

Chippy's Mountain

Chúc mừng năm mới

SELAMAT
TAHUN BARU

새해 복 많이 받으세요

Manigong Bagong Taon

အသံပူဇော်

新年快乐
新年快樂

HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

And
Valentines
Day

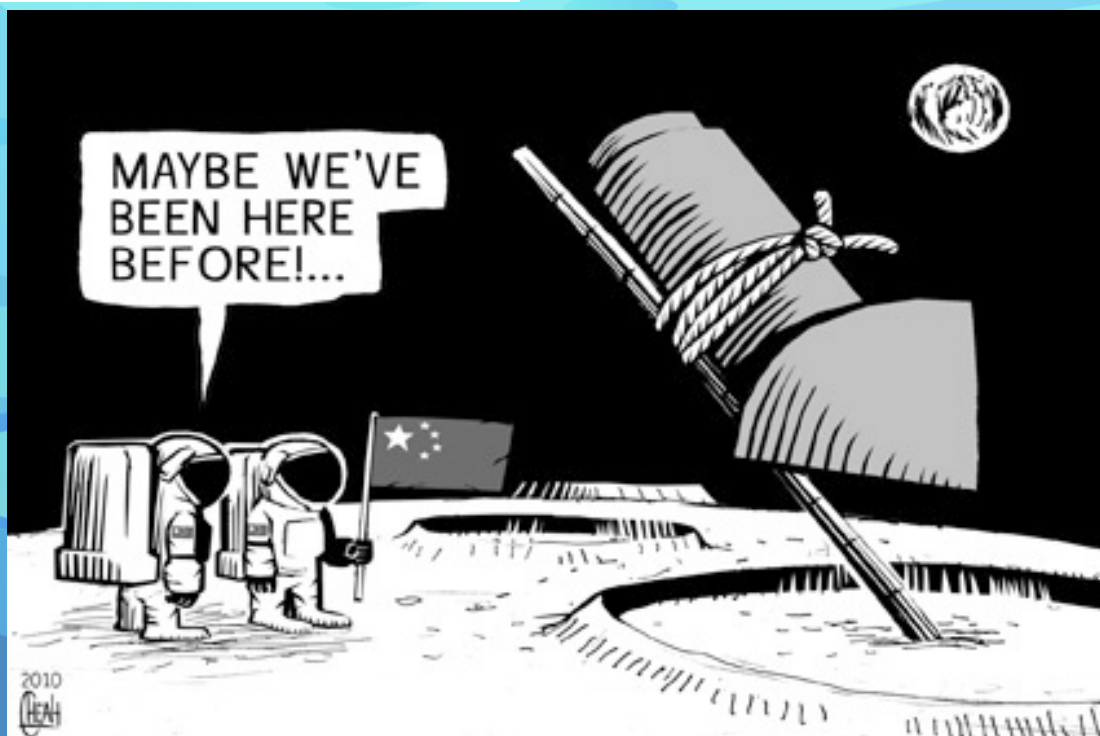
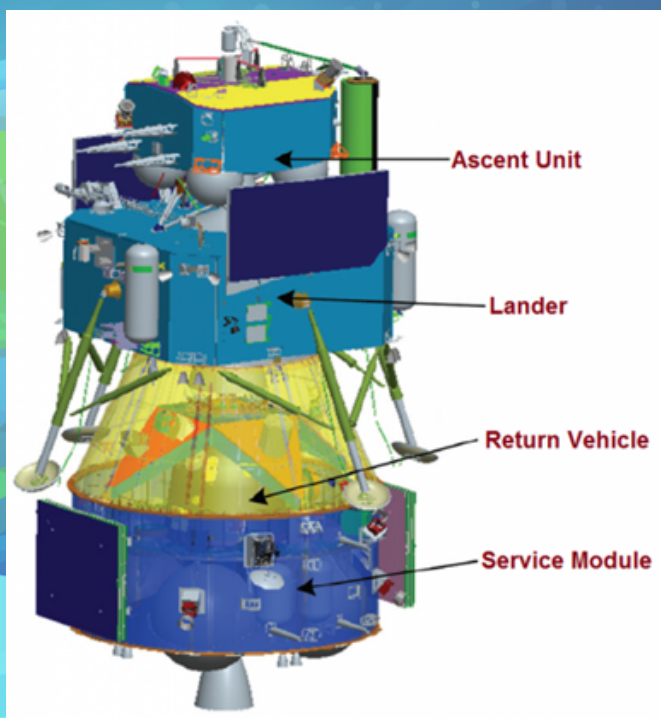


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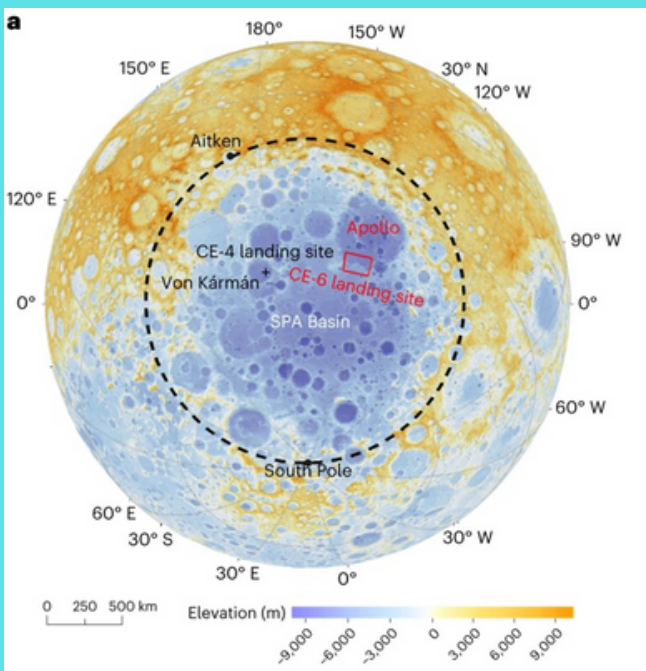
China Lunar Exploration

by Elena Guo (3rd Grade)

The latest China lunar landing was Chang'e-5. It was launched in China, Hainan Island. The date it was launched was November 23, 2020. The date it landed on the Moon was December 1, 2020. The location of the landing was in the northwest region of the Moon's nearside called Mons Rümker. Its mission was to collect samples of rocks and dust to return to Earth. It collected 1.7 kg of rocks and dust, which is the weight of a 3-month-old kitten!!!!!!



Chang'e-6 is going to launch around May 2024. It was a backup for Chang'e-5 if it crashed on the moon. It is going to land in the northern hemisphere on the far side of the moon. It will be the first-ever soil and rock samples 2 meters below the surface from the northern hemisphere on the far side of the moon. It will get 2kg of rock and soil from the moon (that is the weight of a Chihuahua) and then return to Earth for further study. The landing site is called Apollo Basin inside the SPA Basin. The mission is predicted to last for 53 days.



According to the Chinese folktales, Chang'e flew from the Earth to the moon like a rocket ship. That's why China named its rockets after the moon goddess Chang'e.



Here are a few reasons why China loves going into space.

Firstly, there is scientific exploration. China thinks the moon is like a laboratory because there are a lot of things to study on the moon: rocks, dust, craters, ancient lava, and inactive volcanoes.

Secondly, China has technological advancement. It proves that China is skilled at building any type of thing. It also serves as a place to test new technologies to make sure it works and does not explode. It also proves China's space capabilities, like landing rockets softly on the moon, so it's not hard to get out and in from the rocket ship.

Thirdly, China has national pride and soft power. China seeks itself to be a national player in space exploration, along with the U.S. and Russia. China also shows things they collected on the moon and then sometimes brings them to the global stage. That's when countries around the world come together, compete, and demonstrate their capabilities.

Fourthly, China has resource prospects. The moon has valuable resources such as water ice at its poles. Water can be split into hydrogen and oxygen for rocket fuel, enabling deeper space exploration. Making a moon launch pad could make future explorations go to Mars and more!!!!

Finally, China has Space Diplomacy and Collaboration. That's when China works with other countries to discover new things from the moon. They also share data and knowledge with other space agencies.

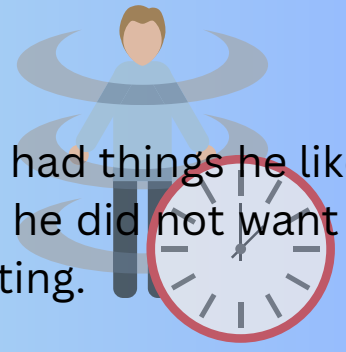
Stella Guo (K)

Today I went to iFly. I had to wear a black and red suit, ear plugs, goggles and helmet. I felt excited, hungry and happy when I was flying. In the second round, I went to high flight. I was going up and down and spinning. It was not easy to breath in the air.



Time Traveling

Lori Wang 2nd grade



Once upon a time, there was a boy named Steve. Steve had things he liked and disliked. He wished he could time travel whenever he did not want to do something or travel to the future for something exciting.

One day at school his teacher said, “Today we will have 8 pages of homework.” Steve thought “Eight pages of homework! How am I going to finish that!” Suddenly, a gush of wind blew past Steve’s face. Steve looked up; there it was a fairy! “Want to travel through time to where your homework is already done?” asked the fairy. Steve wondered, if he could have the power to time travel whenever he wanted that would be impressive! In a second or two he was in a chair with all his classmates beside him, he knew what was happening, he was time traveling! He looked at his homework, everything was filled out!

The next day, it was math test day. Steve really wanted to time travel right back to the time where he had eight pages of homework so he could practice and study for his test. With a gush of wind, the world started spinning, he was taken back in time. He was sitting in his chair hearing his teacher talk about the homework.

At night, he finished the homework, then he took a bath and went to bed. The next day was the test day again, the teacher passed out the tests, Steve tried his best on every single question and turned the test in. One week later, the teacher handed the tests back to the students. When Steve saw his test, he saw an A+! He was so happy that he skipped the way home. Steve thought, “Time traveling is the best!”

I hope that someday someone could invent a real time travel machine! It could be you; You never know!



THE BOOK THIEF

Olivia Yang (3rd Grade)

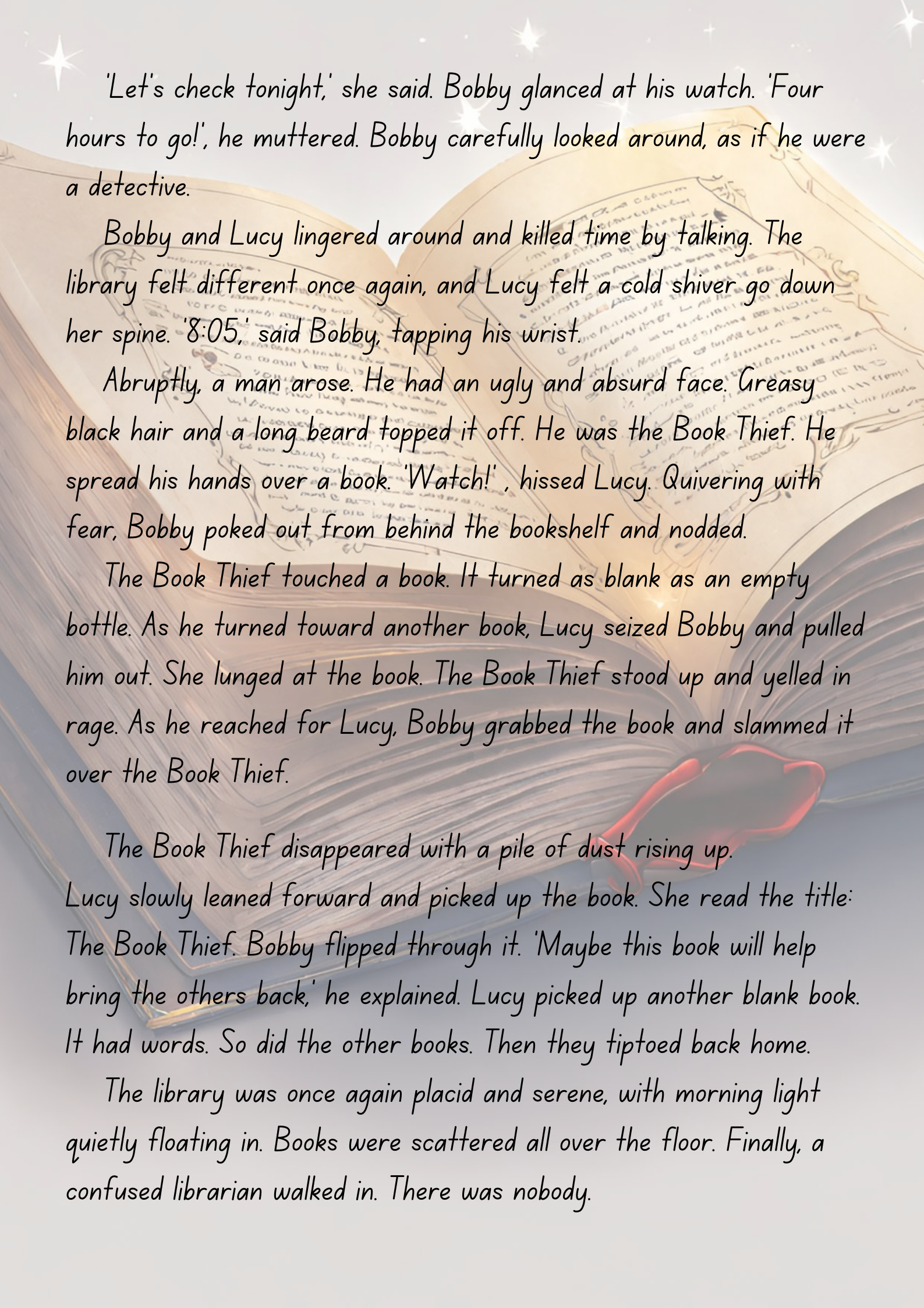
Bobby and Lucy walked to the library. Lucy swung open the door and Bobby hopped in. His facial expression promptly turned from joyful to agitated. 'Oh, is it that stupid book thief superstition again?' asked Lucy, waving off Bobby's expression.

Their town told of a man known as the book thief, which came into the library at night and made books turn blank by touching them. Nobody in Lucy's town had any reason to be afraid of the placid and serene public library except Bobby. Lucy was scared too, but she never admitted that she was afraid of a story their town told. 'No!', whined Bobby.

He ran and grabbed a book off the shelf. 'Look!', he said. The book was completely blank. Lucy was surprised and shocked, but didn't say anything to prove she was scared of her little brother's superstitions.

They headed home, with Bobby's mind swirling and Lucy's apprehensive. As Lucy was finishing her homework, Bobby slunk under the bed. 'Hey, Lucy,' he whispered. Lucy fake-groaned and dragged herself under the bed in surrender. 'Let's go see if the book thief is real,' Bobby muttered. Lucy bit her tongue so Bobby wouldn't suspect anything. After pretending to lo begrudging, she said, 'Fine.'

The next day after school, Bobby and Lucy began walking back to the library. The library was as calm and quiet as a millpond. Something different about the library spooked Bobby and Lucy. There were many blank books lying around, and the librarian was gone. Lucy tried hard not to prove she was scared, but her tongue was bloody from biting it and got the better of her.



'Let's check tonight,' she said. Bobby glanced at his watch. 'Four hours to go!', he muttered. Bobby carefully looked around, as if he were a detective.

Bobby and Lucy lingered around and killed time by talking. The library felt different once again, and Lucy felt a cold shiver go down her spine. '8:05,' said Bobby, tapping his wrist.

Abruptly, a man arose. He had an ugly and absurd face. Greasy black hair and a long beard topped it off. He was the Book Thief. He spread his hands over a book. 'Watch!', hissed Lucy. Quivering with fear, Bobby poked out from behind the bookshelf and nodded.

The Book Thief touched a book. It turned as blank as an empty bottle. As he turned toward another book, Lucy seized Bobby and pulled him out. She lunged at the book. The Book Thief stood up and yelled in rage. As he reached for Lucy, Bobby grabbed the book and slammed it over the Book Thief.

The Book Thief disappeared with a pile of dust rising up. Lucy slowly leaned forward and picked up the book. She read the title: The Book Thief. Bobby flipped through it. 'Maybe this book will help bring the others back,' he explained. Lucy picked up another blank book. It had words. So did the other books. Then they tiptoed back home.

The library was once again placid and serene, with morning light quietly floating in. Books were scattered all over the floor. Finally, a confused librarian walked in. There was nobody.

Phuket's Top 2 Attractions (my opinion)

Wensen Song (4th Grade)

I visited Phuket in Thailand during Spring Break. Overall, it was really fun, with the hotel's water slide and the bunk bed in the bedroom my sister and I shared, but my favorite parts were visiting the Big Buddha and riding and feeding elephants.

Big Buddha:

The Big Buddha was something I was really looking forward to visit ever since I started my school application process. During the application process, I typed down the places I was about to visit. I googled examples of landmarks where I was going to visit next. The next vacation was going to be at Phuket. I googled what landmarks were in Phuket and the first attraction that Google showed was the Big Buddha.

In the essay, I mentioned that the Big Buddha was one of the places I want to visit most in Phuket. My parents said that they would allow me to keep my word and would take me there today. The air was really humid, so I was sweating the entire time. When we finally got there, I was breathless by how big it was, so it totally lived up to its name.

We took a few photos at the bottom of the stairs before climbing up and looking around. While walking around the Big Buddha, I noticed a lot of statues and pictures of people the Thai people referred to as “gods”. I spied Cristiano Ronaldo among the pictures. Dad noticed Albert Einstein. They referred to him as a god because he something about cosmic universe and that Buddhism was the only thing to fulfill scientific needs.

We took more pictures in front of the Buddha and each paid 20 baht to burn incense sticks. I burned my sticks first. I planted them in the pile of rocks where the sticks were placed, sat down on a marble platform, and whispered my wish to the Buddha. My dad and sister then made their wishes. My sister accidentally touched someone else’s stick and burned her right middle finger knuckle, and we fixed it by rubbing the burn mark with a cold water bottle. She stopped crying after a while, and we both agreed that it was a great place, but that the next destination was much more fun.



Riding and Feeding Elephants:

After the Big Buddha trip, we visited a place with elephants. The people there said that an adult had to accompany a kid. My grandparents were too old, and my dad was too heavy, so my mom rode with us.

Along the road, I saw a lot of elephant poop, and there were some tough roads. The “elephant-driver” was holding a mini scythe. He poked the elephant’s ear whenever it stopped. There were seatbelts in case someone fell off, but if the elephant went rogue (they were wild animals), the seatbelt was useless, my mom told us later. There was a spider and its web in our way, so I brushed it aside, but the spider fell on my sister’s left leg. She was bawling her eyes out the way back.

She stopped crying after we found out that we would get to feed the elephants! There were 2 baskets of mini bananas, one basket peeled, the other not. There was a baby elephant waiting for us to feed her. My sister held out a banana, and the elephant stuck out her nose to grab it. The nose was flexible, so in a few seconds the elephant finished it. After we ran out of peeled bananas, we gave it the not peeled bananas.

It squeezed the banana hard, opening the peel, then put the banana in her mouth and spit the peel out. It did this until the last banana. The banana was very hard, so the elephant whacked it against the metal gate blocking her from escaping, but it still didn’t work, so she ate the banana with the peel.

This was a great trip that I enjoyed very much. And I hope to visit again soon!

The Missing Props

Nicole Li (Alumni)

Amanda, Sophie, Quinn, and Amy were fifth graders. They practice for school variety shows and brainstormed ideas for the act. Their teacher Mr. Dimming had announced that if the groups had extra props they would give them to him. Then he told the girls to stay after class and suggested that they help kids who play parts in the acts like dressing up and asking questions for a comedy hour. Next morning before the variety show, all the props went MISSING!!!! Amanda told her friends they should find the missing props.

Quinn quickly grabbed a notebook from her locker and started to list the items they knew. The props went missing around 8 am because Mr. Dimming said the last time he checked the props was at 7:30 am. The girls located four people who went backstage around that time. The four people were #1 Mrs. Hinipina, #2 Mr. Howindy, #3 Mrs. Inhannah and #4 Lucina. #1 Mrs. Hinipina is the costume designer in charge of costumes. #2 Mr. Howindy is the janitor who went backstage to clean up. #3 Mrs. Inhannah is the director of sound who went backstage to get headphones. #4 Lucina said she went inside to check and prepare for the show.

The girls searched for clues. At the end of a speaker, they found a piece of long yellow and curly hair. So they think the criminal shouldn't be Mr. Howindy because his hair is too short or Lucina because her hair is black and straight. But Mrs. Inhannah and Mrs. Hinipina both have curly yellow hair and their hairs are long. So the girls continued to search and stuck by the door. The door had some expert glue around the frame. This was the door connected to the stage behind the curtain.

The girls went to the makeup studio. There was a pearl in an old fashioned record player by the front door. The recorder was a part of a prop radio and blasted music from the radio blaster on the stage. Amilia noticed there was a pearl necklace on Mrs. Inhannah's neck and one of the peals was missing. The girls also found Mrs. Inhannah's pen inside the radio blaster. It turns out that Mrs. Inhannah did steal the props and tried to mess up the music because she hated the idea about the show.

The props were found in the janitor's closet. They were sealed up and ready to send away. Mr. Dimming called the police and the police took Mrs. Inhannah away. The show went on successfully. Many thanks to Amilia, Amanda, Amy, Quinn, and Sophie.

ME  W



*Do dogs make better pets
than cats?*

