

The Osprey Times

"If opportunity doesn't knock...build a door!"

-Milton Berle

Free

February 2018

IMAGINE ~ INVENT ~ INSPIRE



Science Fair Fun at STEM

By: Leena Dagly & Heather Herman

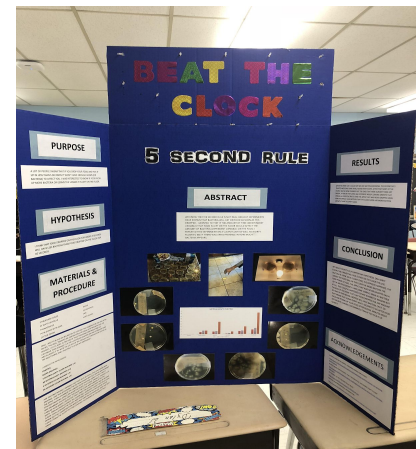
January 25th was the Fourth Grade Science Fair! Each fourth grade student was asked to utilize the Scientific Method and conduct an experiment which they would document and share with their peers. We interviewed 2 fourth graders from each fourth grade class about how they liked doing the experiments.

We interviewed Kahnan Speight and Matthew James (Mrs. Monks and Turner) Spencer James and Domenica Elgart, (Mrs. Audia) Avery Joshua-Tor and Jelena Silva, (Mrs. Blitz) Naomi Lyons and Zoe Selleri

(Mr. Dierking) Jessica Bree and Andre Delrosso (Mrs. McVetty).

After we interviewed all the students, we realized that most of them enjoyed working on the visual presentation board just as much as watching the experiment unfold, since they could let their imagination and creativity run wild. "Working on my project was pretty hard, yet fun at the same time," said Andre Delrosso. We found some pretty interesting projects. Here are a few examples of their testable questions: "Does changing the leavening agent affect how the muffin rises?" That project was by Domenica Elgart. Another one was: "Does storing apple slices in different ways stop them from browning?" Naomi Lyons investigated that concept. We also had: "Does changing the amount of air in a soccer ball affect how far the soccer ball goes when you kick it?" Matthew James looked into that. The last one was: "What type of slime stretches the furthest" by Jessica Bree. Everyone seemed to love that one! Kahnan Speight shared with us, "Working on my experiment was very fun and educational" (we agree).

Spencer James shared, "It was enjoyable watching the experiment happen, but also fun working on the board. Working on the board showed my creative side." Domenica Elgart was eager to let us know: "It is fun making something that can be scientific, but also tastes very good!!" Parents and loved ones gathered in each 4th grade classroom~ taking turns being amazed and impressed by each Scientific discovery. Fourth graders stood proudly by their presentations~ eager to answer questions. Each class proudly participated in their own Kids Choice Awards where four lucky students per class were awarded blue ribbon honors!



The honorees included:

Most Creative:

Heather Herman, Maximo Andrade,
Jessica Bree, Justin Hernandez,
Andrew McRoy

Most Interesting Topic:

Jeremy Gross, Kenny
Velarde-Gonzalez, Andrei Del Rosso,
Nathaniel Sierra, Thomas Knapp

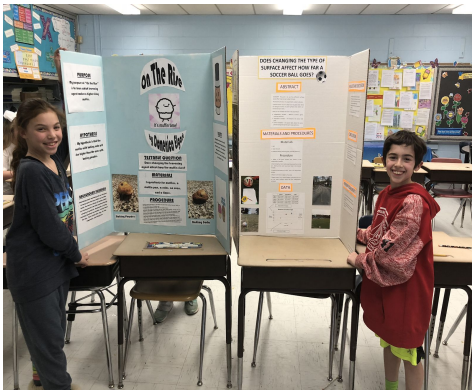
Best Overall Visual Display:

Ruby Baliber, Marin Mullaly, Victoria
Hart, Vaughan Steinert, Sean Eagan,
Charlotte Cassatto

Best Knowledge of Subject:

Avery Joshua-Tor, Dylan Wong, Mark
Ingram, Alexander Tine, Dalton Flynn

What a STEMtastic time!!!



SEARCHING FOR KNOWLEDGE

(at the DNA learning center)

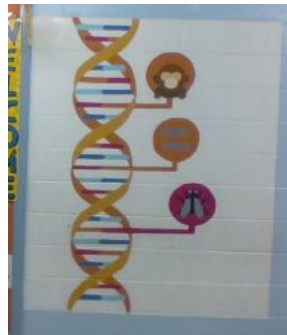
By: Devon St. John &
Anshi PAul

Recently, the fifth grade SEARCH students embarked on a trip to the Cold Spring Harbor DNA Learning Center. We were lucky enough to experience it first hand!

The trip was educational AND (DNA backwards) fun! The mentors, Mr. Thomas and Mrs. M, were extremely kind and helpful. We conducted three experimental activities, all of which we enjoyed.

The first activity we did was we made a small DNA model out of wood (otherwise known as the double helix) discovered by James Watson, Francis Crick, and Rosalind Franklin.

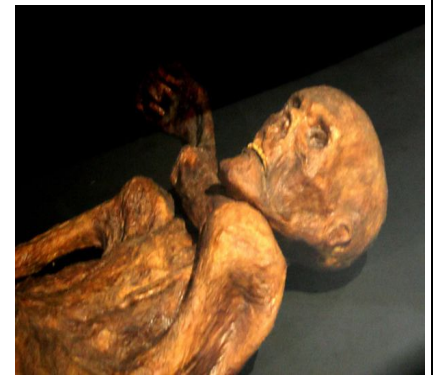
We learned that the "backbone" (base) of DNA is made of phosphate and a sugar called deoxyribose. We also learned what DNA stands for Deoxyribonucleic Acid.



The next activity we did was make lactose-free milk.

Most adult mammals, including more humans than you think, are lactose intolerant. This would mean that a tall glass of milk would set their digestive tract off into horrible pain. Lactose free milk is one way to ensure that mammals which can not successfully break down the sugar to get glucose, can still enjoy milk. So, what would future scientists of America do...we genetically engineered a lactose intolerant bacteria to become lactose tolerant by making lactase.

After that we had a lunch break. We got to tour the museum and check out



Otzi, the Ice-Man. A long time (thousands of years) ago, Otzi was attempting to climb a mountain, but received so many injuries along his way that he died and his body had been completely preserved underneath the ice! About 20 years ago, two tourists discovered him while they trekked across the Otzal Alps. They found his corpse frozen beneath the ice and dug him up. It is amazing how a thin layer of ice preserved his body almost perfectly over the years! Scientists were able to study him and learn amazing and useful information. For our final activity, we extracted DNA from ground up wheat germ. We worked cooperatively. We added Ethanol, water, and detergent to the wheat germ until it broke the cell wall and nuclear membrane down, releasing most of the DNA. We then collected it with a syringe. There was enough DNA for each member of the group to observe and learn from!

Overall, this field trip was very exciting and we learned a lot along the way. If you wish, you can answer the questions below and hand it in to Anshi Paul and Devon St.John. You will see the results in the next issue!

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Are you lactose intolerant?

Do you have any family members who are?_____

If one of the above is true, where does your family originate from?_____

Check next issue to see results!!!!

Science is
a way of thinking
much more than it is
a body of knowledge.

- Carl Sagan



STEM picks up STEAM...

(as we add the fine ARTS to our list of accomplishments...)

By: Elizabeth James and Natalie parrott

It's a new school year and Woodhull and Stem have decided to start off on a high note! It is the first time both schools have collaborated and come together as

the Theater Arts Club. You had to know it was bound to be amazing.



This year the performance was Beauty and The Beast. We had the pleasure of going to see it during the school day and it blew our minds! The show was incredible! With a cast and crew of over 150 members, Beauty and The Beast exceeded all expectations. Each performance was done with such professionalism, you would have thought each character was a trained Broadway actor/actress! It was a new adventure that Stem students accepted with excitement and surely enchanted each and every audience member! Each and every member of this show put in endless hours of hard work and practice to make everything run as smooth as it did! It was an experience that will not be forgotten. Now that STEM has been bitten by the Theater Arts club bug, there is no turning back! Students are already talking about next year! We had an opportunity to interview our very own sensational Sophia Weiss, a cast member and had positive feedback. Enjoy our question and answer session with her...

Q: "What made you want to be involved in the play?"

S: "I thought it would be fun and I've always wanted to be involved in some sort of acting."

Q: "What role did you get and how do you feel about it?"

S: "I am a hatseller. Even though it's not a main part, I'm fortunate to have a role, I get to make many appearances throughout the show."

Q: "How do you feel about performing with Woodhull?"

S: "I liked it..alot,I think it's a great way to make new friends."

Q: "What was your reaction when you heard about the play?"

S: "I was super excited that STEM was getting the chance to be involved!"

Q: "Would you encourage others to do the play next time and why."

S: "Indubitably,because it is a lot of fun and it's amazing to see the final product."

Well, Sophia shined in her role, as did all the Huntington students! What a talented group. Another proud moment for STEM and Woodhull to share together. We cannot wait to see what next year's performance will be!!!



Sitting down with Mr. Polansky

*By: Natalie Parrot
and Elizabeth James*



Like the many different sized pieces that come together to make one amazing puzzle, each school district is made up of many different elements that when placed together can either create great success or cause great failure. One piece placed in the wrong spot and the final product begins to fall apart. It takes one extremely dedicated and hard working individual to keep an eye over each and every piece, making sure they all come together successfully. We bet that EVERYONE, knows our *amazing* superintendent, **Mr. Polansky**! We were so very lucky to sit down and get some time to discuss a few important issues with him, while getting to know him better as well.

Mr. Polansky welcomed us into his office with open arms, eager to speak about all the wonderful things coming our way, here in Huntington. We had lots of good feedback and we could not wait to share it with our readers.

We started our interview by asking Mr. Polansky what the hardest, most challenging part of his job was, and what were some of the pro's and con's? We knew his job could not be an easy task! He took a moment and then answered, "The

hardest part is that there are 975 staff members and 4,600 students in our district, and my goal is to try to give everybody what they need to ensure the very best best job can be done for you." Wow! We thought about that and realized how difficult it must always be! He continued by adding, "There are a lot more pros than cons with my job. A pro would have to be that I get to be interviewed, and I get to witness first hand all the wonderful things that are going on in each classroom! My favorite part about my job is being in the classrooms and observing." A con... spending too much time on the phone!" "Each decision made involves many, many people."

When asked why he decided to become a Superintendent, Mr. Polansky didn't hesitate. He let us know that it didn't happen overnight. He quickly answered, "I started as a teacher and taught for many years. I eventually moved on to become an assistant principal, then a principal! While I was an assistant superintendent in another district, I felt I could have a more positive impact on children as a Superintendent."

**"If your actions
inspire others
to dream more,
learn more, do
more and become
more, you are a
leader."**

John Quincy Adams

I have had 7 years experience as a Superintendent, and although it is hard work, it is always fun and I enjoy it!" We couldn't help but smile. We were happy he made the decision he made!

We knew many of our readers were wondering what to expect in the future here at STEM. So we asked Mr. Polansky, what could we look forward to? With a warm smile he replied, "Well... always be prepared for anything! New and exciting opportunities always arise and we will take advantage of all the advancements in technology."

Well, we knew our time was running out and although we had many more questions we wanted to ask, we knew Mr. Polansky had many important things to do! We ended our interview with a very important question. We asked him what his favorite school was! He answered truthfully and told us, "They are all TERRIFIC!" Good answer Mr. Polansky, very good answer!



Building a bridge to the future...

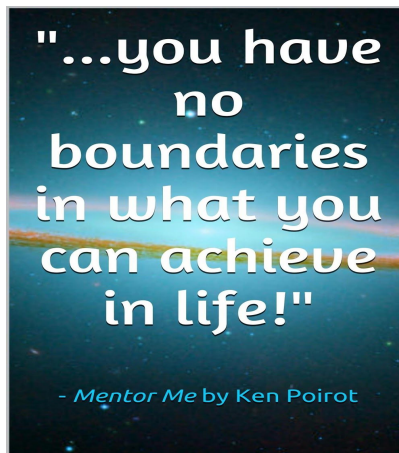
By: Leena Dagly and Thomas Davis

Think about the first day you started at STEM. Do you remember feeling intimidated by the challenges set before you? Do you remember working so very hard to do your best in every subject? Now, imagine the same exact scenario, yet you do not speak any English? Your native language is different than most of the students that surround you. Well, that is exactly how the students in Mrs. Pelliccia's Bridge class feels most days. Mrs. Pelliccia teaches an amazing program which helps students make the transition from other countries easier. We call it the Bridge class. In bridge class students learn to do so many special things. We will tell you all about it....

The bridge class students just completed their "Spear Globes" project. This project incorporated art while learning about continents and landforms.

After learning about landforms and continents, they learned about Biomes and Animal Habitats! Mrs. Pelliccia thinks that her students are an amazing group of students, filled with great potential. "My students can do more than they think that they can!" says Mrs. Pelliccia with a smile!

When we stopped to speak with two students about their



experience here at STEM, both Andy and Celina shared with us, "Mrs. Pelliccia is a great teacher!" Andy even added, "I like Mrs. Pelliccia because she has a lot of patience with me!"

Before the holidays, the students read a book called "How to catch an elf." After they read that book they made their own Elf Traps. "I thought the elf-traps were a very fun activity," said Celina. "It is something I had never done!"

Mrs. Pelliccia gives her the class the gift of experiences they may not have had before. She fills her class with compassion and education combined. They are each lucky to have her, and STEM is lucky to have such a wonderful program!



Mrs. Pelliccia smiling with pride...

5 ways technologies are invading 2018

By: Jordan Thourborne

Predicting the future is hard, and technology is always changing. Here are 5 tech trends that lie ahead for 2018.

1: The increasing datafication in our lives

Almost everything we do leaves a trail of data crumbs. Whether we are chatting with friends on a group message, or streaming music. In an average minute, Facebook receives 900,000 logins, 156 million emails are received and 15 million texts are sent. With numbers like that, no wonder we are increasing our data imprint. This is even more reason to be extra cautious with what we do when we are online. Everything we do leaves a forever imprint~EVERYTHING!

#2: Our everyday devices are becoming smarter than we are! Anything we can imagine needing to know... our devices can tell us! This is amazing...yet let's remember our brain is a muscle, we MUST exercise it!!! So use it!

#3: Spiked growth in computing power is fueling huge tech advances.

#4: The rise of artificial intelligence (AI)

Computers are now able to learn in much the same way as we humans do, and this leap in artificial intelligence capability has been made possible by the massive increases in data and computer power. This huge step forward means that computers can now undertake more and more human tasks. Some great examples right now are facial recognition. One example of an AI electronic is Amazon Alexa. How many of us have at least one in our home!

#5: Automation

The more intelligent machines become, the more they can do for us. That means even more processes, decisions, functions and systems can be automated and carried out by algorithms or robots.

In this era of ever changing technology, one this most certain, you can be 100% sure that our future will look very different from today.

HEY NEW KIDS, THIS IS FOR YOU!

By: Devon St. John and Anshi Paul

As you might know, there are more kids in this school than ever! The school has adapted to this change with more classes and teachers. So many that fourth grade classes are flooding into the 6th grade hallway! We have all been new kids at one time. Some are shy, others have made great new friends! We wanted to know how their experience has been at STEM so far!

The first person we talked to was Erika Reyes, a fifth grader in Mrs. Curtin and Roseto's class. We asked her what was her favorite activity so far this year. Her face lit up. "Math! I feel like I wasn't good at it this year, but now I feel like a better at it!" she exclaimed. Next, we asked how her old school is different from STEM. "The school has more possibilities. Such as, the makerspace and health," she states. She explains how her old school didn't have these specials and how it is great to have them.

We then moved on to the next question. "What do you hope to do this year?" we asked. She rolled her eyes and said, "That's easy! Handling more technology. I love robots and the new special, makerspace." Then we asked the big question. Do you enjoy STEM? "Yes! I am making great new friends here too! I really love this school," she says joyfully.

That wraps up that interview but we also interviewed some best friends, Genesis Araujo and Julia Richards. They are fourth graders

in Mr. Dierking's class. We asked the same questions. What was your favorite activity at STEM? "Orchestra," Genesis starts.

"Because I get to learn a new instrument!" Julia finishes. They looked at each other and nodded in unison. How is Jefferson different from STEM? "This school's bigger," Genesis states.

"And there is longer math!" Julia adds.

They hope to handle more tech like Erika. "It is fun to find out how it's made." Julia exclaims. Then, for the final question. "Of course I like STEM. There is a great combo of education and making great friends. Like Julia!" Genesis states. "Great friends like Genesis too!"

We were surprised about how positive each answer was. We are glad the the new kids are liking STEM. We hope they stay awhile. And of course, new kids, this was for you

FASHION ADVICE

By: Domenica Elgart

Wonderful Winter Wardrobes!

If you walk out in winter, it will obviously be cold. You'll definitely want something cozy and warm, but also stylish and trendy! And that's wear the Fashion Column comes in!

Okay girls. So your "Fashion of the Season" is super cute unicorn

Creativity is
intelligence having fun.

Albert Einstein

sweatshirt with a pair of simple black leggings. For shoes, a pair of glittery or chestnut brown UGGs.



Well for our boys...How about a super casual hoodie and jeans. Footwear?? Well, a pair of Nikes, of course.



Remember creativity can be shown through fashion design...so be yourself and you will be always be beautiful!

*Mr. Malle beats to his own drum...
(and we think he's awesome for it)*

By: Sophia Weiss



What kind of Stem school would we be if we didn't also focus on Music and all the happiness it brings to children. We are very lucky to have Mr. Malle in our music program. His passion for music is contagious and inspiring. He can be seen inspiring our students throughout the day, as he helps them perfect their band skills. For anyone who may not know it, Mr. Malle is also a very funny, caring and talented teacher! Let's take a minute to learn a little more about who he is... I sat down with him recently and did a little Q & A session! Read on to find out more...

Q: What is your favorite day of the year?

A: The day after labor day.

Q: What is your favorite instrument?

A: I don't have a favorite! I enjoy so many different instruments. All bring with them a unique quality that makes them enjoyable.

Q: How are you liking this year?

A: I like this year, however, I find it is more challenging than last year. There are so many more students, which makes scheduling difficult.

Q: What is your favorite song to play?

A: I have two favorite songs: One is titled "Creepy Crawlies" and the other one is titled "Have drums will travel."

Q: Do you like the snow?

A: A little bit is nice to look at, but I definitely do not like too much!

Q: What made you become a music teacher?

A: I started teaching private drum lessons when I was younger. I liked it so much that I continued teaching. I love teaching all the different instruments.

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When I asked Mr. Malle what sort of message he had for our students he said with a huge smile:

"Continue playing instruments, I hear from many parents that they regret not sticking with it.

Practice makes you better. Perfect is too much pressure but you can always get better!"

What's Trending...

By: *Domenica Elgart & Christian St. John*



Students voted these three apps to be the most visited and utilized apps around!

Which Songs do our STEMMY students enjoy the most?



"Thunder"



"Havana"

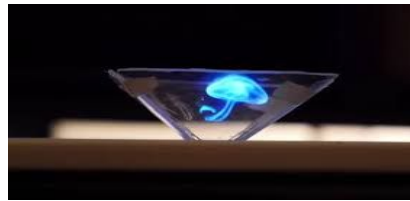


"Perfect"

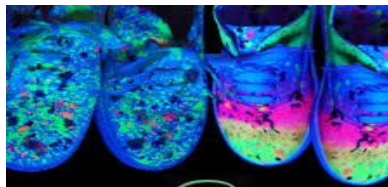
How about The latest Science fun trending...



Make a crystal Geode



Holigram on your phone



Glow in the dark shoes...

And...that's WHAT'S TRENDING!!!

SPORTSCENTER

NFL Football STATS

By **Christian St. John** and
Tavian Stancil

Who's Out:

Deshaun Watson,
Joe Flacco
Dez Bryant
Odell Beckham Jr.
Brandon Marshall

Drama:

A.J. Green choked out Jalen Ramsey than punched him. Both players were ejected from the game. Mike Evans attacked Marshon Lattimore after he taunted Jameis Winston.

Leonard Fournette was sat for one game for violating the teams rules.

Giants

The New York Giants have done terrible this year. This is probably because of a couple reasons. First, they dropped a couple players do to their salary. Second, Odell Beckham Jr. was injured. He is one of their key players. Eli Manning, who has started every game since 2004 was benched and they put Geno Smith in instead.

NY Jets

Before the season started, the projections for this year thought that the jets would go 0-16. Obviously, that isn't correct because by the time I am typing this they are 5-6!

Last but not least..

**Patriots VS. Eagles in the
SUPERBOWL!!!!**

**Just play. Have fun. Enjoy
the game.**

Michael Jordan



Remember!

****EACH STUDENT
SHOULD BRING IN
ONE PLAIN, WHITE
T-SHIRT TO BE
USED FOR OUR
WONDER WEEK AT
SCHOOL IN
JUNE.*******

****We are also still
collecting gently
used coats for our
coat drive****



*"It's not
what you
write. It's
the way that
you write it."
- Jack Kerouac*

Are you strong enough to use "THE POWER OF ONE?"

By: Leena Dagly & Domenica Elgart

On Tuesday the 4th and 5th grade classes were shown the inner strength they each possessed as they took part in an anti-bullying assembly titled:

"The Power Of One." This insightful assembly was brought to our school by our amazing PTA. As STEM students sat in the audience, different scenarios were played out on stage. Each scene depicted the horrible pain bullying can cause, and also how that pain can be stopped by one simple choice..the choice to **STAND UP** and **SPEAK OUT** against the actions that are hurtful. Our very own Stem students were called onto the stage and were able to take part in the assembly,



as they role played and fought off the negative effects of bullying. The speakers informed our students of all the various faces a bully can wear and all the different ways we can all be bullied. The speakers showed us examples of: Cyber Bullying, Physical bullying, mental bullying and flat out cruel behaviors. Most importantly though, they showed us how being a simple bystander can cause just as much pain, as being an actual bully. They explained how people can prevent bullying, such as saying, "Why are you doing this?" or "Please stop, you're being mean." Most importantly students should be reporting the issue to an adult. A 4th grader, Katie Cocoman, was chosen to come up on stage, wear a cape, gloves, and goggles, and look into a box. Inside the box was the one main power that could stop bullying. When asked what was inside the box, Katie shouted, "Me!". There was a mirror in the box. They explained that the mirror was there because you can stop bullying with your own power. You are stronger than any bully!

"Blowing out someone else's candle doesn't make yours shine any brighter."

Always remember... "Your deeds are your monuments"...leave this world with beauty not ugliness to remember you by!

What's the Hydroponic Hype!!!

By: Heather Herman And Matthew James



Mrs. Blitz is a perfect fit here at STEM. This is her first year in her fourth grade classroom, and she already has the hallway buzzing with excitement. If you look in the back of her classroom, you will find a secret garden where Hydroponic adventure has begun.

What is Hydroponics you ask? Hydroponics is the process of growing plants without soil, using mineral nutrient solutions in a water solvent. Without soil, you ask? YES! Did you know... It is a more efficient way to provide food and water to your plants. Plants don't use soil - they use the food and water that are in the soil. Soil's function is to supply plants nutrients and to anchor the plants' roots. So instead we use something called "grow-blocks" to start the plants on their journey.

Once placed in the Hydroponic greenhouse, seedlings will begin to grow right before your eyes. In Mrs. Blitz class we are using it as a learning tool.

Do you want to know the steps to hydroponics?!? Well here they are!



Step 1. First gather your seeds, set up your Hydroponic system, your greenhouse, and don't forget your grow-blocks (which resemble a little miniature backyard).

Step 2. Next, with the utmost care, you plant your seeds into the grow-blocks, (just like you would in a regular garden).

Step 3. Once the plants have sprouted it is time to transplant the sprouts into the Hydroponics system. At this point your plants will be watered daily, until the roots have grown approximately 4 inches long, then the Hydroponic system takes charge and waters each plant for you when needed.

*plants out and if you planted food....
Enjoy!!!!*



So what are the benefits of such a futuristic system? Besides being able to be grown anywhere from 30 - 50% faster than in ordinary soil, the plants grown here will acquire a much stronger root base, which will help plants that need to be transplanted have a much higher survival rate. This system can also be utilized in areas where soil may not be as fertile as needed, or where farmland may be scarce, yet the need for vegetables immense. Leave it to Mrs. Blitz's 4th graders to make Scientific leaps and bounds. Way to go!!!



**A great big THANK
YOU to the Osprey
Times staff!!!
They put in a great
deal of hard work,
time and
commitment!
THANK YOU ...**

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Step 4. *When your plants have reached adulthood take the*

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