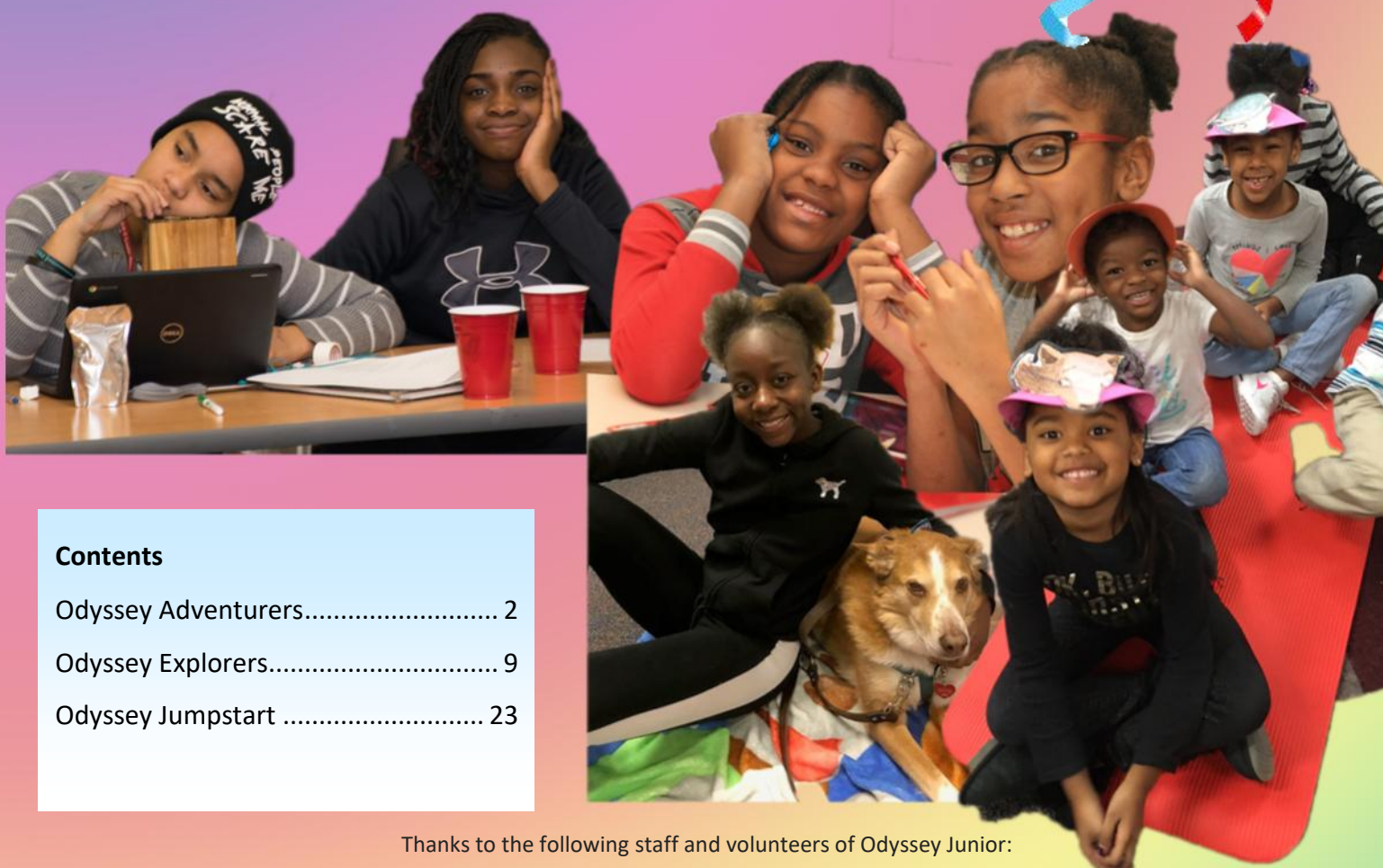


ISSUE 5

APRIL 18, 2018

ODYSSEY ORACLE JUNIOR



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Thanks to the following staff and volunteers of Odyssey Junior:

Odyssey Adventurers/Goodman Library, grades 6-12: Karen Dreyfuss, Mackenzie McDermit, Leigh Fredrickson, Scott Cooper, Lucia Chikowero '14

Odyssey Explorers/Space Place, grades 1-5: Christina Wagner, Marisol Gonzalez '17, Shannon Huberty,
Max Lenz, Kay Kriewald, Milli Lau '14, Ngina Ali '17

Odyssey Jumpstart/Head Start, ages 2-K: Cassie Cass, Wanda Carpenter, Tessa Foy, Erendira Giron Cruz, Arantza Giron Cruz, Mary Wells '07, Lilibeth Alvarez,
Paula Noyce, Asha Green '17, Manuela Trejo (cook), Literally Arts (Jamie Henke, Jessica Courtier, Randi Neimeyer) and UW Office of Campus Childcare.

Guests: UW Language and Speech (with Peg Rosin), UW Slow Food, Alliance of Therapy Dogs (Read to a Dog), UW Marching Band Percussion Section,
Jerrod Buckner (Afterschool Expeditions), Paran Amirnazari (WYSO Music Makers), Beth McIntyre (Madison Public Library),
Jan Vidruk (Music Teacher), Brooke Norsted (UW Geology Museum Field Trip), Roxie Hentz (CEOs of Tomorrow),
Ali Muldrow (Racial Justice Youth Organizer at GSafe), Chazen Art Museum, Will Glenn (Goodman South Madison Library)

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ODYSSEY ADVENTURERS



REFLECTIONS

Over the past several weeks, the Odyssey Adventurers have been engaged in powerful, challenging, and engaging discussions about how they would change the world. Guest speaker Ali Muldrow got the students thinking and writing about the pain and joy of being human and how we can use our voice to connect across the human experience. Our students have written beautiful pieces about what makes them angry about the world, as well as what makes them hopeful. They have blown us away with their emotional depth and knowledge. We hope that you will be equally inspired by their words and their sense of advocacy. —Mackenzie McDermit, Odyssey Adventurers teacher

IF I COULD CHANGE THE WORLD

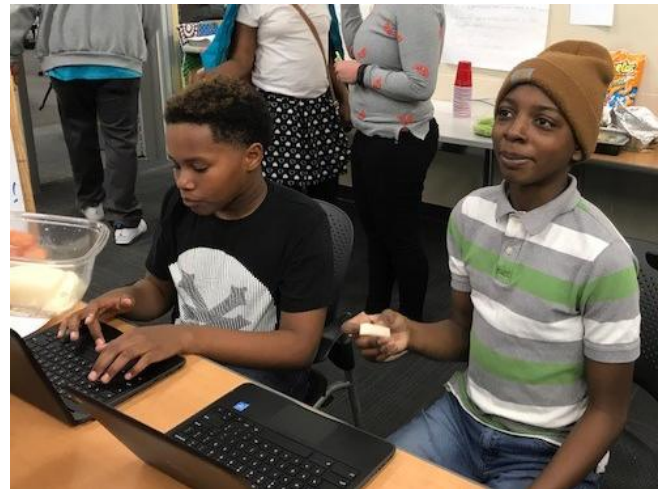
By Jerry

If I could change the world, I would make it the Pokemon world. There would be no racism, no cops (unless you were stealing, or you were abusing, etc.), no bad people in jail, no guns, not that many worries, and fun almost whenever you like.

SEE ME

By Angel

I want someone to see me
Not as my race
Not as just Angel



Not just someone
See me as joy
See me as kindness
See me as love
See me as hope
See me
That's all you have to do
See me as the sky
See me as God
See me, don't judge me
See me
See me
Don't be mean to me because this and that
See me
See me
See me as the sun and moon
See me

IF I COULD CHANGE THE WORLD**By Ashzianna**

If I could change the world, cops wouldn't be the cops.

If I could change the world, Black men could walk around with water bottles and not have them be mistaken for guns.

If I could change the world, my mom wouldn't have to worry about her son getting shot for being Black.

If I could change the world, poverty would be gone.

If I could change the world, the word #Blacklivesmatter wouldn't have to be a chant.

If I could change the . . . Wait, scratch that!

When I change the world someday, be ready.

I WANT . . .**By Ashzianna**

I want . . .

To go to college

To write a great poem and get famous

To be judged by my character, not by my skin color

To be a billionaire

Gun control

No cops in schools!

To never give up

To pick people up, not push them down

If I was white, would life be easier?

To be the best dancer ever!

To not cry alone anymore

My family to be happy

This is something I care about because I'm very passionate when it comes to stuff like this. I live it. My story is to be happy, to prove people that doubted me wrong.

Why is it that if I'm black, I'm bad? Why do I get looked at as a disgrace?

**STEPPING****By Olivia**

I really like stepping because it's making music with your own body, and it makes me happy. It has come from Historically Black Colleges (HBCUs). There's this one step team called Alpha Kappa Alpha (aka Pretty Girls), and they have some really cool steps. Sometimes with stepping there are chants too. It's a fun way to exercise and spend time with my friends.

DARK THINGS / JOYFUL THINGS**By Shadavien**

Dark Things:

Why are we here? Why am I here? Where am I? I feel cold, no family, no friends. I'm in a black box. Why do I exist when there's nothing to do, nobody to care for you in this dark room with no loved ones? Why do I want to exist in a cruel dark world with bloodshed and where nothing goes your way? Why try to exist when you can just close your eyes and die? Why!? Why do I live to see another day full of hatred and no freedom?

But for me, there is light, like all the joyful things in my life.

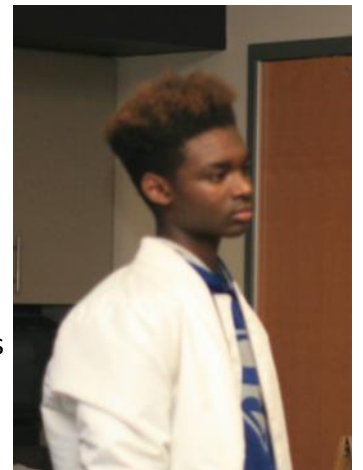
Joyful Things:

Video games	My bed
Games	Music/Hamilton
Family members	Myself
Friends	Having fun
Doing French	Drawing
Live	Reading
Eat	Helping people
Watch T.V.	Violin
Go outside	Imagining
Math/school	Being young/having youth

**GRANDMA
BY K'Shawn**

She is really nice. She always has food in the house. I love when she brings Famous Dave's home for us. She takes me places and makes sure I have friends to be with. She asks questions, but I know the answers and she does too.

This weekend, I want to see Truth or Dare and see if she'll take us to the movies. I'm at her house a lot. Her house is huge. I can have alone time and space to talk with my friends there. Her house is always clean and she has T.V.'s in every room. She laughs a lot and doesn't take anything too seriously. We never have issues. The only thing she gets mad about is making her late for church. She will yell at you.

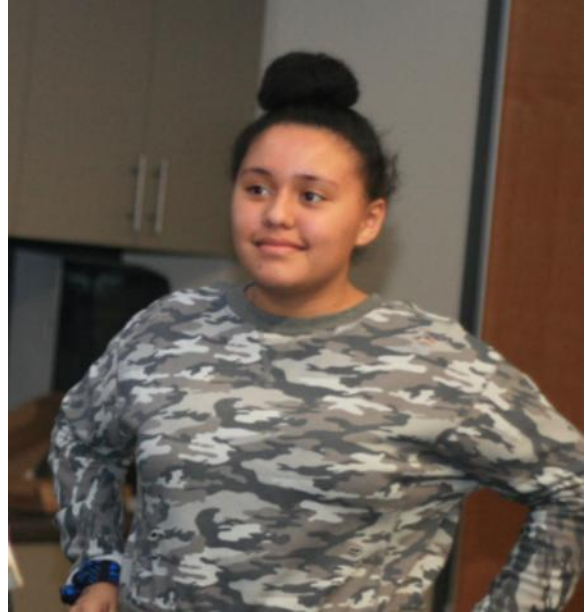


(Note from Odyssey Adventurers lead teacher Karen Dreyfuss: I'm proud of K'Shawn for showing up every single week. He missed open gym, basketball practice, football practice, and his very last game of the football season to achieve perfect attendance in Odyssey this year. He often feels tired, but he still shows up.)

A LIST OF THINGS I WANT AT SCHOOL

By Kamoria

To not have the teacher pick the other color
 To have everyone be happy
 To have everyone (teachers and students) be respectful
 To have my slime not be taken away by teachers
 To have me understand math and reading
 To be nice to everyone
 For me to have all As in everything
 To have me do what I want (sometimes)
 To have me feel comfortable



HOW THE WORLD COULD BE DIFFERENT

By Kamoria

If I could change the world . . . you would smell clean air because people wouldn't smoke or pollute the earth. Everyone would say to each other, "Hello! Good morning! Do you need help?" There would be no guns because we wouldn't need them. People would still try to hurt people (emotionally), and they would make other people mad or get mad themselves! But why would I want to make a world of people who still have emotions like anger, fear, and anxiety? Because you learn from it. Who would want to live in a world where everyone is just la la happy all the time? You learn from mistakes, and you learn from arguments. That's all I would want.



SEX TRAFFICKING

By Niya

I think an important issue that affects youth is sex trafficking. There's a lot to do with sex that affects youth: rape, sex trafficking, teen pregnancy, genital mutilation. I don't understand why people do the things that they do. I don't understand why people rape, kidnap, and intentionally hurt others, especially children. I don't like the fact that there is so much bad stuff going on around us and there's nothing being done about it. Everyone needs to be helped and cared for, and their needs need to be met. It's heartbreaking and sad, and it angers me to know that that isn't happening.

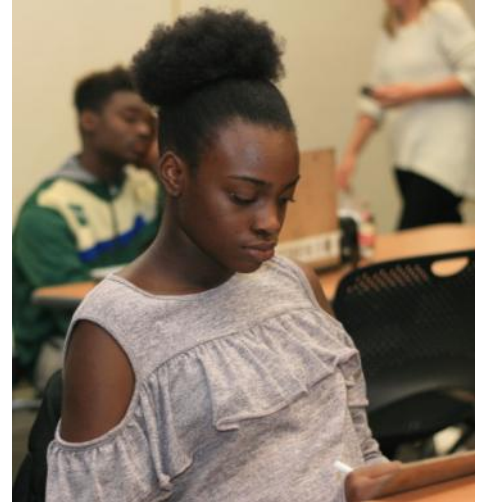
I WANT**By Jocelyn**

I want to be an inventor/hair braider/fashion designer/artist. I want to become all of these things, not at the same time but within this lifetime. I want to accomplish my personal goal of becoming a millionaire, living a life of happiness and joy!

I want to save those who aren't happy because having a gray cloud over you blocks all rays of hope. I want to see others my age happy and joyous.

I don't wish, I work (as I learned from Tiana, you can wish on a star, but you got to work for it), but I will work until I can get to what I want eventually. I demand respect because I use the golden rule: to treat others how I want to be treated. Unless you have a bad reputation or attitude towards me, I will respect you.

I am a queen. Sometimes I feel like a jester, constantly changing my look and act for the likes of others, or redressing myself for the eyes of a "king." But every day my mother tells me that I'm a queen, nothing less.

**HOW THE WORLD WOULD BE IF IT COULD BE DIFFERENT****By Jocelyn**

If I could change the world, everyone would be happy, everyone would be what they want, suicide wouldn't be the leading cause of death for teens, and kids would be able to dream, and wish, and do as they please. Parents could feel free, and stress would be a word of the past.

Pleasure wouldn't be looked down on, and there would be enough love to go around for each and every one. There would be freedom, actual real freedom. No one would have to worry or have to be scared because if the world could be different, the world truly would be everyone's world, the ice to the cream, the sugar to my coffee, the gold to the honey...

**Chazen Museum of Art Field Trip**

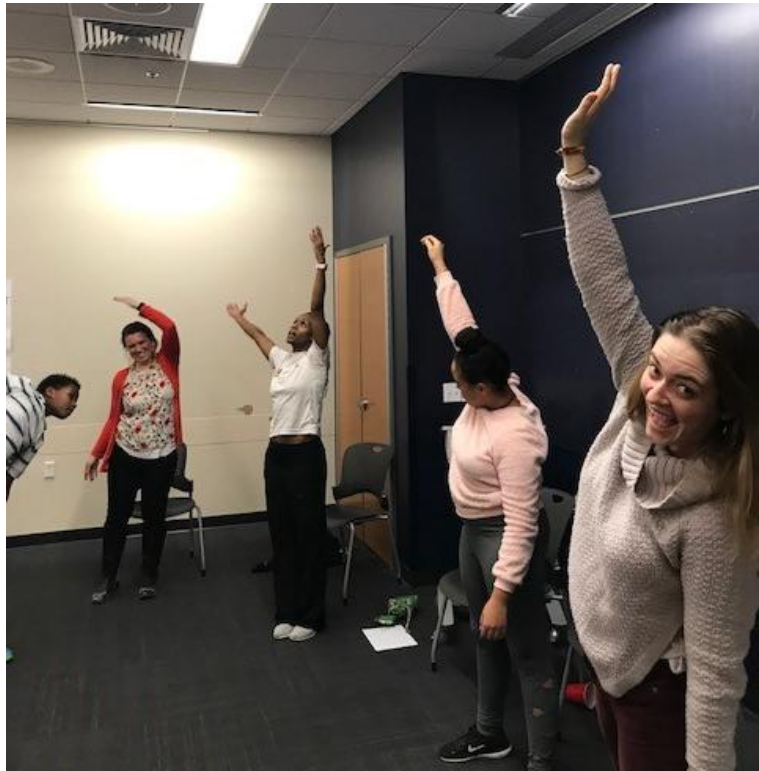
Odyssey Adventurers journeyed by bus to the UW-Madison campus for a visit to the Chazen Museum of Art. We were fortunate enough to have a private tour of the visiting exhibit, called Ancestral Modern: Australian Aboriginal Art. We learned about Australian aboriginal culture and storytelling traditions. Candie Waterloo, Curator of Education for the Museum, then led the Adventurers through an art activity making art pieces expressing their

identity and story. We are grateful to the Chazen staff for opening their doors after hours for us to have this opportunity.—**Karen Dreyfuss**, Odyssey Adventurers Lead Teacher

MACKENZIE'S PAGE**By Odyssey Junior teacher Mackenzie McDermit****HOPES I HAVE FOR MY STUDENTS**

I hope that one day my students will not be lied to, that they'll see themselves in their textbooks, in their novels, and in their poetry. They will see themselves and know themselves. They will know that this is someone with a history, this is someone with a future, this is someone who holds value in their arms and eats respect for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

I hope that one day my students will say, "Actually, Ms. M, it's like this..." and hold their head high with the power of self-knowledge. I hope to see them in the classroom next to me, the both of us standing eye to eye, smiling, shaking a hand, giving a hug, perpetuating the truth, perpetuating the respect, and perpetuating the love and knowledge.

**IF I COULD CHANGE THE WORLD**

I wish I could live in a world where we could all embrace one another wholeheartedly, without a worry. If everyone were out to help everyone, to treat them with kindness, to give them a nice, warm interlude on their journey, we could accomplish so much more and stress so much less. We could just relax into and around one another, relax into ourselves, without fear of

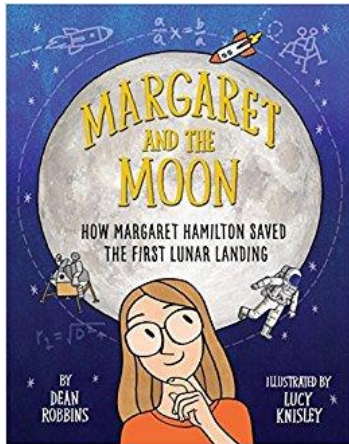
judgment. This alternate world tastes like peace and sounds like mariachi and the blues. It smells like spring and feels like love.

ODYSSEY EXPLORERS



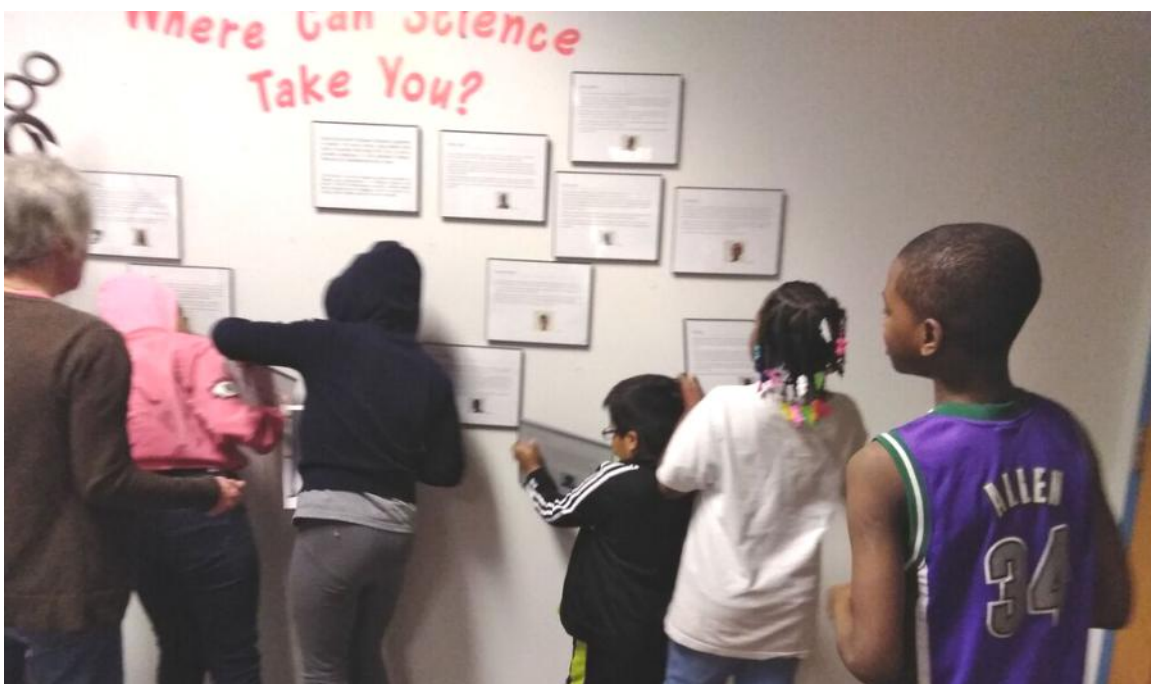
OUR EXHIBIT AT UW SPACE PLACE

At your next visit to UW Space Place, please take a moment to see the display to your left as you enter called “Where Can Science Take You?” This exhibit displays the biographies our Explorers researched and wrote of scientists who are living today and doing important work. We are excited to know that the hard work we did resulted in a display that will educate visitors to the UW Space Place for a whole year.



These true stories of scientists that we wrote appeared in the previous issue of the Odyssey Oracle Junior, with the exception of the one by Sheari (see next page), which we inadvertently omitted.

Many thanks to Kay Kriewald, Senior Outreach Specialist, of the UW Space Place for hatching and following through on this idea with us, to Dean Robbins for his inspiring book, *Margaret and the Moon: How Margaret Hamilton Saved the First Lunar Landing*, and Poet Fabu for teaching us about writing.



**A.V. Shpansky**

By Sheari

A.V. (Andrey) Shpansky is a paleontologist. He works at Tomsk State University in Russia. He looks for fossilized skulls of the Siberian unicorn. Until Shpansky's findings, scientists thought that the Siberian unicorn had lived 350,000 years ago. Shpansky found a skull of the Siberian unicorn near Kozhamzhar village in Pavlodar region (Kazakhstan) that was dated only 29,000 years ago, which means that they would have overlapped with modern humans.

The Siberian unicorn looked more like a hairy rhinoceros than the unicorns in storybooks, so we do not know if it was the inspiration for the idea of unicorns in ancient Greece or not.

Shpansky's work is important because if we can learn how the Siberian unicorn became extinct, this could help other animals from becoming extinct.

<https://www.sciencealert.com/fossilised-skull-reveals-when-the-last-siberian-unicorn-lived>



PROUD FEELINGS

Assignment: Write about a time when you were proud of yourself or someone else.



I am proud of myself because I help my mom to do a lot of things all the time. I walked with our dog ten times a day. I also helped my mom cook breakfast (eggs and toast). I helped my mom clean the bedroom. It is very hard to take care of my dog. I am tired after doing a lot of things. **(Cole)**



I am proud that I go to Odyssey because I got to make a movie. Also, we do lots of fun stuff like read to dogs, make coloring robots, and make art with lights. That's why I am proud I go to Odyssey! **(Carmella)**



I'm doing a concert with my class. I'm going to be a narrator. I have a part in the play. It will make me happy. **(Parish)**

A time when I was proud of myself was when I was in the spelling bee. I was proud because I almost won! It was very fun spelling words. **(Malayia)**



I was proud of myself when I had to give a speech in front of a bunch of adults from CUNA. It was scary, but I did it, and I was proud of myself. **(Kamia)**

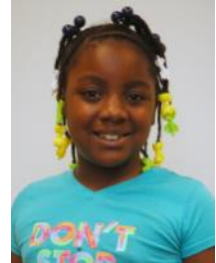
I cleaned up my whole house, even the bathroom. I like to clean up because it's good to clean up. I don't want any bugs or germs. It's good to clean up because you stay healthy. I was proud of myself because I cleaned up so well. **(Jayden)**





I'm proud of being a big brother. I love my family, especially my baby brother and sister. They always encourage me to do more. I hold them while my parents sleep. I go check on them and feed them. Then I give them kisses. I hug them. P.S. I love being a big brother. **(Truth)**

A time I was proud of my dad was when he helped people at the Goodman Center. **(Kyniah)**



A time I was proud of my mom was when she graduated and got her degree. I was so, so proud because she talked and talked about it, and I said, "Mom, you're graduating!" She said, "Yeah!" And I said, "Mom, I'm

so proud of you!" The day I found out was the day I had my play of Martin Luther King, Jr. My family from Georgia came and said, "It's time to go to your mom's graduation!" We went to see it; it was so amazing! After that we partied, and mom had so much fun. **(Kimari)**



I was proud of myself when I passed my level on Lexia and when I passed my Math Facts. I was proud of my BFF when she stood up for me when a meanie was bullying me. Also,

I was proud of myself when I passed my reading level. **(Kaleah)**



I was proud when my friends and I ran the 5K race. A 5K race is a 3.5 mile race with water breaks on the course. We were proud because it was hard and long but worth it. That's why my friends and I were proud. **(Sheari)**



I was proud when I helped my dad with his construction business. He asks me for a tool, and I get it for him. I can use a screwdriver and a hammer. I go places with him in his truck. I helped him rebuild a house. He makes money, sometimes \$100 and sometimes more. **(Alex)**

I am proud because I go to Odyssey. We have fun. We read to a dog. I do lots of writing. Today, I made a movie. **(Carlyle)**



I am proud of my brothers and myself for mopping the playroom floor. The reason we wanted to was because we wanted to clean the house. The playroom floor was dirty, so we mopped it. My mom was proud of us, too. **(LaNiyah)**



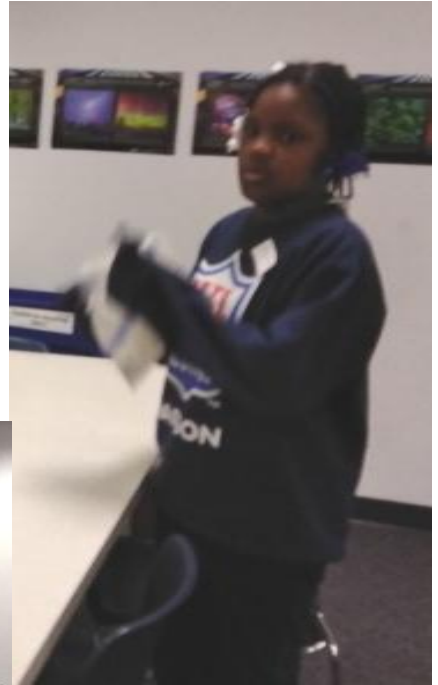
ANIMATION & STORYTELLING

Explorers have been working on storytelling this semester. Beth McIntyre from Madison Public Library showed us how to tell a story using stop-motion animation. Then, we all had a chance to make our own short animation film!



A SALUTE TO UW MADISON SLOW FOOD

UW Madison Slow Food interns Melaney and Caroline came every week this year to visit us and teach us about healthy eating. We learned that we can make our own healthy snacks, such as yogurt parfaits and fruit pizza, that are much better for us than store-bought sweets. When we make our own treats, we don't have to worry about additives or other ingredients that are not good for us. We also had the opportunity to try vegetables and fruits that we'd never seen before. For our last week, we got to make homemade ice cream! It only takes a few ingredients and a little "shaking" to make this delicious treat!



OUR TRIP TO THE UW MADISON GEOLOGY MUSEUM

The Explorers went on an exciting field trip in March to the UW Madison Geology Museum. Senior Outreach Specialist Brooke Norsted took us on a private tour of the museum after hours. The Museum is packed with treasures from the earth long ago and even a meteor from outer space that is older than the earth



We got to see all kinds of rocks and minerals, including a whole set of them that glow under UV light. We also went into a room filled with the skeletons of dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures. Everyone loved the cave and the glowing rocks. However, we all hated the smell of earth billions of years ago (a display in which you lift a cap over a nozzle and sniff what the earth probably smelled like a very long time ago.)

There is so much to learn at the Geology Museum, and guess what? Admission is free! Parents, let your kids take you to the Geology Museum at 1215 W. Dayton Street (right in the middle of the UW Campus) this summer!

Here are some comments from Explorers:

I liked the “cave bacon,” the calcite formation that grows down from the ceiling of the cave.

(LaNiyah)

I enjoyed the glowing fluorescent rocks. **(Javone)**

My favorite things were the fossils and the Mastodon. **(Julius)**

I liked learning about the meteorite that made a big hole in the ground in Arizona. **(Carlyle)**

I learned that mammoths once lived in Wisconsin. **(Parish)**

I liked the fossils. **(Erick)**

My favorite thing was all of the different rocks that came from around the world; there were some that gems come from and some that glow. **(Kimari)**

Some elephants born today have tusks on their chins like their prehistoric relatives. **(Alan)**

I liked the rocks that gems like amethysts come from. **(Jordan)**



I liked going into the cave. I took pictures. My favorite gemstone is turquoise. **(Sidney)**

I liked all the rocks. They were really cool, especially those that glow. I also liked the cave. **(Alex)**

LEARNING SPANISH IS FUN!

This semester, Marisol has been teaching us Spanish by playing games with us, singing and dancing with us, and doing activities with us – in Spanish. Muchas gracias, Marisol!



REFLECTIONS



I am writing about my feelings. My feelings are important to me. My feelings are: happy, sad, and angry. I am happy when I play with my friends. My feelings are cool. **(Carlyle)**

One thing that is important to me is my family. My family is important to me because when I am getting bullied, they become my ally. Another reason is that they're funny and helpful. Daddy feeds me. My baby sister is cute. My sisters help me with my homework. That's why my family is important to me. **(Kaleah)**



Lo que es Importante para mí (What is Important to Me)

El mundo es importante para mí, por su agua, sus arboles, por que los arboles limpian el aire para las personas. También, los animales son importantes para mí. Mi casa es importante, mis juguetes, y mi familia. Todo esto es muy importante para mí.

The world is important to me because of its water and trees, because the trees clean the air for the people. Also, animals are important to me. My house is important to me, my toys and my family. All of this is very important to me. **(Alex)**



I think that my family is important because our family helps us out in many different ways, like if you need something, your family might just let you borrow it. Or if it is a girls' night out and you don't have enough money, they might give you some money! That's why you should love your family. **(LaNiyah)**

My mom and my brother are important to me. They are my family. My mom takes care of me. My brother sticks up for me. **(Cole)**





Happiness is...

Happiness is spending time with family.

Happiness is being kind.

Happiness is being brave.

Happiness is loving each other.

Happiness is reading books.

Happiness is Ms. Chris and Ms. Milli and Ms. Kay and all my other teachers.

Happiness is college.

Happiness is learning and science.

Happiness is people learning about each other.

Happiness is being on the moon.

Happiness is playing on my computer.

Happiness is taking out my family.

Happiness is watching TV.

Happiness is playing with friends.

Happiness is being a spy.

Happiness is being in Space Place. **(Kamia)**



I like video games. I like Fortnite and Minecraft because they are fun. I love my family. My family is the best part of me! **(Kyniah)**

Something that is important to me is Odyssey. It is super-fun, and we do many fun things. For example, we eat healthy snacks and do lots of exercising. We create stories and read books. All the staff here is great! That's why Odyssey is important to me. **(Carmella)**



What is important to me? My family, my dog, and my body are important to me. My family is important because they are funny. My dog is important because he is cute. My body is important because it is healthy. All these things are important to me because they make me happy. **(Javone)**

Outgoing
Delightful
Yes I can
Stupendous
Stunning
Excellent
Young



Joyful
Ultra cool
Nifty
Interesting
Orderly
Respectful (Sidney, spelling Odyssey Junior)

Smart
Helpful
Understanding
Awesome
Nice



Tough
Rock Solid
Entertaining
Vicious
Excellent
Lovable
Leader

Jester
Outstanding
Nifty
Example
Strong

Junior
Remarkable (Shuan Trevell Jones, Jr.)

Dreaming
Open-hearted
Magical
Intelligent
Natural
Interesting
Queen
Unique
Educated.



(Kimari, spelling her mother's name)

ODYSSEY JUMPSTART







