



JAGUAR JOURNAL

We Cover It All

Photosynthesis

By: Oscar



Photosynthesis is the process by which plants produce glucose (sugar) and oxygen out of carbon dioxide and water. It uses energy from sunlight to complete the conversion.

Photosynthesis is probably the most important biochemical process for Earth life, because the oxygen created is vital for our survival (it is the oxygen we breathe). Carbon dioxide, or CO_2 , is a greenhouse gas responsible for much of global warming, making getting rid of it more important than ever.

Plants absorb sunlight through their leaves, extract carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, and draw water from the soil. Then, inside chloroplasts (a special kind of cell which reflects green light, giving plants their green color), a reaction occurs, creating both sugar (used as "food" for the plant), and oxygen, an unnecessary byproduct, which is then released into the atmosphere. Sunlight provides the initial energy to begin the reaction.

Oxygen can then be used by animals or fire, both of which release carbon dioxide as a byproduct, allowing the cycle to continue.

When oxygen was first introduced in large quantities, it was deadly to most life. It was produced by a kind of photosynthetic bacteria called Cyanobacteria. It completely transformed the planet, leading to the emergence of aerobic (air-breathing) life. Without photosynthesis, we would never have evolved.

Paci Seeds of Change Day

By: Nathan Bennett-Crump

Paci Seeds of Change Day is an annual event where we do good things for our community. Black Pine Circle has been doing activities to celebrate community service while also honoring the generous support of Mary Paci since the 2017-2018 school year. She continues as an amazing benefactor for Black Pine Circle School.

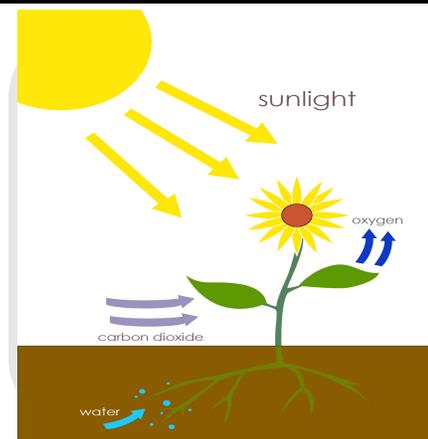
This year, across the school, in mixed-grade groupings and upper school splits, students

participated in cleanup at Aquatic Park and weeding at Strawberry Creek, supported Berkeley Animal Care Services (BACS), engaged in activities with residents at Elegance Senior Center, packed meals at Meals on Wheels and cleaned-up boats at the Waterside Workshop at Aquatic Park. Some of our students remained on campus to mulch and paint tiles to decorate the lower school garden.

It was a successful and rewarding day. See more on page 4.

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**Things to do for Mom
On Mother's Day**
By: Talia Agol

- Make breakfast or take her out for brunch or lunch.
- Make a little gift (a bookmark, bracelet, etc.)
- Give her a massage.
- Make a Mango Lassi (see recipe this page)
- Go on a picnic
- Give Mom a big hug
- Pick or buy flowers for her
- Go on a hike or a walk together
- Take a photo of you and her and maybe frame it
- Do an activity with her that she gets to choose.
- Read her a story
- Take your sibling(s) to the park and give Mom a break.

**If You Could Give Your
Mother Anything for Mother's
Day, What Would It Be?**

Coach Michael: Health, happiness and strength

Ms. Romina: Slot Machine

Ms. Bañez: A hug

Ms. Ana: A trip to Seattle

Ms. Sally: Flowers

Ms. Lucy: A big hug and a trip to a show at The Metropolitan Opera

Ms. Lockwood: Pay off her house

Ms. Morgan: An Alaskan cruise

Ms. Sumsion: Life

Ms. Bender: A trip to France

Mr. Cord: A framed special picture of her and I

Maestra Aïda: Family trip to Paris

Ms. Leverenz: A day at a spa

Ms. Jamie: Spend time together

Mr. O: Lifetime supply of good chocolate

Myra: A heart-shaped card

Ms. Rachel: Take her to dinner

Ms. Dina: Flowers



Mango Lassi

A lassi is like the cross between a smoothie and a milkshake.

Ingredients (2 servings)

Canned mango pulp or 2 fresh ripe mangoes chopped

1 cup plain yogurt

½ cup milk

4 teaspoons of honey or sugar to taste

Dash ground cardamom (optional)

Ice (4 large cubes)

Chopped pistachios to sprinkle on the top (optional)

Combine all ingredients together in a blender, except the pistachios
Enjoy!



**Mom, you are the best!
Mom, you make me
smile and laugh.**

Happy Mother's Day!
By Talia Agol



Life doesn't come
with a manual,
It comes with a
mother.
(anonymous)

Thank you!

From BCN* to BPC! By: Spanish Culture Club



From BCN* to BPC!
By: Spanish Culture Club

BPC had two Spanish-speaking visitors just before our February Break. Maestra Aida’s parents, Maribel and Toni live in Barcelona and came to Berkeley to be with family. During their time here they visited the 4th grade Spanish class, which had prepared a 10-question interview for them. BPC students got to practice using word questions like cómo, cuántos, and cuál and ask personal questions along the lines of ¿Te gustan los deportes? ¿Tienes mascotas? etc. Many in the 4th grade class share the personal goal of speaking in Spanish with someone who does not know English. Toni and Maribel’s visit gave them the opportunity to accomplish their goal. Well done, 4th graders! Excelente trabajo!

*BCN= abbreviation for Barcelona

The Story of Passover

By Aviva Katz

Passover is a Jewish holiday celebrated to remember the Jews who worked in Egypt as slaves.

The story from the Torah goes: A long time ago, Jews were slaves to an Egyptian king called Pharaoh. Pharaoh forced Jews to work and work all day long. The Jews prayed and prayed to God for freedom. God heard them. Later, God spoke to Moses and told him how much the Jews were suffering. Moses understood and started acting on it right away. He demanded multiple times from the Pharaoh to: “Let my people go!” After Pharaoh denied every request, God made ten plagues. After the first one which was “blood” was ignored, then came the second plague, which was “frogs”. When Pharaoh still didn’t let them go, next came “lice”. That still didn’t stop Pharaoh. Then came to the fourth plague which was “wild beasts”. When that didn’t work, came the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth plagues, which was sickness

boils, hail, locusts and darkness. When none of those made Pharaoh let the Jews go, Moses came to the last and worst plague, “Death to the first born”. Finally, after that, Pharaoh let the Jews go.

While they were escaping, they didn’t have enough time for bread to rise, so they ate a different type of bread which is now known as matzah. After a long journey, they finally reached a country called Israel.

Indeed, 3,300 years later we still celebrate Passover today. Although that happened a long time ago, we still remember this as a holiday of freedom. People still celebrate every year in the spring. But remember, during Passover we still don’t eat raised bread. One long story, changed into a happy family holiday that people celebrate all over the world.



What Were We Thinking?

By: Amelie Lo

Fun Facts about our earth and our environment

On average, ONE supermarket goes through 60,500,000 paper bags per year!

The average college student produces 640 pounds of solid waste each year, including 500 disposable cups and 320 pounds of paper.

In the last 170 years, we added 2.4 trillion tons of Carbon Dioxide into our atmosphere. Half of this was added in the last 35 to 50 years.

Recycling one aluminum can save enough energy to run a TV for three hours.

A plastic bag is used for an average of 12 minutes but will remain in the environment for 1,000 years before it decomposes.

Rainforests are being cut down at the rate of 100 acres per minute.



Even though Norway is over 6,000 miles from Brazil, the country donated a billion US dollars to help save the Amazon rainforest between 2008 and 2015. In fact, the Norwegians are the biggest benefactor in the world for protecting the tropical rainforests.

The Moon is drifting away from the earth.

Tropical forests cover less than 7 percent of Earth's landmass but are home to about 50 percent of all living things on the planet.

The earth isn't round

Coral reefs are earth's largest living structures and sadly they are dying.



[Dying](#) [Healthy](#)

<https://sustainability.georgetown.edu/50-facts-for-50-years/>
[https://www.esa.int/Applications/Observing the Earth/10 remarkable Earth facts](https://www.esa.int/Applications/Observing_the_Earth/10_remarkable_Earth_facts)

Jokes and Riddles

By: Kavan Reddy

How do trees access the internet?

A. They "log in"

Why was the math book sad on Earth day?

A. Because it had too many problems about pollution.

How do you cut a wave in half?

A. With a "sea-saw"

What did the tree wear to the pool party?

A. Swimming "trunks"!

What kind of plant grows on your hand?

A. A palm tree.

What's tornado's favorite game to play?

A. Twister

What do you call it when worms take over the world?

A. Global "Worming"

#1 You see me move from place to place; I never seem to stay?
 I'm light, I'm fluffy and I'm white or gray.
 What am I?

From the Student Council

By: Simon Shapiro

How did everyone like Paci Seeds of Change Day? Pat yourselves on the back for cleaning-up parks, helping animals, planting trees! Everything makes a difference! How about our Fiesta? We enjoyed fun crafts to purchase and great food to eat! Thank you for supporting this "fun" fundraiser. Our next fundraising event is scheduled for May 24th. The last week of school will be Spirit Week. Each day will have a different theme. Remember to put your suggestions in the suggestion box!



#2 I'm not alive but I grow. I don't have lungs, but I need air and I don't have a mouth, but water kills me.
 What am I?

#1 A cloud
 #2 Fire