



# GOPHER TALES



**VOLUME 26 -----May/June 2011----- NO. 6**

## ***From The Desk of the Principal...***

Next year school will start at 7:45 a.m. and end at 2:25 p.m. Banking time days will continue for next year. These days of no pupil attendance are used for professional development. Camp Honey Creek services will be offered on those days if enough parents express an interest in this service. Our goal is to continue providing a quality educational program for your children.

Students attending Honey Creek benefit from the Federal Title I Grant monies which supplement their educational programming. It is important that families apply for free and reduced breakfast/lunch to make these funds available to the children at Honey Creek. **This is your contribution to help bring funds into the school.** It is like a fundraiser and it costs you nothing! Parents please complete the forms and send them in.

An earlier music grant continues to provide support for instrumental music lessons. Nursing services are expected to continue. This service is vital to meet the health needs of our children and their families.

Camp Honey Creek will offer childcare services to families beginning at 6:45 am. and right after school until 6:00 pm. The half day Early Childhood program for students with special education needs is from 7:45 am-11:15 am and 12:00 pm-2:25 pm.

Breakfast and hot lunch will continue to be served at Honey Creek School. The lunch schedules for next year are as follows:

Primary lunch (K4-CP1) for rooms 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, and 122 will begin at 11:15 a.m. then go outside when they are finished eating, until 12:00 p.m. These children can take the entire 45 minutes to eat lunch if necessary. The intermediate students from rooms 111, 112, 113, 115, 124, and 125 will have recess from 11:15 a.m. and then come in for lunch at 11:35 a.m. Our lunch program ends at 12:00 p.m.

Due to the limited capacity and high parent choice at Honey Creek CP School, I strongly encourage you to send your child to school on the first day. Any student who reports to school later than the first day is not guaranteed a seat for the 2011/12 school year. Please notify the school if your child is unable to attend due to a family emergency or is ill. Our office phone number is 604-7900.

The summer slide is well documented by research. Students should read regularly during the summer break, to maintain/advance their reading achievement. A decline in reading achievement produces a cumulative lag of two or more years by the time they are in middle school. Please encourage your children to read regularly this summer. Look for the tip sheet on the next page.

Thank you Honey Creek Families for a most successful school year. I absolutely enjoy every moment I spend with your children as Principal of Honey Creek School. I look forward to seeing you in the fall. Have an enjoyable, fun-filled, and safe summer.

# Tip Sheet!



- **Read, Read, Read**
- **Let your child read books he/she wants to read**
- **Connect read-aloud choices to summer activities** - When you read and discuss books about things your child has experienced, you help him/her learn important vocabulary and extend his/her understanding of experiences.
- **Make the time** - establish a quiet reading time as a part of your child's daily summer routine
- **Shop smart** - look for books at garage sales, yard sales, or used-book stores
- **Turn off the TV** - During the summer, it's more important than ever to limit the number of hours of television children watch.
- **Reward reading** - it's ok to use incentives. Start a sticker chart (one attached) and let your child earn new books or trips to the library or a picnic lunch with you.
- **Cook and read** - as you prepare a meal, have your child read the recipe aloud to you
- **Magazines** - consider a subscription to children's magazines (Nick Jr. or Sports Illustrated for Kids)
- **Snuggle** - make reading and relaxing together in a quiet, comfortable place part of your daily routine.
- **Be silly** - use your voice and body language with feeling and fun when you read aloud to make the story come alive
- **Repeat** - read your child's favorite book over and over again...then add a new one
- **Plan ahead** - take favorite books with you so you can read on the bus, in line at the grocery store, wherever!
- **Be wordy** - play word games, discuss new words, put magnetic letters on the refrigerator, and encourage your child to read everything from signs to cereal boxes
- **Listen** - be an enthusiastic listener, encouraging your child to read books to you (even if they can't read yet and they're making up the story)
- **Role model** - make sure your child sees you reading
- **Keep it up** - keep reading aloud even when your child can read by him/herself
- **Ask questions** - Ask questions (who were the main characters, what happened, what part of the book did they like best) but don't drill them too much on novel content. Summer reading should foster reading for pleasure.
- **Take turns** reading orally -- you read a section (use an exciting tone, change voice with change of speaker), then have your children read the next section with equal enthusiasm.
- **Encourage your child to write this summer, too.** From writing postcards to friends and relatives to keeping a journal while on a trip, summer presents unique ways for your child to write about his/her experiences. Have your child pack a disposable camera on vacations or day trips and help him/her create a book about the experience.

YOUR CHILDREN AND HONEY CREEK SCHOOL THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

***PLEASE VIEW OUR CALENDAR USING THE TAB "CALENDAR" ON OUR WEBSITE***

## INTERNET RESOURCES

Honey Creek's web page at [www2.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/honey\\_creek](http://www2.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/honey_creek) Gopher Tales - Newsletter tab  
Math+Science Connection - Parent tab

MPS Student Resource Toolbox - [mportal.milwaukee.k12.wi.us](http://mportal.milwaukee.k12.wi.us)  
click on Student tab

Bookflix - [bkflix.grollier.com](http://bkflix.grollier.com)  
Username - hcreekcp  
Password - bookflix

Accelerated Reading Quiz Information - [www.renlearn.com/store/quiz\\_home.asp](http://www.renlearn.com/store/quiz_home.asp)



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 9-13, 2011

This would be a great week to thank the teachers and staff for all they do!!

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No Student Attendance for Mr. Pantea's

Room 111A (AM & PM) ONLY :  
May 2 and June 6, 2011

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Memorial Day

No Student Attendance  
Monday, May 30, 2011  
Tuesday, May 31, 2011

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**Please note this MPS calendar change....**  
**May 20 will now be student attendance day**

**We are waiting to hear when the last student attendance day will be for this school year.**



The last RIF (Reading is Fundamental) giveaway of books will take place the week of May 16th, 2011. Students will receive one free book for his/her personal home library. Thank you letters were sent to contributors who have made this

program possible. We are fortunate that we are a school that can benefit from their generosity.



## LIBRARY BOOKS DUE

All student library books are due by May 19th. The library will be closed May 24th - June 3rd for the inventory. Thank you for a successful year! Visit your local library to continue reading throughout the summer, the MPL theme this year is "Be a Super Reader"!



Our Accelerated Reading Program is a continuing success this year... you can keep track of our progress daily by logging on Honey Creek's web page and go to the Resource Page to see up-to-date totals on the number of books and words read by Honey Creek students this year! If you have questions a good resource is located at the website [ar.renlearn.com](http://ar.renlearn.com). We currently have 16 students who have earned over 100 points and will be joining Ms. Chawla at Old Country Buffet on June 2nd for "Lunch with the Principal". They are: Keenan, Christian, Mary, Edward, Holly, Calvin, Cody, Conley, Keagan, Darren, Kaitlyn, Laila, Muna, MacKenzie, and Emma. Congratulations to these students, hopefully we can increase this number. Please encourage your children to set a reading goal and help them achieve it. We are very close to meeting our goal of 8,000 tests this year.

We will be celebrating our successful year at the Spring Picnic. All of the Accelerated Reading students that have successfully passed ten tests between March 1 and May 18th

will be invited to join our picnic. Because of the large number of children that are eligible to attend the picnic, half of the children will attend a picnic on May 19th - (Rooms 111, 112, & 124) and the other half will attend on May 26th (Rooms 113, 115, 117, 118, and 125). **We are in need of parent help** to make our picnic a success. Please volunteer a few hours of your time, 10:45-12:30 on Thursday, May 19th or Thursday, May 26th. Our picnic is loads of FUN... lunch in the Honey Creek Environmental Center, followed by a treat and group games... please help us!!!!



Call Pat Larsen at 604-7924 to volunteer.



## "BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION"

Honey Creek is delighted to say it has earned money from the collection of Box Tops for Education!! This could not have been possible without the help of all those that participated in this fundraiser. Everyone's support helps make Honey Creek an even better school for our children!



## MUSIC RECITAL

The students of Mrs. Holterman's piano classes, and Mr. Caruther's string classes will be having a recital in Honey Creek's gymnasium on Thursday, May 19th at 1:00 pm. Parents, friends and relatives are invited to attend.

## REPORT CARDS



Parents, please watch for your child's report card #4. It will be sent home on June 13, 2011.



## DONALD GRINDROD TRACK MEET

If you like to run, jump, and/or throw, then you might be interested in trying out for the annual Donald Grindrod Elementary School Track Meet. It will be held on Monday, May 16, 2011, at Hamilton High School 6215 W. Warnimont – It runs from 10:30 a.m. until about 12:30 p.m.

Students will run short, middle, and long distance races, two relay races, jump for distance, boys will throw a football and girls will throw a softball. We will be taking two students for each event.

We always have a good time at the track meet. Parents are welcome and encouraged to please come and watch your child compete.



## “MAGNET“ MAGAZINE PROMOTION

Thank you to all of the families who took the time to return their “MagNet” magazine packets. Our profit of \$600 is far below what we have raised in previous years. We will use these funds toward the purchase of computer software/equipment. Honey Creek classes with the most addresses per student were Rooms 118 and 125. If your child’s notes result in two magazine orders, he/she will receive a Webkinz stuffed toy, this will be given out before the end of the school year. Please be reassured the names that you submitted are NOT sold to other solicitors; they only are used for the purpose of sending the one time magazine promotion. Thanks for supporting Honey Creek!!!

## Thanks VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

We are proud to recognize our PAC Volunteer of the Month for March is April Everson. April has 2 sons that attend Honey Creek. April helps with many tasks throughout the school, volunteered to run the Earth Club and spends many hours helping setup our school yearbook. A big thank you to April and all who volunteer at Honey Creek. Without the assistance of our volunteers, our efforts to serve the students, your children, would not be as effective. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact our Parent Coordinator, Teo Mendoza at 604-7921.



## PEE WEE/ YOUTH SOCCER

We will be having 2 PeeWee and 2 Youth Soccer teams this year. Our soccer teams will practice on Wednesdays after school starting April 13th. Games will be played on Saturday afternoons on the field at Academy of Accelerated Learning – 3727 S. 78<sup>th</sup> Street. Please see the calendar pages for specific times and dates. Please come and cheer for our teams.  
Go Honey Creek Gophers Go!!!

## FREE BOWLING FOR KIDS

This summer kids 16 and under score FREE bowling with AMF! Bowling is active, social, and local. So spend the summer having fun with family and friends at a local AMF bowling center.

Visit [freebowling.amf.com](http://freebowling.amf.com) today to learn more and sign up!



## SURVEY ALERT



In May be on the lookout for the Spring Parent Satisfaction Survey. Watch your child’s red folder for the survey. We are asking you to complete the survey so we are able to receive an accurate representation of the entire student body. Thank you in advance for your time and energy with completing the survey.



## HONEY CREEK SCHOOL KICKBALL GAME

The CP5 students and staff will be participating in the annual Kick Ball game on Wednesday, June 6th at 1:00 p.m. on Honey Creek’s playground.

## CHARACTER BUILDING



In May and June our school-wide character quality will be “Friendship”. Girls from Rooms 111 and 124 will be sharing their thoughts and feelings with all the students and staff. Please look for opportunities to discuss friendship with your child. For instance, you may want to talk about the qualities of a good friend or how to start friendships. Thank you for your support.

## HONEY CREEK COMMUNITY READ-IN



Thank you to all who volunteered their time to make our Honey Creek Community Read-In on March 2nd a success.

## FRONT SHOWCASE

Room 124 will be decorating the front foyer showcase with information about their trip to the State Capitol in Madison. Check it out!!!

## SCHOOL VISITATION/ VOLUNTEER SIGN-IN

At Honey Creek Continuous Progress School we are concerned about building security and the safety of all children. A buzzer/intercom system is installed at the school's front door for security. You must push the buzzer located to the right of the doors and state your reason for entry. Then the door will be released for you to enter. No visitors will be allowed to walk through the building without a pass. Passes are available in the office and must be visible when you are in the building.

If you are coming to school to volunteer, it is important to please register in the office, so we can keep an accurate log of our volunteer hours.



## HELP SAVE THE EARTH!!!

**RECYCLE YOUR PRINTER INK  
CARTRIDGES AND CELL  
PHONES!!**

The Honey Creek program for recycling computer/copier print cartridges and cell phones is going well. Thanks to all who have been sending in their cartridges, especially to those students who carry them to school on the bus for us. We are also accepting certain **NEW OR USED CELL PHONES, LAPTOPS, and AND PDAS!!** If you have any questions, call Pat Larsen at 604-7924 or stop in and check out the information on the drop off box across from the school office. Please consider giving your personal empty ink cartridges and cell phones and contact your friends or employers about recycling them too!!! Many companies just throw them away or return them to the manufacturer for no reimbursement...but Honey Creek could be turning them into **CASH!!!** By participating we benefit by earning extra cash for our school and by keeping these cartridges and phones out of our landfills!!

Remember you may collect them during the summer months and drop them off in the engineer's room.

## HONEY CREEK CELEBRATES EARTH DAY

Honey Creek celebrated Earth Day on Wednesday, April 27, in the gym. Fifth graders performed a short play on the 3

R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Thank you to April Everson, our new parent Earth

Club volunteer, for helping with our recycling relay. The students learned what items can be recycled. Her family also generously donated money to buy supplies/plants for the Environmental Center. We are also grateful to Rachel Boughter and her Brownie troop for donating a rain barrel. Our first planting will be in May. We are planning multicultural gardens.

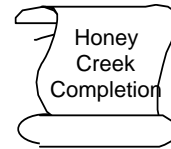


## K5 COMPLETION CEREMONY

Honey Creek's K5 Completion Ceremony will be held on Monday, June 13, 2011. We will recognize the students in Rooms 116, 121, and 122 for the completion of their kindergarten studies.

This ceremony marks the transition to the primary level of elementary school. The students will receive certificates for their accomplishments this year.

The ceremony will begin at **8:00 a.m.** in our school gym. Parents, relatives, and friends are invited to attend. Reception will follow in the Environmental Center (weather permitting) with snacks provided by the PAC.



## CP5 COMPLETION CEREMONY

CP5 students will participate in a Completion Ceremony on Monday, June 13th. This important ceremony marks the transition from elementary school to middle school. It will begin at **9:30 a.m.** in our school gym. Parents, relatives, and friends are invited to attend this special event. A social for those attending will follow the ceremony. Refreshments are provided by the PAC.

## RECOGNITION PROGRAMS



The final recognition programs for the 2010-2011 school year will be held on Thursday, June 9th. Students will receive certificates for services to the school and for accomplishments attained during the school year. Programs will take place in the gym.

8:15 a.m. Rooms: 117, 118, 119, 120, & 121 (K4 only)

9:00 a.m. Rooms 111, 112, 113, 115, & 124 (CP4 only)



## READING TOGETHER MAKES SKILLS

### BLAST OFF

Reading together has the power to show your child that reading can be a joy. Young children naturally love stories & the magic of books. By continually making reading an exciting part of your child's daily life, you can keep this passion alive as they enter upper elementary & middle school, the time when interest sometimes starts to drop.



## HONEY CREEK SUMMER CAMP

We will have Camp Honey Creek June 20th-July 29th. There will be a charge to attend the Camp Honey Creek, its hours are from 9:00 am-4:00 pm with early drop-off from 7:00 am - 9:00 am and late pickup from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Please contact the school office if you would like a registration form. Please do not delay in signing your child up Camp Honey Creek; seats will be limited and filled on a first-come first-serve basis.

## MPS SUMMER SCHOOL

MPS will be hosting summer school sessions from June 27<sup>th</sup>- July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Summer school will be emphasizing reading, math, and vocabulary. The following are summer elementary school sites: Allen Field, Barton, Bethune, Clarke, Cooper, Doerfler, Eighty-first St, Engleburg, Fairview, Gaenslen, Greenfield, Holmes, Humboldt Park, Keefe Ave, Lincoln Ave, Maple Tree, Mitchell, Riley, Rogers, Sherman, Thoreau, Townsend, and Zablocki. Please contact the school office if you would like a registration form. More information can be found on the MPS home page using this path  
**MPS Home Page>  
Schools>Summer School**

## CALLING ALL TALENTS FOR HONEY CREEK'S VARIETY SHOW

Students who would like to share their talents with all their friends can audition for Honey Creek's Variety Show. We are looking for student performers who would like to entertain our



school...acts can be alone or with a group...sharing any unique talent...dancing, singing (must be "karaoke style"), musical instruments, martial arts, skits (like you may have learned in Boy/Girl Scouts), comedy...

Auditions will be held on Tuesday, May 10th at 11:15 and for intermediate students and on Tuesday, May 17th at 11:15 for students in primary students.

Please come to the auditions prepared to present your talent to a panel of judges. The variety show will be held on Wednesday, June 8th at 12:45 pm. Parents and families are welcome.

## AUTHOR VISIT/ PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The author visit on March 2 was a huge success. Besides reading from her latest book Hap and Pap Go to Catering School, Pat Nekola taught our students the proper way to set a table and a few table manners. After the presentation, she played her accordion and let the children play bells and sing along. Over 40 people joined our K5 students in the gymnasium to dine on a delicious pancake breakfast. A big thanks goes out to all the volunteers who helped make this event a reality. Our staff members Ms. Dubis, Ms. Fraundorf, Ms. Larsen, Ms. Biesterveld, and Ms. Caldwell were joined by parent volunteers; they were such a big help setting up, making pancakes, and cleaning. It was a fun-filled family affair.

**K5 students made a graph about how they like their pancakes ...with butter, with syrup, or with butter and syrup.**



**They also wrote in their journals about the pancake breakfast.**



**Here are a few examples...**

**Reilly wrote:**

We shook bells in the library and the author played the accordion.

**Austin wrote:**

We rang bells. Made graphs, syrup got the most votes. The pancakes were good. We listened to an accordion.

**Cadeyn wrote:**

We went to the library and read a book. Ate good pancakes. Wrote about it.

**Amaia wrote:**

Pancakes are healthy for you. I like reading books.

**Riley wrote:**

I liked eating pancakes. We heard a story about 2 dogs, Yap and Hap. We rang bells.

**Kyana wrote:**

Everyone had a turn ringing bells. We ate yummy pancakes.

## APRIL WAS POETRY MONTH

April was Poetry Month, CP5 student Laila S. entered the following poems in a contest sponsored by the Milwaukee Public Library. Nice work Laila!

### An Unseen Gift

Spring grabs onto my tail,  
I love the feel of it, so I do not flail.  
The grass is green, my sun is yellow,  
My heart feels like it's going to bellow.

Bellow with freedom and with spring's bright color.  
Yet when I see, when I observe,  
I see the magic spring is to serve.

### A new beginning.

### Party Excitement

You're invited to a party,  
From 1 to 3.

You're invited to a party,  
Admission Is Free.

You're invited to a party,  
We'll have fun all day.

You're invited to a party,  
The party's today!

You're invited to a party,  
I'll give you a balloon.

You're invited to a party,  
We'll jump to the moon.

You're invited to a party,  
You'll laugh at a clown.

You're invited to a party,  
I don't want to see you frown!

## **WRITING** **CIRCLES**



Students in Room 112 enjoyed writing circles sessions, they selected their own writing topics, following is some of their work

### **Ouch!!!**

**By Mary K**

I had a really bad time with my “ouch” moment. It actually happened twice! I had to get my head glued. Yes, you read it right...I had to get my head glued! I was very young the first time it happened. Yet again, I was still pretty young the second time it happened, too. Let's go way back in time, to the first time it happened.

I am just a baby just learning to walk. I walk into the kitchen. Pretty soon, I wobble far enough... now I'm right next to the side of the hard, wooden, kitchen chair. Oops! I fall. The top of my head is bleeding. All I can do is scream. When my mom hears me, she runs over to me. Luckily, I am only bleeding a little.

The next thing I know, I am laying down getting my head glued with a glue stick at the doctor's office! The same thing happened to me again, except I was older. That time, it happened with my mom's tooth. We were playing around and her tooth went into my head. This was at the top of my head. Those things were very hard to handle. I'm sure that there will be worse things in the future, but for now, OUCH!

### **My Fantasy House**

**By Ben R.**

My fantasy house is a huge fifty level bouncy house! I would have a ninety inch plasma TV on every floor, a Wii on every floor, and an “all around” room in the basement. I would always have all my friends over. In my front yard, I have a green football field. In my back yard, I

have an enormous kickball field. I have a large, one hundred yard long hot tub with seats. On the outside my house looks really small. If you look inside my house, it looks really enormous. It looks like it has walls, but you can go through them. Finally I have a pet room. My pet room has ten silvery fish, ten green frogs, five furry hamsters, five colorful parrots, eight slithery newts and ten silly monkeys. This would be the best house in the world.

### **Ouch my Teeth Hurt**

**By Keagan**

One dark evening there was a teenager named Fregly and he was having trouble with his teeth. That day, he told his dad that his bottom front tooth hurt. Also the tooth that hurt had a big space on both sides. His dad said, “It does?” They quickly hopped in the car and went to the dentist. His dentist's name was Dr. Hurt. Dr. Hurt was the worst dentist, people said. Dr. Hurt grabbed his tools and began scraping and drilling Fregly's tooth. The dentist said, “You need braces.” “Nooooo!” Fregly said. Dr. Hurt gave him the braces. The braces were shiny like gold. He looked silly with them on his teeth. Fregly and his dad went home.

The next day Fregley went to school. He was not smiling. He was not smiling because he looked silly with his braces on. Then his friend Nick said “Why aren't you smiling?”

“Why aren't you smiling” Fregly said. They both told each other why they weren't smiling. They both had braces! Nick said “My dentist's name is Dr. Hurt.” “Mine too!” said Fregly. They both decided that braces weren't that bad and that they were kind of cool. They thought their mouths looked a lot like warrior's mouths. In the end,

Fregly and Nick were kind of happy that they both had braces.

### **Favorite Website**

**By Jocelyn**

My favorite website is Club Penguin.com. I love Club Penguin because you can change your penguin's skin color. You can play games and earn money. You can dig for gold. I have a notebook that shows what I did, the stamps I earned, and the people I met. It is super fun. You can throw snowballs to each other and grow plants for water and healing. You can buy pets and take good care of them. You can be a secret agent penguin like me. You also have a phone so you can teleport or have a secret agent phone just like me. You can be a ninja. First, you must get all the belts. Then when you get the black belt you must beat the Sensay. When you beat him, you can get in some door. Then you can beat more than 1 penguin. You can beat four penguins! What is your favorite website?

### **My Favorite Planet Uranus**

**James K.**

My favorite planet besides Earth would be Uranus because it has aqua green appearance and it spins on its side. The side is spinning because it is a result of the gravitational pull from one of its moons. Uranus has 27 moons.

Uranus is a very cold planet. Its atmosphere is made of big rocks and ice. Due to the tremendous pressure of Uranus, there might be diamonds in or on its surface. To be able to go there someday and could be cool. I could see possibly trillions of large, colorful diamonds. I think diamonds are amazing! I would like to take home buckets of diamonds for my family and me.



## Room 117 Wrote about Brewer's Opening Day

### **Jaena wrote:**

I'm going to the Brewer's game! I will see Brewer shirts. I will hear talking. I will eat a pretzel, hot dogs and nachos. I will sit in section 18, seat 10. I want to catch a ball. I'm going with my whole family. I want to see Bernie Brewer sliding down the slide. I like the kiss cam. I like kissing my mom or dad or my sister or my brother. I want to see Bernie Brewer's girlfriend. She is funny. I hope I have fun. I like Ryan Braun. I like his batting and pitching. I used to like J.J. Hardy. This is what I did and saw at the Brewer game.

### **Natalya wrote:**

If I were a ball at a Brewer's game I would not like it. I would not like it because I keep getting hit, and it's boring just getting thrown around all the time. The fun part is I get to see all the people who are at the game. The part I hate the most is getting hit with the bat. When they hit me too hard I get thrown in the crowd and the people who catch me throw me up and down. The part that I like is getting signed. That is what I would do if I were a ball at a Brewer's game.

### **Richard wrote:**

If I were a ball at a Brewer's game I would be nervous. I got hit so hard that I broke the window. I flew to the parking lot. I cried when I got hit. This is what happened when I was the ball.

### **Brooke wrote:**

I'm going to the Brewer game! It will be fun. I will see lots of people. I would eat nachos. Nachos are real tasty. I love nachos. I would drink Coca Cola. I would hear screaming. I would sit on the very top. I would go with my mom, dad and

brother. I would feel happy.

This is what I would do at a Brewer game.

### **Aaron wrote:**

I'm going to a Brewer's game! I would see all the Brewers. I will eat a hot dog. I would drink a soda. I would have Sprite. I hope I would see fireworks. I like the fireworks because they are loud. I would run really fast in the hall so I could get back to the game. I would sit in the first row! I would come in a car. This is what I will see and do.

### **Ryan wrote:**

I'm going to the Brewer's game! I will see a ball. I will hear the umpire saying home run. I will eat salty popcorn. I will sit in the front row. I will see this stuff at a Brewer's game.

## My Life, as a Raccoon



Hi, my name is Kaitlyn R. In reading class, my group read *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls. The book was about a boy whose name was Billy and his two hunting dogs, Little Ann and Old Dan. They all loved to hunt for raccoons. The team went hunting every night, if they wanted to or not. The dogs were amazing; they caught almost every raccoon in sight! I wrote a small story as if I was a raccoon living near Billy. I hope you enjoy it!

My Life, a Raccoon  
"Ooooooo, a frog, the perfect midnight snack," I thought. I tried to catch up with him, but he hops fast. All of a sudden the frog didn't know what to do so he just stopped and stared at me. I ran up to that slimy thing and gobbled it up. "Delicious," I thought. There are not many frogs around here because it is a rural area, so it was a real treat. Some of my family lives in the city; I can't imagine how they survive there; too many people. Anyway, it was early in the morning (late in the evening

for those mean humans) and I had nothing to do but lay around my home which is in a forest. I am nocturnal, so I am awake at what humans call night. A second later a frightening thought ran my head. It was about the time that Billy (a scary human) and his two dogs, Old Dan and Little Ann, come hunting for us coons. I could tell because of how dark the sky looked. Right then, I saw it, the rectangle thing in front of a house opened. There they were, the treacherous hunters had arrived. I took off away from them. I ran as fast I could, but Old Dan spotted me through the darkness, I ran up into the tree. I couldn't believe it, he had treed me. Was I going to die? No, I wouldn't let that happen. I jumped to the next tree, and Old Dan didn't even notice. I tricked one of the best hunting dogs around; I was free.

I stayed up in the tree until nighttime approached (day light for the humans) I knew it was safe. I was blurry eyed because I was so tired from staying in that tree all day. I headed back to my den, ready for a good sleep. Crouching down into the den, I immediately fell asleep. The next day I woke up cheerful and ready for a good breakfast. I wanted another frog but they are very rare. "What should I eat?" I thought. I decided on worms. I carefully dug some worms from the ground and slurped them down. "That was delicious," I said to myself. "Arff Arff," I heard from the distance. Oh great, that was Billy and his frightening dogs again. The sound of the dogs was growing louder, I yelped. They were right in front of me. I ran as fast as I could, but they were too fast; I ran into a tree. Old Dan and Little Ann started bawling treed. I knew I was done for. Billy started hitting me and his dogs starting biting me and...

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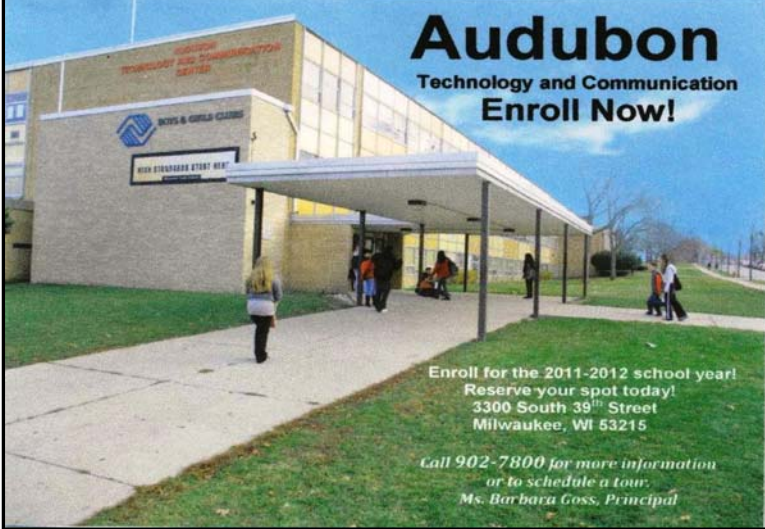
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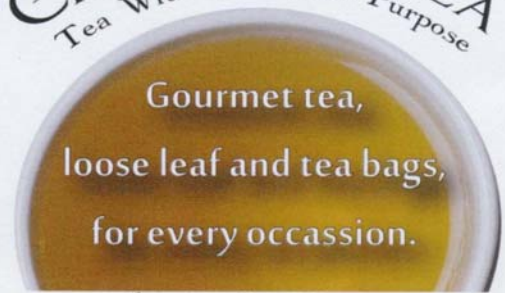
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