

VALENCIA BAY-FARER



Written by students. Read by all.

Free to kids

Obama's Life: Political Diversity

by Marco Ponce, *age 9*



Courtesy of: http://www.ideagrove.com/blog/uploaded_images/barack_obama-779027.jpg

Barack Obama was born in Hawaii on August 4th 1961. He grew up herding goats with his father. Obama's mother was a student there. His father won a scholarship that allowed him to leave Kenya and pursue his dreams in America.

Obama's father eventually returned to Kenya and Obama grew up with his mother in Hawaii and for a few years in Indonesia. Later he moved to New York where he graduated from Columbia University in 1983. Obama went to law school, and put corporate life on hold after college and moved to Chicago in 1985.

Obama realized that to truly

improve the lives of people in the community and other communities he should earn his law degree from Harvard. He became the first African American president of the Harvard Law Review. It has been the rich and varied experiences of Obama's life growing up in different places with different people who had different ideas that helped his political ideas to grow.

Obama was elected into the Illinois' Senate in 1996. Obama was reelected to the Illinois Senate in 1998 and again in 2002. In 2000, he lost a Democratic primary run for the U.S. House of Representatives.

In the November 2004 general election Obama received 70 percent of the vote, the largest victory margin for a statewide race in Illinois' history.

Obama was sworn in as a senator on January 4, 2005. He was the first African American senator in U.S. history and the third to have been popularly elected. He is the only senate member of the Congressional Black Caucus. Obama is a Christian whose religious views have developed in his adult life.

On February 10, 2007, Obama announced his candidacy for the president of the United States. In front of the Old State Capitol building in Springfield, Illinois.

Obama's goals are to donate more money to after-school programs, improve Head Start programs and provide low-income families with childcare.

INSIDE:

<i>Opinion</i>	2
<i>Arts & Entertainment</i>	3
<i>Sports</i>	6
<i>Science</i>	8

The Fight for Women's Right to Vote

by Ailish Bureden, age 11



Courtesy of: <http://www.biography.com/bio4kids>

How would you feel if you couldn't vote in the upcoming election? If you couldn't work? If you couldn't own property? Many years ago Susan B. Anthony and all the other women in the country couldn't do any of those things. So she decided to change that.

Anthony grew up on a small farm and her parents owned a mill. Her parents were Quakers and believed that men and women were equal.

Even as a child Anthony had a strong belief in justice. She tried to get her father to hire the best worker, a woman, as supervisor in the mill he owned. But despite his beliefs he wouldn't agree.

As an adult Anthony didn't have the responsibility of kids so she had nothing to hold her back and jumped whole-heartedly into becoming an activist. She gave speeches every few days, sharing her thoughts and truths- that all

people should be treated equally.

In 1872 she went out and voted even though women couldn't legally vote. She was arrested and found guilty. Sadly, Susan B. Anthony died before the 19th Amendment was passed, giving women the right to vote in 1920.

Anthony's work affected the way women are in the world today. Heidi Gill, a teaching coach in San Francisco, says "I would have a very hard time living in this country if I couldn't vote." Since Anthony's time women have more freedom to choose careers. Gill is mother, teacher, carpenter, mechanic, and owner of her own household.

She says, "I love my work and couldn't imagine not having the choice of the occupation that fits me best."

Now, not only can women vote, they can vote for other women. It is still a huge progress to have Hillary Clinton and Sarah Palin come so close to becoming president and vice-president.

BAY-FARER ADVISORS

Lisa Amick	Sara Marshall
Daniel Brownstein	Kathryn Olney
Tracy Clark-Flory	Amol Ray
Carson Chodos	Chris Taylor
Mark Follman	Vanessa Thill
Sophia Hussain	Tracy Valenzi
Eugenie Howard-Johnston	Laura Weiss

Peterson: Making Bird watching Possible

by Liam Burden, *age 11*



Courtesy of www.birdwatchersdigest.com
<<http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com>>

You may take field guides for granted but before Peterson they didn't even exist. If it was not for him there would not be nearly as many birders, ornithologists, or even people with backyard bird feeders. By putting all the information you need to identify birds into a compact volume, he increased the number of bird-watchers by thousands. Peterson included accurate and detailed drawings and then drew the readers' attention to the most obvious field marks by pointing an arrow at them. For example, the large blue crest of a Steller Jay was pointed at to differentiate it from the various species of Scrub jays. The first edition to his field guide sold out in a week. People were ready to experience nature in a new way; they just needed the right resources.

Besides inventing the modern field guide, Peterson was an avid birder himself. Born in 1908, Pe-

terson lived a full 88 years, birthing to the very end. Even into his eighties Peterson was still having birding adventures. He tells of one in a book about himself. He was in a boat looking for Auks, Puffins and other rock nesting birds, when a rogue wave hit his boat, capsizing it and sending him and his friends flying off it. While he watched thousands of dollars worth of camera equipment sink to the ocean floor, the 82 year old was able to stay afloat in the cold water until one of his younger friends saved him.

Traveling all across North America to write field guides, he was a very busy man. He even went to England to write his Peterson's Field Guide To the Birds of Europe.

Though there is no doubt that Peterson's field guides are good, I think that they have improved since his time. When I asked Adam Keats, a birdwatcher and

conservationist, what he thought the biggest improvement in field guides was since Peterson's, he said, "moving away from taxonomy and... towards behavior based identification."

Since Peterson, many new ways have been developed to identify birds. The budding birder might prefer a color coordinated guide because, for example, if you see a yellow bird you just flip to the yellow bird section. But if you are a slightly more experienced birder you are more likely to want a guide such as Sibley or Peterson, who group the families together. Thanks to the groundbreaking work of Roger Tory Peterson we have so many options.

Overfishing Harms Pinguins

by Jeremy Calica Rodgers, *age 10*

Expert ecologists say that global warming and fishing are threatening pinguins.

The two main types of fishing threats are "dirty fishing" and bottom trawling. Dirty fishing is when industrial fishing boats accidentally scoop up sea creatures and throw them back into the ocean. Bottom trawling happens



Courtesy of nationalgeographic.com
<<http://nationalgeographic.com>>

when heavy nets wipe out the ocean floor.

These both mean less food for pinguins to eat. Liz Jones, an intern at 826 Valencia, cares strongly about pinguins. When asked how she would feel

if her friend or a family member prevented pinguins from eating, she said, "I would be very sad because pinguins need to eat, just like people."

Jones was asked is she would feel sad if she was a penguin and someone took her nutrition. She said, "YES! I would not know what to do without my food!"

I hope you help prevent pinguins from being extinct. Go to the Monterey Bay Aquarium web site to find out how you can help pinguins:

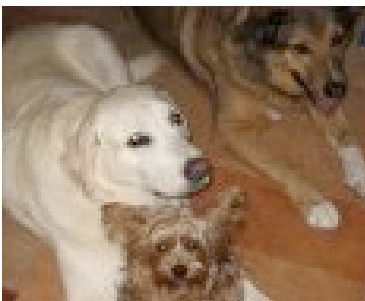
Dogs Chasing Their Tails: Explained

by Kacey Lastname, *age XX*

All kinds of dogs chase their tails, including mine, although some breeds, like Bull Terriers, are especially famous for it. What makes a dog chase his tail? Dr. Berkeley at the VCA Bay Area Animal Hospital says that puppies chase their tails for fun and play.

Adult dogs can sometimes chase their tails out of boredom. Pet-owner Melissa Marshall agrees, "Dogs that chase their tails tend to have lot of energy that they can't get rid of", and chasing their tails is one way to do it. There is a third explanation for why dogs chase their tails, Berkeley says—fleas!

Fleas sometimes live on the tip of a dog's tail and cause irritation. When this happens, dogs chase their tails for the same reason they might scratch an itch. Why do dogs have fleas? It's simple: "Fleas really like warm, dry places and dogs are a perfect home", Marshall told the Bay-Farer. So remember, when dogs chase their tails, they could be having fun, or they could be asking for a good cleaning.



"Pity" Bulls or Pit "Bullies"

by Cera Paran, *age 10*

Pit bulls, are they kind or killers? Naughty or nice? Most say pit bulls are born kill people and all living things, but some say they are sweet and just a big dog and when they play they can accidentally get too rough. They are really sweet and will take their last breath for their owners and will fight to the death for them. Although if you get a Pit bull from the shelter you may not know about their childhood and it could kill without a warning.

Sometimes if a Pit bull or most likely, any other type of dog breed, has human emotions they can become aggressive and may think they are the boss of the family. If a pit bull is around a dog they do not recognize or think is a stranger, when they fight they will aim for the throat.

President Teddy Roosevelt once owned a pit bull. Pit bulls are very easy to train and can be taught to hunt, guard, herd and pull cars. Since pit bulls are from the Mastiff group they are usually big and usually gentle and are great companions.

Elena Cabera has never heard of a pit bull attack, but owns one. She says you can train them very easily and pit bulls can be owned by anyone who will take care and watch them. She says most people think that pit bulls are totally aggressive and get overprotective when they are around pit bulls. Elena says they are sweet.

Dawn Beavis, the customer lead service of the Peninsula Humane



Courtesy of www.dogbreedinginfo.com
<<http://www.dogbreedinginfo.com>>

Society, has some facts about pit bulls. She says the dog breeds that end up in most animal shelters are pit bulls and chihuahuas. Pit bulls don't get adopted so easily. If you want to adopt one, they will have an inspection of your house to make sure they can't escape. They must attend a six-week training class, and two male pit bulls can't be sent together and if the person who wants a pit bull already has a dog they have to show it to her. She agrees with Elena, pit bulls are easy to train. But you have to be firm and strict or they think they can get away with whatever they do wrong.

Nancy Christen is an owner of two chihuahuas. She says chihuahuas are like little fearless guard dogs, and they don't even get angry as easily. She says she doesn't like pit bulls because they scare her and she doesn't know if their owner has taught them to fight and kill. She said she'd rather have a tarantula than a Pit bull as a pet because her son owned a tarantula at one time before. She said if a

"Pity" — *continued from 4*

pit bull saved her life she would buy him a big steak and would pet him, even though she never thought of raising a pit bull.

Even though most people say they are mean dogs, it's only because of how they have been raised. Either abused, or trained to kill, or because their mother influenced them to. They will really be sweet with all their hearts to their masters.

Some things that you shouldn't do around a pit bull are make them feel threatened or uncomfortable, or look them in the eye. Dogs can sense fear.

Some cities banned pit bulls from being pets, while some people say they're just a typical dog breed that are easy to train. In some ways, both are right. You never know if a perfectly well-behaved pit bull will turn into a human murderer, or if it will be sweet. You will never know.

Small Plates or Big? American or French?

by Sasha Demeulenaere, *age 10*

French and Americans will eat differently. The French seem to eat richer foods in smaller portions. Americans will have bigger plates with simpler foods. They usually ask how the French have very rich food and stay thin compared to them who eat simpler food but are sometimes obese.

The answer is: how much! If they ate smaller plates, they would

be thin, like the French. When the French come to America, they are so surprised to see how big the plates are here. It is the opposite with Americans. They are very surprised how small the plates are.

In America, kids sometimes eat too much junk food. For an example, school lunches. In France, there is a cook that comes to the school. He will cook a very tasty and healthy meal. Here in America, school lunches are dropped by a truck every morning. Then, the meals are heated in plastic boxes in a giant microwave. The food is not very appetizing, so the kids bring junk food to eat instead. It is quite a difference.

Many American restaurants are trying to cook healthy. Even when dealing with French cuisine. Americans are talking a lot about how the French are thin and American's are a little too obese. So, there is hope for Americans to be thin like the French. It is a goal for Americans.



Courtesy of: www.willisms.com
<<http://www.willisms.com>>

Bad Hybrids

by Albert Liu, *age 9*



<http://reviews.carreview.com/files/2007/10/hybrid-car-illustration.jpg>

Today hybrid cars are the hope of the future. These gasoline and electricity ran automobiles can go 60 miles on one gallon of gas, cutting fuel usage by more than half, compared to non-hybrid automobiles. But we're thinking too much about the good things. What are the problems?

Hybrids have three main disadvantages. They cost a lot, frustrating car buyers. A hybrid's suggested retail price is about \$22,600 and a non-hybrid's price is about \$15,810, according to Jeff Poor of the Business and Media Institute.

These cars are also heavy so they can't go fast. This causes problems for police and ambulances that need to chase cars or reach patients quickly.

The last issue is the high voltage of the car's batteries. It can cause difficulties for rescue crews trying to get the drivers or passengers out of the car.

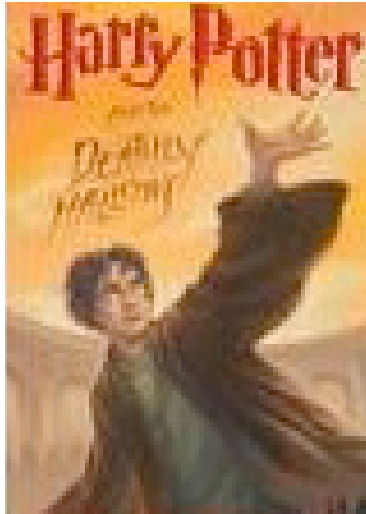
The Deathly Hallows, Writing Miracle or the Biggest Chapter Book Disappointment Ever?

by Cole Fellers, *age 9*

The Deathly Hallows, an amazing installment in the Harry Potter series, is the seventh and final book! It is the most exciting thing to come out of England since, well, English! Here is my review.

The Deathly Hallows is the second longest Harry Potter book. It is almost as long as the 5th Harry Potter Book, Harry Potter and The Order Of The Phoenix. This book introduces several new characters to the Harry Potter stories, like Dumbledore's long lost brother, Aberforth. The book is full of characters from the past books too, and tells more about the rarely mentioned Dark Wizard, Grindelwald. Grindelwald is famous for being defeated by his old friend Dumbledore. They also mention how Grindelwald killed his sister Ariana.

The book is also very sad. For, some of the most beloved characters die in the Deathly Hallows. We need to warn you, if you haven't read the book, and are planning to read it, then you may want to skip this paragraph! To quote J.K Rowling: "I can remember just before Phoenix came out, meeting a boy who said to me, 'please never, ever, ever, ever kill Hagrid, Dumbledore, or Sirius.' Oh, my God. And he was a really nice boy, who had some problems in his own past. And he was definitely saying, 'Don't kill any of these



Courtesy of: bestsellers.about.com
<<http://bestsellers.about.com>>

people who have been fathers to Harry.' And I knew I'd already done it. I'd already killed Sirius and I can't pretend that looking at him I didn't feel quite awful." This quote completely applies for The Deathly Hallows. "There were a lot of people who rooted for characters who died, not to die," said J.K. Rowling (Dateline NBC, July 2007).

I think it is time I described what's going on in this book. The dark lord Voldemort rules the Ministry and Hogwarts. Harry, Ron and Hermione are on the run. They are being chased around the world and staying in the tent they

stayed in at the Quidditch World Cup in Book 4, The Goblet of Fire.

In the Deathly Hallows, there are also tons of exciting things happening. For example, a goblin helps them break into Gringotts. There are lots of shocking things like how Dumbledore came back after being murdered by Snape in Book 6, The Half-Blood Prince. Also it is shocking when you see Snape's history with Harry's mother.

But authors can't have just good guys, since some characters need to be bad. Here are some quotes from a web chat on Bloomsbury.com, about the bad guys and what happened to them.

Jessie: Will Lockhart ever recover?

J.K. Rowling: No. Nor would I want him to. He's happy where he is and I'm happier without him!

(NOTE: Do not ask who some of these people are. I do not know.)

Pablo: What is toad faced Umbridge doing now?

J.K. Rowling: Glad to see you like her as much as I do!

J.K. Rowling : She was arrested for crimes against muggleborns.

All in all it is a great book that you should really read. Well, that's the end of this! Hope you liked it! Bye!

History of Disco Rap

by Anna Barbas, *age 8*



Courtesy of: <http://www.souljaboyweb.com/images/soulja-boy4.jpg>
<http://b9.ac-images.myspacecdn.com/01112/98/27/111242>

Many different types of people listen to Disco Rap, more commonly known as Hip Hop. This is a type of music African Americans started in the 1970's influenced by West African music. The birthplace of hip-hop was in The South Bronx, NYC.

Hip-hop is a rhythmic style of speaking called rap over backing beats. It was originally known as disco rap. The term "Hip Hop" was often credited to Keith Cowboy. He was known as a rapper with the Furious Five. Keith Cowboy teased his friend who just joined the US Army by singing the words "hip/hop" which copied the singing of marching soldiers. The phrase caught on.

African Americans had a large role of creating this type of music, but many people who you wouldn't think listen to hip hop, love listening to it, from professionals who wear suits and ties everyday to work, to third grade teachers at St James Catholic School.

People listen to hip Hop because it is interesting and because they feel something when listening. The beat and music, with the rhythm it brings, makes you want to move. You just can't stay still.

Hip Hop is spread across the world, and has been a staple on popular music charts. No matter what kind of person, you can listen to hip-hop because it is a great genre of music.

BAY-FARER CONTRIBUTORS

Anna Barbas	Cole Fellers
Ailish Burden	Albert Liu
Liam Burden	Cera Jane Paran
Jeremy Calrod	Marco Ponce
Sasha Demeulneure	Kacey Last Name

EDITORS

Eugenie Howard-Johnston
 Joanna Sokolowski
 Carmel Wroth

TUTORS

Daniel Brownstein	Kathryn Olney
Cameron Clark	Katherine Roberts
Tracy Clark-Flory	Logan Shedd
Brianna Evans	Sherisse Steward
Kevin Feeney	Herman Wong
Soraya Haas	Carmel Wroth

ABOUT 826

826 is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students ages 6 to 18 with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write. Our services are structured around the understanding that great leaps in learning can happen with one-on-one attention and that strong writing skills are fundamental to future success.

826 Valencia is proud to present the first X digits of the largest prime number which was discovered August 23, 2008

316,470,269,330,255,923,143,453,723,949,337,516,054,106,188,475,264,644,140,304,176,732,811,247,4
 93,069,368,692,043,185,121,611,837,856,726,816,539,985,465,097,356,123,432,645,179,673,853,590,57
 7,238,179,357,900,876,426,103,943,782,376,494,591,742,934,588,497,117,587,146,916,972,984,761,159
 ,060,873,250,939,462,085,575,740,754,577,098,620,558,011,779,529,884,042,198,287,643,319,330,465,
 064,455,234,988,142,139,565,785,447,474,023,546,353,758,537,324,801,838,120,387,600,868,416,525,4
 00,790,381,285,888,256,687,085,855,456,231,577,527,939,305,920,811,766,585,308,670,132,129,155,22
 1,804,381,548,625,787,943,020,694,528,015,999,221,718,191,557,761,789,038,539,522,349,746,808,797
 ,476,907,664,050,601,248,473,206,874,133,194,663,585,334,983,805,734,803,620,705,778,270,910,561,
 716,767,680,954,814,415,310,034,502,440,445,161,332,363,611,749,326,163,346,444,542,332,941,724,1
 20,365,148,892,204,420,675,302,563,534,393,044,688,859,445,173,161,934,549,310,336,116,821,178,85
 5,375,531,041,423,821,706,430,796,012,246,288,037,483,476,218,396,982,916,073,816,451,058,991,831
 ,512,686,327,488,459,585,043,246,778,160,788,873,343,661,684,676,258,006,436,582,840,222,063,757,
 785,048,077,389,404,912,747,062,648,672,186,003,349,751,782,781,879,120,470,020,388,873,779,589,3
 49,589,877,119,954,283,343,288,199,886,936,593,732,250,320,339,998,610,072,339,381,292,833,594,91
 9,318,294,607,585,610,592,445,446,058,872,982,335,095,667,132,127,175,014,425,218,125,214,413,231
 ,078,371,985,641,017,807,775,785,493,244,577,889,145,039,577,777,188,174,108,486,988,317,893,130,
 592,966,383,813,432,499,006,567,940,128,890,939,479,244,323,108,485,896,276,588,430,953,410,742,3
 55,843,709,083,268,647,257,603,685,755,576,432,496,460,615,685,892,047,540,436,050,783,692,197,61
 8,658,469,334,121,647,320,471,115,721,375,248,270,317,298,667,413,885,986,449,190,158,090,512,335
 ,150,379,099,138,100,399,341,203,804,418,312,058,222,344,749,422,138,096,126,080,879,556,199,432,
 215,607,580,443,235,372,610,748,457,708,282,406,189,424,477,174,777,113,454,219,808,060,304,360,5
 51,617,506,661,245,722,772,351,081,365,361,727,184,008,626,088,629,774,354,996,912,827,272,281,44
 0,499,049,041,576,203,884,943,192,684,055,274,941,226,777,713,166,180,704,666,821,661,836,801,599
 ,842,400,753,555,093,087,939,266,058,092,079,721,697,481,135,174,876,099,183,086,089,790,629,407,
 423,499,734,806,185,565,774,380,559,034,010,741,081,512,897,186,784,805,572,791,197,369,300,268,8
 70,813,900,049,338,389,921,638,224,295,056,714,454,461,080,883,077,807,756,965,827,409,720,772,50
 5,579,006,260,134,743,029,388,552,109,572,978,472,439,362,850,714,479,000,235,563,466,922,422,958
 ,721,089,708,044,663,530,770,968,705,926,840,629,602,574,038,878,388,019,643,087,612,154,542,045,
 854,056,540,307,708,459,709,457,315,384,451,564,164,605,205,270,347,685,697,223,630,493,582,980,4
 21,459,157,794,627,274,676,372,969,627,024,586,966,924,583,596,405,274,772,819,815,023,538,365,49
 7,746,159,407,402,985,071,118,486,658,167,977,572,127,791,170,262,993,219,890,667,610,079,861,523
 ,980,477,699,432,277,250,429,236,731,648,600,517,593,596,727,079,745,602,454,212,291,388,785,176,
 078,858,827,536,463,762,779,568,183,706,158,015,662,514,847,337,685,511,498,075,355,876,317,986,4
 01,027,049,498,458,565,149,532,973,850,630,135,737,935,365,629,302,924,513,786,786,790,048,323,89
 8,387,186,548,565,789,758,323,840,386,330,350,805,678,311,661,668,819,487,046,836,628,773,473,937
 ,016,550,119,694,407,061,934,853,709,391,595,540,848,339,141,339,562,398,906,165,273,984,800,788,
 818,476,319,559,628,933,135,045,358,340,071,467,340,560,718,311,395...