



The Madison Christian School boasts 26 students this year. Students and teachers, in no particular order, are Sydney Bezenek, Caitlyn Gearhart, Samuel Howell, Jessica Leighton, Declan Nelson, Jacob Oldre, Miriam Stitz, Briana Steuerwald, Alyson Johnson, Shadrach Stitz, Nicholas Andresen, Takenric Harmdierks, Elsa Leighton, Autumn Mortenson, Joshua Oldre, Izabela Howell, Cole Leighton, Amanda Rowland, Noah Salmen, Elizabeth

Andresen, April Johnson, Gabriel Richards, Paige Johnson, Grant Mortenson, Thomas Rowland and Jackson Richards. Kindergarten and art teacher is Rachel Miller, first- and second-grade teacher is Gale Rosello, third- and fourth-grade teacher is Tracy Reagle, fifth- and sixth-grade teacher is Amy Andresen, PE instructor is Jackie Salmen, music teacher is Melissa Miller, and Melinda Geiszler (not pictured) is the administrator.

Next Week's Feature  
**Chester Area School**



## We've learned spiders are not insects

By FIFTH- AND SIXTH-GRADERS

Spiders are arthropods, but they are not insects! Spiders belong to the animal kingdom and the arthropod phylum. Just like insects, however, they belong to a different class than insects and are known as arachnids. Fifth- and sixth-graders wrote the following about some different types of spiders.



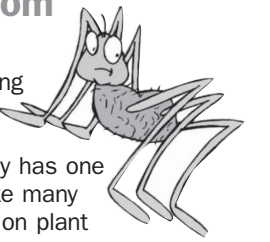
### The Daddy Long Leg can't spin a web, has no fangs or venom

By THOMAS ROWLAND

The harvest man, sometimes called the daddy long leg, has a round body suspended between eight long, scrawny legs.

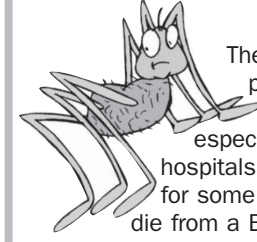
The daddy long leg is not a spider because it only has one body section. Even though it is not a spider, it is like many spiders by being a great friend to farmers. It feeds on plant lice and other pesky insects that destroy garden plants.

Since the daddy long leg has no spinnerets to make a web to catch its food, it must hunt for its food by sneaking up on it. And since this arachnid has no fangs or venom, its only defense lies in its ability to release an unpleasant musty smell. So its whole life relies on stench.



### The Black Widow Spider bite can be fatal to young, elderly

By GRANT MORTENSON



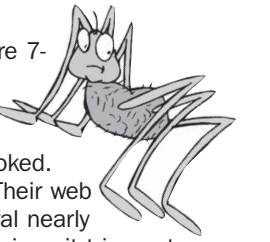
The Black Widow is a poisonous spider that will inflict a painful bite which can cause a headache, chest tightness, and shortness of breath. It can be fatal especially to young and elderly people. Fortunately, hospitals haven't antivenom, a medicine that deactivates venom for some spider bites. Therefore, it's very rare for a person to die from a Black Widow bite.

The adult Black Widow's body is usually about a half inch long. The female has a black coat and a red, orange or yellow hourglass on its body.

### The Funnel Weaver Spider is not poisonous to humans

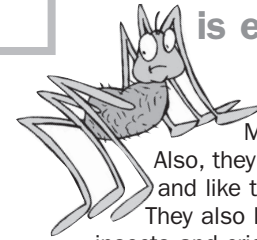
By JACKSON L. RICHARDS

The funnel weaver spider is small; the females are 7-11 mm. long. The males are slightly smaller at 7-9 mm. in length. The legs, however, are long, being up to an inch. Humans commonly encounter funnel weavers, and they rarely bite unless extremely provoked. Their venom is poisonous, though not to humans. Their web consists of a sheet of webbing, a funnel, and several nearly invisible "trip wires." If an insect hits one of these wires, it trips onto the web and gets stuck. The spider then darts out and brings it back in to eat. Funnel weavers are somewhat nocturnal. They can be found year round if they are in a survivable habitat. They belong to the class of arachnids and their scientific name is Tegenaria domestica.



### The Cobalt Blue Tarantula is extremely aggressive and fast

By PAIGE JOHNSON



The cobalt blue tarantula is a native of Thailand and Myanmar located in Asia. They can grow to be six inches. Also, they are extremely aggressive and fast. They spin large webs and like to burrow. Their bite is painful and can make a human ill. They also like humidity and warm temperatures. They eat large insects and crickets. Their scientific name is Haplopelma lividum.

## Hear ye! Hear ye! Here's the latest news

By SECOND-GRADERS

First- and second-grade students have been studying about communication methods in America from its beginning until present day. They've learned about the town crier, the pony express, stage coach deliveries, the post office, E-mail, television and radio. As an activity, students made up their own news and proclaimed it in the town crier fashion. Below are announcements written by second-graders.

By AUTUMN MORTENSON

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Zoe is coming to town!  
Hear Ye, Hear Ye Ms. Rosello is the best teacher in the WORLD!

By TAKENRIC HARMDIERKS

Hear ye, Hear ye, Zoe is coming to school!  
Hear ye, Hear ye, it is school today! Hear ye, Hear ye, it is snowing! Hear ye, hear ye!

By JOSH OLDRE

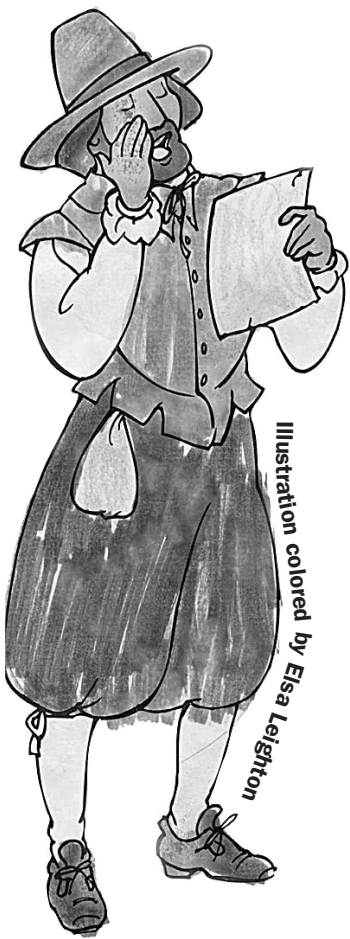
Hear ye, Hear ye, everyone must Worship God. Hear ye, hear ye it is thanks giving.

By NICHOLAS ANDRESEN

Hear ye, Hear ye, Zoe is coming. Hear ye, Hear ye, the school is on fire. Hear ye, hear ye, it's Nicholas' birthday. Hear ye, Hear ye, everyone must worship God. Hear ye, hear ye, we have a new bus.

By ELSA LEIGHTON

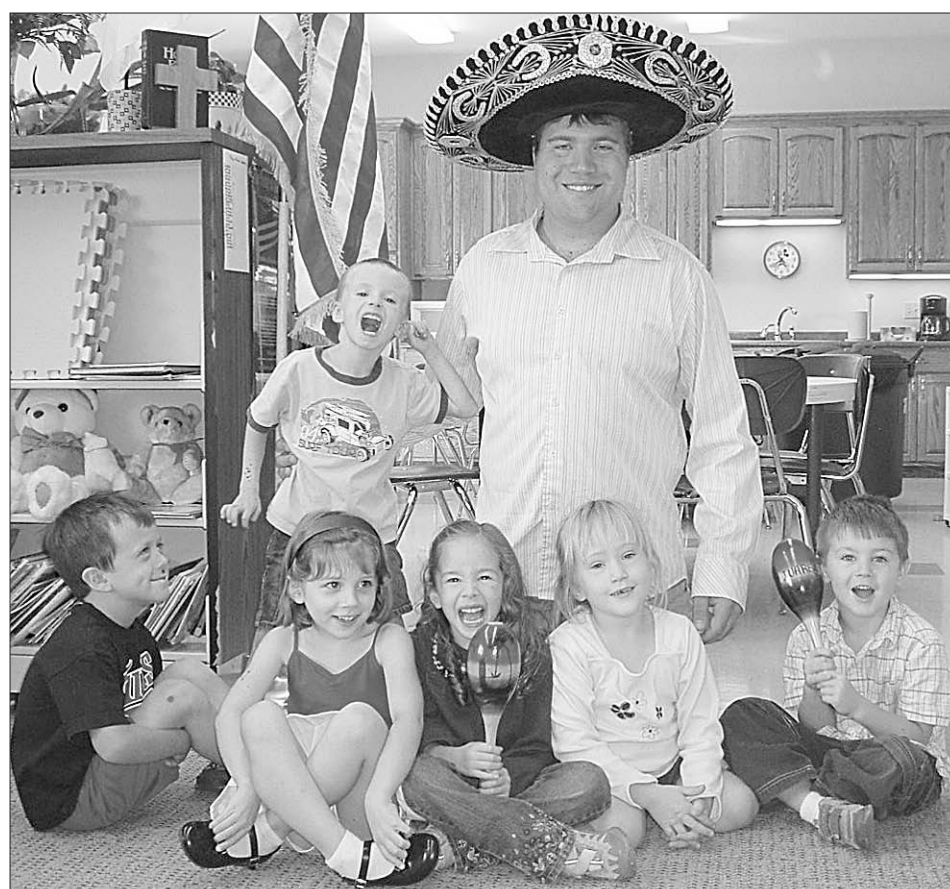
Hear ye, Hear ye Zoe is coming to school!  
Hear ye, hear ye, everybody must worship God! Hear ye, Hear ye, Ms. Rosello is awesome! Hear ye, Hear ye, we rode our new bus Thursday!



## What we have learned about visiting Mexico

By KINDERGARTNERS

- You need a passport to go. — Caitlyn Gearhart
- That the can eat different food. Mark went to Mexico on a mission's trip. — Miriam Stitz
- Got to wear a big hat. — Jacob Oldre
- Lots of people live there. — Jessica Leighton
- How to write gracias and God he helps us. — Samuel Howell
- Can't lose your passport. — Sydney Bezenek
- Got a stamp in my Passport. We made our own cards. — Declan Nelson



Kindergartners at the Madison Christian School had a visit from Mark Thiesen who told them about Mexico - the first of 10 countries students will be hearing about this year. Gathered with Thiesen are (back) Samuel Howell, (front, left) Jacob Oldre, Caitlyn Gearhart, Miriam Stitz, Jessica Leighton and Declan Nelson.

## Kindergartners comment about the Good Shepherd

- Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He is happy with me and loves me. He found the lost sheep. — Caitlyn Gearhart
- Jesus in the Good Shepherd and He takes care of the sheep. — Jacob Oldre
- "Come here sheep" He calls us to Him. The wolf came and the sheep ran to the shepherd because the sheep know His voice. — Miriam Stitz
- Jesus was the Good Shepherd and he called the sheep and they followed him. — Declan Nelson
- How to be nice. He watches out for us. — Jessica Leighton
- He is a shepherd and is happy. God helps us. — Samuel Howell
- He finds the sheep when they are lost. — Sydney Bezenek

## Students present play about habitats

The third- and fourth-graders put on a play with puppets called "Flatfoot Fox and the Case of the Nosy Otter."

The puppet show helped students learn about the natural habitats in which animals of South Dakota live. The students designed the background and each acted out the role of an animal for the play. The puppet show was presented to the students and parents. The play was one of the many activities provided by the Big Sioux Water Festival of Brookings. The class is provided with several learning trunks throughout the school year, this being the first trunk.

Characters included Motherly Mouse by April Johnson, Secretary Bird by Izabela Howell, Flatfoot Fox by Gabriel Richards, Nosy Otter by Amanda Rowland, Mrs. Chatterbox Otter by Elizabeth Andresen, Terribly Worried Woodchuck by Cole Leighton and Crabby Crow by Noah Salmen.



Third- and fourth-graders show off their puppets made for the recent production of "Flatfoot Fox and the Case of the Nosy Otter." Students include (left) April Johnson, Izabela Howell, Gabriel Richards, Amanda Rowland, Elizabeth Andresen, Cole Leighton and Noah Salmen.