

Safety Patrols *in the* SPOTLIGHT!



Aaron Fabro



Paulina Ramirez



The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Tradition

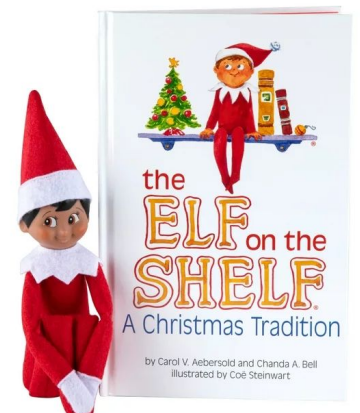
By Sofia Andrade



Do you know about the Elf on the Shelf tradition? The Elf on the Shelf tradition started in 2005 when Carol Aebersold published the book "The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Tradition," alongside a box with a little scout elf inside. The scout elf inside of the box comes from the North Pole. He watches over you and that's how Santa knows if your naughty or nice! Even though the Elf on the Shelf came out in 2005, it really became popular in 2012 when the elves made their appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade

alongside Hello Kitty and Papa Smurf. The name of the Carol Aebersold's elf that she wrote about in her book was called Fisbee, but when you get your own elf you can name it whatever you want! My elf is named Holly! Here are some popular name ideas: Snowflake, Carol, Snuggles. Any name you choose will be perfect! You can even write a letter to your elf. In your letter you can tell them their name the rules that you want them to follow. Some elves have a lot of rules, and some elves do not have any rules and can be

a little naughty sometimes. In the mornings, my family likes for me to find my elf. One day I found my elf in the laundry machine!! The elf on the shelf tradition is a fun and cute holiday tradition.





FEATURE TEACHER: MRS. GAGLIARDI

By Perola Cavalcanti

Hey ECE! Do you know Mrs. Gagliardi? If you don't, she is a fifth grade teacher here at our school. She is my teacher this year and she is really fun! I know a lot about her but if you don't, don't worry! She answered some of my questions and I'm here to share her answers. Mrs. Gagliardi has taught for 18 years - that's a long time teaching! One of her inspirations to teach was a professor in college. That professor is one person who motivated her to teach! Mrs. Gagliardi's favorite subject is science, but right now she teaches reading, writing, and social studies. Out of school, some of the things she likes to do is cook and bake with her daughters, Ariana and Mia. If you don't know the difference between "cook" and "bake," cooking is when you make main food items like dinner or lunches and baking is when you make desserts! Yum! Well, that's a little bit about Mrs. Gagliardi! Next time you see her you will have to ask her about the last thing she baked!



BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU

By Asher Rivkin

BJJ stands for Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. This is a martial art/self defence system and it focuses on fighting on the ground. In Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, fighting on the ground is called "rolling". I roll a lot in my Jiu Jitsu class. It's really fun! Also, BJJ includes a lot of grappling, which is a fighting technique used to bring your opponent to the ground. We learn a lot of moves in Jiu Jitsu and then practice them with a partner to improve.

TESLA

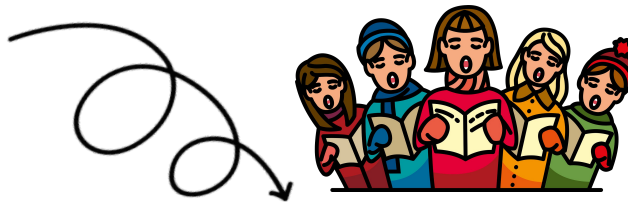
By Narun Narmadhan

Did you know that Tesla was probably created even earlier than you thought? Tesla was created in July of 2003, in San Carlos, California by Elon Musk. The first Tesla ever created was the Tesla Model R, or the Tesla Roadster, and it was first made in 2008. The second Tesla ever created was the Tesla Model S, which was created in 2012. The 3rd Tesla created was the Tesla Model X, which was created in 2015. The 4th Tesla created was the Tesla Model 3, it was created in 2016. The 5th Tesla created was the Tesla Model Y, it was created in 2020. The 6th Tesla ever made was the Tesla Model S Plaid, it was created in 2021. The 7th Tesla is the Tesla Model R, or the Tesla Roadster, it will be released in 2024.



DECEMBER NATIONAL DAYS

- December 1st: National Pie Day
- December 2nd: National Special Education Day
- December 3rd: National Roof Over Your Head Day
- December 4th: National Santa's List Day
- December 5th: International Ninja Day
- December 6th: National Miners Day
- December 7th: National Slime Day
- December 8th: National Brownie Day
- December 9th: National Christmas Card Day
- December 10th: National Dewey Decimal Day
- December 11th: National Stretching Day
- December 12th: National Poinsettia Day
- December 13th: National Cocoa Day
- December 14th: National Wear Your Pearls Day
- December 15th: National Cupcake Day
- December 16th: National Chocolate Covered Day
- December 17th: National Maple Syrup Day
- December 18th: National Twin Day
- December 19th: National Hard Candy Day
- December 20th: National Go Caroling Day
- December 21st: National Humbug Day
- December 22nd: National Date Nut Bread Day
- December 23rd: National Roots Day
- December 24th: National Eggnog Day
- December 25th: National Pumpkin Pie Day
- December 26th: National Candy Cane Day
- December 27th: National Fruitcake Day
- December 28th: National Card Playing Day
- December 29th: National Tick Tock Day
- December 30th: National Bacon Day
- December 31st: National Make Up Your Mind Day



National Go Caroling Day December 20, 2023

JINGLE BELLS

JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS
JINGLE ALL THE WAY
OH, WHAT FUN IT IS TO RIDE IN A
ONE-HORSE OPEN SLEIGH

HEY

JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS
JINGLE ALL THE WAY
OH, WHAT FUN IT IS TO RIDE IN A
ONE-HORSE OPEN SLEIGH

HEY

DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW
IN A ONE-HORSE OPEN SLEIGH
O'ER THE FIELDS WE GO
LAUGHING ALL THE WAY

HA HA HA

BELLS ON BOBTAILS RING
MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT
OH WHAT FUN IT IS TO RIDE AND SING A
SLEIGHING SONG TONIGHT

OH

JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS
JINGLE ALL THE WAY
OH, WHAT FUN IT IS TO RIDE IN A
ONE-HORSE OPEN SLEIGH



Dojo Leaderboards



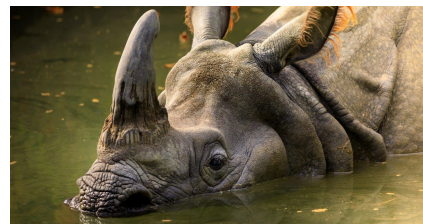
TOP 10 RAREST ANIMALS

By Haridhaan Kumaar

#1 Vaquita. This animal is almost in extinction. This is the single rarest animal. This animal lives near the gulf of Mexico. People use nets to catch these animals and that's why fishing kills the most amount of vaquita.



#2 Javan Rhinoceros. This also includes the Indonesian rhino which is found in Perseverance island and some zoos.

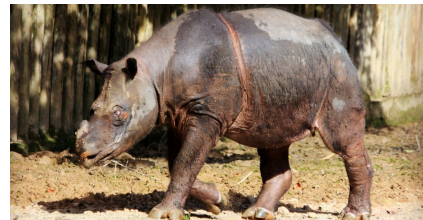


#3 Red Wolf. There used to be a debate about if the red wolf is a hybrid - wolf and coyote combined. This animal is rare because it is extinct in the wild.

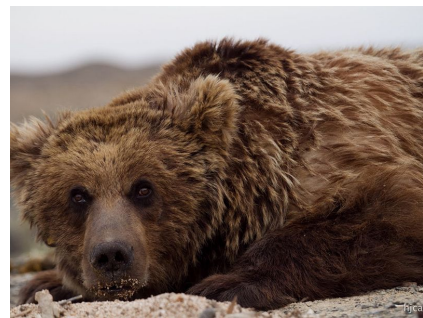


#4 Sumatran Rhinoceros. This animal is endangered and is mostly only found in zoos.

#5 Gobi Bears. Most of these animals are extinct but some live in the Gobi Desert in Mongolia. There are less than 40 adults that remain in the desert.



#6 Saola. The saola is a relative of cattle but it is more like a deer. They are found in Asia. Some call it an Asian unicorn, because it is so rare, not found in many places, and lives in big forests to hide from predators.



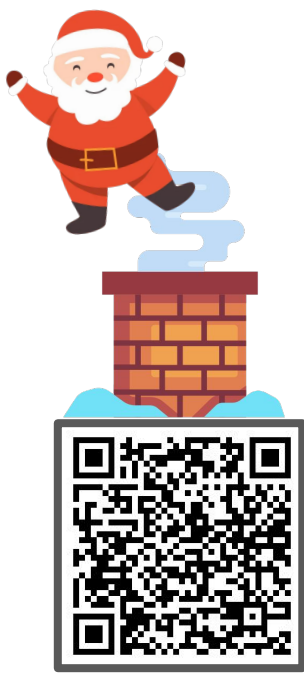
#7 Addax. This animal is similar to an antelope and only found in Africa.

#8 Amur Leopard. The Amur leopard has been considered one of the rarest cats on earth. In 2007, it was estimated that only 19 to 26 wild leopards were living in southeastern Russia and northeastern China.



#9 Philippine Crocodile. This rare animal is found in the Philippines. This animal has fewer than 100 left. They get hunted for their meat, but can live up to a hundred years.

#10 Kakapo. These are found in New Zealand. This animal is a bird but it can not fly in the sky like other birds.



Secret Santa

By Aarish Nalagandla

Secret santa is a tradition where a group or community of people get assigned a person in any way (recommendation is to assign a person by drawing names off paper) and have to give that person the gift they want. There is usually a money limit for the gifts and the gifter must keep his/her identity secret. So, you must be wondering how Secret Santa even got started? Long ago, in 1971 in Houston, Mississippi, a kind man gave a young stranger twenty dollars for food. Then the young stranger went on becoming very successful and repaid that gift by giving away over 1.2 million dollars to total strangers in need. He would gift items worth \$100 at a time! This man was Larry Dean Stewart. He was known as Kansas City's Secret Santa because of all the secret help that he gave to people while he was alive. That is the origin of the Secret Santa! You can use the QR code to read the story and print out a coloring book to learn more!

Holidays Around the World

By Olivia Dencker

In December do you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa? Well, if you celebrate one of these then your in luck because I will share about all 3 of these popular holidays! If you don't celebrate these holidays, they are something new you can learn about! Christmas is one of the most popular holidays in America and it is celebrated on the 25th of December. Some families celebrate with presents and Santa Claus coming down your chimney! Sending Christmas cards is also a popular tradition that started in 1843. About 1.3 billion Christmas cards are sent in the U.S. each year! Wow, that's a lot of cards for the mail carrier! Another thing that is popular for families in America to do is put up a Christmas tree. Did you know that it can take 15 years to grow an average sized Christmas tree? Ok, that's enough about Christmas. Now, I'm going to share about Hanukkah. Hanukkah was first celebrated in 164 BCE, and this year it begins the evening of Thursday, December 7th and ends Friday, December 15th. Long ago, Jewish people won a battle for their religious freedom and they lit an oil lamp that only had

enough oil to last one day. Somehow, it stayed lit 8 days! That is why the Hanukkah celebrations last for 8 days. During these 8 days, many people who celebrate will follow strict rules. Some of these rules include not eating pork and shellfish and not mixing meat and dairy in the same meal; so if chicken is on the table, you won't find butter or cheese. One popular game families play during Hanukkah is Dreidel. The Dreidel has four sides and is a spinning top with a Hebrew letter on each side. Last but definitely not least, Kwanzaa! Kwanzaa was first celebrated in 1966. Kwanzaa is 7 days long with African drumming and sharing a meal of African inspired foods. This year Kwanzaa will be celebrated from December 26th to January 1st. Kwanzaa lasts seven days and each day is in celebration of one of their seven principles; Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), Imani (Faith). Now that you know about these three popular December holidays, which one is your favorite?!



Christmas trees are a symbol of American Christmas. Many families decorate their trees with ornaments.



Hanukkah is celebrated for 8 nights. Many Jewish families will have a menorah in their home and light a candle on each night.

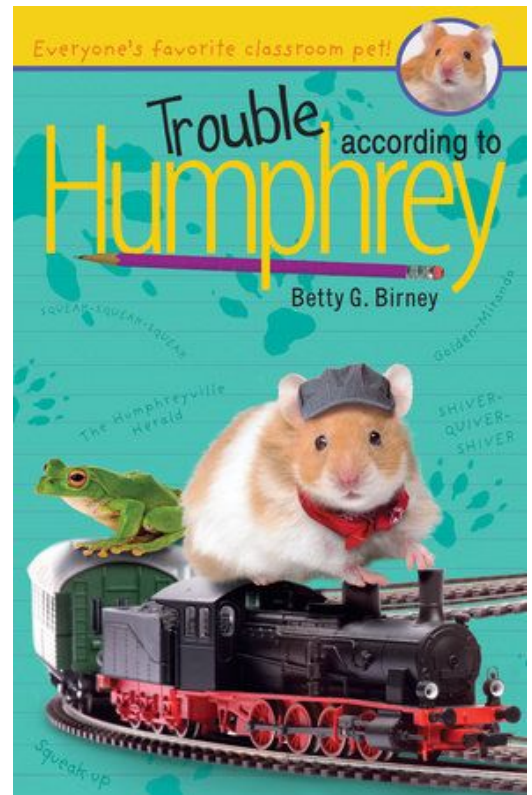


Kwanzaa lasts for 7 days and on each day a candle is lit to recognize one of their 7 principles.

Book Review: Trouble According to Humphrey

By Landon Masters

Hello Panthers! Today I am writing about *Trouble According to Humphrey*. Humphrey is a class hamster. In this story, the students in Humphrey's class have a project about communities, and a nice student named Miranda was in charge of taking care of Humphrey. When Miranda was done taking care of Humphrey, she left to go home. Later in the day, Humphrey got out of his cage, even though no one knew that he could get out of his cage. Then, the school custodian, Aldo, walked into the room and saw Humphrey out of his cage. Aldo wrote a note to the teacher and said that it was Miranda's fault. Do you think that Humphrey can prove to them that Miranda didn't do it? Read the book and find out!



Winter Jokes

By Hugo Martinez

Winter jokes are a funny way to express ourselves and laugh with friends and family! Check out some of the jokes below and share them with a friend or family member to spread some winter cheer.

Where did the snowman get the weather report?
The Winternet!



Scan the QR code for more hilarious winter jokes!

