the rescue. Finally he caught up to the snake but the snake saw him and slithered. So Peter took a mighty jump and landed on the snake's head. When that happened Billy managed to get loose. So bleeding Billy and Peter took the snake back to the king. It turned out Billy was the king. So he made Peter the hero and the king. The End

# ZOOPERIOR NEWS

## The Invincible 4 ♦ By Nyree Christianian



It was a warm sweaty day in Manhattan. Hot dog stands were selling hot dogs with mountain-high toppings of pickles, sauerkraut, kiwi and strawberries. Purple umbrellas were everywhere making it look like the sidewalks were a colorful flower park in the warm sun. I was on vacation with my four pets: Sandy, Amazon, Kit-Kat-Kate, and Sticky John. Sandy and Amazon are brother and sister and are geckos. Kit-Kat-Kate and Sticky John are also brother and sister except they are anoles. They were waiting patiently in their cage for their long-awaited trip to Central Park. We were all very excited to see the world's most famous park and explore.

Suddenly, there was a strange noise in the sky so I looked up. It was a blue and red plane heading straight towards the Twin Towers! I knew what I had to do. I opened the cage and told my superhero pets what was going on. Sticky John was the first to react. He told everyone to come together which made them stick together. Then Sticky John flew up to the plane like a jet. That's when Amazon did his magic. "Weeds grow and connect to the sky, let the plane know what's right" he chanted. Weeds started growing from the ground to the sky, enveloping the plane and trapping it in place. Kit-Kat-Kate flew down with her brother and waited for the signal. At the same time, Sandy turned invisible and went inside the plane to free all of the innocent hostages. When the hostages and Sandy were safe, Kit-Kat-Kate lit herself on fire and stepped near the weeds. The dry weeds caught fire instantly with the bad guys Firey, Sparky, and Flamey trapped in the plane with its engines full of gas. There was a big "kaboom" and metal, dust, and who knows what greeted us down below. Good thing people had their purple umbrellas up, which turned gray and got all dirty with ash. Then I heard another sound, it sounded much worse than the plane blowing up.

It went "Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep, Beep." Very annoying. My arm reached over and smashed the alarm clock. I woke up from my amazing dream looking forward to seeing my four best friends in Mrs. Sander's room, [The Invincible 4](#).

## Billy and the Beetles ♦ By Noel Semanik

Now we give you Billy and the beetles!!! Yeah, Billy! I love you Bobby! You are awesome Bob! One hour later, they were talking about their next concert in New Orleans. Two days later, they were getting on their private jet. Ten minutes after they got in they were in the air over the forest. All of the sudden, one of the engines burst into flames. They were forced to jump into the forest. When they were down they met one of Billy's old friends. His name was Heggy. He has a lot of new friends. So Billy, Bob and Bonny agreed to have Martygra in the forest. They had the biggest concert of their lives so they decided to live with Heggy.

## Sparky ♦ By Laura Zhang

I was at the mountains on a sunny day with my family. We had a great picnic table near a lake, and a tree was right over us. I asked my mom if I could wander around. She said okay as long as I'm back at 12:00 P.M. for the picnic. I stood there, still for a minute. Then I bolted off. I finally reached the top of the hill in what seemed like a million hours. I looked down and saw the lake. It was beautiful. Then I heard something behind me. I looked back and saw nothing. But then, I saw a figure behind some bushes. I inched toward it. Then a horse popped out behind the bushes. The horse stared at me and tears were coming out of its eyes. I stroked his mane and slowly it calmed down. Then it told me that its name is Sparky and he's a boy. Then he starts crying again. "What's wrong?" I asked. He said he had wandered off and lost his family. Then I calmed him down again and told him that I would help him find his family. We were looking for his parents, when I remembered something. We could do it by voice. I told Sparky to neigh loudly.

### 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

# ZOOPERIOR NEWS

## **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

## **Super Spy Hamsters ♦ By Matt Shen**

It was a warm, hot, beautiful day and Puff Ball, Honey, Presto, Waffles, Flame, Bob and Nick, all members of the Super Spy Club, were all in their car when Spooky, a fellow hamster called. Flame picked it up and said, "Hello Spooky." Spooky said in a deep but soft voice, "I've got a mission for you guys. You need to catch the thief, Jack the Rabbit, and bring him to jail before he causes more mayhem." We said, "Ok", even though it was our day off and drove off into the sun. After that, Presto waved his wand and before you'd notice, we were in Jack's lair. "How did you guys get here so fast?" exclaimed Jack. Quickly, Presto hid his wand and said, "Um, I really don't know." "Well, never mind that," said Jack as he pushed a glowing red button. Instantly, the metal ground floor fell beneath them all! Cats jumped at them and Waffles yelled, "Ahhhhhhhhhhhh, not cats! Oh I'm dreadfully scared of cats because this one time....." "THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR STORIES Waffles!" everyone exclaimed. Waffles sadly mumbled, "Sorry," as they climbed onto each other's shoulders to get out. They came up to the surface, they were puzzled and asked each other, "Where do you think Jack went?" All of the sudden they heard a flush and Jack came out of the bathroom and the battle began.

First, Puff Ball rolled into a tight, furry ball and Nick, wearing his lucky Santa hat and belt, picked up Puff Ball and swung him like a bowling ball. Puff Ball landed right in Jack's stomach knocking him to the ground! Next, Bob yelled, "hamster pile everyone!" Then all of the hamsters jumped on Jack and all that was visible was a furry mountain. The hamsters could hardly make out the words, "I give up" muffled Jack from down below. They cheered their victory! The hamsters found the stolen goods and brought Jack to jail. It was just a normal day for the Super Spy Hamsters.

## **Zoo-perior ♦ By Elise Parkes**

Have you ever heard of pets being spies?

Well, a few of Mrs. Sanders' pets are spies. Let us begin.

One day Slip and Slide, aquatic turtles detected a bomb in Superior Elementary. What could they do? That night, Kingsley, Jack, Lucky Jr., Sandy, Amazon, Turbo, Slip, and Slide, all spies, had a meeting with Paw Spys. They needed to find the bomb, then disconnect it, and then arrest the culprit in 7 days. Their mission had just begun. The animals tried to start the next day, but they couldn't because it was school hours. Around 4 o'clock, they all started planning. "We're all going to look for the bomb early tomorrow morning," said Amazon.

The next day, the animals all started looking for the bomb, like Amazon said. Sandy and Amazon were to go out and look for clues around the school while Kingsley, Jack, Lucky Jr., and Turbo try to sniff out the bomb with Slip and Slides special help. The next day the animals had another meeting. They had found out something that would help them a lot. "The bomb is not in the home room classrooms, not even in the school!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" Kingsley, Jack, Lucky Jr., Turbo, Sandy, Amazon, Slip, and Slide all said together. Twenty-four hours later, they all found out the bomb was underground, under the school!!!!!! But, it wasn't far from the entrance. They just didn't know how to get it. Well, you know that not all furry animals are outstanding diggers.

They all looked at Turbo and Kingsley. Turbo was supposed to dig, and Kingsley was going to follow behind, sniffing for the bomb. He was also going to carry the bomb back very carefully. Jack and Lucky Jr. disconnected it very carefully and easily. On Saturday afternoon, the sixth day, the police arrested Dr. Bobby Jack Jakesteiner Jr., a visitor to the town Superior. Kingsley, Sandy, Amazon, Lucky Jr., Jack, Slip, Slide, and Turbo, were all given awards for their outstanding bravery and heroism.

# ZOOPERIOR NEWS

## Let's Be Friends ♦ By Brooke Selby

Once there were seven hamsters who belonged in a pet store waiting to get a home. "Scootles. Scootles! Wake Up," said Pen shaking Scootles, trying to wake him up. "Come on Scootles." Scootles slowly got up, he stretched and stretched and he stretched. "What time is it?" he asked with a yawn. "9:15, you slept for two more hours" Lolly told him butting into the conversation. "Get up, we need to get ready" "Why?" Scootles asked. "Because there are five more days until Christmas." Pen told him. "Wow, five? I do need to get ready." Scootles soon got ready in a flash! Three days had passed and they still never got a home. "We'll never get a home," cried Winkle. "Don't say never." Nugget told Winkle. It was 11:30 in the afternoon and Winkle, Nuggets, Scootles, Lolly, Pip Squeek and Pen were playing squeek, squeek, hamster while Tex was on the lookout. Soon Tex saw a rich girl with blonde hair and a purse on her arm with her dad and two people on each side wearing two suits. "Oh father, I can't wait to get a hamster." she said with a smile and when Tex heard her words he yelled down "Get cute, get cutie, the girl wants a hamster!" All the hamsters got cute. As the girl went down the aisle, she pointed to their cage. "Oh, I would like all seven." "Yee, haaa!" Tex shouted "A new home at last!" Soon all the hamsters were getting in a white fancy car. One red-coat guy opened the door for the little girl. The girl sat down, put the purse down and put on her seat belt. "This is the best day ever!" said Winkle to all the other hamsters, but they were all shivering in the corner. "What are you scared of?" he asked, then he heard a sound come from above him, "Rrrruffff!!" "Ahhhh!" he screamed, joining the others. "Don't be scared, I'm Rosey, I don't eat other animals." the hamsters relaxed. "Feeeww, we thought you were going to eat us." "No, not at all, I wanted to ask if you guys wanted... if you wanted to be... Never mind" she said very shy. "Tell us, tell us." they insisted. "Be, be... friends," she said in disappointment. "Oww" they sighed. "We...." started Scootles, "are you nuts?!?!?" yelled Lolly. "Being friends with a dog – how gross?" she said learning back holding her nose. "Yeee haw, I always wanted a pet dog." "Tex..." they said all together. "He's not a pet," Pen told him. "Sorry, we could try?" he suggested. "Tex is right, we should try." Nuggets told them. They then started to huddle and whisper, Rosey was trying to listen. "We're done and the answer is .... YES!" "Oh, I'm so happy, I'm sure Fluffy would be proud!" Rosey cheered. "Ummm... Rosey, who is Fluffy?" Pip Squeak asked. "This is Fluffy!" "Meeeoowww!" "Oh dear" they

## Stealth Penguin ♦ Harris Hafeez

One day at the army museum of Pearl Harbor, Curious E'llie and his master "George" who was thinking "When do we eat?" E'llie on the other side was looking at a stealth bomber. But they went into a room called "The Revolutionary war." George was thinking, "I want ice cream." But E'llie wanted to be in a stealth bomber more than anything so he thought on how to open that hatch? So he was curious. E'llie saw a colonial musket used in the Revolutionary war, but Ellie knew that the end of the musket was perfect for opening the hatch. E'llie grabbed the weapon and ran (or waddled) over the stealth bomber and pried open the hatch. E'llie thought, "a penguin flies" sadly he was wrong. E'llie lunged for the controls. The plane jolted forward! George was hit by the wing to! E'llie accidentally opened the hatch. George got in, then the hatch closed. E'llie doesn't know that he's flying over the Atlantic Coast and is very close to the "release nuclear missile" button. E'llie saw a pillow ship and then George points at it and hits the "release nuclear missile" button. "Hey, what's that?" questions Captain Mark of the Pillow Ship. In minutes the ship explodes and pieces of the Pillow Inc. ship smashes into the back plane, in other words it crashed. But he landed on a pillow and floated back to Hawaii. P.S. George was arrested, not E'llie. The End

## The New York Zoo ♦ By Soha Khadem

One sunny summer day in New York, a young boy named Jack and his nice babysitter named Susan went to the New York Zoo. The two were in its crowded and stuffy gift-shop. Jack was sitting in his navy blue stroller while Susan was talking to her friend. 4 year-old Jack thought, "Why don't I go explore the zoo?" He didn't have to think long, because the next minute, he was up and scurrying along the New York Zoo! It was getting dark. Tourists were leaving to their apartments. "Oh no!" thought Jack. "I want to stay longer!" He hid behind a hot dog stand, praying that he wouldn't be seen. The Zoo was absolutely still. The giant clock ticked hour to hour until... it struck 12:00 A.M. There was a racket of sound, mostly coming from the penguins habitat. Jack curiously tip toed in. Aleck the Lion, Bubbles the Penguin and MANY, MANY more animals were partying to "Dynamite" by Taio Cruz. "Paaaaartey!" shouted a voice. "Hey," thought Jack, "that sounds like, like someone I know... Obama!" Jack hollered out loud, confused. The party stopped. Everyone froze and stared at Jack. "What?" he demanded to know. Jack looked down. He had squished the penguins food. "Get him!" the angry mob screamed. Jack woke up. Thank Goodness! It was just a dream. 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](mailto:katebsales@comcast.net)) or Beth Robertson ([bethr1997@comcast.net](mailto:bethr1997@comcast.net)). We would love to hear some fresh, new ideas!

Sincerely, Kate and Beth