

December 2021

Standley Middle School

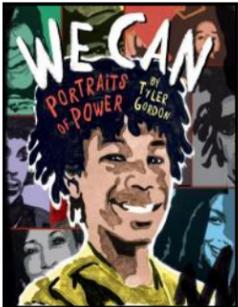


New Librarian brings back Book Club
Ryan Krause
Staff

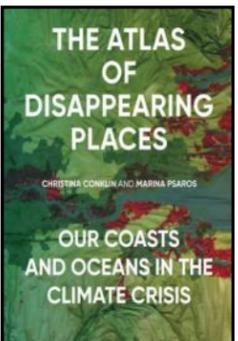
At long last, the Book Club has come back to Standley. After a lengthy wait, the new librarian has instituted the Book Club. We haven't seen this club in person because of COVID and its triumphant return did not disappoint. The Book Club, due to constraints on the librarian's schedule, can only meet once every month. The club is almost entirely student run, with members voting on everything. The book they are reading is called *Lily and Duncan*. It is clear that the Book Club has returned in full force once again and everyone is excited to see where things lead.



Everyone Gets A Book
A Catalog of Recommendations from Your Local Independent Bookseller



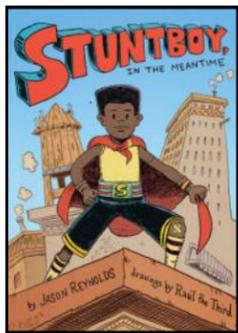
We Can: Portraits of Power
 By Tyer Gordon
 Give the gift of inspiration this holiday season. From teenage artistic prodigy Tyler Gordon, here is a picture book filled with gorgeous portraits of-and information about-the people who inspire him, from Kamala Harris to LeBron James.



Atlas of Disappearing Places: Our Coasts and Oceans in the Climate Crisis
 By Christina Conklin and Marina Psaros
 An indispensable resource to learn more about the devastating consequences of the climate crisis, this beautiful work of art will engage and inspire readers on the most pressing issue of our time.



Barakah Beats
 By Maleeha Siddiqui
 For fans of *The First Rule of Punk* and *Save Me a Seat*, *Barakah Beats* is a sweet, powerful, and joyous novel about a Muslim girl who finds her voice on her own terms...by joining her school's most popular boy band.



Stuntboy, in the Meantime
 By Jason Reynolds, Illustrated by Raul The Third
 From Newbery Medal honoree and #1 NYT bestselling author Jason Reynolds comes a hilarious, hopeful, and action-packed middle grade novel about the greatest young superhero you've never heard of, filled with illustrations by Raul the Third.



A Snake Falls to Earth
 By Darcie Little Badger
 Darcie Little Badger introduced herself to the world with *Elatsoe*. In *A Snake Falls to Earth*, she draws on traditional Lipan Apache storytelling structure to weave another unforgettable tale of monsters, magic, and family. It is not to be missed.



Red Ribbon Spirit Week

Staff

All week long students participated in Spirit Week to protest against drugs and bring attention to the importance of supporting one another. Each day, all over campus, everyone joined in the theme-based activities from wearing red to giving hugs to favorite jerseys and more.

See Spirit Week page 2



AVID Games Day

Lola Franz

Staff

AVID put together a fantastic day of fun and games for all students to enjoy. There were tricks and treats and lots of opportunities to get candy and gifts. AVID has been around since 1980, initially targeting teens who'd be first-generation college students.

see AVID page 5



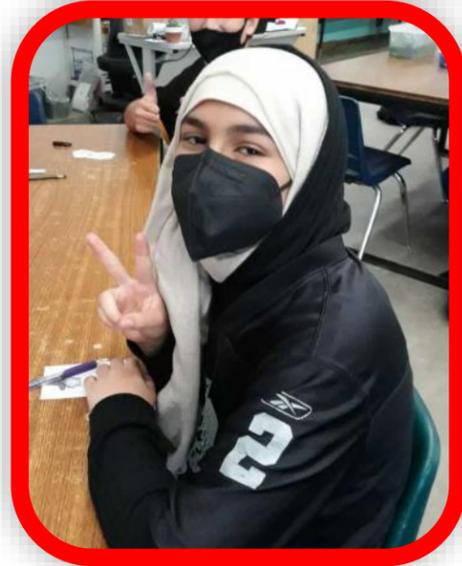
RED RIBBON



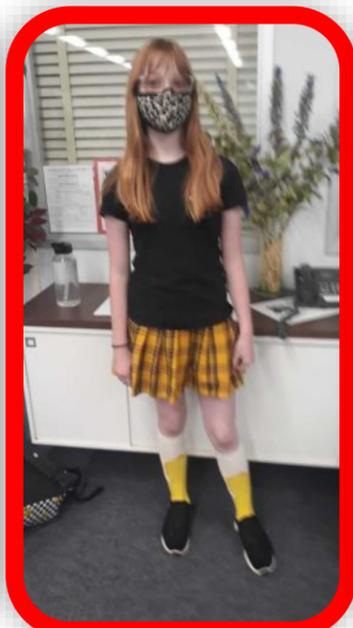
Monday : Wear Red- Red Ribbon Kick Off



Tuesday : Jersey Day! Team up against drugs



Wednesday : Drugs make people Crazy-Crazy Sock Day!





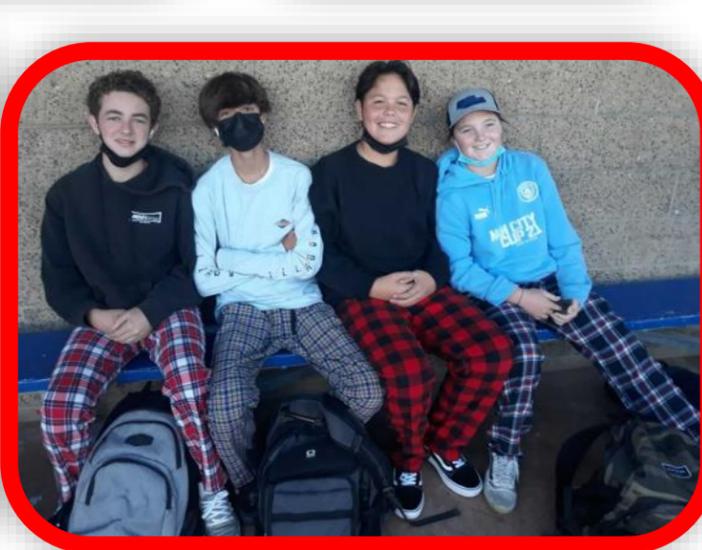
SPRIT WEEK



Thursday : "Hugs not Drugs" Stuffed Animal Day



Friday : Fun Day- Pajama Day





Graphics ≠ Quality

A common, but false claim

Ben Clarke
Staff



Video games have been around since the fifties and over the years they have evolved into things that can actually help people. They have been shown to help cope with depression, increase hand-eye coordination, etc. But that is not the point. The point is the quality of video games has improved massively. It started with just pixels and evolved into massive 3d simulated games which can take a decade to make, literally. But new generations of people, or Gen-Z, don't realize that even though the quality of a video game is bad, it doesn't mean that it makes the game itself bad. I'm going to talk about that.

Take the image above as an example. Both are part of the same universe and took forever to make. I'll probably write an article about these games in the future but for now I'm talking about something else. The one on the left is Red Dead Redemption 2, which I recently finished, and the one on the right is Red Dead Redemption. You can notice the difference in graphics, but this does not mean the one on the right is bad. That game claimed 5 awards out of 9 nominations, including game of the year. The one on the left also won 4 awards but not game of the year. Which does not make it bad. It's an amazing game and one of my favorites.

To be fair this is a bad example, let me give you a new one. The game Cyberpunk 2077 and The Last of Us. The Last of Us took 3 years to make while Cyberpunk 2077 took a decade. You must think "Oh Cyberpunk must be better." But you are wrong. Cyberpunk, while even though it has amazing graphics and looks beautiful, the game is severely unfinished and considered a failure. They say that if you play that game you will get bugs or glitches. It's not like "Oh you may get bugs" it's a 100% chance of getting a glitch or a bug. It's just that people were pressed to release Cyberpunk 2077. This proves that even though a game may look pretty, it doesn't mean it's a good game.

Natus Vincere win the PGL Stockholm Major

Shattering viewership records, double overtime, and new undefeated kings crowned. After 2 years of absence, the PGL Major had the esports world on its feet

Benicio Toruño Dailey
Senior Editor

been used in many esports.

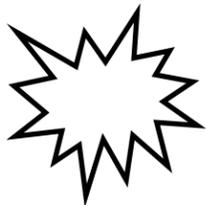
After the completion of the Challenger Stage, with the likes of FaZe, Copenhagen Flames, Virtus.pro, Entropiq, ENCE, MOUZ (formerly mouseports), Heroic, and Astralis qualifying for the Legends Stage. When the Legends stage began, Navi kicked it off with a 16-11 BO1 (best of 1) against Heroic on Ancient. They carried that momentum into their next BO1 against Virtus.pro and their BO3 against NIP (Ninjas in Pyjamas). They qualified into the Champions stage with a spotless record, alongside G2.

While Navi and G2 prepared for the Champions stage, the rest of the teams were still battling it out. Teams like Entropiq and Copenhagen Flames put up an incredible fight throughout the Challengers stage but fell short of qualifying for the Champions stage. The former champions of the world, Astralis, barely qualified for the Legends stage. They couldn't pull off the same miracle again and failed to make it to the big stage. Teams like FaZe and Team Liquid didn't do so well also and when pitted against each other in an elimination match, FaZe came out victorious. They wouldn't last much longer and would get eliminated one BO3 later against Virtus.pro. Finally, the Champion Stage was set. Navi, G2, Team Vitality, FURIA, Gambit, Heroic, Virtus.pro, and Ninjas in Pyjamas, were all about to battle it out in the brackets for the major championship.

3 finals.

That's the number of major finals Navi reached and lost. Each time, lost to the current dynasty that CSGO was living through. The team has attended every CSGO major to date and failed to win each time. After winning the Intel Grand Slam, becoming the third to do so, Navi has won the most prestigious tournament in all of Counter-Strike. S1mple, who has long been regarded as the king without a crown, has finally gotten his long-awaited crown. After reaching 2 finals with Team Liquid and Navi and failing to win, he has won the title as the greatest to ever do it. The first CSGO major in over 2 years was not disappointing.

Visual representation of the Swiss format that was used in the Challengers Stage and Legends stage. This has



Battlebots

An Intense Robot Fighting Competition

Yohan Hanaki

Staff



Chomp was a hammer bot in the beginning, but it was redesigned. The new redesign features 8 walking legs, and seems like a work of art. Just because it sacrifices movement for firepower, it is allowed to weigh up to 500 pounds, instead of the usual 250 pounds.



Rusty is completely homemade. Dave Eaton, the builder, grew up on a farm, and made this bot out of things he found, and Rusty's "hat" is his mom's popcorn bowl! He is sworn to keep it undamaged.



Deep Six is more of an original bot, but the amount of force behind it's blade is INSANE! The Battlebox (the arena) has taken some hard knocks, but one time, when Deep Six's blade hit the floor, it tore it up!



The Gemini robots are a smart play. Instead of just one robot to do all the work, why not make it two? Then you can fight on

both sides of your opponent, and then chip away at the armor.

The Four Horsemen take that same concept of Gemini's, but apply it to four bots. Unfortunately, they can only weigh up to 250 pounds total, so therefore they have very little armor.

And finally, some images of some of the most awesome moments in Battlebots history. I ranked the top 5 I found awesome. The titles of these fights are also linked to a YouTube video of the fight. The descriptions are basic, but you can check the fight out yourself.



The first matchup was Heroic versus Virtus.pro. Heroic had an amazing performance and was extremely hyped about the match. They finished with a 2-1 score and advanced to the semi-finals. The next match was G2 versus Ninjas in Pyjamas. Ninjas in Pyjamas, who looked dominant this entire tournament, were coming off an incredibly close BO3 against Copenhagen Flames to make it to the Champions stage. G2 took NIP out of the picture with a 2-0 finish to face Heroic in the semis. On the other side of the bracket, Navi was facing an old foe, Team Vitality. Both of their star players, s1mple and Zyw00, have been constantly fighting for the title of the greatest CSGO player and this was about to be a proving ground for each of them. Navi first won on

Vitality's map pick, Dust II. This is incredibly important because securing the opponent's map means you only need to win your map, which you have practiced and run strategies on constantly, next to win the BO3 series. Navi's pick, Nuke, went easily into Navi's favor as expected, 16-13, eliminating Team Vitality. The other match-ups were Gambit and FURIA. A similar series of events happened, with Gambit winning on FURIA's map, Inferno, in overtime. Gambit took their map, Overpass, 16-10. The semi-finals were underway in both brackets. The first match-up was G2 and Heroic. G2 lost the first map but came back one the next two to win 2-1. The next semi-final game was Gambit and Navi. Navi easily won against Gambit on both maps, securing their final spot against G2.

continued on page 5



5: Fusion "Explodes"

In this fight, Fusion and Tantrum fought, but the batteries on Fusion started smoking, and actually managed to get on top of Tantrum, but the batteries on fusion literally exploded, and ended the match.



4: Huge And Mammoth Go Dancing

These 2 bots are the biggest on the field, Mammoth being twice as tall as Huge. When Mammoth tried to lift Huge, both bots got sent flying, and they both ended up with some pretty damaged frames.



3: A Flipping Upset

In this fight, the old school bot, Bronco, takes on the new class bot, Hydra. Bronco is a champ, known for flipping bots and defeating those who don't have a self-righter (to put them right side up again), but when it fought Hydra, it got defeated and got flipped out of the arena.



2: Deep Six Beats Up The Battlebox

People were curious about what Deep Six could do in the 2020 season, but what happened in the test box was beyond imagination. When it spun up, the momentum from the blade caused the bot to tip over, despite the counterweights holding it down.



1: Uppercut Blows Up Sawblaze

This is one of the first times a bot literally exploded and survived. Uppercut is known for it's hard hits, but that extent was realized when it went up against Sawblaze. When Uppercut cornered Sawblaze and went in for the hit, the blade of Uppercut hit the gas tank for Sawblaze's flamethrower, and a massive fireball engulfed the arena in heat. In the end, it was fitting that the Uppercut won that fight.

Bonus! Uppercut Boots The Gemini Twins

This one was just fun to watch. See what happens in the link above

Battlebots is a fun season to watch, and you should watch it. The tv show is on the tv app Discovery, and also on Discovery+. The 2022 season is undecided on when it will start, but it is determined to be somewhere in December, and one episode will be released every week.

AVID GAME DAY



AVID continued

ASB provided the music and the Newspaper Staff created "Tombstones" for teachers (see Mr. McLellan top right) while AVID club ran the games and photo booth. Everyone had a ghost of a time—spooky! Ms. Botts is the AVID advisor.

About Avid

Frida Ramos and Joelle Frazier
Staff

Avid is mainly for helping others and they do that by fundraising such as the can food drive. Avid is also about team building by bringing people close as a unit.



"Avid is about taking care of others and working together,"
-Savannah Messerman

"Avid is about fundraising" -Kaylee Alvarado

"Avid is about giving to people who need it and fundraising for the school."-Analisa Soltero



AVID consists of two components: the AVID elective, a regular class providing structured support to students, and AVID strategies that can be used throughout the school, whether or not students are signed up for a specific AVID class. The program exposes students not only to academic strategies that generate higher-level thinking, but also explicit training in physical and online organizational skills, note-taking, reflection, and social and emotional skills.



Original Anime: Toilet-bound Hanako-kun
Kahu Nakamichi
Staff

The character I drew is Nene Yashiro. She's the main character of the story.

The story starts when Nene asks one of the 7 mysteries of school-Hanako-san in the restroom.

In Japan, there's the story of 7 mysteries of school which everyone knows. And one of them is Hanako-san in the girl's restroom. Go into the restroom and knock on the 3rd door from back 3 times. While you're knocking, you are going to say, "Hanako-san, Hanako-san, are you here?" 3 times, and there will be a reply from inside the bathroom. There are some differences in different places but in the anime "Toilet-bounded Hanako-kun", Hanako-san would make your wish come true, and this is why the main character girl Nene called out Hanako-san.



Title of Anime: Demon Slayer/ Kimetsu no Yiba
Heebin Chae
Staff

Demon Slayer is an action and survival themed Anime. The story follows Tanjiro Kamado, who lost his family by demons. Tanjiro trains under his master to become a demon slayer and try to turn his sister Nezuko back to a human.



Reagan Grado



Nourhan Waly



Hana Fitzenz

Sailor Moon is an Anime series created in the 1990's based around a teenage girl named Usagi who gains powers from a magical cat named Luna. Luna gives her the ability to become the warrior "Sailor Moon". She defends the Earth and Galaxy against the evil forces of the Dark Kingdom.

Natus Vincere win the PGL Stockholm Major cont.

This matchup was not new. Navi has faced G2 so many times and won against them either 2-0 or 3-0, that it's become a meme in the community. G2 had no business winning this major, and Navi showed them that very quickly. They won G2's map pick, Ancient. The analysts were already skeptical of this pick and that skepticism was quickly valid. By the team switch, Navi was up 8-7. They kept that up for the next half and took G2's map pick. The next map, Nuke, was expected to go easily in Navi's favor. But Nuke took a turn of events. G2 took 10 rounds in the first half with Navi only getting by 5 times. It didn't look great for Navi. But when the 2nd half happened, Navi pulled themselves together and managed to force overtime. It nearly didn't happen however, Navi had to do it without dropping a round or they would ruin their spotless record so far and go into the 3rd map. G2 wasn't done yet though, and nail biting round after nail biting round, G2 forced a double overtime. Only one other major has gone into double overtime, that being the ELEAGUE Boston Major in 2018. This major just kept adding to the record books. Finally, Navi made it to match point. One more round and Navi would be major champions. G2 tried to do a slow, methodical push to B, but in the end, they made the mistake that FaZe made at the Boston Major. They took too long and before anyone knew it Niko was the last one standing. Perfecto finished it off and Navi became the champions of the PGL Stockholm Major 2021.

Simple easily took the HLTV MVP award and at the same time had the highest HLTV rating ever in a CSGO major, Boombl4 (pronounced Boomich) proposed to his girlfriend on the stage shortly after winning (she said yes, duh), and the PGL Major peaked at 1.37 million viewers beating out, again, the ELEAGUE Boston Major. The PGL Major was one heck of a major to be remembered.



Why Big Bear is a good place to visit

Noah Boulter
Staff

Big Bear is a really good travel location and it's good all year long not just the winter and here's why. Big Bear in the summer is pretty fun (or when it is not sunny.) There's still a lot to do, the snow activities change into summer activities like hiking, go cart riding, and even fishing in Big Bear Lake but don't swim in the lake the water is gross. In the downtown there are a lot of shops and stores you can go to get clothing and souvenirs. In the winter time there is so much to do you can do tubing or go to the ski slopes if you like doing ski sports. Or if you are not that good at those, you can do sledding down a hill. Don't have a sled? You can have a snowball fight with your friends. If you think your pets won't have fun I can assure you that the dogs love the snow. There are also things you can do anytime like ziplining, horse back riding, and even go to a pool. Yes, at some hotels the pools are heated. Overall I think Big Bear is a great travel location.



The Painted Redstart

Yohan Hanaki
Staff



Rare birds are a sight to see, no matter the size. Finding one, however, is like finding a needle in a billion haystacks. Now imagine there is the needle within a few inches of you. This rare bird, the Painted Redstart, lives in the trees in Standley Middle. There is only 1 other bird like it in North America. This bird is a large warbler with a bright red belly, white wing patches, and a white crescent just below the eye. They mainly inhabit shady forests in the mountains. They are mostly persistent around canyons, where there is a constant supply of water such as a stream or creek. Like other warblers, their appetite mainly consists of insects. The white on their wings are used to startle insects from hiding. They do this by snapping their wings open. In spring, Painted Redstarts supplement their diet with sap from deciduous trees (trees that shed their leaves). They eat butterflies, moths, caterpillars, flies, cicadas, and leafhoppers.

They sometimes visit backyard feeders for sugar water. Nests are set on the ground on slopes, seldom in trees, usually in sites that provide some cover from above such as in cavities, under bushes, or on the side of a canyon, a creek bed, or even a building. These nests are oval-shaped bowls, made of grass, pine needles, and leaves, lined with fine grasses and hair. Many nests have pathways made of oak leaves on the downslope side. Nests average 4 inches across and 2.6 inches tall, with an interior cup about 2 inches across and 1.3 inches deep. The eggs are in clusters of 3-7 eggs, and are white with brown speckles, especially at the larger end. Painted Redstarts usually breed in pairs, but sometimes a male will breed with two females. Courtship begins when males arrive on territories in spring. They sing as they slowly fan their tails, either on the ground and in flight, usually when in the presence of a female. In the flight display, males leap from a high perch and descend in an arc toward the female, gliding or flying on stiff wings with an open tail, singing as they descend. Males also chase females in flight. A responsive female will often join the male in singing, and the couple will sing back and forth throughout the day. Their singing may continue well into the nesting period, sometimes as a "whisper" song that is barely audible. When males show females prospective nesting sites, they often fan their tail, inviting females to follow. Both males and females participate in nest-site selection, but the female makes the final decision and builds the nest without help. During egg-laying, the males stay near the females. This bird is one of the rarest birds in the world. Due to habitat loss, the redwood forests they live in have been chopped down by development processes and lumber industries. However, you can make a difference by hanging a sugar-water feeder (kind of like those hummingbird feeders. They are attracted year-round to sugar-water, and in the winter, they sometimes eat peanut butter and suet (meat) mixtures. If you are lucky, you may even attract one!

Fashion Page



Fashion Editors: Jensen Landrey, Nathalia Ramirez, Christina Osornio, Ashley Morales, Gaia Furioli, Brielle Balzon, Elizabeth Tansey



Crocs have been very popular since last year. 2020 crocs are very fashionable in every way; crocs come in all colors and you can decorate your crocs in any way. You can put numbers, letters, fruit and even more and there are even slides that are exactly like crocs. Crocs were first manufactured in 2002. The founders were Lyndon Hanson, George Boedecker Jr and Scott Seamans.



Sunglasses can bring protection, comfort to the eyes, and of course style. Sunglasses were first invented in the 12th century by a designer/inventor named James Ayscough. They have recently become more popular in Standley giving thanks to Alec S. -Abby Osornio

Sunglasses are very fashionable at Standley Middle School meaning mostly everyone has a pair of glasses that they want to show off. Sunglasses are very useful in many ways like helping with seeing certain objects or screens. Sunglasses are very well known for protection of eyes and of course because they can express individuality and fun. -Nathalia Ramirez



Winter Popular Food

Curtis Singleton



If you are wondering what food people eat during winter I got you some ideas. People like to gather up and bring in their families to have a feast, Turkey is a delicious greasy meat that comes from the fowls (obviously). Turkey is meat that can be cut into pieces. Even though turkey may not seem traditional it actually is good for big families. Turkey can be cut into pieces and be served with mashed potatoes. Sure it may seem like thanksgiving but turkey can be a bit fancier in winter.



I think you guys have tried apple cider. Apple cider is obvious from the name. Apple cider is a hot drink to treat the cold if you are freezing, or you just want to drink it as a warm drink.



If you are a big fan of eggs maybe you heard of egg nog. Egg nog is a drink that is mixed with eggs, milk, and sugar. It may seem disgusting but it's a good source of sweet protein. Egg nog is a dairy drink, if you are lactose intolerant or vegan you can make dairy-free egg nog and find the recipes on google.

Have you guys tried apple pie? Apple pie can be used as a dessert to serve big families and can be very tasty. In 1390, apple pie was made in England being served with no sugar but crunchy to the crunchy parts.

Beef tenderloin is a beef dish not good for vegans, vegetarians, and pescetarians. Beef tenderloin is a dish that can be served in sliced pieces. Beef tenderloin doesn't have a beefy flavor, No seasoning will do. It can just taste like plain beef.

I'm sure all you people know what smores are. Smores can be served as a dessert or a snack. If you have a fireplace and you warm, maybe get a pack of marshmallows and some gram crackers with chocolate smeared on the crackers. Warm up the marshmallow and make yourself some smores.



WINTER

Winter Break Interviews

Brooke Gibson, Isabel Oseguera, And Maya Bailey Staff

Q: What's your favorite thing about Christmas?



"I like the gifts, and candy."
-Damien Elswood



"I like the gifts, Christmas music, and the Christmas vibes."
-Evan Turley



"I get to celebrate Christmas with my family."
-Kyshia Wilson



"The gifts, and when my grandma visits."
-Alena Boehmer

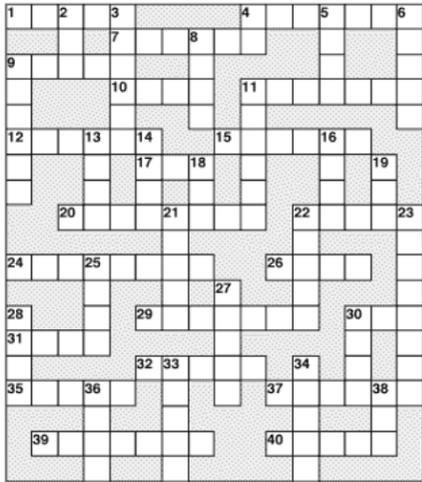


"The food, and there not being school."
-Lucy Cho

GAME PAGE



Winter Crossword



- Down:**
- Frozen water
 - Small
 - Myself
 - Small pie
 - Neck warmer
 - Chilly
 - Used to move snow
 - A season
 - Strong emotion
 - Ripped
 - Nil
 - Bath
 - Cloud of water vapour
 - Last month of winter
 - Wooden snow vehicles
 - Winter road condition
 - Be carried on
 - Locomotive
 - Carried along by wind
 - Piece of hockey equipment
 - Make this in the snow
 - Winter foot wear
 - Faucets can do this
 - You hear with this

- Across:**
- Sudden cold breeze
 - Hand warmers
 - Hanging spike of ice
 - Freezing rain
 - Show and _____
 - Conditions outside
 - Flowering plant, colour
 - Achoo
 - Not in
 - Month of winter
 - Carols, etc.
 - Valentine month
 - Thaw
 - Keeps drinks warm
 - Small dog
 - Winter Olympic sport
 - Silky material
 - Breezy
 - Ice sport
 - Foot warmer
 - Direct a vehicle's course

Copyright © 1999 Barb Willner
www.SquiglyPlayhouse.com

Directions: Each word starts with the word snow, there are 17 words to find. Words are hidden in straight lines, going frontwards, backwards and diagonally.



How did Princess Elsa fall off her sled?
She let it go, let it go!

What did the snowman's mom say when she saw his dirty room? This is abominable!

What happens when a baby snowman has a temper tantrum? He has a meltdown.

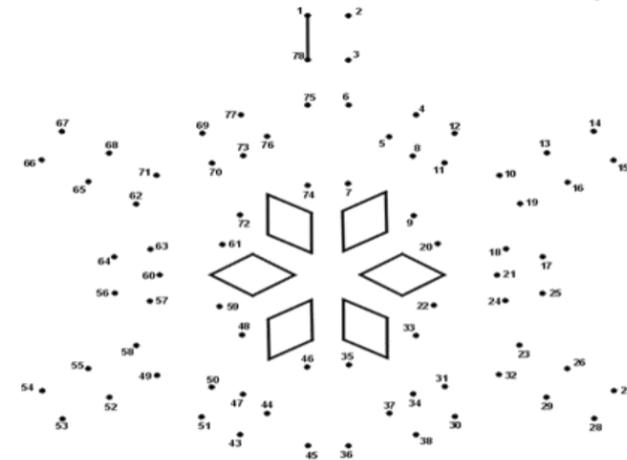
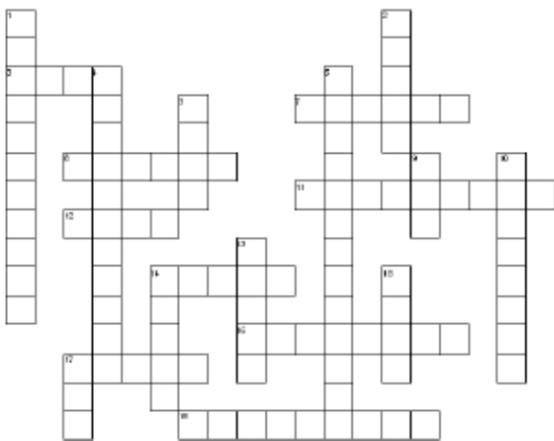
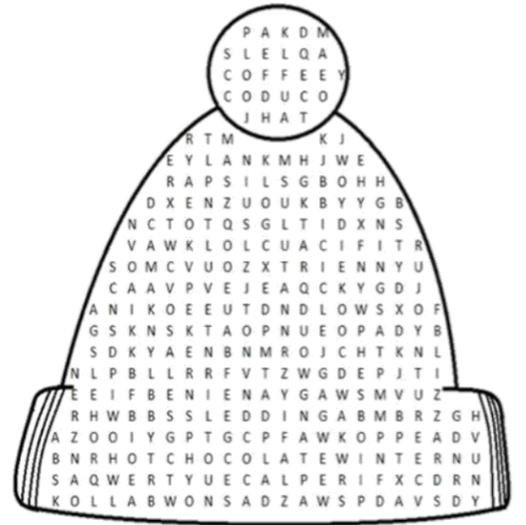
What do you call a snowman in the summer? A puddle!

What kind of math do Snowy Owls like best? OWLgebra.

How does a penguin build a house? Igloos it together!

How do snowmen greet each other? They say, "Have an ICE day!"

WINTER WEATHER



ACROSS

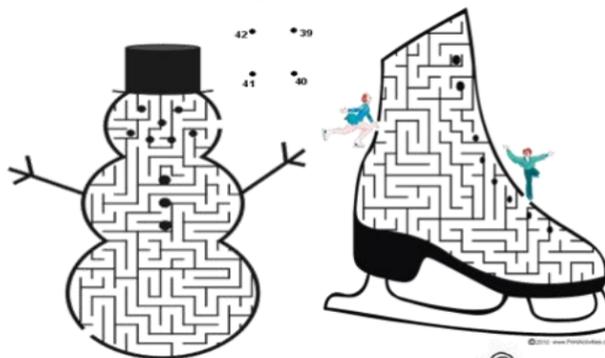
- The process by which snow or ice changes to water.
- A period of very cold winter weather that damages plants.
- Intensely cold temperature.

- The temperature felt by the human body when wind makes it feel colder than the actual temperature.
- Mildly cold feeling.
- Bright with sunshine.
- Snowfall that is so heavy one can see little or nothing on the horizon.
- Ice crystals on a frozen surface: "Old Jack _____"
- A large mass of snow that slides down a mountain.

- A tool used to measure the temperature.
- Water that falls to the earth in the form of rain, hail, mist, sleet, or snow.
- Pieces of ice falling from the sky.
- A solid form of frozen water.
- A storm with heavy snow, strong winds, and severe cold.
- Covered with snow.
- A mixture of snow and water.
- Precipitation in the form of small white ice crystals that form inside clouds.
- Thick water vapor that makes it hard to see.

DOWN

- A standardized measure of how hot or cold it is outside.
- Rain that freezes as it falls.



DECEMBER

the month of joy, happiness and to finish what you started.

Winter Sudoku
Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters S N O W F L A K E. Don't guess - use logic.



BIG NATE/ by Lincoln Peirce

