



The Wizard Gazette

Staff: 2nd Graders: Melannie, Vanessa, Bebe; 3rd Graders: Eleanor; 4th Graders: Payton, Erin, Brendan, Avery, Irene, Audrey, Jerez, Terence, Charlotte

Willard Teachers: Ms. McFarlane & Mrs. Puccetti

A monthly publication of articles chosen and created by

Willard Elementary School 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders.

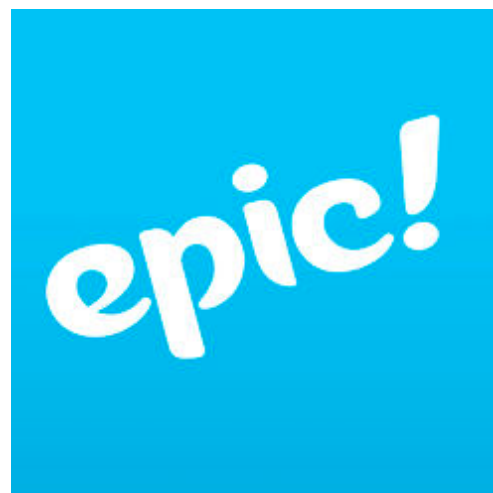
December 2018

ST Math	Book Review	Winter Activities	Opinion on Fortnite	Best Buddies	Recess
<i>Learn what teachers and students say about this new app.</i>	<i>Read a review of Where the Red Fern Grows</i>	<i>Our teachers and students are active in the winter!</i>	<i>Read about what one student thinks of this popular game.</i>	<i>We've got a new club at Willard this year!</i>	<i>Find out what students like to do during recess.</i>
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Epic Reading App

By Vanessa, Grade 2

Epic is an app for all ages. There is a little thing that says age something and if you're not that age and up you can not read that book until you are. I interviewed Mrs. Millon and these are some of the things that I asked her. Is it hard to teach? She said sometimes. Did you do Epic last year? Yes. And do the teachers have lunch together? Sometimes. What inspired you to do Epic? It gives you more options. And that is it. I hope you learned about Epic.



Recess

By Erin, Grade 4

Recess is a time at school when you're outside and having fun with friends and learning new things and games. One first grader named Nola said she likes to play in the snow in winter. She also plays at the fairy tree and on the equipment. Her favorite games to play are tag and hide and seek. She likes recess because you can play anything you want. She plays with Rose and Lindy.

One 4th grader named Navoj said that sometimes she plays four square and sometimes in the snow in winter. Also sometimes she is on the swings with her friends. She likes four square because she likes the cool and fun rules. In the snow she makes snow forts and snow angels. She likes the swings because she likes to make cool games on them with friends. She said if we did not have recess she would be upset because she likes the free time. When we have indoor recess she likes the hallway because she likes to play board games with friends and play with the Legos. Another 4th grader named Conrad usually plays soccer with Angel and if we did not have recess he would be upset. Also when we have indoor recess he prefers the hallway.

At recess these are some things you can do: foursquare or soccer or football or tag or hide and seek or wall ball or tetherball.



Best Buddies

By Avery, Grade 4

The founder of Best Buddies is Anthony Kennedy Shriver. The two teachers who started Best Buddies at Willard are Ms. Costin and Mrs. Conrad. They both said Best Buddies is fun to get together once a month. They have a goal to soon do stuff outside of school.

Everyone in Best Buddies likes to get together and see kids they might not often see a lot. Mrs. Conrad and Ms. Costin made Best Buddies in our school so kids have friends across grades and take leadership.



How to be a Good Friend

By Melannie, Grade 2

Be nice, be kind be caring, be helpful and be respectful. I am interviewing first graders. One person said, "I would treat people with respect and kindness."

Another person said, "I will help my friend." Lindy said, "If my friend falls I will help them up."

And Ms. Conrad, a.k.a. a teacher said, "I think it's important to fix things up when you have a fight with a friend."



ST Math

By Irene, Grade 4

I interviewed Mrs. Gerges and this is what she told me. If you are looking for a math game for your kid, you should choose ST Math, and if you do not know what ST Math is it is a super fun and challenging math game. ST Math is kindergarten through eighth grade. You should choose it because it's a very engaging game and allows you to play in the fun way. And it encourages kids to do their best and persevere. ST Math is her favorite game because the levels help you grow. She thinks ST Math is a great game because it helps your kid remember what they have learned.

I also interviewed Mrs. Bradford and this is what she said. She likes ST Math but it is not her favorite thing to do in school. Since kids are working independently they don't really share ideas and she wants to hear her kids think more. She really likes that her kids seem to really enjoy it! She sees her kids really pushing themselves to solve the puzzles. And when she said that when she said the word ST Math her kids get so excited. people love ST Math.



Holidays

By Payton, Grade 4

How do you celebrate the holidays? Here are some things that some students do.

"Every year I go to a Christmas tree farm and buy a Christmas tree for Christmas. Before Christmas we hang up Christmas lights as a family. When Christmas is here we go to church. I also celebrate Thanksgiving, Halloween, Valentines Day, and St. Patrick's Day," says George, a first grader.

"Before Christmas I put up a train on tracks around my Christmas tree. When Christmas is here I always go to church," says Marco, a first grader.

"I wait to put up my Christmas tree on my dad's birthday. On the holidays I go to my grandma and grandpa's house and every other year I go to my cousins' house in Michigan. I celebrate Hanukkah, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Valentines Day, Mother's Day, and Father's Day," says Hadley, a first grader.

"Every year I go to Ohio. When the holidays come I get to see my whole family. I celebrate the holidays by going to fancy dinners with my family and I usually get a special lemonade," says John Patrick, a second grader.

"On the holidays I go to Minnesota because my grandma lives there. I celebrate Christmas, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Easter, St Patrick's Day, Hanukkah, and Valentine's Day. I celebrate the holidays by celebrating the special event," says Rose, a first grader.

"I have a tradition and that is that I go to my grandma's house every Sunday and eat pasta there. on the holidays sometimes I host parties," says Alessandra, a third grader.

"When Easter comes we always go to Maine. We also go to our cousins' house on Christmas Eve. I celebrate Christmas, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, St Patrick's Day, Halloween, Father's Day and Mother's Day. I celebrate these holidays by having my whole family come over to my house," said Luca, a third grader.

What People Like to do in the Winter

By Audrey, Grade 4

People like to play with the snow, well some people like to stay inside and stay warm by the fire. Also some people like to ski and snowboard. Here are some people's opinions. Mrs. Joyce likes to stay warm inside and thinks that the snow is prettier when you can see it falling down in a comfortable spot inside. She doesn't like skiing or snowboarding because she is still improving at them. She also thinks that students should play in the snow because it is a great way to release energy and build cool things with the snow.

Mrs. Szostak also likes to stay warm inside but also likes to go outside and and enjoy the snow and the cold. Just like Mrs. Joyce she doesn't like to ski or snowboard because it is so cold. And yes she thinks students should play in the snow if they want to.

Baila, a first grader, likes to play in the snow because it is fun to make and create things out of the snow. And like the teachers she has never skied or snowboarded.

Milly, also a first grader, likes to play in the snow and stay inside, just like Mrs. Szostak. Milly, like the others, has never skied or snowboarded.

Charlie, a first grader, likes to play in the snow because he gets to do a lot of things with the snow. He has never skied or snowboarded, but he thinks that if he ever tries one of them he thinks he will like it.

Julian likes to play in the snow because he likes having snowball fights, and making things out of snow, and unlike the others, he has snowboarded and he likes it.

The Garden

By Charlotte, Grade 4

Hi Willard what's up? Here in this article I will teach you about the garden and people in the garden club. First up is Sydney and then the big finish- Mrs Conrad!

Sydney likes to plant milkweed and chives. She says she likes to plant pumpkins too. They also do a lot of fun activities and observing animals that come and go. She also likes that you work hard and that you get to see the plants grow along the way.

Mrs. Conrad likes how excited kids get. She also likes working with Mrs. Smart and also likes working with her hands a lot. she also likes planting milkweed because it brings butterflies but she loves planting pumpkins but the sad thing is the garden has a bug that destroys the garden so we can not plant them. She definitely wants to create a garden with better seed planting.



First Grade

By Bebe, Grade 1



I interviewed Mrs. Zika in first grade. First grade is kind of like grade two. They are working on some of the same things as second grade and Mrs. Zika said it is fun to teach. Mrs. Zika said that her class is not going on a trip soon.

Mr. Ho's Equity Project

By Jerez, Grade 2

I asked Mr. Ho why he chose this project. He said because the school district talks about equity but they but they did not include kids' voices. I asked why he let the kids choose the project idea. He said he wanted the kids to be independent and let the kids' voices shine. I asked from a kid's perspective, How do you really like this project? He said it was a good idea and educational. I also asked where did you get your idea? He said, "Animal captivity because no one ever addresses it." I also asked what did you make it out of? He said markers pencil and paper. If you haven't already put a leaf on the tree in the hallway and I know you want to go do it. I for one thought it was quite fun.

A 4th grader's equity project.



Editorial: What's Wrong With Fortnite?

By Brendan, Grade 4

Fortnite is a game where you collect guns and other weapons to hurt other players all while the storm approaches, and the last player standing wins. Side note on the storm, every second you stand in it you lose one HP or health point. Now you might be asking what's wrong with it? I think I'll answer that question, everything!

So, here are some things wrong with Fortnite. When you break walls before the ceiling the ceiling poofs! You know, pops out of existence instead of falling! In the new mini game "Food fight" you defend your restaurant and attack the other team's restaurant. But before you can do that, the magical wall stops any battle, there is no way of getting through it, even hitting it with the your sci-fi pickaxe. I say that because it goes through solid steel, bricks, and giant wooden walls all with a few swings. Getting back on topic, the "magical wall" looks like it's made of light but you can't go through it and when the wall goes away it goes straight through the ground, as if it were light but it clearly isn't, so what is it!

Fortnite teaches kids to save up for useless items that usually give you no benefit. Can you guess what I'm talking about? Hint, it's literally everything from the item shop. What I mean is that you buy items with V bucks, which you buy with real money, naturally it's a waste of your money but people still buy said items anyway. I guess they don't see the disclaimer at the bottom saying, "These cosmetics do not give you any advantage in battle." How you pick up materials, what I mean is with 25 logs you can suddenly build a ramp, which breaks the laws of physics nonetheless but really how are you going to carry 999 logs at once or 999 bricks and worst of all 999 steel beams I say that because that's the limit. (You can actually carry all of those at once.) Fortnite teaches kids to collect weapons and use them on people who get in your way, even if they're completely innocent and haven't done anything to you.

I asked some kids from my grade some questions and here's what they said. Firstly I asked Terence, who is a kid from Ms. Kennedy's class, a couple questions such as, "What are your feelings on Fortnite?" To that he answered, "The game doesn't have much to do with anything, it gets talked about way to much and it's a game where you hurt and do nothing other than just that." Next, I asked another boy named Ben from my grade a couple questions such as, "Do you see anything wrong with Fortnite?", to which he answered, "It's unfair you have to buy in-game money with real money. The events are weird and you build by drawing on a blueprint! It's violent. It teaches you to hurt other people. It doesn't bleep out swear words said on team chat. Also, when you get a turret it's tiny, but when you place it down it's giant." That was the end of the interview.

But, this is only the tip of the iceberg that is Fortnite so all you have to do to find more about this topic is search it online.

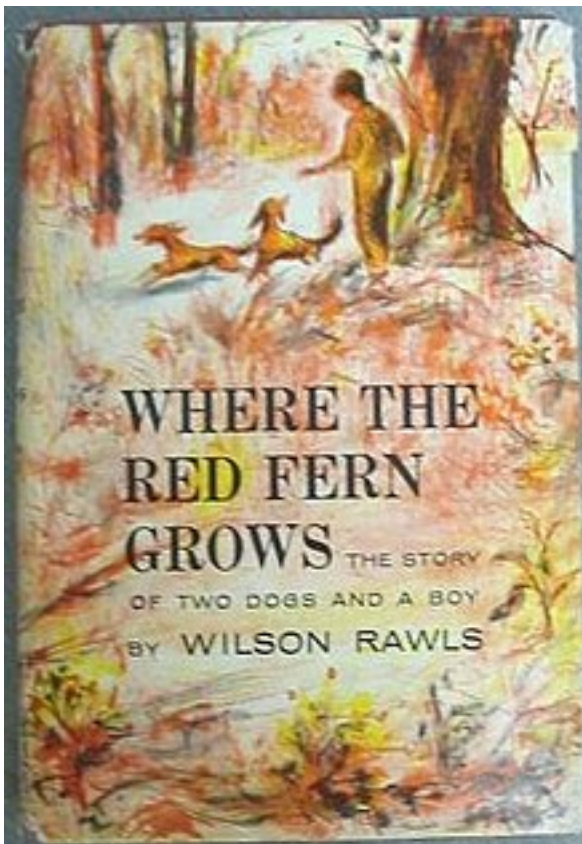
Where the Red Fern Grows

By Eleanor, Grade 3

Where The Red Fern Grows is a great book. It is about a boy named Billy that has 2 hunting hounds, and you will enjoy the adventure that Billy's hounds take him on!

Where The Red Fern Grows was first published in 1961. The author is Wilson Rawls, who is also the author of Summer Of The Monkeys.

Ms. Mitchell, a 1st grade teacher says, "Where the Red Fern Grows is an interesting story, and the main character learned a lot." A 3rd grader, Robert says that he would recommend it for someone who loves dogs though it might be sad. In my opinion, Where the Red Fern Grows is funny and suspenseful. I agree with Robert that the book is sad but it is still really good!



The original book cover
from 1961.

Technology Projects

By Terence, Grade 4

A lot of times, I begin to think, what are people doing on their iPads? From the amazing writing pieces to the Native American project! I collected data from a younger student from Willard School and here's what happened. He went into seesaw and took pictures from his math work.

He said the project went well, and he enjoyed writing lots of information with his partner. He said it would be hard, but his goal was to write 5 sentences about his work. The problems were subtraction, and the questions were 12-5 and 5-2.

He says he enjoys his partnership and likes all the work he has accomplished with his partner. I think that his project turned out very well! Do you think it did?

This was a project to dig deeper into what are they doing on their iPad? This person in particular was enjoying a group math project with his friend on seesaw! He solved the questions correctly and wrote down five sentences. I hope you enjoyed my article.



The Learning Journal