

CONNECTIONS

Community Homes & Services
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Thanksgiving What Are You Grateful For?

"I'm grateful for truth and beauty.
And for all of you!" said Chas.

*"I'm grateful for seeing my
friends on Zoom," said Tess.*

"I'm grateful for all of you, and I'm
thankful for family," said Vanessa.

"I'm so thankful for my whole family—for kids,
my husband, that I still have my mom around—
and for every single one of you! I am grateful
to be alive!" said Zayde.

**"I am grateful for my roommates—they
make me happy!" said Meredith.**

"I am grateful that this awesome job keeping me
busy right now. I'm grateful for my family, my
pets, and all of my plants. And I'm grateful that
it's gravy and cranberry sauce season—it's my
favorite time of year!" said Jennifer.

"I'm very thankful for you guys, I'm grateful
for my new apartment that is close to
work, and I'm grateful that my family is
healthy," said Chris.

"I love our students, I'm grateful for the
best! I'm grateful for Chas—you are the
time I have with my mother—I cherish this
time every day!" said Carolyn.

"I'm grateful for the [CH&S] program!" said Devlin.

"I'm grateful to have a roof over my head, for my kids, all
of my family, CH&S students, and staff—you're like family
to me too!" said Melissa.

**"I'm grateful for the art
projects I got from Jen!"
said Yvette.**

Global Travel:

The Weirdest Places We Must See



Chris took us all over the globe to see some very weird places. (Right) *Deadvlei* means "dead marsh." It is a sun-blackened dead forest in a white clay pan. The lack of water forces the roots of trees to come outside looking for moisture. The place is surrounded by rust-orange giant sand dunes that form a contrasting backdrop. This place is also said to be surrounded by the highest sand dunes in the world. Location: Namibia



Christ Of The Abyss: This 8 foot tall bronze statue of Jesus Christ is under water. A favorite place for deep sea divers, and definitely one of the strange places around the world. Location: Italy



The Eternal Flame Falls is a quaint waterfall located in Shale Creek Preserve in Western New York. A small item at the waterfall's base emits natural gas. This flame is visible all year round. It can be extinguished and must occasionally be re-lit. The flame is fueled by natural gases and burns bright right under a waterfall. Location: New York



Jellyfish Lake: There are 70 marine lakes located in this region. It was closed for public in 2012 because the population of jellyfishes was decreasing. Scientists assumed that it was the end of this beautiful lake. But the population of jellyfish grew in recent years and it has once again been opened for the public.

Anyone up for a swim in this lake?

NOVEMBER 2020 NATIONAL DAYS

11/2 - National Bison Day and Day of the Dead

11/3 - Daylight Saving Day

11/5 - American Football Day

11/10 - Sesame Street Day.

11/11 - Veteran's Day

11/13 - World Kindness Day

11/17 - National Hiking Day

11/18 - Mickey and Minnie Mouse's Birthday and National Princess Day

11/26 - Thanksgiving



The ancient indigenous people of Mexico have practiced rituals celebrating the lives of past ancestors for around 3,000 years. The celebration that is now known as *Day of the Dead* originally landed on the ninth month of the Aztec calendar and was observed for the entire month.

In the 20th century, the month long festivities were condensed to 3 days called *The Days of the Dead*:

- Halloween on October 31st
- Day of the Innocents on November 1st
- Day of the Dead on November 2nd

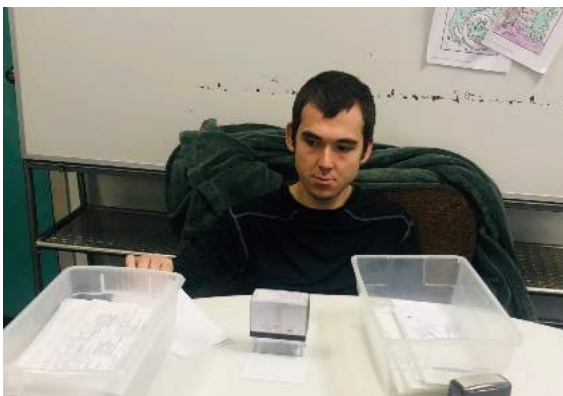
The Day of the Dead



A *calavera* is a representation of a human skull. The term is applied to edible or decorative skulls made from either sugar or clay. The *calavera* are used in the Mexican celebration of the Day of the Dead (Spanish: *Día de Muertos*) All Souls' Day.



The Old Normal, aka "Remember When?"



**"GOOD
OL'
DAYS"**



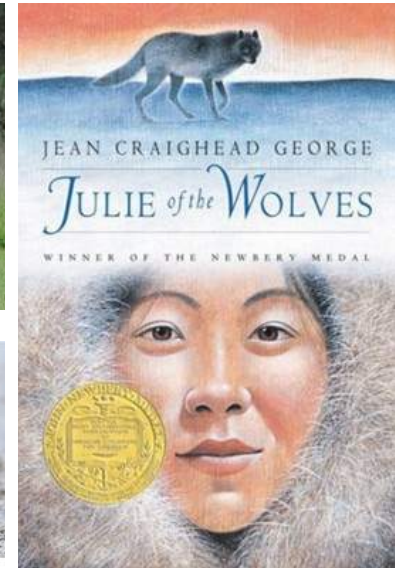
Literary Circle:

Julie of the Wolves

Some of the vocabulary words we have learned:

1. Lapland longspurs
2. Crane flies
3. Puffins
4. "Ulo" women's knife
5. Caribou
6. Lemming
7. Tundra

5.



1.



Breeding male



Nonbreeding/immature male

Tundra is the coldest of all the biomes. Tundra comes from the Finnish word *tunturi*, meaning treeless plain. It is noted for its frost-molded landscapes, extremely low temperatures, little precipitation, poor nutrients, and short growing seasons.

All of the plants are adapted to sweeping winds and disturbances of the soil. Plants are short and group together to resist the cold temperatures and are protected by the snow during the winter.

7.



6.



3.



2.



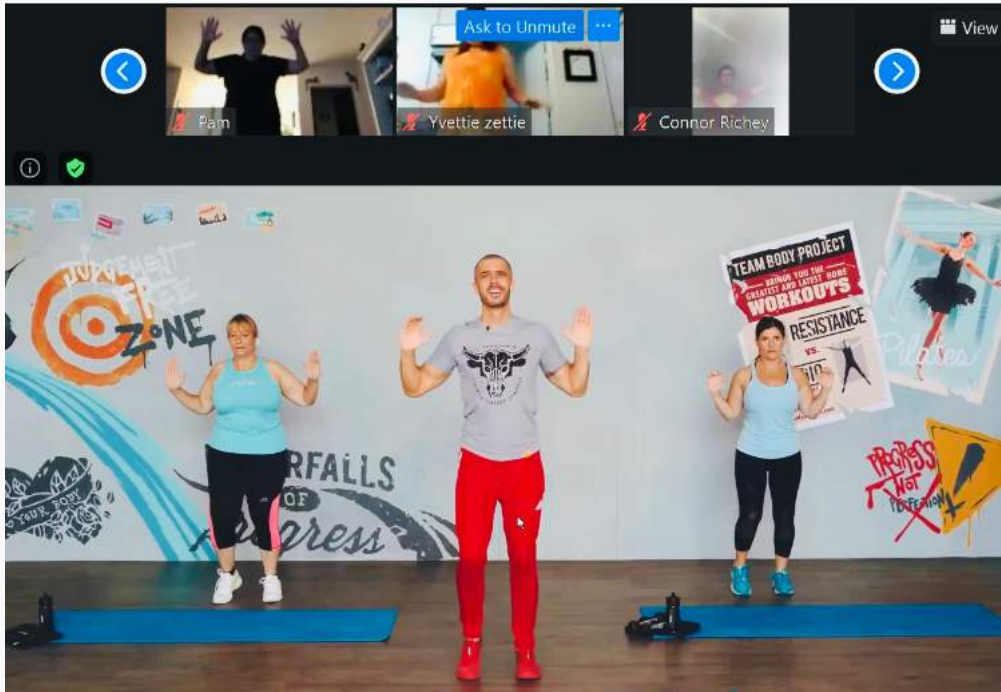
4.

Book summary:

Julie/Miyax (My-yax) is an Inuk girl torn between modern Alaska and the old Inuit tradition. After her mother's death, she is raised by her father Kapugen (Kah-Pue-Jen). In his care, Miyax becomes an intelligent and observant girl at one with the Arctic tundra. Life is good until one day when Miyax is sent to live with Aunt Martha, a distant and cold woman. Soon after, her father goes out on a seal hunt and does not return. Caught in an unbearable situation, she runs away in the hope of being able to stay with her pen-pal in San Francisco, California.

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We Work Out!



According to the NY Times article, "Sneak In Some Exercise," being active is a huge health boost. It improves mood, reduces stress, increases energy, enhances brain function, lowers risk of chronic disease, and so much more.

One exercise they mention is *Toothbrush Squats*. Use this two-minute morning routine to wake up your lower body by squatting while you brush your teeth. Stand with your feet

shoulder-width apart. Keep your chest up, bend your knees and push your hips back until the back of your thighs are parallel with the floor. Pause so you're not using momentum to push back up. Then, drive through your heels and press back up to standing.



If you did not catch one of our Zoom exercise classes, like the low impact class above, learn about the NYT's *Vacuum Lunges* and *Dishwashing Lifts* here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/15/at-home/coronavirus-at-home-quick-exercises.html>

We Are Cartoonists!



Someone who creates cartoons is called a *cartoonist*. Cartoons originated in the Middle Ages, and first described a preparatory drawing for a piece of art, such as a painting, fresco, tapestry, or stained glass window. In the 19th century, cartoon came to refer – ironically at first – to humorous illustrations in magazines and newspapers.

Creepy Class: Body Snatching

Last month, we had some creepy classes in honor of Halloween. Jen taught a class on body snatching which is the secret removal of corpses from graves. The first recorded case of body snatching is attributed to four medical students from Bologna in 1319. A common purpose of body snatching, especially in the 19th century, was to sell the corpses for dissection or anatomy lectures in medical schools. Those who practiced body snatching were often called "resurrectionists" or "resurrection-men."

In *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Injun Joe takes the opportunity to murder Dr. Robinson when he and Muff Potter are hired by him for body snatching. In *The Body Snatchers* is a 1955 science fiction novel by Jack Finney, Mill Valley, California is invaded by seeds that have drifted to Earth from space. The seeds, grown from plantlike pods, replace sleeping people with perfect physical duplicates with all the same knowledge, memories, scars, etc. but are incapable of human emotion or feeling. The human victims disappear *forever*.



We Are Always Learning!

Andrew and his mom, Sally, visited Charlie's Acres Farm Sanctuary www.charliesacres.org in Sonoma.

Charlie's Acres is dedicated to the care of rescued farm animals. The people at Charlie's Acres believe that animals are intelligent beings that deserve our compassion. Each animal species is unique and has its own special diet, exercise, and health requirements.

Here is the mini report Andrew wrote after his visit:

Charlie's Acres by Andrew Newson

Charlie's Acres is a farm animal rescue farm in Sonoma, Ca with cute pigs, chickens, horses and cows. They have goats and sheep too. I went with my mom and we learned lots of things like cows are really slobbery when eating. I learned that when giving a cow a treat. I also learned pigs are very smart. Pigs sometimes score more on cognitive tests than humans. We met a turkey and learned that the face changes color when it changes its mood like if it's stressed out. The animals were there because they were abused by owners or not wanted anymore. We were able to pick vegetables in there garden. I picked carrots that grow under the soil. It was easy to pull the carrots up from under the soil.



* Thanksgiving Word Search *

Find the words below.

P	J	E	F	E	I	P	N	A	C	E	P	H	D	C	T	L	W	P	A
Y	P	K	B	N	T	W	L	G	P	H	D	Y	Y	P	W	E	L	N	P
P	Q	A	N	A	Y	T	R	H	I	K	U	R	I	F	N	V	Q	C	I
Y	C	R	A	N	B	E	R	R	I	E	S	B	E	M	I	B	P	R	P
K	X	B	K	N	P	O	F	L	U	F	K	N	A	H	T	I	P	F	K
S	A	I	L	K	X	X	X	T	T	U	R	K	E	Y	E	Z	K	X	E
T	D	T	X	C	F	A	S	Z	S	N	N	G	K	O	M	Q	N	U	L
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J	U	Z	Q	P	U	V	M	Z	Z	W	B	S	M	I	R	G	L	I	P
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Q	L	F	F	K	U	Q	K	B	L	Z	R	S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G

NOVEMBER
HAM
POTATOES
THANKFUL
DINNER
PARADE

TURKEY
PUMPKINPIE
PECANPIE
MAYFLOWER
FAMILY
THANKFUL

STUFFING
CRANBERRIES
PILGRIMS
CORN
FEAST

CH&S November Birthdays



11/4 - Darnell
11/9 - Val
11/26- Mike M.

Our Zoom schedule is on our webpage

[communityhomesandservices
.com/whats_new.html](http://communityhomesandservices.com/whats_new.html)

Meeting ID	Password
436 848 8253	10011948

Check Us
Out!



Check out the
2020 Connections
magazine archive:

[communityhomesandservices.com/
newsletters.php](http://communityhomesandservices.com/newsletters.php)

Randall's Corgi is Not a Little Puppy Anymore!



Who dat naughty
dog? Who dat?

Oh, it's Archie, of
course!



Ding Dong Ditch 'Em!

We do more than just Zoom classes, we have delivery elves who send or deliver activity kits which include items such as math books, maze books, puzzles, word searches, and/or books of interest to the students. Here is a list of some of the items we've delivered in the last six months of sheltering in place:

- Activity books
- Spanish language worksheets
- A magazine about ants
- Three books on venomous snakes
- *To Kill A Mockingbird* (in graphic novel format)



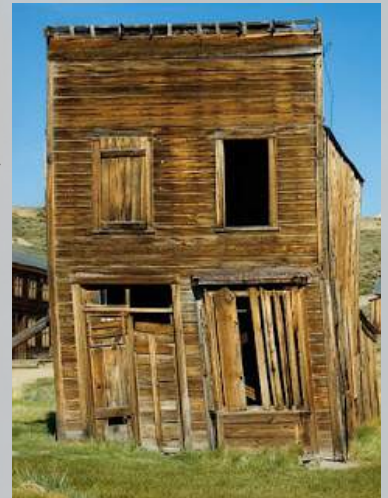
Is there something you want to help you pass the time while we wait for COVID-19 to dissipate and maybe even go away? If so, let your homeroom teacher know. We know that you know this, but *no ponies or police interceptor deliveries will be made.*

Ghost Towns: Knock! Knock! No One's Home!



We learned about ghost towns. (Left) Pripyat, Ukraine is in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone. After the Chernobyl nuclear accident, the town of 50,000 people was evacuated in 2 days.

(Right) Bodie is the most famous ghost town in California. It was a boomtown in 1876 and ghost town by 1915.



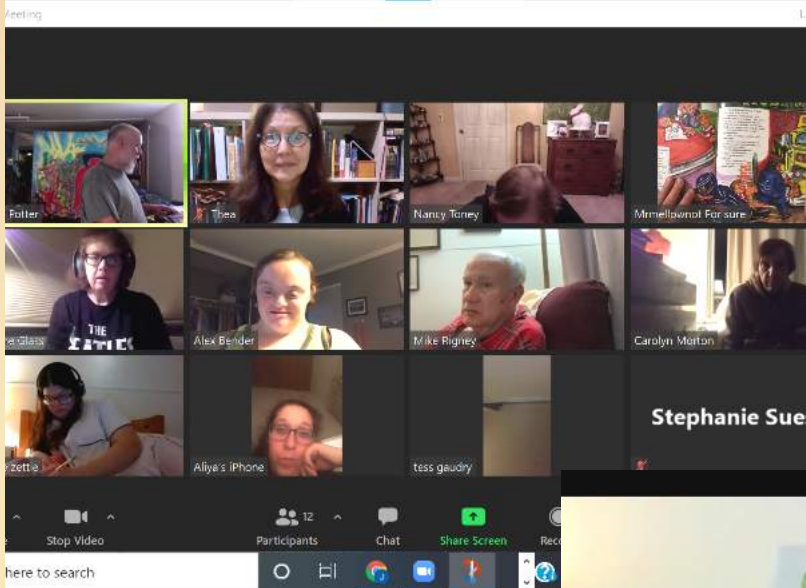
(Right) Hashima Island, also known as "Battleship Island" is a 16-acre, man-made island built as a undersea coal mining facility.

Between 1891 and 1974 around 15.7 million tons of coal were excavated in mines. In 1959, the population peaked at 5259 people. As petroleum replaced coal in Japan in the 1960s, coal mines began shutting down. The mining company closed in 1974.



Here is a map of 3800 ghost towns: www.geotab.com/ghost-towns/

We Visit Other Programs!



We joined Daniel Potter's story time at Marin Ventures! We see you Mike, Tess, and Yvette!

It's so good to see us being neighborly as we settle in for a good evening story!

<https://marinventures.org>

Check out Yvette's alien, which she started drawing in the extracurricular REC (Recreation, Education, and Community) Inc. art class on Zoom! <http://recinc.org>

This is most laid back looking alien we've ever seen! You go, Yvette!



November 3rd is Daylight Savings Day

Daylight Saving Day is the official end of the Daylight Saving period which began on March 10th.

Civilizations have been changing their clocks to match the rise and setting time of the sun since ancient Rome.

Daylight savings time means that not only do you get an extra hour of sleep, but it will also become darker earlier in the afternoon.

DAYLIGHT SAVING DAY TIMELINE

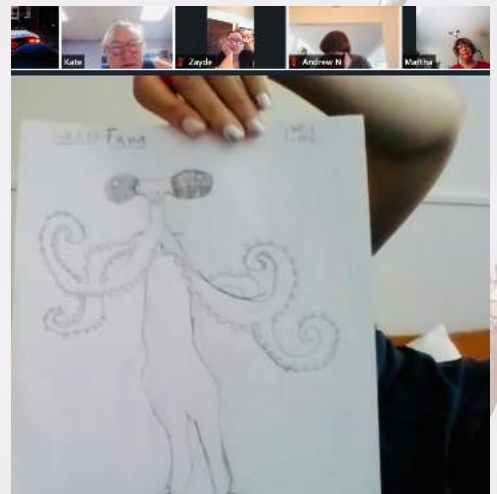
1895	George Hudson's bugs Entomologist George Hudson develops the first proposal for Daylight Saving to have more after-work hours of daylight to collect his bugs
1908	An English summer William Willet publishes his proposal to advance the clock during the summer months after observing how many people slept through a large part of a summer's day
1914-1918	World War I Participating war countries, and some neutral nations, adopt Daylight Saving Time in order to save coal and other resources.
1970s	Energy crisis The United States and Europe widely adopt Daylight Saving Time in order to conserve energy.

Call Us "Drs. Frankenstein"!

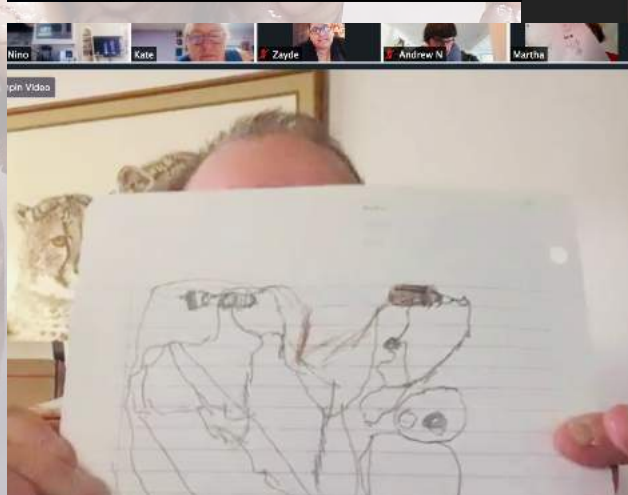
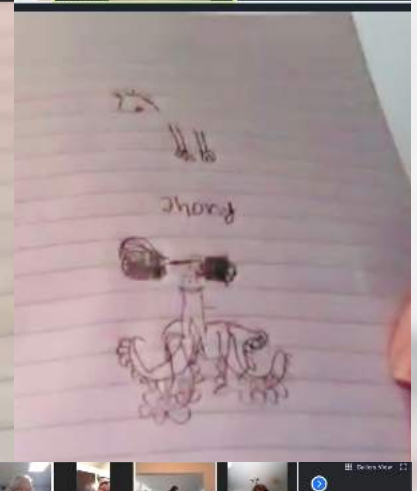
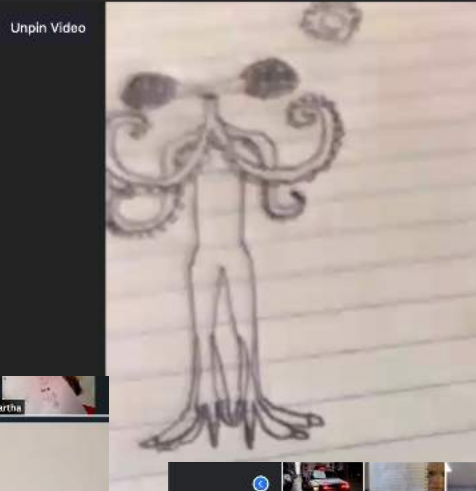
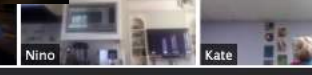
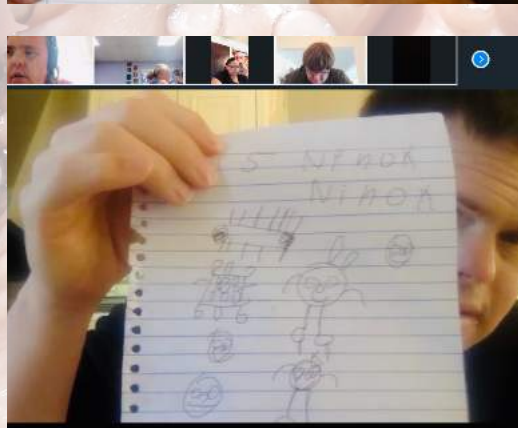
We make monsters in art class!

Chris taught us how to draw a horrible monster of our own making. Our imaginations ran wild as we designed and created a creature with compound eyes, tentacles, bird legs, and a human torso!

If you see one of these coming toward you on the street, we think it's best if you run the other way!



We named
our monster
"Johnny
Fang"!



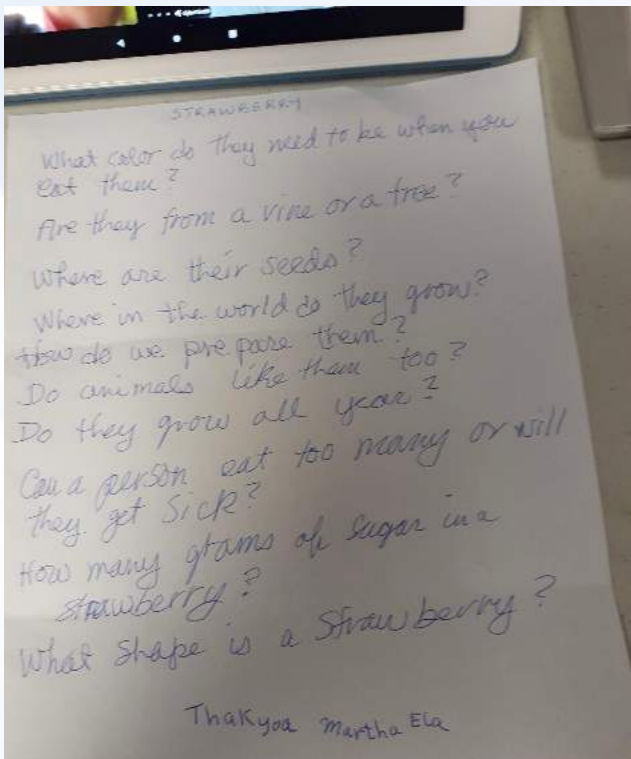
Astronomy Class

Matthew taught an astronomy class review. We all figured out our individual cosmic addresses.

Chris brought up the fact that the red giant star Betelgeuse was thought to be on the brink of a supernova explosion. "Betelgeuse is four light years away, which is actually fairly close to us," said Matthew whose sense of distance might be different from the rest of us.



We Have Individual Meetings!



(Above) Alison and Martha are working on a knowledge class about strawberries via the lost art of writing letters to each other!

(Right) Andrew is co-authoring a knowledge class on Weird Al Yankovic, musician and satirist, who happens to be Andrew's favorite performer.



We have one-on-one, student-instructor meetings. We collaborate on developing new knowledge classes, or play games, or even have virtual lunches!

Justin and Thea are researching Canada and Alaska travel (Justin dreams of taking an Alaskan cruise with his mom). They are working together on a knowledge class to present to the other students on Zoom!



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November 2020 Connections Magazine



*We are people
on the move!*

We make sure to
get our heart rates
up! Here we do our
favorite walking
workout!

