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**WHAT'S
INSIDE:**

- RECYCLING 101
- CINCO DE MAYO WORD MINING ACTIVITY

- DRAW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
- IT'S NATIONAL TEACHER'S MONTH - WRITE A LETTER

**EDUCATIONAL
LEARNING ACTIVITIES
FOR MONMOUTH
COUNTY KIDS**

The Monmouth Family Times Live Day Was A Fun Day

Think Tank for Moms and The Monmouth Family Times held its first annual "Family Wellness & Beauty Day" to raise money for "Bullying, We're Kickin' It!", a National Non-Profit organization located on Route 9 in Freehold.

Photos by: Debbie Kasuba Ventriello



The Krutansky Family of Howell "had a fabulous day."



Above: Sponsors Vanessa Coppes, Jolene Conoscenti and Lynette Barbieri. Right: Advanced Center for Orthodontics' vendor table supporting the cause.



THE MONMOUTH FAMILY TIMES™

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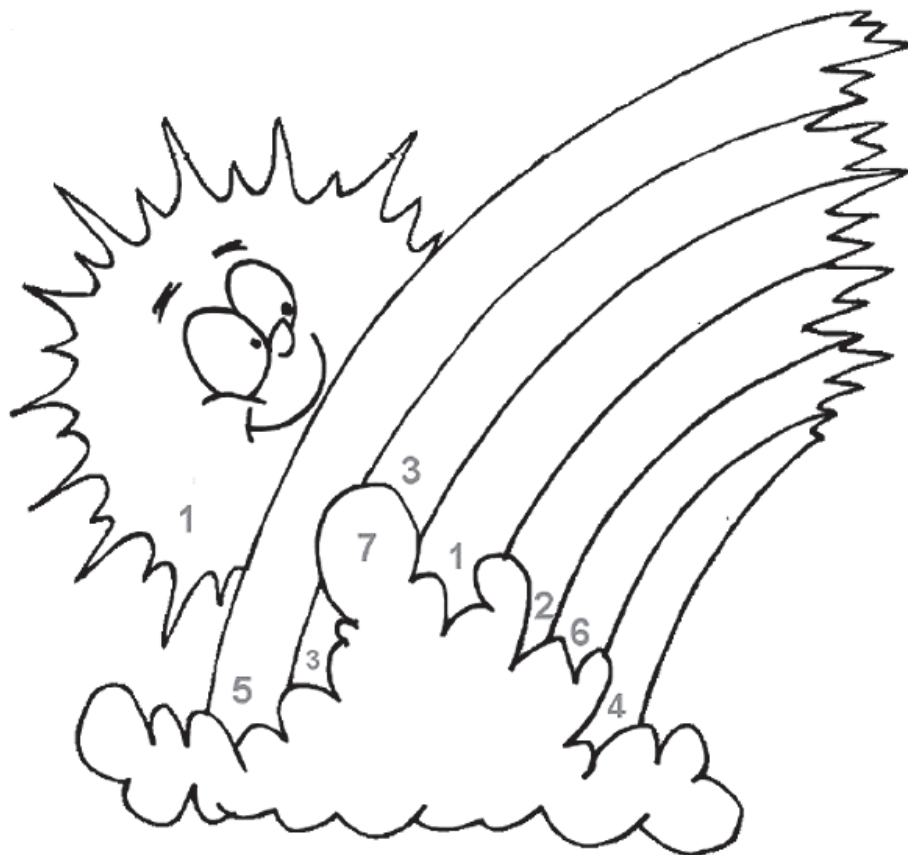


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Color-by-Number

Colors in French

- 1 - Jaune
- 2 - Vert
- 3 - Orange
- 4 - Violet
- 5 - Rouge
- 6 - Bleu
- 7 - Blanc



Color-by- Number Answer Key

Colors in French.

- 1 = jaune (yellow)
- 2 = vert (green)
- 3 = orange (orange)
- 4 = violet (violet)
- 5 = rouge (red)
- 6 = bleu (blue)
- 7 = blanc (white)



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WATER WORLD

LEARNING ABOUT LANDFORMS

Directions: Fill in each word in the word box that correctly describes each landform.

Word Box

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|----------|---------|
| plateau | volcano | mountain | valley |
| canyon | island | valley | isthmus |
| plain | peninsula | hill | |

- _____ - area of land that is completely surrounded by water
- _____ - a large crack in the earth caused by a river or earthquakes
- _____ - large, tall rock that extends into the air; taller than a hill
- _____ - mound of earth with rounded top; smaller than a mountain
- _____ - thin strip of land that connects two larger land areas
- _____ - thin strip of land that extends into a body of water
- _____ - low land between hills or mountains
- _____ - opening in the earth's crust from which lava or ash escapes
- _____ - large area of flat land
- _____ - large area of flatland that is higher than the land around it

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WORD MINING

Word Mining: Is a fun and educational activity where you make as many common words as you can from a phrase. This is good spelling practice for young children and a challenge for adults too!

In Honor Of Cinco De Mayo, This Month's Word Mining Lesson Is A Mexican Theme
How many different words can you make from the letters in the words Cinco De Mayo?



CINCO DE MAYO

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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**Kites are one of the first things to come
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Kites have been used for many centuries and by many cultures to celebrate events and occasions around the world. Kites have been around for over 2000 years. It is not known for sure who invented the kite but many experts and historians believe that the Chinese are to credit for these "large birds." The kite is, and was, mostly used as a children's toy, but it was later used for scientific purposes. Benjamin Franklin used the kite to show that electricity was present during a storm. It was also used to record the outside temperature.



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Common Nouns vs. Proper Nouns

Recognize a common noun when you see one. Nouns name people, places, and things. Every noun can further be classified as common or proper. A common noun names general items. Go into your home. What do you see? Refrigerator, sofa, window, coffee maker, clock, spatula, sink, plate — all of these things are common nouns. Leave the house. Where can you go? Mall, restaurant, school, post office, backyard, beach, pet store, supermarket, gas station — all of these places are common nouns too. The important thing to remember is that common nouns are general names. Thus, they are not capitalized unless they begin a sentence or are part of a title. Recognize a proper noun when you see one. Proper nouns, name specific things and do require capitalization.

Examples of some Proper and Common nouns are:

Starbucks
Applebee's
China

coffee Shop
restaurant
country



TEST YOUR SKILLS Determine whether each word below is a Proper or Common noun. Circle **ONLY** the proper nouns. Then, re-write the noun on the lines below using correct capitalization.

*Hint: There are 7 Proper Nouns to be found.



nike
day
air
orange
sweet tarts
wednesday
cereal

candy
africa
burger king
creek
cat
nurse
swing

yankees
doctor
knife
holiday
book
sponge bob
city

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____

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Baseball

Word Finder

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F P R E L B U O D I A K O F P
V O A O R H T G E E B L O B Z
Z T V F W U X A G L G U I O N
S S R A D W N D B D L K L A W
Z T N N P Q L G J G L V O Z F
W R Z S N E T E M D X W T Y F
L O K E I L S D R M C R I P V
G H Y F R S T E A L P F H Z N
X S T O L I P J L E P F Q W A
O U Z A J L P P G L C H I V G
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Graduating Senior Reflects on the Lifer Experience at Ranney School

By Kendall Torpey

My tenure as a Ranney student began about 14 years ago when I entered pre-kindergarten. I may not remember my first day as a Ranney Panther, but the memories since then have certainly been fond ones.

I remember Lenape Day, when we celebrated the local Native American history, and gym days where my friends and I learned to swim. I remember the initial hardships of long division.

We crossed the lawn at the end of fifth grade to the big, scary Middle School, and I remember singing an off-key rendition of the High School Musical Classic "We're All in This Together" with the rest of my class.

And we were together as we navigated the hallways with kids much bigger than us. We frantically studied for the first midterms we'd ever had, and made it to the end of another semester to study for our first finals.

Then came high school. The seniors were huge, and the hallways looked even busier. We learned the word "chiaroscuro" in Art Principles class, and that we would have to remember it for even scarier mid-terms and finals. We volunteered, and went to soccer games, and suddenly, I am a senior.

Being a Ranney lifer has meant that I've grown up using the word "we." This community is one that has served as home away from home, where students are nurtured to rise to their greatest potential, academically and personally. The faculty here is committed to the success of the student in all meanings of the term; not only that students grasp the material, but also enjoy learning it. Further, they get to know you; what your family is like, what you do for fun, and what your goals are. Because of the warm nature of the faculty, I have maintained relationships with teachers I have had across all divisions. I have always felt known and valued as a member of this community, which our school promises in its mission statement.



Ranney School has also instilled in me the values of hard work and integrity. At Ranney, the students are committed to the value of hard work, and the value of doing one's own work. The Honor Code is a critical part of the culture here. As a community, we agree to treat each other with tolerance, respect, and honesty.

All of this may sound cliché, or that it comes straight from a packet at Admissions. But I am sincere in my sentiments for this school. I have had an experience here like no other, filled with friendship, hard work, and memories. Please consider this; nobody would spend 14 years at a place they didn't absolutely love.

Ms. Torpey serves as president of the Spanish Honor Society, as a member of the Judicial Review Board and she has been an Upper School Student Council Representative at Ranney School for four years. Her academic prowess has earned her induction into the Spanish, Math, Science and National Honor Societies. She has taken a rigorous academic program that includes 10 AP courses and 6 Honors courses. An AP Scholar with Distinction, she hopes to pursue a degree in Business at Georgetown University in the fall. Ranney School "lifers" such as Ms. Torpey begin their educational experience in the Lower School at Ranney and grow up as part of a close-knit community for at least 10 years, through the Middle School and the Upper School. This year, 46% of the seniors in the 2013 graduating class at Ranney are lifers. To learn more about a Ranney School education, which starts with our Beginners at age 3, or to schedule a personal tour of our campus in Tinton Falls, NJ, contact the admissions office at 732.542.4777 x.1109 or visit us online at www.ranneyschool.org/admissions. Applications are now being accepted for the 2013-14 school year.

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Keeping Connected Thru The Arts

Everyone thinks we are getting closer and closer to each other and keeping in contact more due to social media. We're all writing on each others 'walls', tweeting and so forth...but what about the 'face to face', or even 'voice to voice' on a phone? Yes, we are taking pictures and posting them, scanning & sending attachments through email, everything we do seems to rely on technology.

Technology is a great thing, but it seems to be replacing some old fashioned activities which kept kids occupied and connected. Gone are the days when kids rode bikes, skated and played games with their siblings and friends, all informal and spontaneous. Rainy days created some interesting arts & crafts projects using everyday household items and a lot of imagination.

Imaginations were stimulated by visual media: movies, TV and books, the latter requiring the most effort and/or enjoyment. I often remember watching a movie after reading the book only to find myself disappointed at the movie, preferring my own inner vision. As we read through the book, our very own personal imagery is at work conjuring up the vivid images of the characters, scenery and other details of the story. That stimulation could inspire us in many ways to help us think creatively.

There was something so exciting about reading a book, if new it had a wonderful crispness and smell of freshly printed ink on paper. If

an older volume, there was a history to all it's years of handling by so many other students. Often I would wonder what those children looked like and if they felt the same way about the story as I did. All thoughts encouraging imagination, again.

Imagination creates art, music, literature and other venues critical to a culture. These venues can open our minds and stimulate us into thinking of the many possibilities out there in our lives. For our children there are rules in math, spelling and scientific procedures, but the arts offer an outlet for our own uniqueness. As kids mature the arts offer another advantage - a venue in which to take safe risks in offering their views to others through non-traditional use of the chosen medium: a new style of music, unusual use of colors in graphics or photos, a unique style of writing, setting them apart from others.

We should celebrate those musical notes playing in our heads as we create a melody, the words we choose for verse in a song or poem, and the colors, shapes and textures we visualize for our painting or sculpture. They offer us joy, excitement, tranquility and much more, a way to connect to each other.

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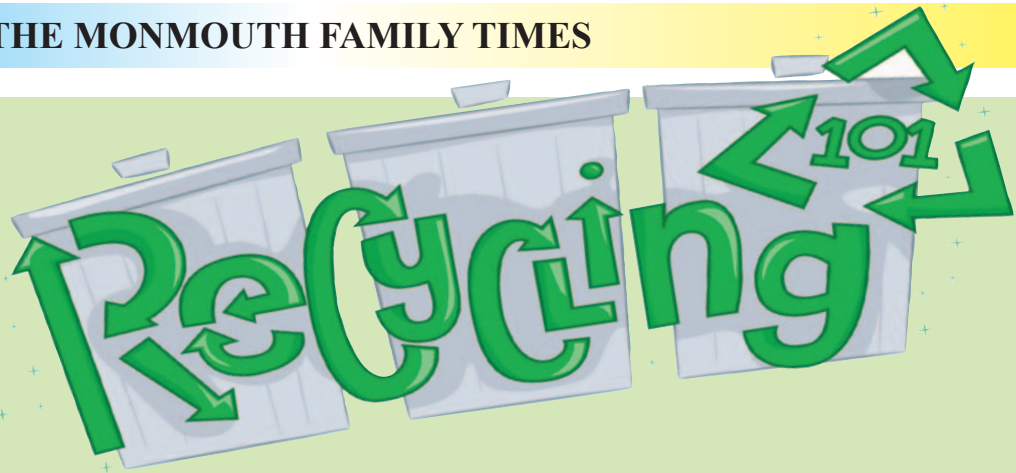
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- Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators;
- Conserves natural resources such as timber, water, and minerals;
- Prevents pollution caused by reducing the need to collect new raw materials;
- Saves energy;
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change;
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations;
- Helps create new well-paying jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries in the United States.

Steps to Recycling Materials

Recycling includes the three steps below, which create a continuous loop, represented by the familiar recycling symbol.



Step 1: Collection and Processing

After collection, recyclables are sent to a recovery facility to be sorted, cleaned, and processed into materials that can be used in manufacturing. Recyclables are bought and sold just like raw materials would be, and prices go up and down depending on supply and demand in the United States and the world.

There are several methods for collecting recyclables, including curbside collection, drop-off centers, and deposit or refund programs.



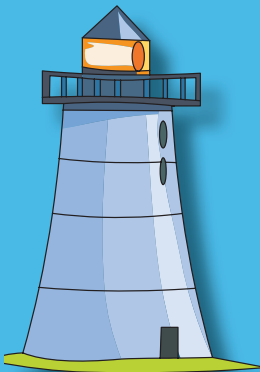
Step 2: Manufacturing



Step 3. Purchasing New Products Made From Recycled Materials

Name 5 Items In Your Home That You Can Recycle and bring to **BEACON SCRAP METAL** in Freehold with an adult!

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



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Fathers May Influence Kids' Eating More Than Moms!

According to a new study, fathers play a huge role in the eating choices their children make.

Researchers analyzed the eating-out habits of more than 300 families with children. They found that how often fathers ate in fast-food and in full-service restaurants influenced how often their children ate in the same places, ultimately leading to less freshly prepared and more processed food choices.

"By far the biggest influence on how often children ate processed or fast food was the number of times their father did," said lead



author Alex McIntosh, a professor of sociology at Texas A&M University. "Fathers use fast-food restaurants more than moms and increased a kid's likelihood of going to a fast-food restaurant."

The study found that fathers also influenced eating in other ways. Children whose fathers were more authoritarian were more likely to eat junk food for comfort. The children of fathers who believed they didn't have a lot of control

at work and who also placed less value on family meal time were also more likely to eat unhealthily.

There is hope for Picky Eaters! Did you know? we could probably get our children who are picky eaters to eat better by just re-arranging their food on a plate! A recent study found that kids like their entrees located near the bottom of their plates, while adults prefer them centered on the right. Children in this study, ages 5-12, also gravitated towards plates with small colorful portions of food on the plate.

Source: Cornell University Food & Brand Lab

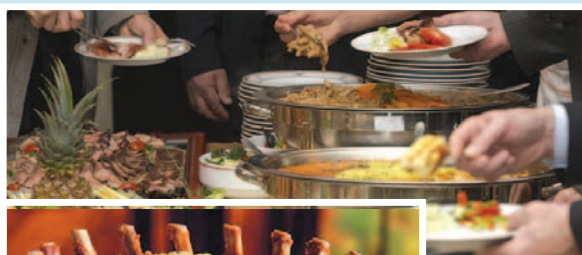
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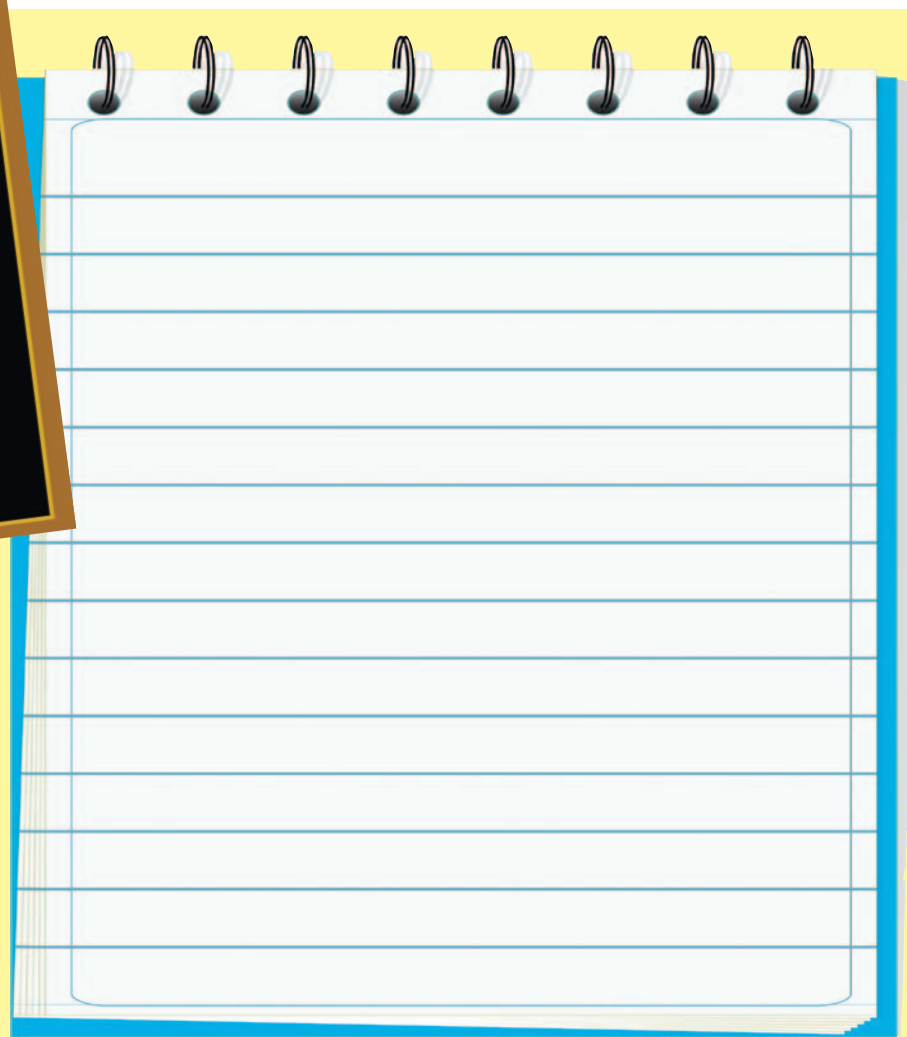
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When : Tuesday, May 7th

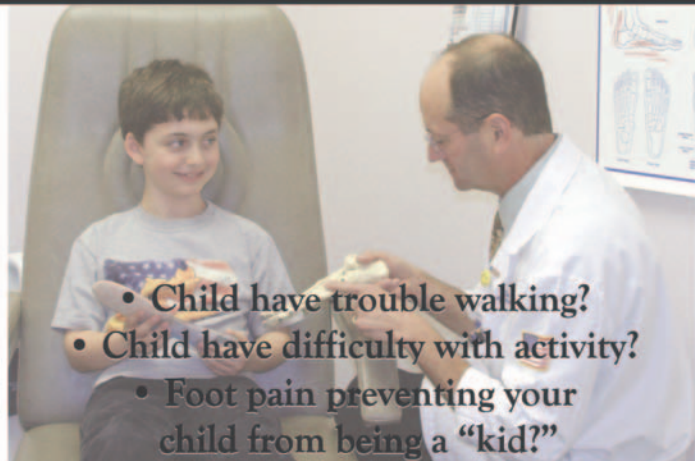
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Writing Lesson For May:

Telling a story is always fun, but writing one is even more fun!

Once Upon a Time

(your own story title)

Once upon a time _____ had a _____ birthday party.
It was held at _____. The _____ and _____
were very _____. We ate _____ and _____
. It was so _____! I wish I _____. Everyone was
_____. Next, we all _____. I had a _____ time.
After that, _____ got to _____. Birthday parties are
_____ and _____.

1. What did you title your story? 2. Where did your story take place?
3. What was your favorite part of the story?

DRAW A PICTURE ABOUT YOUR STORY

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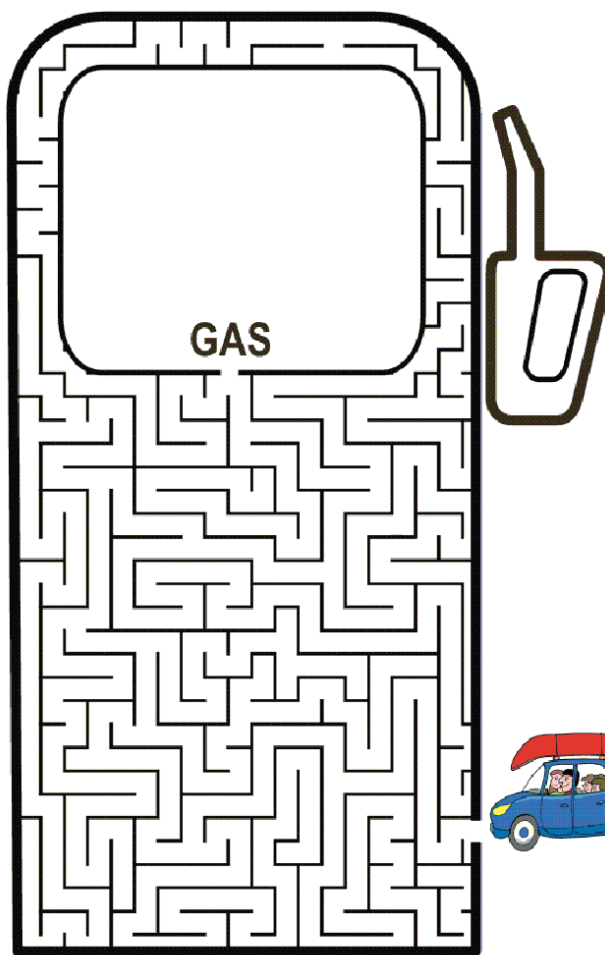
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6. six and four tenths _____

7. eight and eight hundredths _____

8. eleven and nineteen hundredths _____

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Save Animal Tracks As Plaster Casts

What kind of wild animals live near your house?

There are more than rabbits and squirrels, for sure. You might be surprised to find out how many kinds of critters live nearby. With a little detective work, this project will help you discover where some of them live. Also, you will learn how to make plaster casts of their footprints so you can start a collection of their tracks. It's simple and fun.

Here's what you will need:

- A one- or two-pound bag or box of plaster of Paris. This is a powder that looks like flour. You can buy plaster of Paris at the hardware store. It is not expensive.
- A mixing bowl – a small plastic container such as Tupperware or a plastic cereal bowl. Actually you can use anything that will hold one or two cups of water without leaking, but plastic is reusable and easier to clean. You will be mixing the plaster with water, so it is also better to have something shallow and wide rather than something tall and narrow.
- A bottle of water. A 16-ounce plastic soda bottle works great.
- An old spoon. A 2-liter soda bottle cut into 2 inch sections. A few sheets of newspaper to wrap the track cast. A bag or knapsack to put all of this stuff in.
- Oh yeah, old shoes and clothes that you can get muddy in.

Let the detective work begin:

Look for tracks on wet ground and soft mud. The best place to look

is where animals go to drink water. The bank of a creek, stream, river, pond, or lake is a great place to start. Sandbars are good places, too. The edges of mud puddles shouldn't be overlooked.

How to make a plaster cast:

Once you have found a good clean track that you want to keep, gently clear away any debris around the track. Remove any leaves, small stones or twigs without disturbing the track.

Place one soda bottle ring around the track so that the track is centered, and press it about 1/2 inch into the ground. This makes a sturdy circular wall that will keep the plaster from running out.

Mix up some plaster:

Pour about a cup of water into your mixing bowl.

Follow the directions that came with the plaster.

If you don't have instructions, here is how we do it in the field: carefully begin sprinkling some of the plaster into the water. When the plaster looks like the top of a volcano and is about 1/2 inch taller than the water, stop. (See drawing. It's worth a thousand words.) Let

it sit for a minute or two so that the plaster absorbs some of the water.

Next, begin slowly (slowly is the magic word) stirring the plaster and water with your spoon until it is creamy like pancake batter. Here is another hint: you don't want to get air bubbles into the plaster mix. They take away some of the detail of the track. Don't whip the mix.

Just stir it gently until it is evenly mixed and has no lumps.

Gently tap the bottom of your mixing bowl on a rock or a fallen tree trunk to remove any air bubbles. As you tap you will see bubbles come to the top. Aren't you glad you didn't whip the plaster? Keep tapping until the bubbles stop coming up.

Now you are ready to pour the plaster into the circle you made earlier. Do not pour the plaster directly on the track. It might ruin it. Instead, pour to the side of the track and let it run into the track. Fill the circle to the top.

This plaster thing you have just made is called a cast. It needs to harden for at least 30 minutes. An hour is better. Even after an hour, the cast will still be soft and will easily break if handled roughly. This is a good time to look for more tracks. Can you find any bird tracks? How about snail tracks?

When the time is up, it is time to remove the cast. Start removing the mud 4 or 5 inches outside of the cast. Next dig away the mud below the cast. Carefully lift up the cast. If there is any resistance, stop. Dig out some more mud. Do not try to pry the cast out with a spoon or a stick. It will crack. Lift it out gently with your hands.

Wrap the cast in newspaper to protect it on the trip home. It is still very fragile. It will be for about two more days. When plaster is drying it feels warm to the touch. The cast will be ready to clean after it feels cool to the touch.

Then you can paint it if you like.

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GET 2nd ENTREE
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**10% OFF
Catering Orders
of \$100 or more
FROM
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**1 LARGE PIE,
1 PENNE VODKA,
1 LARGE SALAD &
6 GARLIC KNOTS
\$21.95+tax**
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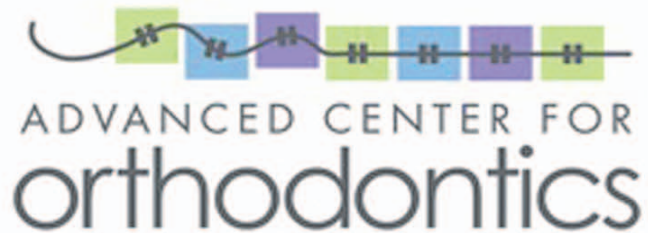
**BUY 1 HERO AT
REGULAR PRICE &
GET 2nd HERO
1/2 OFF**
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**\$5 OFF
ORDERS OF
\$30 OR MORE**
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TOTAL CHECK
DINE-IN ONLY**
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**BUY ANY LARGE
CHEESE PIZZA &
GET A
2 LITER SODA
FREE**
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**Free Topping
on Large
Pizza Pie**
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