

***Q & A with Author and Artist Victoria Jamieson  
by Ainsley, fourth grade***



***Graphic Novelist  
Victoria Jamieson  
won the 2016  
Newbery Award  
for her book,  
Roller Girl.***

***Q: How did you come up with the characters' derby names?***

***A:*** Some of the names were based on people I knew (like Slay Miserables and Heidi Go Seek). For other names, I reached out to junior derby skaters around the world! It was really fun connecting with skaters in different countries.

***Q: Are any parts of the book based on your real life?***

***A:*** Absolutely! I played roller derby, but only as a grown-up, not as a kid. As mentioned before, I also had a best friend who was very important to me. My family moved to a different state when I was in 7th grade, and I used some of those memories of moving away from my best friend to write the story of Astrid growing apart from her best friend.

***Q: What made you want to write Roller Girl?***

***A:*** I was playing roller derby at the time, and I had so much fun playing that I wanted to write about it! I also wanted to write a book about friendship, because my own best friend was so important to me growing up.

***Q: Have you been in a roller derby before?***

***A:*** I played competitive roller derby for about 7 years. I don't play anymore, but I still like roller skating and ice skating.

***Q: Why did they wear face paint/make-up?***

***A:*** If you go watch a roller derby bout, you'll probably see some of the players wearing face paint or make-up. It's one of the fun and theatrical elements of roller derby!



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## *The History of Libraries* by Avalon, sixth grade

Libraries are big parts of some people's lives like Miss Berry the children's librarian, and other people who have devoted much of their time to help people like you find books and answer questions.

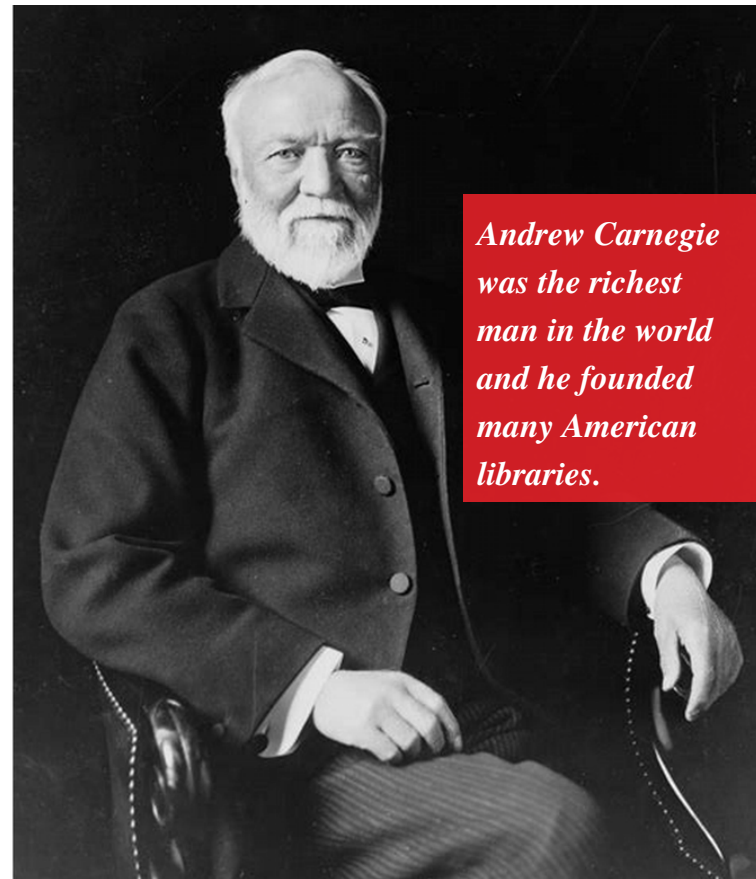
In this article you will learn why libraries were invented, how they help people, and when some of the first libraries were created. You may have wondered when the first library was built, and if you haven't this will still be interesting.

The first libraries appeared about 5,000 years ago and originated in Southwest Asia's Fertile Crescent, an area that stretched from Mesopotamia to the Nile in Africa. The oldest still operating library in the world is in Fez, Morocco and it was created in 859 CE. Libraries were invented to help people like you get smarter by reading.

A few thousand years later a man named Andrew Carnegie was born in 1835. Andrew Carnegie eventually was one of the richest men in the world's history but he was definitely not born into wealth like some other people, his family was dirt poor which means they didn't have a lot of money to spare. He was born in Dunfermline, Scotland, and immigrated to what is now known as Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania with his parents and 5 year old brother, Thomas, in 1848 at age 12.

Later on in his life Andrew became a leading industrialist and philanthropist in the United States, Great Britain, and British Empire. By the end of his life he had donated about 60 million dollars to support libraries all over the world.

Libraries also sometimes have social events and other fun things you can do like bird watching or drawing club. If you have a question most likely you can always ask your local librarian. Keep reading and if you have any questions you can ask anyone at the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity.



*Andrew Carnegie was the richest man in the world and he founded many American libraries.*



### ***Jr. Friends' Book Picks***

#### ***Picture Books***

**Elephant and Piggy**, books by Mo Willems

**The Pigeon**, books by Mo Willems

Dr. Seuss books

#### ***Chapter Books***

**My Weird School**, series by Dan Gutman

**Who Was?...**, series by various authors

**Emily Windsnap**, series by Liz Kessler

**Max Einstein**, series by James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein

**Crenshaw** by Katherine Applegate

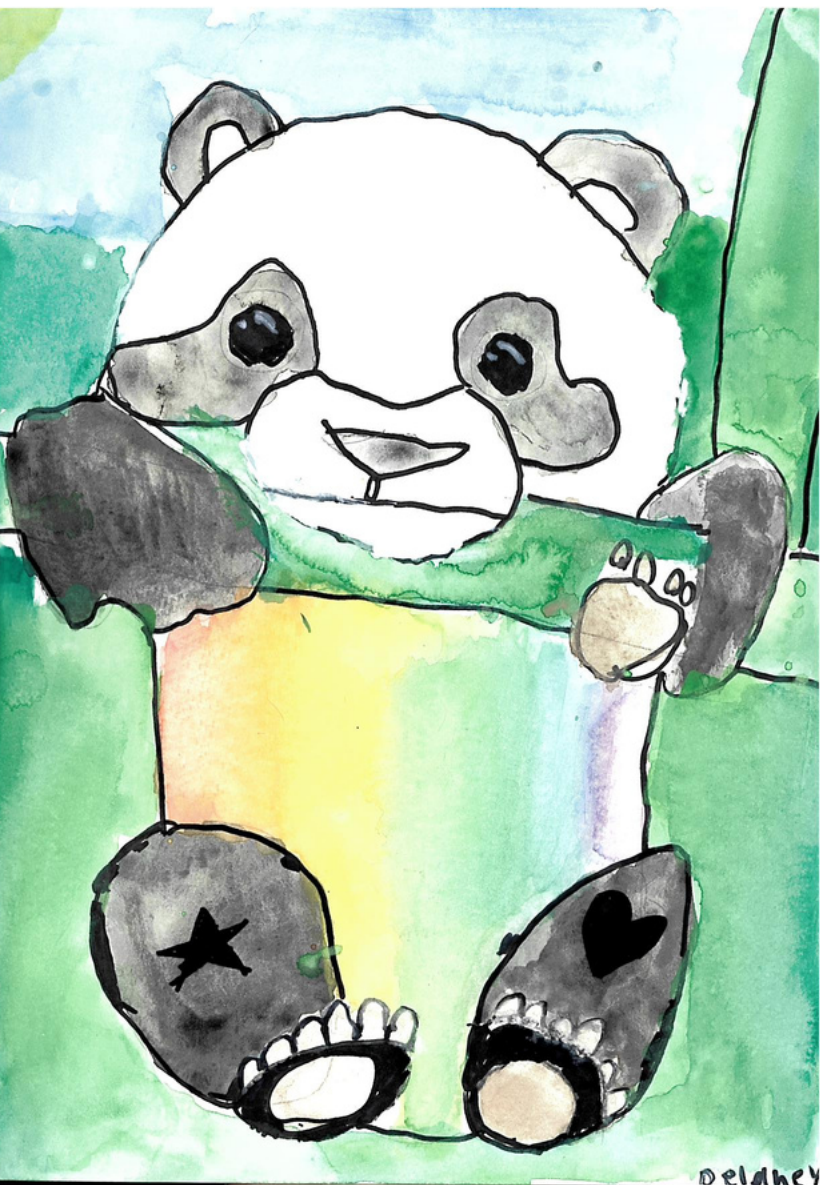
**The One and Only Ivan** by Katherine Applegate

**Millionaires for the Month** by Stacy McAnulty

**Harry Potter** by JK Rowling

**The Candymakers** by Wendy Mass





## ***Pandas***

***by Delaney, third grade***

### **Introduction**

Did you know that the world's oldest Panda lived up to 38 years old? You might not know a lot about Pandas. So let's find out about Pandas' bodies, enemies, and diet.

### **Body Type**

Pandas can be big or small. A panda's average weight comes up to 24 pounds. A Panda's average height is 1.5 m. A panda's color is black and white. A special feature of the panda is it can bark, growl, and squeak. Another special feature is that pandas mostly live up to 20 years old.

### **Diet**

Pandas are mostly vegetarian. They can survive on bamboo. But they do eat flowers, and vines. Pandas eat bamboo rats and bamboo rats are meat. Pandas eat with their hands.

### **Enemies & Hunting**

Pandas are predators and prey. Their prey are bamboo rats and their predators are leopards and dholes. I don't know any other enemies.

### **Conclusion**

I hope that you learned a lot of things about pandas' diet, body, and enemies. To learn more visit your nearest library today!

### ***Featured Fiction:***

### ***Zebby, News, and the Problem at Target*** ***by Evan, fourth grade***

One cold December day, the cats Zebby and News were in the leaf house. News was baking a honey cake and Zebby was on the phone with the Target manager.

"OK I'll be there today," Zebby was saying, "about a problem with some mice in the ceiling. Oh and are you sure the mice aren't tricking me? Oh do you want to come over for cake. News's are delicious."

"No," said the manager, "just get here tonight!"



"Fine," said Zebby, "but first can I tell you about the other time I was tr-"

"Cake time!" yelled News from the other room.

"I need to go," said Zebby, "Bye." And he threw down the phone.

As he rushed into the kitchen of the leaf house he heard a CRASH from the entrance room. News rushed over to see what it was and Zebby ate the rest of the cake.

***[CONT'D ON PG 5--SEE ZEBBY & NEWS]***

## Craft Corner

by Emma, fifth grade  
and Matthew, fourth grade

# Pot of Gold Craft

(found on Pinterest at CraftyMorning.com)

## Materials



1 sheet of construction paper in each of the following colors: red, orange, green, blue, purple and black, 2 sheets of yellow construction paper, scotch tape, scissors, pencil, white or silver marker

## Step 1



Cut a thin strip off of each sheet of color paper (do not cut both yellow papers, only 1)

## Step 2



Assemble paper strips into a paper chain in rainbow order (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple). Use the black strip for the last ring on the paper chain.

## Step 3



Draw a pot on the black sheet of paper using the pencil or white/silver marker and cut it out

## Step 4



Draw circles (coins) on the additional piece of yellow paper, use a circular item to trace if necessary

## Step 5



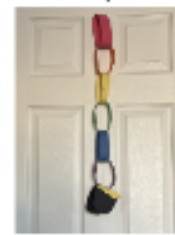
Tape your coins on the back of the pot

## Step 6



Attach the pot to the black ring using tape.

## Step 7



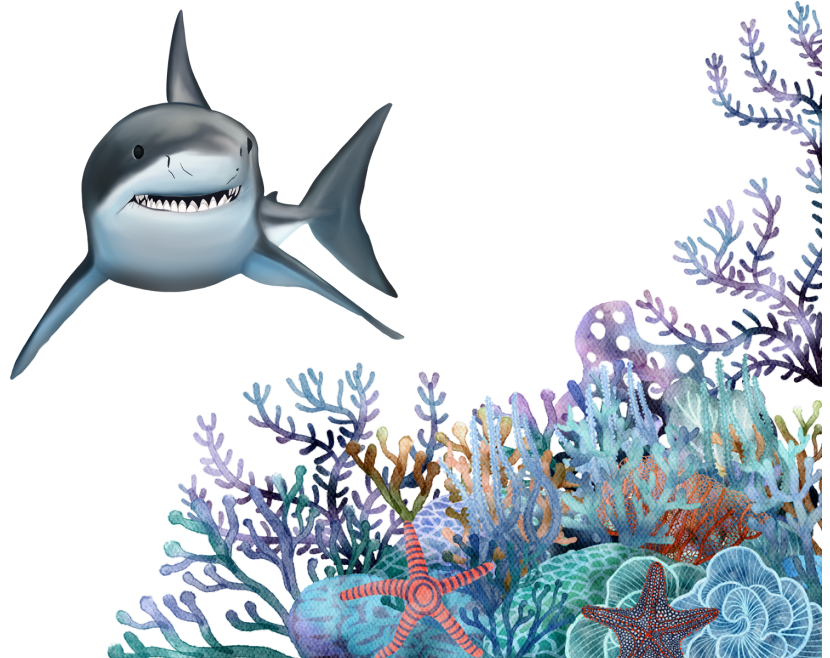
Hang and enjoy!

## Poetry Corner:

### My Plankton Song

by Evan, fourth grade

I am a little plankton,  
Swimming at the bottom of the ocean,  
And when the big sharkies come,  
I swim and swim and flap my fins,  
And once danger is gone,  
I can go back to being a little plankton,  
Swimming at the bottom of the ocean.





## *Zebby & News, Cont'd from pg 3*

“Come here Zebby,” said News, “I need you to explain something.” When Zebby didn’t answer he shouted again, “Come here Zebby!”

“Why?” said Zebby. “Just come here Zebby,” said News “there’s something on the floor, that’s all.”

“But I don’t want to,” Zebby said, “I was so comfortable in this chair after eating all your delicious honey cake and breaking your phone which is the only one in the leaf house so it’s perfectly fine. And I should also break your wand and broom, your only way of transportation and I should also mess up your bedroom which is always way too clean and I should-”

“Zebby,” screamed News, “Why would you do that! Now the leaf house is broken!”

“You’re prob-”

“I wouldn’t finish that sentence.” Said Jim emerging from the shed with a shovel to dig out an overgrown holly bush. “I thought you were going to Target.”

“We are,” said Zebby waving his wand, so the fire on the leaf house vanished.

The cats rushed back inside, had a drink of lemonade, leapt on their broomsticks and took off. They flew over frosty trees and snowy fields. After twenty minutes they reached Target. Zebby and News dove down and landed in the parking lot. They ran into Target. Immediately Zebby ran into the candy aisle and News walked toward the wall, as though looking for a pipe.

After two hours they still hadn’t found a thing. “Why don’t we look tomorrow, Zebby,” said News, “I’m getting cold, and Target is closing soon.”

“Coming News,” said Zebby, “I just need to eat some candy first”.

“Not right now Zebby,” Said News.

“Yes right now News,” said Zebby, “Everyone needs candy.”

“You can have candy on the way back,” said News, “Not now.”



“But I want candy now, News.” Said Zebby.

“Come on Zebby, there’s a snowstorm coming, and we need to get going.” Said News.

“I’m not moving from this spot until I finish these M&M’s.” Said Zebby.

News dumped a glass of coffee on Zebby’s head. “Ok I’m coming,” Said Zebby, “Just after I finish this bag of candy.”

A few minutes later the cats were in the leaf house. They curled up to have a cat nap.

### **TO BE CONTINUED...**

*Zebby, News, and the Problem at Target* is the first chapter in a book that Evan is writing. Each issue of **Check It Out!** will feature a chapter from Evan’s book.



***Check It Out!* is written by  
The Jr. Friends of MLNV.**

**The Jr. Friends is a volunteer club  
open to third through sixth graders that meets on  
the third Wednesday of each month at 4 pm at the  
Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity.**

**For more information, email  
[bsteiner@nazarethlibrary.org](mailto:bsteiner@nazarethlibrary.org)**

Comic Corner:  
Never Enough Books  
by Sophie, fourth grade

