

ROCK RIDGE ELEMENTARY

# Rock Ridge Review

November 2023

400 Heritage Avenue, Castle Rock, CO 80104

Weather Closure: 303-387-SNOW

Attendance Line: 303-387-5152

Office: 303-387-5150

## Principal Message

Dear Rock Ridge Community,

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As we approach the conclusion of our first semester, I have some exciting news to share. We anticipate the installation of our new Rock Ridge digital sign around December 7th. Once completed, we'll be able to keep you updated with timely messages and extend warm holiday wishes to each of you. Additionally, our building engineer is thrilled as this means no more braving the cold to change the message board!

During our Thanksgiving celebration at Rock Ridge, we savored the traditional feast of turkey and mashed potatoes. Regrettably, due to limited district food supplies, we couldn't extend invitations to parents, guardians, and grandparents this year—a cherished tradition I always eagerly anticipate during the holiday season. Let's brainstorm creatively for next year, aiming to reinstate our beloved community Thanksgiving lunch.

Last week the RRE PTO hosted our movie night featuring "Home Alone," along with alternative screenings for our younger audience: "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Thank you to all who joined us for a delightful community gathering complete with popcorn and refreshments to kick off December. It was great to see you there!

Remember, if you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to me via email or phone. Wishing you a safe and joyous Christmas and New Year.

Warm regards,

Peter Mosby  
Principal, Rock Ridge Elementary



### HOURS

First Bell: 8:30 am  
School Begins: 8:35 am  
All Dismiss: 3:30 pm  
AM Kinder: 8:30-11:15  
PM Kinder: 12:45-3:30

Principal: Peter Mosby  
Assistant Principal: Julie Roach





# RRE Calendar

## Upcoming Events:

### Thursday, November 30

- Last day of Book Fair
- Orchestra @ 7:30
- Band @ 3:45

### Friday, December 1

- 1st Grade Snuggly Read-A-Thon

### Monday, December 4

- STUCO @ 7:45

### Tuesday, December 5

- Hawk Quest 5th Grade
- Orchestra @ 7:30
- Jewelry @ 7:15
- Green Team @ 8:00

### Wednesday, December 6

- Choir @ 7:45
- Archery @ 3:45
- Winter Concert @ 6:30

### Thursday, December 7

- Orchestra @ 7:30
- Band @ 3:45

### Friday, December 8

- Climbing Club @ 6:00

### Tuesday, December 12

- News Crew @ 3:30

**December 25-January 5: Winter Break**

**January 8: Teacher Work Day**

**January 9: First Day Back with Students**



NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
			8	9	10	11
5	6	7	14	15	16	17
12	13	14	21	22	23	24
19	20	21	28	29	30	
26	27	28				

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

RRE PTO Presents

*Christmas*

# MOVIE NIGHT



**December 1**

**5:30 PM**

**Rock Ridge Elementary**

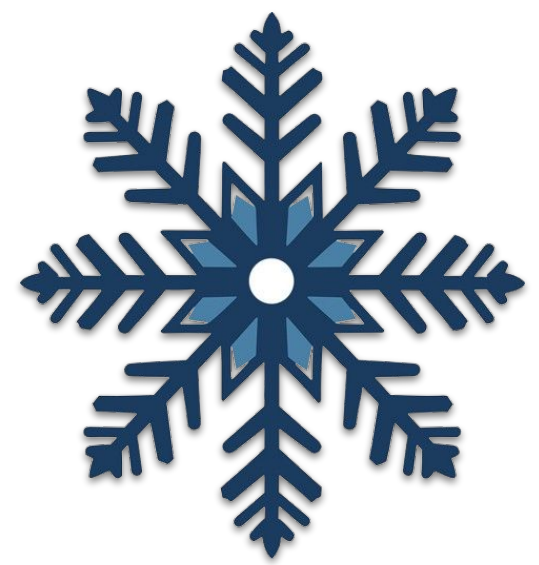
Rock Ridge PTO will be hosting a Christmas movie night on 12/1 at 5:30 pm sharp (doors open at 5). Admission is FREE and snacks/drinks will be available for purchase.

We will be showing Home Alone\*\* in the gym on the big screen. Please RSVP if you plan to attend. Parents must attend with their student.

\*\*Please be aware that there is some profanity in Home Alone. If this is a concern, we will also have a G rated option showing in the music room.



# Counselor's Corner



Here is a great [list of children's books](#) to address a variety of Social and Emotional topics. Consider putting some of these books on hold at the new Castle Rock branch of the [Douglas County Libraries](#). Keep kids reading and increasing their SEL skills over the upcoming break!

Have you ever felt the “winter blues?” Colder temperatures and bad weather can make socializing more difficult. While holiday celebrations are often fun, they can also cause a lot of increased stress. The isolation paired with stress and shorter amounts of daylight are a perfect recipe for Seasonal Affective Disorder, appropriately abbreviated to SAD. If you or your children experience an increase in irritability, a decrease in energy levels, interrupted sleep patterns, and a general feeling of sadness during winter months, you are definitely not alone. SAD is quite common. Visit this [Link](#) from The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) about SAD and how to treat it.

School breaks can often create hardships for families who rely on the free breakfast and lunch. As we anticipate the winter break, I want to remind families of local community resources. Click [here](#) for lists of community health, food, employment, child care, and other assistance. The Front Range Food Pantry partners with Rock Ridge Elementary. See their [website](#) to get connected with weekly food assistance.

Imatter Colorado allows youth to have free counseling sessions. Click this [link](#) to learn more. Parents and caregivers are now able to refer youth to the [Second Wind Fund](#). Click [here](#) for apps for mental health and recovery. Free counseling is also being offered through December from the Denver Counseling Center.

I want to wish all Rock Ridge families a very happy and safe winter break. See you in 2024!

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Dawna McKnight,  
RRE School Counselor,  
[dtmcknight@dcsdk12.org](mailto:dtmcknight@dcsdk12.org)





FREE  
COUNSELING  
SERVICES  
THROUGH  
DECEMBER!

# ACCESSIBLE & AFFORDABLE COUNSELING SERVICES

FOR INDIVIDUALS, KIDS, TEENS, FAMILIES  
& COUPLES

With the holidays approaching, we are offering free counseling services to **students, families, and staff** at K-12 schools and colleges in Colorado now through December. Reach out with any questions or for a consultation call!



**IMMEDIATE  
AVAILABILITY**



**TELEHEALTH  
SESSIONS**



**Email Us**

[info@denvercounselingcenter.org](mailto:info@denvercounselingcenter.org)



**Office Location**

6399 S Santa Fe Dr.  
Littleton, CO 80120



**Call Us**

Call 303-762-6987

# LIBRARY NOOK



Thank you everyone who came out to the Book Fair!! It was amazing to see some people!



Laura Keller  
[laura.keller@dcsdk12.org](mailto:laura.keller@dcsdk12.org)



# Raising Royalty

Royal Crest Dairy is partnering with your school! Sign-up for our home delivery service using your code [RRERR](#) to receive 20% off your groceries. Royal Crest Dairy will then donate \$100 to your school.

Share with your family and friends! Donations accumulate with each new customer and fund local education and extra-curricular activities in your community. Support your school and enjoy Royal Crest Dairy's fresh dairy and Colorado Proud products!

## What do you get with Royal Crest Dairy home delivery?

- Fresh groceries delivered conveniently to your door
- Locally sourced Colorado Proud items from familiar brands
- Trusted delivery by the same milk person each week
- Time-saving meal options for busy families
- Great tasting milk for almost 100 years!



Sign-up today with this code.  
Share it with friends, family, and neighbors!

**20% OFF  
GROCERIES**

COUPON CODE:  
**RRERR**

RoyalCrestDairy.com



*Sign-up  
here!*



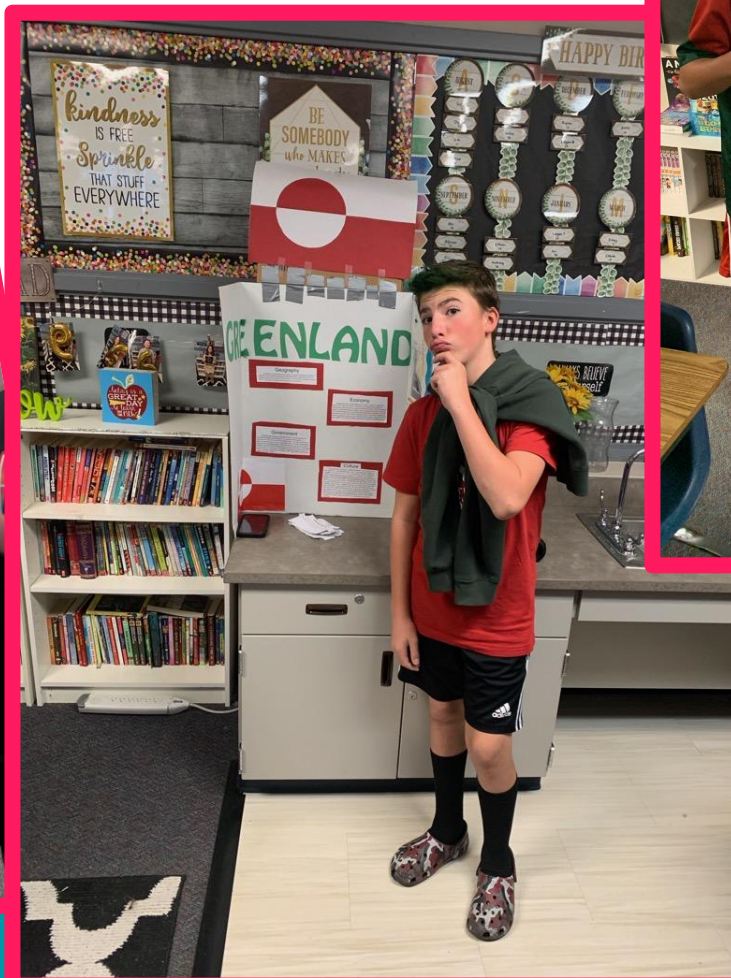
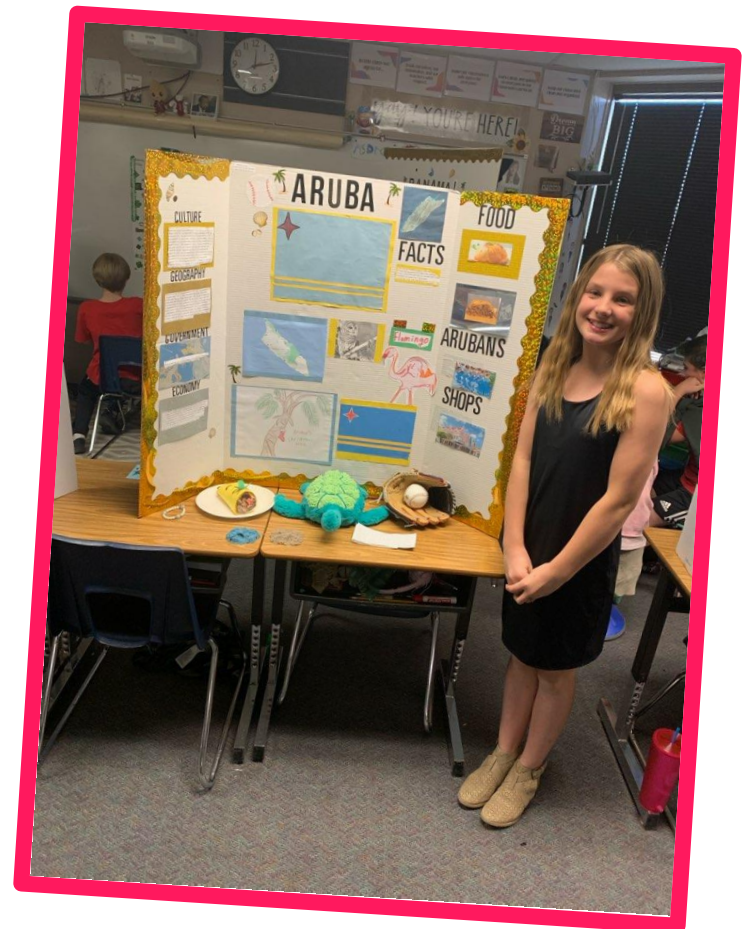
Please reach out to [rockridgepto@gmail.com](mailto:rockridgepto@gmail.com) if you have any questions!

# Celebrating Students

# 6<sup>th</sup>

## “EPCOT ON THE ROCK” COUNTRY FAIR

As a part of our Where We Are in Place and Time planner, 6th graders researched and prepared presentations about a western hemisphere country of their choice.



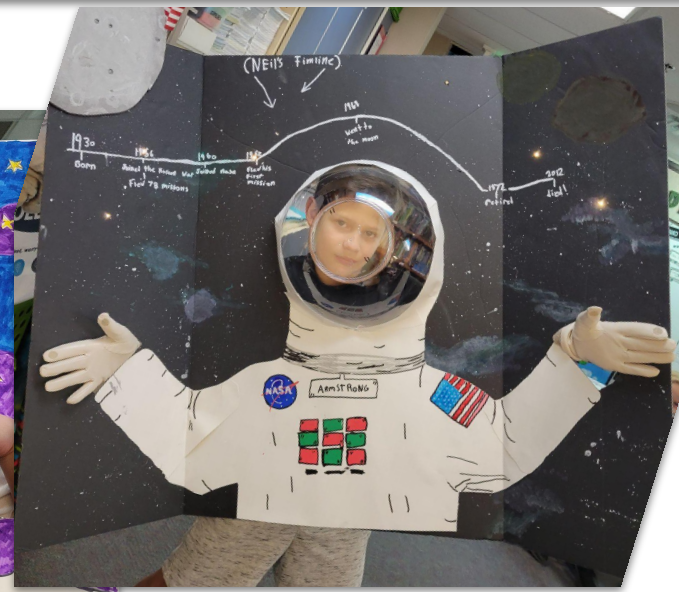


# Celebrating Students

# 5<sup>th</sup>

## EXPLORATION

We wrapped up our 2nd planner with presentations of the explorers that we studied. The students participated in a living museum as they shared a first person account of the explorer's lives.



# Celebrating Students



## VETERAN'S DAY DIRECTED DRAWING

Third Grade made cards for the veterans in their lives using a directed drawing page. They had so many military-connected families to celebrate! They also listened to “Veterans: Heroes in our Neighborhood”.



# Celebrating Students



## HOW WE EXPRESS OURSELVES

The class has been learning ways to express themselves. We learned that everyone can look at the same thing and see something different. The kids each drew “the day/night<sup>®</sup> sky the way they saw it.



# Celebrating Students



## SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

2nd Grad students are currently studying states of matter and the scientific method.

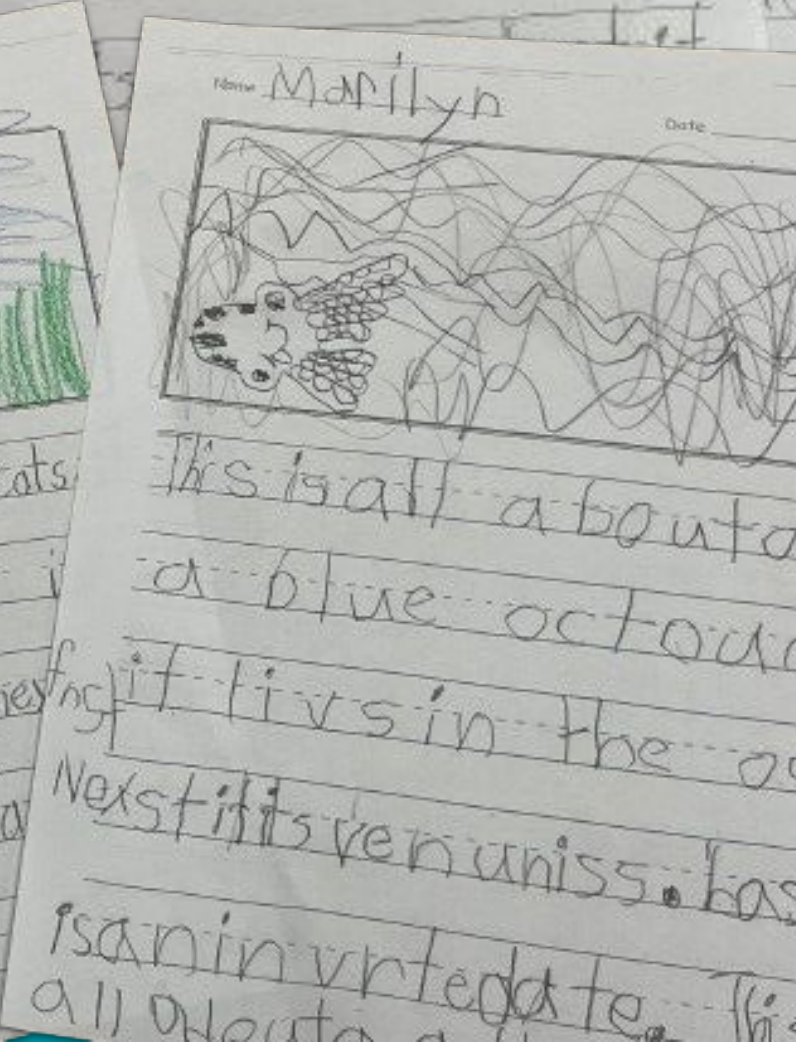
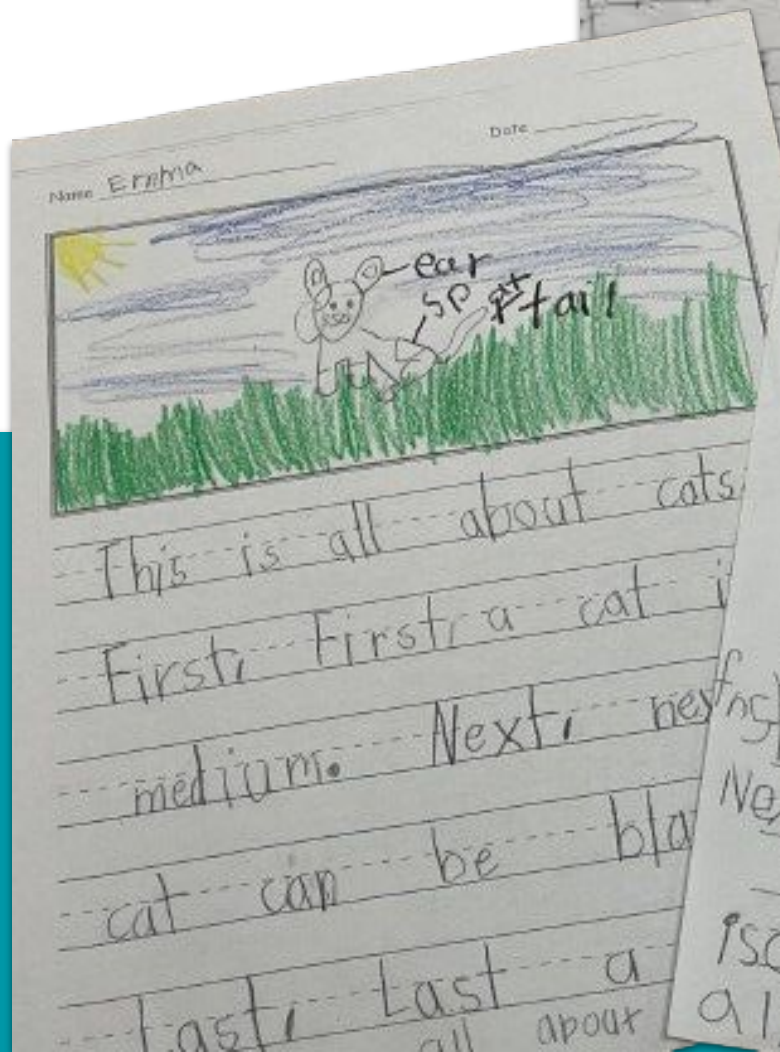
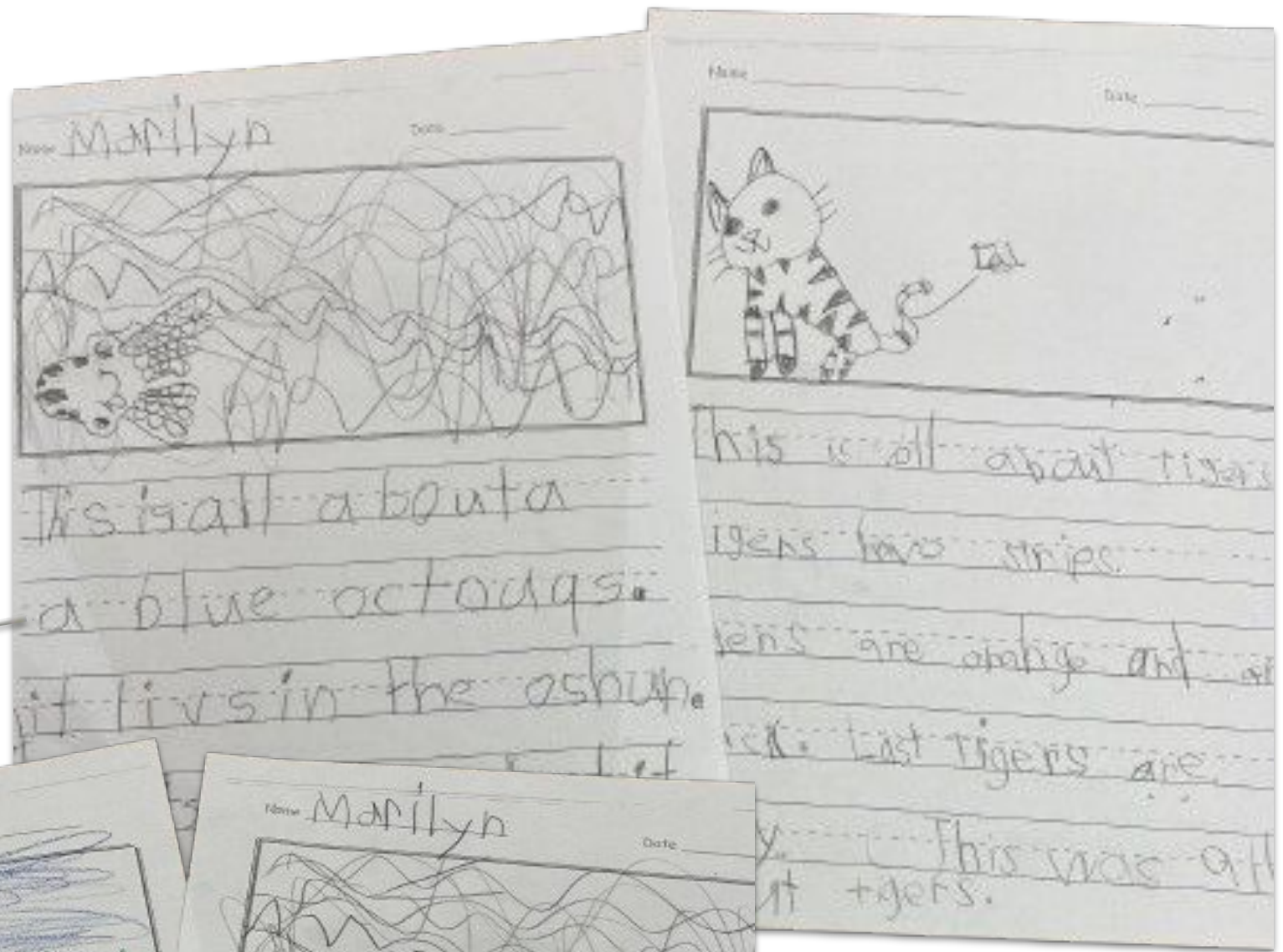


# Celebrating Students



## ANIMALS

First grade students have been learning about animals and their different external parts. The students then chose one animal they had been learning about and did a non-fiction writing.



# Celebrating Students



## SPECIAL EVENTS

Halloween parade around the school. And when the fire truck came to visit RRE for Logan Bradley's drawing.



# SPECIALS SPOTLIGHT

Next week is the annual RRE Winter Concert and everyone is welcome to attend to support our hard-working musicians and singers. We are expanding the program this year to include band and orchestra in addition to the choir (all while keeping the running time under 45min).

**Who: Band/Orchestra/Choir Students**

**What: Winter Concert**

**When: Thursday 12/7 @7pm**

**Where: RRE Gym**

Our kids have made enormous strides in their musicianship this year so far and I am excited to share their hard work with the community. You may be surprised by some of your students' talents and I'm sure they would love to see their teachers out there!

**Ross Goldman**

*Music Teacher*

Rock Ridge Elementary School

(303) 317-5150 ext. 56636

[rgoldman@dcsdk12.org](mailto:rgoldman@dcsdk12.org)

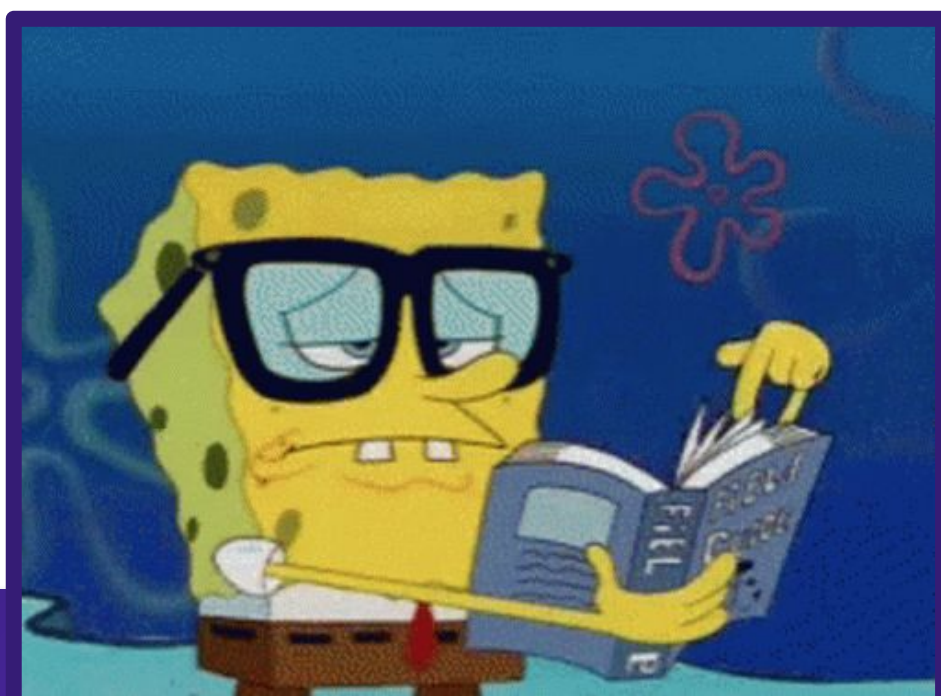


## **CELEBRATIONS: What is NATIONAL READING DAY?**

Hey there! National Reading Day is a wonderful day dedicated to simply reading and relaxing without any worries. It's a day for everyone to take a break, cozy up on the couch, and dive into a good book! So let's celebrate by enjoying the pleasure of reading!

National Reading Day is a super special day all about celebrating the joy of reading! It's a day when people all around the country get excited about books and stories. We celebrate by reading our favorite books, sharing stories with friends and family, and discovering new adventures through the pages of a book. It's like a big party for book lovers! So grab your favorite book, find a cozy spot, and let your imagination soar on National Reading Day!

*By: River Mercer*

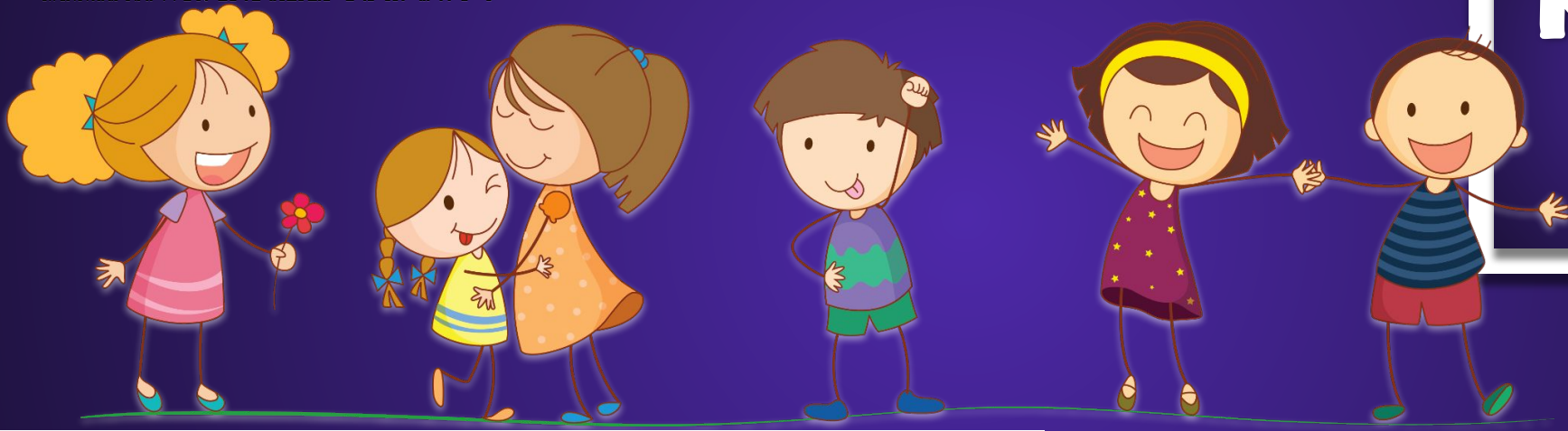


**WRITTEN  
FOR KIDS,  
BY KIDS**





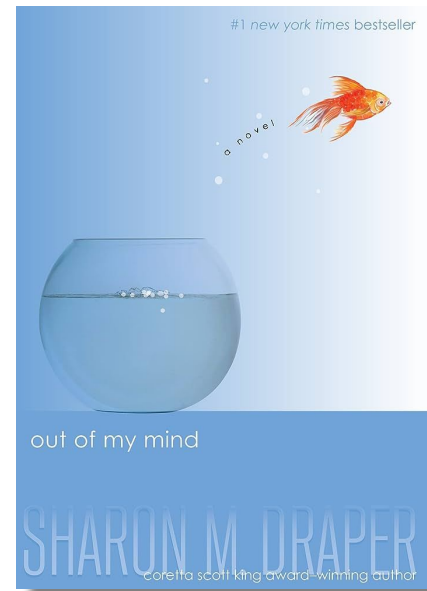
**KID TO  
KID**



## BOOK REVIEW

### OUT OF MY MIND

Word count: 56,872



This book holds a special place in my heart; it's one of my all-time favorites. It tells the story of an 11-year-old girl named Melody who lives with severe cerebral palsy, a condition that affects her ability to walk and speak. Despite her challenges, Melody's determination shines through. This touching story not only warms the heart but can also bring tears to your eyes. Sharon M. Draper, the author, is incredibly talented, crafting books that are inclusive and inviting to all readers.

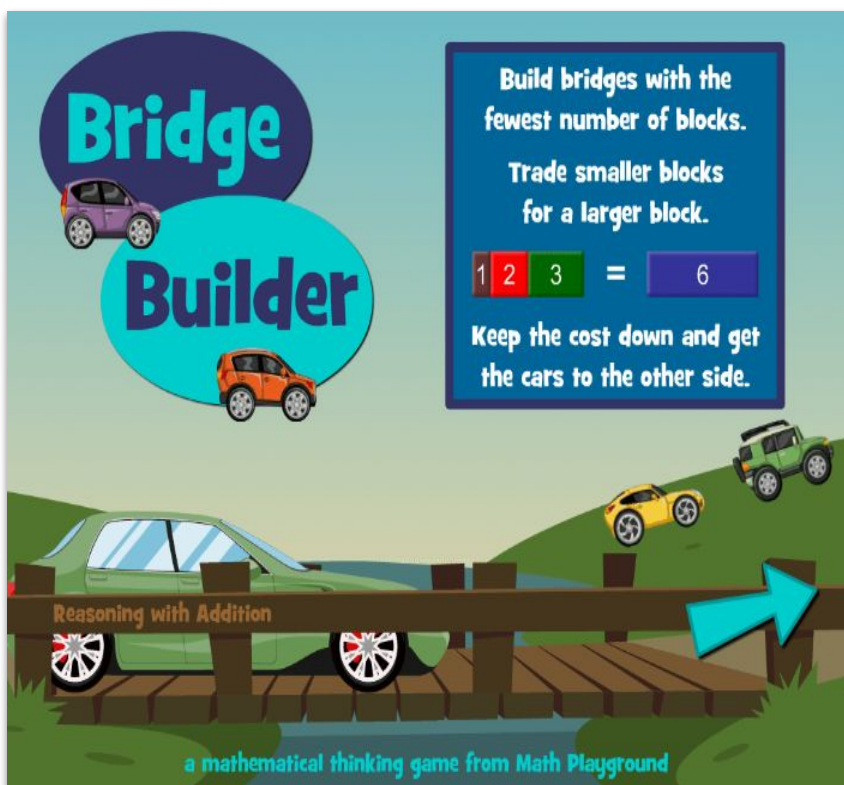
Written by Brinley Burman.

**WRITTEN  
FOR KIDS,  
BY KIDS**





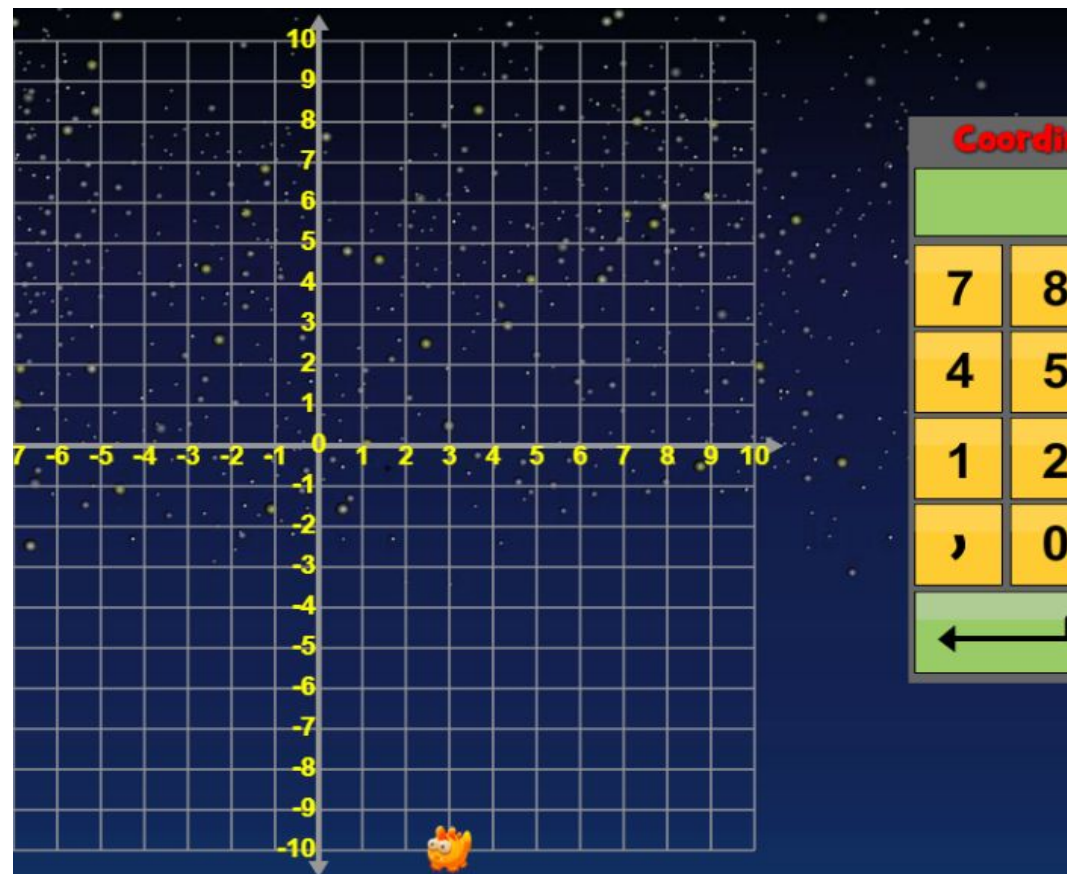
## EDUCATIONAL GAMES



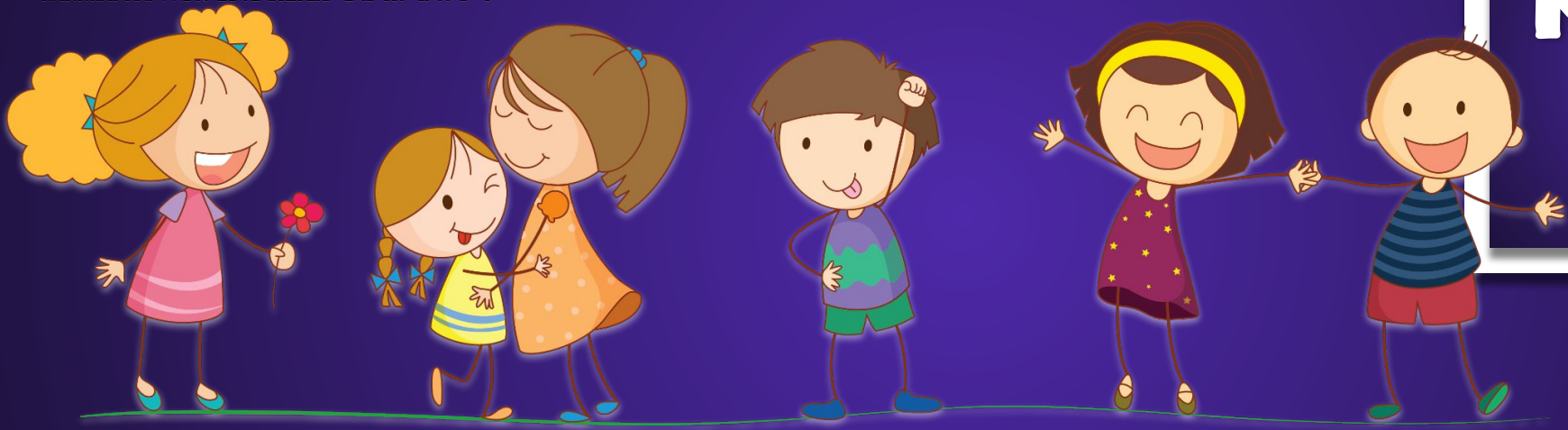
Welcome to Bridge Builder, a game where you construct bridges for cars to safely cross. But watch out! The cost-o-meter might seem friendly, but it's sneaky because it increases your expenses. While it can be challenging, it's incredibly enjoyable. I suggest playing with friends to tackle the difficulty together. This game is a fantastic way to focus on addition skills because the cost-o-meter tallies up the numbers you use to build, showing them on the title picture.

*By Chase Burger*

Welcome to Rescue Mission! In this thrilling game, your mission is to rescue stranded aliens using your coordinate skills. You'll use the pad on the right to input coordinates. As depicted in the picture, this game is a fantastic way to sharpen your grid skills while having an out-of-this-world adventure!



**WRITTEN  
FOR KIDS,  
BY KIDS**



## COMICS & RIDDLES

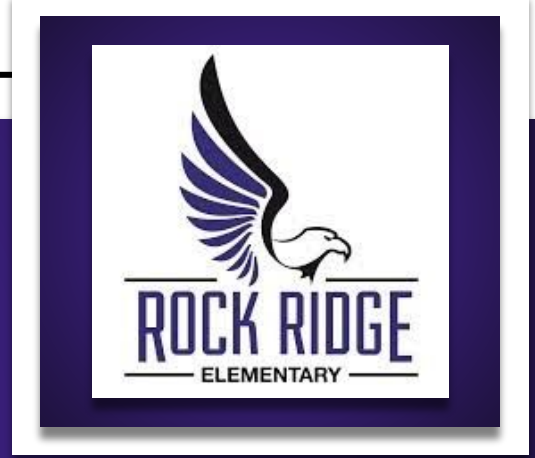


## INSPIRATION

"If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain," a powerful quote by Dolly Parton, serves as an immense inspiration to me. This quote beautifully encapsulates the idea that achieving our dreams often involves facing challenges and working hard. I find this quote incredibly motivating and love how it reminds us that perseverance through tough times leads to the beauty of success. By: Mila Cer



**WRITTEN  
FOR KIDS,  
BY KIDS**



# International Baccalaureate

## INQUIRING MINDS

What is Dia De Los Muertos?

Dia De Los Muertos, also known as Day of the Dead, is a Mexican celebration to celebrate the ones we have lost. It is said that the famous Marigold flower petals are meant to guide the spirits of our deceased loved ones back to their home. Another tradition is to put up an altar with offerings such as bread, candy, or something that a loved one enjoyed. Day of the Dead is an opportunity to dress up and have fun. As well as remembering your loved ones.

By: Kyreena Pervere



**KID TO  
KID**



# OUR RRE NEWS CREW!

Rock Ridge Review



2023-24  
**Kyreena Pervere**

**PRESS**

Rock Ridge Review



2023-24  
**Brinley Burman**

**PRESS**


Rock Ridge Review



2023-24  
**Mila Cer**

**PRESS**


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2023-24  
**Destiny Godsey**

**PRESS**

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2023-24  
**Chase Burger**

**PRESS**


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2023-24  
**River Mercer**

**PRESS**

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2023-24  
**Adalee Skipper**

**PRESS**

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FOR KIDS,  
BY KIDS**



**MS. KAI**