This article is about everyday people we might just see around school, but with the masks we can’t see their faces! We interviewed them about their favorite fall activity and hope you enjoy getting to know the people behind the mask.

Ms. Otivich

My favorite fall activity is cousins AG day. We celebrate the abundance of the land by going to the farm and picking a variety of fruits and vegetables including eggplant, peppers, apples, and pumpkins. It is my favorite day because I spend time with my family and enjoy the beautiful fall weather.

Mrs. Smith

My favorite fall activity is going to Sleepy Hollow on a gorgeous fall day with my family. We tour the village and visit the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery and then ride over the "Headless Horseman Bridge." If you roll down the car windows you can hear the sound of the horseman galloping behind you! There is often a Tarrytown street festival going on that we visit too. It is full of arts and crafts and great food. We usually pick out some pumpkins on our way home. Fall is my favorite season!
Mr. Elliott
Sundays in the fall are my favorite days, and the activities are always spent with family. The hot morning coffee is more enjoyable when the weather gets cool and crisp, and I love to cook Sunday breakfast. The menu usually includes brioche french toast, crepes, bacon, eggo waffles, and sometimes just honey nut cheerios so the meal can be enjoyed from a comfy couch. The rest of the day is often spent cheering on my kids' soccer team, going for bike rides, watching NFL football, doing yard work and relaxing around the house. "Sundaying" is the best fall activity!

I love to go apple picking in the fall. I love apples. I also love spending time with my family. I love how apples are crunchy and juicy. That's why I love apple picking.

- Hanna L., 6th grade

My favorite fall activity is apple picking. I love walking through the Groves of beautiful trees with Juicy apples waiting to be picked. I really enjoy filling the basket to the brim with delicious fruit. I also love coming home and making an apple pie to share with my family and friends. Apple picking is a wonderful way to spend a day in the fall and is an experience I hope everyone can have.

- Claude D., 5th grade
The fall season is a great time to adapt to the change in weather and go outside and have some fun. One of my favorite things to do is attend an outdoor block party. At these parties you can enjoy apple cider and donuts. I also love eating freshly-made apple pie and pumpkin pie. During the fall season, this is when apples are ready to eat and they are delicious!! One of my other favorite things to do in the fall is to play Golf, which is my favorite hobby.

- Mr. Spiniello

One of my favorite things about fall is apple picking. I love the crisp fall air and the delicious smells. The bright juicy apples that last a long time. This is something I look forward to every year. Apple picking is the best!

- Pilar B., 5th grade

I enjoy trick or treating because I love dressing up in fun and exciting costumes. I also like it because I get to hang out with my friends and eat delicious candy!

- Liam S., 5th grade
A Creepy Candy-less House

By Eliana DiBonaventura and Isla Sherry

Once, on a dark, rainy night—the kind of night where the thunder rumbles constantly and all anyone wants to do is hide under the covers until the storm passes—I had the scariest day of my life. I was walking home from school and saw a house with the door open! The house was in need of repair, with desolate shutters, boarded-up windows, and painted a sickly gray color.

I was so scared I wanted to run right home! But soon I forgot my fears. What caught my eye was a sign, hand-painted in red: Free Candy!

Halloween had just passed, so my parents would never let me have candy, since I still had a bunch left over from trick-or-treating. I was a goblin for Halloween, and my costume was so good everyone gave me extra candy. That’s why my parents would say: “Too much sugar.” What is the point of that? Candy is my favorite thing in the whole entire world! I even like the gross candies, like chocolate-covered ants and grasshopper lollipops! So, I could nearly taste the candy. I was so excited there was no hesitation in my rush as I bolted through the door. My parents would never need to know! Heh, heh, heh! When I stepped into the house I noticed that it was all decorated for Halloween, with bats and stuff. Eerily realistic skeletons were littered around the floor. At least it was all fake. Well, that’s what I thought, but as I took a second step over the threshold, everything came bolting right at me!

I screamed and tried to run out, but the door shut behind me. No candy was worth this much trouble! But now that didn’t matter. I couldn’t get out! I turned to the bats, but they were gone. Soon, a ghostly light filled the room. Now I was getting out of here, door shut or not. I kicked the door, and, thankfully, it broke, it being old and shabby. I ran out and never came back again.
Dogs are very popular pets to people all around the world. Dogs come in all shapes, sizes, and colors, and there are actually over 300 different dog breeds in the world!

The biggest dog breed is called the Great Dane. The biggest Great Dane was named Zeus and stood 3ft, 10 in at the shoulder. The smallest dog breed in the world is the Chihuahua. The smallest-ever Chihuahua was a four year old named Miracle Milly. She was 3.8 inches tall and weighed approximately 1 pound!

There are so many different dog breeds, but we will list the five most popular breeds. First, comes the Labrador Retriever. The Labrador Retriever is one of the most popular dog breeds in a number of countries, particularly in the Western world. Next is the French Bulldog. They are stocky, compact dogs with a friendly, mild-mannered temperament. Third is the German Shepherd. The German Shepherd is medium to large-sized. It is a working dog that originated in Germany. German Shepherds are famous for their intelligent, loyal, and hardworking nature. After the German Shepherd comes the Golden Retriever. Golden Retrievers are well-known for their calm and easygoing temperament. They are great family dogs and provide good companionship. And finally, the Bulldog. The Bulldog, also known as the English Bulldog or British Bulldog, is a medium-sized dog breed. The Bulldog is a muscular, hefty dog with a wrinkled face and a distinctive pushed-in nose.

Those are some of the more popular breeds, but there are also less common dog breeds. Some of them are: Catahoula Leopard, Chinook dog, Norwegian Lundehund, and Otterhound. We hope you learned some new facts about dogs!
Have You Ever Seen a Dog in a Cape?

Two Adorable Halloween Pet Costumes
By Akansha Muthukrishnan, Gia (Gigi) Levinson, and Jennifer (Jenny) Schofield

Have you ever seen a puppy in a taco costume or a cat dressed as Superman? Animals celebrate Halloween, too, with their own creative costumes! Here are a couple of super-cute pet costumes!

1. **Owner**: Trinity Wiese, a wacky and wonderful sixth grader  
   **Pet**: Trinity has an adorable dog named Samantha, who goes by “Sammy” most of the time  
   **Pet’s Costume**: Sammy sported a banana costume, which matched Trinity’s banana outfit. When asked why she chose a banana, Trinity excitedly replied, “I like bananas!” (Not Samantha!)

2. **Owner**: Unknown  
   **Pet**: Cat  
   Dressing up pets has become enough of a thing to earn a spot in the most recent National Geographic magazines. People dress up their pets in all kinds of goofy, imaginative, entertainingly adorable outfits, like sharks and police officers. Do you have a pet you would like to dress up? Dressing pets up is fun, but never make your pet wear something they don’t want to. Costumes for pets should be comfortable for them, so don’t make them wear anything you don’t think is a good idea. Happy Halloween!

Top Five Cutest Animals
Created By Liam Sexton And Ella Rizzo

<table>
<thead>
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<th>1st: Dog With 19 Votes</th>
<th>2nd: Wolf With 18 Votes</th>
<th>3rd: Turtle with 11 Votes</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4th: Sloth With 8 Votes</th>
<th>5th: Panda with 7 Votes</th>
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We asked 10 students at Farragut Middle School to cast their vote for the cutest animal. Then, we asked many other middle school students what they thought. To make it a competition, we only picked the top five of the 10 animals listed. These are the top five cutest animals students voted for!
Elephant Extinction!
As painful as it may be, elephants may be on their way to extinction.

Elephants are beautiful and majestic animals known for their long trunks and enormous floppy ears. Not only that, but they also contribute to tourism and community incomes in certain places in Africa and Asia. Sadly, they may be on their way to extinction, with only a depressing 40,000 to 50,000 left in the wild. We all can, and should, help in any way possible!

What YOU can do
Elephants are important, and everyone can help keep them in our ecosystem. You can donate to wildlife charities that support elephants and other animals that need help surviving. (Below the article I will list some charities that you should take a look at!) Also, be on the lookout for your use of plastic, because there have been sightings of elephants that have had plastic choking them.

More about elephants
The African elephant is a common name, but its scientific name is *loxodonta*. Elephants are herbivorous mammals and the largest land animal. Elephants are EXTREMELY heavy, weighing around 2.5–7 tons. Their height at the shoulder is approximately 8–13 feet. The average lifespan of a wild elephant is about 70 years old.

Interview questions on emotions about the current problem
1) How do you feel about elephants becoming extinct?
2) Why do you feel that way?
3) Do you think you/others should help stop this?
4) Is there anything else you would like to add?

Margo E., fifth grade:
To start our interview, Margo explained that she doesn't "feel good about it" ("it" being elephants going extinct). She told me that elephants are important for the ecosystem, are adorable, and we should do everything we can to save them. They help a lot of people, including being useful in services.

They are also the largest land animal and can protect humans and other animals from other wild animals, such as jaguars. To better explain what is said above (which are reasons they shouldn't go extinct), Margo said: “People would be hurt without them at the zoo. Some kids go to the zoo for elephants because they are so majestic, and if elephants are gone, zoos might close.”

Also, she says “yes” to all of us pitching in to keep them alive, and feels if we all join together, we could maybe donate to a good charity.

Extra tidbit by Margo: “Elephants are adorable, and (elephant) babies are even more adorable.”

Astrid K., fifth grade:
1) Astrid says that she feels “pretty sad.” Some people harm elephants and it’s not a good thing. We will be affected because they are a big part of the ecosystem.

2) “I think if they do go extinct it will cause many people’s jobs to research them no longer have jobs. Also, if they go extinct, many will lose their jobs, and it won’t be good for them. If they don’t have this job, it will take a while to get a new job.”

3) She feels the following on whether or not we should help stop their extinction: “I think we should, because if we help them go extinct, it will ruin the ecosystem. We should donate, and we can and should help them.”

4) No.

Charities you should check out:
https://www.worldwildlife.org/ & https://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/ The sources for creating this article include: National Geographic (Kids) and WWF (World Wildlife Fund)
Sixth Grade Musical
By Adeline Warner and Jenny Schofield

The sixth grade play of Beauty and the Beast was a poem on the stage and was a hit! Many sixth graders participated in this amazing event.

WELCOME TO BEAUTY AND THE BEAST!

Cast:
Narrators: Adeline W., Aurora P., Peyton S., Lily P.
Belle: Jacqueline D.
Beast: Joe D.
Gaston: Alex K.
Mrs. Pots: Lila H.
Chip: Sydney G.
Luminaire: Chloe S.
Cogsworth: Maren K.
Silly girls: Rebekah K., Kylie D., Siri L., Hanna L., Annabelle C., Trinity W., Carolina F.
Madame de la Bouche: Adelaide S.
Maurice: Levi R.
LeFou: Scarlet S.
Milkman: Lily S.
Shepherd boy: Laila V.

“Beauty and the Beast has always been a favorite of mine. I am so excited to be able to perform it on the stage!” —Adeline W.

“I am really looking forward to it! It will be a good use of my time.” —Lily P.

I hope you enjoyed our production of
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

8
Book Recommendations
By Casey Romita and Cali Pangan

Genre: Realistic fiction
*Out of My Mind*
By: Sharon M. Draper

Eleven-year-old Melody has a photographic memory. But NO ONE knows. Melody has a disability that makes her unable to talk, walk, or write. Not being able to say what she’s thinking drives her OUT OF HER MIND.

Genre: Fantasy
*The Sisters Grimm*
By: Micheal Buckley

Two orphans, Sabrina and Daphne, have no family left. Or so they think. Their supposed Grandma comes to pick them up. And then everything turns upside down. They find out shocking secrets that blow their minds.

Genre: Graphic novel/Realistic fiction
*New Kid*
By: Jerry Craft

Jordan Banks loves to draw, but his parents send him to a private school, which he doesn't really care for. Can Jordan learn who he is, tackle school, and stay true to himself?
Genre: Fantasy/Series
The Land of Stories
By: Chris Colfer

When twins, Alex and Connor, have their grandmother give them a treasured fairy-tale book, they have no idea they are about to enter The Land of Stories, where fairy tales are real.

Genre: Fantasy
Wings of Fire: The Dragonet Prophecy
By: Tui T. Sutherland

This is an amazing fantasy book. You'll be soaring through the pages in no time. Meet the dragonets of the prophecy, who are destined to save Pyrrhia from war and bloodshed.

Genre: Graphic novel/Realistic fiction
Jacky Ha-Ha
By: Adam Rau and Betty C. Tang
(Based on the novel by James Patterson.)

Jacky Hart is a girl with a bad stutter. She is also the class clown. Jacky decides she wants to change, but that’s easier said than done.
Halloween is over, but creepy things never end!  
- Dish soap  
- Black paint  
- Watercolor paper (It needs to be thick!)  
- Oil pastels (or crayons)  
- Scissors  
- Hole puncher  
- String  
- Paper cup  
- Paintbrush  
- Toothpick (or skewer)  

**Tip! This concoction is just as messy as it is creepy. Put some paper towels over your workspace!**

Use the **scissors** to cut out the shape of a bat from the **watercolor paper**. (Annoying and long part ahead!)

With the **oil pastels**, color in every inch of the paper bat. If there are any white spots, the ghosts come to get you.

Put the bat aside for the moment, and take out the **paper cup, dish soap, and black paint**.  

Pour just enough **dish soap** so it covers the bottom of the cup. Pour the same amount of **black paint** on top of the **dish soap**. Mix it all together so it resembles something that you found on the sidewalk and did not want to touch. We will call this **the potion of spiders**.

Now, take out the colorful bat again. Stick the **paintbrush** in **the potion of spiders** and rub it all around so it collects paint, just like zombies collect brains. Then paint the bat so there is no color at all.

Wait until the paint dries. Next, paint the bat again. Now wait.

In the meantime, hide from vampires. Once **the potion of spiders** has dried, use the **toothpick** to draw a bunch of creepy things on the bat. When all the creepy things are drawn, take out the **hole puncher** and punch a hole at the top. Use the **string** to tie a loop to hang the very eerie scratch-art bat wherever you like.

Note: This process can be used for ANY design!
Most Popular TV Shows
By Maria Arnon and Sofia Gagliano

The Babysitters Club (Netflix series)
Genre: Comedy-drama
First episode: July 3, 2020
The original book series by Ann M. Martin gets a modern update in this Netflix show, which features a group of five middle-school friends launching their very own babysitting business. Aside from babysitting, the girls deal with middle school drama, family changes, making new friends, and most importantly, they discover the value of independence.

The Mysterious Benedict Society (Disney+ series)
Genre: Family, Mystery, Adventure
Release date: 2021
After winning a scholarship competition, four gifted orphans—Reynie Muldoon, Sticky Washington, Kate Weatherall, and Constance Contraire—are recruited by Mr. Benedict to help save the world from a crisis known as “The Emergency.” The group infiltrates the L.I.V.E institute to find out the truth behind the crisis. Here, they find out who is behind “The Emergency.” Now the friends have to think of a plan to take them down.

Diary of a Future President (Disney+ Series)
Genre: Family, Comedy
Release date: 2020–2021
Elena Cañero Reed will one day grow up to be president, but for now, she is finding her way through her second year of middle school. Along the way, she learns useful lessons that will help her with her future success. Elena documents these lessons in her trusty diary.

Kipo and the Age of the Wonder Beasts (Netflix Series)
Genre: Action-adventure, science fantasy
Release date: 2020
Making her way in a world of mutant animals, a sheltered yet, scrappy girl named Kipo learns to survive. Along the way, she discovers her powers and gets help from a ragtag team of friends.
Falling With the Leaves

By Pilar Bates and June Dodson

Ava, who has lived in California for 10 years, is worried about what it will be like at her new home in Vermont. When she arrives there, however, she learns to adjust to change and embrace the beauty of her new surroundings.

This would be my last time here. Under the familiar shade of the grapefruit tree, feeling the rough bark under my fingers as I caressed the strong trunk, lost in my thoughts, I wondered what my new home in Vermont would be like. Would it be as warm as sunny California, where I’d lived my whole life? I wondered if it would also be covered in sandy, golden beaches where I could lie on the warm sand with a book all day long under the shade of an umbrella.

I heard a loud voice interrupting my musings. “Ava!” I whirled around to see who it was. “Time to get to the airport.”

I groaned and came grudgingly. I took one last longing gaze at the old grapefruit tree. I would never see it again. I dragged my feet to the car and got inside. The ride was long and miserable. When we arrived at the airport, the gate was called and we boarded the plane. The flight was long and tiring, so we arrived at the airport late at night.

It was dark and hard to see, but I could tell that we weren’t surrounded by palm trees anymore. The oaks were tall and twisted, just like my stomach felt, and surrounded by thorny shrubbery. I shrank back into my seat, clasping a hand over my eyes.

When I opened my eyes next, there was a dark, rectangular figure towering over our car. I made my way into our new house with the rest of my family, shivering in my T-shirt. It was the morning. I braced my arms to push myself up, but dread anchored me to my mattress. What’s it gonna be like here? I might as well sleep the day through rather than endure the
sight of Mom and Dad and Evan unpacking all of my belongings and putting them somewhere new. I woke up around noon. I got up and stumbled down the creaky, unfamiliar stairs.

I spent the next week exploring our house. It was small, and the walls were plain white. Mom said that we would probably have renovations done, and, of course, I could redo my room. I thought about painting it the same sky-blue as my old room. But in the end, I decided not to. We were in a new place, and I wanted to try something new. My parents convinced me that this was the perfect opportunity to try things that I never really considered back in California: get into different activities, make new friends. I decided to take their advice. Maybe this could have some upsides to it.

Eventually, something odd started to happen. The leaves on the thick, tall oak trees started changing, like catching fire. First, there were sparks—little snippets of crimson and gold flying through the air—but before I knew it, whole treetops burst into flames. It was really weird. Are the trees themselves dying? Is it a fungus?

When sixth grade started, my stomach was twisting up in tight knots. Nobody here knew me . . . but they all knew each other . . . how was I supposed to survive the year? Would the other students think I was weird? Even if I couldn’t detangle my insides, I managed to detangle my hair. When it was time, I boarded the bus along with a bunch of unfamiliar kids. I had never been on a bus before; back in California, I had always walked to our campus, the sun warming my back the whole way.

School was fine. I talked to a few other kids, who seemed nice. Maybe I would make some friends after all. I felt the big knot in my stomach slowly unravel.

I walked home alone down the unfamiliar roads, gazing up at the trees as I walked. That weekend we hiked up to the big meadow. Once we had reached the top, I looked over the beautiful rolling hills with the amazing splashes of color and felt the cool breeze ruffle my hair. I shivered, but in a good way. It was a thrilled, exciting kind of shiver. I felt that life in Vermont was going to be cold, cloudy, and spectacular.
Fun Facts
By Fergus Isaac George Asher

🌊 The biggest tsunami was around 1,720 feet in Lituya Bay, Alaska.

😊 Earwax is a kind of sweat.

👀 Mites live in your eyelashes.

🦈 Sharks can stop moving—it's a myth that they can't.

🧠 Humans are the only animals whose brains shrink.

M You can't say “M” without using your lips.

🎲 The opposite sides of a die always add up to seven.

Cold Haiku
By Fergus Isaac Asher

It's cold! Let me in!
The snow has covered the ground
It's cold! Let me in!

Trendy Topics!

🎃Ghost Halloween Ban?
By Antonio Marquez

These are some reasons why certain people want to cancel Halloween:

- No trick-or-treating door to door. Officials are saying, “It can be very hard to social distance.”
- No parties. The county says gatherings with non-household members are not allowed. Not even outdoors.
- So, what can people who want to celebrate do?
  - There are online contests for costumes and carving pumpkins [pretty cool].
  - Drive-in movie theaters are outdoors and are safe, if people follow safety guidelines like wearing a mask.

These ideas are cool. Maybe you can start your own DIY Halloween projects.
Fall Treats: Pumpkin Croissants!
By Isabella Reiter

Ingredients:
- Frozen croissant rolls (defrosted)
- ½ cup canned pumpkin filling (you may not end up using the whole can)
- 3 tablespoons pumpkin pie spice
- 1 cup honey
- Powdered sugar (I only use the powdered sugar as decoration, so this is optional)

Baker’s tip: If you don’t have pumpkin pie spice, you can mix equal parts nutmeg and cinnamon together in a bowl.

Materials:
- Clean surface/large cutting board
- Spoon
- Can opener
- Rolling pin
- Steak knife (Ask an adult for help!)
- Pan
- Parchment paper

Baker’s tip: Wash hands before making this dessert, since we will be using our hands.

Instructions:
Step 1. Clean hands and unravel croissant rolls.
Step 2. Put Parchment paper on your pan and preheat the oven to 375°F.
Step 3. Lightly roll your rolling pin onto the dough to make it bigger.
Step 4. Separate croissant rolls into individual pieces.
Step 5. Take one piece and sprinkle a little pumpkin spice onto it.
Step 6. Then, using your spoon, put a small amount of pumpkin pie filling on it.
Step 7. Carefully roll up your dessert and place it on the pan.
Step 8. Repeat this process for each croissant.
Step 9. Once you have all of the croissants on the pan, sprinkle more pumpkin pie spice onto them.
Step 10. Place your desserts in the oven and let them bake for about 9 minutes. Check about halfway through to make sure you don’t overbake.
Step 11. Take them out and let them cool for at least 20 minutes.
Halloween Baking Recipes

By Frankie DiMartino-Blanco

During fall, there are so many fun and scary Halloween-themed recipes to try out! Here are two of my favorite Halloween recipes!

Pumpkin Rice Krispies Treats

Ingredients

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 2 x 10 oz. packages marshmallows or 8 cups mini marshmallows
- 12 cups Rice Krispies
- 1 teaspoon orange food coloring
- 12 green Mike and Ike fruit candies, cut in half

Directions

1. Line a baking sheet with wax paper.
2. In a saucepan, melt your butter over low heat.
3. Add your marshmallows and stir until everything is fully melted.
4. Turn off the heat and add the orange food coloring.
5. Add the Rice Krispies. Stir everything until combined.
6. Roll your mixture into 24 medium-sized balls. Put a Mike and Ike candy half on top of each ball.
7. Share and enjoy your Halloween-themed creations!

NB: Need to indicate how big the packages of marshmallows should be. It looks like they come in 10oz bags.
Monster Lollipops

Ingredients

- 2 cups granulated sugar
- \( \frac{2}{3} \) cup corn syrup
- 1 package monster-eye candy
- 1 teaspoon orange food coloring
- 1 teaspoon yellow food coloring
- Lollipop sticks
- \( \frac{1}{4} \) cup water

Special Equipment

- Candy thermometer

Directions

1. Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper or dust with flour. Fill a big bowl with ice water and set it aside.
2. Add the sugar, corn syrup, and \( \frac{1}{4} \) cup water in a small saucepan set over medium heat. Attach the candy thermometer to the inside of the saucepan.
3. Increase the heat to medium-high to bring the mix to a boil, stirring until the sugar is dissolved.
4. Boil the mixture for 10-12 minutes, until it reaches 310°F on the candy thermometer. Immediately transfer the saucepan to the bowl of ice water, carefully submerging only the sides. Hold the pan in the water for 10 to 15 seconds to help the mixture cool and then remove the saucepan from the bowl of ice water. Carefully swirl your orange and yellow food coloring into the mixture.
5. Right after you remove the saucepan from the ice bath, quickly pour the syrup onto the baking sheets to form circles that are 2 to 3 inches in diameter. Immediately press in the lollipop sticks and decorate the lollipops with your monster eye candies sprinkles or candy.
6. Let the candy cool completely until fully hardened. Then, carefully peel the lollipops off the baking sheet.
7. Enjoy your spooky lollipop!
The Historic *Shenzhou 13* Launch!

By Elijah Thomas and Ryan Vulpone

After a successful launch to the new Chinese Space Station earlier this year, China has just begun what will be the longest space mission in Chinese history! The nation's *Shenzhou 13* spacecraft was launched from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in the Gobi Desert. This is the eighth crewed mission in China's space program. Three astronauts were sent to space on October 15, 2021. The crew of three includes Zhai Zhigang, China's first-ever spacewalker; Wang Yaping, the first female astronaut to the new station, who has also flown before; and first-time space flyer, joining the Shenzhou 13 mission, Ye Guangfu. Wang Yaing has previously flown on the Shenzhou 10 mission, becoming the second Chinese woman to fly in space. On the other hand, Zhai Zhigang, who is commanding the mission, is a Major General in the People’s Liberation Army and previously flew aboard *Shenzhou 7*. Yu Guangfu, a PLAAF pilot and first-time space flyer, was selected for the program in 2010. The mission duration is planned to be 180 days long (starting April 13, 2022.) This mission will be long, but exhilarating.
Space Stuff
By Nickola Horozov

Jeff Bezos Launches Star Trek Dude into Space!
No, the Enterprise did!
On October 13, 2021, aerospace company Blue Origin launched Bezos and Captain Kirk into orbit. And another thing, that Star Trek guy, he is 90! Here we are in 2021, blasting space gramps into space with crazy billionaires. For the first time, science fiction and rich people were put together in real life.

No Special Effects Involved for Giant Flying Skyscrapers!
Elon Musk is big brain. There's no doubt about it, and his current crazy project is called Starship. The sn20 Starship rocket had its engines tested on November 12. The Starship rocket is a massive skyscraper-sized machine. It has at least three Raptor engines, powered by something called deep-cryo-Methalox, basically a more compressed form of what you use to heat your home. It is not eco-friendly, but there is a way to use solar power to turn the carbon dioxide (CO$_2$) back into fuel. One day, it will cost only $2,000 (cost of fuel ÷ number of passengers - $2,000,000 ÷ 100 = $2,000) to get to orbit, and twice that to get to Mars.

Hey, you!
Do you want to see a big blob in the sky? That blob being the International Space Station (ISS). Look up ISS trackers and look in the sky at the right time to spot it!

Science
The Systems
By Liam Daley

There are many different systems in the human body, such as the immune system, which is the system we are talking about here. The cells in the immune system fight pathogens, which are what make us sick.

The pathogen-fighting cells are called lymphocytes and include T cells, B cells, NK cells (natural killer cells), and macrophages. There are many types of cell responses, but we will only cover one in this article.

Let's say you've got a cut that is filled with a bunch of bacteria. Macrophages and neutrophils are first responders to the wound site. Macrophages eat the bacteria and something turns up on their membrane (what the outside of a cell is called). The B-cell then connects with it and there is a chemical signal between the B-cell and the macrophage. The macrophage continues eating the bacteria, but the B cell finds a compatible T cell at the battlefield and makes sure the macrophages and neutrophils don't shut down too early in the fight. The compatible T-cell then makes antibodies, which they connect to the outside of the bacteria to kill them. In the end, your body wins.
## Top 10 Popular Games of This Console Generation, Ranked!

By Teddy Carr

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<th>Rank</th>
<th>Game Name</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Super Mario Odyssey</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hollow Knight</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dead Cells</td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Animal Crossing</td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Fortnite</td>
<td><img src="image7" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Minecraft</td>
<td><img src="image8" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Valorant</td>
<td><img src="image9" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Super Smash Bros.</td>
<td><img src="image10" alt="Image" /></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Baseball Game

October 17, 2021
It was game two of the Braves–Dodgers three-game series when the Braves made an amazing comeback. The Dodgers were leading 4–0. In the first inning, Cory Seager hit a two-run home run against Ian Anderson. In the bottom of the first, Eddie Rosario made an amazing catch and took away extra bases from Trea Turner. Pitcher Max Scherzer didn’t give up any runs until the bottom of the fourth, but Joc Peterson hit a two-run home run into deep right field.

In the top of the fifth, Freddy Freeman struck out for the seventh consecutive time. In the top of the seventh, Luke Jackson of the Braves gave up a monster hit to center field, which scored two runs, so now the Dodgers led 4 to 2. In the bottom of the eighth, Rosario came to home plate from second base—safe by just an inch. Now the score was 4 to 3. In the bottom of the eighth, Julio Urias of the Dodgers gave up a hit to Austin Riley, bringing in a run that tied the game 4–4. In the bottom of the ninth, Rosario of the Braves hit a grounder missed by two players, bringing James Swanson home to win the game 5–4 Braves!

Ravens vs. Vikings

The Vikings made the first touchdown. It was an amazing pass. And the Viking running back was having an amazing time: he made two great runs right through the line of defense. Also, the Ravens went fake at the Vikings’ touchdown zone, but they still needed another play to get the touchdown. The Ravens QB had a good run and got the first down. The Ravens then made a one-handed touchdown after a Vikings player tipped it. C. J. Ham of the Vikings made a good catch, even after falling on his back. He got up and picked up 6 yards more for the Vikings. At the end of the game, it was a tie, so the game had to go into overtime. In the end, the Ravens walked away winners, with a score of 34 to 31.

Panthers vs. Cardinals

The Panthers made the first touchdown with skill. But it took two plays to make it. Cam Newton made the touchdown from the back of the team. Robby Anderson made the second touchdown from a short pass. It was near the line, but he still made it. The Panthers made a big run from the 15-yard line to the 2-yard line after a turnover. Also, the Panthers made a pick from the Cardinals. The ball was thrown away over the Cardinals’ heads. The Cardinals made pick two after a few plays. They also nearly got a touchdown in that play, but they didn’t get the pick because the player went down right before he caught the ball. The Panthers got the ball and then made a field goal. The Panthers made a pick after them. The ball was thrown after the play bobbed and recovered and the Panthers still had the ball. Then the Panthers made another field goal. Finally, the Cardinals scored a field goal. At the end of the game, there were more points for each team. The final score was 34 to 10, with the Panthers winning.
PUZZLES, COMICS, AND WORD SEARCHES

Sudoku Puzzle
By Colin Glass and Trevor Kangas

2  6  1  8
3  5
8  6  9  7  4  3
9  7  6  1  3  5
2  8  9
3  7  8
3  9  7  6  2
1  8  2  4  5  7
6  1

https://www.jigsawexplorer.com/ supported us with these puzzles

Epic fails #1 by Jeevan Lasser and Will Trautwein

Next Comic:
Stan the Man in: The Scammer. By Jeevan Lasser and Will Trautwein

In the scammer’s hideout

I will pick it up anyway.

Hello?

I’m not.

Next time on Stan the Man: Last place!
# Fall Word Search

By Eliana DiBonaventura, Cali Pangan, and Isla Sherry

| football | g waspy caller | ac bass s bowl efuss new ty | la ret c peisfuyehw efu | iseer thanksgiving o br | ts e hall owenharbrir rb | xyz mue t r o gmbрен a ze ooa | wheettg j c lrys lowaswc | ef unf unf hiturkey latin k | sdv t mad u os gry dek c v e g | jiosnc zxb a q rednlm f we |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| iitrickortreatjdpolp | pfndatv vchrwstrruurwj | iiknhhk cloparfhmakuk | l y hh harvest j hjupthp nj i | gt h io mwr qwertuyuikgop | rc vbd goral apple pie pi | uerpinin ed le s y un sty | m asewqpertghkd fsadkj | srtyui oplinrsf bxzjd t |

school leaves turkey harvest trick or treat yellow
halloween breeze autumn leaf pile brown pine needles
thanksgiving october cinnamon apple pie red pilgrims
fall september pumpkin soccer orange football
Example:
It was a dark and ___ stormy___ night, when I rode my ___ bike___ to my best friend ___ Madison’s ___ creepy ___ Victorian mansion. She had told me it was full of ___ dorky ___ ghosts, so we agreed to have a sleepover there. (Continue with this example, if you need help. The underlined are the things you need to change)

The Dark and Stormy Night
It was a dark and ___ adjective ___ night, when I rode my ___ vehicle ___ to my best friend ___ person in the room ___’s ___ adjective ___ Victorian mansion. She/He/They (circle one) had told me it was full of ___ adjective ___ ghosts, so we agreed to have a sleepover there. I was only feeling a bit ___ feeling ___. The ___ plural noun ___ where really ___ adjective ___. I was really feeling really ___ feeling ___ so I ___ adverb ending in “ly” ___ ___ verb ___ down the hallway and sprinted down into the big study. Then there was a ___ adjective ___ noise. The wind was ___ adjective ___ and I was feeling very ___ feeling ___. Then suddenly, a/an ___ adjective ___ ghost entered the study. It gasped and said, “___ idiom ___! What ___ adjective ___ being is this?” “___ exclamation ___!” I screamed. The ghost floated towards me. “___ same exclamation ___!” I screamed again. Then I ___ verb ___ for my life! As I ran down the hallway, though, I tripped over my own ___ body part (singular) ___ and went crashing into a ___ common household item ___! Then I heard a/an ___ adjective ___ voice giggling and I realized… the ghost was a costume… and inside was my friend ___ same person in the room ___!
Writing Prompts
By Akansha Muthukrishnan and Ava Levinson
Are you struggling with writer’s block? Here are a few prompts to get you started!
These fun, easy prompts are sure to help you...

***

Fantasy Story Starters

Finish the sentence.
- The fairies gazed in awe at ___.
- The fox shape-shifted into a gorgeous owl, then a ____.
- We were happily singing along in the car, when the music ____.
- The stars seemed to sing to each other as they glided around the moon, then ____.
- I screamed in shock, as he disappeared ____.
- And the rocket burst off with a flash of ____.
- A feather floated above the paper, then dipping its tip in the ink, it began to write the following message: ____.
- The white snow glittered as it rose, then suddenly ______.
- The ravens knew they were the wisest, but they were also one of the poorest, and they sold their secrets to the others and that is how ____.
- The gorgeous blue whale swam in the sea of stars, its tail flapping in ____.
- The jellyfish swam through the stars, radiating colors, when suddenly ________.

Fill in the blanks.
- The ____ seahorse ____ while it ____, positive that ____. Ex. The emerald seahorse paced while it waited, positive that it was being watched.
- This mermaid was different, she had the ____ of a ____ and ____ eyes. Ex. This mermaid was different, she had the horns of a goat and amber eyes.
- The monster was ____ as if ____. Ex. The monster was furious, as if it could tear down a whole city.
- Finally! ____ was so ____. At last ____ had ____. Ex. Finally! Sam was so ecstatic, at last he had met his family.
- They ____ , they ____ , and they ____ with the ____. Ex. They wandered, they flew, and they danced with the stars.
**Fiction Story Starters:**

Finish the sentence.

- The majestic seal twirled beneath the stormy water as if the world were ____.
- I ran, sweat pouring down my forehead as I ran, sure that I was almost there, but____.
- As I gazed out the window, all I saw were clouds. Humph. And here I thought that my first plane ride would be fun because____.
- I had never seen an orca before____.
- “Congratulations!” Mrs. Delano said, “You’ve just won the trip of a lifetime! You get to go on a cruise to learn more about marine life! You will____.”
- I stared, unable to blink. I couldn’t miss a second of this jaw-dropping sight. It was____.
- The sunset splayed an array of yearning yellows, ravishing reds, outstandish oranges. A slight chirping noise filled the air____.
- “Dolphins are endangered!” My hero said. “What do you think?” She asked me____.

**Fill in The Blanks**

- _____was so____! The turtle was just____.

Ex. Patricia was so frustrated! The turtle was just sitting there.
  - Norah _____. This was all so ____!

Ex. Norah yawned. This was all so boring!
  - Madame____ was beautiful, yet _____, nobody messed with her.

Ex. Madame Mei was beautiful, yet so mysterious, nobody messed with her.
  - “Come on! We don’t want to be late for____!”________.

Ex. “Come on! We don’t want to be late for the contest!” Lucia shouted.
  - “Are you sure that_____? Because_____.”

  “Are you sure that the llamas don’t bite? Because Ken just screamed.”

***

We hope that some of these have inspired you to get writing. Thank you for reading!