



Monthly Mustang

GO TEXANS!



*Students from Ms. Parish's 4th Grade Class. Front: Harlo Yeager, Cole Coffman, and Lemial Idika.
Back: Olivia Sim, Clara Rowsere, Mia McKenney, Eden Sussman, Eleanor Schafer, Ella Knappe, Eloise Tuckett, and Bella Sim*



KINDNESS WEEK BY CAROLINE THOMPSON

One of the highlights of February was Kindness Week. Everyone agreed that seeing classmates being kind was a really positive change in our school. It was also a treat to read the paper kindness chains (students wrote a note on a strip of paper when they caught someone being kind) to see who had been nice. Some acts of caring were things like giving away smiles. Others were sharing art supplies. One boy in my class even found someone's homework left behind and raced to give it to them.

With all of the kindness tips that Mr. Threet gave us, it was impossible not to join in on the fun, school-wide activity to simply be caring and kind!

I asked Fifth grade student, Madison Cox about Kindness Week.

Q: Did you see a lot of positivity in our school during Kindness Week?

A: *Yes, a lot of the fifth grade students were being kind to each other.*

Q: Were you one of the students trying to be kind? If so, what did you do?

A: *Yes, I invited new people to sit with my friends and me at lunch.*

Q: Was anyone kind to you?

A: *Yes, Margot Royston let me use her pencil sharpener during class.*

Kindness Week was a great event, however, every week can be Kindness Week! Just be caring to others every week to make it as sweet as Kindness Week!

ALL ABOUT MS. LEVY'S LONESTAR MARATHON CLUB BY TUTIALI



Ms. Levy is a fourth-grade teacher who sponsors the lively Lonestar Marathon Club. I interviewed her about her club.

Q. What is the Lonestar Marathon Club (LMC)?

A. It is a running club. Each Lonestar accrues miles to complete a whole marathon.

Q. How does the LMC work?

A. We run for ten minutes every morning and I tally the laps. 1 lap equals 1/10 of a mile and 10 laps equal one mile.

Q. Where did you get the idea for the running club?

A. I had just run a half marathon and thought it would be fun for my students to accomplish the same goal.

Q. How long has the club been around?

A. This is my 7th year sponsoring the LMC.

Q. When and where do your students run?

A. They run every morning, immediately following announcements, on the P.E. field.

Q. Why did you create this running club?

A. I wanted my students to feel healthy and strong and to be able to get their wiggles out first thing in the morning. I wanted them to set a goal and accomplish it.

Q. What is your favorite part about the running club?

A. High-fiving and cheering for my runners.

Q. What prizes do your students get for completing their marathons?

A. They get a medal for completing their half marathon and a medal, finisher shirt, and goody bag for their whole marathon.

Q. How many marathons have you run?

A. Nine whole marathons and about 15 half marathons.

Q. What advice would you like to give to your Lonestar Marathoners?

A. Even if you don't feel like running, you always feel better once you start. Enjoy the fresh air before you work hard in school and be super proud of your accomplishment!

GET TO KNOW CHELSEA CHRETIEN BY DEVIKA KURUP AND AMELIA KUSINSKI

Q: What is your favorite thing about West U?

A: The teachers.

Q: What do you do for fun?

A: Play with my dog.

Q: Who is your hero and why?

A: My mom because she is always there for me.

Q: What is your favorite subject?

A: Math.

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: Prisoner B-3087 by Alan Gratz.

Q: What is your favorite sport?

A: Softball.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: French fries.

Q: What middle school do you want to go to?

A: Lanier.

Q: Are you excited for middle school?

A: Yes, I can't wait for the next chapter of my life.

Q: What are you most excited to do in middle school?

A: To make new friends.



TEN QUESTIONS FOR MRS. PERKINS BY CLARA ROWSEY



Q. How many years have you been teaching?

A. I have been teaching first grade for eight years.

Q. Did you have another job before being a teacher and if so what?

A. Yes, I was a buyer for a clothing store.

Q. What are your hobbies?

A. Baking, reading and hanging out with my kids.

Q. What is your favorite book?

A. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Q. Do you have any pets?

A. Yes, I have two dogs.

Q. What is your favorite thing about teaching?

A. I love working with the children.

Q. What is your favorite movie?

A. Pride and Prejudice.

Q. What is your favorite thing about West U?

A. I love all the wonderful children and families.

Q. What is your favorite quote?

A. Promise me you'll always remember: You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. - A.A. Milne

Q. If you could give your students a piece of advice, what would it be?

A. Never say "can't" because you can do anything you just have to try!

OUR HERITAGE BY EDEN INGRAHAM, AND ADELA KUSINSKI

Heritage Day is a huge day in third grade where we tell all about one country that your ancestors came from. Before the big day, we learn as much as we possibly can about our country. We research and write about our heritage. Then we get a costume and make a food from our country to bring to the luncheon. During the festival, we tell the parents and the families of other third graders about the country we are a descendant from. Typically, our tri-board includes pictures of our family, maps of the country our family came from, an ancestry report, a doll wearing traditional attire from the country, and the full research report on the country.



Adela: My country was Poland. I chose this country because my dad was born there and lived there until he was 20. My grandparents, my aunt and uncle and cousins all live there and I like to visit them a lot. They usually speak Polish but when I am there, they speak English to me because I do not know that much Polish.

My favorite thing to do when I visit my family in Poland is to play with my cousins, visit the park and the castle and to eat ice cream!

I liked doing the Heritage Project. One of my favorite parts of the festival is the heritage feast where we are able to try food from each of the countries our families emigrated from. We have a very diverse school, so there are many fun and unusual options!

Eden: I chose Russia for my Heritage Project because my family immigrated from Bialystok, Russia to the USA in 1914. My ancestors traveled to the United States on a large ship carrying only one suitcase per person. They were in search of a better life, free of the oppression they experienced in Russia. Russia is the largest country in the world; it is twice as big as the USA. I enjoyed learning that Russia has many museums, and in fact, if you took two minutes to view each exhibit in the Hermitage, it would take you 6 years to see everything!



This event is special for third grade, but if you're in another grade and looking to join in celebrating our diversity or learning about another country, International Festival is the best place for you to visit during the school year!

GETTING TO KNOW MRS. McCLINTOCK By Zachary Cutsinger

Q. How long have you been teaching?

A. I have been teaching for 10 years.

Q. Why do you like teaching?

A. I like teaching because it is fun, rewarding and kids are funny.

Q. Is it hard to teach sometimes?

A. Yes, because I do not always have the energy I want to give.

Q. What is your favorite subject?

A. I like them all but science is my favorite.

Q. When you were a kid, did you want to teach?

A. I wanted to teach since I was in Kindergarten, because of Mrs. Benham. It is a passion of mine that hasn't changed.

Q. Have you ever taught at another school?

A. Yes, I taught two years in Coppell ISO teaching first grade and one year teaching Kindergarten at Westbury Christian.

Q. Why did you choose teaching as your profession?

A. I have always enjoyed it. I loved teaching children how to write their names when I was a child.

Q. What was your favorite subject in college and why?

A. My favorite class was Science for Educators while attending West Texas

A&M because my teacher always did fun experiments that we could use with our students.



BY KALYANI PANDYA

Leprechauns, four leaf clovers, a pot of gold and more.

Where people listen to Irish folklore.

The color of green is the spirit of today.

So why don't I tell you

Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

Today is the day where kids wear shamrocks.

They gather their golden coins and run around the block.

Eating and playing on this special holiday.

So why don't I tell you

Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY TRADITIONS BY EMMA PIERCE

March 17th is a day of cultural and religious celebration in honor of Ireland's patron saint St. Patrick. Saint Patrick was born in Roman Britain. He was born to a Christian family but had no interest in religion. His name wasn't Patrick. His name was Maewyn Succat. At 16, he was kidnapped by pirates and taken to Ireland to serve as a slave. During his captivity he learned about Christianity. When he was twenty years old he had a dream that told him to go the coast. There he found a ship that returned him to his homeland. A few years after returning he had a vision that told him to study for the priesthood. He was ordained as Patrick and sent to Ireland to convert the Irish from Paganism to Christianity. There are many legends of St. Patrick. One of them is he drove snakes out of Ireland.

Worldwide, St. Patrick's Day is one of the most celebrated holidays. There are parades with Irish dancers and musicians. In

Tokyo, Japan, there is an "I Love Ireland" festival that takes place for two days. The parade has very colorful floats and bright costumes. In Cape Town, South Africa, they celebrate while their top attraction, Table Mountain, goes green for the day. Even Toronto, Canada celebrates with a parade of colorful floats and performers. In Chicago, 40 pounds of green dye is used to turn the Chicago River green.

Folklore says wearing green is suppose to make you invisible to leprechauns, which like to pinch anyone they see! People like to eat traditional Irish food like corned beef and cabbage.



TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME? BY YOSEF ELYASHKEVICH

Fortnite, Roblox and Minecraft are all games on the Xbox or computer. Kids are spending a lot of time in front of the screen and they are having a blast doing it. Is screen time good or bad for you? And how much

screen time is too much?

Pros: Kids can actually learn new things while spending time in front of the computer, from watching the Discovery channel, researching things on Google, and playing educational games. For parents it's good way to keep their kids entertained while they do work, chores or fun parent activities. Also, playing computer games is a lot of fun, there are lots of different games for lots of different kids, and kids can play games with each other. Lastly, computers

are very useful things in everyday life, so knowing how to use them can come in handy for kids.

Cons: The American Heart Association recommends a maximum of two hours of screen time for children ages 8 and up. However, CBS news reported on August 2018 that "Kids and teens age 8 to 18 spend an average of more than seven hours a day looking at screens." Computers and phones can be very addictive, and it's hard for kids to stop using them when they are in the middle of a really cool game or movie. Instead of doing their homework or playing outdoors, kids are glued to the screen. This means kids can actually learn less, because they are not keeping up with their school work and they can become overweight, because they don't get to exercise.

I think screen time is bad for you because it's so hard to stop watching once you start. If kids could just watch things anytime they wanted, most of them would get behind on homework, skip going outside or playing sports.

MRS. WOOD'S CHICKENS BY MADELINE TEJTEL

Every year during Spring Break, Mrs. Wood gets chicken and *turken* eggs from her husband's family ranch for her second grade class. Turkens are a breed of chick called Transylvanian naked necks. They look like a turkey mixed with chicken.

The first thing we did when I was in her class two years ago was *candle** the eggs and make a prediction of how many eggs will hatch. Before the eggs hatch we kept them in an incubator to keep them warm. Our class watched the eggs hatch. When they came out of the eggs the chickens were wet, not cute, and their feathers were sticky. Mrs. Wood brought in about 24 eggs but we only kept four of the hatched chickens. We named the

chickens by making a list of names, and voting on the names that people liked best. When we hatched the eggs, we weighed and measured the chicks. The class cared for the chickens by feeding them, giving them water, and cleaning out the newspaper from the bottom of the cage. We also let them out of the cage. We fed the chickens and I even got to take one of the chickens home. After the end of the school year, Mrs. Wood took the chickens back to the ranch. It was so much fun!

* Candling is a method used to study the growth and development of an embryo inside an egg. The method uses a bright light source behind the egg to show details through the shell, and is so called



FIFTH GRADE FASHION BY LIBBY AGARWAL AND JOLIE JONES



*Angelina Robinson, Ms. Durham's class.
We chose Angelina for her checkered
blood Vans and cute fan bun.*

The Monthly Mustang is starting a new fashion column. At WUES everyone has their own unique sense of style but still enjoy hopping on trends. This month we are featuring fifth graders sporting their contemporary looks. If you would like the opportunity to be featured in next month's column, please send us your pictures at westuelementary@gmail.com. Be sure to put Fashion in the subject line and to include your full name, grade and homeroom class. We cannot wait to see your trendy photos!



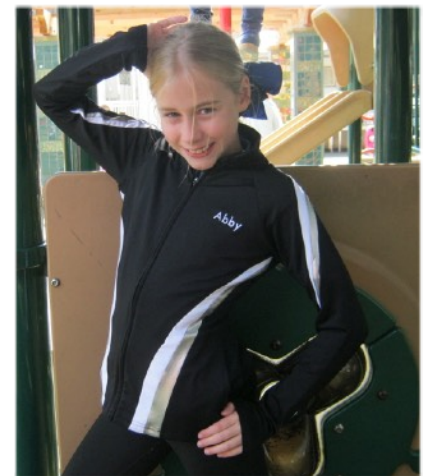
*Elizabeth Sloop Miss Musgrove's class
We chose Elizabeth because of her stylish Pepsi
hoodie.*

*Abigail Horn, (right) Mrs. Pflugfelder's class.
We chose Abigail because of her huge bow and
dance company jacket.*

*This stylish group (left) is Angelina Robinson,
Ellis Watson, Devin Morris, Mary Kate
Bradshaw, Elizabeth Sloop, and Abigail Horn.*



*Ellis Watson, Ms. Durham's class
We chose Ellis because of his sharp math
hoodie. Math is back in fashion!*



SPRING BREAK VACATIONS BY SAM FAULK

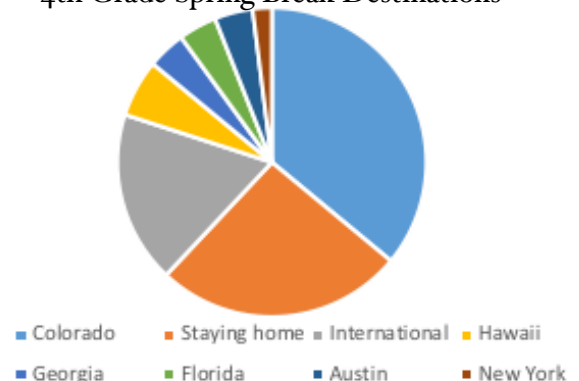
Spring break is one of the many times where we get a break from school! Kate Burke says, "I like spring break because I can sleep in late and go places." Kids love to go on vacation during this period of time. I took a poll of 50 people from the fourth grade and found the most popular places.

Some people are staying in the country but going to different states. The top destination is Colorado with 36% of the 50 people I asked are going there. One is going to New

York, and three are going to Hawaii. Others are staying here. A few are going to different countries. One person is even going as far as Columbia! The teachers go places, too. Ms. Westerman has two weddings here and in Seattle, and Ms. Moen is going to Alabama.

Spring break is when people can see family, celebrate the coming of spring, and explore the world. But most important, kids get a break from school.

4th Grade Spring Break Destinations



MOLINA'S RESTAURANT *REVIEWED BY OLIVER BROACH*

Molina's is a great Mexican food restaurant. My family goes there all the time. The food is really good. There is a lot of food most kids love, like quesadillas and enchiladas. There is even some non-Mexican food on the kids' menu like hamburgers and chicken nuggets. It is a great place for sports teams to hang out and get to know each other better.

There is even an area for just grownups to hang out. It is next to *Imagination Toys and Shoes*. If you go on your birthday the people that work there will come sing "*Happy Birthday*" to you and give you a treat. Next time your family is going out to eat, ask your parents to try Molina's. You will love it!



NORTH ITALIA *REVIEWED BY EVIE ASHCROFT*



North Italia off Post Oak is one of my favorite places to eat in Houston. If you are thinking of going, you will want to call ahead as tables fill up fast. The food is great, the staff is very welcoming, and the restaurant always has a lively atmosphere. The kitchen area has glass walls, which allows you to watch the food being prepared. All the pastas are freshly prepared in-house. My brother Jonah loves watching the pasta machine push out a healthy portion of fresh

pasta for us to eat. The menu has lots to choose from, but I like to start with the Garden Salad. It's a nice leafy mix with a delicious dressing and a perfect starter for a fresh pasta dish. They have great wood-fired pizzas, but I always order the Classic Spaghetti with red sauce. It comes in a nice deep bowl and is always piping hot. I'm usually too full for desert, but they always have a nice selection of freshly made gelato. I love North Italia!

LUNA PIZZERIA *REVIEWED BY EVELYN PARK*



Do you know where the best pizza place in Houston is? It is Luna Pizzeria located at Kirby and Richmond! This pizzeria has millions of food from pizza, salad to gelato and cookies. My favorite is Margherita pizza and Spicy Andouille, and you can also make your own pizza with toppings of your choice.

Do you like nutritious and healthy eating? If you do, try the Margherita which is very simple and fresh. As you pick up a slice, you can see stringy and stretchy mozzarella cheese, tomato sauce and green basil on thin crust. You can make it even tastier with cheese, herbs and red pepper flakes, which are served as side dishes.

Don't you sometimes want to spice things up? Then try the SA. The Spicy Andouille is one of the hottest pizza in the menu



here. Most of ingredients are spicy such as sausages, peppers and onions. It is so spicy, so you may want to drink water, but it is so delicious.

Games: Aren't you sometimes bored when you wait for food? Luna Pizzeria can make that all disappear. Not only do they serve food, but also they have

card games such as Uno, Magic, etc. If you are interested in video games like me, you can play the arcade games free! Dig Dug is my favorite arcade game there.

I rate this restaurant 5 out of 5 stars because their food, service and games are all amazing. Hungry already? How about Luna Pizzeria for dinner?

DO YOU EVER WANT TO DANCE LIKE A STAR! *BY JOSHUA SEGRAVES AND KYLA FIGUEROA*



Dancing is the beautiful actions of words and expression. Dancing can vary with a difficulty range from very hard to mildly easy. One of the easiest moves to learn is the twirl or a spin. You stand on a foot, wave your arms out and rotate your body so it can spin for a few seconds. Tap dancing is one of the best combinations of sound and dancing with no words! You should be able to move

easily or be flexible when it comes to an advanced move.

Kyla: I've taken dance classes and gymnastics classes at the Rec Center. I like to dance in my spare time.

Joshua: I like to dance a lot but I have not taken a class.

Since the character trait of the month for March is "Teamwork" you should dance with a partner or your friends! Have fun dancing.

VIDEO GAME CORNER:

SPLATOON 2 OCTO EXPANSION REVIEWED BY ZACHARY BARNETT

Splatoon 2 Octo Expansion is a package of downloadable content for Splatoon 2 on the Nintendo Switch, and costs about twenty dollars. Splatoon 2 is a game where you must fight against the Octolings by using ink-based weapons. This expansion takes place before the events in Splatoon 2. You have been taken captive by an unknown force and need to find a way to escape. In order to do so, you must find four "things", each hidden in a different part

of the map. Each level you pass advances you another step towards escape. This expansion includes bosses from the game's original campaign with increased difficulty, and builds on skills you have already learned. This expansion is tough but exciting. The thing I like best about The Octo Expansion is that it has enough content for an entirely new game. However, the game might be too difficult for a newer player. It is only available in single player mode.

I rate this game 4.9 out of 5 stars.



4 out of 5 stars.

MILO MURPHY'S LAW REVIEWED BY RAFAEL JOAQUIN

Have you ever wondered what would happen if everything around you plunged into chaos? Well in the TV show Milo Murphy's Law everything goes wrong around the main character. His bad luck is so high that airplanes crash into his house regularly! Gigantic ham dinosaur statues chase him down a river. With the help of his friends, his optimism and his trusty backpack he can conquer anything Murphy's Law throws his way. If there is anything

this show has taught me, it's that you always need to keep a positive attitude, keep calm and be prepared for almost anything. Voice actors star Weird Al as Milo Murphy, Sabrina Carpenter as Mellisa Chase and Mekai Curtis as Zack Underwood. The show plays on Saturday mornings on Disney XD. I absolutely recommend this show because it will make you laugh.

Interesting fact about the show title, the original Murphy's Laws were coined by an Air Force Engineer named Captain Edward Murphy. He

realized that if anything can go wrong it eventually will. He created this law to improve the safety of its designs and to make sure his aircraft will never fail or if it does fail, he will have a back-up plan. Some of the most famous Murphy's laws are :

1. If anything can go wrong, it will.
2. If there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that will cause the most damage will be the first one to go wrong.
3. If anything just cannot go wrong, it will anyway.

St. Patrick's Day Word Search

by Grace Badenhorst



Can you find these words?

LEPRECHAUN	IRISH
CLOVER	LIMERICK
GREEN	SHAMROCK
MARCH	RAINBOW
FLOWERS	GOLD
SPRING	SAINT
LUCKY	MARCH
IRELAND	

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

Good Luck by Lauren Chen



Big Plans for Spring Break by Rafael Joaquin and Evie Ashcroft



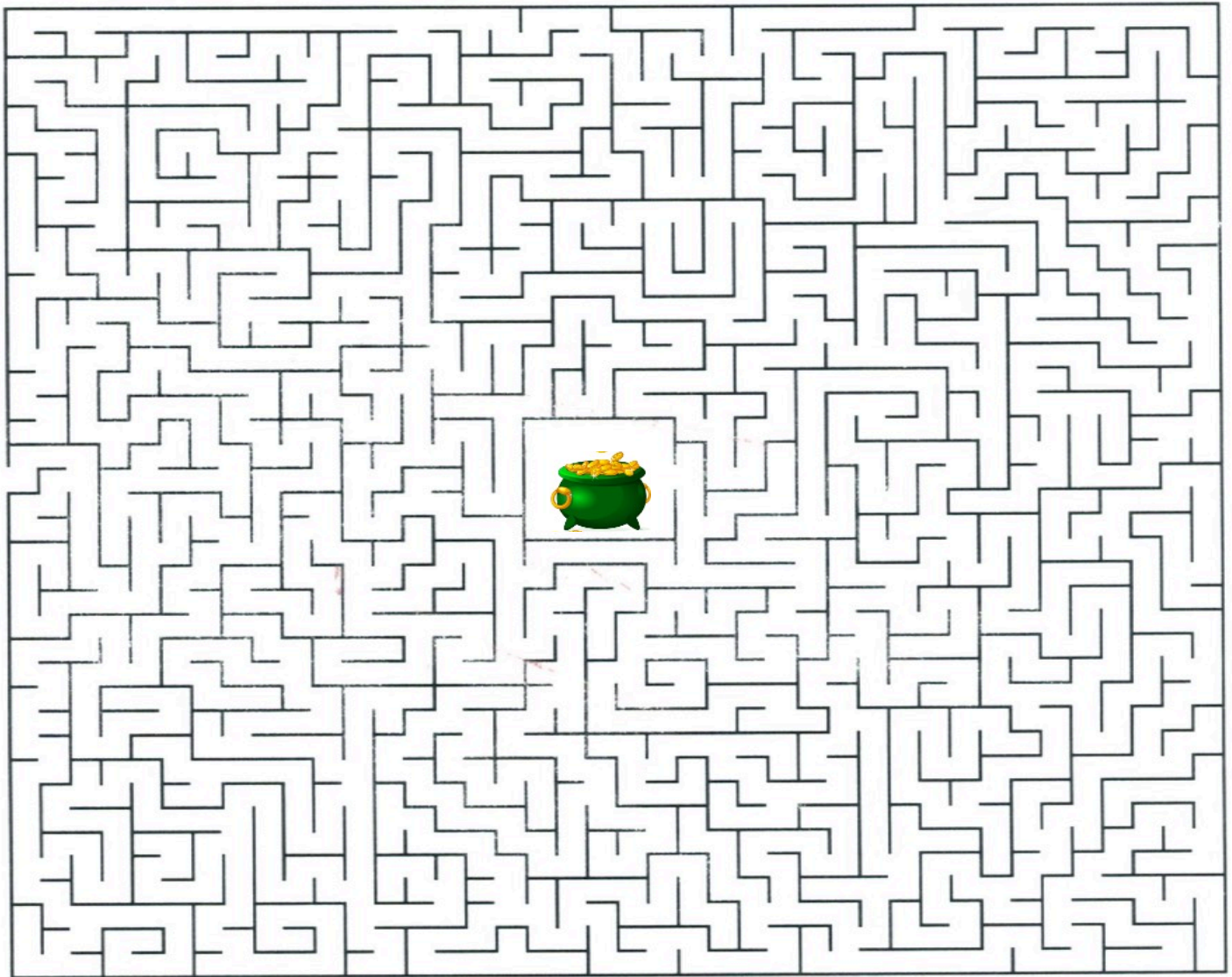
MAN'S BEST FRIEND by John Mangum



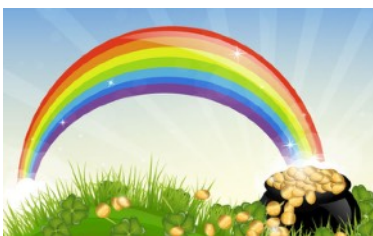


St. Patrick's Day Maze By Tiffany Li and Seetha Venkatachalam

Help the Leprechaun find the pot of gold.



Why Can't You Find A Pot Of Gold At The End Of A Rainbow? *By Kavan Pandya*



Have you ever wondered about finding a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow? Have you ever wondered about what really is a rainbow?

Read this article to find out! Rainbows are formed when light touches water. Light is made up of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. The white light splits up when it is next to a clear surface. The 7 colors in the white split up and bend. If you tried running towards a rainbow, you would never get closer as the rainbow would always appear the

same distance away. Rainbows are optical illusions, which means they look different than they really are. You see the rainbow that way because of the light bending. Now you know why you can't find a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. Looks like the tricky leprechauns have been pulling our legs this whole time!