From the Desk of Woodword

With Daylight Savings Time, we spring forward and now the days are getting longer and lighter. Do you see signs of spring where you live?

We are thrilled to include a piece on School Gardens in this month’s issue. Schools throughout the country are encouraging student gardeners and we highlight Sioux City, Iowa, where students grow food and experience a farmer’s market at their school.

April 22 is Earth Day. While it is a time to celebrate the beauty of planet Earth with our features on Caterpillars and Deciduous Forests, we are also aware of the damage to the Ozone layer and what that might mean.

My name: ________________________________

All of these hot air balloons have a twin with the same colorings. Can you find the one unique balloon?
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA – This is a story of skill and survival. The huge wildfires in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties last December affected wildlife as well as the people of the area.

Two adult female bears were found with severe burns on their paws.

They were brought to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Investigations Lab where wildlife veterinarians treated the animals. The bears were clearly in pain and couldn’t stand on their paws.

Recovery for burns can usually take up to six months. Helping an animal with burns involves a lot of people as bandages need to be changed often.

Dr. Jamie Peyton, a specialist in pain management at the University of California, Davis, had read about a treatment in Brazil where sterilized fish skins were used to heal burns and help skin regenerate. After mentioning her ideas to California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Dr. Deana Clifford, who was responsible for the care of the animals, the two vets decided this was worth a try.

The bears were anesthetized (medicine was used to keep the bears asleep). The cleaned fish skins were carefully sewn onto their paws and then wrapped with rice paper and corn husks to keep everything in place.

Many other treatments were used to help the animals heal. In just a few weeks, new skin had grown back on the bears’ paws and the animals could stand upright.

Soon, the bears were released into the wild by Fish and Wildlife staff. The bears are now wearing tracking collars so their progress can be monitored.

The whole experiment taught veterinarians a lot about the possibilities of using fish skins to heal burn wounds — an exciting prospect for the future.

Photos courtesy of California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Do you hear a soft and constant crunching sound? Tiny little crawlers have chewed their way out of tiny little eggs. They are munching leaves and grass. They eat upside down, they eat sideways, they don’t care which way they eat. But they hardly stop eating. They’re…

**Caterpillars**

**What Will I Be When I Grow Up?**

Different caterpillars will become different moths or butterflies.

Do the math problems on each caterpillar, butterfly and moth. The matching answers will show you what kind of butterfly or moth each caterpillar will become.

*Standards link:* Number sense: Compute sums and differences.

- **Tiger Swallowtail**
  - 4 + 11 = 15
- **White Marked Tussock Moth**
  - 8 - 2 = 6
- **Hog Sphinx**
  - 13 + 6 = 19
- **Wooly Bear**
  - 5 + 3 = 8
- **Hickory Horned Devil**
  - 12 - 6 = 6

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**The Big Guy**

One of the biggest of all caterpillars is the hickory horned devil. To find out how big it is, count all of the other on the page.

_____ inches

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**What is a proleg?**

These “legs” support and move the growing caterpillar. Prolegs help the caterpillar to hold tightly to a branch or leaf.

A newly hatched caterpillar is about 1 millimeter long. In a couple of months most will be about 2 centimeters long. This is about a 2,000 percent increase in length. If you grew 2,000 percent, how tall would you be?

*Standards link:* Life science: Students know animals have structures that serve different functions in growth and survival.
Made for protection

While out eating, which is most of the time, caterpillars are easy prey for birds and other predators. Nature has given caterpillars some built-in protection. Some have alarming-looking body parts, such as the fierce red horns of the hickory horned devil. Some have a foul odor and others have spines that sting.

Find the differences between the caterpillar and its reflection.

Standards Link: Life science: Students know animals have structures that serve different functions in survival.

Word search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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Answers:

- Copy: worm
- Hone: bow
- Bath: bee
- Sea: stick
- Rain: room
- Earth: cup
- Tea: shore
- Chop: cat

Hey Readers, we hope you had a great March with National Reading Month and Dr. Seuss’ birthday. Are you ready to continue your reading habits through April? Here’s a few tips for creating a new habit and making it stick. First, set a reminder. It might be a good idea to write down the things you do every day, without fail, like brushing your teeth or eating breakfast. Those actions can serve as a reminder. For example, after you eat breakfast you could read.

Maybe you set a book out where you’d like to read as a reminder. Tell your friends about it so they can help remind you and even join in the challenge! Second, chose a habit that’s easy to start like reading for a few minutes. In the beginning, performance doesn’t matter. Make it a habit that is so easy you can’t say “no” to. You can slowly build upon this habit as the behavior becomes consistent. Third and lastly, celebrate! We want to continue to do things that make us feel good. As you develop a reading habit you’ll also develop a love of reading and discovering new worlds and interesting characters. Reading also helps your brain develop and you’ll find your performance in other subjects will improve as well. So give yourself some credit and enjoy each success.

Learning buddy sign here

I have completed _______ activities with my learning buddy.

Learning buddy’s signature

Date
Deciduous forest: A forest of four seasons

Deciduous means a tree or shrub that sheds its leaves every autumn. Deciduous forests are home to birds, squirrels, deer and many other kinds of wildlife.

A deciduous forest changes during every season of the year. In summer, trees display flowers, berries and green leaves.

Spring brings warmer weather, and as soft, green buds pop out of the branches, the cycle begins again.

In fall, the leaves of the trees turn red, orange and yellow.

Cold, wintry storms cause the leaves to fall, leaving the branches of the trees bare and the ground covered with a thick carpet of crunchy leaves.

How many squirrels can you find hiding on this page?

How many differences can you find between these four pictures?

Standards links: Life science: Students know how the environment changes over the seasons.
There’s a Hole in the Sky!

Scientists have discovered that there is a hole in the ozone located over Antarctica and its surrounding ocean. What does it all mean? Today’s Connect123 page fills you in about the ozone hole.

**Q: What’s the ozone?**
A: The ozone is a layer of the atmosphere that blocks ultra-violet sun rays from making it to the surface of the earth.

**Q: How did the ozone hole form?**
A: During the Antarctic winter, sunlight causes chemical reactions in the cold air trapped over the South Pole.

Man-made chemicals called **chlorofluorocarbons** (CFCs) and **halons** are contributing to the hole in the ozone layer. These chemicals, in sunlight, attack and destroy ozone.

CFCs are used in aerosol sprays, refrigerators, air conditioners and other products.

**Holes in the story**
Quick! Fill up the holes in the story using the words below.

- **plankton**
- **big**
- **sunscreen**
- **survive**
- **planet**
- **kill**
- **cancer**

**Too Many rays**
Ultra-violet rays can cause skin . People with all skin types need to wear even if they don’t live in Antarctica. Our atmosphere has lost ozone all around the . Most of the loss is over Antarctica, but there is some loss just about everywhere.

Too much ultra-violet radiation also small plants and animals, such as. Larger animals need to eat the small plants and animals to . So if the little guys go, the big animals will have trouble surviving. Scientists warn us that too much ultra-violet radiation can cause some really problems.

**Standards link:** Earth science: students know the role of the ozone layer in absorbing ultraviolet radiation. Reading comprehension: students use context to understand the meaning of words and sentences.
Slash your trash!

This month’s Connect123 is full of information about ways kids and families can protect our planet. One great family project would be to see how much you can cut back on the amount of trash you toss each week.

FIRST: WEIGH IT

Pick one day a week to weigh and measure the amount of trash you accumulate. Weigh or measure the trash and record this. Then discuss what is in the trash and how you might have less next week. BONUS: If you are really ambitious, weigh your weekly trash accumulation!

NEXT: MAKE A PLAN

Plan how you will accumulate less trash. Here are some ideas to consider:

1. Use reusable bags when you go shopping.
2. Use reusable containers for your packed lunches.
3. Buy foods from the bulk section and store in mason jars.
4. Reduce junk mail by writing “Rejected. Return to sender. Take me off your mailing list” on junk mail and leave it in the mailbox for the mailman to return to the sender.
5. Recycle everything you can.
6. Use old rags for cleaning instead of paper towels.

Reducing and reusing keeps money in your pocket and can do a lot of good for our communities and environment.

For more ideas go to: keeperofthehome.org

April is time to celebrate planet earth

The amount of trash Americans toss has almost tripled since 1960. Today, Americans generate more than 250 million tons of trash each year, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

This graphic shows how much trash, per person, is in landfills around the country.

Rachel Carson and her book that changed the world

Rachel Carson’s writings helped spark the global environmental movement which would eventually lead to the establishment of Earth Day.

In celebration of Earth Day, this is a beautifully illustrated book about Rachel Carson’s life to share with your children.

It spans the time from the early childhood days in her poverty-stricken family to her persistence to learn more and more about the world of science. It tells of her education when few women entered the world of biology, and how she turned to writing to share her observations of the outdoors. It includes an extensive “epilogue” on what happened after the publication of her book, Silent Spring.
Q. Will the ultra-violet rays melt the Antarctica ice cap?
A: No. Our sun sends out different kinds of rays. Some rays are heat rays and others, like ultra-violet, are light rays. Light alone can't melt ice.

Find the differences in these two pictures.

What do we get from trees?
Look at this list of items. Write the ones that come from trees on the tree at left.

- crayons
- newspapers
- fence posts
- football helmets
- shatterproof glass
- hockey sticks
- baby foods
- golf tees
- rulers
- shoe polish
- sponges
- plywood
- rubber gloves
- shampoo
- syrup
- toothpaste
- grocery bags
- furniture
- musical instruments
- waxes
- baking cups
- fishing boats
- jigsaw puzzles
- crutches

Answers

Please send ideas, suggestions or information to: nie@deseretnews.com

Learning buddy sign here
I have completed ________ activities with my Learning Buddy.

Learning buddy's signature Date

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Content created for the Deseret News by: Kid Scoop.
Educational fun for kids ages 4-11.
www.kidscoop.com

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Connect123 believes that being active, preventing childhood obesity and eating healthily are all objectives we want to promote. Our Fit and Fun page will help you do just that. Join in and enjoy getting fit and having fun!

Coyote stretches Get a little exercise the limber coyote way!

Coyote stretch #1
Imitate the pose of this coyote. While on all fours, arch your back and stretch. Can you raise your arm?

Coyote stretch #2
Sit on your haunches and howl. Feel your neck stretch? Raise your shoulders up and down as you howl!

Coyote stretch #3
Roll on our back and waggle your arms and legs in the air as if someone’s rubbing your tummy!

Coyote stretch #4
Coyotes are amazing jumpers! Can you balance on all fours and jump up and down? It isn’t easy, is it?

Standards links: Physical education: Use a variety of basic and advanced movement forms.

Pizza box solar oven

Standards links: Science: students know that the sun supplies heat, light and energy to the earth.

For this project, you’ll need a pizza box, utility knife, foil, plastic wrap, black paper, tape, glue and an adult helper.

Have an adult cut a large square flap in a pizza box lid. Leave about a one inch border.

Tape a plastic wrap window in the opening. Glue the foil to the underside of the flap.

Line the inside of the box with foil. Glue in place. Tape black construction paper across the bottom of the pizza box oven.

Place the oven in direct sunlight. Look through the plastic window to see if food is ready. You can heat s’mores, English muffins with cheese, hot dogs and more!
Before money was invented, people traded with each other for goods and services. But trading wasn’t always easy.

Imagine if what you had to trade was milk. On a hot day your milk could spoil and you would be out of luck.

If you were a doctor and all your patients wanted to pay you in eggs, you could end up with more eggs than you could ever use.

Over the years, people tried using different kinds of things as money such as shells, feathers and beads. Small lumps of metal such as gold and silver became popular because they were easy to carry. But they had to be weighed every time they were used.

Around 700 B.C. King Croesus of Lydia (present day Turkey) had the idea of stamping metal into coins. About 500 years later, the Chinese invented paper money.

Dexter traded his yo-yo for Natasha’s comic books.

Amy tried to trade her cookie for Andy’s apple.

Your cookie is smooshed! I’ll keep my crisp apple!

Lulu traded her kite for Lexie’s crayons.

If you want something in my bakery, you can’t trade things for a cookie. You need money!

Bakery Bucks
You have $1.50 to spend. You need to save 50¢ to buy the newspaper on the way home. Circle all the treats you could buy at the bakery. (There’s more than one way to do this.)

35¢ each
12¢ each
21¢ each

Coin Toss
Throughout history, coins have come in many different shapes and sizes.

Only two of these coins match. Can you find them?

Standards link: Economics: Students know that different countries use different currencies to exchange goods and services.
Sonia Sotomayor
Supreme Court Justice

Sonia Sotomayor grew up in a very poor neighborhood outside of New York City. But, with big dreams and hard work, she grew up to be one of the nine justices on the Supreme Court—the highest court in the United States of America.

She serves with justices John Roberts, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Stephen G. Breyer, Samuel Alito, and Elena Kagen.

Big Goals and Dreams
From a young age, Sonia wanted to help people. Because she spoke Spanish at home, she would translate for people at hospitals.

When Sonia decided to become a judge, she knew she would have to get good grades, really good grades.

Her hard work paid off. She graduated high school with an award for being the very top student at her school. She was accepted into one of the very best colleges in America: Princeton University. She worked hard there and then got into a top law school.

Replace the missing words in this article.

A Mother’s Love
Sonia’s father died when she was nine years old. Sonia’s mother had to work hard to __________ her children alone.

Sonia’s mother worked long __________ so she could send Sonia and her brother to a private ____________.

Sonia’s mother had only completed third __________ and she wanted her children to finish school so they could have better _____________.

After the children went to bed, Sonia’s mother studied to become a __________ so she could afford a better life for her children.

Sonia’s mother taught her the importance of hard work, ____________ and love.

Sonia’s mother wanted her children to do well in school. She saved pennies, nickels and dimes to buy ____________ to help her children.

Do the math to see which law school Sonia Sotomayor attended.
The answer is an even number.

Columbia Law School
29 + 16 =

Yale
33 + 71 =

Harvard
55 + 64 =

Read! Read! Read!
As a child, Sonia loved to read. She read her school books, library books and the encyclopedias her mother bought. But her favorite books were Nancy Drew mysteries.

Nancy Drew is a girl detective that solves crimes. Sonia wanted to be like her!

Unscramble the titles of these Nancy Drew mysteries. Use the list at right for clues.

The Hidden Staircase
The Secret of the Old Clock
The Sky Phantom
The Clue in the Diary
The Haunted Bridge
The Clue of the Black Keys

Judges use a gavel, a small wooden mallet, to quiet courtrooms. How many can you find on this page?
Poverty was not Sonia’s only challenge growing up. When she was eight years old the doctor told her she had a disease that meant she would need to take shots of medicine every day for the rest of her life. 

Use the code to discover the name of this disease.

SECRET CODE: 

\[ \begin{array}{ccccccc} 
A & B & D & E & I & K & N & S & T & U \\
\end{array} \]

SOTOMAYOR  LAWYER  DIMES  
SACRIFICE  SONIA  JUDGE  
SUPREME  COURT  SHOWS  
SPANISH  ALONE  GOALS  
DREAMS  NURSE  HARD  
E  W  R  E  Y  W  A  L  R  S  
C  G  J  U  D  G  E  E  O  W  
I  C  O  O  C  S  N  Y  E  O  
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I  R  K  U  L  E  U  E  M  S  
R  E  N  A  R  S  D  R  O  D  
C  A  H  P  A  T  R  N  T  R  
A  M  U  S  E  M  I  D  O  A  
S  S  D  S  P  A  N  I  S  H  


Hey, Readers! The weather is slowly getting warmer, the sun is staying up later, the tulips are starting to sprout; all signs that spring has sprung! What are some of the things you love about spring? Is it spring break? Playing in the rain? Playing soccer? Or is it just a sign that summer is nearly here? Well, we have a fun idea for spring reading. How about a spring word search? In your reading this month find out how many of the 20 words listed below you can find in what you read every day. Send us a message on Facebook at www.facebook.com/readtoday/ when you finish and we’ll send you something fun! Good Luck!

Spring  Tulip  Seeds  
Butterfly  Bunny  Puddle  
Umbrella  Sunshine  Easter  
Bugs  Bird  Green  
Mud  Flowers  April  
Bees  Rain  Rainbow  
Garden  Eggs  

Please send ideas, suggestions or information to nie@deseretnews.com.

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NIE director: 55 N. 300 West Salt Lake City, UT 84101
Cindy Richards circaids@deseretnews.com 801-237-2172

Learning buddy sign here

I have completed ________ activities with my Learning Buddy.

Learning buddy’s signature  Date