

Kids, Ink

Written by kids, for kids

Year 25

Spring Edition Issue

Dear Readers:

Welcome to the 2023-2024 Kids, Ink. Newspaper. This club is for kids from third to fifth grade who love to research and write. Kids, Ink. members have worked very hard to put this newspaper together. This is the 25th year kids have been researching, interviewing, and writing about topics of their choosing. Reporters have had a blast writing this newspaper, and we hope that you enjoy reading articles about Willow Creek happenings, environmental issues, unique animals, interviews of important groups, jokes, and so much more. We hope you join next year!

Kids, Ink. Members

Emilia T.	Anna L.
Anay G.	Bill T.
Lilian L.	Joanne L.
Joanna Xi	Mackinzie F
Eleanor K.	Serena C.
Ayati G.	Zoe J.
Olivia S.	Tessa L.
Rowan P.	June P.
Clara K.	Will H.
Ila S.	



“If there is a book you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.” -Toni Morrison

“Whether or not you write well, write bravely.”-Bill Stout

“Writing is an act of discovering what you think and what you believe.”-Dan Pink

“If you want to change the world, pick up your pen and write.”-Martin Luther

“Write quickly and you will never write well, write well, and you will soon write quickly.” -Marcus Fabius Quintilianus

“You can make anything by writing.” C.S. Lewis

“I can shake off everything as I write; my sorrows disappear, my courage is reborn.” -Anne Frank

Camp Cheley **Clara K.**

The 5th graders had an awesome time at Camp Cheley. They stayed for two nights and three days near Rocky Mountain National Park. Fifth graders did an endless list of activities that were fun, built teamwork, used perseverance, and explored the outdoors. Three of the top things that made the trip so fun were the rock wall, ropes course, and the night walk.

First, the rock wall was an indoor climbing area with 5 levels of walls that touched the ceiling of an enormous building. Kids were wearing either climbing or belaying harnesses. The rock wall was fun because it was exciting to reach the top of the rock wall and feel like you had accomplished something. Another thing that made the rock wall so fun was to climb the wall and just have the experience of climbing something hard. On the rock walls there were a lot of tiny colorful rocks drilled on the wall that were easy to slip on and fall off the wall. Some of the rocks were so tiny that you could barely get your foot on them without slipping off them and falling.

Second, the ropes course was another thing that made the trip so fun. The ropes course is an obstacle that kids try to get through using a lot of teamwork and strategies while having fun. Some of the things that they had at the ropes course were ropes that are hung to trees and you try to climb or get through the holes without touching the rope.

Also, the night walk was a special activity that all of the 5th graders looked forward to doing. The night walk is a fun walk when it's dark out. It is quiet out and all the parents that came and volunteered for the trip hid in the bushes, grass and trees to make sure that you were safe and did not go off the trail or start walking the wrong way.

These three things made the trip really fun in addition to many other things that were there. Camp Cheley is a great place to be for a field trip and is something to look forward to. It is super fun to have the experience and to build relationships there as well!



Willow Creek Sports Newscast! **By William H.**

What is going on in intramurals and gym right now?

Mrs. Book has been kind enough to take time out of her day to make intramurals for grades 3-5. Intramurals is an after school session for those who want extra gym time. Thus far this year, intramurals have focused on jump rope, pickleball, and basketball. Next round of intramurals will be volleyball. Then that is the last intramurals of the year!!!

Over the course of the year, the gym has had units of jump rope, hockey, and basketball. Mrs. Book even teamed up with Ms. Bennet to make a dynamic duo for a dance unit. This was emphasized with a Student Council sponsored evening dance. Willow Creek had fun learning dance with Mrs. Book and Ms. Bennet. We will be learning volleyball next unit in the gym, then we will get to do track and field!! Lastly we will do some fun games like quidditch from Harry Potter. At the end of April we will get to have the opportunity to see the jump rope team perform at an assembly!

Fun fact about jumping rope:

1. One fun fact about jumping rope is the world record for 30 second speed jumping is 188 jumps!

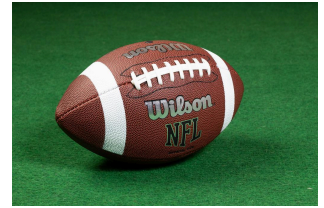
Fun fact about dance :

1. Dancers are known to be disciplined, focused and high achievers who tend to be successful students and hard workers.

Football

Football is an American sport that is a fun and competitive sport. Willow Creek gym class doesn't play traditional football but students do play flag football.

Downs in football usually confuse people but it is pretty straightforward. Downs in football is when one team with possession of the ball is trying to move the ball ten yards to get the first down. A team gets four downs (four tries) to move the ball to the first down marker. You can get to the first down marker by either throwing the ball to a wide receiver or handing it off to the running back.



Positions

There are 11 players on both sides of the ball at once. On the offense there is a quarterback (one who throws the ball), there are two running backs (players who run the ball), two wide receivers (players who catch the ball), one tight end (one who blocks for the running back and also catches the ball), there is a left tackle and a right tackle on both sides of the ball (these players both protect the quarterback from getting **sacked**) the tackles are usually more athletic than the other players protecting the quarterback), there are two guards one on each side of the ball (guards usually protect the quarterback and running back from getting tackled behind the line of scrimmage), then the last position on the offense is the center (center snaps the ball to the quarterback and protects him and the running back from getting tackled). There can either be two running backs and two wide receivers, or one running back and three wide receivers.

On the defensive side of the ball, there are also 11 players and 7 positions. There is the cornerback who guards the wide receivers or comes inside the **offensive zone** to tackle the running back if a player gets the ball, then there is the outside linebacker who protects inside runs and the quarterback **sneaks**. Then on the defensive line there is a defensive end who protects the outside area and rushes the quarterback. Another position on the defensive line is the defensive tackle. They try to prevent opportunities for the running back to gain yards, and also rush the quarterback. Then there is the middle linebacker who comes in to help tackle the running back and also help guard the running back if they go out for a pass, the last position is called the safety, the safety stays in the back field to help out the corner backs if the receiver gets too far in the backfield to create less opportunity for the offense to gain yards.

If you have tried to watch football and thought it was too confusing to watch now you can watch football and understand the real fun of it.

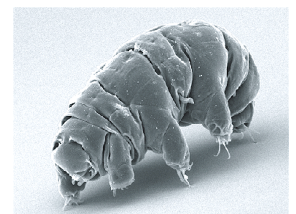
Key Vocab

- Sacked (Sacked means when the players on the defensive line get past the offensive line and tackle the quarterback which then causes them to lose yards.)
- Offensive zone (Offensive zone means the area within where the quarterback runs.)
- Quarterback sneaks (A quarterback sneak is when the quarterback finds an opening and decides to run past the line of scrimmage.)

ANIMALS

The Amazing Tiny Survivors By Mackinzie F.

What can survive anything in the world? Tiny micro organisms that are less than a millimeter big can survive anything! Strong and mighty, people can bake them, deep freeze them, crush them and dehydrate them but it won't do anything!



People took these guys to space, and threw them in a volcano, they were still alive! These tiny creatures are called tardigrades. They can also be called “Water Bears” or “Moss Piglets” too, but tardigrades are their scientific name. So now you know what can survive anything in the world.

Tardigrades are not unusual. In fact, they are in very common places. When it's a foggy or rainy day, go to a backyard, you can easily find them on patches of moss. However, to see them you will need a microscope. There is a picture of them so now you can see what they look like. Cute but creepy! Maybe you can see why they have the nicknames they have.

Similar to spiders, tardigrades have eight legs but they only have two black eyes. Unlike spiders, they come in a variety of colors. They are normally white, green, orange, and red. Tardigrades have round mouths and a flat nose. They also have very sharp teeth and claws, but they can't harm a human in any type of way; they are too small. They also have brains, but very tiny ones. They eat algae and flowering plants so that makes them an herbivore. Phew!

Strong and mighty are these creatures and though they are indestructible they can only live up to a few months! It's so sad, but compared to a fly they live a long time because flies only live for a few hours. You might ask: “How can they survive anything?” The answer is they have a process called cryptobiosis (crip-toe-bio-sis). Cryptobiosis is very complicated but it is basically a pause in all living processes making an organism able to survive through hardship. You can look at the definition of cryptobiosis by clicking [here](#).

I love these little fellas, and that's why I wrote a whole article about them! If you are really interested in them, then here are some more factoids to know about them. Ok, did you know that tardigrades are related to spiders and velvet worms? Or, that they were discovered in 1773? The person that discovered them named them tardigrade because it means slow crawler in German! If they're slow crawlers and so tiny, imagine how long it would take them to get across a football field! My estimate would be about a week. If we took that long, we would never get anything done. If we had to run a 5k and we were that slow, then we would take FOREVER! Now you know a lot about tardigrades so go tell your friends about everything you learned

Horses

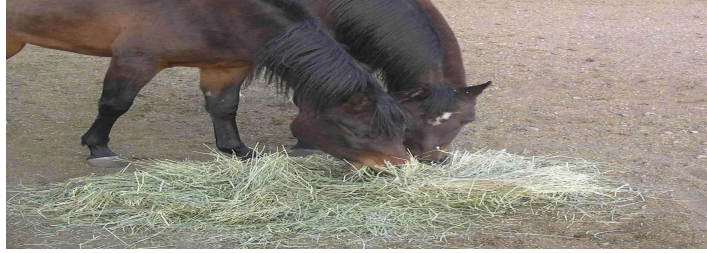
By Lilian L.

Do you like horse-back riding? If you do, then you probably like horses too!

Horses are awesome. Horses have existed for 50 million years. Currently, horses live on all continents except Antarctica.



Food: They can eat up to 12-15 pounds of grass, hay, haylage, and fresh fruits or vegetables.



Sleeping: Also, horses mostly sleep while standing up. That means if they are not moving and their eyes are closed, they are sleeping! If they are lying down it is easier to know that they are sleeping, but it is really hard for them to stand up when they are trying to stand up, and when a predator is coming.

Running: They are fast runners. They can run up to 25-30 miles per hour!

Life: They can also live up to 25-30 years old!
Some horses can even live up to 50-60 years old!

I really think horses are awesome. What about you?



ALL ABOUT SHEEP

By Joanne L.

It is a cold, winter day. You and your family are snuggling under a cuddly, warm, furry blanket by the fire. Do you ever wonder how blankets were made?

Most blankets are made from sheep's wool. Sheep's wool is the fur of a sheep. Sheeps are not killed for their fur - thank goodness. Instead sheeps are shaven and their fur is turned into string. Sheep are so amazing!



Most sheep eat apples, grass, grains, alfalfa, barley, hay, legumes, soybeans meal, and silage. Sheep can live 10-12 years. Some sheep get their water from pastures full of water-rich grasses and clovers when it is cool in temperature. If it's hot outside, sheep need water every 3-10 days.

There are so many breeds of sheep in the world. There are about 1000 breeds of sheep in the world! Isn't it amazing?

Sheeps are mammals, which means they are warm-blooded, their babies don't come out of eggs, they have hair or fur, and they have more complex brains than other animals.

Sheeps are so amazing. My favorite kind of animal is the sheep for many reasons. First of all, it is my zodiac sign. Second, it gives people blankets and coats to keep us all warm. Lastly, baby sheeps are so cute! How about you, do you think sheep are the best?

CREATIVE WRITING

Warm Rabbit Joanna X.

One day I saw a girl rabbit on the road. She was so sad because she had lost her mom. So, I picked it up and brought it home. First thing I did was warm the rabbit up. Next, I went to buy food so I could give it to my rabbit. She was very hungry. I also gave my rabbit a bed. I made the bed out of a pillow. I gave my rabbit the name Ila. Ila means blissful summers in French. My rabbit was so happy! She fell asleep right away.

The next day, the first adventure I did with Ila was go to the park. I put my rabbit on the swing. The rabbit's ears are up and flying in the wind. We are both giggling with happiness. Afterwards, we head home to eat our lunch. Ila has carrots and apples while I eat meat. One day I on the grass saw the one boy rabbit I wanted to give her home so I picked him to go to my home. I pet he was the girl rabbit because no cage, gave a boy rabbit name Ben and all and Ben is playing. The Ben and the Ila make a cute babe.



PLANET EARTH

Fossils By Rowan. P

Fossils are an interesting part of planet Earth. I think fossils are very interesting. Read down below to find out a lot about fossils!

What Is A Fossil?

Fossils are leftover bones from dinosaurs, parts of plants, and trace elements of other animals that lived millions of years ago. Fossils are dinosaur footprints too!

Fossils are packed with important information. Scientists can find out a lot of stuff just from looking at a fossil. They can learn a plant fossil's life cycle. For animals, fossils can teach scientists about the evolution of an animal, how the animal adapted, and where it lived (British Geological Survey (BGS) 2023). For example, they can figure out how big the dinosaur was and how fast it moved (Melissa Stewart *Fossils*).

Main Types Of Fossils

There are many different types of fossils in the world. For example, there is fossilized wood. You're probably thinking, *What's fossilized wood?* Well, you're about to find out. Fossilized wood is a piece of wood from the time of dinosaurs. The wood rots and hard minerals replace the wood. The wood starts to turn hard and turns into a fossil. To image to the right is one of fossilized wood.



There's also an ammonite fossil. An ammonite was once a creature that was similar to a squid. This amazing creature lived in the Jurassic period. An ammonite shell looks a lot like seashell with ridged edges. To the left is an ammonite fossil!

Have you ever seen the movie Jurassic Park/World? A fossil that has insects in amber comes out in the movie. Those insects were really trapped in sticky resin that came from pine trees. Over the years, the resin starts to turn into amber. In Jurassic Park, they find a mosquito that was stuck in rock hard amber. To the right is what a mosquito in amber looks like!

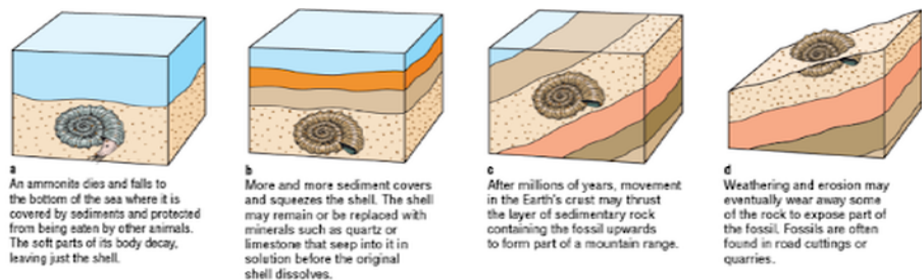


First Dino Fossil Found

The first dinosaur fossil to be found was by Robert Plot in 1677. Plot thought the bone belonged to a really big human. Later William Buckland realized the giant bone was actually a dinosaur fossil. In 1842, Sir Richard Owen named the animal "Dinosauria" meaning "terrible lizard". This is where the term dinosaur comes from.

Fossil Formation

In order for a fossil to form the creatures die and the body has to sink into the seabed. The skin of the creature starts to rot. Sediment has to cover the fossil. Sediments are small particles of rock, sand, and plant parts. Next, the sediment thickens and begins to become stone. Third, the fossil dissolves and the mold is formed. After that, the fossil is buried underground for 3-4 million years just waiting to be found!



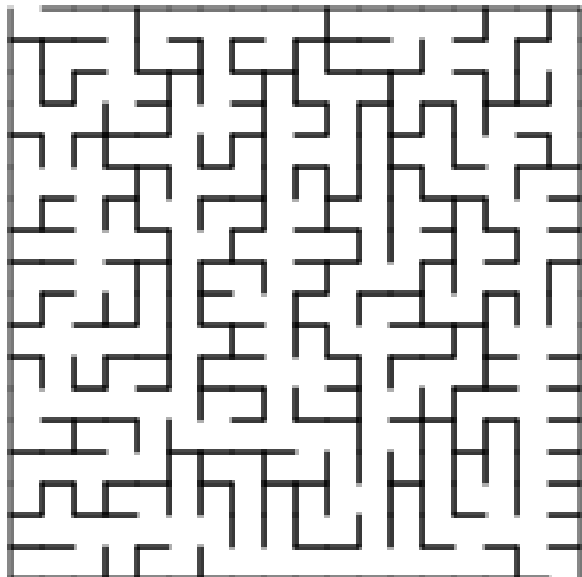
science8sc.weebly.com/fossil-types.html

<https://www.discovery.com/science/First-Dinosaur-Fossil-Name>

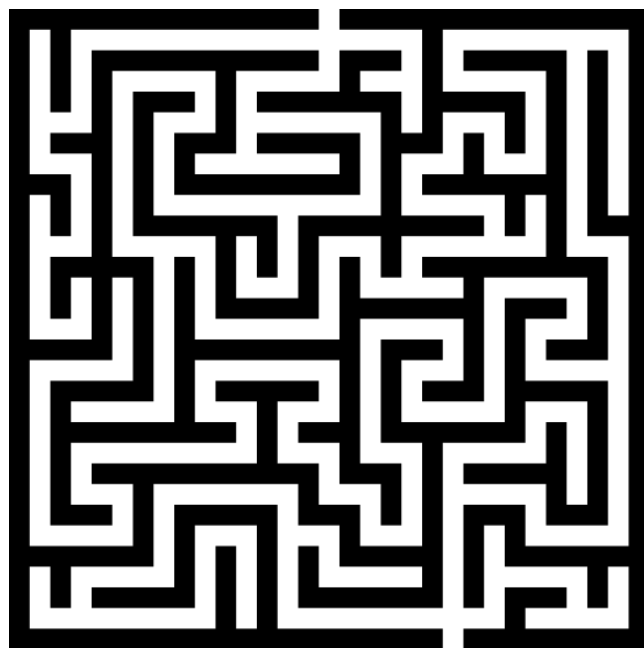
Mazes

Assembled by Anna L + Eleanor K

Start

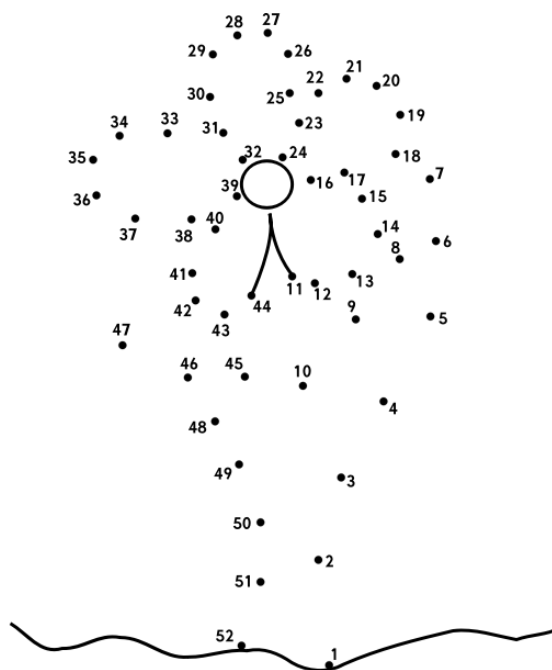
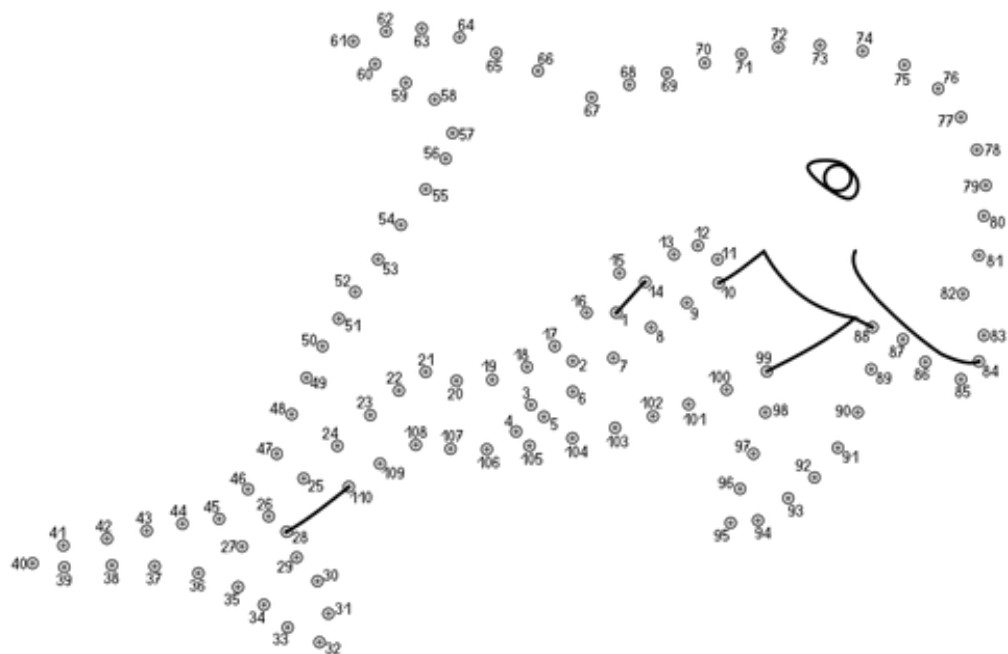


Start!



Dot-To-Dot

Assembled by Anna L + Eleanor K



Jokes

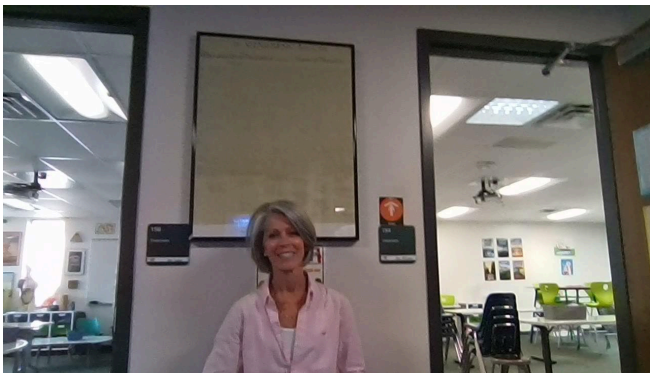
Assembled by Anna L + Eleanor K

Jokes	
Questions	Answers
What is a wolverine's favorite snack?	Animal crackers!
Why do some fish live in saltwater?	Because in pepper they sneeze!
Which fish lights up at night?	A starfish!
What is a bee's favorite Halloween costume?	A zombee!
Why did the bird rent a nest?	Because it was cheeper!
Where do fish keep their money?	A riverbank!
What did the big tomato say to the small tomato when he was falling behind?	Ketchup!
What kind of fish chases mice?	A catfish!
What do dogs eat at the movies?	Pupcorn!
Where do spiders learn to spin their webs?	On a website!
What is the strongest sea creature?	A mussel!

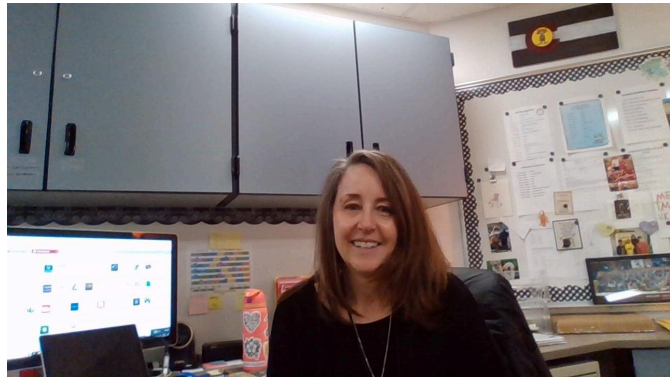
End of the year!

At the end of this year, Willow Creek will say both a sad and happy goodbye to Mrs. Wiley, Mrs. Martina, and Mrs. Link.

This is sad because these awesome teachers have been here for so long teaching kids and making happy memories. This is also very happy at the same time because they can enjoy their free time and relax from work. Let us all wish them a happy retirement at the end of the school year! We'll miss you! Look down below for pictures of great teachers!



Mrs. Wiley



Mrs. Link



Mrs. Martina