

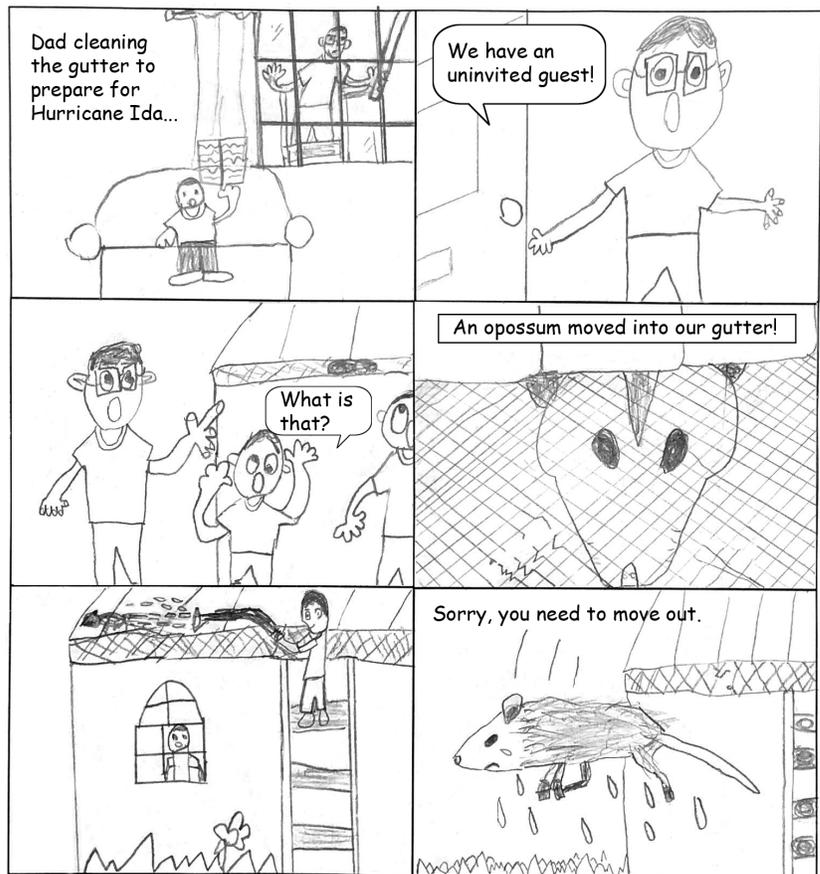
MONTHLY MUSTANG

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The Uninvited Guest

by: Milo Jenq



A Wordle A Day Is Fun To Play

By Gibson Allison

Wordle is a New York Times online game that has become popular recently. It was created by a software engineer named Josh Wardle. In 2013, he started making the game. He finished it during the pandemic.

To play the game, you have to guess the five-letter word in six tries.

If one of the letters in that word is green, it means it is correct and in the right spot.

If the letter is yellow, it means it is in the word but in the wrong spot.

If the letter is gray, it means it is not in the word.

To win, you could start with a heavy consonant word or a heavy vowel word. Examples include "stare," "pivot," "other," "plain," and "those." A lot of people like to start the game with the word "adieu," which in French means goodbye.

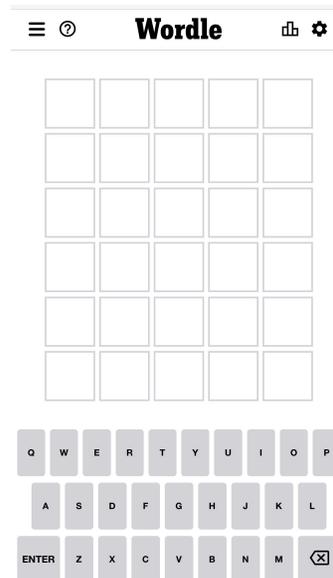
Wordle is a New York Times game. If you want to go to the website to play, it is at <https://www.nytimes.com/games/wordle/index.html>

*Summer
Vacation
Word
Search
By
Alexander
Kim*

C	C	D	J	R	Z	L	P	E	N	K	G	Y	H	P	W	Z	S	N	U
B	C	P	J	X	K	A	C	O	G	R	E	N	P	A	P	V	E	P	O
G	K	R	C	Z	S	F	I	B	L	A	J	N	I	Y	P	M	I	E	W
A	X	D	J	S	Y	T	U	H	F	M	G	C	Y	L	R	F	T	X	U
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N	U	O	X	D	Z	C	W	C	X	N	P	T	U	K	B	V	C	L	V
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E	C	Q	S	E	H	C	A	E	B	I	R	U	W	R	B	H	A	N	D
J	C	A	G	Y	Q	Y	K	K	A	I	L	T	K	U	X	S	M	G	C
Q	J	D	M	Z	P	M	E	H	I	Q	C	I	E	Y	M	E	P	L	W
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P	D	D	C	T	S	D	S	V	N	M	J	S	N	Q	B	A	A	X	W
U	Y	Y	K	N	F	U	N	I	E	W	C	G	E	G	D	Y	O	Q	E
X	A	M	Q	S	R	V	Q	R	R	S	E	A	R	Y	X	O	P	O	G
N	M	L	F	O	F	D	R	U	H	O	L	A	Q	W	E	B	A	J	V

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Photo By
Gibson
Allison



Book Review

Nancy Drew: The Secret of the Old Clock

By Juliet Kuban

Hi, I am Juliet Kuban, and today I am going to tell you about one of my favorite books: The Secret of the Old Clock by Caroline Keene.

This book is about an 18-year-old girl named Nancy Drew whose father is a lawyer. She lives with her dad and housekeeper, who is like a mom since Nancy's mom passed away many years ago. Nancy loves adventures and mysteries, both big and small.



One day, Nancy was driving and saw a moving truck almost run over a little

girl who had fallen over. She got out of the car and helped the little girl into her house. The Turner Sisters opened the door. The Turner Sisters were there because the girl's parents died in a car accident. They had not been watching the girl because they were selling furniture as they were very poor. They told Nancy that they were counting on their father's cousin to help them financially by including them in his will. When it was time to write the will, he never remembered. Nancy thought that was very suspicious. Nancy thought there might be another will. Read the book to find out if Nancy finds another will.

Interviews

An Interview with West University Little League Minor AA Knights Coach, Scott Rose

By Milo Jenq

True baseball fans know that opening day was April 7th, but did you know that, for West University Little League (WULL), opening day was actually back in January? WULL is one of the largest little leagues in the country, with about 1,350 players. It offers baseball from Tadpole division through Senior division. It is run by a dedicated group of volunteer parents. Here is my interview with my WULL coach: Coach Scott Rose, of the Knights, who generously agreed to be interviewed. Here is how our interview went:

Q: Why did you want to coach a WULL baseball team?

A: I wanted to coach for many reasons, but mostly because I wanted to share my love of baseball. As an extra bonus, I get to play with my son, Eli, who is one of the team members of the Knights.

Q: How long have you been a baseball coach?

A: This is my fifth season being manager of a WULL team.

Q: What do you like most about being a baseball coach?

A: Teaching kids more about baseball, helping them to get better and more confident, and showing them what it means to have good sportsmanship. I also really like making new friendships with the players and their parents.

(continue on page 4)

(Jenq, continued from page 3)

Q: What is your least favorite thing about it?

A: This is a hard one, but I think it's seeing you guys struggle when you aren't doing as well as you hope to do. Baseball is not an easy game. So, I try hard to teach you and give you the skills to do well and put you in places where you'll do well.

Q: Did you play baseball as a kid? If so, did you like it?

A: Yes, I love baseball! I started playing when I was five and played on organized teams through high school. Then, I joined the U.S. Army and played on a team in Germany. When I went to college, I kept playing with friends and, even after graduating, I played for my company teams for many years until my mid-thirties.

Q: Who's your favorite baseball player?

A: As a kid, Joe Morgan. He spent most of his seasons with the Houston Astros and Cincinnati Reds. He made the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1990. After he retired as a player, he had a very successful second career as a baseball commentator. Sadly, he died in 2020. ☹️ More recently, it's Jose Altuve of the Houston Astros. They are my favorites because both players were smaller players that not many gave a chance to make the major leagues. Both had a good work ethic, played hard and exceeded expectations, and are/were great teammates and good people in general.

Q: What's your goal for the Knights this spring ball season?

A: I want all the players to improve their knowledge of baseball as well as their technique. I want them to learn what it is to be good teammates, as well as to be positive and supportive of each other. I want the players to understand that it takes practice to be good at anything. I also want to win some games and have fun doing it! You have to remember, baseball is a game that should be fun.

Q: Do you have any baseball advice, besides "baseball is a game of failure"?

A: Yes! First, appreciate the moment. So, be proud when you do well, and if you make a mistake, move on. It's the same thing in life. Take it one pitch at a time. You focus on what you can control and what you can do, and that's something to learn. Remember that failure is an essential part of the game of life. Baseball can help us let go of unnecessary fear, worry, and being too hard on yourself. Finally, always swing hard, just in case you get a big hit! Try not to play tentatively or be afraid to fail or lose. The best way to approach the game, as well as life itself, is with passion. Have fun!

Q: Do you think baseball makes you better at other things in life?

A: Yes, very much so. While baseball is just a game, life is not. But baseball can teach you so much, including to be flexible and persistent. You learn to know your strengths and play to them as well as to know your weaknesses and work on them. Make a mistake, learn from it, and move on. (continue on page 5)



(continued from page 4) That is what resiliency is all about. Turning your failures into lessons and persevering through trials and tribulations, both in baseball and in life. It isn't over 'til it's over so push through until the end and see it through. Never ever quit.

Q: Thank you, Coach Rose! Go Knights!

Interviewing a Future Pershing Student

By Alice Kate Allison

Today, I am interviewing a future Pershing student, Alexandra Hedeman.

Question #1: What are you hoping to accomplish in middle school?

Alexandra Hedeman: I am hoping to accomplish being better at math.

Question #2: Are you nervous or excited to go to middle school?

AH: I am not excited but I'm not... I'm excited but I'm not excited. So, I'm nervous.

Question #3: Will you miss West U?

AH: Yes, I will miss West U.

Question #4: What are some good memories of West U?

AH: My friends, my teachers, and ancillary.

Question #5: Which school are you going to attend, and have you seen it?

AH: I am going to Pershing, and I have seen it. My mom went there.

Question #6: Are you changing anything in middle school?

AH: Yes. I'm going to change what I wear because of the dress code, and I won't have recess anymore.

Question #7: Who was your West U role model/ favorite person?

AH: My second grade teacher Ms. Bradley; she was awesome!



Summer

Summer Plans 2022



What 3rd Graders are Doing This Summer Vacation

By: Matthew Herman

1. *Matias DiFiori: "This summer, I will visit my cousins in Boston."*
2. *Claire Brown: "I am going to Costa Rica this summer."*
3. *Catherine Coulomb: "This summer, I will go to Italy & Paris."*
4. *Tate Carver: "I'm going to Hawaii for the entire summer."*
5. *Zoya Jethani: "I'm going to Spain for the summer."*

continue on page 6

Herman, continued from page 5

6. *Piper Tisdal: "I will go to the pool to practice swimming."*
7. *David Sbert: "I am going to Puerto Rico and Florida."*
8. *Valentina DiFiori: "I will go see my family at Club Med."*
9. *Matthew Herman: "I am going to see my grandparents in Michigan."*
10. *Alyce McLamb: "I will relax at my beach house and will plan my annual trip at my condo in Florida."*
11. *Constanza Malo: "I'm going on a cruise in Europe."*

What are you doing this summer?

Fun Summer Ideas

by Maggie Chen

Summer is almost here! Here are a few things to do during summer:

Summer Camps

Summer camps are fun places for kids. Some summer camps are Kidventures, iKids, and Camp Ozark. My most enjoyable summer camp moment was going to the pool at a West U summer tennis camp.

Vacation Places to Go

Vacations are times to relax and enjoy yourself. A few hotels are Hilton, Holiday Inn, and

Sonesta. Some places to go to are Hawaii, California, and New York City.

Arts & Crafts

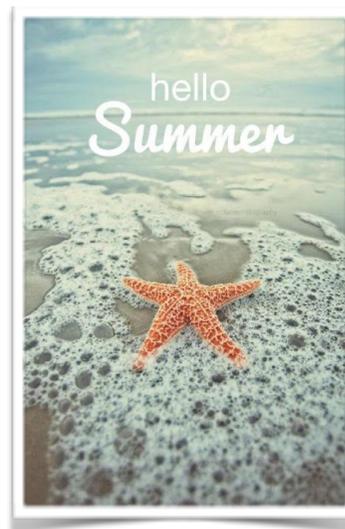
Crafts are fun and easy to make. Some cool crafts are sewing, pottery, and paper crafts. Places to go for supplies are Michaels, Hobby Lobby, and Jo-Ann.

Cooking

Baking is fun and yummy! A few shops to get ingredients are Whole Foods, Costco, and Randalls. Some delicious treats are cookies, brownies, and cupcakes.

Leisure at Home

Need to relax? A few leisure activities are swimming, reading, and taking naps. For sporty people, you can walk, dance, or do fitness.



Around the World in Two Hours:

A Review of the West University Elementary School International Festival



Picture Above are the authors at the festival:

Kelsey Yip, Willa Castle and Lila Cooley

Kelsey's Travel Journal

On April 7, 2022, our school had our annual International Festival. The International Festival is when different families tell other people about their country or culture using displays, props, costumes, and more. Some families shared food or snacks from their country and dressed up in clothes from their heritage. Half of the families set up at the school, and the other half set up in front of their homes.

My family (the Yips) was one of the hosts at the International Festival and represented Hong Kong. We shared snacks from Hong Kong, gave out chopsticks, lucky red

envelopes, and dressed up in Chinese clothing. It's super fun to host because you can set up and decorate your table with so many different things and help people learn about your amazing heritage and culture.

Lila's Travel Journal

Hi! This is Lila, and I would love to tell you about my experience at the International Festival. I was so excited to see Hong Kong, India, the Czech Republic, Turkey, Scotland, Ukraine, and Vietnam. I really thought it was fun to see all of the displays and try new foods! I also got some cool stuff, which included a red envelope from Hong Kong, a little book from Mexico, and a paper lantern from Taiwan. There were also so many little treats I got to try from all of the countries, like a caramel koala from Australia and strawberry candy from China.

I especially enjoyed learning about all of the countries through their displays. Check out these awesome facts from those displays about the geography and cultures of some of the countries we visited!

Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe.
The Alps are enormous mountains in Switzerland.

Iran has lots of pistachios.

Bubble tea is from Taiwan.

You can find spicy chili candy in Mexico. (Trust me, it is very spicy!)

Pretzels are popular in Germany, and Albert Einstein was born there!

I hope you enjoyed learning about these facts, too! Next year, I recommend going to the

International Festival because it is so much fun.

continue on page 8

Yip, Castle and Colley, continued from page 7
Willia's Travel Journal

My experience going to the International Festival was fabulous! There were a ton of great things to see, eat, and learn at each presentation. Lila and I went to Kelsey's Hong Kong stand, where there were a variety of items that represented her family's culture and Hong Kong itself. As we went to the other stands, we noticed how each of them showed so much about their cultures. We couldn't imagine how much hard work they took to make these stands for us! It was clear to me how much pride people have in their heritage, and it was great to be a part of such a unique experience.

In conclusion, the International Festival was an awesome experience and I think that all of us had a great time there. It was fun and educational. Plus, it offered West U students a chance to celebrate our community's cultural diversity! Next year, you should go to this amazing festival. I loved it and so will you!

My Odyssey of the Mind Experience

By Ethan Duguid

My Odyssey experience has had a major influence for my love of theater! My fellow teammates, Andi Mills, Kinsey Magers, Lincoln Wagner, Charisse Ding, Ryan Atha, and Oliver Castillo, have all become great friends to me too. But I'll give you the timeline for you to know the play-by-play of this wonderful adventure! Our Odyssey problem was to create a musical about a lesser-known historical figure. The team vote was for Kate Warne, a private eye detective who protected good ol' Honest Abe. I had a lot of fun

designing sets, writing lyrics and lines, and doing spontaneous problems. After a lot of practice, our team was ready to compete.

On March 5th, we competed at the Odyssey Regionals. There was a lot of pressure, considering some teams would get eliminated. On the night of the results, I was on the edge of my seat. When I heard "West University Elementary School, Problem 3, Division 1, 3rd Place," I jumped with joy. But still, we had to get Top 3 at States to go onto Worlds.

After a bunch of revising, editing, and changes, we were ready for the state competition! At the theater, we performed well. We got some of our stage directions messed up, but we kept the show moving and we were fine. The judges really liked the lyrics, and they loved the set. That night, my mom told me, "Ethan, your team did great, but...". I almost cried. I thought she was saying we came below third place. But she finished her sentence and said, "You came in third!!!" I jumped off the sofa and did a victory dance.

Now, we'll be going to Iowa at the end of May for the Odyssey of the Mind Worlds Competition!

There are so many places to see while we are there too! There's even a restaurant called Zombie Burger in Des Moines. They have 14 different



milkshake flavors, and the burgers look like zombies! This truly has been a great experience, and I hope

that you'll do Odyssey of the Mind too next year!

Battle of the Month

By Sam Atha

Hi, my name is Sam, and I like the history of battles. You have probably heard of the battles of Pearl Harbor or D-Day. But have you heard of the Battle of Tsushima Strait? It was fought from May 27 to 28 of 1905. This was a part of the Russo-Japanese war. The two countries were fighting because Japan wanted to secure the Sea of Japan and drive Russia off the Siberian coast of the Sea.

The battle is remembered as one of the first epic battles between battleships. There were around 45 Russian ships and over 80 Japanese ships. The Japanese ships were more advanced and had their own mechanics, while the Russians had German technology that was confusing to the Russians. The Russians also had just completed an eight-month journey of over 18,000 miles from their home bases to reinforce their positions in the Pacific, and they were extremely tired and in need of repairs.

Long before the battle even began and early on its journey, the Russian fleet thought it saw Japanese ships and attacked. Unfortunately for the Russians, the ships were British, and so there was almost a much larger war. The British were repaid for their losses, and the Russians were forced to take a longer route because the British Navy refused to let them use the Suez Canal.

Given this background, the Japanese had the advantage before any shots were fired. The Russians knew this. However, they expected they had access to more troops. So, they moved for Vladivostok by way of the Tsushima Strait. However, this did not work as the Japanese saw them in advance, and they

were able to tell the rest of their ships on their new wireless radio technology. The Japanese waited for the Russians near Korea.

The battle was short because the Japanese were clearly superior. When the battle was over, the Japanese had won by sinking 35 of the Russian ships. There were around 4,500 deaths and 5,000 injured. The battle marked the end of the Russo-Japanese War as the Russians knew it could not continue with such a small navy left to fight.

This win was key to the Japanese becoming a non-western superpower and an emerging force in the Pacific Ocean. For the Russians, it was a clear message that their focus should remain in the Atlantic Basin.

I hope you learned something- Sam!

Sources:

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Mother's Day

3 Mother's Day Homemade Presents You Can Make

By Valentina DiFiori

i. A homemade vase

Materials

A pot

Kids' paint

Paintbrushes

Water

A cup

Glue

Paper

Something to draw with

Scissors

How to Make It

Grab an empty pot.

Paint whatever you want on it.

Cut out a heart, color it, and glue it on the vase.

2. A little note

Materials

Scissors

Red paper

A pencil

Something to draw with

How to Make It

Grab the red paper and fold it in half.

Draw half a heart and cut the shape out.

Write a little letter to your mom.

3. A beautiful rose

Materials

Tape or glue

A toothpick

Red paper

Scissors

A green marker

How to Make It

Grab the red paper and cut out a medium square.

Roll up the red square and tape the bottom.

Grab the toothpick and color it green.

Tape the green toothpick to the rolled up red paper.

Articles

Space Center Houston

By Brayden Lim

Have you ever wanted to be an astronaut? If so, you're lucky to live near Space Center Houston, one of Houston's top tourist attractions and the official visitor center of NASA's Johnson Space Center. Almost 1.25 million people visit every year. It was opened in 1992 and is a great place to visit if you're interested in the universe.

One tour they offer is the Apollo Mission Control Center. On the tour you get to watch a video of the first men landing on the moon. You can visit the room where they control the mission. The computers were much larger and didn't have as much technology as we did today. The first man to step on the moon might have felt worried and excited at the same time.

You can also go on the Rocket Park Tour and visit the Saturn V rocket. The rocket was longer than a football field. The part where the astronauts sat was very tiny because most of the rocket was used for fuel. As the fuel for each part got depleted, it got released and fell into the atmosphere. There were also signs telling information about each Apollo mission.

Finally, you can stop at the gift shop to buy souvenirs or astronaut ice cream. I hope you have a chance to lift off at Space Center Houston!

