

# THE OGA TIMES

DECEMBER 8, 2023



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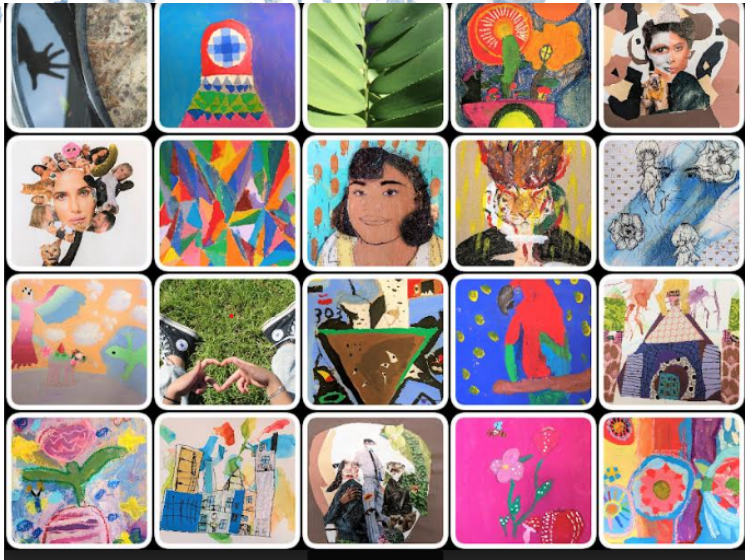
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**“Whether you think you can’t, or can, you’re right” -  
Henry Ford**



# Clubs and Posters



## Winter Celebration Spirit Week!

WEEK OF DECEMBER 18 - DECEMBER 22

MON DEC 18	HOLIDAY PAJAMA DAY!	WALK YOUR FAVORITE PAJAMA!
TUES DEC 19	DRESS LIKE AN ELF DAY!	DRINK UP LOP AN ELF FROM THE NORTH POLE!
WED DEC 20	CANDY CANE DAY!	DRINK UP IN STRIPES!
THURS DEC 21	UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER DAY!	WALK AN UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER!
FRI DEC 22	FUZZY SOCK DAY!	WALK YOUR FAVORITE FUZZY SOCK!

Remember to follow the school dress code policy if you decide to participate in this week's event!

## Owl Messenger Crew



STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESENTS

# FOOD DRIVE

LET'S FEED THE HUNGRY

**UNEXPIRED & NON PERISHABLE BABY FOOD ONLY**

**Dec. 18 - Feb. 1**

WE WILL BE DONATING THE BABY FOOD TO KEEP UNITED AGAINST POVERTY'S EMERGENCY PANTRY STOCKED

Co-Editor: Cadence L.  
 Co-Editor: Amaya A.  
 Writers: Jacob A, Carter J, Sloane H., McKenzie L, Lexi G, Kristina K, Reagan C, Amelia L, Isaiah B, Alexis M, Genevieve A, Damien K, Courtney Z and Natale B.  
 Advisor: Mrs. Olowu



# Red Cup Day

By: Alexis M.



Every year Starbucks does something where if a customer purchases a holiday or fall-themed drink at locations that participate receive a limited edition reusable red cup. Because of this “holiday,” many Starbucks locations are very crowded and busy on this day, causing much stress to the workers. This year unionized Starbucks workers planned a walkout or a protest on Red Cup Day. But It’s not just Red Cup Day that is causing this strike, at least not for everyone. Starbucks employees are not treated well and are overworked at most locations which is not how they want to live. It might seem like the employees are overreacting but they’re not because the job they have and the way they are treated is horrible, not to mention that on promotional days like Red Cup Day, there is a flood of customers and no additional staffing to help out. Again, it might not look like much but the workers also have drive-thru, walk-up, mobile, and delivery orders. That is a lot to do! And Starbucks typically gets about 750 customers a day and they’re about doubling that on Red Cup Day, sometimes even more!

Lutz, Ashley. "How Many Customers Starbucks Will Have In The Future [CHART]." Business Insider, 30 Oct. 2013, www.businessinsider.com/how-many-customers-starbucks-will-have-2013-10#:~:text=While%20Starbucks%20stores%20currently%20have,2020%2C%20according%20to%20the%20report.

"Red Cup Day at Starbucks is expected to be this week." Beaconjournal.com, 14 Nov. 2023, www.beaconjournal.com/story/news/2023/11/14/red-cup-day-2023-0-date-at-starbucks-expected-to-be-this-week/71579248007/#:~:text=What%20is%20Starbucks%27%20Red%20Cup,cups%20released%20every%20holiday%20season.

"Red Cup Day Workers Strike." Usatoday.com, 14 Nov. 2023, www.usatoday.com/story/money/2023/11/14/red-cup-day-starbucks-workers-strike-walkouts/71577313007/.



# Gen Alpha “Humor”

By: Kristina K

Simply as a disclaimer, this article is not meant to bash Gen Alpha, the problem behind this isn’t their fault. Many people, commonly Gen Z, have been on sites like TikTok expressing their confusion about the humor that Gen Alpha enjoys, worrying if this is the “new” humor and Gen Z is becoming “cringe.” The humor usually referred to is Skibidi toilet, a creature that is a human head sticking out of a toilet that sings “Skibidi.” Surprisingly, there is lore behind this creature, which is a war with the Skibidi Toilet battling creatures with cameras for a head. The origin of these creatures is traced back to a YouTuber called “DaFuqBoom,” whose first video was the creature dancing to a song.

Many people like to bash Gen Alpha for their humor, making fun of it, but Gen Alpha isn’t the problem. Millennials might be more of the problem than Gen Alpha is. Gen Z only makes up around 10% of parents, even including their partners. That means most of Gen Alpha’s population is being raised by Millennials and the biggest problem of Gen Alpha’s humor is the internet. Around 50% of Gen Alpha has an iPad, not to mention Gen Alpha is known to be “iPad kids.” It is tough to raise a child, and some people find a solution to give them an iPad, which then leads to problems like this down the road. The internet can be a dangerous place, fortunately, some parents are careful with what their child watches, but soon enough something will slip through. This is a very unfortunate situation and this will have some repercussions later down the road.

Pearcy, Aimee. "Gen Zers Are Worried They're Getting Old and Out of Touch After Realizing They Don't Understand Gen Alpha's Memes." Insider, 1 Aug. 2023, www.insider.com/skibidi-toilet-gen-z-alpha-memes-internet-culture-outdated-old-2023-7.

"Skibidi Toilet: The 1st Great Gen Alpha Meme." LinkedIn, 22 Sept. 2023, www.linkedin.com/pulse/skibidi-toilet-1st-great-gen-alpha-meme-daniel-creasey.



# Strange but Cool Christmas Traditions

## KFC feast in Japan

Japan does not do a big celebration for Christmas, but celebrates it in a slightly different way. Every year Japan celebrates Christmas by having a KFC feast. KFC stands for Kentucky Fried Chicken, which is a typical American fast food restaurant. In Japan they devour a bucket of KFC instead of a regular home cooked dinner. Results show that Japan's fast food industry skyrocketed between the 1970-1980, which was making the U.S. tons of money each year. According to CNN travel KFC alone made about 200 million dollars for the U.S. every year. But KFC had a campaign in 1974 about Kentucky for Christmas which inspired them to make the party buckets. So now most people in Japan eat Kentucky Fried Chicken for Christmas. Although it took some smart thinking they advertised it as it was a regular thing in America and in some of the advertisements they played my old Kentucky home in the background. So with a well thought campaign they linked Christmas with KFC and it is now a tradition in Japan.

## Roller skating in Venezuela on Christmas

In Caracas, Venezuela, they don't use regular transportation on Christmas they use roller skates! At dawn a mass of people roller skate to church, families houses, and more. They close the streets in Caracas until 8 in the morning so families can roller skate safely. On Christmas Eve children tie a string to their toe and hang it out the window, then people on roller skates will tug the rope to let them know it is time to wake up. Another part of this tradition is fire crackers which are used to wake people and a way to celebrate Christmas. Roller skating in Caracas is a way to stay connected with family and friends to stay united. Although it might seem that this tradition is for fun 70% of people in Venezuela are catholic and they enjoy roller skating to church every Christmas morning because they believe that it helps them with their faith and journey. This tradition is mainly a way to bring everyone together and have fun on Christmas morning.

Edwards, Rosy. "Why Venezuelans Roller Skate to Mass on Christmas Eve." Metro, 13 Dec. 2021, metro.co.uk/2017/12/20/Christmas-around-the-world-why-venezuelans-roller-skate-to-mass-on-Christmas-eve-7018407/.

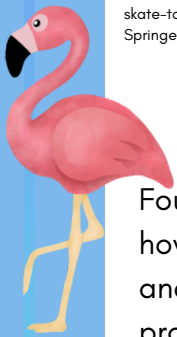
Springer, Kate. "How KFC Became a Christmas Tradition in Japan." CNN, 22 Dec. 2022, www.cnn.com/travel/article/kfc-Christmas-tradition-japan/index.html.

By: Alexis M

# Restaurant Review

Four Flamingos is a restaurant that serves mostly seafood and steak. Many people talk about how they love the ambiance and how the customer service is great. The employees are friendly and willing to help whenever you may need it! The employees are also very proper and professional. But the servers might try to upsell you so don't agree to anything unless you're sure about what it is you are agreeing to. Keep in mind that Four Flamingos is on the fancier side. As a joke, Four Flamingos has something called "Baked Florida" which is essentially just a Baked Alaska. Now, if you're a picky eater this restaurant probably isn't the place for you, but they do have a kids menu that is simpler and plain! And for everyone with a sweet tooth, you can order ice cream with chocolate sauce, whipped cream, and sprinkles!

"Four Flamingos Dessert Menu." Four Flamingos Dessert Menu, static1.squarespace.com/static/5a58df90cd39c39ff48a464f/t/64d2334bbbaa826306a830b9/1691497291239/Dessert+Menu+07.28.23.pdf.  
"Four Flamingos Kids Menu." Four Flamingos Kids Menu, static1.squarespace.com/static/5a58df90cd39c39ff48a464f/t/64d2335d92177a353da6c482/1691497310317/4F++Kids+Menu+07.18.pdf.  
Four Flamingos, fourflamingosorlando.com/.  
Restaurants, Dentists, Bars, Beauty Salons, Doctors - Yelp, www.yelp.com/biz/four-flamingos-orland





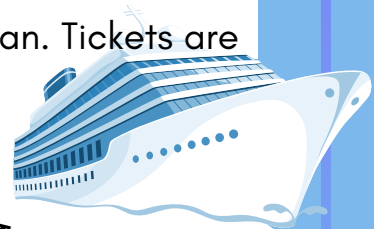
By: Sloane H.

## The World's Largest Cruise Ship

The Royal Caribbean Icon of the Seas is set to be the biggest cruise ship ever to set sail. With 18 passenger floors and a capacity of 5,610, this cruise ship can hold more than two times the amount of the Titanic. Within the boat, there will be 8 main "neighborhoods" each with their own theme and dining area. Consisting of Thrill Island, Chill Island, The Hideaway, Surfside, Aquadome, etc., these neighborhoods definitely offer a unique experience. For example, Thrill Island hosts the world's largest water park on a cruise ship or Aquadome which has its own AquaTheater. The other neighborhoods also include a unique and first-time experience.

This ship is scheduled to set sail on Jan 27, 2024, on its maiden voyage to the Eastern and Western Caribbean from Miami. The ship is on its way to Spain right now for final touches before it sets sail and once it comes back it will be officially ready to start its travel. Tickets on the ship can range anywhere from \$1,756-\$2,200 per passenger for the 7-day journey to the Caribbean. Tickets are selling out fast so if this cruise seems enjoyable, book fast!

Malayil, Jijo. "World's Largest Cruise Vessel, 5-times Titanic-size to Set Sail in 2024." Interesting Engineering | Technology, Science, Innovation News and Videos, 4 Dec. 2023, interestingengineering.com/transportation/worlds-largest-cruise-vessel-5-times-titanic-size-to-set-sail-in-2024.



By: McKenzie L



## Why Advertising Does Not Work

Advertising is a part of our society at this point. Everyone sees them daily, from billboards to advertisements. An average person sees around 5,000 ads per day. However, do these advertisements make you want to buy what they advertise? In my opinion, I believe that advertisements are useless and do not work. I think that they have a heavy negative impact on society today. This is because of unrealistic beauty standards and expectations. Young people, girls especially, are exposed to these assumptions of beauty. This ends up leading to many problems for girls universally. Some problems include body dissatisfaction, low self-esteem, and even eating disorders. In addition, advertisements also try to influence your decision-making. Youth are particularly vulnerable to persuasion, especially with the tactics of advertising. They can be heavily influenced by the flashy colors and visuals, or the catchy slogans. In reality, this is leading them to nativity and lack of critical thinking skills. This can lead to them making poor decisions or even unhealthy habits. Advertising has very negative impacts on youth health, with harmful stereotypes of beauty, and takes advantage of the vulnerability of the youth's decision-making. It is crucial for society currently to form a balance, and help the empowerment of young people.

Das, Barsa. "Positive and Negative Effects of Advertising on Youth." StudyMassCom.com, 26 May 2023, studymasscom.com/advertising/positive-and-negative-effects-of-advertising-on-youth/.

"Thinking Vs Feeling: Psychology of Advertising." Online Master's Degree in Applied Psychology | USC MAPP Online, 28 4993, appliedpsychologydegree.usc.edu/blog/thinking-vs-feeling-the-psychology-of-advertising.



Disclaimer: Not every one of these artists is "kid-appropriate" so check with your parents before listening to them!

1. ATEEZ - Like a lot of K-pop boy groups they could be considered as "noise music" partially because they explore a lot of genres in their music like ballads, RnB, psychedelic rock, etc. They also follow a lore in their movie videos and songs, that's why their albums are grouped into series, but they follow their lore more strictly than other groups. Their choreography is also very good and matches their lore perfectly, a group I'd recommend seeing in concert if you care about dance and choreography. My favorite songs by them are "Take Me Home" and "Dazzling Light". By the time this is posted, it will be out but they are coming out with their second full-length album "WORLD EP2. FIN: WILL" on December 1st.
2. SZA - SZA is an R&B artist who recently blew up on TikTok with her album SOS, specifically the songs "Kill Bill" and "Snooze". Her sound is similar to other artists like Summer Walker and Jhene Aiko. My favorite song by her is "Drew Barrymore".
3. 5 Seconds of Summer - Now 5SOS is a group I'd probably recommend to younger kids. They mostly release upbeat pop songs that are similar to those of One Direction. My favorite songs by them are "Miss American" and "You Don't Go To Parties Anymore".
4. Tomorrow by Together - Compared to most K-pop boy groups their music is much more chill. If you ever want to get into K-pop I highly recommend them. Their music isn't super comparable to other groups but that isn't a bad thing! My favorite songs by them are "Dreamer" and "Neverland".
5. Frank Ocean - Frank Ocean is Frank Ocean, to say the least. His music is pretty emotional, I can't lie, but not like emo kid music. He's made quite a few songs with many of them blowing up like "Novacane" and "Lost". Very recently one of his unreleased songs "Wisemen" has been getting a lot of attention, so maybe this is his sign to drop the new album (please it's been 7 years). My favorite songs by him are "White Ferrari", "Solo", and "Crack Rock".
6. Red Velvet - Red Velvet is definitely in the Top 3 K-pop girl groups, I don't care what anyone says. If you know what K-pop sounded like before 2018 that's what Red Velvet sounds like. They also recently released their 3rd full-length album "Chill Kill" which I fully recommend. I don't have a favorite song because I love all of them but their best album has to be Chill Kill.
7. ZAYN - Easily the One Direction member with the best solo career. He has this RnB x Pop vibe to it so I recommend it. My favorite songs by him are "Lucozade" and "All That".
8. KAI - He is a member of the group EXO I don't listen to them but I like his solo career much more. Though his music is technically categorized as K-pop it is very much so K-RnB. My favorite songs by him are "Amnesia" and "Say You Love Me".
9. Brent Faiyaz - He is NOT a very child-friendly artist so if you are in grades 2nd-6th I don't recommend this one for you, but if you are older than that then I recommend it. He is an R&B artist (surprise!). He's also in a group called "Sonder" with 2 other people. I don't have any favorite songs by him but his recent album "Larger Than Life" is good.
10. Steve Lacy - You might know him from TikTok because of his songs "Bad Habit" and "Dark Red". He has much more of an alternative R&B feel to his songs than other artists like Brent Faiyaz. I don't have a favorite song or album from him so I say just listen to his discography.

By: Natalie B

## This Week in History: 12/4-12/8



On December 4, 1978, Dianne Feinstein became the 38th, but first female, mayor of San Francisco. In 1982, China adopted its current Constitution: The Constitution of the People's Republic of China, replacing the Constitutions of 1954, 1975, and 1978. Dec. 4, 1791, the British newspaper "The Observer" was the first newspaper to be published and read on a Sunday.

On December 5, 2005, the UK's Civil Partnership Act, passed in 2004, came into force. 1977, Egypt's President (at the time), Anwar al-Sadat, broke off their relations with Arab countries; Syria, Libya, Algeria, and South Yemen, due to those countries' signing of the Declaration of Tripoli.

On December 6, 1917, Finland was declared independent; no longer a Grand Duchy in the Russian Empire after 109 years. December 6, 1865, was when the Thirteenth Amendment - the abolition of slavery and indentured servitude, unless as a punishment for committing a crime - was adopted into the U.S. Constitution.

On December 7, 1941, was when the Imperial Japanese Navy attacked the U.S. naval base set in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. December 7, 1787, Delaware became the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution, which is why some people call it the First State. December 7, 2004, Hamid Karzai, an Afghan politician, took office as the President of the Islamic Republic in Afghanistan's first direct democracy election.

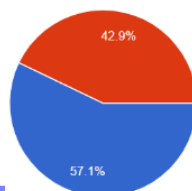
On December 8, 1941, one day after the Japanese Navy attacked Pearl Harbor, the U.S. joined World War II. December 8, 1991, the international organization - Commonwealth of Independent States - was formed by Ukraine, Belarus, and the Russian Federation, as a political forum for members of the former Soviet Union.

"On This Day in History - December 4." Timeanddate.com, www.timeanddate.com/on-this-day/december/4.  
"On This Day in History - December 5." Timeanddate.com, www.timeanddate.com/on-this-day/december/5.  
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"On This Day in History - December 7." Timeanddate.com, www.timeanddate.com/on-this-day/december/7.  
"On This Day in History - December 8." Timeanddate.com, www.timeanddate.com/on-this-day/december/8.

## Lexi's Would You Rather?

By: Lexi G

This article is a Christmas-themed one and will feature a Would you Rather along with my answer to the question and other people's answers. Would you rather be an elf or wear a reindeer costume to school every day for three months? I would pick to be an elf because then I would live at the North Pole, get to meet Santa, and it would be like a year-long Christmas. Being an Elf would be more enjoyable for me than wearing a reindeer costume to school because school is not the best place to wear costumes on days other than Halloween, and in Florida, it is hot most of the time. Both would be fun experiences, but I would rather be an elf. However, only some people will have the same opinion as me, so I had other people answer the same Would You Rather, and here are their answers.



● Elf  
● Reindeer Costume



# Why have Appliances become more Complex?

By: Carter J

One day during the summer my house's washing machine went down and we needed a new one. As we were browsing through our options one in particular stood out. This washing machine had a big sticker on it that read "Scan the QR to connect your phone to our app!". This led me to ask a question, Why have home appliances become needlessly complicated? Merriam-Webster defines an "appliance" as "an instrument or device designed for a particular use or function." Things that fit this definition are fridges, toasters, microwaves, dishwashers etc. They all serve their purpose whether that be to heat my food, wash my dishes, freeze things, etc. They are there for that one thing they specialize in but why have they been getting more features that aren't that important in the first place? Technology. Over the years we as humans have made discoveries and evolved. We started doing things we didn't know were possible. Some of these appliances dating back to the 1800s meant that they were much more limited back then. They could only really serve that purpose and not much more. But now, we can do much more so we naturally thought "Let's move forward. Let's minimize these previous problems with new solutions." Adding new things like apps that connect to your appliances lets you control them and check on them while getting other things done as well. While appliances can become increasingly more confusing to use, it's generally for the better. These new features allow for easier use and better quality of life. Are these changes for the better? I give that question emphatic yes.

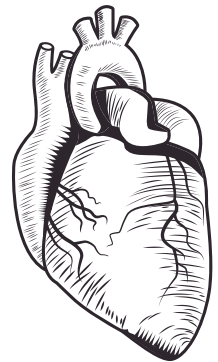
\*Attention Required! Attention Required!, www.builderonline.com/products/kitchen/how-installed-appliances-have-evolved-over-the-past-century\_o  
\*Definition of APPLIANCE - Merriam-Webster: America's Most Trusted Dictionary, 19 Nov. 2023. www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/appliance.  
Olito, Frank. "THEN AND NOW: Here's How US Kitchens Have Evolved Throughout the Years." Insider, 21 Mar. 2019. www.insider.com/then-and-now-how-us-kitchens-have-evolved-2019-3#:~:text=Kitchens%20have%20changed%20dramatically%20since,quickly%20became%20reliant%20on%20electricity.



By: Damien K.

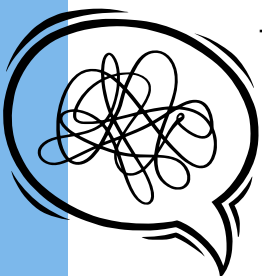
## Monochromatic Heart

My lover's heart is made of dead flesh  
Yet I used to know one made of gold  
They said "Till death do us part", my heart emmesh  
But now no such words are said, they are just cold.



I love them, I truly do  
Yet I feel the gray of their heart is creeping into their soul  
Too many times I've watched them leave, I knew  
That they would be long gone, now their heart has a hole.

I'm better now, but honestly...  
Why'd I choose someone with a monochromatic heart?





# Interviewing an Elf For Christmas

By: Jacob A

Although I originally wanted to interview Saint Nicholas, I couldn't contact him since he was swamped with work. Creating all the presents, training the reindeer, and finding new, more efficient ways to transport the presents to everyone so there would be smiles on millions of faces all take much work. I respect him for putting his free time away to do all those responsibilities. However, I discovered that the elves who were not creating presents decided which kids were naughty or nice; I was lucky enough to know the elf who was deciding if my family was naughty or nice, his name is Frank the Elf. Frank the Elf is highly respected around Santa's workshop and I was grateful to have scheduled an interview with him.

As we sat down for an interview, I asked him where Santa's workshop was. However, Frank said that he couldn't tell or else he would be placed on the forever naughty list, after an awkward silence I asked how he does his job, to which he said he goes and hides in random areas of the house to spectate the child and decide whether the child was naughty or nice, the elf also asks the child's parent or guardian for the child's behavior since the elves are only their for around a month and not the whole year. After the elves conclude, they tell Santa to see if the child will get presents, thus creating a perfect system of efficiency. After learning this information, I discovered a loophole that will always get me to the nice list, ask your parents to leave a good review, no matter the cost. After that, act nice around December in your home to trick the elves into thinking you are nice, after those two steps are completed you will get will be on the nice list. Although not yet tested, this is my working theory to get presents for Christmas all the time, use it if you must.

By: Natalie B.

## Unique Country Flags



Nepal: The only non-rectangular flag in the world.



Wales and Bhutan: The only flags with dragons on them.



Albania: The only flag with a two-headed eagle.



Belize: The only flag with humans on it.



(Eswatini) Swaziland: Unique because of culture; the Nguni shield and spears.



Kiribati: The only flag with a landscape-style design.



Jamaica: The only flag without red, white, or blue.



• "8 of the World's Most Unique National Flags." Travel Trivia, 5 May 2020, [www.traveltrivia.com/8-unique-national-flags/ZggZkXUIXOAGxvU7viewelist](http://www.traveltrivia.com/8-unique-national-flags/ZggZkXUIXOAGxvU7viewelist).  
• "The Most Unique Flags in the World." Flagman of America, 5 May 2023, [flagman.com/blogs/news/the-most-unique-flags-in-the-world](http://flagman.com/blogs/news/the-most-unique-flags-in-the-world).  
• "The World's Strangest Flags and Why We Love Them." Wanderlust, [www.wanderlust.co.uk/content/the-worlds-strange-flags-and-why-we-love-them/](http://www.wanderlust.co.uk/content/the-worlds-strange-flags-and-why-we-love-them/).

## By: Amelia L **CGI, Computer Generated Imagery**



CGI is short for computer generated imagery, a way to add fantasy creatures and things that wouldn't be possible to have in shows, movies, and television in general by using high technology to make fake (real-looking, however!) creatures show up on TV.

Jurassic Park is a very popular series, and they used CGI quite a bit to make dinosaurs that look very realistic. CGI uses art to animate things to life! This is also why the Tyrannosaurus Rex looked as though it was actually there, walking the streets of Isla Nublar! They also used it to make the Brachiosaurus, Velocaptors, and every other dino in the movies!

Another movie that uses CGI is Toy Story. Toy story has EVERYTHING made using CGI. Woody, Buzz, even Slinky are all CGI'd! Anything you see in any of these movies is all technology making animating easier by turning everything into animation!

CGI takes time, however. It takes about a whole day just to make a final of one frame! A 60-90 second long video with CGI takes around six weeks to make! The process being, first, Modeling, texturing, shading/lighting, camera, animation, simulation, rendering, and finally, compositing to create a final, and good, result.

CGI is a really cool way to add crazy creatures and effects to movies, and makes things look way better than some cartoony animation someone drew. It makes everything more efficient, and allows viewers to be immersed into the world of technology!

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How long does it take to make a CGI film? (2022, September 15). ThisAnswer | Simple Answers to Simple Questions. <https://thisanswer.com/how-long-does-it-take-to-make-a-cgi-film/>  
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## **International News: Invasive Flowers in Syria**

By: Damien K



The world's main concern this year has been the Israeli-Hamas conflict, but meanwhile, something else has been leeching life away. Specifically in Syria.

Since the start of the year, invasive Nile Flowers have been floating down the Orontes river in Syria, blocking off waterways that lead into gardens and farms, which make the plant life die due to the lack of water. Over 70% of al-Bakru's crop has fallen to this as well.

Bahjat al-Bakru, a local farmer in the Idlib province, uses the river like many others as a source of natural water for his fruit trees. But since the Nile Flower came into the river, this has become a problem. "Agriculture is my only source of livelihood and I have lost most of my trees," He told ABC News. "The spread of the Nile Flower in the river reduced the water level and blocked it off completely. It became difficult to water my plants."

Nile Flowers, or the Water Hyacinth, is a free-floating perennial aquatic plant native to parts of South America. Though its large purple petals and thick green leaves may be a pretty sight, the Nile Flower is recognized as the most aggressive invasive species on a global stand. Hopefully, one day, these flowers can be reduced to the point where it's not a threat.



# Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition

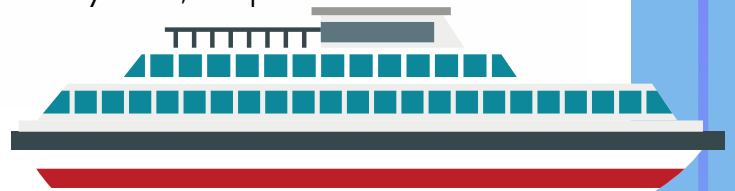
By: Carter J

Between April 14th and 15th of 1912, one of history's most famous events was the sinking of the Titanic. The Titanic was revolutionary for its time and was boarded by many upper-class citizens. After the ship's sinking people spent years not only looking at the event but where the ship ended up. On September 1st, 1985 the first images of the underwater Titanic were found. Since then, we've been able to find more and more artifacts and new information. But where might be a great place to look at these artifacts and learn more about this event? The answer would be, "Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition."

Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition is (as you would expect) an exhibition that allows you to learn more about the ship's sinking. With more than 300 separate artifacts there is a lot of information to be found in just items and objects. The exhibit itself is an extremely accurate recreation of the Titanic's interior. They are also given a passenger ticket that allows them to learn about their passenger and the story they have. As you walk through the exhibit you will slowly learn more. In the end, you learn the fate of the passenger you were assigned.

Overall this exhibit allows for you to get an experience you could not have gone through with simple research. With passenger accounts, artifacts, and many more, the place could not be more authentic. This place truly is an experience.

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[www.imagineexhibitions.com/exhibitions/titanic-the-exhibition](http://www.imagineexhibitions.com/exhibitions/titanic-the-exhibition).  
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## Eye Colors

Reagan C.


Every eye color is different and it depends on how much melanin is in the front of your iris. People with lighter colored eyes have less melanin while people with darker colored eyes have more melanin in their eyes. The most common eye color is brown with 55% because it has the most melanin followed by blue with 32%, hazel with 11%, green with 7%, and gray with 2%. Blue is the second most common because it has the least melanin. Babies are usually born with no melanin so their eyes appear blue. Even though you could have the same color of blue eyes as someone else you still will never have the exact same color eye as someone else. You get your eye color from your genes and eye color is affected by more than 1 gene, but scientists don't know exactly how many genes affect eye color. There are also some people with 2 colors of eyes which is called heterochromia. Something else that our eye color affects is how much light goes in our body so it won't hurt our internal organs. The reason is because if we look at too much light or let too much light into the body it could cause us to go blind, like if we were to look at the sun.

7 Interesting Facts About The Color Of Our Eyes." OCLI -, 12 Mar. 2021, [www.ocli.net/blog/7-interesting-facts-about-the-color-of-our-eyes/](http://www.ocli.net/blog/7-interesting-facts-about-the-color-of-our-eyes/).  
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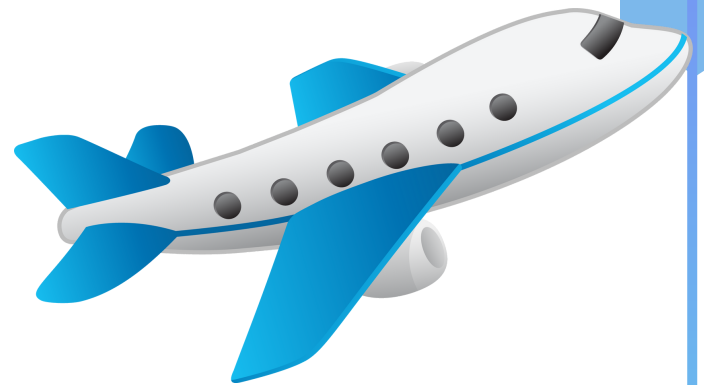
By: McKenzie L

## The Experience of Skydiving



Skydiving is one of the most feared experiences in the world. One of the most popular questions related to it is, what does skydiving feel like? Well, one example is your senses will become more alive-like. When you jump, it's like you're experiencing so much at once, that it's difficult to separate one from the other. On the other hand, you will see the world from a different perspective. I know you've seen the world from an unfamiliar point of view on maps online, or even videos. But, it feels almost like a movie when you participate in skydiving. Like your senses changing, you will hear the wind rushing in your face and ears. People who have experienced it say, it's almost like static blowing into a microphone, or you listen to yourself splash into water. However, when the parachute opens, it's so quiet, you can hear a pin drop. Lastly, the temperature changes drastically and the pressure on your skin is unreal. Even when it's scorching hot outside, it's still noticeably cooler when you jump. Yet, it's not painful with all of the pressure, it's like being supported by your arms and legs since you can move them. Multiple people believe that skydiving will feel like things they disfavor, but this is far from the truth. There is no such thing as a stomach drop when skydiving. The most hated thing about skydiving is the sudden change of speed, this is called G-force. One of the greatest things about skydiving is how personal it is. Everyone has their reasons for jumping out of an airplane- possibly a fear to overcome, or even just for fun. The only way that you know how it feels to you, is to experience it yourself!

The Skydiving Company. "What Does Skydiving Feel Like?" The Skydiving Company, 3 Sept. 2020, [www.theskydivingcompany.com/blog/what-does-skydiving-feel-like/](http://www.theskydivingcompany.com/blog/what-does-skydiving-feel-like/).  
White, Curtis. "What Does Skydiving Feel Like?" Skydive New England, 28 Apr. 2023, [www.skydivenewengland.com/blog/what-does-skydiving-feel-like/](http://www.skydivenewengland.com/blog/what-does-skydiving-feel-like/).



By: Amelia L

## Hellebore Plants

A double Hellebore flower is a very rare type of flower that originates from Wisconsin. This small flower is also found in Europe and Asia, growing in shaded areas with moist soil. Often in areas with trees dangling above them. This makes them a very pretty flower thriving in pretty areas. It has a lovely stack of petals, gracefully surrounding the center of the flower. Some of these flowers have unique petals that are speckled with small colorful dots on every petal. They also come in all shapes and sizes, and with a million different colors. These flowers are absolutely gorgeous, making them an exotic flower worth getting.

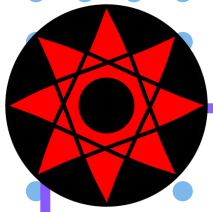
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# Teacher Interview - Coach Fitzpatrick

In Orlando Gifted Academy, there are many different subjects that the teachers educate their students in, from math to science, all the way to robotics, speech and debate, theater, and much more. There is a teacher in my school who taught me before and I wanted to see what happened in her second year at OGA, as well as how she started her teaching career. The person I interviewed was Ms. Fitzpatrick, the physical education teacher for elementary school, as well as for some of the middle school, I asked her what inspired her to start teaching, and what type of teacher she wanted to be to which she responded by saying that before she was teaching, she was a substitute teacher, later she was told from a principal that she should try to get a teacher certification. After Ms. Fitzpatrick got her teacher's license she was hired to work at the very same school where the principal encouraged her to become a teacher in the first place. She then told an amusing story about her assigning one piece of homework on Halloween day, with her kids getting quite upset about the whole ordeal, she never made that mistake ever again. After the story, I asked her if she could relive a day in her teaching career, what day would it be? She then told another story about the day she would've liked to experience again, which was one day when a test coordinator at her previous school gave her an essay from a student who had written an entire essay with the subject being how she has impacted the student's life. Finally, I asked her one last question, "What is the wackiest experience you had while teaching?" Apparently she organized a game of duck duck goose with 35 6th graders to teach them the importance of sportsmanship, and she proved her point brilliantly. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated multiple times throughout the interview that she loves nothing more than when children are interested and invested in the class, and her last words in the interview are a very good representation of her character. Those words are "I absolutely love my job and all the students at OGA."





By: Lexi G.

# Anime Recommendations



These are anime and their age ratings. These are on Netflix and may vary from other sites.

Here are suggestions for middle schoolers aged 14+.

1. One Piece (TV-14). Monkey D. Luffy wants to be king of the pirates, so he and his crew sail the Grand Line to find the treasure of the One Piece.
2. Seven Deadly Sins (TV-14). An ex-princess brings a group of evil knights to help take back her realm.
3. Toradora! (TV-14). Ruji wishes to get closer to his crush and gets help from her best friend, Taiga, who is in love with one of his friends.
4. Kotaro Lives Alone (TV-14). A little boy moves into an apartment building alone and makes friends with his neighbors.
5. Violet Evergarden (TV-14). After the war ends, Violet Evergarden gets a job as a letter writer to better understand herself and her past.
6. Tiger and Bunny (TV-14). In a city protected by superheroes called NEXT, veteran Wildtiger teams up with newbie Barnaby Brooks Jr.
7. The Disastrous Life of Saiki K. (TV-14). Kusuo Saiki is a high school sophomore with psychic abilities that make his life difficult.
8. Romantic Killer (TV-14). High schooler Anzu's life gets turned into a romcom by a matchmaking wizard.

The next couple of recommendations are TV-PG and lower. So, the shows are appropriate for elementary schoolers.

1. Naruto (TV-PG). With a demon inside him, Naruto is an orphan learning how to become a ninja and reach his goal of becoming Hokage.
2. Pokemon The Series Indigo League (TV-Y7). 10-year-old Ash Ketchum and Pikachu travel around the world to get closer to Ash's dream of becoming a Pokemon master.
3. God Troubles Me (TV-PG). A young woman, a deity on the loose, and a cat demon must team up to save an absurd world.
4. Kimi Ni Todoke (From Me To You) (TV-PG). Sawako has a scary appearance but begins to come out of her shell after becoming friends with the popular boy Kazahawa.
5. Teasing Master Takagi-san (TV-PG). Middle schooler Nishikata is always getting teased by his classmate Takagi, so he tries and fails to get payback from her.
6. Glitter Force Doki Doki (TV-Y7). Summoning their inner superhero, four girls fight to protect Earth and a magical land from an evil king and his minions.
7. Blue Period (TV-PG). Popular high schooler Yatora Yaguchi dives into the beautiful world of art.

"Anime." Netflix, [www.netflix.com/browse/genre/7424](https://www.netflix.com/browse/genre/7424).

