

RANDOM STUFF I AM GOING TO WRITE ABOUT

By Andy Lovanpheth (5th Grader)
E.M. Downer Elementary School

The movie Cars is a movie I have never seen before. I can't mention my real name, so call me TOE. So my name is Toe and I go to [I can't mention my school either, so call it Co-Co] so I go to Co-Co school. I have bad grades; all I get are F's.

Did you know I like apple pie? Everything I think about is pie - any kind of pie except for any random pie. Did you know my parents went on a vacation two years ago and forgot to take me along? So sometimes... FARRRT! So sometimes... FARRRT! (Sorry, I ate a mega burrito.) So sometimes I can do anything I want.

Did you know I have 100 cats and dogs in my backyard? I went to the Cow Palace by myself on Sunday. My friend [I can't mention my friend's name, so call him Bank] doesn't like me. But he is my best friend. We like to play tag. Every morning I watch Teletubbies. I think that show is cool.

Sometimes I go to school only in my shoes - just my shoes. I think I'm cool only in my shoes because everybody stares at me. Just think about me only in my shoes. (You don't have to.)

One night I contacted aliens from Venus. They said

they wanted 24 packs of Coke-Cola and Pepsi. I stole some from the store at 7a.m. - the cashier was sleeping. The aliens thanked me and gave a thingy to contact them. So I did. I asked them what they did with all the soda. They said they were planning a party and that I was invited. They picked me up in a spaceship and brought me to Venus. The party was cool, but don't eat the food they serve you. They serve you 100-legged frogs and a three-headed pig. I tried them. They tasted like worms. I know - I've tasted one before. I'm going to eat another worm right now, so.....

I'm back! That worm tasted like worms. I think that worm is going to come back. I think BBBAAAAARRRRRRFFFFF!! *uhhhhh* Bye! I'm going to my backyard. SNNNNORE! SSSSSNNNNNNNOOORE! BBBBBLAAAUUUUGH! HOLY MAMA FAT CAKES! THE WORM CAME OUT AND IT'S ALIVE!!!!!!!!!!!!

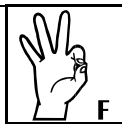
THE END

BBBBLLAUUUGGGHHH!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sorry

BLAUGGGHHHHH!!!!!!!!

SCIENCE

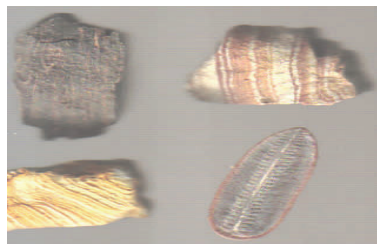


4th Grade Science: Rocks, Animals, and Electricity

By Rosie Pinones (4th Grader)
E.M. Downer Elementary School

Science has many different things you can learn about. Earth Science is the study of the Earth. In Life Science, there are food chains and different kinds of animals so it's the study of life. In physical science we learn about laws of matter, energy, and the forces of nature.

In 4th grade, students learn Earth Science by studying rocks. There are three types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic. In Life Science, 4th graders learn about the study of living organisms and their interaction with each other and their environment. Electricity, magnetism, and electromagnetism are what 4th graders learn about in Physical Science.



Million Dollar Laptop From page 1

company that designed this awesomely expensive laptop. The company only sells in Europe so you have to go to France if you want one. So if you add it all up it will cost approximately \$1,000,500. I hope you brought enough money to get there. It also has a brick force fire wall-security system so you don't have to worry about any one stealing your identity. Hopefully you won't need to use that part of the laptop. You can surf the internet without any worry. It comes in three colors black, brown and pink. You are also able to get

it with diamond incusted case to show off your laptop in public. It also downloads 10x faster than normal computers or laptops and downloads can be done in half the time. It has a screen that is 17" wide. It has 128 GB of solid hard disk and a Space slot loading place. It also has a rare feature: it has a diamond that you place in the laptop that allows the user to turn it on. It has an integrated screen that keeps your screen clean. If you have the money this may be a good laptop for you.



DRIVER BRAKES TOO LATE TO PREVENT UNDERGROUND CRASH

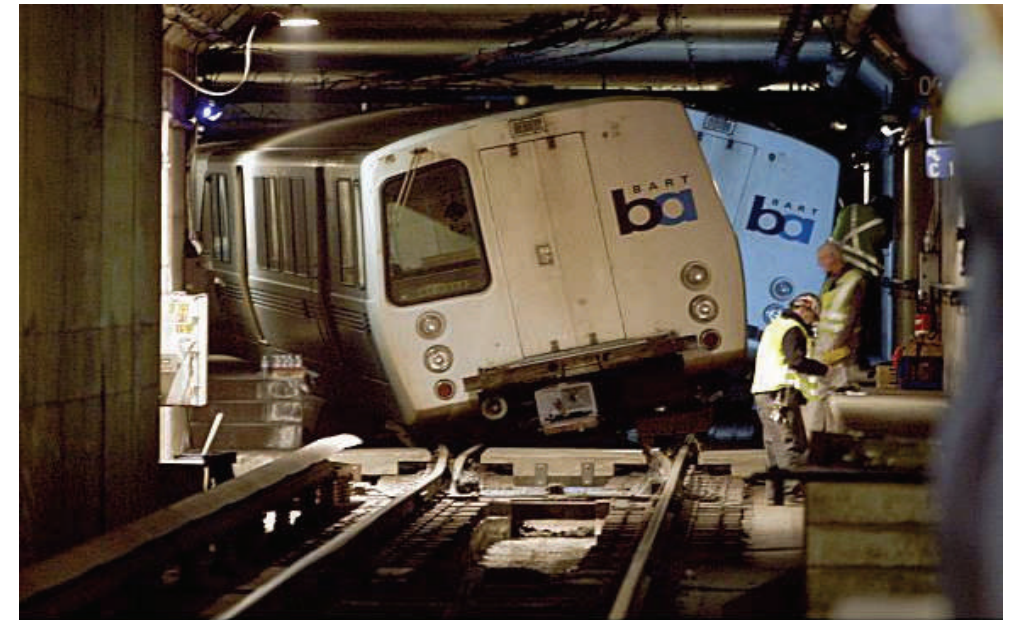
By: MS, EV, AH, RP, CG, KT; Los Medanos Elementary

What just happened to the BART?! The two BART trains just crashed in West Oakland on Feb. 3, 2009 at 8:45 A.M.. The BART trains are usually operated on a computer, but somehow, one of the trains was operated manually, while the other was operated by computer. Tough luck for the BART train, but BART's luck got worse! The manually operated train passed a wait point at Lake Merritt. Soon, the other train came and crashed inside the Trans-Bay tube. Then, the two front trains went off the railroad tracks. Luckily no one died, but about 13 people had minor injuries. About 300 people were evacuated by foot from both of the trains. All 13 injured people were on medical risers.

When the driver realized the problem, he stepped on the brake, but

they still crashed! The two trains were trying to get on the same track. The track was shaped as a Y, and the crash

is now under investigation. The luck had returned and the BART crash was cleared.



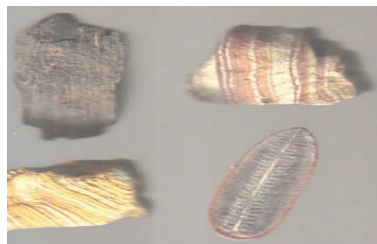
Michael Macor / The Chronicle

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Million Dollar Laptop

By Tyler Toderick
Grant Elementary

THE RICH AND FAMOUS HAVE A NEW TECHNOLOGY TOY. The one million dollar laptop has the following in it: blue ray DVD and a high definition monitor screen. It is guaranteed to be one of the fastest laptops in the world. Luvaglio is the

Continued in Section F



Octu-mom - Nadya Suleman

By Kalina Pang (5th Grader)
Walt Disney Elementary

Nadya Suleman, is a proud mother of the only living octuplets. They are only eight weeks old. Most of them are healthy, but the two smallest are feeding from tubes. The first octuplet was Noah Angle Suleman, when

Continued in Section C



Photo by Ruby Rodriguez

MARBLES

By Ruby Rodriguez and Jessica Andas (5th Graders)
E.M. Downer Elementary School

In our school we play marbles. We can only bring 10-15 marbles. Where you play is at school during recess but not in your classroom. We only play outside on the playground. A lot of kids play marbles

Continued in Section D

Female Robot To Hit Japan Catwalk

By Luke McCarthy (5th Grader)
Walt Disney Elementary School

There is a walking talking robot coming to Japan's catwalk! This "Cybernetic Human" is wowing everybody who hears about it. Except there is a slight problem, the robot hasn't cleared the safety standards yet, so there is a chance it will not model with humans. The 158 centimeter tall robot is worth \$200,000. Developers say that if the robot cannot model, the robot will be used in amusement parks to perform simulations of human movement.

The HRP-4C design used in the robot is giving Japan bragging rights because they are more advanced than everyone else. The outer body parts are bright silver and black making the robot

Continued in Section A



Robot

From page 1

look like a Stormtrooper from Star Wars. Automaker Honda has also made a robot but it is not disguised as a human. The robot that Japan made runs on 30 motors so it can walk and run. Also, the robot has 8 motors in its face so it can make facial expressions such as anger, being surprised, and happiness.

Amazing everyone in a demonstration the robot walked around blinking, and said "Hello everyone" while its mouth moved. Except the robot does not wear any clothes (ewes!) but it has body armor. The demand for these robots are growing and making customers upset.

Scientists are trying to make as many robots as they can but they can't build yet because they need an okay from the government to make

them.

The female robot can amazingly care for the sick and elderly citizens. "We want this market to grow as an industry," said Yoshihiro Kaga, one of the developers.



Koji Sasahara / AP

People who hear about the robot send angry emails about how they make it. Overall, this robot is the most advanced tool the world has ever seen. This is a gift from Japan because now all of us can make them.

Saving our World One Step

at a Time

By Mouang Saefong and Rachel Gutierrez (6th Graders); E.M. Downer Elementary School

Do you like having dirty water to drink? This could happen if we pollute our environment. A lot of people don't really listen to what could happen to our environment. If we start conserving energy, water, and power, and not littering we could live a happy life.

Everyday, most everyone brushes their teeth in the morning, right? While you're brushing your teeth, you could turn off the faucet and save water. When you're in your room in the afternoons with your lights on, and there's sunlight outside, you could turn off the lights, which is saving power.

You're also saving money!

Say you're 3 blocks away from your school; instead of using your car, you could walk or ride a bike to school. This is saving en-



ergy. Everybody should try to do this everyday. Everyone should try to reduce, reuse, recycle and rot stuff (4 R's). So if you want to have a clean environment, you should try this!

Salmonella

By T. V.; Los Medanos Elementary

WARNING! There's a disease going around called salmonella. It was discovered by a scientist named Dr. Daniel E. Salmon. The disease salmonella is a type of bacteria, which is found in peanut butter, spinach, tomatoes, uncooked chicken, eggs, and chilies.

Salmonella was found in California, Idaho, and Minnesota school food. From all fifty states 575 people were sick but only 8 died. There was a recall of 1,300 products.

Sometimes, salmonella can be spread by reptiles especially to infants, younger children, and elderly people. It causes paratyphoid fever, typhoid fever, and food borne illness salmonellosis. If you have diarrhea, fever, nausea, abdominal cramps and/or vomiting, you might have salmonella.



Homework on the Weekends; Is it Beneficial?

By Sydnie Grant Elementary School

In middle and high schools and even in some elementary schools, homework is assigned to students to complete over the weekend. The question is "Is it Beneficial?" In my opinion weekends are a time with no school and I think that homework should not interfere with time for family and friends. Some families may also be too busy doing other acti-

vates to allow their children time to complete the assignment.

I took a survey, out of the four parents I asked all of them agreed that homework should not be assigned over the weekends. I also asked three students from different schools if they agreed with the parents and they all did.

The survey shows that most people agree that homework should not be assigned over the weekend. I don't

enjoy homework even on school days and I think that having homework over the weekends is just too much for some children to handle.

The Wave vs. Ripstik – YOU DECIDE

By Bailey Acosta & Thomas Solis (6th Graders) E.M. Downer Elementary

Some of us have Ripstiks and



some of us have the Wave. But which one of these is really better? That might depend on your perspective.

The Wave would be better for the people who like something different or something new. First, on the Wave you can switch the wheels and you can also change the design on top. Also, you can buy a custom case for it and you can also buy them in different sizes.

The Ripstik may be better if you don't want to spend as much because it costs less. They are similar because they both are two-wheeled skateboards. The Ripstik comes only in one size. It also does not have any designs on it. You can't change the wheels either. The Ripstik comes in red, blue, green, and pink. The Ripstik has a deluxe type, but the Wave does not.

Are schools serving unhealthy foods for their students?

By Natalie Miller Grant Elementary School

Roughly 17% of elementary schools have vending machines on campus. Most of these machines sell some unhealthy options. Too many vending machines are being installed, and some of the students aren't getting the proper exercise in the daily life outside of school. Are schools serving unhealthy foods for kids? As I've heard most parents are astonished at this fascinating news. I don't agree with most of the un-

healthy foods choices and some of the students don't even realize what's going into their own bodies! About 55% of schools examined have an agreement with an unhealthy beverage company that allows the beverage company to provide sodas and other unhealthy beverages in the school. It's the kids' choice. Even if your school serves unhealthy foods you can get your daily dose of exercise and make sure you're staying healthy. The more vegetables and fruits you eat at an early age the healthier you'll be when you grow up.

MARBLES From page 1

at school. The kids play with their friends "for keeps" or they "play for fun".

If you play marbles in class the teacher will take them away. We play marbles by putting our thumb next to it. The tricks are stopsies, bloxies, rainbows, arrows, ariels, rebounds, spiders, closies, farsies, slidesies, and runs away-sies.

There are all kind of sizes: big, little, really tiny and really large. There are many different colors and names such as rainbow, Bloody Mary, tiger, dragons, shooters, clear ones, black ones, yellow, red, white, and cat eyes. There are all types of marbles such as minis, regulars, boulders and bulldozers.

The teachers will take the marbles away if they hear them, if they see them, or if you are playing with them in class. The teacher will keep them in their desk and



not give it back. The principal will let you bring them outside if you play with them between the cones. You also must put them away when the bell rings and then you have to go to your lines.