As you can see Diego is an extremely talented artist currently in the 6th grade at Washington Elementary School. Here is his beautiful scenic view from the school playground!

Diego Perez
6th Grade
"EASY COME. EASY GO."
FlySBA.com

Catholic Charities

This ad created by Madison Jaimes

This ad created by Luke LuVanVi

This ad created by Manuel Rios

This ad created by Brook Bierman
The Santa Barbara Independent’s Annual Kids Issue exhibits the amazing talent at our local schools. This year we worked with 4th-6th graders at Washington Elementary School on writing and drawings for our advertisers. This gave students a glimpse into the work that goes into putting together a newspaper. A special thanks to our advertisers, to Jen Malkin, who worked with the students in the classrooms, and Cassi Lindberg, who designed this special insert. Please enjoy the following drawings and stories from some of our local youth.
Little Rainbow® Foot Spa
This ad created by Alba Hathaway

Renaud’s Bakery
This ad created by Riley Svensson

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Arlington Plaza
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MacMechanic
Santa Barbara’s Apple® Specialist.
216 E. Gutierrez St.
This ad created by Susanna Lofvander

The Original
McConnell’s on Mission
Fine Ice Cream & Yogurts
201 West Mission St. • 569-2323
This ad created by Patricia Carachure
MRS. GANBAS

My Ideal Day Having Fun in Santa Barbara
Bring some popcorn, your soccer cleats, and a friend, because we are going to have an epic day in Santa Barbara! On a sunny Saturday morning, we play soccer at Oak Park with my friends. There is a cool breeze that blows in our faces. Afterwards, we go to the movie theater where we eat hot buttery popcorn and watch a good movie. Lastly, we go to my friend Josh’s house where we play, make different things, and skate down the sidewalk. This is my favorite day that I would like to share with you.

Rodrigo Espinanza

My Day of Athletic Fun in Santa Barbara
My flawless day in Santa Barbara would start off creek hopping at El Capitan Beach with my three best friends, Caityn, Zion, and Ella. Then I would go to a soccer championship. I would also enjoy playing with animals for five hours and go shopping with my best friends. After that, I would go to Leadbetter Beach to swim and read books in the warm sand. Then I would love to paint a breathtaking piece of art at the Mission with the beautiful rose garden in the background. Then, when the sun sets, I would go home and dream about what my next adventure would be.

Brenda Castro

Turning the Pages Along the Shores of Santa Barbara: My Bookish Day
Here is an impeccable day in Santa Barbara. I would first go to the library with my mom. I would love looking at all the books, especially the ones about fantasy and myths. I would stay there for hours, listening to the soft tick of the clock while I read. When I’m ready to leave, which would be around noon, I would visit my dad’s office at the harbor where he would take me out for lunch at the Yacht Club. There, I would order the tasty chicken Caesar salad and eat it while I listened to the shrill screeching of the gulls. Then I would gather up two or three of the books that I got from the library and read on the beach under the umbrella. I would hear the waves as they crashed along the shoreline and smell the salty sea air. Then I would think about how lucky I am to live in Santa Barbara.

Paige Kieckling

A Dream Day in Santa Barbara
Let me tell you about my flawless day in Santa Barbara. My perfect day would start with my favorite breakfast. Afterwards, I would like to go to the Ty Warner Sea Center in the harbor, and see a lot of interesting sea creatures. While I am at the harbor, I would like to buy yummy chocolate chip ice cream. Then I would rent bikes for my family to ride on State Street. Finally, we would go shopping to buy clothes and new shoes. After my Awesome day, I would be exhausted and fall asleep dreaming about this perfect day in Santa Barbara.

Arturo Orlandez

Santa Barbara at its Best
My best day in Santa Barbara would start when I go to Blenders. I smell the fresh fruit. I see the smoothies being made. Blenders

is special because my favorite smoothie is the peanut butter flavored smoothie. Then I would go to the batting cages. There, I hear the sound of the bat as it smacks the ball. I can see the bat swing. It is special because when I was little, my dad would take me there. Then, when I leave the batting cages, I go to Little Caesar’s Pizza where I can taste their sweet pizza. I can smell the pizza being cooked in the oven. Little Caesar’s is special because my family goes there at night sometimes. This would be the best day in Santa Barbara ever.

Soﬁ e Gardiner

My Awesome Day in Santa Barbara
The best day in Santa Barbara for me is spending the day with my family and friends. The first thing to do is go to Fiesta Five Theater and eat the buttery, yummy popcorn and drink the bubbly soda. The next thing is going to Yogurtland to get the tastiest and awesome toppings. Later, I would go to East Beach and feel the fresh salty air on my face and the cold soft sand on my feet. This day would be the best day ever for me.

Leslie Cardinal

The Best and Most Amazing Day Swimming and Running in Santa Barbara
This is how my best day in Santa Barbara would go. First, we would go to the Hyatt Hotel and swim at the pool. Their pool is big and at the perfect temperature. After the pool, I would go to Santa Barbara City College and practice running around the track. The bright green grass and the yellow shiny sun make it a great place to get exercise. Then I would go to East Beach to swim. There is nice cold water there, and that would be the last swim of the day. Swimming and running make up my best day here in my hometown.

Leslie Cardinal

A Day at In-n-Out Burger
Do you know how to have the best day in Santa Barbara? I will tell you mine. I’d start my perfect day in Santa Barbara by going to Leadbetter Beach. I love the sound of the crashing waves against the shore. The water is so pretty with the sun shining on it. Next, I would head over to Ichiban Sushi. Their food tastes so good. The smell is so fresh and I love their green tea dream. Finally, I would go to the fair. I love when you’re at the top of the Ferris wheel because it feels like you’re the ruler of the world. I also love when it gets dark and they put on all of the lights – it looks so pretty. That is the end of my flawless day in Santa Barbara. I think you would enjoy it too.

Joshua Graham

How to Make the Day in Santa Barbara
My dear mom and dad took me to Ostrich Land. When we got there, I started to feed the ostriches because they were very hungry. They were pecking hard at the pan of food. I went to feed the six emus; they did not peck as hard as the ostriches. Ostrich Land smelled like a bunch of birds. The ostriches were very tall. The emus were kind of short. The ostriches had black and white feathers. The emus had gray and blue feathers. Ostrich Land was really fun because I got to see two amazing animals.

Julia Maleng

A Day in In-n-Out Burger
Mom...do you smell the grilled cheeseburgers and French fries? My favorite place to go is In-n-Out Burger in Goleta near BHOP and a hotel. There are also palm trees which you can see from the highway. I chose this place because the hamburgers and the milkshakes taste so good. The food smells like grilled hamburgers and French fries. I get to eat In-n-Out sometimes if I do a good job in school.

Luke Gordnier

My Favorite Day at Ostrich Land
An epic day started when my mom and dad took me to Ostrich Land. When we got there, I started to feed the ostriches because they were very hungry. They were pecking hard at the pan of food. I went to feed the six emus; they did not peck as hard as the ostriches. Ostrich Land smelled like a bunch of birds. The ostriches were very tall. The emus were kind of short. The ostriches had black and white feathers. The emus had gray and blue feathers. Ostrich Land was really fun because I got to see two amazing animals.

Julia Maleng

Books and Beach in Santa Barbara
On my supreme day in Santa Barbara, I would go to the library. After getting my favorite books, I would go to Anderson’s Bakery – they have some of the best baked goods in Santa Barbara. Afterwards, my friends and I would play at the beautiful Shoreline Park. Then we would play some more and watch the sunset at Leadbetter Beach. What a sublime day!

Luke Mitchell

My Cool Day
The perfect day to me would be to wake up around 8 o’clock and go skating with Josh, Jack, and Luke. We would skate to Rusty’s Pizza Parlor for their incredibly large pepperoni pizzas, and then we would skate to the pier for mint chip ice cream. Then we would go back to Jack’s house and go to Ortega Park for the best skate session ever! Well, that’s my supreme day – I bet your supreme day would be different.

Chris Graham

My Epic Day Along the Shore of Santa Barbara
My epic day in Santa Barbara would start off on a Saturday morning. First, I would go to the Santa Barbara Pier. I like the Santa Barbara Pier because of the dolphins splashing in the sea and the sweet smells in the candy shop. Next, I would get mint chip ice cream on a sugar cone from Rite Aid. I would get ice cream because it is blazing hot out. After ice cream, I would go to Leadbetter Beach with all of my friends. The ocean is so refreshing, so we decide to go tandem surfing. At the end of the day, I would go night surfing in the cold water with my family. My favorite wave was our family wave. I would enjoy this day so much, I wish it could happen every day.

Zina Sada

My Day Camping in Santa Barbara
The drive was not very long. When we got there, it was fairly cool. First, we set up the tent. Then we got out the food, but we waited for the guests to get there. When everyone arrived, we started the Nerf battle. Each person got a Nerf sword. We battled all day. We were very tired and hungry. We had to eat dinner and crashed on our parents. Camping in Sage Hill was the best day in Santa Barbara I ever had.

Dain Hollis

My Day of Athletic Fun in Santa Barbara
A Day at In-n-Out Burger
Do you know how to have the best day in Santa Barbara? I do. It would start off by getting a new board. You would have an Almest deck, Venture trucks, Bones Swiss bearings, and Spitfire wheels. Now I am going to bomb some hills. I almost eat it at the bottom. Finally, I leave to see my grandma so I can empty our pool so I can skate in it!

Jack LaFanﬁ

My Epic Day at Rincon
My perfect day in Santa Barbara is to do things I love. First, I would go to the harbor and get fresh ﬁsh with my dad. Then we would quickly go home and put it in the oven. While we’re at the house, we get all the stuff ready. Then we drive to Rincon Beach that has the best waves in the world. My dad and I ride the perfect peeling waves for an hour or two, and when we get home, all four of us eat our delicious, tender, and yummy ﬁsh tacos. Could there be a better day? I don’t think so.

Evon Facenda

A Day of Grinning in Santa Barbara
My best day in Santa Barbara would be if I could do all these things: First, I would go to Butterfly Beach and go surfing. The waves there are great for kids and adults. Then I would go to Lily’s Tacos where they have the best carne asada tacos in town. Ta- sies and waves would be the most epic day in Santa Barbara.

Randall Martin

The Terrific Day in Santa Barbara
A great day in Santa Barbara would start out with my niece and I going to Chase Palm Park. I like playing at the park with my niece because I love the way she laughs when we play tag. After the park, I would go to East Beach and play in the sand. I love the smell of sand and the feel of the sand under my feet. Then we would go to Rusty’s Pizza. We would end this great day by stuffing ourselves with the best pepperoni pizza in the world.

Liliana Cabrera

CONTINUED
Fish, chicken, salad, pasta, and much more.

The Natural Cafe
Open 7 Days • 9 Locations Serving the Tri-Counties
www.thenaturalcafe.com

This ad created by Julia Fredericks

Recipes Bakery
604 Santa Barbara St.
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Let your garden bloom beautiful.

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Mon-Sat: 8:30-5:30 / Sun 10-5

This ad created by Alexa Hellman

1315 State St. Santa Barbara CA
805.892.4000
www.panachebridals.com

This ad created by Sammy Crossley
My Sublime Day of Relaxation in Santa Barbara

A great way for me to relax is to enjoy some of the best activities in Santa Barbara. First, I would wake up and have a very healthy breakfast. Then I would go to East Beach and play in the sparkling water. When I am done enjoying the beautiful sea, I would go to Yogurtland and get vanilla yogurt with fresh strawberries. Then I would go to the Santa Barbara Art Museum. I would look at all the incredible sculptures and drawings. Then I would go to the Fiesta Five Movie Theater where I would catch a movie and eat buttery popcorn and a freezing Icet. The best way to end the day is by hanging out with friends. The artist in me would be to sketch the yogurt, beach, and scenes from the movie.

Wendy Vega

An Out of This World Day in Santa Barbara

In my mind, the perfect day in Santa Barbara would include lots of fun activities with friends and family. I live in Santa Barbara and I love it here, but what I never get to do is go horseback riding. If I could go horseback riding, I would go to Circle Bar B. Unfortunately, that is the only thing that makes it special is that it is easy to get to. The best thing that makes it special is that it is easy to get to. The best thing that makes it special is that it is easy to get to. The best thing that makes it special is that it is easy to get to.

Martha Reyes

Exotic Sights and Tastes in Santa Barbara

You have the opportunity to see and taste some of the world’s best plants right here in Santa Barbara. Here is how I would spend my best day in the city. After my favorite breakfast of hot pancakes with steamed maple syrup, I would head to Lotus Land. I would walk through the gardens and see the exquisite and rare plants. There is a peaceful Japanese garden with interesting bonsai trees and calm ponds. Taking a look at the rare cycads with their vibrant orange cones is a special treat. I would stay there until lunch at my number one restaurant, Palazio. Tasting my favorite dish, fettuccine Alfredo, eating pancakes, and seeing rare plants would be my ideal day in Santa Barbara.

Lily Zimmerman

The Supreme Tastes on Cabrillo Blvd.

The ideal way to satisfy hunger in Santa Barbara is to have a meal at the 805 Deli. The food is so good; I know this personally from my mom who works there. I love the salmon, crab, and fish. I usually go with my best friends, Ella, Caitlin, Brenda, and Zion. After that, we would go to my dad’s restaurant called Anchor. We would run around the kitchen and I would show them all of the dishes. When we would all go to my pool and jump in the second we get there and splash in the refreshing water on a hot summer day. I would love every bit of this day because I was spending time with friends and family. I hope someday this wonderful day will come true.

Julia Fredricks

My Action Filled Day

My supreme day in Santa Barbara would start off with ballet. When I do ballet, I feel like I am a whole other person. It is like I am free, and that is one reason I like it. And when you grow up and you are still doing ballet, you can dance on your toes! And that is my life’s goal! Once you are done enjoying the beautiful sea, I would go to SoHo and have dinner. I think they have the best food ever, especially their salmon. These are some things that I think are like utopia in Santa Barbara.

Lily Zimmerman

A Day With Flamingos in Santa Barbara

How does a dog make for a wonderful day in Santa Barbara? Let me tell you. The first thing I would do is go to the Santa Barbara Zoo. I love to see flamingos in the morning. I would buy a German Shepherd; its black andbrown fur is soft. Next, I would go to Holdrens on State Street where I would get my favorite meal, lobster. I dip it in the hot, melting butter. Finally, I would go to the Apple Store on Cabrillo Blvd. and get an iPhone 5 and an iPad!

Spencer James

My Best Day in Santa Barbara

Do you want to know about the best sports you can do in Santa Barbara? Here is my idea of the most exciting day. I would start my day by getting ready for lacrosse. We would hop in our car and drive to Elings Park. There, we would play the best game on the big, green fields. Then we would go back to Elings Park to watch the Santa Barbara Elite Lacrosse team. As you can see, my best day in Santa Barbara is lacrosse and riding my skateboard.

Peyton Rodriguez

How to Have a Wonderful Day in Santa Barbara

If you have never had a flawless day in Santa Barbara, this is how you would do it. I would start by going to the harbor to see the calm, wonderful sea and just relax. Later, I would go on a boat ride. You could feel the peaceful water. Next, I would get ice cream. The taste and smell of the ice cream is extraordinary. Then I would go to the skate park and take my bike. I like to ride my bike really fast. When I do, I feel the cool breeze pass by me. That would be the most exciting day for me in Santa Barbara.

Maria Rejas

Surfing

Have you ever tried surfing? I think surfing is a fun and active sport. When I go out, I feel alive and a part of the ocean. I can hear waves crashing on shore and seagulls flying over my head. When I duck dive, I like to open my eyes and I can sometimes see sand sharks. When I stand on my board catching a wave, it feels like I can fly. It is a special sport because you can play at your own pace. I also went first place in a surfing contest called Surf Happens. When I go to the beach, I get so excited when my friends are there with me.

Zia Frausto

Running

Running is a fun sport and great exercise for everyone. It is also fun to play at the park. I think it is a good way to work out or just be with your friends. You can even race with your friends and it will still be fun because you will be exercising at the same time. You can also feel the wind blowing up against your face. Running is a special sport because you can do it with family and friends.

Soccer

Soccer is a fun way to meet new people, but it involves lots of energy. I’ve made many friends playing soccer and I still know most of them. Playing soccer allows me to make a bond with all the players, but the person I make the biggest bond with is my dad. He is my soccer coach every year. Soccer is a sport that involves no hands without you’re the goalie. If you use your hands and you’re not the goalie, the referee blows his whistle and the other team gets the ball. That will give them a better chance of scoring a goal, but that’s when the goalie comes in. The goalie is the person who is in front of the goal that you are trying to protect from the other team. The goalie’s job is to not let the soccer ball go in your goal by blocking it. The ball feels very hard when it hits you. The whole point of the game is to get the ball into the other team’s goal. When my dad says the score is just for fun, and I like that about him. The reason soccer is so special to me is because I get to spend time with my dad.

Lily Spencer

Swimming

Swimming is a fun sport for me, but it uses a lot of my energy. What is good about swimming is that I can see some of my friends and I feel refreshed. When you get in the water, you can see all of the swim equipment. I can see the lane lines that separate the pool. I can also see the chlorine. That is why swimming is a fun and energetic sport.

Alexa Rabies
**Minecraft**

Minecraft is the best computer game ever. It's fun because you can invite your friends and family to play. You can go on survival or creative mode. When you are in survival, you get your supplies and your tools. Then it will become nighttime, so you can build a house or live underground. You can also make armor to protect yourself from zombies, skeletons, spiders, and creepers. You can also make torches to protect your stuff. If you kill a zombie in survival mode, you will get a feather. If you kill a skeleton, you will get bows, arrows, and bones, which are used to make arrows. When you kill a creeper, you will get gunpowder. You can use these to kill animals to get food and cook them. In creative mode, you get to fly and get new things that you can't find or craft. However, there are no animals ormonsters. I hope you get to play Minecraft, too!

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**Swimming**

Swimming is a fun and great sport, but it takes a lot of energy. It feels so good when I touch the water. It is also great because it releases me within the first couple of minutes in the water. It feels really good when I can feel the cool water around me. For me, it is so much fun to dive in or flip into the water. When I hit the icy cold water, it makes a loud "splash!" I love to watch other people have fun in the water, too. It also takes a lot of energy to do things in the water, like relays. Before I start the relays, I get in the right starting position. It helps a lot for me to breathe in the strong smell of the chemicals in the chlorine. The taste of the chlorine is really awful, though. It tastes of chemicals and other bad things. During a relay, I do different swim moves like the backstroke, butterfly, and dolphin. My favorite part of swimming is having fun in the water with my friends and family. This is why swimming is my favorite sport.

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**Baseball**

Baseball is a fun sport for me. It is special because when I hit the ball and get on base, I feel really good. I feel the same way when I catch the ball and tag the runner out. When I hit the ball, I can hear the crowd cheering. One of my favorite parts is when I have a good hit. I also really enjoy playing baseball because I have fun at practice. I love to hear the fans and coaches cheering and it makes me feel happy. I smell the fresh grass and it makes me feel refreshed. Baseball makes me feel excited because it is a very fast sport. It is special to me because it allows me to be with my friends. Because of these reasons, I think baseball is the best sport created.

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**Golf**

Golf is a fun sport, and a great way to spend time with your family! Golf is special to me because there are different and creative ways to swing, and different techniques to use. Golf is hard, but once you've had practice, it's fun. To feel the wind on your face and the sound when you hit the ball is the best thing ever - golf actually isn't boring! One of my favorite courses to play is Twin Lakes Golf Course, because it's a good course to spend time with your family and practice. That's why golf is special to me and why I think it is the best sport created.

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**Minecraft**

Have you ever tried to play the game Minecraft? I like to play Minecraft. It is fun for me because you get to be as creative as you want. You can see all the animals and houses you build. It makes you happy. It is special because I get to play it with my brother. I like to hear the click of the keys and I like to feel the bumpy keys. Minecraft is a fun game for me to play.

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**Swimming**

Swimming is a fun sport to me. I like it because you feel the cold water on a hot day, and it makes me feel refreshed. I also like it because you get lots of exercise. It is a good opportunity to make friends while playing games. I like to hear the water splash even if it gets in your mouth. Sometimes I like to hear compliments from my coaches on how well you are swimming. And when it is time to go home, you just want to come back again. These are all the reasons why swimming is a fun sport for me.

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**Baseball**

I think baseball is the best sport created. I love the feel of the ball in my mitt. I see all of the players and it makes me feel ready too. I hear all the fans and coaches cheering and it makes me happy. I smell the fresh grass and it makes me feel refreshed. Baseball makes me feel excited because it is a very fast game. It is special to me because it allows me to be with my friends. Because of these reasons, I think baseball is the best sport created.

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**Minecraft**

Minecraft is the best computer game ever. The reason why I like Minecraft is because you can do whatever you want. In Minecraft, there are four main modes. There is survival, creative, adventure, and pig. You get your supplies and your tools. Then it will become nighttime, so you can build a house or live underground. You can also make armor to protect yourself from zombies, skeletons, spiders, and creepers. You get in the water and swim. When I get up on my surfboard, I was happy and from that moment I knew I was hooked. This is why surfing is a great sport for me.

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**Surfing**

Surfing is a great sport for me. When I surf, it’s like letting all the anger and out fun have. When I look out onto the horizon, I see the sun setting and water dancing for the next set of waves. Surfing is special to me because when I was a baby, I took my first steps on the beach. It seems like it was yesterday, getting up on that surfboard for the first time. The sound of the waves was loud and fun at the same time. The sun is setting down on my back. When I got up on my first surfboard, it was pure joy and from that moment I know I was hooked. This is why surfing is a great sport for me.

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**Dancing**

Dancing is fun, but it takes a lot of energy. You can be a dancer. Practice makes perfect. So you want to be a dancer? Do it! Follow your dream. Don't give up. When you get to be a dancer, your dreams are coming true. When you are a dancer, you get to dance in a studio. You get to hear the beat of the beautiful music. You can see in your imagination when the music is starting. I hope you become a dancer!
Man who powers up the Ender Dragon. The Ender Dragon is waiting for you when you get to the Ender Man. Minecraft is a wonderful and interesting game to play.

Minecraft
There are a lot of great games, but Minecraft is the best. The first thing you might see is that the world is made up of blocks. There are many biomes; some are rare like the mushroom biome, and some are common like the mountain biome. There are two modes of playing, survival and creative. In survival mode, you can find mobs (monsters) to fight, such as zombies. They are easy to kill, and you collect rotten flesh. Skeletons are harder to kill and you collect arrows and bones. Ender Men are very hard to kill, and you collect Ender pearls. For pigs, you collect pork chops. For cows, you collect leather strips and beef. For chickens, you collect feathers and chicken. Creepers are hard and give gunpowder. For sheep, you collect wool. You can also mine to collect iron, gold, diamonds, coal, red stone, lapis lazuli, and cobble stone. Crafting is used to help you get these things. For the creative mode, you have unlimited resources, and can mine very fast, which is very nice for my favorite game because you can’t beat the game. There are a lot of great games, but Minecraft is the best.

Basketball
Basketball is a sport invented by Dr. James Naismith. It is a very fun game. In the NBA, it is five players versus five players; the maximum number of players you can have on a team is fifteen. You can have as many players as you want when you play with friends. There are 30 teams in the NBA. You have four 12-minute quarters as well. The objective of the game is to get the ball into the hoop as many times as possible. On defense, you defend the ball from going into the hoop. The ball you use for basketball is orange with black stripes that are parallel. The ball is a little rough. When you play, you sweat a lot, so you need a water bottle. I like basketball the most because it is very fun and I like how the ball looks.

The Upside-Down Y Dream
I had some crazy dreams, but my most awful dream was the upside-down Y dream. Two teams are racing to Jefferson, Missouri and then teaming up in Canada. The boy's team starts in Florida during Hurricane Katrina. John could feel the howling wind rush past his face, teetering him back and forth. Foster, another boy on the ATV, was driving the bug and he said, “I’m stumped on the pedal as hard as I can, but it won’t go any faster.” John could feel the wind rush past his face, teetering him back and forth. The ATV practically flew out of Katrina and onto the road. On the other side, the girl's team is cruising in north New Mexico. Elise and Lily, the main character on the other team. “Look!” Elise yelled. “I can see the Colorado Mountains!” Soon, both teams are getting closer to the Upside-Down Y, but the girls are still closer. Three hours passed, and the race was over – Elise, Lily, and Lexie won. It was raining hard, so they decided to sleep there for the night. At midnight when everyone was asleep, John shouted, “Everyone, wake up! Big foot is attacking!” Thump! Thump! Thump! What are we going to do? asked Lily. “Press the button!” Brandon cried out. I climbed up a bookcase and shot a laser at him. That was when I woke up. “Weird,” I said the end.

Awkward Dreams
I have had lots of awkward things in my life, but this is a particular one that stands out. What made it weird was what I did, what I wore, and where I was. I wore a ninja costume, an extra large sweater, a Santa hat, and I had a stuffed panda bear on my back. “Boogie, Boogie, Boogie, yeah.” What I did was scare my friends. I have a small block, so my friends Dylan, Greta, Greta’s aunt, and Greta’s cousin were walking around it. I hid in a trashcan so I could pop out and scare them. When I did, they fell over and screamed. While they were down, I went to them and yelled, “Boogie, boogie, yeah.” After that I ran home, sat in the driveway, and felt good. Unfortunately, they attacked me once they got home. This is a true story. The end.

Hometown Buffet
My favorite restaurant is Hometown Buffet because the food is amazing! It has meat, fruit, vegetables, ice cream with toppings, cookies, Jell-o, and so much more! But the food isn’t the only thing about Hometown Buffet… the looks of it are great! The light shines on the tables, it is clean and organized, and there are fancy decorations! Let’s not forget about the drinks. There are different kinds of sodas, juices, tea, and coffee. Mmm… Hometown Buffet makes me hungry – maybe you, too. Go now! It’s in Santa Maria or Oxnard. Enjoy your meal!

Skyrim Elder Scrolls V
My favorite game is Skyrim Elder Scrolls V. It is the third game in the Elder Scrolls series. The first game was Oblivion, and the second game was Morrowind. Elder Scrolls V do not have the same storyline. The rating is mature - seventeen and up – so get your mom or dad’s permission to buy it. It is a one player, free roaming game that has a hint of blood. It is made by Bethesda studios, which also made the Fallout series. The main objective is to defeat a dragon named Aldain. You have to get your hands on a dragonstone to defeat him. While you are defeating quests free roaming, or just trying to get somewhere, dragons might attack. Dragons are very intimidating, so how are they there? Well, Aldain comes from Sovngarde and raises them from the dead. If you kill these dragons, you absorb their souls and can then learn a new skill. To obtain the shrouds, find a word wall and learn a word; you have to find a dragon soul to learn the shrouds. If you have a PC, Mac, X-Box, or PS3 and you want a new game, Skyrim is the game to get.

Galanga
There are a lot of restaurants in Santa Barbara, but Galanga is my favorite. When I first walk in, I see a water fountain surrounded with roses, with trees surrounding it. As I continue to the table, it starts to smell like roasted chilies, especially as it starts to get closer to the kitchen. Galanga serves Thai food like curry, fried rice, salad, and much more. If you order the curry, you will get a hot, sweet, and spicy curry on a ceramic plate. But if you order the soup, you will get a hot sizzling bowl of soup. If you like Thai food, this restaurant is the one for you.

CONTINUED>>
flowers, and Italian tablecloths. You also hear magnificent music from Italy. Every Italian meal is super delicious, but I have to say that my favorite meal is meat lasagna, bread with butter, hot cocoa, and a chocolate milkshake. The service is wonderful. Everyone who works there is very friendly. They’re located on State Street near Chaucer’s. I know that if you ever go there, you’ll love it.

Favorite Restaurants
There are many great restaurants in Santa Barbara, but one of the best is Shoreline Cafe. When you walk in, you smell a salty breeze because the restaurant is on the beach. They serve a variety of food from seafood to burgers. They have great service, they’re friendly, and it never gets warm. The Shoreline Cafe is my favorite because I love their food, my family can walk to it, and most of it, on the beach. Overall, the Shoreline Cafe is a great place to eat.

L.A. Clippers
There are many good basketball teams, but none is better than the Los Angeles Clippers. They currently haven’t won any championships, but they have the potential to. The two best players are Chris Paul (#3) and Blake Griffin (#32). The Clippers are the best because they have a great coach, they usually involve lobbing the ball to Blake Griffin, who dunks it in the hoop. The Clipper’s colors are red, white, and blue, and I like the Clippers because of their plays. My favorite player is Chris Paul because he does jump shots really well. Some people call Chris Paul CP3. The Clippers are one of the best basketball teams ever!

Jenga
There are many games I like, but one of my favorite games is called Jenga. It is exciting for everyone. In the game, you have to take little blocks out of a tower that is also made up of blocks. The object of the game is not to let the tower fall down. I know that if you ever go there, you’ll love it.

Halo Reach
My favorite game is Halo Reach. Halo Reach is a planet that humans discovered, but there were brutes on the planet. There are many aliens, but the brutes are big and strong. There is the main maker, and the chief. Some other humans took over Earth, the brutes will take over Reach and Earth. The brutes also have axe-like guns. The game takes place in 2554. It is fun to play because of the awesome graphics.

My Favorite Game
There are many fun and exciting games, but my favorite is chess. It is a quiet game. You can practically hear the silence and tension. It is very good at chess, so I can see the nervous expressions on an opponent’s face. My chess class plays in the lunch area of our school. You can smell somebody’s leftover lunch, or the cafeteria food. Chess is my favorite game because it involves skill and strategy. Chess is a great game to play because it helps you focus and exercise your brain in a different way.

Favorite Movies
I have had a lot of weird and/or bad dreams about Cookie Monster and Gonzo, but nothing compared to the bad dream I had when I was three. I was in my parent’s room, under the bed, feeling scared. It was daytime, and it was absolutely quiet. There were three Yetis from a Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer movie standing at the doorway. My mom, dad, and baby sister were behind them. I knew the Yetis wanted me to eat, and my family wanted me to be with them, so I finally pushed up the courage and ran to them. The Yetis in my family. The middle Yeti held me by the ankles. I tried to grab onto my dad (who was carrying my baby sister), but I couldn’t. I was inside the Yeti’s mouth. It had no teeth or anything, just a black space. I woke up scared. I went to my mom and dad, and they comforted me. Soon, I was sleeping soundly again.

Favorite Video Games

Minecraft
Of all the video games I play, my favorite game is called Minecraft. You play by using ASDW keys to move, a left click to break blocks and punch and a right click to place and use items. The game is computer to play. The object is to kill the Ender Dragon. There are so many unique monsters in this game, you’ll have to find out yourself what they all are. You can even gather resources to make items. It is so much fun!

Halo Reach
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The Yetis Attack!
(Sort Of)
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via maestra 42
There are many great restaurants in Santa Barbara, but my favorite is Via Maestra 42. When you go to Via Maestra, the first thing that you will notice is how nice the decor looks. Via Maestra has white tablecloths on every table, and there is a huge piece of art on the walls. There are many different types of pastas, and there are pizza, sandwiches, and salads. The service is great. They have great service, they’re always polite, and their food is magnificent. Every Italian restaurant in Santa Barbara should be like Via Maestra, but one of the best is Shoreline Café. When you walk in, you smell the joyful sounds of people eating, and you can hear the laughter and having fun. The Boathouse serves great food, and salads. They have great service. La Stella Cafe is a great place to eat. There are many great restaurants in Santa Barbara, but my favorite is Shoreline Café. When you walk in, you smell the joyful sounds of people eating, and you can hear the laughter and having fun. The Boathouse serves great food, and salads. They have great service. La Stella Cafe is a great place to eat.
Swedish National

My favorite sports team is the Swedish National Soccer Team. I like them because my favorite player, Ibrahimovic (#10) is on that team. Another reason I like this team is because their jerseys are yellow and blue, which are my favorite colors. They have superior ball control, and almost all their shots are on target. In Europe, they call soccer, football. Although they haven’t won any titles, they still are one of the best national teams in the world. There is also a player whose last name is Svensson, which is my last name. But I like them most of all because I am Swedish. This team is so special to me, and I wanted to tell you my feelings.

Alex Svensson

MS. WHITE

Water Polo

Water polo is my favorite sport. I love being in the water. Water polo is a full contact sport. It is very hard to play water polo. In water polo you have to be a strong swimmer. The most important position in the game is the goalie. This is the player who scores the most, but the whole team makes this possible. The goalie is useless if the rest of the players aren’t putting in their best. A good team is going to crash into you. Those were the best moments of my life. I wish that trip to Disneyland would happen again soon.

Daniela Soto

Special

Family Memory

My special memory is when we went to Disneyland for my 10th birthday. I went with my parents, grandma, and younger brother. We went on an exciting ride called Splash Mountain and got soaked. We spent three days there and got to stay in a hotel. The next day we went on The Little Mermaid ride and Winnie the Pooh because my brother really wanted to. It was fun taking pictures with Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse. The last day we were there, my brother and I got to choose the final rides to go on. He chose Peter Pan’s Adventure which was really exciting, and I picked Mr. Toad’s Wild Ride because I love the part where it looks like the train is going to crash into you. Those were the best three days of my life. I wish that trip to Disneyland would happen again soon.

Claire Kronen

LaCrosse

LaCrosse is a very thrilling, fast game. You wear shoulder pads, arm pads, gloves, and a helmet. In a game, your best friends are your stick and your teammates. You are deadling with the field, you try to score on the goalie. The best feeling is when you have a fast 8 seconds and, wham! You shoot as fast as you can towards the goal. For the four corners of the goal. If you miss, try to get the ball before it goes out of bounds. Then you try to shoot or pass again. Another good feeling is when you get an assist. It feels like heaven. You experience the game when you get to learn and do so much.

Ben Partee

Basketball

I love the thrill of playing in a basketball game. One thing that makes basketball exciting is the different sounds that you hear. You can hear a popcorn or the official clock ticking. We have players’ shoes squeaking, and the fans yelling and screaming from the stands. Another thing that makes basketball exciting is the variety of sights you get to see. You can see people’s colorful shoes, the basketballs, the hoops, and the hardwood courts. The reason that basketball is my favorite sport is that it is incredibly hard to play, and I love being challenged. You also have to consistently practice lots of techniques every day if you want to become a better player. Even though it is hard work, it always pays off. Basketball is hard work, but overall it is a very fun sport.

Jaseon Martynsk

Soccer

Soccer is a very active and exhilarating sport. I prefer to play in the morning because it is cool and everything is fresh. Soccer is fun to play when it is raining because it is harder to score. I like to play at Elings Park and Dwight Murphy Park in Santa Barbara. Soccer can be easy and hard. It depends on the team you are playing. Soccer is my favorite sport. I would like to play on a professional team like the L.A. Galaxy. I love soccer so much!

Jesse Osterhage

Family Memory

My favorite family memory is going to Six Flags Magic Mountain where my mom let me get an airbrush tattoo and cape I went on rides like the Jetstream, Goldrusher, Tidal Wave, a little rollercoaster, the Swisswheeler, and the swings. There are more rides that I went on, but I don’t remember what they were called. We got a cheese pizza to eat. When we left, we took my sister’s friend home and then we went home. I love Six Flags because the rides are awesome. I hope we go again soon.

Andrea Esche

Family Memory

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Gabriel Perez

LaCrosse

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Ann Jones

Water Polo

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Snow

Snow is a white, fluffy substance that falls from the sky. It is composed of tiny ice crystals that form into larger flakes. Snow is typically seen during the winter season. Snow can have various colors, from pure white to shades of gray or even brown. Snowy conditions can create a serene and picturesque landscape, but they also pose challenges for travel and daily activities.

Alex Milaughn

Peru

It was a warm spring day when we went and swam in an inlet coming out of the Amazon River. It was shallow and cold. Afterwards, we went to a wooden house where we stayed in Peru. The next day, my dad asked where we could fish for piranhas. Our host told us to be at the spot where we swam the day before. My dad was surprised when he heard that. He asked why they didn’t eat us. The man explained that in spring, a lot of food goes in the water, so the piranhas are plump and fat. We caught a few and ate them for dinner. They tasted like ordinary fish. Peru was amazing.

Ruby Bellomy

Baseball

Baseball is a sport like no other sport; it requires patience. They say baseball is 50% mental, which means that you have to be confident to play. It is the great American pastime. This
Basketball

The ball flies across the court…poetry in motion. I see people watching in the bleachers. The smell of rubber soles fills my nose. I can hear the bouncing of basketballs against wood. I love it. It is a great way to exercise, running up and down the court and passing and shooting. It is a wonderful sport and is so much fun to play. Did you know that the chance of getting into the NBA is less than the chance of getting struck by lightning? Basketball is truly an amazing sport. I love basketball.

Dance

Have you ever performed in front of hundreds of people? I’m lucky that so many great dance opportunities have come my way. When I’m dancing on stage, I feel the warm lights shining on me. I love to dance because it makes me happy and I love to make other people happy with my passion. I have been dancing for several years. I started dancing when I was three. I do everything from ballet to jazz to hip hop, contemporary to flamenco. My mom refers to me as a “busy bee.” I love the voice of my dance teachers yelling, “5, 6, 7, 8!” I can dance from 3:30 in the afternoon to 9:00 at night! I hope I continue to dance in the future.

Baseball

The wind-ups, the pitch, and strike three are the A’s are champions. I love baseball. It feels great when I get a good hit, or when you strike out the batters. I can hear coaches giving instructions, the crowd cheering, the other coaches telling the other team what to do, and the other team’s crowd cheering. When I’m in the batter’s box, I can see the people on the field, the runners on the bases, and where I want to hit the ball. Hitting is hard because you don’t know what pitch the pitcher will throw. When I’m catching, it’s almost as hard to end the inning or the game, because I have to focus on not throwing a pitch that can hit a player. Baseball takes a lot of skill and concentration. Baseball is my favorite sport!

Palm Springs

I went to Palm Springs with my family and a few relatives last year. When we got there, the ground felt hard under my shoes. When we arrived at our hotel, it was nice and cool inside. The next day we took the train to the mountain. The ice felt cold and was slippery. I also touched a cold river. This was one of my favorite trips because I saw and did so many cool things. I really like Palm Springs.

Gymnastics

I love the rush when I’m running down the vault rack to do a dive roll. When I am in the gym practicing gymnastics, technique is all that I think about. I am conditioned on the floor as I am stretching my limbs. I love the taste of the ice cold water when I am exhausted. When I am on the uneven bars, I can smell that the divot dust, which is a mixture of chalk dust that is flying through the air. I can feel the scruffiness of the blue carpet as I grip it in the middle of a back walk over. I love to watch the team girls doing their back handsprings and the dance moves and the flips and the tumbling and the cartwheels and the handstands and the balance beam and the floor exercises (also known as ‘the floor’). It is so much fun. What made me interested in this sport was when I watched the Olympics and saw the gymnasts doing really cool things; I wanted to be as flexible and strong as they were. That’s what inspired me. Really I like gymnastics and if you hope in interested in doing it, you will like it, too!

Soccer

Soccer is an exciting sport, one of my favorites. Have you ever played a game of soccer? I play with a ball about as big as a basketball. It is almost always black and white. The weather is usually sunny and I play outside on the grass. I love the outdoors. I usually hear some cheering and some screaming but I don’t smell anything at all, but sometimes I do smell grass. I don’t taste anything except when I drink water. Soccer is a fun sport. You should play, too!

Angeles

You have ever heard the smack of the small white ball hitting your hand and flying over the net? Well, I hear it all the time. I’ve played different sports since I was four years old. I’ve played soccer, dance, swimming, and more, but I found my love for one particular sport — volleyball. I’ve played it ever since I was little. I’m a superstar player. I’m the one that my team wants to be played, and he is in their Hall of Fame. I love the feel of my arms smacking the ball, my feet jumping high off the ground, and most of all my hand swatting the ball like a fly on the wall. The passion that I have for volleyball makes it a joy to play. I hope I can play forever and just be like my dad, a volleyball champion.

My Favorite Sport: Volleyball

Rachel Murphy

You’ve heard of an albino golden retriever, right? But I don’t think that you have ever heard of a black golden retriever! Black golden retrievers are born with black fur. The chance of one being born is one in five million. The chance of an albino is one in 10 million. Well… I have a black golden retriever! Here is how I got it. My grand- mom knew a man from bingo who knew a breeder with a show dog. The show dog had eight puppies and one was black. The breeder didn’t want to have a dog that was so different from the rest. In fact, one of the sheets for that litter of puppies listed my dog as “did not survive.” The breeder gave the dog to my grandma’s friend and he gave her to us. I assure you, that dog did survive!

My Dog

Jackson Weidman

The Math Superbowl

Washington School has produced many great mathematicians and every one of them is very competitive. I knew I was in for some difficulty going into it, but I made up my mind and charged into the 2012 South Coast Math Superbowl. The Superbowl is an annual competition held in Santa Barbara County to pit the best student mathematicians in the area against each other to represent their schools. This meant a lot to me and I knew that if I were to succeed in getting to the competition, I would have to maintain the standard of my school. Whatever I did would affect the way Washington was looked upon. For these reasons, I practiced intensely. For me, this meant practicing various problem-solving techniques. This occupied my time as a top priority and took away from other activities. As the day of testing drew near, anticipation boiled inside of me. I was nervous countless times in that venture, but nothing compared to the final qualifying test, and the reading of the roster that decided who would go to the actual event. The names were read off one by one. The sound of my name hit me as a blow of relief and then euphoria. I had made the team because of a single point. I con- tinued practicing, and before I knew it, the day that had always seemed so far in the future was suddenly the present. As I sat at a long rectangular table inside a lofty room, my hand gripped my
This ad created by Owen Thames

pencil with savage pressure. My heart beat out of my chest as I looked at the plain test in front of me, inviting me to try my luck. I turned the page and began the test. The efforts of my whole team won us the title of first place fourth grade team, but ultimately showed me that anything can be accomplished if you try hard enough. That day I won the feeling of holding my chin just a little higher and that hard work always pays off; I have never lost that feeling.

Ryan A. Hathaway

The Spelling Bee

I’ve always been a good speller. But was I a really good speller? That’s what I wanted to know, so I signed up for my school’s spelling bee. Last year, I placed fifth. This year, I worked hard and placed second, enough to move on to the Santa Barbara County Bee. I didn’t stop there. Every night I practiced words. I missed evenings of games with my family and long 9 o’clock walks, but I kept it’s called the fish. They may seem boring to some people, but fish are quite interesting. Something neat about fish is that they breathe air underwater. I mainly like fish because of my fish, Iron Man. Iron Man is a male veil-tail beta fish which is very small and red. I like watching Iron Man although he doesn’t do much. One reason is because veil-tail betas float around a lot so they can show off their colors to attract females. I also like fish in the wild. I am much more interested in wild fish because they can have many shapes and colors. I like blacksmith fish the most because they look very colorful. They are blacksmith fish because they have black spots all over their blue-colored bodies. I found out about them and saw many in the wild at the Catalina Island Marine Institute. These are just some of the reasons why I love fish.

Dominic Paul Marchetti

Learning the Rubik’s Cube

It all started with a warm Sunday night. I was just relaxing and thinking of what to do, and I thought of my friend Bryan and how I always admire him for how he can do the Rubik’s cube. I have always wanted to try to solve it, but have never had time. But today, I had a lot of time. First I tried just solving it, but as some of you might have experienced, I just couldn’t do it. I went to my computer and typed in, “How to solve the Rubik’s cube?” I clicked on the first video and started working. It’s a lot more complicated than it seems. You have to memorize all these patterns. There were a lot of patterns, so I wrote them down on a piece of paper. I went to my room and sat there for an hour or two and practiced and practiced. I finally solved it after a few hours and I was so excited that I ran outside and even showed my gardener. If you ever have some time, I recommend trying to solve the Rubik’s cube.

Kylan O’Connor

Beavers

I love beavers. Why? Their characteristics of course! They have huge teeth that they use to get nutrients from wood! To me, that’s pretty cool. This is why I did my report on them in third grade. I had a lot of fun, and I learned a lot, but I was disappointed because I had never actually seen a beaver in real life. That is, until we re-did our front yard. We were driving back from the nursery after buying a tree, and we stopped at an old bridge to look at a stream. Then my dad noticed something. In the middle of a large pool of water, there was something that looked like a beaver lodge, and there was the dam, and wait! Out came a wet, brown, furry, flat-tailed, big-toothed beaver! It was amazing. On this little stream in a small place, a beaver had built its home. And we of all people had seen it. And that is why beavers will always be my favorite animal.

Kristiana Budde

My Dog Midnight

I have seen many animals in my life, but before I got Midnight, there was a hole in my heart. Midnight filled this hole. She takes a lot of work, but she’s worth it. Midnight isn’t trained yet, so she doesn’t come when she is called, which makes it even worse when she goes somewhere she is not supposed to be. She also bites a bit and is very fast, so when we do catch her, she usually bites us and wiggles away. That about wraps it up. I hope you like this brief overview of my dog, Midnight.

Jessica Erickson

My Greatest Accomplishment

My greatest accomplishment, I think, was when I got a hat trick against the best goalie in my roller hockey league at the Earl Warren Fair Grounds. The hat trick was against a friend of mine. My first goal was a top-shelf goal on his blocker side. I was filled with joy. I would never have thought I could score on him. My second goal was the...
Finger Monkeys

Imagine a monkey the size of your finger. This becomes a reality because of finger monkeys. They are about 14-16cm tall, and are the cutest animals you will ever see. Their real name is the pygmy marmoset, but most people just call them finger monkeys. Finger monkeys differ in color, but are usually just brown, red, orange, and black. They are mammals and omnivores and weigh 120-140g. They also live for 8-12 years. Finger monkeys’ favorite food is tree sap, but they like a lot of other foods, too, including fruit, spiders, and insects. Their predators are birds, snakes, and wildcats. They live in various places including Mexico, Colombia, Peru, and Costa Rica. I first heard about them when my friend did a report for school and showed the whole class. They are my favorite animals because they intrigue me and make me want to learn more about them. I have not seen one yet, but my goal is to see one soon. Finger monkeys make me feel happy and put a smile on my face. I think finger monkeys are awesome and I hope you do, too.

Morgan Fell

My Pet Rat

Have you ever considered having a pet rat? I have, and my family has, too. They are one of the sweetest and smartest animals, and they can run around your shoulders. My pet rat’s name is Morris, and he is very special to me because he is a rare Blue Rat, even though he’s grey in color. When I first met Morris’s parents, they were in my sister’s 5th grade class in 2009. After they had babies, my sister gave me the birthday present of letting me pick out one of the baby pet rats. I was so excited! There were seven or eight baby rats altogether. It was very hard to choose one, but I knew I made the right choice. When I picked up the little fellow, he was very mellow and when I scratched his stomach, he nearly fell asleep. We got home, I put him in his new cage that we had gotten the day before. That’s where he lives today. Maybe someday you’ll have a pet rat of your own.

Mya Chiarappa

Sea Turtles

When I think of sea turtles, I think of wonderful sea mammals that look so pretty as they flow through the water. I like them a lot because they live in the ocean and I love the ocean. They vary in color from pale green to almost black. They live in most every ocean except for the Arctic. Sea turtles can live up to 100 years old, and some over 150 years old depending on their species. They spend most of their life in the ocean but they are born on land and the females have to come up on shore to give birth. Some of the different species are leather back sea turtles, green sea turtles, and black sea turtles. Leather back turtles are the largest; they can weigh up to 1,000 pounds. The green sea turtle weighs about 400 pounds and the black sea turtle usually weighs about 275 pounds. The different types of sea turtles’ diets vary. Both the black and green sea turtles eat sea grasses and algae. The leatherback sea turtles eat jellyfish and other animals with soft bodies. Other species of turtles prefer to eat shrimp, squid, crab, or seaweed. I have only seen sea turtles once in Hawaii, and it was from a distance. I really hope to see them again.

Sean Yamasaki

Math Superbowl

Hearts pounding, a pencil grasped tightly in your hand, you hear the word “start,” yelled across the other side of the room. All around, pages are flipped, and you open your test to the first page. You start frantically reading math problems...
JUMPING OFF THE PIER

There's a reason for choosing to jump off a creasty, old, 3-foot tall pier as a topic for a newspaper article. Not because it gained me anything, in fact, it gained me almost nothing, except for the thrill of overcoming that worried and claustrophobic side that we all possess. If someone says, "Hey, want to pay me $120 a week to train your daughter so she can try jumping off the pier," your typical answer would be no. But my mom's answer wasn't no. I headed to Jr. Life Guards camp every day and jumped into the freezing cold water, followed by an on-land work-out, and then a two-mile run. This all led up to the pier jump. The exhilarating feeling you experience is priceless, and definitely worth all the worry. Standing in line, you're sweat and churned up your heart is the cracking of the wood pier and the splash of saltwater seawater when the warm bodies hit the ice-cold sheet of one. Step, that's all it takes. One step, and you've done it. But you're standing there, and you just can't do it. Until you do. You've gone off the edge. You want to scream, but the air is being ripped from your mouth. You pray that you're not going to belly flop. Two seconds, and then splash! You go under the blanket of white water, foam, and bubbles. You see a light above you while you are submerged, and then you wake to the top. You woke to the top, where you meet your mom frantically taking pictures. Your instructor compliments your jump, and you begin to swim back to land. You follow the person who just jumped in, at the rate of 200 steps per minute. You are walking to meet you. Then they propose an offer. "Do you want to go again?" Some people do. I didn't go again because I felt after jumping once I had decided what I was going to do. I overcame my worried and claustrophobic side of myself when I jumped off the pier.

Tali Mackintosh-Ratcliffe

sticks, play with and cuddle. My favorite animal is my dog named King, as I learned that western scrub jays are one very excited, and over time made friends with them. I finally agreed to me getting a cat, it took them for a cat for a really long time. Once my parents given us. In first grade I became a more and more Clark that I could learn all my lines, so I was really nervous. I had to practice every day. I couldn't go over to my friends’ houses because I had theater. But in the end, I managed to pull it off and be the best Sal that I could be! So watch the pier jump. The exhilarating feeling you experience is priceless, and definitely worth all the worry. Standing in line, you’re sweat and churned up your heart is the cracking of the wood pier and the splash of saltwater seawater when the warm bodies hit the ice-cold sheet of one. Step, that’s all it takes. One step, and you’ve done it. But you’re standing there, and you just can’t do it. Until you do. You’ve gone off the edge. You want to scream, but the air is being ripped from your mouth. You pray that you’re not going to belly flop. Two seconds, and then splash! You go under the blanket of white water, foam, and bubbles. You see a light above you while you are submerged, and then you wake to the top. You woke to the top, where you meet your mom frantically taking pictures. Your instructor compliments your jump, and you begin to swim back to land. You follow the person who just jumped in, at the rate of 200 steps per minute. You are walking to meet you. Then they propose an offer. “Do you want to go again?” Some people do. I didn’t go again because I felt after jumping once I had decided what I was going to do. I overcame my worried and claustrophobic side of myself when I jumped off the pier.

Tali Mackintosh-Ratcliffe

Cats

I love cats because of their soft fur and their adorable faces. When I got my cat, I had been asking for a cat for a really long time. Once my parents finally agreed to me getting a cat, it took them almost a year to find the perfect one for us. I was incredibly happy when we finally got a cat. She is the most adorable thing I have ever seen.

Kiki Cryan

My Dog

It was in the middle of December 2010 when my family got to bring home our dog, Cocoa. She is my favorite animal because she is always there for me and makes me laugh. My dog is crazy, so her nickname is “Loco Coco.” She has short hair that is caramel in color and her mouth is a blackish color. She is small for her breed, even though she has a big personality. When we get home from school and open the gate to my house, she runs out in the yard with her spunky rubber chip and hopes we will chase her. My dog is the sweetest and nicest dog ever. Those are some of the reasons why my dog is my favorite animal.

Riley Bream

King

It all started one sunny summer afternoon when I was eating a piece of bread in my backyard. Suddenly, a beautiful bird alighted on the tree in front of me. He was a western scrub jay, with intelligent deep brown eyes and a soft white chest of creamy feathers. The bird kept looking at me right in the eye, so I curiously crumbled some bread and held it out for him. In one movement, the bird extended his intricate blue and white patterned wings and grabbed a piece of bread from my hand. I was very excited, and over time made friends with him. I learned that western scrub jays are one of the smartest animals in the world, and like to eat sunflower seeds and peanuts. King, as I named my new friend, learned to perch on my hand for minutes at a time and would take peanuts from anywhere: usually my hand, but also from my finger, my shoulder, and even from the top of my head! He talks to me by chirping softly or squawking when he wants something. The two springs when King and his mate had chicks, King did not come for a long time. I knew he was only tending to the nest, but I still felt so different without my lively, spunky friend. So when I walk down the street, I find that King has followed me and is waiting for a treat. One day while I was at school and my dad was home, he left the front door open, not knowing that what with bringing King, I am fearless and completely calm, hopped through the door and looked around. He hopped a little bit further into my house, and saw that I wasn’t there. Then he chirped and leisurely hopped back out of the house. I have known King for over a year now, and I can say that he really is a true friend.

Gina Shapiro

My Greatest Accomplishment

In the fall of 2012, I landed the role of “Sharpe-Shooter’, ‘Pistol Packin’ Sal.” But to get that title, I had to practice really hard. That is why becoming the lead role in the play, “Pistol Packin’ Sal,” is my greatest accomplishment. First of all, I was up against some really good actors and actresses who had done many more performances than me. For auditions, we had to sing in front of our voice coaches, and the day of the casting of the cast at the La Colina Theater. When I got the part, I was really surprised because I had never gotten the lead before. I wasn’t sure that I could learn all my lines, so I was really nervous. I had to practice every day. I couldn’t go over to my friends’ houses because I had theater. But in the end, I managed to pull it off and be the best Sal that I could be! So watch out Broadway, here I come! Emma Zavala

Ligers

Hey there! So, what’s the biggest cat in the world? You might say a lion or a tiger. Well, that’s wrong. The biggest cats are ligers. That’s one of the reasons why they are my favorite animals. I love them because they’re big, cute, and rare. You might be thinking, “What is a liger?” A liger is a cross between a lion and a tiger. My favorite liger is Hercules. He is awesome! If you want to know what he looks like, you can easily search him on the internet – he is so famous. I haven’t seen one in person, but I really want to! Especially want to see Hercules!

Aubrey Sturgeon

Reading

Here’s how I learned to read: It was a bright sunny day at my school, and our teacher was going to show us how to do something I had wanted to learn ever since I had heard about it; learning to read. We had paired up with random partners and gave us little three-page booklets with titles like ‘Bob-Went to the Fair’. I read the first four books in the first three minutes and marked it down on the reading sheet that the teacher had given us. In first grade I became a more and more eager reader, reading chapter books like the magic tree house which the teacher had giant bin of under the whiteboard under lock and key. Learning to read had opened up a doorway into knowledge that I didn’t know I was closed. Ever since learning, I have loved to read.

Aidan Barcia-Bacon

My Greatest Accomplishment

It was Saturday morning; I was heading to my swim team’s tent, my heart pounding from nervousness. It was the Summer Junior Olympics, the meet we train for all year round, and I was finally there. After my warm up I got changed and anxiously waited for the events to go by at which
When I started, I played at the YMCA and to this day, I still play on the exact same team, with the exact same players. After 4 years of playing at the YMCA I decided that I needed to step up my game and move to the Page Center. I played Page and “Y” for one year. Then I took a huge step forward and decided to try three leagues at the same time, playing at the YMCA, the Page Center, and the Club Program. The Club Program is very intense; the only way to get to it is to be invited. The players on my team are some of the best in Santa Barbara. We go as far as Las Vegas to play in tournaments. My coach also coaches a high school team and has worked with professional players. That fall I had 9 basketball events a week! In order to stay on the team, I had to practice two times a week for an hour and a half a day for eight months. I was overwhelmed by how much work I had to do. I had to do it because it is very important that I practice this much because becoming a professional basketball player will involve lots of practice. Every time I played basketball— it’s at the “Y” or after school— I always use the same techniques. In fact, basketball even affects my everyday life such as when I play foursquare with my friends, make a three-pointer into my hamper or when I put away clothes in my room. Sometimes I do basketball camps in the summer. I do the YMCA basketball camp with 3/4 of the players from the “Y” team. Even though most of the time I know about everything they teach us, it’s fun to hang out with my friends. I also do the Westmont basketball camp. Even though my friends don’t do it, it is still very fun. Dreaming, practicing, and just hoping for the best has brought me a huge step closer to my greatest dream. This has been by far my greatest accomplishment.

My Greatest Accomplishment

When I started playing basketball, it was 4 years old.

When I was asked what my greatest accomplishment is, I said it was playing basketball. But as I grow up, the question changed. Sometimes I dream about becoming a professional basketball player, but as I grow up, I realize how unlikely this might be. However, this tournament has brought me a huge step closer to my goal. I know that many other kids at my school play basketball and have the same dream, so I already know I will have some major competition. I started playing basketball was I was 4 years old.

When I was asked what my greatest accomplishment is, I said it was playing basketball. But as I grow up, the question changed. Sometimes I dream about becoming a professional basketball player, but as I grow up, I realize how unlikely this might be. However, this tournament has brought me a huge step closer to my goal. I know that many other kids at my school play basketball and have the same dream, so I already know I will have some major competition. I started playing basketball was I was 4 years old.
When I practice, I feel the rubber mat under my feet. The sting of pain flows through my body when I get kicked during karate. Wow! I really love doing my favorite sport!

Eduardo Aramili

After School

After school I like to go to the Boy’s and Girl’s Club. I usually get help with my homework. Sometimes, I can finish all my work in one day. When I’m done with my homework, I can go to an art class. Finally, before I go home, I sometimes write a thank you card to my mom.

Angel Rodriguez

The Best Sport

The best sport ever is soccer. I love soccer because when I see the ball go back into the back of the net, I feel like I just became the president! When I feel the ball, it seems like I own it and no one can take it from me. I smell freshly cut grass. I hear my friends and family cheering all the players. Soccer is special because I can play with my friends and I love getting exercise. I think soccer is the best sport ever. What is your favorite sport?

Royle Rubach

Swoosh!

After school, my favorite thing to do is play the best sport ever, basketball. When I feel the cool wind hitting my face, the ball bouncing on the hard court and my favorite black and red shoes hitting the ground, I know it is time to play! The best feeling is when I score and I hear the fans cheering – I cannot stop smiling. When the game is over, it doesn’t matter if I won or lost because just being able to play is the best feeling ever!

Maya Banks

An Energizing Activity

Rock climbing at the Rock Gym is what I do after school. It gives me a way to let my energy out and makes my muscles stronger. When you climb up to the top, you can taste the bitter chalk. If you fall to the mat, it hits you like a boxing glove. The holds on the wall are rough as sandpaper as they blister your skin; but your hands are getting stronger with calluses. If I keep climbing, I could really get good. It’s my dream to become one of the best climbers!

Quinn Kaufman

Scream It

I’m ready to dangle. I enjoy playing basketball at The Boy’s and Girl’s Club. I get tired but it’s very fun. When I’m in the game, I run, jump and block. I can hear the ball bouncing and shoes squeaking on the wooden floor. It gets hot because we are inside. I can see grey bleachers and the light brown floor. After a game, I have to take a shower at my house!

Aron Garcia

Sparkling Water

Every Friday after I get out of school, I go to the beach with my friends. When I’m at the beach, I taste the salty water. I feel the seaweed under me in the water and the sand go in between my toes. I see waves crashing and baby crabs crawling. At the beach, my friends and I hang out and listen to music as we look at the sparkling water. My favorite beach is Hendry’s Beach. I also like going to Zuma Beach in Malibu. I go there once a month on Fridays.

Dahla Lopez

La La Punch

A rush of adrenaline comes over me as soon as I slap on my black belt. It’s the best feeling before doing karate. I have been doing it for five years.

When I feel a bit tense or nervous, but when I’m running after school because it is a time for me to release my energy and have fun at the same time. When I’m running after the ball, I feel the wind rushing past my face, and the soles of my feet pounding on the ground. When I’m in possession of the ball, I feel a bit tense or nervous, but when I score a goal, I feel very happy and proud of myself. But when the game is over it doesn’t matter if you win or lose; it matters if you have fun. I love basketball. Maybe you should try it too!

Lili Sautto

Crashing Waves

What I love to do after school is go to Campus Point. I always set my board up on the beach, I am ready to taste the salty water. When my board crashes over the waves, I start to stand up. I look behind me and I see the sandy beach, help beds and sea life. It gets scary when you see a dolphin and think it is a shark! But I still love to stand up paddle on warm, sunny days when there are lots of waves. Sometimes my friends go with me. I see seals, dolphins and crabs when I go through kelp beds, and sometimes I see fish. If you fall off your board, you experience the cold rush of water as you rise to the surface. When I am all done with paddling, I start going to shore. I wait until I see a good wave. Hoping I will not fall off, I start to paddle and behind me I hear the crashing waves as I ride into shore. I think paddle boarding is a fun and exciting ride. Someday, you should try it!

Hannah Meyer

A Dunking Experience

My most favorite thing to do after school is playing basketball. When the ball touches my hand, it feels rough. When I jump through the air, the sweat wipes off my face and when my feet hit the ground, I feel satisfied. When I start out on the beach, I am ready to taste the salty water. When my board crashes over the waves, I start to stand up. I look behind me and I see the sandy beach, help beds and sea life. It gets scary when you see a dolphin and think it is a shark! But I still love to stand up paddle on warm, sunny days when there are lots of waves. Sometimes my friends go with me. I see seals, dolphins and crabs when I go through kelp beds, and sometimes I see fish. If you fall off your board, you experience the cold rush of water as you rise to the surface. When I am all done with paddling, I start going to shore. I wait until I see a good wave. Hoping I will not fall off, I start to paddle and behind me I hear the crashing waves as I ride into shore. I think paddle boarding is a fun and exciting ride. Someday, you should try it!

Jenna Bilbao

Energizing Activity

My favorite thing to do after school is to dance. I can see so many different things, like other people having fun while they dance. There’s a mirror where I can see myself dancing and walls that are painted different colors like purple and green. I can hear the loud, pumping music playing and the smell of popcorn in the microwave in the dance store. Once everyone is dancing, I know it’s time to start. Dancing can make me express all my feelings. I love dancing and I hope you can try it too!

Lili Sautto

Goal!!!

Once I hear the starting whistle, the cheers of my friends and family, and the smell of the freshly cut grass, I know that the game has started!!! Playing soccer is my favorite thing to do after school because it is a time for me to release my energy and have fun at the same time. When I’m running after the ball, I feel the wind rushing past my face, and the soles of my feet pounding on the ground. When I’m in possession of the ball, I feel a bit tense or nervous, but when I score a goal, I feel very happy and proud of myself. But when the game is over it doesn’t matter if you win or lose; it matters if you have fun. I love basketball. Maybe you should try it too!

Jenna Bilbao

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It’s A Slam Dunk
Squad! Squeak! That’s what I hear while I play my favorite sport: basketball. What I hear is the ball bouncing as I let go of the ball and retrieve it. I love to feel the orange ball spinning on my palm. I can see some of my best friends cutting and calling for the ball. That’s why I love the game of basketball.

Stephan Davis
He Shoots! He Scores!
The greatest sport of all is basketball! It is my favorite sport because I can get the energy out of me and feel the wind blowing in my face. When I play basketball, it is a breathtaking experience for my friends and me. This sport is special because I started playing it in kindergarten. When the basketball game is over – even if I lose – I always feel like a winner. I wish I could play like the basketball legends in the N.B.A.

Nima Javanbakht
MS. BLUE
Hockey
My favorite place to go in Santa Barbara is the Earl Warren Show Grounds to play hockey with Santa Barbara Youth Hockey. I like this place the most because it is a lot of fun to skate around and shoot on the goalie. It is also fun trying to steal the pick from other players. I have a special memory when I scored a hat trick in my goalie when I was nine years old. I can describe the hockey rink quite well because I go there about four times a week. The rink looks like a big rectangle with rounded edges and boards about three feet tall with glass above that. There are big red lines across the cement and circles where the face-off’s start. There are two small sections with no glass where the coaches and players sit. The spectators sit in the bleachers outside the rink. The rink has no specific smells but outside, where the players get ready, smells like sweat. Hockey is also fun because you play with a team. The team members will probably become your friends over time. These are some of the reasons why I like going to the Earl Warren Show Grounds.

Blake Baron
Riding Along East Beach
One of my favorite things to do in Santa Barbara is to go bike riding along East Beach on Sundays. As your ride, you like smell the salty, slightly fishy, smell of the ocean. You can hear seagulls circling above your head crying out. You see all the vendors selling their wares. You can smell seaweed in the salty air and hear children laughing as they run down the sand. The sun is shining and you know it’s going to be a good day. I live right across the street from Leadbetter, so I’ve been going there since I was very little. Sometimes my friends and I go into the crashing waves on long boards. We paddle out and have the time of our lives splashing and goofing around. The water is a little cold, especially during the winter, but if you wear a wetsuit you will be fine. One day the waves were really big, but two of my friends and I still went out into the water on our boards, paddling and feeling salty water splashing on our faces. We finally got out to where the waves couldn’t reach us. We took the challenge and tried to catch a wave. We aren’t the best at surfing, so you might guess what happened. We totally wiped out, falling and spinning in the waves. We got washed up onto the sand like beach whales. Everyone was watching us but we didn’t care, we just looked at each other and started cracking up, rolling in the sand in hysteric, barely breathing. It was a great day. I can’t imagine not spending at least half of my summer at Leadbetter. It is such a great beach to stop at the beach and spend some time playing in the sun and water. All in all, I consider this my favorite place in Santa Barbara because of all the fun I’ve had there. It’s great to be just able to ride around free for a bit from everything. One day, my family and I were riding and we went to the Vietnamese moving wall. It had the name of every person who died in Vietnam. It was pretty sad, but also really interesting because there was an old helicopter at the end and we saw some skydivers jump out of a plane right over us! That’s why East Beach is my favorite place.

Blake Beard
Get Up and Go
I feel my heart pounding. I sprint to the ball. The pressure on me increases as I fight for it. All I can see is a blur of white spray painted sidekicks, red yellow, and black jerseys, and the black and white hexagons on the leather sphere. I can hear the intense commands of my coach and team mates. All of a sudden, our team gets a breakaway. The white net and goal posts seem so close it feels as if you could reach out and touch them. The whistle blows – it is half time. The sound of gulping water and the deep breaths of breathing players fill your ears. The whistle blows once more, and the game is back on. It is our team’s kickoff and right from the beginning we have control of the ball. Our forward runs clear and closer towards the goal. Her foot strikes the ball, picking up fresh cut green grass and leaving the ball in the net. We are winning 1-0. The whistle blows for the third and final time. Our first game is won. It is my favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara: play soccer at San Marcos High School.

Rosie Campbell
Skater’s Point
Have you ever been to Skater’s Point? If you haven’t, I suggest you check it out. Whether you scooter, skate, or just like to watch, you will amaze while skaters perform gravity-defying tricks. At Skater’s Point there is a great combination of street and vert, the two elements of skating. You’ll smell and feel the salty sea breeze while hearing the wheels squeaking and the boards grinding on rail. This skate park is at a beautiful location just west of Stearn’s Wharf with a stunning view of the ocean. I go to the skate park all the time with my friends, Sean and Max. One day, I met a new friend named Tyler. I was soaring through the air when he said, “Wow! You’re really good at scooter!” I went over to him and we talked for a while. Now we’re best friends. So what are you waiting for? Get up and go skate!

Chris Cassriel
Bike Riding
Do you like the feeling of your blood pumping? Or do you prefer feeling relaxed and enjoying the scenery? If you like either, then I recommend going on bike rides along the ocean. This is my favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara. I like it because of the scenery such as the ocean, the sailing boats, and the park. When I go on bike rides, I see people playing on the beach, walking their dogs, and children playing in the park. I smell the salty sea air and the food that people eat. I feel the rough grip of the handlebars and the pedals going up and down. I hear the playful screams of children playing with their families and friends. Bike riding is special to me because of the time I get to spend with my family. I love bike riding and I recommend it because it is fun and exciting.

Sammy Crasley
Rainy Day
You don’t have to leave the house to have fun in Santa Barbara. I find it relaxing to just stay inside on a rainy day. You could curl up with a good book while the rain pours down outside. Play a game with your family like Monopoly while listening to the patter-patter of rain on the roof. Or watch a movie with the lights turned out while you eat a big bowl of delicious buttery popcorn. It is enjoyable to stay inside on a rainy day. But if it is sunny out, go outside!

Nathaniel Denson
Santa Barbara Fun
If you come to Santa Barbara and you are looking for something to do, go to the Santa Barbara Skate Park and East Beach which is right next to it. Even if you don’t skateboard or bike, you will still have a great time watching all the amazing skaters do their tricks. It is located near the downtown and pier area. You are literally so close to the beach that you can smell the water. If you get tired, just cross the bike path and lie down and relax in the warm sand. The sand is so soft it feels like you are lying on a pillow. You will love coming to the Santa Barbara Skate Park and going to East Beach and relaxing in the sand. Remember that this is what you should do when you visit Santa Barbara.

Sean Dolan
My Trip to the Beach
I love going to the beach because I always have a blast while I am there. I love hanging out with my friends in the warm sand, and going into the cold salty water. At the beach there’s a lot to do. One thing my friends and I – Kayla, Rosie, Max, Ben, and Georgia – made a movie. It was a blast. I had a great time making it. Another time I was laying down under

CONTINUED >>
There are many amazing places in Santa Barbara. It’s where I go to get ice cream with my friends. So if you are looking for a real Santa Barbara experience, visit the Boathouse!

The Boathouse
One of the most fantastic restaurants in Santa Barbara is the Boathouse. My favorite part of the Boathouse is that the beach and the restaurant is sandwiched in between two beautiful green cliffs, making it the most private beach in Santa Barbara. Locals and tourists join there for a wonderful meal while watching the ocean sunset and the waves lapping against the pure white sand. The restaurant has a warm environment, a friendly and polite staff, and the food is out of this world. The view onto the Channel Islands is breathtaking. After you eat, you can enjoy a beach walk with your dog and family on the enormous stretches of sand. One of the most entertaining games to play at Hendry’s Beach is frisbee surfing. We bike to the beach and we see people playing the frisbee courts. The wavy ocean sparkles from the sun. We go past the sand and get to the pier. We eat ice cream and relax. With my bike pedals moving under sunny skies, the ocean’s smooth waves touching the sand, and the grass standing by the brown trees at Shoreline Park, biking on Santa Barbara is a fantastic experience!

Biking to Stearns Wharf
My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is bike to Stearns Wharf with my family. I start biking with my dad at Shoreline Park. As I bike past the sandy playground, I see kids playing soccer and the grass moving side to side in the wind. The green grounds and the tall trees make Shoreline Park really wonderful. When I get to the road, I bike as fast as I can down the big hill. My adrenaline increases and I feel the wind speeding through my shirt and my hair. It’s exciting! My dad and I bike through the parking lot and watch the horizon of the ocean. When the sun is shining on everyone and people are playing in the water, it always puts me in a happy mood. My dad and I take a rest on the grass and stare up at the blue sky. The palm trees stand very tall and strong and the breeze is cooling us off in the heat. We bike to the beach and we see people playing in the volleyball courts. The wavy ocean sparkles from the sun. We go past the sand and get to the pier. We eat ice cream and relax. With my bike pedals moving under sunny skies, the ocean’s smooth waves touching the sand, and the grass standing by the brown trees at Shoreline Park, biking on Santa Barbara is a fantastic experience!
Leadbetter Beach

Leadbetter Beach is a fantastic place with the waves crashing into the shore. The beach has an easy walk to the harbor and Shoreline Café. The large rocks are such a blast to climb on. My favorite memory from Leadbetter is the time my friends made a murder movie. My friend and I were the killers. Two of my friends were the detectives and my other friend was the dead person. My other friend was the witness. The funniest, but tragic part, was when my friend was filming and his brother pushed him and the phone fell in the sand. The girl who owned the phone was freaking out when I said, “Dude, your phone fell in the sand.” The brother said, “Wow, what was that for?” In the end, the murderers got caught and sent to jail. The beach is also great because of all of the lovely people you meet there. I have a fabulous time with my friends. All the time I have spent there makes me like it more every time.

Kayla Peacock

The Maritime Museum

The Maritime Museum at the harbor in Santa Barbara is a fascinating place to visit. It has a tower with a great close-up view of the Pacific Ocean and the Channel Islands right off the coast. Also, there is a small theater with great Ocean and the Channel Islands right off the coast. You can see actual size items used by sailors, such as harpoons and torpedoes. There are many ship models of both civilian and military ships. I have been there many times, amazed by the military models. Their authenticity is surprising. The Maritime Museum is definitely worth visiting.

Spencer Pierce

Get Up and Go

I would have to say that my favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is riding my bike from Shoreline Park to the end of East Beach. Since I live on the Mesa, it’s really easy for me to get to Shoreline Park. I just have to ride my bike down the path and I’m there. I have always loved the view from the park; you just look out over the water and see the powerful waves crashing against the sandy shore. As I keep riding, I smell the salty sea and see my friends heading to the entrance of Leadbetter Beach. I start to go down the hill and I feel the breeze blow on my face, cooling me off. I keep on riding my bike and as I pass the harbor, I see the white sails sticking up from almost every boat. In just a short while, I’m at the end of East Beach. I always feel so peaceful when I ride my bike along that path, seeing the beautiful sea and hot golden sand. It’s amazing to think how lucky we are to live on the central coast. There are so many places to see, so many places to go.

Diego Perez

Santa Barbara Youth Music Academy Studio

The first time I stepped into the studio I realized it was going to be one of my second homes. When I walk inside, friendly and familiar voices greet me. Music is everywhere I turn. The banging of the big drums fills my ears. There are grand pianos, keyboards, and microphones - most of the things that make my life full. We twist and turn down the hall to Room 1 where I practice. You can feel the vibrations of the music coming from the different practice rooms. Right away, many sounds take over the space. You can hear the guitar strumming, the piano starting to play and the song coming together. After a lot of practice, we began performing at different places. Some of the places I have performed are Soho, Dargans, and Paseo Nuevo. After the gig, we might practice another song, but we keep improving on anything we have already performed. When I walk out of the studio, I can still hear the music and can’t wait until the next time I return to my second home.

Siena Pomerantz

Santa Barbara Harbor Patrol protect our beaches and people!

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crashing waves light up like a star compared to the dark blue ocean. But my absolute favorite part of this beach is that it is a great place to paddle out on your surfboard and catch a wave. A great memory every time I spend a day there is when I see the perfect wave as I stand up on my board. The water splashing on your face as you catch a wave is the best feeling ever. The sounds, what you feel, and what you see are all part of the amazing Leadbetter Beach.

The South of Elings
In Elings Park South I have some of my fondest memories. As I bike around the dirt paths, I see the sun’s golden beams bounce off the ocean. There are also paragraphs and hang gliders taking off into the sky. The wind goes over your ears, letting you hear practically nothing as you go down the dirt ramps and jumps. I would go with my friends occasionally when I was little, and we’d pretend we were adventurers. This is why I have loved, and will always love, Elings Park South.

Glen Annie Golf Club
If you’re looking for a thrilling and exciting round of golf, you should go to Glen Annie. It is one of the best golf courses in all of Santa Barbara. It is incredibly fun because the course is perfectly mowed fairways and quick greens make it an amazing experience. Plus, after your round you can enjoy a delicious lunch at the grill on the course. They have a panoramic view of the beautiful course from inside the grill. I play there often and I always have an amazing time. I can’t remember the last time I had a bad time there. I really encourage you to go there; I guarantee you will have a great time.

Fishing on Goleta Pier
Fishing on Goleta Pier can be a great way to spend quality time with your family. I remember the sweet, salty taste of the sea air on my tongue, and the rough feel of the pier railing under my hands. Goleta Pier is where I first learned to bait my fishing line, and how to find a good place to put your fishing line. You can never replace the rush you get when you feel that bite on your line. I remember one time when I was fishing with my dad, I pulled up two little fish and one hit me right in the face. I was laughing for a long time after that. Goleta Pier is a great place to go fishing with your family, or just to get away from life for a little while.

Enterprise Fish Company
If you’re looking for seafood, Enterprise Fish Company is your place. With a fisherman’s style interior and a glass walled kitchen, Enterprise Fish Company is a classic seafood restaurant. You could eat some steamed clams while watching a parrot fish swim through a tanked coral reef, or see jutting with your friends next to a beautiful wooden waterfall fountain. The glass walled kitchen provides an interesting view of many strange and delicious foods being cooked at once, along with the aroma of food in its prime. Enterprise Fish Company is also a perfect location for train travelers arriving in Santa Barbara, as it is located right next to one of the nicest train stations for miles around! I personally love Enterprise Fish Company because I tried one steamed clam when I was only four, and I loved it so much that it changed my view of food forever - as I am sure it will for you!

Soccer in Santa Barbara
The wind rushes past my head as I streak down the sideline with the ball. My favorite activity to do in Santa Barbara is soccer. I play with my friends at school, at Shoreline Park, and at AYSO. I also go to the US Club fields with my brother and practice there. My favorite moment playing soccer was when I was playing AYSO all-stars and the Santa Barbara teams were playing in the final against each other. I scored the game-winning goal in extra time! When I play soccer I love feeling the wind rush past my head and hearing the crowd cheering me on. That is why soccer is my favorite activity to do in Santa Barbara.

Santa Barbara Rock Gym
Have you ever been rock climbing? If not, now is your chance. You can go to the Santa Barbara Rock Gym! If you’re afraid of heights, indoor rock climbing is a good way to conquer your fear in a totally safe environment. The courses range from easy to hard, so all ages can participate. It is a fun workout, and you don’t even know you’re exercising. Climbing up those tough courses allows you to build up strength every time you go. I sometimes stay for hours because it is so much fun. All of the people there are very nice, and you can strike up a conversation with almost anyone. It is also very fun to go with a friend. When you go with a friend, you can challenge each other and share ideas about how to do different courses. Every single wall is covered with different colored holds. If you’re worried that you might get bored, they change the courses every couple of weeks. If you don’t have your own shoe, they’ve got you covered. They will give you chalk, climbing shoes, and a harness. If you forget your water bottle, they have a drinking fountain. There are auto belays, which slowly lower you down if you fall. There is also bouldering; that is where you have thick pads underneath you while you climb. You can pay each time, or you can get a monthly membership and go as many times as you like; that’s what I do! They sometimes even have cool competitions. Last time I got first place, and won $100. The Santa Barbara Rock Gym is easy to find on the east side of State Street near the freeway. I hope to someday see you there!

Climbing at the Santa Barbara Rock Gym
Whenever I see the sign for the Santa Barbara Rock Gym, I hope we will walk in and climb for a while. The gym is right next to the Beach Break Café. From the moment you step inside, you see friendly faces and a rainbow of all the different colored plastic rocks. The air is filled with the sound of bodies slapping the crash pads as they successfully jump down from their cliffs. You can smell the excitement and adrenaline mingling with chalk dust in the air. Once you start going it’s incredibly hard to stop. So if you’re looking for a hobby, this is a great one!

Playing Soccer Games
Are you looking for ways to get your energy out? Well, playing soccer, especially at San Marcos High School, is a great way to get all your energy and anger out of the bad team. It is especially enjoyable to play with your friends or your soccer team, to get support from each other and to be supportive. Imagine the hot, sandy turf warming your feet with heat waves surrounding you and the smell of warm, rubbery turf! There are tall flights of bleachers to run up and down on, and from the top a sea of colorful lines. This way and that. If you are looking for a fun way to get all your energy out, playing soccer at San Marcos is a good choice.

Leadbetter Beach
If I had to recommend a place to go in Santa Barbara I would recommend going to Leadbetter. At Leadbetter the sand is super soft. When you lay on the sand it is as if you are on a fluffy pillow. It is warm too, so you related whenever you lay down. The water is cold and refreshing at Leadbetter Beach. When you go there, you can see the joy filled faces of children flocking in the crashing waves, the wonderful smell of the salty sea, along with the smell of fresh seaweed. At the beach you can play in the water and surf. You can also build sand castles and relax in the sand. This is why I recommend going to Leadbetter Beach.

My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
Have you ever been disappointed? You just want to be alone? That has happened to me a lot. Santa Claus Beach is my favorite place and special to me because surfing is the one sport that I can get all my stress out. When I’m on the wave, I feel all my stress going away. I like surfing by myself. When I’m at the beach, I feel like nothing bad can ever happen. I can smell the fresh ocean water. I can see the waves crash against the sand and they make my heart go boom. If I go to this one place I can’t get mad at anyone or anything.

My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara is loud and always has different songs playing. The

MRS. CANTU

My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Stearns Wharf. I have been there many times with my mom and I still love it even though I’ve been going there since I was three. I also like to shop at Candy and Stuff; my favorite candies are the warheads. I encourage you to visit there, too!

Blenders
My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Blenders because I go there every Friday after school and see my friends. When you walk through the door, you instantly know that you will taste something amazing like the banana–strawberry smoothie, or you can try the wheat grass with its fresh ingredients cut right in front of you. I also enjoy socializing with friends at Blenders. Everyone is in a good mood as they sip their cool, refreshing Blenders and talk about their plans for the weekend.

My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
My favorite place in Santa Barbara is loud and always has different songs playing. The

CONTINUED>>
**My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara**

Getting into Pascucci isn’t easy even on a Tuesday evening. You have to wait in line for what seems like forever until a waitress finally calls your family. She leads you around large groups of families, women on a “girl’s night out,” and colleagues discussing work. She takes you to a lighted booth that makes you feel like you’re vacationing in Southern Italy. You look through a big menu while you snack on the delicious garlic bread. Your parents converse about their day’s work, something they don’t normally do, but because of the relaxed and homey environment they feel comfortable doing so there. You finally choose your meal as your brother kicks you under the table.

When your waitress arrives with your food, you’re relieved. You eat in about eleven minutes because it smells and tastes so terrific that you can’t slow down. You sip your Italian soda as you wait for your folks to pay the bill. In the end you leave into the dark night, satisfied with another great meal at Pascucci.

**My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara**

My favorite place in Santa Barbara is a church. My church has a really big sanctuary with a lot of colors. The church is called St. Mary’s Catholic Church. My favorite part of the church is the organ. The organ is very big and has a lot of keys. When you play the organ, it makes beautiful music.

**My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara**

My favorite place in Santa Barbara is the Wilcox Property. I like to go there because you see everything and it’s a wonderful place. At the Wilcox Property, I smell trees and feel the sun’s warmth on my face. I also like to play with other kids. It’s a great place to play with friends and have fun.

**My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara**

My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Arroyo Burro Beach. I always go there with my family and friends. It’s a great place to play in the water, build sandcastles, and have fun in the sun.

**My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara**

My favorite place is the Municipal Tennis Courts in Santa Barbara. I like to play tennis there because I love the feeling of the ball hitting the racket. I also enjoy the challenge of scoring points against other players.

**My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara**

My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Blend-ers. Blend-ers is a store that sells refreshing, cold smoothies. I like Blenders because it is actually located in Arroyo Burro Beach.

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healthy because the smoothie is made out of fruit. I also like Blenders because you can feel refreshed when you drink it when it’s really hot outside. Blenders is one of the most popular places in Santa Barbara because it sells tons of great, fruity drinks. The two flavors that I always order are banana and chocolate. I love the combinations of fruit and chocolate. It makes my mouth water just writing about it. I think it would be fun to work at Blenders when I am in high school and college. It would be nice to provide other people with a refreshing, healthy snack just as I have enjoyed since I was little.

Leadbetter Beach
Have you ever gone to Leadbetter Beach in Santa Barbara? I always go together with my family and friends. When I go to the beach I smell the saltwater and sand. If I see a piece of trash I always pick it up because everyone likes a clean beach. Sometimes I go to the ice cream stand store at the harbor where I taste the sweet flavors. Back on the beach I often hear people screaming and shouting, “The water is too cold!” I laugh because I know exactly how it feels.

Manuel Rios
My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Yogurtland. I go because I have to get a special time with my family there. One of the reasons why I love Yogurtland is the different aromas of the yogurt, and the different tastes when you combine flavors. The cool feeling when you swallow tends a chill down my spine, and the mixed flavors of toppings add to the overall sensation. Due to the fact that there are so many different flavors to choose from, it is a hard decision to choose just one. Once I know I’ve found the right choice, I close the door and see the swirled tastiness of Dutch Chocolate and Madagascar Vanilla. Once I’ve got what I want, I get to choose the different assortment of toppings. Yogurtland also comes up with great new flavors to make. I recommend that you visit Yogurtland soon, because they have ten new flavors from around the world for only three months. I suggest you get the Polynesian Vanilla (one of the ten flavors) mixed with Dutch Chocolate. I can’t wait until the next time I go to Yogurtland! It is a great place to go for a tasty treat with your family.

Jacob Drew
My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Starbucks. When I go there, I love to smell the roasted coffee and the delicious baked breads and muffins. It’s always crowded and loud when you get inside. Some people get hot or iced coffee. The bread and the muffins are warm and sweet. I find that the coffee is sometimes bitter and sometimes sweet. This is a special place because when I am in Mexico, we all drink coffee each morning. At the Santa Barbara Starbucks, I usually get a cold frappuccino or the banana nut praline latte with beans and coffee cups. I like the color inside the shop because they have shades of brown and brown is the color of coffee. My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Starbucks.

Alicia Mariscal
My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
Imagine you hear waves crashing in the distance. You see crabs scuttling to where you walk by. You hear seagulls swooping overhead. You taste the sweetness of ice cream as you walk along the breakwater. You smell the fishy, salty smell of the harbor. My favorite place in Santa Barbara is the harbor. It’s a place where I can ride my bike to and hang out with friends. I can also paddleboard to the Sandspit with friends. It’s also a special place for me because my Grandma and I always go to Brophy’s and watch the boats come in and out of the harbor. I’ve been going to the harbor since I was little and plan on going there far into my future.

Jaden Posser
The Arlington, My Favorite Place
I will always remember all the fun I have had performing on the stage at the Arlington Theater in Santa Barbara. As soon as I step onto the stage for performances, energy surges through me. With the lights, camera, and dancing, I feel so alive. The floor is smooth as my feet glide with the music, and my arms gracefully move from one pose to the next. In my annual performance of The Nutcracker, I usually get to play two or three parts, and need to do a costume change between scenes. Once off stage I change for my next act. My friends and I from Santa Barbara Festival Ballet talk to each other, with the scent of hair-spray and make up lingering in the air. When the smaller girls walk past, I know it’s almost time to go back on stage. I have so many memories of dancing in the Arlington Theater, and every time I step onto the stage the memories flood back to me. The Arlington Theater is my favorite place in Santa Barbara and it will always be near and dear to my heart.

Alexi Hellman
My Favorite Place in Santa Barbara
My favorite place in Santa Barbara is the 7-11 on the Mesa because my family has owned it for 15 years. Because I am there so often, I consider this 7-11 my “second home.” When I walk through the doors, a good feeling washes over me. There are so many good things to see and taste, including the cool Shurepes, the hot sizzling dogs, as well as the colorful tasty donuts. Just so you know, the Shurepes are made from machines that the employees full up with flavored syrup and ice cream. I also enjoy looking at the numerous candies and gum lined up neatly on the shelves with hundreds of flavors to choose from. I always say, “There is nothing better than a Shurpee on a hot day.” You may want to remember this the next day the sun is blazing down and you happen to be on the Mesa – visit the 7-11!

Nannni Podrutz
MR. BILEY
State Street
I like to go to State Street with my friends on Saturdays or Sundays. When I go, I walk down the street with my friends and have fun. Sometimes I stop and watch a funny movie at Fiesta Five. When I come out, I see all the shops with open doors and think about the different things inside. I hear loud music and noisy birds chirping in the air. I smell buttery popcorn and sweet chocolate flavors from Yogurtland. At Tilley’s, I touch the soft fabric of all the cute clothes. It’s fun walking on State Street because it’s fun to be with my friends and family.

Neddy Kies
Golfing
What is your favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara? I love golfing with my dad at the Municipal Golf Course. When I golf, I see the shining green fairway and the trees. I smell freshly cut grass and Snickers candy. I hear people yelling “fore” and cars driving by. I feel a light wind and pressure before I hit the ball. I taste a juicy hot dog and sweet Gatorade when I play. The reason I love golfing is because I get to spend time with my dad and I get a workout. It is my favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara.

Preston Fey
Downtown Santa Barbara
What is your favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara? My favorite thing to do is to go downtown with my friend, Alyiah. I see a lot of shops and dogs. I smell yummy food and the exhaust of engines. I hear people walking in cars going past me. I feel the brick sidewalk and the cold air on my face. I taste yogurt and air in my mouth. Going downtown with my friend Alyiah is my favorite thing to do because we just get to hang out and shop.

Emily Meza
The Game
My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is to play basketball with Crys H. We go on Fridays after school around 4:30pm at Santa Barbara Junior High. We go because it is fun and we get competitive. It’s also a routine now. When we go, I like the ball bounces and the rocks crunching on my feet. I feel the ball on my hands and the sweat on my face. I see Crys trying to guard me and the basketball hoop. I smell the air and the leather of the ball. I taste the Gatorade or water we bring. Playing basketball at Santa Barbara Junior High is my favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara.

Jose Ozama
Santa Barbara
Do you ever go somewhere that you never want to leave? My favorite place in Santa Barbara is Sandspit. When I go, I like to go body boarding with Ben because we have barrel contests and get barrelled a lot. I usually go after school and see the open ocean and yellow sand. I smell seaweed and the salty water. When we are approaching the water, I hear birds chirping and waves crashing. I feel the sand on my feet and the water on my hands. I taste salt from the water and occasionally some sand too. There are a lot of cool things in Santa Barbara, but Sandspit is my favorite.

Eli Sada
The Santa Ynez River
My favorite place in Santa Barbara is the Santa Ynez River. There is a campout place that I love to go to. I like either hot or iced coffee. The reason I love it is because I feel a sinking feeling as I step into the river. I feel the plants rustling on me and the cold freezing water. I taste the cold lemonade and juicy barbecue. I hear birds chirping and water rushing. I smell wet dirt and barbecue. I see the row of people enjoying themselves. I love the Santa Ynez River!

Aisha Avila Lendes
The Boys and Girls Club
My most enjoyable thing to do in Santa Barbara is go to the Boys and Girls Club and play basketball with my little brother after school. Sometimes I taste my sweat, and when I take a break I taste my blue Gatorade. I see my little brother and the ball in the air. I smell my sweat and freshly cooked hot dogs. I hear kids talking and the ball bouncing. I feel excitement and energy. This is special to me because I love my little brother and like spending time with him.

Isaak Musto
My Favorite Place
What’s your favorite place in Santa Barbara? My favorite place is Yen Ching, which is also my favorite restaurant in the city. The reason why is that it was the first place I went to with my sister and my little cousin. I go every so often after school and rarely for dinner. I go with my brother, sister, and parents. We usually have sizzling rice soup and kung-pao shrimp which I love. My favorite is Yen Ching and I taste the warm soup. I see and hear the sizzling steaming soup. I feel the dull smooth spoon in my hands. Yen Ching is my favorite place in Santa Barbara.

Nicole DeJesus
Nikka Japanese Market
Nikka Japanese Market is number one on my top three places in Santa Barbara. When I go here, I love to buy something new–often candy! I love to try all the different teas, candy, ramen, and drinks. Nikka is very well priced for the large array of items it has to offer. Some of the candy I try is sweet, tangy, sharp, and sour. I always hear the buzzing freezers, smell the warm steamed buns, taste the candy samples, and see the arrays of tea, candy, and toys. When I go to Nikka, it is usually a Saturday. This is why it is my favorite place to visit.

Scarlet Chapman
Skateboarding
My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is to go skateboarding. I like to go with my friends. We usually go on Saturdays. We skate on the street. We hear the wheels rolling on the ground.

CONTINUED>>
and the cars passing by, and feel our bodies slamming onto the ground whenever we fall. We smell the salty sweat and see all the cars passing by and my best friends. That is my favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara.

Tony Perez
The Beach
My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is to go to Leadbetter Beach with my friends. When we get to the top of the pathway, I can clearly hear the waves crashing against the wet, cold sand and see the birds screeching and flying in the sunny sky. After we walk down the path, we feel the hot sand on our feet and jump into the sparkling, freezing ocean. Waves keep crashing against us and we body surf, rolling around in the powerful waves and tasting the salty water. When we get too cold, we get out and walk to Shoreline Café, a restaurant close to the beach. We all order hamburgers and wait impatiently for our food to be ready. Finally it comes and we’re starving! We all devour our hamburgers and taste the delicious juices. After we are done, we walk home, talking and laughing along the way. I love to go to the beach!

Georgie Bruce
Tennis Fun
There are many tennis courts in Santa Barbara. My favorite place to play tennis is City College. My dad and I usually play tennis on the weekends. I play tennis because I can get exercise. Also, I can have fun because I can hit very high and as hard as I can. When I play tennis, I can hear loud ball bounces hitting the rubber court and I can see tennis players next to me hitting as hard as they can. When I play tennis, I can hear loud ball bounces hitting the rubber court and I can see tennis players next to me hitting as hard as they can. I can smell the fresh green grass through the tennis court doors and feel furry, hard, green tennis balls when I am about to serve. I taste the fresh green grass through the tennis court doors and feel furry, hard, green tennis balls when I am about to serve. I taste the fresh water seeping down my throat. There are many tennis courts in Santa Barbara, but the ones at City College are certainly my favorite.

Shannon Yates
Surfing
My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is to go surfing with my best friend, Lucas and his brother, Sam. At a sleepover, our favorite place to go surfing is at Mondos at 12:00 p.m. on a bright, sunny afternoon. We go surfing to have fun and to get better. I hear a colossal wave crash behind me as I ride into shore, glowing in the sun. I smell the salty water as I fall on a wave. I feel Lucas tapping me on the shoulder and telling me that there is wave coming. I also feel waves splashing on me as I drop down the wave. I taste the salty water in my mouth as I duck dive under the wave on my board. I see Lucas, Sam, and me catch a party wave. I see me tackling Lucas off his board and Lucas tackling Sam. My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is to go surfing at Mondos with my best friend, Lucas and his brother, Sam.

Christian Ewak

Bike Riding
Bike riding is so fun in Santa Barbara. A favorite activity for me is going bike riding with my dad and sister at East Beach along the long bike path. The best time to go is around 3-4 in the afternoon because when we come home the sun is going down. I love to go because it’s beautiful along the beach. I hear lots of cars zooming past and big ocean waves crashing. I see the people hiking the opposite way with the yellow line behind them. I love to taste my cold water, but I hate the taste of little bugs. I feel my new bike grips and the big gust of wind in my face. That nice smell of salty ocean and freshly cut grass goes up my nose. It is all so wonderful. Now you know why I love bike riding in Santa Barbara.

Talia Zampese

Judo
My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is going to Judo with my friends. I can hear yelling while I come in. I can smell the rubber mats, I can see the event. I can taste the homemade food on the tip of my lips. I also smelled the rubber ball. Then all my focus led up to winning 11-0 and I was happy. We always play basketball because it’s fun.

Makena Barghner
Cathedral Oaks
Something I like to do is go to Cathedral Oaks where you can do plenty of fun stuff! What I like to do is swim. I love how you can get so much exercise, and I also love the smell of the chlorine and the feeling of the warm water. Sometimes I swallow the water and it tastes really bad. I like the feeling of being somewhere I can relax. I also hear the splashing of water. There are other things to do there as well. You can play tennis and ping-pong and there is great food, too. I usually go to Cathedral Oaks on Saturdays at about lunchtime. That is when it’s nice and sunny outside. Cathedral Oaks is one of my favorite places to swim, play, and relax.

Gavin Ellsworth
Surfing
Surfing is the best activity ever. You paddle out as fast as you can while your hands and feet start to freeze. You wait for just the right wave with your friends. You wait for a good wave and start to paddle. You get it and everyone else falls. You stand up and lose your balance and fall. You see a blur of water and all you taste is salt water. You emerge and hear your friends chuckling at your fall. Riding the wave with the smell of the beach in the air is the greatest feeling ever. That is why I love surfing.

Javier Estevez

My Favorite Place to Go in Santa Barbara
I enjoy going to the Santa Barbara Rock Climbing Gym with my friends. I go to the rock climbing gym in the afternoon. When I go to the rock climbing gym, I hear people laughing and the sounds of feet climbing on the rock wall. I smell the powdery flour that we use to grip on the rocks. I feel the rough rocks and powdery flour. I taste the sweet Gatorade and a sugary Cliff bar. I see people climbing the rock wall and cars driving nearby. I enjoy the Santa Barbara Rock Climbing Gym the most because it is a fun way to get exercise.

Raphaela Griffith
Hanging with my Friend
My favorite thing to do in Santa Barbara is hang out with Sam. We hang out on Fridays or on the weekends. We hang out with Sam, we always have fun. We usually hang out on Fridays or on the weekends.

Daniel Domínguez

In Santa Barbara
I love going to my friend’s house. She is my best and funniest friend. When I get to her house, I hear the fast moving cars on the paved road. I smell the salty ocean and the feeling of the ocean wind. When we are together, we make the sil-liest videos. My favorite thing to do is hang out with her after school when we have the greatest ideas! At her house I feel the very big, purple, and fuzzy bean bag in her medium-sized room.
A Wonderful Bedroom
My bedroom is my favorite room. When you walk into my room, you see video games, a TV, toys, a chair and a window. In the bedroom, my video games are next to my TV. The colors of my walls are white. My bed is on the top bunk bed. My black TV is big for my small bedroom. My clothes are in the closet. I feel good in my bedroom.

Tony Lopez

Music Room
My favorite room in the house is my music room because I can annoy my neighbors with the violin and drums. When I walk into my music room, I can see my pink guitar, black piano, silver tuba and pink drums. It has colorful dogs, birds and a big bed, too! My dogs gave a bed in my room with me and so do my birds. My window is purple ad my walls have blue butterflies and pink flowers on them. My room has stars on the ceiling that glow in the dark. I like to play music with the lights off and the stars glowing in the dark. I feel happy in my music room because it is really nice in there and I can be with my animals and my sister, Francisca. When I am not playing music, I like to watch my big screen plasma TV or paint pictures.

Michelle Anaies Lara Payan

Grandma’s Special Room
My Grandma’s room is my favorite room. I like it because it smells good. It is colorful and pretty. She has a big bed and a flat screen TV. I feel good in my Grandma’s room and so does my sister, Maria. We love my Grandma and her room. It is a bright and happy place. Grandma’s room has a door that opens into her backyard where we play with her dog, Camilla.

Jennifer Cisneros

Mom’s Fantastic Room
My favorite room is my Mom’s room. When I walk into my Mom’s room I see white cozy pillows, brown blankets, a black TV colorful clothes and a brown mirror. My mom’s room is cool and sometimes I even think it’s haunted! When we play hide and seek, I hide in my Mom’s closet!

Adanmary Perez

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