

THE OGA TIMES

MAY 17, 2024



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**“With the new day comes
new strength and new
thoughts.”
- Eleanor Roosevelt.**



By: Amelia L.

Prince Rupert's Drop

Maybe you've heard of them before, maybe you haven't, but Prince Rupert's Drops are very interesting indestructible drops of glass formed by molten glass being dropped into cold water. These 'drops' have so much pressure built up when they hit the water that they become invincible to everything. Smashing it with a hammer won't break it, nor will dropping it from high up, even shooting it with a bullet, IT WILL NOT BREAK! The only way to break these marvelous pieces of glass is to break the 'tail' of the drop. Any bit of messing with it with your finger, and the whole drop disintegrates into powder or shattered glass. This phenomenon is NOT something you should try at home, though you can view them in museums and watch people make them and break them on youtube with proper safety. These drops are still somewhat hard to create, as you have to drop the molten glass in the freezing water at the perfect moment or the drop won't form and you'll just have broken glass in a cup.

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By: Alexis M

Why Do We Have Summer Break?

Imagine having to go to school in the summer, sounds horrible. Well, there are plenty of reasons why we have the two-month break in summer. The most obvious one is the heat, no one wants to sit in a classroom for about 8 hours with a bunch of sweaty people, and hot temperatures can affect students' learning and ability to focus. But that isn't the only reason, actually part of the reason we have summer break is because the adults didn't want to provide transportation in the heat! In the past, before we had a break in summer, families followed a similar pattern of keeping their children out of school during the hot months of the year. And school leaders advocated for breaks so the students and teachers could take some time to rest. Since the break from school is so long there are some cons like forgetting some stuff you learned in the previous school year cause the way you learn something is by memorization and repetition, over summer break most people try to stay away from as much school stuff as possible which tends to cause them to forget the things they learned.

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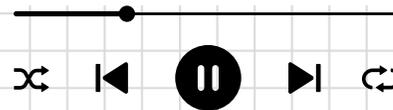
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By: Amelia L.

Heat Waves- A Hit Song

Heat Waves is a song that came out in 2020 and became the top 5 hit song in the UK. The song is still popular today, and is a great song when it comes to rhythm and lyrics. This song is the band's biggest single, and is a story about the singer being in love with someone they know their relationship isn't real and they suggest that 'The heatwaves are faking me out'. The lyrics are truly beautiful however, and the beat is perfect. Dave Baylay made this song late at night in around one hour, and even he was shocked. His song was made when he was simply alone at home and messing around with a guitar. **'Normally, writing a song takes a good day to get into shape, but this happened in an hour late at night. The guitar came first. I was like, "I'm going to write this long chord pattern." I was fumbling. After 10 minutes of looking into space and plucking the guitar, I hit those eight chords, and I was like, "Ooh, that's it." As soon as I had [that], I started singing. Literally the first thing that came out was the hook. It's so bonkers. It never happens like that.'** Dave states. This song was a miracle of an accident, and is a fantastic song when relaxing on rainy days or while it's later at night. Maybe think about adding it to your summer playlist for relaxing!



By: Amaya A.

Amaya's Ultimate List of How to Stay Cool

Drink Water

No one likes to be dehydrated during a hot day so drink water, especially during the hot days, you should drink 104 oz of water.

Wear Sunscreen

You should already be wearing sunscreen every day, even on cloudy days but most importantly during the sunny days when you will be outside for prolonged periods. 15 spf sunscreen will do but anything above that is optimal.

Stay in the shade

Staying in the shade outside is even better than sunscreen, but you should still wear it since UV rays can still get into your skin.

Wear long-sleeved clothing

You should have long-sleeved shirts on when doing yard work, going to the beach, walking, etc. You should also have long pants as well.

Why is this important?

These things are important to decrease your chances of getting melanoma which is a type of skin cancer. Melanoma is very dangerous as with any type of cancer with the death rate being 80% of people with melanoma.



By: Amaya A.

My Favorite Character Tropes

Whether writing a fantasy book or drawing a character, you usually have a way that character acts, talks, their interests, what they look like, etc. Those are called tropes and there are some that are very common, and some that aren't. Here are some of my favorites.

Nerds!

I love drawing and writing nerdy characters, especially in a school setting. I especially like it when they are short and love reading. Ideally, you want someone who is alone, or frequently teased for an interest, or being a certain way but would own everything about themselves. Or, you could have it the opposite way and have them insecure about themselves.



Traumatized but hides it well.

This character trope can hide the fact that they have insecurities well, probably because they are assumed to be perfect by their peers. They have perfected the art of lying and telling half-truths. They try to make everything seem fine on the outside by putting on makeup or buying popular and expensive clothes. This character is often either popular or has one or two oblivious friends.

Magical People!

These genres of characters are usually flamboyant and extroverted. I'm fully convinced that they suck energy out of other extroverts and use it for their magic. They normally have a special heirloom or charm that they carry around with them to transform into their magical form.

Fashionistas!

These characters are normally very egocentric and narcissistic but this doesn't mean they don't have fashion sense. They usually are fashion designers or models and only wear their brands or brand sponsors.



Ice Cream or Popsicle

By: Natalie B.

In the scorching Florida summers, we all love a nice cold, refreshing treat; often popsicles or ice cream.

I, personally, choose popsicles. Why? Because, while popsicles have less flavor options, they can be made of different ingredients, such as jello, pudding, fudge, and even Jolly Ranchers. Popsicles also melt slower than ice cream, because of what they're made of, which means there's less of a sticky, yet sweet, mess on your hands, depending on how long you take to eat it. Classic fruit popsicles are also healthier than most ice creams. And usually popsicles just taste better, too, if I do say so myself.





If you need an idea of a fun place to visit, far or close, you have come to the right place. Here I will list the best places to visit in the US to make this summer the best one yet!

Golden Gate Bridge- If you ever find yourself around San Francisco, the Golden Gate Bridge is a perfect place to visit. It has beautiful views and is truly a work of art. It is the most gorgeous place to view the sunset or sunrise; a stunning view is guaranteed.

Empire State Building- If you are looking for an activity while you are in New York, visiting the Empire State Building is a perfect thing for people of any age. It is a beautiful thing to look at and to look from. You get a view of the whole city and get an amazing view of the skyline.

Universal Islands of Adventure- If you are ever bored in Florida, visit Universal Islands of Adventure. They have hundreds of different activities for people of any and every age. It is the perfect thing to do for a weekend or a week trip, And you will have guaranteed fun, rain or shine!

Evolution and History of Barbie

By: Lexi G..

Everyone knows who Barbie is, the popular fashion doll with hundreds of jobs. She is so well known that last year, in 2023, a movie about her was released. But how exactly did Barbie become the icon that we all know her to be? This article will explain the evolution of Barbie and her friends.

To start with, Barbie was invented by Ruth Handler and released on March 9, 1959, sporting a ponytail and a black and white striped swimsuit. Barbie's full name is Barbara Millicent Roberts and her name is Barbara because that's the name of Ruth's daughter whom the doll was originally made for. Barbie's male counterpart, Ken Carson, was made in 1961. In 1965, Miss Astronaut Barbie was introduced to the world, which was four years before man made it to the moon. We have all seen Barbies that look like celebrities but the first one came out in 1967 and looked like the British fashion model Twiggy, wearing a yellow, green, and blue vertical-striped mini dress, and yellow boots. Christie was the first African American doll to be released by the Barbie collection in 1968 and opened the door to many Barbies of different cultures. In 1969, we were introduced to Barbie's with bendable knees, elbows, ankles, and waist, new living Barbie dolls. Malibu Barbie and her Camper came out in 1971 and were a big hit. In 1972 Barbie dolls gets thumbs, named Busy Barbie and in 1980 the first diverse Barbie dolls named Barbie were released. She became a CEO in 1985 and 1992 Barbie ran for president. Finally, in 2016 curvy, tall, and small body types were introduced.

Barbie

Over the years Barbie has had over 250 careers and has inspired many young girls. Fun fact, the 1992 Totally Hair™ Barbie is the best-selling Barbie doll ever.



Rock, Paper, Scissors

By: Jacob A.



There are many games you might have played as a kid. Tag, Hide and Seek, Red Light Green Light, and many others. One of those is rock paper scissors. Rock Paper Scissors is one of the most famous childrens games of all time. It's simple, quick, and can be done at any time anywhere. But one thing many people don't question is, where did it all start? What history is behind such a famous game?

The first mention of the game traces its way to the era of the Ming dynasty of China in a book named "Wuzazu". This text states its existence dates to the Han dynasty. The game was somehow taught in and transferred to Japan being called "sansukumi-ken". This game functions the same as our modern-day rock paper scissors but, with a different name and using a frog, slug, and snake.

A variation of the game also spawned in Japan being named Janken. This game introduced the infamous hand sings we use today. This was the version that was spread to the U.S. and translated into Rock Paper Scissors. It was around the early 1900's the game got really popular. Newspapers were talking about it at every moment, and the New York Times even published its tutorial 1932.

Rock Paper Scissors wasn't always the game it is today. Its long-winded history of transfers and translations being one of the catalysts of such change. Despite this, the game continued to the point it's at today, being taught and known by what seems to be almost anyone on planet earth. While simple, the tale of Rock Paper Scissors is undoubtedly a good one.

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Popsicle Recipes

By: Cadence L.

Whether you are chilling out by the pool or need a quick snack on the go, every one of these popsicle recipes is perfect. All you need is a popsicle mold and some ingredients!

Berry Good-

- Ingredients: Vanilla, Honey, Raspberries, Blueberries, Yogurt and Strawberries
- This is the perfect mix of all kinds of berries and It also has protein in the yogurt and natural sugar in the fruit. All you need to do is blend the ingredients to achieve deliciousness!

Blueberry Swirl-

- Ingredients: Blueberries, Cool Wip, Yogurt and Vanilla
- Mixing the Blueberries and Cool Whip will make the perfect mixture to swirl with the yogurt. This is the perfect creamy berry popsicle!

Tropical Delight-

- Ingredients: Pineapples, Mangoes, Coconut milk and Honey
- If you can't live the tropical lifestyle, you can taste it! This drink is so refreshing and perfect for every day of the summer.



By: Mckenzie L.

Summer Boredom Tips

Everyone has at least felt bored before, especially during summer break. So, how can you overcome this? There are various ways, for example, to find new interests or hobbies. If there is ever something you've been itching to learn, but just never had the time or motivation, summer break is a great time to learn something new. Summer provides free time to pick up something new; take up a musical instrument, sing or dance, or try a new art form, like painting, knitting, or sculpting. Another way to cure summer boredom is to try a new craft. For example, make melted rainbow crayons, fold a paper heart, create slime or playdough, or even a solar hot air balloon. Arts and crafts projects can take up a lot of time and patience you don't have throughout the school year, but they're perfect for summertime. If you want to contribute to your community in some way or another, try volunteering. Helping your community can be satisfying, uplifting work, and you're working towards a good cause. Look for an organization in your area that picks up trash, works with injured or abandoned animals, or works for political causes. Lastly, many people start journaling and reflecting on their day. People also write about their plans for the upcoming day or write about working through hard times. Maybe in a few years, you will read it again and smile at your summer memories. So, if you're ever bored during the summer, have fun with new interests. Maybe you won't be so bored after all!

"How to Beat Boredom over the Summer (with Pictures)." WikiHow. 23 June 2005. www.wikihow.com/Beat-Boredom-over-the-Summer. Accessed 9 May 2024.



By: Sloane H.

All About Lions

Did you know that a lion's proverbial is "king of the beasts"? Lions are also one of the best-known wild animals since the earliest times. They live in a variety of habitats but prefer grasslands and savannas, lions are also more active at night than in the daytime.

Lions came from Europe, Asia, and Africa, but are now mainly found in Africa below the Sahara. A lion can live from their late teens until 20+ years in a zoo enclosure. But up to only 16 years in the wild, which even 16 years is improbable, most male lions rarely live past the age of 12.

An average-sized lion pride consists of about 15 members, but they can consist of as little as 4 members to as many as 37. Lions live in prides to establish and defend their territories and give them consistent access to resources like food, water, and shelter. Living in a pride also offers other benefits to lions, such as creating bonds amongst pride members.

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Easy No Cook Recipes



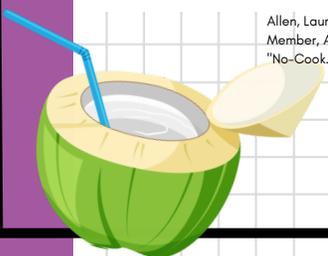
Are you stuck at home with nothing to do, but also hungry and want to avoid cooking? Well here are three super simple no-bake recipes for you!

If you're looking for something sweet, one of the most popular choices is a mug cake. A mug cake is just what it sounds like, a cake in a mug, and it's super simple. The first thing you will need is a mug, and a fork or spoon (or both if you're feeling fancy) Next, you will get out flour, sugar, baking powder, milk, butter, and vanilla. First, get out your mug and add however much flour you think you'll need (however much you add is how much you will get for the cake). In this case, let's say you want 3 / 4 cups. Put flour in the mug along with some sugar and baking powder, and mix until they are all combined. Then in a separate bowl, pour 3 / 4 cups or more of milk, melted butter, and some splashes of vanilla. Mix until fully combined, add the mixture to the mug, and stir until everything is all mixed. Pop the mug into the microwave for about one minute, after that put a toothpick in the middle of the mug cake. If you take out the toothpick and there is still raw batter, put it in for another 45 seconds to another minute. Then you have a mug cake! (you are free to add whatever toppings that you want, whipped cream, sprinkles, chocolate chips, etc.)

The next recipe is also something sweet, and simple, Chocolate strawberries. To start, you need either a plate or a pan with parchment paper on it, and of course, you need strawberries. (some of the best strawberries to get are from Publix!) But first, you need chocolate, any kind will do. Pour the chocolate into a cup or bowl and pop it in the microwave for about 1 minute. While that's going, pick out as many strawberries as you want, and stick a toothpick or fork on the top. When you're done with that, your chocolate should be done, take one of your strawberries and use your fork or toothpick to dip it into the chocolate. Coat it evenly by turning it over as you go. Then, place it on the parchment paper, after you're all done, put them in the fridge for about 30 minutes to an hour.

The final recipe is cake pops! Now, this does require you to do a bit more steps. First, get a bowl or mixer, food sticks, parchment paper, pan, and sprinkles. The next step is to go to the store and buy some cupcakes, then get them out of the container and put them in the bowl or mixer that you have and mix them all together until it's one big ball of cake. After that, you take parchment paper and put it on your pan, then one at a time take small chunks of the cake and roll them into balls. While one person is doing that, someone else can get chocolate chips and melt them for about 1 minute in the microwave. When that is done, take the food sticks and place them on the cake pops, then evenly coat them in chocolate and place whatever toppings you want on them. The final step is to put them all on the parchment paper and place them in the fridge or freezer overnight. Enjoy!

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Cast Your Vote

By: Jacob A.

VOTE

In Texas, A man legally changed his name to "Literally Anybody Else" as a way protest against the two candidates, Donald Trump and Joe Biden. According to NBC News, 70% of Americans don't want Joe Biden to run for president again, and 56% do not wish for Donald Trump to run again meaning that many; perhaps most Americans do not wish for either candidate to win the election. Literally Anybody Else has a website in which he promises transparency and a civilized campaign devoid of blaming, bickering, and mudsling and a call to action to ditch the divide of America and focus on the goals that everybody wants. Mr.Else intends to change how America's voting system works from voting against the people we don't like to voting for the people we do like. The 2024 election is rapidly approaching and at the beginning, he didn't really attempt to try to run for president but now after realizing all the support he is getting from Americans who believe in him Mr.Else is now giving it a shot.

(2024, April 26). Literally Anybody Else. <https://literallyanybodyelse.com/>

Book/Movie Preview

By: Lexi G.

A perfect way to keep from getting bored this summer is by watching movies or reading books so here's a list of books and movies that are coming out this summer.



For elementary schoolers (PG):

- Gorgeously Me! By Jonathan Van Ness is a book about being loved just the way you are. You can read it starting on June 4.
- Because Amelia Smiled by David Ezra Stein is a cute picture book that reminds us even a small kindness can bring more kindness. Releases on May 28.
- The Garfield Movie is rated PG and gets released on May 2. It's a movie about the backstory of everyone's favorite fat cat, Garfield.
- Inside Out 2 is PG and is a continuation from the first movie but this time Riley is dealing with new emotions. It will be in theaters on June 14.
- Despicable Me 4 is a PG movie coming out on July 3. It's another movie about Gru and his growing family.

For Middle schoolers (PG or PG-13)

- Descendants: The Rise of Red is about a new addition to Auradon Prep, the queen of hearts' daughter. Its release date is July 14.
- Harold and the Purple Crayon is a PG movie where the children's book is brought to life on August 2.
- Ultraman: Rising is rated PG and comes out June 14. It is the english version of the Japanese superhero.
- My Spy the Eternal City is PG and you can watch it on Prime Video on July 18. A terrorist plot gets uncovered by a little girl and a CIA agent.
- Storm: Dawn of a Goddess by Tiffany D Jackson gives a new view on X-Men member Storm's backstory. You can start reading the book on June 4.
- Rune: The Tale of a Thousand Faces is a book coming out on June 4. It's about two friends who need to make it back home from a secret kingdom.

*Don't forget to get parental permission before watching any of these movies



By: Amelia L.

The Summer Olympics!

It's that time again, Summer is almost here! And with summer, comes a very large event known as the Summer Olympics. This year's events are:

- Aquatics (Swimming, Marathon Swimming, Diving, Water Polo, Artistic Swimming), Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Basketball (3x3, Basketball),
- Boxing,
- Breaking,
- Canoe (Canoe Sprint, Canoe Slalom),
- Cycling (BMX Freestyle, BMX Racing, Road Cycling, Track Cycling),
- Equestrian (Equestrian Eventing, Equestrian Dressage, Equestrian Jumping),
- Fencing,
- Football,
- Golf,
- Gymnastics (Artistic Gymnastics, Rhythmic Gymnastics, Trampoline Gymnastics),
- Handball, Hockey, Judo, Modern Pentathlon, Rowing, Rugby (Rugby Sevens),
- Sailing,
- Shooting,
- Skateboarding,
- Sport Climbing,
- Surfing,
- Table Tennis,
- Taekwondo,
- Tennis,
- Triathlon,
- Volleyball (Beach Volleyball, Volleyball),
- Weightlifting, and Wrestling (Greco-Roman Wrestling, Freestyle Wrestling)

The games are being held in Paris, France this year and around 15.3 MILLION people are going to be swarming for them. The events will range from the 27th of July to the 11th of August and the olympic torch was lit on the 30th of April. The games will feature a variety of athletes from all different countries to compete for the gold medal.

Sources:

Paris 2024 Olympics - Latest news, schedules & results. (n.d.). Olympics | Olympic Games, Medals, Results & Latest News. <https://olympics.com/en/paris-2024>

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