



Newsletter

Issue | 04 | November 2023

Gateway School's Mission:

To guide all students toward achieving their full potential in a safe and caring environment, that promotes a community of fearless learners. We will soar, empowered by our personalized experiential learning.

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GWS Web Page: <https://gateway.d51schools.org/>

OWL Web Page: <https://www.outdoorwildernesslab.org/>

Mark Allen | Principal

Cristina Duerock | OWL Administrative Assistant

Abby Roehm | GWS Secretary & Health Assistant

Eli Alcorta | Facilities Generalist

Jeannie Sanford | Bus Driver

Greg Weckenbrock | OWL Lead Teacher

Derek Brown | Secondary ELA & Social Studies Teacher

Meg Moores | Secondary Math & Science Long Term SUB

Madonna Dormaier | Elementary 3-5 & SPED Teacher

Kassidy Wilkerson | Elementary K-2 Teacher

Zoe DeVine | Year-Round OWL Instructor

Sidney Brown | Seasonal OWL Instructor

Bells Barker | Seasonal OWL Instructor

Sheridan Percell | OWL Student Intern/Seasonal Instructor

Ted Riley | Chef

Upcoming EVENTS

- ◆ Dec. 7 @ 6pm—Christmas Program (Gateway Community Center)
- ◆ Dec. 21—Last day of 2nd Quarter
- ◆ Dec. 22-Jan. 5—Winter Break (No School)
- ◆ Jan. 8—Teacher Work Day (No School)
- ◆ Jan. 9—Teacher Work Day (No School)
- ◆ Jan. 15—Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)
- ◆ Feb. 19—President's Day (No School)



Thanksgiving Luncheon



A HUGE Thank You to Chef Ted and his amazing helper Kathy! Also, to the parents and staff that helped! We couldn't have done it without you!



Elementary had fun with Thanksgiving activities and made Thankful Cups for the whole school.



Thanksgiving fun for Elementary



We were testing how temperature and concentration affect the reaction between vinegar and baking soda. We learned that higher heat and lower concentration had faster reaction times.

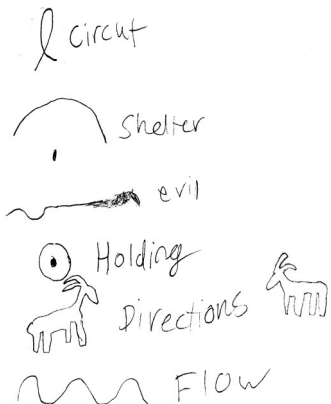
High School Science Experiment

GATEWAY SCHOOL

Middle School Field Trip to Dominguez Canyon



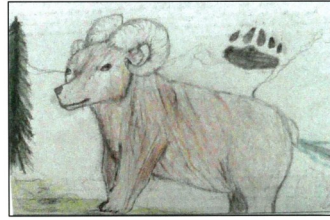
Middle schoolers went on an interpretive expedition before Thanksgiving break.



I think that this panel is telling us that there is water one direction and shelter the other. And that there may have been a path that went in a circle.

The Big Horned Bear Ursus Munga Cornua Carnivoros

by Evangeline Dormaler



Habitat and Range

Habitat of the big horned bear is found to be in high mountain ranges, deep glacier carved valleys, rocky outcrops, forest covered mountain slopes, alpine lakes, plunging streams, and boulder fields: these can all be found between the St. Elias Mountain range to the Rocky Mountains. There have been said to be a few sightings in the Appalachian region by heavily concussed locals, but researchers are still working on confirming these sightings.



Dieting Habits

Typical prey includes rocky mountain elk, mule deer, pronghorn, mountain goats, big horned sheep, and boreal caribou. Findings of carcasses with broken ribs prove these animals to be their typical prey; they are suspected to ram into prey with their large horns. Researchers also suspect that the beast has 2 stomachs, due to two Elk carcasses with broken ribs found within a mile of each other.

Description, Signs, and Tracks

Descriptions have been 3'-4' on all fours, 6'-7' on hind legs. Thick gray fur with tan undertones, helps blend in with gray rock of high mountains. Wide-set eyes can see everything around them by only turning their heads but a few inches. Their body build is similar to that of a small brown bear, so they are suspected to have a great sense of smell. They have big horned sheep-like horns: it is assumed that they use these to ram into prey. The paws of the big horned bear have a wide oval pad with a small hill shape on the top end. Tear drop shaped toes hover above the pad of the paw normally if in mud or soft dirt claw marks appear about an inch away from the point of the toes. The back paws are the same but horizontally elongated. These often get mixed up with brown and black bear tracks. There have also been findings of rubbed off bald spots and fur on trees so we figure the big horned bear enjoys a good tree scratch. And often due to the color of their fur it often gets confused with mule deer fur. There have been reports of a gurgling or creaking sound in the woods, which is most likely the big horned bear's mating call.



High Schoolers have been hunting local cryptids.





Hoot, Hoot

Gateway School Community,

As we approach the end of this remarkable year, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the incredible educational journey shared with you at Gateway School and the Outdoor Wilderness Lab (OWL). Your trust and commitment to your child's education have made this community truly exceptional.

In the spirit of the season, we extend warm wishes for a joyous and peaceful Christmas to you and your loved ones. May this festive time be filled with laughter, love, and cherished moments.

We want to express our deepest appreciation for the partnership we share in nurturing the growth and development of your children. The collaborative efforts between Gateway School and OWL continue to create a rich tapestry of learning and discovery.

Thank you for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your children. Here's to celebrating the accomplishments of the past year and eagerly anticipating the exciting adventures that lie ahead in the new year.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with warmth and togetherness.

- Cristina Duerock
OWL Administrative Assistant



*“Do not go where the path may lead,
go instead where there is no path
and leave a trail.”*

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

