

THE KINO CONNECTION

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ARIZONA GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY CLASS

Recently, Johnny's Junior High Arizona Geography and History class took an exciting field trip to the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum and Saguaro National Park West. Tyler R., Daniel, Eli B., Tommy, Mishka, Casey, Rebekah, AJ, Adela, Thomas, Christina Paige, and Johnny were treated to a close-up view of the small raptor called a kestrel as part of a docent presentation near the museum entrance. The group arrived at the museum just in time to rush down to the Raptor Free Flight and experience large birds flowing just over their heads. Then they encountered several animals on museum grounds, including a javalina and a rattlesnake.

After the museum and a snack, the field trip split into a hiking group and a return-to-school group. Johnny took the hikers across the street to the King Canyon Trail in Saguaro National Park. Adela, AJ, Thomas, Casey, Tommy, and Johnny headed up the trail to the Mah Ma Gah picnic area. Johnny was at the back and the students navigated the way to the destination. Even though it was quite warm at this point, everyone was doing well. For the return trip, the group just followed the wash over its dry waterfalls, encountering occasional pools of water full of small life. It was a perfect day to experience Arizona's Sonoran desert environment.



Komen and Kino Race for the Cure

On Sunday, April 6, A Komen Race for the Cure was held at Reid Park. Those who participated ran or walked to raise money for breast cancer research. Sydney Cole and her grandmother ran a mile and a half on Sunday. Mom Donna Cole walked three miles. A ceremony was held in which the song *Wind Beneath My Wings* was played and white doves were released. Sydney's mom Donna had the honor of releasing a single white dove.





THE SECRET OF LIFE

Recently Ann asked our students what they thought the secret of life was. Here are some of the answers that were posted in the Kino library:

The secret to life is to have a pet.

The secret to life is living behind a waterfall.

The secret of life is to not try too hard to search for a complex truth or to take anything too seriously; the secret is to accept imperfections and try to never take anything for granted.

The secret to life is knowing that life is an illusion and we are meaningless.

If I told you, it wouldn't be a secret would it?

The secret to life is to not correct your spelling.

The secret to life is always wearing a cookie monster suit.

There are no secrets to life.

"The True Meaning of Life—we are visitors on this planet. We are here for ninety or one hundred years at the most. During this time we must try to do something good, something useful with our lives. If you contribute to other people's happiness, you will find the true goal, the true meaning of life." ---His Holiness, the IVth Dalai Lama

Congratulations to Harrison—accepted at both Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington and at the U of A!

COSTA RICA TRIP

By Griffin Jackmond

I really enjoyed going to Costa Rica, even though on the first day I was very tired from the overnight flight and then having school at eight o'clock the morning we got in. We drove from the airport in San Jose, Costa Rica, a scary event in itself, and then we arrived at Conversa Language School. We ate breakfast in the Comedor, and then took a placement test for our classes later that day.

I was in a class with Harrison, Erik, and Sasha, a boy my age from Canada. Our teacher's name was Sergio, and he spoke to us almost exclusively in Spanish. I learned about the future and conditional tenses in Spanish, and the difference between *por* and *para*. Mostly we just had conversations in Spanish with each other. Sergio taught us a little bit about Costa Rican food and customs. He showed us how to knock down green mangoes and eat them with salt and lime juice. Very tasty. We stayed in La Casona, a beautiful building with a great view. One day we had a barbeque there, and the food was delicious.

Then we left for the Monteverde cloud forest, which was actually very sunny until the day we left. We took several tours and hikes through the forest, and saw Quetzals, and Emerald Toucan, and many other birds. One day we got up very early and a guide took us out along dirt roads far away from town and we saw a troop of white-faced cappuccino monkeys. They were very small and black with white fur on their heads. We also saw several two-toed sloths, one nursing a baby sloth. The plants and flowers were beautiful, and we got to walk high above even the tallest treetops on some suspension bridges on one tour. Every day we ate at a little local restaurant called Maravilla. The food was so delicious.

Then, almost as soon as the trip began, we had to leave. The trip back was good except for the six hour layover in Denver airport.