

student news



Volume 29, Number 10

DECEMBER, 2003

FROM THE OFFICE...



Share the STUDENT NEWS with your tutor. If you need help with anything in the NEWS your tutor is there with you to help.

Stories for the March STUDENT OUTLOOK need to be in by February 13, 2004. Write about anything you like.



“How were your holidays?”
“What are your hopes for the new year?”

Send your stories to:

OUTLOOK Editor,
Project: LEARN,
2728 Euclid Avenue, Suite 200,
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

The Downtown office will close
at 12:00 p.m. on December 24th
and will remain closed until
January 2, 2004

WINTER WEATHER

If the Cleveland Public Schools are closed due to bad weather, then our Downtown Center will also be closed. If you meet with your tutor in your community, call your tutor to be sure that the two of you will be meeting and that your meeting place will be open.



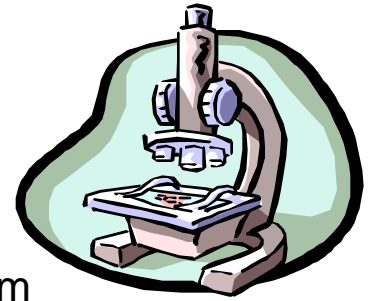
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HEALTHSPACE CLEVELAND



Did you know the Cleveland Museum of Health is the oldest in the country? Now it has a new home and a new name. HealthSpace Cleveland is the new name.

It's new home has many new things to see. Like, Head First. It is 3 floors high and lights up at night. You can see it through the window as you pass by.

There is something here for every age. Take some time to go and see it all at:

HealthSpace Cleveland
8911 Euclid Avenue

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturdays
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sundays

\$7.00 for adults
\$5.00 for students and seniors
Children under 5 years are free

Taken from the Plain Dealer Nov.
2003.

HONOR ROLL
The following Students
have
Finished These Books

CONGRATULATIONS

Miguel Gonzalez
SB-1

Call the office when you
finish a lesson book
(216) 621-9483



CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS: HOW DID THEY GET STARTED?

Every year at Christmas time we do the same things. We put up a tree. We fill stockings with gifts. We fill our homes with candle light. We hope for a Christmas bonus. Did you ever wonder how these Christmas customs got started? Here are the stories behind some of these customs.

The Christmas Stocking

The idea of filling stockings with gifts comes from Holland. The story goes like this. There were three sisters who were not able to marry because the family had no money. When a good man heard this he wanted to help them. So one night this good man dropped a bag of gold into the family's chimney. The gold landed in the girls' stockings, which had been put up to dry. There you have the idea of filling stockings with gifts. And, there is the idea of getting gifts into the home by way of the chimney.

The Christmas tree

There are many stories of how the Christmas tree got started. The story told most is of Martin Luther

way back in 1500. One Christmas night Martin Luther was in the forest. He saw the star light playing on the evergreen tree. It was so beautiful he cut the tree and carried it home. He put the tree up in his home. He put candles on the tree. The candle light looked like star light. In this way he shared the beauty he saw in the forest with his family.

Why do we write X-mas for Christmas?

The X in Xmas stands for the Greek letter "chi." Chi is the first letter in the Greek word for Christ. Over time the X came to stand for the name of Christ. Because it is shorter Xmas is used a lot in papers and ads.

The Christmas Bonus

F. W. Woolworth, owner of the first five and ten cent stores started the idea of the Christmas bonus. Woolworth wanted his stores to be run well at the big shopping time of Christmas. Knowing that happy workers are good workers, Woolworth gave the first Christmas bonuses. He gave a bonus of \$5 to each worker for every year of work. He stopped the bonuses at

\$25. This was a lot of money in 1899.

Many Christmas customs go so far back in time it is hard to find how they started. New customs are started every year. Many families have their own customs. Does your family have its own Christmas customs?

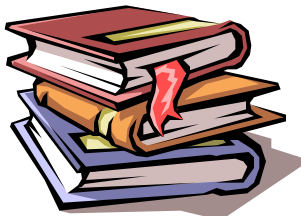
By
Susan Lucas

SB-3

New words: Christmas, customs, bonus, stocking, chimney, candles, chi.

Taken from the "Everything Christmas Book"

PAM BLAKE'S
BOOK
REVIEW



Big Bucks Don't Pay

What would you do if your father didn't have his job any more? What if he left you and your sister and mother? How would you pay

the bills? Buy food? What would you do to make money?

This is what happens to Dan Miller in this story. His father has had a job for 20 years. Then he gets fired. He can't find a new job in the city where they live. He leaves the family a letter and goes to another city to look for work. This makes Dan very angry. He hates his father for going away.

Dan's mother gets a job. His sister works after school. Dan makes money cutting people's grass. They are getting by, but soon they will have to pay the taxes.

One day a boy he knows from school drives by. He stops and asks Dan if he wants to make more money does he want to work on cars in a garage. He tells Dan he makes big bucks working there.

Dan goes to work in the garage, in a short time he begins to think that there is something that is not right at the garage. He thinks some of the cars may be stolen.

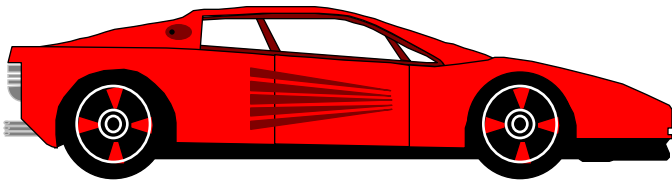
Read this story to see if Dan is right. What is going on in the garage; what will Dan do about it? Will he get the money for the taxes? Will his father come home?

Can Dan learn to love his dad again? See how Dan learns that some times big bucks don't pay.

By
May Williams
In the "Library for New Readers"

Review SB-3
Book SB-3

New words: hates, garage, bucks.



The book "Big Bucks don't pay" has some words that can be taken two or more ways. They are called idioms and they are marked with this sign " * ". There is a list in the back of the book that will tell you what they mean. The next article has more idioms.

Read on!!!

HOT DOG!

Do you know what an idiom is? An idiom is a group of words that do not make much sense when taken word for word. But people who grow up with them know what they

mean. Most Americans know that **hot dog** is something to eat. To someone new to English it may mean a four legged animal left out in the sun.

Here are some idioms. How would you explain them to someone just learning English? You may want to talk about them with your tutor.

SB-3

New words: idiom, sense, explain.

These are on SB-Level 2

- An also ran
- To be blacklisted
- A copy cat
- A bad egg
- To sell down the river
- To be over the hill
- A rug rat
- To wing it
- A yes man
- To put in your two cents
- Uncle Sam

SB-Level 3

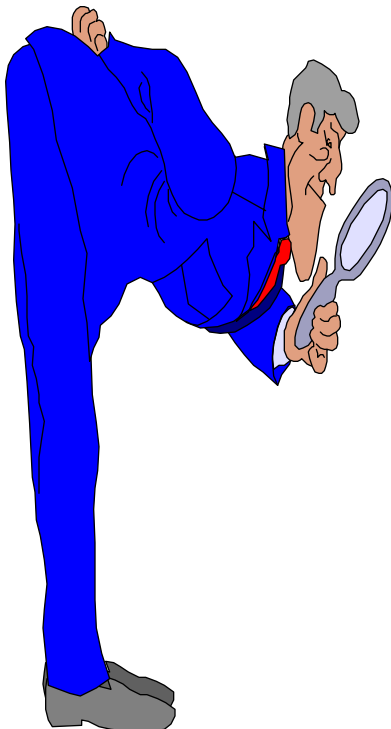
- Don't rock the boat
- That takes the cake
- Sit on your hands
- The apple of my eye
- To put ones head in the sand
- To kill with kindness
- To eat one's hat

- A side kick
- To throw the book at someone

SB- Level 4

- A blue blood
- Cold blooded
- Thick skinned
- A rough neck
- To turn over a new leaf
- Raining cats and dogs
- Caught up short
- A flash in the pan
- To chew the fat
- To steal one's thunder

By
Susan Lucas



ZOO LIGHTS

Take the family to the Zoo to see the beautiful holiday light display. You can walk or ride through the zoo. See the animals at night. Have a picture taken with Santa and lots more.

**December 5th through the 23rd
and
December 26th through the 30th**

5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**\$5. per person
Children under 2 free**

From the
November
"Emerald Necklace"

HAPPY
HAPPY
HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!!

