

THE magazine for the WHOLE family

## Storytelling Festival How To

By Chris Joker

**H**istoric Jonesborough, for those of us who do not live there is like our friendly neighbor.

The kind of neighbor who is always welcoming and open for a visit. Friendly neighbors are the ones that you sit on their porch with a cool glass of tea and share stories. The first Friday of the first full weekend every October Jonesborough's "porch" becomes the whole town. This year's event will be Friday October 7 at 10:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. Sunday October 9. I met with Jimmy Neil Smith the father of the National Storytelling Festival. Jimmy Neil is the neighbor who is always smiling and always there to help lift



Photo by Tom Raymond Fresh Air Photographics

your spirits. Smith has always enjoyed a good story and shared one with me about when he was young. It seems that Jimmy Neil's father went to the barber for a haircut and for some reason felt he deserved a "half-priced" haircut so that's what he demanded of the barber. The barber agreed. He got his haircut and paid half price. As he was leaving he looked in the mirror to admire his new doo only to discover the barber had only cut half his father's hair. Jimmy Neil grew up with friends and family swapping stories like that, which was the seed that grew into what we now know as the National Storytelling festival in Jonesborough. Smith's history steeped in the storytelling tradition has given him a bright cheery outlook on life. Many of us have jobs to live; Jimmy Neil has been

Please see "storytelling" on page 11

## University School Goes To Press

By Traci Carroll

"Baby Bunny Found!" "Bikes Bikes and Mo Bikes --Tomorrow and 10 Days!" "Save 11 Dollers for a Puppy That Is Brown and White!" The students in Kelli Barnett's second grade class at University School have their fingers on the pulse of the typical 7-year-old's kid culture. Ms. Barnett has her students study the news every year, but the ambition and high interest of this particular group has pushed the student projects to a new level. The end product was an entire 6-page newspaper, complete with headline stories, advertisements, weather, word search games, cartoons, and sport coverage, from each student in the class.

Ms. Barnett says studying the news is a great way for her students to learn to engage



Ms. Kelli's 2nd grade class Front: Jade Torbett, Alexis Kelly, Katie Gouge, Jacob Harmon, and Cody Brittig (hiding) Middle: Molly Dison, Preston Ongtengco, Alex Necessary, Benjamin Laws, Sterling McClanahan, Harper Austin, and Annie Phillips Back: Olivia Augsburg, Madison Freeman, Harper Ann Rosenbusch, Sutton Coffey, Marlee Berry, Bailey DeVore, & Sydney Stevenson. Not pictured: Chloe Gould

with their world and write for a purpose beyond the "Why I like..." essays commonly assigned for this age group. Putting a newspaper together gave her students an opportunity for exchange ideas in a group

Please see "University School" on page 13

## In this Issue:

- P.1 Storytelling
- P.1 University School
- P.7 One Tank Trip
- P.15 Study Help
- P.16 Contest
- P. 18 Talk Like a Pirate
- P.22 Stuff A Friend

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- Games & Puzzles
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# DOUBLE TAKE

Here's how "double Take" works: on page 21 there is another picture very similar to this one except there are at least 12 differences. Your job is to find all of the differences. Somewhere in the magazine (if I didn't forget to put it there) there is a list of the differences so you can check your work. NO CHEATING!!!



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to:

Family Pastime Magazine  
P.O. Box 3161  
Johnson City, TN 37602  
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one year, \$15 (third class).

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## Fun Music from TMBG

By Traci Carroll

**"N**o is no. No is always no. If they say no it means a thousand times no. No plus no equals no." The opening lines to the title song on the album "No" by They Might Be Giants (TMBG) remind me of one of the innocently hilarious back seat monologues that all children seem to produce in response to perfectly reasonable requests for still more candy, a trip to the toy store, or a herd of zebras for the back yard.

I had been introduced to TMBG in grad school when a friend made me a mix tape (yes kids, back in the dark ages, after the extinction of the dinosaurs but before the advent of the CD burner) that included a clever song about a nightlight written in the form of a riddle. I remember thinking at the time that the writer of that song had some magical (and somewhat disturbing) access to the part of my mind that still thinks like a kid. When I first heard TMBG's "No," I realized that the members of this band possess an uncanny ability to tap into kidmind. Perhaps the mark of this particular brand of creative genius is the willingness to risk being annoying or sounding stupid in the pursuit of fun.

**T**wo of the most infectious songs from this album, "Violin" and "Wake Up Call," aren't exactly what I would call beautiful or even musical. They sound more like the nonsensical but adorable phrases and sounds our children stick together when they have been awake too long and have too much cotton candy and Sprite coursing in

their bloodstreams. Somehow, TMBG manage to teeter precariously on that edge between funny-silly and irritating-silly, always pulling back just before they fall off into the Realm of Aggravation.

**M**usically, TMBG have amazing technical ability and versatility, and they know how to write a tune that hooks your ear and inserts itself into your mind at the critical moment of that important business meeting. TMBG can miraculously alter their voices and instrumentation to mimic a distinctive band like the Beatles at one moment and then sound like Simon and Garfunkel, Nirvana, or a soundtrack for a 1950s laundry detergent commercial at the next. Their songwriting is equally masterful. "The House at the Top of the Tree" tells a simple story about eating a bag of potato chips through a complex series of point-of-view changes from the perspective of a human, a dog, and a mouse.

**O**ne of my favorite songs, performed in an early 1970s Beatles style, is "Where Do They Make Balloons?," which explores the everyday childhood mysteries surrounding the origin of words and things we use everyday. It is somehow reassuring to know that someone else has wondered why turkeys aren't from Turkey, Hungary isn't hungry, and French fries aren't from France. This song recaptures the amazed bewilderment we experienced as children experiencing a world that sometimes makes sense and sometimes doesn't.

**"**Fresh coffee and bagels, pudding and soap,  
Please see "NO" on page 21



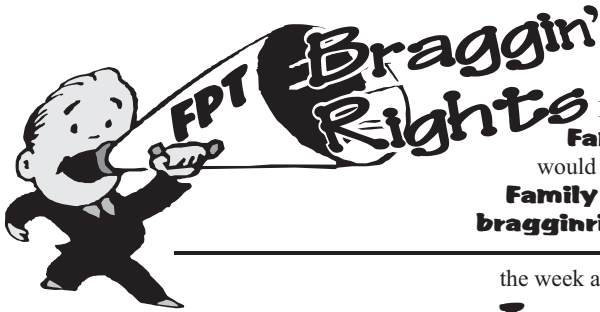
## A Valiant Movie

By Chris Joker

**I**t's Friday night; my daughter is at a sleep over so it's a boy's night. My son and I decide to go shopping for school clothes and then go see a movie. I am not a movie critic but I am a parent who enjoys taking my family to a good movie. When you ready this I don't know if the movie will still be at the theater or not but you may use this information when it shows up at the rental store. However I would like to say that I feel it is important for parents to support G-rated movies at the theater. My children are getting to the PG point but I spent a lot of time seeking out G-rated movies. They are few and far between. Hollywood bases the decision to make movies on the box office return, not how they do at the rental store. Theaters base what movies to show on the return they get. So, when G-rated movies appear I suggest you take the family to the theater to see them.

**H**aving said all that, my son and I went to see Valiant the latest 3-D animated film from Disney. The film is comedy loosely based on a true story of carrier pigeons that join the British army to help the resistance. The "bad guys" are Nazi falcons. There are many laughs for little ones and a few for adults as well. There are a few "grab daddy's arm because this might be scary" moments but the "scary level" is very low. At one point the falcons are going to "torture" their captive pigeon to get information. The "torture" turns out to be them playing yodeling music at loud volume. Besides the historic story line there is a great story of one overcoming seeming physical limitations (the lead character is a very small pigeon with big aspirations). There is also a story line about being a team player and not quitting when you have committed to a cause. These are great ideals for

Please see "Valiant" on page 15



**B**raggin rights is a great place to brag on someone in your family or just a good friend or neighbor. So many people in our community do things "above and beyond". Its not for money or fame, they do them because, "that's what you do". Well we at **Family Pastime** would like to give credit where credit is due. If you have someone you would like to brag on, send us the story. You can send it to **Braggin Rights** at **Family Pastime** P.O. Box 3161, Johnson City, TN 37602. Or e-mail your story to **bragginrights@familypastime.com**

## Outstanding Daniel Boone Student Selected to Attend Boy's Nation in Washington, D.C.

By Mom & Dad Bailey

It is only natural that a Mom and Dad would be proud of their son, and that is why we are writing this article. When Trae was selected, with one other student, to represent Daniel Boone High School at Boy's State, May 22-28, 2005, we were very proud. We had heard great things about Boy's State and knew he would have a wonderful time. While he was there he met so many focused and talented young men. On the final day of Boy's State, they announced the names of the two young men who would be going to Boy's Nation in Washington D.C. to represent the great state of Tennessee. Trae's name was called and we were thrilled. What a tremendous honor and truly an opportunity of a lifetime.



Trae Bailey at Boy's Nation in D.C.

**N**ow for the facts: Tennessee Boy's State is held annually at Tennessee Technology University, in Cookeville, TN. Approximately six hundred and twenty high school juniors, from Tennessee, attend Boy's State. During this very busy seven days, the young men experience first hand, government at both the state and local levels and participate in musical and/or athletic activities. The delegates also attend various lectures and forums throughout

the week and run a mock election.

**T**he American Legion Boy's Nation Program is also an annual event and was held on the campus of Marymount University, in Arlington, VA, July 22-30, 2005. At Boy's Nation, the ninety-six young leaders are introduced to the structure and function of the federal government. They are organized into committees and are instructed on the proper method of handling bills according to the United States Senate. Trae spent an entire day on Capitol Hill, where he met with Senators Frist and Alexander. He also spent several days visiting the many wonderful historic and governmental sites in and around Washington D.C. Trae, along with the other delegates, were treated to "behind the scene" tours of the Monuments and Memorials and a three-hour visit inside the White House. Trae said that "hanging out" in the White House and meeting the President of the United States was, most certainly, the highlight of the week. President Bush gave these young men a warm welcome and congratulations. He then encouraged them to continue to be public servants/leaders in their schools and communities.

**N**ot only did Trae enjoy an "all expenses paid" trip to our Nation's Capital, he also enjoyed meeting so many incredible young men from around the country. The ninety-six delegates exchanged state pins from their respective states. This is a Boy's Nation tradition that creates memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Please see "Trae" on page 15

## Artistic David Crockett Graduate

**B**illy Ferguson is a graduate of David Crockett High School, where Art was his favorite subject. This past summer he painted a party room for **Fun Adventure**. Wizard of Oz was the theme. He also designed a table and four chairs which are on display at the Appalachian Fair and has painted at Fender's Corn Maze. He enjoys spending time gardening. **FPT**



Billy Ferguson's Wizard of Oz painting

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# Kid Friendly Recipes



In discussions with my parent friends it seems that getting children to eat somewhat healthy food is a universal struggle. To help alleviate this situation **Family Pastime** has searched the globe for recipes that make meal time a bit more palatable for our children. Try out these recipes and be sure to give us feedback on our website [www.familypastime.com](http://www.familypastime.com) or if you have a recipe you would like to share you may submit it to: [recipes@familypastime.com](mailto:recipes@familypastime.com) or mail it to **Family Pastime** P.O. Box 3161 Johnson City, TN 37601. Bon Appétit!

## Homemade Peanut Butter

Preparation Time about 15 minutes

### Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 C. unsalted roasted peanuts
- 1 TBS. peanut oil

### TOOLS:

- Food processor
- Bowl
- Mixing spoon
- Storage container
- Measuring cups and spoons

### DIRECTIONS:

For smooth peanut butter:

1. Mix the peanuts with the peanut oil, and pour the mixture into the food processor.
2. Process the mixture until it's smooth.
3. Store your smooth peanut butter in a sealed container in the fridge. It will stay fresh for 2 weeks.

For chunky peanut butter:

1. Take about 1/4 cup out of your 1 1/2 cups of peanuts and set them aside.
2. Mix the rest of the peanuts with the oil, and pour the mixture into the food processor.
3. Process the mixture until it's very smooth, mix in the extra peanuts you set aside.
4. Process a few seconds more to create the chunks in your chunky peanut butter.
4. Store your chunky peanut butter in a sealed container in the fridge. It will stay fresh for 2 weeks. **FPT**

## Pretzels

Preparation time: 30- 40 minutes

### Ingredients:

- 1 TBS. yeast
- 1/2 C. warm water
- 1 tsp. honey
- 1 1/3 C. flour
- 1 tsp. salt

### TOOLS:

- Small bowl
- Mixing spoon
- Medium-size bowl
- Cutting board, sprinkled with flour
- Baking sheet, sprayed with nonstick spray
- Measuring cups and spoons

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees
2. In the small bowl mix the yeast with the water and honey. Let the mixture stand for 5 minutes.
3. In the medium-sized bowl Mix the flour and salt.
4. After 5 minutes, check the yeast mixture. It should have increased in size and a little bubbly. Add this mixture to the flour and salt mixture.
5. Stir everything together. Use a spoon to start. Finish with your hands. The dough is ready when it's still a little crumbly and flaky.
6. Put the dough on the cutting board and knead it into one big ball.
7. Break off a piece of dough that's about the size of a ping-pong ball. Use your hands to roll it into a skinny snake.
8. Twist the snake into a medium-size pretzel shape, and put it on the cookie sheet. Do this with all the dough, making 12 pretzels.

**MORE**

9. Bake your pretzels for 10 minutes. Let them cool then enjoy!

## TOPPINGS

You may want to sprinkle your pretzels with:

- Pretzel salt
- Cinnamon
- Parmesan cheese **FPT**

## Tasty Jokes

**Q:** What do you have when 324 blueberries try to get through the same door?

**A:** Blueberry jam!

**Q:** What do you get when you cross fruit with a necklace?

**A:** A food chain!

**Q:** What do you call cheese that is not yours?

**A:** Nacho cheese! (Not your cheese - get it?)

**Q:** Where does a hot dog go after it gets straight A's?

**A:** Goes on the Honor Roll!

**Q:** Why should you never tell a secret on a farm?

**A:** Because the corn has ears.

**Q:** What did the jelly say to the peanut butter?

**A:** Stick with me and we'll go places!

**Q:** Why did the donut go to the dentist?

**A:** It needed a chocolate filling!

# Natural Tunnel, It's the Natural Place to Relax!

By Floyd Bailey

So you want a beautiful place to camp, gentle hiking trails, and spectacular vistas? Natural Tunnel in Duffield, VA is just the place. Located only 20 miles north of Kingsport, this amazing tunnel was once declared by the early American statesman, William Jennings Bryan, as "the eighth wonder of the world."

Through many centuries of time, Indians, hunters, explorers, and visitors have been witnesses to the marvels of this huge cave that runs completely through a mountain. In fact, it is said that Daniel Boone spent some time exploring the cave. A railroad track, running through the cave, is the path for coal trains coming from northern VA. The Stock Creek continues to flow through this gigantic cave and is credited with helping to enlarge the cave to its present size and grandeur.

Standing on the observation deck gives a very nice view of the cave and the large amphitheater. The platform also provides a very nice place to sit and listen to the rustling sound of the creek. As you rest, you will eventually hear the sound of a train whistle off in the distance. As it grows closer the train will either be com-



Natural Tunnel

ing from the tunnel or heading toward it... either way it is an amazing thing to see a huge coal train being dwarfed by the magnitude of the cave. Another highlight of the cave experience is the awe-inspiring light show presented several times a month. What a sight!

Visitors can get to the train and cave platform by riding on the chair lift or by hiking down a gentle winding trail. Along the way are many kinds of flower-

ing bushes and trees as well as the opportunity to enjoy a nice rest on a wooden or rock bench. The chair lift is a very pleasant ride. The fair is \$3/person for a round trip ride and \$2 for a one-way ride. If you choose to hike down and ride the lift up, don't forget to buy your tickets at the top.

There are many hiking trails around the area, both for the beginner and more experienced hiker. In fact, the trail that leads from the camping area to the tun-

nel is a very pleasant walk with some of the most beautiful overlooks. One overlook, in particular, is referred to as "Lovers Leap" and has a very interesting attached history from Indian folklore. It seems that two Indians from warring tribes fell in love and rather than face a life apart, they chose to leap from the spot together to enjoy reunion in the after life. Even if you choose not to believe the Indian tale, you can certainly feel your heart sink at the thought.

The park also has a nice gift shop and a very interesting museum, which details the history of the tunnel as well as other park history and lore. In the gift shop, you can purchase a large variety of souvenirs and educational materials. You can also visit the beautiful Butterfly Garden and don't forget to pose for a family photo on the antique railroad coal car.

Camping at the park is an absolutely wonderful experience. You will not find a cleaner campground. The park provides nicely manicured tent sites and full setup areas for the camper enthusiast. There is also an area for large groups to

Please see "Natural Tunnel" on page 17



"Lover's leap"

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## Holiday Lanes

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By Chris Joker

**Punch Buggy** When my daughter was an infant she hated riding in a car seat. When I say hated I mean HATED, LOATHED, DESPISED, DETESTED riding in a car seat. It was almost scientific. As soon as she was in the car seat she would cry. Take her out, not cry. Put her in, cry. Sufficed to say on most occasions I carried my daughter and walked to the grocery store. However, walking was not always an option so I tried different forms of distraction. When someone else was driving and I was the passenger I would lean the seat back and let her play with my hair. This worked wonders—for her. I on the other hand would get out of the car with what looked like a brillo pad on top of my head. If I was driving I couldn't very well lean my seat back to offer what little brillo was left so I would play children's songs in the cassette player (yes, Virginia back in the dark ages before CDs and Mp3s we used to have TAPE players in cars). Songs like "row, row, row your boat", "down on Grandpa's farm" songs from Barney the dinosaur etc. Sometimes this worked, sometimes it didn't. One morning I remember getting out of my car after driving to work singing "I love you, you love me..." and then realizing I was driving around, alone, an adult, listening to a children's cassette tape. Seeing as how I was a Disc Jockey at a Rock-N-Roll radio station at the time, this was not good for my "cool rock-n-roll image". Over the next few years I often caught myself accidentally listening to the children's tape while driving, I would then immediately insert the hardest rock cassette I could find something like AC/DC or Iron Maiden just to make up for the children's music indiscretion.

I tell you that story to share the latest happening in my life. I find myself driving around, by myself, an adult yelling out "Punch Buggy, no punch backs." At this point you are either smiling, because you do it too, cringing, because you do it too, or totally confused, because you have not been introduced to the Punch Buggy phenomenon...yet. Make no mistake about it if you have children, you will be!

This column will not serve to start you down the path of the eternal internal dialogue, which is Punch Buggy (or any of the increasingly evil and mind controlling derivatives--more on those later...or should I say "moron those later"?). This column will merely serve as a heads-up for events, which will surely pass.

Punch Buggy is more than a child's pastime. I am convinced it is some sort of insipid brain washing or mind control. To what end? Maybe it's to distract us just enough so that we will give in to the ice cream or happy meal request. Maybe it has bigger plans like the gameboy, X-box or 4-wheeler

request. I cannot say with certainty. If you take nothing else from this column please promise me, if at some time you notice Toys-R-Us putting in a drive through window you will, without delay, contact the Cult Awareness Network and have them send de-programmers immediately. I would do it myself but I am afraid at that point the decision may be out of my hands. If we stick together on this we may overcome the evil "Punch Buggy"-- (or any of the increasingly evil and mind controlling derivatives— "moron those later").

I do not know where Punch Buggy started. I do know that it was part of the Disney film "Lilo and Stitch" so maybe we can lay it at the mouse's feet. One day I was driving around with my children and my daughter yells "Punch Buggy" and hits her brother in the arm. Here's how it worked (and I say "worked" because the rules have evolved). When you see a Volkswagen Beetle you may say "Punch Buggy" and if you are the first you get to punch someone in the arm. This proved to be a problem so I soon inserted what little parental influence I have left to at least put a stop to the actual punching aspect of the game. Soon Punch Buggy evolved to "Punch Buggy, no punch backs"...what do you mean "no punch backs? I didn't know punch backs were an option? If you didn't say "no punch backs, you didn't get credit for the punch buggy. The next iteration was "punch Buggy, yellow (or what ever color the car was), no punch backs. Again if you didn't include the color it didn't count. When I say color I mean EXACT color. If it was light blue and you just said blue, it didn't count. Soon I found myself driving around, alone, an adult yelling out "Punch Buggy, green, no punch backs" (or any of the increasingly evil and mind controlling derivatives— "moron those later").

"Moron" those now. My children began adding to the Punch Buggy sightings. The first addition was "Cruiser Bruiser"... for a P.T. Cruiser. Which of course had to be "Cruiser Bruiser, burgundy, no punch backs". Now however many months or years later (it's kind of a blur) the list got completely out of hand. I am compelled to share with you the Big fat list of "punchable" vehicles (no punch backs).

In the effort to save time and space I will omit the "color, no punch backs" but surely you understand by now you will be required to add it to each of the following.

- "yoda-van" (Toyota van)
- Macy Spacey (Saturn VUE)
- Mini-Mini (Mini cooper)
- Banana (any yellow vehicle)
- Box car (Scion xB or Honda Element)
- Hum car (Hummer)
- Trailer truck (18-wheeler)
- Oreo (any two black vehicles with a white vehicle in the middle)
- Cherry (any red vehicle)
- Marshmallow (any white vehicle) I'm not certain if you can combine marshmallow with Oreo?
- Double (0 – 2 vehicles that have anything in common such as: color, type, make, etc.)

Please see "Punch Buggy" on page 18

# Family Pastime



## Back to School

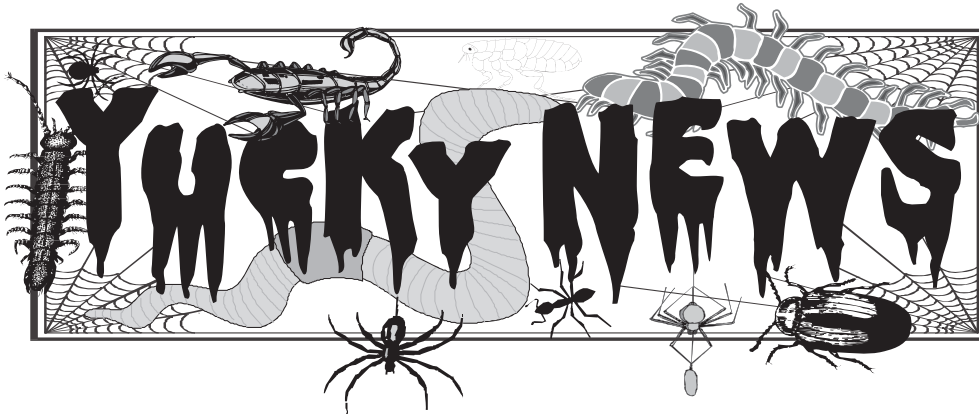
We'll publish the answers next month

### Across

3. What you are doing right now  
 5. learn about scales and notes here  
 6. keeper of the books  
 8. kids in your classroom are all in your \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. don't run with these  
 13. Where the swingers are  
 16. sometimes y  
 17. stand up but sit down  
 18. number 2  
 21. we gather here for special events  
 24. use this to figure all the angles  
 25. with the right combination you gain entry  
 26. you write and study here  
 27. This subject "rocks"  
 29. nets are used here  
 30. The study of social issues  
 31. also used for hiking

### Down

1. Big cheese at school  
 2. sometimes these pop  
 4. Bring your grub to school in this  
 7. A set of written, printed, or blank sheets bound together into a volume  
 10. The wheels on this go round and round  
 11. Even though you do not always go to pasture this journey is called a \_\_\_\_\_ anyway.  
 12. the teacher writes here  
 14. Statement of your status  
 15. place to keep blank paper  
 19. a big test  
 20. The third "R" of learning  
 22. what you will do to enter this answer  
 23. comes out once a year  
 28. This place has more stories than any other part of your school



## Can You Say Peeyoo?

Skunks are pretty little black and white creatures with a horrible problem. The fact is if you see one off in the distance you might think it is a cat. But if you get to close you will for sure be saying "PEEEE- YOOO!"

The problem with skunks is that if they feel threatened they can let off an odor that is not only horrible it is down right stinky, smelly, gagging, hurling, upchucking, rancorous! (If you don't know the meaning of rancorous, ask your mom or dad.)

Skunks are well known for their smelly spray.



But before they use this chemical defense system, they give clear warnings. Usually, a skunk will stamp its feet and arch its back. If this doesn't stop an attacker, the skunk will turn its back toward its target, raise its tail; look over its shoulder and FIRE.

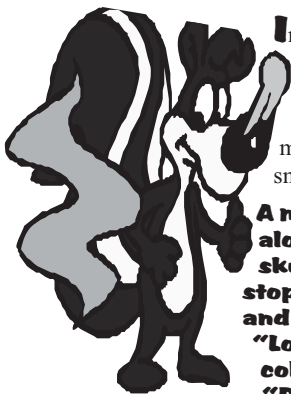
The amber colored liquid can travel as far as 10 feet. The spray can cause temporary blindness and will make

**Q: What did the judge say when he saw the skunk in the courtroom?**

**A: "Oder in the court!!"**

**Interesting Fact:** If a skunk sprays you or your pet, the old timers say that a bath in tomato juice will draw the smell from your skin.

**A man and a woman are driving along when they see a wounded skunk on the side of the road. They stop, the woman gets out, picks it up and brings it into the car. She says, "Look, he's shivering, he must be cold. What should I do?" He says, "Put him under your arm." She says, "What about the smell?" He says, "Hold his nose."**



## GAMES

### The Change Game:

Put some coins into a container. Cover the container or hold your hand over it and shake it. If someone can guess the exact amount of change, he/she can have it. Change the amount and play again.

### Odds and Evens:

This game is played like Rock, Paper, Scissors except each player yells out "odds" "evens" Next each player holds out a number of fingers. Who ever guessed correctly gets a point. Pick a score to play to and keep playing.

### Thing-a-ma jig

Each person begins to draw a picture on their own piece of paper. When mom or dad says "Pass" each player passes their paper to the left and continues drawing on the new sheet of paper. After a few rounds share the pictures to see your "thing-a-ma jig!"

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## Storytelling

*Continued from page 1*

blessed with living through his jobs. He shared a story with me (imagine that) of when he was a teacher at Science Hill and he would “bound up the steps” to get to class because he enjoyed it so much. His philosophy seems to be you must always bound up the steps.

The storytelling festival started in 1973 on the back of a wagon in downtown Jonesborough.

Only a handful of listeners enjoyed those first stories. Today over 10,000 folks from all over the world make the annual trek to the story telling Mecca. My feeling for this story is basically if your neighbor invited 10,000



*Photo by Tom Raymond Fresh Air Photographics*

people over for a barbecue and fellowship, wouldn't you want to be there? The festival has become so large it seems overwhelming but don't let it be. There is much to do and the folks are always friendly. The tellers are from all corners of the U.S.A. and a few corners of the world. Story telling is not just entertainment. The festival is visited by many parents, teachers and librarians who use the stories and story telling methods to help communicate with children. I understand many doctors, doctors in training and attorneys also benefit from story telling techniques.

Family friendly events include Youthful voices with 5 tellers all under the age of 18. Ghost stories (some are scary so it is not recommended for children under 6) will be in the park in an open-air setting Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. The cost for this event is only \$10.00. It is suggested you bring a blanket to wrap up in if you get chilly. Also you may bring folding chairs but you will have to sit around the outside so as to not block listener's views. Schools are invited to come Friday (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) at a cost of \$15 per student. Pre-registration is required for schools so if you are interested have your child's teacher call

the festival (800.952.8392 ext. 8208) to register. Except for the few instances where pre-registration is required you can bring your family and just enjoy the day in Jonesborough. You never can tell what you might come across. There is also great food, drinks and treats from local vendors. If you decide participate you can buy tickets while you are there. If you have a tale to tell you can participate at “The swapin' ground” where anyone can tell a story. You will need to register at the festival headquarters ahead of time to share your story.

### TIPS:

To help make your storytelling festival experience more enjoyable Jimmy Neil offered the following tips:

- Parking—park your vehicle at the elementary school located along Highway 11-E and ride the shuttle bus to the Jonesborough Visitors Center where festival registration is located. The shuttle runs to the Visitors Center (and back) every 20 minutes beginning at 8:30 a.m. until midnight on Friday and Saturday and until 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. As you near Jonesborough there will be signs to assist you in locating the elementary school as well as other informational signs. The cost to park and shuttle is \$2 per person round trip (5 and under free). A real convenience and time saver!

- Rain—It might so bring an umbrella
- Seating—there is seating in the tents however you may want to bring a folding or camp chair so you know you will always have one.
- Dress—Wear layers that way if you get hot you can take something off to cool off
- Handicapped parking and facilities—A parking pass and map showing spaces designated for the handicapped are available at the Visitors Center for those with handicapped credentials on their vehicle. Restroom facilities are located in the Visitors Center as well as on the festival grounds
- Sign language interpreters—Nationally certified interpreters from Chicago will be interpreting throughout the festival weekend. Call the story-

telling offices for more information. 800-952-8392 or 423-753-2171

The actual schedule of tellers will not be available until the week before the festival. At that time you can access it online at the storytelling center's website ([www.storytellingcenter.net](http://www.storytellingcenter.net)) then click on the link for the national storytelling festival. If you see Jimmy Neil be sure to say hi. You'll know him, he's the one bounding up the steps. **FPT**



*Photo by Tom Raymond Fresh Air Photographics*

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# University School

*Continued from page 1*

and collaborative learning (she says there was a wave of baby bunnies found after one student generated the initial idea!). The planning and organization required to carry out this assignment was truly impressive. Ms. Barnett had the students read sample newspaper articles and comic strips to decide on which categories to include in their individual papers. Then they brainstormed together to produce examples of headline stories and comics on the blackboard and ask questions about what makes a good story. Each student produced a bank of original stories and ads based on the examples, then did a practice layout on their paper with abbreviated stories and ads on sticky notes. And all without Word or Photoshop!

Several students shared their newspapers with me. Molly Dison loves the news—especially exciting stories like coverage of shark attacks—and says she might like to be the weather girl someday. Molly said she enjoys writing and drawing and had no trouble coming up with ads and stories to fill her newspaper. Her headline story about an actual shark attack showed what a good opportunity this assignment offered for sharpening reading com-



Madison Freeman



Molly Dison

prehension skills and teaching students to edit and summarize what they have read. Like any savvy newswoman, Molly understands the importance of media exposure and wanted to make sure that we got some photos of the entire class holding up their newspapers for this story.

Madison Freeman and Jacob Harmon said this was a fun assignment because they got to make up ads for cool stuff like lost puppies and toy sales. Madison learned that keeping up with the news is important because it tells us about events like fires or other natural disasters that might affect us. Her cartoon about Garfield reluctantly going to the doctor only after considerable cajoling was incredibly detailed and imaginative, and showed how this assignment fostered the students' creativity.

One of the most striking common features I noticed in several of the newspapers was the repetition of homemade ads for real family-friendly businesses like Fun Adventure and Books-a-Million. Ms. Barnett says her students are surprisingly knowledgeable consumers and can tell you where to shop for kids and where to get the best deals. One

of the objectives of the newspaper project was to teach children about the role of advertising in financing the operation of

newspapers and all news media. By writing their own ads for items they would like to see bought and sold, her students also got to learn first hand how newspapers facilitate the exchange of goods and services in their communities.

In preparing to teach this project, Ms. Barnett showed her students some edited newscasts and invited Selina Williams from WJHL to visit the classroom, which inspired students to write their own newspapers. Ms. Barnett suggested that parents who would like their children to learn about the news in an edited, kid-friendly format might visit the yahooligans site and search their news section for appropriate stories.

My visit with Ms. Barnett's class reminded me of how much curiosity, talent, and enthusiasm our children have to bring to their schoolwork, and how much satisfaction they get from learning about the workings the real world. Creative, organic projects like Ms. Barnett's newspaper assignment help students see the reasons why they learn basic skills like spelling, outlining, and indexing, and what possibilities they have to use those skills. And from what I could tell, it looked like the students were learning the most and were producing the most original, inventive work when they were having fun. **FPT**

(1) Giraffe and lamb swapped (2) Black and white dogs swapped (3) Flower missing (4) Bear pillow missing (5) Picture on couch changed (6) Duck changed (7) Bear added in Angel bear's lap (8) Ceramic pot added (9) Pillow in bear's lap on back of couch changed (10) Picture behind couch changed (11) Crown on bear on back of couch switched (12) Dots added to couch (13) Different pages

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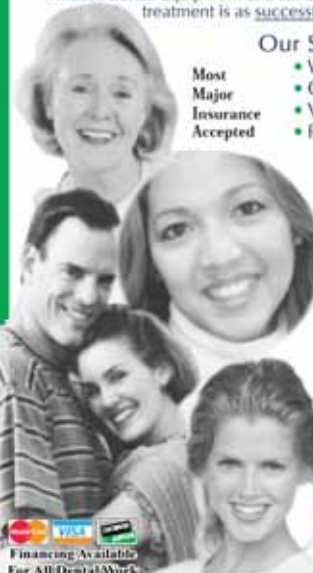
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# BACK-TO-SCHOOL HOMEWORK HELP

By: Vanessa Price, M.A.



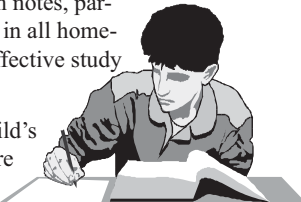
## Back-to-School Success Begins With the Homework Environment Sensible Tips for Helping Children With Their Homework

One of the biggest lessons for parents of school-age children is learning how to handle homework and how to effectively help their children meet academic challenges. Oftentimes, parents think that by helping their child complete homework, or even doing their child's homework, will result in better grades in school. Unfortunately, the opposite often occurs, creating a situation where children have not learned the concepts on which they will later be tested.

Instead, parents should create a homework environment that is conducive and encouraging for children to successfully complete school tasks. The following tips may help parents develop a homework plan for back-to-school success:

**1. Set Goals.** Help your child set attainable goals for each class and identify what will need to be done in order to reach each goal. For example, to get an "A" in American History he or she will need to take thorough notes, participate in class, turn in all homework, and develop effective study habits.

**2. Know Your Child's Learning Style.** There are visual (seeing)



learners, auditory (hearing) learners, and tactile (hands-on) learners. If you help your child work within his or her preferred learning style, he or she will work more effectively and should retain information more readily.

**3. Create a Homework Zone.** Set up a designated area in your home for studying. Make sure that study tools, including a dictionary, paper, and pens, are available. Take special care to ensure that the area is free from potential distractions. This allows a student to remain focused on the task at hand.

**4. Develop Class Files.** Develop a color-coded file for each of your child's classes. Make separate tabs for homework assignments, exams, and projects, so that he or she can refer to class materials when studying for comprehensive tests.

**5. Set Weekly Milestones.** For big projects or exams, get a large calendar for your child's desk area and help him or her set short timelines. This will ensure that projects and studying are not postponed until the last minute. Celebrate with your child when each milestone is met.

By guiding your child in developing a plan to complete homework tasks, you will discover higher grades, fewer homework headaches, and a more confident child! **FPT**

*Vanessa Price, M.A. is the Center Director at the Johnson City Sylvan Learning Center®, the leading provider of supplemental education services to students of all ages and skill levels. With more than 20 years of experience and over 1,000 centers located throughout North America, Sylvan Learning Center® is the largest organization of its kind in the industry. Contact Vanessa at (423) 283-4480 for more information or visit www.educate.com/info.*

**How did the Vikings send secret messages?  
By nurse code!  
Teacher: Why is the Mississippi such an unusual river?  
Pupil: Because it has four eyes and can't see!**

**Why were the early days of history called the dark ages?  
Because there were so many knights!**

## Valiant continued from page 4

children to learn and the beauty of seeing them in a movie is children see these ideas without even realizing they are getting a good message. When I read other reviews of this movie I see reviewers complaining that the movie wasn't funny enough. After the movie my son said, "I liked that movie, it was funny." The humor is written for children so they are the ones who should be judging how funny it is. I would recommend Valiant for your family because it has a G-rating, it has good messages and children will find it entertaining. Go see it at the theater or, if it's too late rent it for family movie night. **FPT**

## Trae Continued from page 5

Trae is now a senior at Daniel Boone High School and is the Commanding Officer of the MCJROTC. Trae also participates in TSA, chorus, and works part-time at Food City. He is a member of the Fall Branch church of Christ and enjoys preaching there on an as needed basis. Trae also uses his public speaking talents for other occasions and competitions. He plans to attend college next fall and begin a career in the military upon graduation. We, Mom and Dad, are so proud of Trae and his desire to be a leader and make a difference in the world.

For more information about Boy's State or Boy's Nation, please visit their website at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org). **FPT**

**Candy Answers from August**

C	L	A	R	K	E	R	J	A	C	K	N	O	W	A	N	D	I	A	T	E	R	H	A	M	I	L	O	R	C	H	S	K	I	T	T	E	R	S	P	E	R	S	H	A	F	E	R	R	A	O	F	I	L	N	A	N	O	S	R	E	R	Z	I	E	R	W	J	E	L	L	Y	B	E	A	N	S	N	S	R
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# CONTEST ✪ CONTEST ✪ CONTEST

**Family Pastime Wants to throw you a throw-down birthday party jam. We have secured the Ultimate Bowling Party at HOLIDAY LANES in Johnson City. This party extravaganza includes:**

- 90 minutes of bowling for up to 10 people
- Equipment rental
- Regular or bumper bowling on request
- Pizza

- Soft drinks
- Cups, plates and napkins
- And a bowling pin for the birthday child
- Plus we'll throw in a custom birthday cake

**Here's how you win:** Halloween is just around the corner so we want to read some good original Ghost stories. If your story is chosen as the best you will win this birthday party. Don't worry if you have already had your birthday this year, you can use it next year. Or give it away to your brother, sister, mom, dad, grandpa or anyone else who is deserving of a party. In fact, if you just want to have a bowling party for any reason, you can use it. Give yourself a second birthday party, celebrate talk like a pirate day, Groundhog Day, national nostril day, whatever. To win this fabulous party package all you have to do is write an original ghost story. If the judges choose your story, you win.

**The rules** are simple you must be under 17 years old to enter. Stories can be as long or short as you like. Stories will be judged on originality, scariness or funniness. Its all about creativity. If you don't know how to write yet, don't worry about it just ask someone who does know how to write to write it down for you. Illustrations are not required but they might increase your chances of winning. We will publish the winner and maybe some other entries as well in the next edition of Family Pastime Magazine.

**The following is a list of words to include in your story. You do not have to include them all but the more you work in the better.**

**Jack-O-lantern**

**Ghost**

**Vanilla ice cream**

**Origami**

**Waffle**

**Bicycle**

**Giraffe**

**Space ship**

**Swimming pool**

**Skateboard**

**Bubble gum**

**Jowl**

**Tongs**

**Vulcanize**

**Tenuous**

**Toothbrush**

**Ham sandwich**

**Sweat socks**

**Enter by e-mailing your story and images (if you have any) to: [contest@familypastime.com](mailto:contest@familypastime.com) or mail them to Family Pastime Party Contest P.O. Box 3161 Johnson City, TN 37602.**

**The deadline is September 20th 2005.**

Late entries will not be accepted. The decision of the judges is final. All entries become property of **Family Pastime**. **Family Pastime** cannot be held responsible for lost or misdirected entries **Family Pastime** Employees and their families are not eligible.

# CONTEST ✪ CONTEST ✪ CONTEST

## Natural Tunnel

*Continued from page 7*

to set up camp. This is great for youth groups, scout groups, or family reunions. The bath-houses are conveniently located, always well stocked, and cleaned regularly. There are plenty of grassy areas perfect for a family football or soccer game and a wonderful playground area for the younger children to enjoy. During the summer months, you can visit the pool complex. Admission to the sparkling clean and refreshing pool is included with your camping fees.

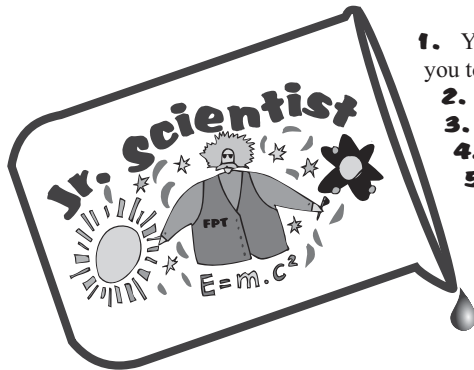


*Happy Campers at Natural Tunnel State Park*

If you need a break from cooking, there are also several nice places to enjoy a meal in Duffield, right outside of the Natural Tunnel Park. There is one place, in particular, that stands out for a nostalgic and relaxing meal. The Red Stone Drive-In is a quaint and locally owned café and is only about a ½ mile drive from the Natural Tunnel Park entrance. Red Stone serves a variety of short order meals such as hamburgers, chili buns, and chicken fingers. Ice cream, delicious homemade desserts, and milk shakes are always a favorite. If you plan a Friday night visit, you can enjoy an old fashioned fish fry.

If canoeing or cave exploration is your thing, regular canoe trips are scheduled down the Clinch River and cave exploration trips are designed to fit all levels of experience. For cost and details contact the Natural Tunnel State Park via e-mail: [naturaltunnel@der.state.va.us](mailto:naturaltunnel@der.state.va.us). You can also visit the web site at: <http://www.state.va.us/~dcr/>

For a wonderful weekend of fun and exploration, Natural Tunnel is an extremely close and beautiful place to relax and enjoy nature. It will be an experience that you and your family will remember for a lifetime and will quickly become a family favorite! **FPT**



## Art of Inquiry: Family Science

By Susan Lachmann

Discovery learning can be said to be the most significant mode of learning. As it is based on inquiry arising from a child's emerging interests, new information scaffolds upon prior knowledge, and voila! Discovery Happens. It is an exciting, dynamic process. The family kitchen is one of the most available laboratories for science inquiry, so herewith please enjoy:

### How to Make Water Disappear.

Please note: This article first appeared in a local elementary school's first grade newspaper cooperatively written by student teams and they recalled events from the school year. Special thanks to that wonderful 6 year old student who asked for the recipe. How to Make Water Disappear\*

1. You must have a grown up with you to do this!
2. Get a pot (like a cooking pot).
3. Put in one cup of water.
4. Put the pot on the stove.
5. Turn the heat up to "high."
6. Watch what happens.
7. Get a grown up to check the pot.
8. When all the water is gone, take the pot off the stove and turn off the heat.

**TALK ABOUT:** Where did it go?

Depending on your child's stage of development, this experiment provides opportunity to explore and discuss: how heat changes things; how molecules move; weather/water cycles involving evaporation and rain.

**EXPERIMENT VARIATION:** As you set up your stove top, prop a transparent cutting board or plate (lucite, glass) slightly above and partially over the saucepan to collect steam. Use something taller than the pot that is non-burnable (e.g. tall, heavy glass or crockery) that can collect some of the steam. The water drops that collect on clear surface will help your child grasp the idea of rain falling to the earth to "re-water" the ground. **FPT**

*Susan Lachmann is a certified early childhood educator and a producing artist living in Jonesborough, TN.*

## Make waves in your kitchen

### Supplies:

Food coloring, Cooking oil, Water  
Clear plastic bottle with a twist top

### Here's what you do:

1. Fill your bottle about half-full with water.
2. Add a couple drops of food coloring to the water (any color will due but if you want it ocean color use blue or green).
3. Put the top on the bottle, make sure it is tight then shake it to mix the food coloring and the water.
4. With a parent's help, fill the bottle all the way to the top with cooking oil. You might want to use a funnel to make the job easier.
5. Put the top on tight.
6. Turn the bottle on its side. Tilt the bottle up and down to make waves.
7. Does it look like waves on an ocean?

### What happened:

Oil and water do not mix. It's kind of like putting 2 pieces of paper on top of each other; they do not combine into one piece of paper. You may have noticed that the food coloring and water DID mix. The food coloring became lighter in color and the water became darker. The oil will always stay on top of the water. When you tilt the bottle, the colored water moves giving the appearance of waves moving in an ocean. **FPT**

**Old mathematicians never die; they just lose some of their functions.**

## September 19 Everybody Talks Like a Pirate

By: Cap'n Pixel Beard

Now you are going to think I made this up but I didn't. September 19th is international talk like a pirate day. If you don't believe me check out [www.talklikeapirate.com](http://www.talklikeapirate.com) (if it's on the web, it's gotta be true). Why is there an international talk like a pirate day? According to the creators, John "Ol' Chumbucket" Baur and Mark "Cap'n Slappy" Summers, its just for the sheer fun of it. The "holiday" was born when the two were playing racquetball and began insulting each other in pirate jargon. They picked September 19th because it is Summer's ex-wife's birthday. Since he had already memorized the date and had nothing to do on that date any more, he decided to use it for Talk like a pirate day. In addition to the website the two have written a book "Pirattitude" which will be released on September 6.



Ol' Chumbucket & Cap'n Slappy

that lives in the worst place on the ship. Calling someone a Bilge rat is a fun pirate way of insulting them.

- booty- Goods obtained illegally. Spoils obtained as a result of war or battle.

- Hoist that sail- put the Sail up - today might mean "start the minivan."
- Lubber - (or land lubber) this is the seaman's version of land lover, mangled by typical pirate disregard for elocution. A lubber is someone who does not go to sea, who stays on the land. Another weapon in the pirates insult arsenal

- Me- Pirates used me instead of my so "remove your hands from my treasure you uncouth scoundrel" might become "Git yer mits off me treasure ye salty dawg"
- Me bucko- Pirate for "dude"
- Me Hardies- home boys

- Mits- hands
- Salty Dawg- still another pirate insult. I get the feeling pirates liked to insult each other.
- Shiver me timbers - Timbers were the largest, and therefore the main support beams for the decks and ribs of a ship. Only violent movements, such as heavy seas or a collision, could cause them to shake. This term came to be used for any deed or action that was deeply surprising or threatening to a sailor.
- Skipper - Boss (the person who should give you the day off to celebrate). If he/She doesn't threaten to Keel haul them, that'll get their attention.
- Smartly - Do something quickly. Your parents might say "Avast thar little Johnny be off with ye to do yer homework smartly"
- Swab the Deck- mop the deck of the ship or maybe "clean your room"
- Walk the plank- while there is only like one actual recorded instance of a pirate making anyone walk the plank it still sounds real piraty.

• Ye- you  
So thar ye go me hardies enjoy yer celebration and "may the wind always be on yer backside and the sun upon yer face-arrrrrrrrrr." **FPT**

## Punch Buggy

Continued from page 8

- Orange (any orange vehicle)
- Apple (any green vehicle)
- Grape (any purple vehicle)
- Bat mobile (a vehicle which resembles the bat mobile)
- Creepy Jeep (jeep)
- Stopper popper (see below)

In the interests of full disclosure I feel obligated to explain stopper popper. I am not proud of this but here goes, the kids were adding punchable sightings faster than I could keep up with so one day out of an attempt at self preservation I shouted out "tree, no punch backs". "Dad, you can't punch on a tree." Why not? They were adding things, why couldn't I? I tried again, "House, no punch backs". Again, "Dad, you can't punch on a house." Hmmm. "Stop sign, no punch backs". My daughter decided this might be acceptable but we needed a catchy name. "Stopper Popper, no punch backs" was born. Do you have any idea how many stop signs you pass on even a short trip in the car? I do. Oh, for the love of Mickey Mouse I DO!!!!

Today if you take a drive with the Joker family you will experience constant chatter. "Punch Buggy, light green, no punch backs, Stopper Popper, no punch backs, banana, no punch backs, Creepy Jeep, Creepy Jeep, no punch backs, Oreo, Apple, Hum car..." Try talking with someone while they inadvertently whisper Creepy Jeep... Yoda van...Macy Spacey..." It's worse than that. I have actually been riding around or even just sitting in a restaurant with a client and while they are talking to me in my head I am saying "Punch Buggy, black, convertible, no punch backs".

It may actually be too late for me. Sad as it is I actually long for the days of singing "I love you, you love me..." If you have not yet sauntered down the dark and ever evolving path of Punch Buggy, for the love of Mickey Mouse, save yourself...no punch backs! **FPT**

**What do pirates drive?**

Answer: Caaaarrh.

**What do pirates fly?**

Answer: Aaaarrrhhplane.

**What do pirates sail?**

Answer: Their ships....duh. (AAaaarrrhhh)

# To Be Or Not To Be:

## Thoughts on Creativity

By Susan Lachmann

Einstein has told us 'Creativity is more important than intelligence,' and we are inclined to agree with a genius. Yet still we wonder: What exactly IS creativity anyway? A gift? A curse? An acquired skill? A desired trait? A dessert topping? Debates abound on the subject.

By dictionary terms, creativity is to "...bring into being...or to cause to exist...that which has not existed before..." In lay terms, this translates easily into: "making stuff up." Being creative means you can make up new stuff easily. OK... Applied to commercial ventures and product development, it is certainly highly desirable. When given to delaying bedtime, however, it is not nearly so well appreciated. In medical advancement, creativity is essential in applying knowledge in new directions to find solutions to disease. Skills

at hiding peas at the dinner table are seldom seen in (or found) in positive light.

We do have within our culture, (oversimplified but true here),

an interesting paradox between valuing success from the following the rules (standards, guidelines, systems, grades, percentile, etc.) compared to valuing success from breaking the rules (renegades, innovators, mavericks, whackos, etc.). We also have a tendency, to equate creativity with artistic ability, i.e. to be creative means to sing, dance, paint, etc. well, with extreme talent flourishing through advanced, specialized study. Fie on all of this I say! The crux of creativity regards fluency (able to flow, move smoothly and rapidly with knowledge and applications) and flexibility (easy to adapt, make changes, be resilient).

Creativity is crucial. It's a survival mechanism, an essential intelligence. It cannot be bought, though it can be found! The works of E. Paul Torrance, often called the "Father of creativity"

discuss and observe behaviors, practices and discoveries about creativity. A web search can lead you to his research and publications. Whether you desire to be more creative (resilient, flexible, diverse, inventive, adaptive) yourself, or whether you desire such for your child, there are many paths toward developing it. A good first step is in opening your eyes and ears to diversity: in peoples, materials, methods, intelligences, skills, beliefs and disciplines. Next, encourage the exploration and discovery of positive, new knowledge. Loosen up a little. Try your ideas. Take notes. Expand. Read more in the next issue of **Family Pastime. FPT**

### Fun Facts:

- A cat that falls off the seventh floor of a building about 25-30% less chance of survival than a cat that falls off the 20th floor. It takes about 8 floors for the cat to realize what is occurring, relax and correct itself.
- Murphy's Oil Soap is the chemical that's commonly used to clean elephants.



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## Words from the Editor

Chris Joker

First let me say thank you. Thank you to all of you. We have a wonderful community and you have been so supportive of our efforts with this publication. We have been working very hard to get this edition published and it is jam packed. Some things did not make it but we will try to make up next month. Before long we will have to go to 28 pages and that will probably mean another all-nighter for me. It's only 1:30 a.m. so I'm hoping this will not be an all-nighter like last time. I told you last time that the magazine wasn't perfect and, it wasn't. I must say that my daughter had better not miss any of her spelling words this year. She went through and found every mis-

spelled word in the last edition. I kept telling her they weren't misspelled, "they were just typos" so now I know if she does miss some words she will say, "Daddy, they weren't misspelled they were just typos. I did take my children camping after the last edition was published and as I was packing, my neighbor came over, **Family Pastime** in hand to make sure I had everything on the list. I didn't and when the rains hit I wished I had. Please feel free to comment good or bad on our publication. We want to build and make it better each time. If you have stories, recipes, jokes or anything else you would like to see, let us know. I will now put the finishing touches on this edition and we hope you enjoy it as much as the last one. Thank you again for all of your help and support.

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## Family Pastime Kid-toons by kids for kids

This month's episode: Monster Trucks Story and Illustrations by Heather Honeycutt age 15, Johnson City, TN



As the monster trucks grave digger and War Wizard pull up to the starting line, one thing is definately clear- this isn't going to be easy...

The light is green, the race is on, and there they go!!!

As they speed into the turns, Grave Digger seems to have a problem- in the rear of the truck

OH! And the Grave Digger is down!

War Wizard is victorious once again!! War Wizard ROCKS!

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FAMILY PASTIME KID-TOONIST P.O. BOX 3161, JOHNSON CITY, TN 37602

# DOUBLE TAKE

Here's how "double Take" works: on page 3 there is another picture very similar to this one except there are at least 12 differences. Your job is to find all of the differences. Somewhere in the magazine (if I didn't forget to put it there) there is a list of the differences so you can check your work. NO CHEATING!!!



## NO continued from page 4

baby formula and ham. I am a grocery bag." This is the kind of specific detail that freshman composition instructors dream about at night. If our children learn from example, then songs like "I Am a Grocery Bag" can teach them the art of simple, direct observation and detailed expression.

"No" has something for everyone: sweet songs, funny songs, creepy songs, dance tunes, songs that tell a story, and songs that just barely sound like songs. I like this album because it covers such a wide range of emotional territory that we experience as children, or when we are in kidmind, without being sappy or indulging the inner brat. It is also refreshing to come across a band that takes creative risks and reminds us and our children that it's OK to make something that isn't perfect, but it sure is fun to try.

"Fibber Island" seems to sum up the feeling of the entire album, which is an invitation to children and parents alike to be creative: "To get to Fibber Island, you just close your eyes...start fibbin' in your mind, and see what you can find." Ironically, then, the message of "No" is YES: it offers us permission to try. TMBG shows us that it doesn't really matter if what we create is any good, how long it lasts, or whether anyone else likes it; what matters is that we create it. **FPT**

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## Stuff this Birthday Party!

By: Chris Joker

When I was a child and I was asked what I wanted for dinner I would always reply "candy sandwiches". I never got candy sandwiches so I would fantasize that when I grew up I would own my own candy store and serve candy sandwiches. I guess what I wanted to become when I grew up was Jeff Gurley. Gurley owns the Lollipop Shop a candy and toy store in Historic Jonesborough.

In 2002 Gurley worked for an Internet company when they went under and he got laid off. He told his wife Candy (coincidence???) that he thought it might be fun to open a candy Kiosk in the mall. Candy being very supportive and

understanding (his wife Candy not the sugary treat although I must admit the sugary treat has been very understanding and supportive to me in the past) agreed. Five weeks after opening the kiosk, they realized they needed more space. Jonesborough seemed like a perfect location so they found an available shop downtown and they haven't looked back.

Gurley likes to refer to the shop as an "interactive" candy and toy store and with 400 different kinds of candy to choose from you can interact a lot! The candy runs the gamut from nostalgic to contemporary. Bulk selections to wrapped candy. In addition to allowing you to mix and match bulk selections the store adds interactivity with an M&M machine so you can mix and match up to 21 different colors and a Pixy Stick machine with 16 different flavors which allows you to create candy art (not unlike sand art except I don't mind so much when my son eats THIS art). The popular thing with children seems to be "gross" candy so Gurley has a stock of: earwax candy, dog food candy, eye balls, wurms and dirt and the ever popular "Big Barf" which comes complete with

sound effects when you press the dispenser button. When I was young gross candy was that candy bar from Halloween I found between the car seats in August. Just like today though gross, I ate it anyway. They also carry a wide selection of nostalgic toys such as metal pedal cars and the REAL slinky. When I say "real" I mean made of metal as it was intended to be. Unlike the new plastic slinky which I swear comes OUT of the box so tangled that by the time I get it to some semblance of an untangled state my child will be packing for college.

Now, about birthday parties. I discovered this hidden birthday party spot last year and held my daughter's party there. The Lollipop Shop offers Gurley's own creation the "Stuff a Buddy" party. The idea came about by accident. Gurley was offering a discount for parents buying candy for birthday party treat bags when a customer asked what they offered for parties. Gurley thought

about it and came up with the stuff-a-buddy idea. The Lollipop Shop offers three different levels of parties with 35 to 40 different "Buddies" (bears, dogs, horses, giraffes etc) for stuffing. Children pick their buddy and an eye configuration and color they then sit around a talking tree full of stuffing material to stuff the buddy. The tree guides them through the process and tells them stories. There is also a buddy helper to assist the party guests. Because the children (or adult) gets to actually do the stuffing themselves it makes the experience more personal. The buddies have a safety zipper, which may be permanently closed to avoid later mishaps with the stuffing. After the buddy is stuffed a guardian angel (for protection) and a star (for a wish) may be chosen and placed inside be-

fore the Velcro seam is closed. Next it's on to the "Fluffing Station" where you can use a blow dryer and brush to primp your buddy. Depending on your party level you can also pick out an outfit for your buddy. The party now moves upstairs for snacks and typical birthday party activities. Each guest also receives a birth certificate for their buddy and a Lollipop shop "credit card" good towards 15% off purchases of most items. The Lollipop Shop also offers delivery plans where they deliver buddies and stuffing so you can hold your party wherever you wish. Non-profit and group pricing is also available

Gurley claims that because guests choose their own buddy and stuff them personally they build an emotional attachment to the buddy. He tells the story of a girl from South Carolina who stuffed a buddy when they first offered the service (about 3 1/2 years ago) that still has the buddy and talks about it every time she returns to the Lollipop Shop. Another bonus I discovered when I was preparing treat bags for my daughter's party and she said she didn't want treat bags is that the buddy itself is a great treat that each guest gets to take home with them.

To find out more or set up a party visit the Lollipop Shop 123 E. Main Street, Historic Jonesborough, TN or call Jeff at 423.913.2663 and be sure

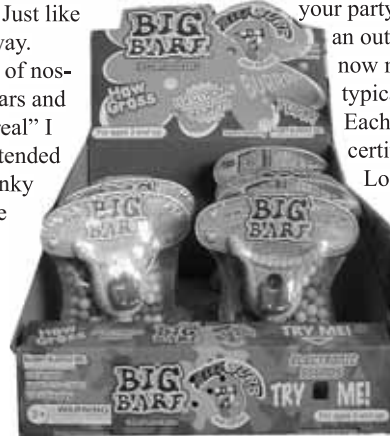
to ask Jeff if he can serve candy sandwiches at your party.

This story is the second installment in our birthday party series. We decided to create this series because every year at least once a year we face the same challenge of what to do for our child's birthday party. If you have suggestions for fun and interesting party ideas please e-mail

or drop us a line with your suggestion. Family pastime P.O. Box 3161, Johnson City, TN 37602 or ideas@familypastimecom. **FPT**



Happy friend stuffers



Talking tree tells stories

Put Magnet here

# BIG ORANGE

Put Magnet here

## Football schedule



Date	Opponent	Location	TV	Time	Outcome
* 09/03/2005	Alabama-Birmingham	KNOXVILLE	Jefferson Pilot	12:30 PM	
09/17/2005	Florida	Gainesville, Fla.	CBS	8:00 PM	
09/24/2005	LSU	Baton Rouge, La.		TBA	
* 10/01/2005	Mississippi	KNOXVILLE		TBA	
* 10/08/2005	Georgia	KNOXVILLE		TBA	
10/22/2005	Alabama	Tuscaloosa, Ala.		TBA	
* 10/29/2005	South Carolina	KNOXVILLE		TBA	
11/05/2005	Notre Dame	South Bend, Ind.	NBC	2:30 PM	
* 11/12/2005	Memphis	KNOXVILLE		TBA	
* 11/19/2005	Vanderbilt	KNOXVILLE		TBA	
11/26/2005	Kentucky	Lexington, Ky.		TBA	
12/03/2005	SEC Championship	Atlanta, Ga.	CBS	TBA	

\*HOME games are in ORANGE

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