



Central Scoop  
November 2019  
Edition 02

**Editor's Note**  
by Lilly

Now that it's starting to become chilly outside, I've found November to be the perfect time to get all cozy. Maybe you, too, curl up on the couch with a fuzzy blanket and the TV remote---or the Central Scoop. Try it sometime; we hope you enjoy! :)

## Quote of the Month

found by Maddie

“Families are like branches on a tree ...

We grow in different directions,

yet our roots remain as one.”

– Unknown

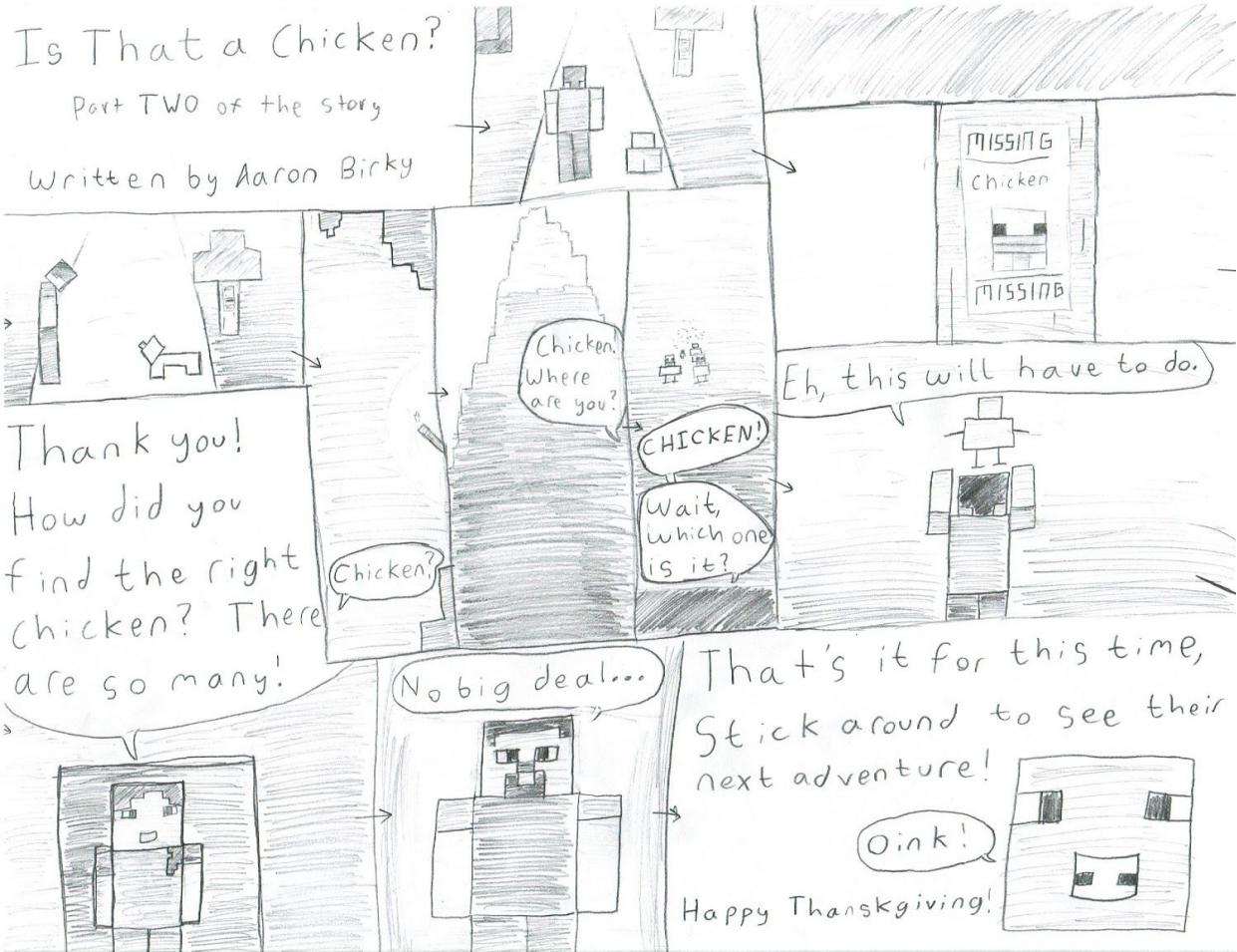
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# Laugh. Out. Loud.

## Comic Corner

by Aaron



# Silly Stories

by Renee & Brianna

It was the day before Thanksgiving, and neither Gravy the Turkey or Sizzles the Bacon had prepared any food. Gravy knew he wanted to eat some bacon. To him, bacon was the best thing in the world! However, Sizzles really wanted to have a traditional Thanksgiving meal full of delicious turkey.

So, that afternoon, they went to Walmart to buy their Thanksgiving meals. First, Sizzles went to the meat section while Gravy bought some biscuits.

"Hmm, none of these look very good!" he said, seeing all the frozen turkeys. "I want a juicy, fresh turkey! Maybe I'll just come back later after I've bought my eggs." So, Sizzles went to go buy some eggs.

Meanwhile, Gravy had found the perfect biscuits and was moving onto the most important part of his shopping trip---the bacon! "Wow! All of this bacon looks so limp and disgusting!" Gravy exclaimed as he examined the bacon. "Maybe I should go to Kroger! Their bacon is pretty good!"

However, as Gravy was doing this, a delicious scent had caught Sizzles's nose. He followed the aroma, and when he found the source, his eyes just about popped out of their sockets. A big, fat, juicy, fresh, delicious-looking turkey was standing right in front of him! His mouth watered so much that he started to choke on his own spit. As he coughed ferociously, Gravy turned around and was shocked by what he saw---the most juicy, delicious-looking bacon he had ever seen in his life! His jaw dropped. This was the perfect meal for his Thanksgiving dinner.

Sizzles and Gravy just knew they had to have this luxury for their holiday meal. But how would they get it? Gravy's mind raced, looking around for anything that could assist him. His eyes landed on a box of plastic forks. They weren't the best, but they would have to do. He tore open the box of forks, and, with an evil gleam in his eyes, charged toward Sizzles.

"Ahhhhhhhh!" Sizzles shrieked. He ran away from Gravy at the fastest speed his nonexistent legs could carry him. Because, you know, bacon doesn't have legs. As he ran past the baking aisle, he spotted a box of toothpicks. He knew they weren't the most useful weapons, but they were better than nothing, so he grabbed them. As he tore through the grocery store, he ripped open the box of toothpicks and flung them behind him at Gravy. He ducked as a deadly plastic fork whizzed past his head.

Behind him, Gravy was slowly tiring. He slowed to a stop in the freezer aisle, huffing and puffing. He opened the door of one of the freezers, letting the cold air cool him down.

Sizzles slowed to a stop, realizing that the maniacal turkey had stopped trying to kill him. However, this did not make him want to stop trying to eat Gravy. He crept around the side of the ice cream aisle, carefully grabbing a few toothpicks. As soon as he was a few yards from Gravy, he yelled, "Yah! Take that, you future Thanksgiving dinner!" as he threw the toothpicks at the turkey.

"What is going on here?" a voice asked. Trembling in fear at being caught trying to kill someone, Gravy and Sizzles slowly turned around. However, they did not find a Walmart employee like they expected. Instead, they found a steak!

"I am T-Bone, and I am here to stop you from killing him!" he said to Sizzles. But Sizzles didn't even notice, as he and Gravy were too busy salivating over the steak. It looked so delicious, and it smelled so too. T-Bone didn't even notice as the two meats slowly stood up and grabbed their "weapons". "Put those down! Don't hurt each other!" T-Bone exclaimed as he noticed them picking up the toothpicks and the plastic forks. A sly smile spread across Gravy's face.

"He never said we couldn't hurt him!" he whispered to Sizzles under his breath. Sizzles smiled and prepared some toothpicks. Gravy reached into his plastic fork box and grabbed a few forks. They ran full force at T-Bone and watched the terror in his eyes as he whirled around and sped off. Gravy ran in one direction and Sizzles ran in the other. After a while of trying to corner T-Bone, they finally succeeded.

"No!" T-Bone screamed. "Have mercy!" But it was too late; Sizzles was already grabbing his trusty toothpicks. After some gruesome stabs for poor T-Bone, Gravy was gathering up the steak in his arms and grabbing some paper plates from the shelves. Sizzles spread out a hot pink tablecloth in the freezer aisle, and the two new friends sat down, mouths watering for the delicious meal.

"Well, it's past midnight already," Sizzles said. "So happy Thanksgiving!"

"Happy Thanksgiving!" Gravy replied. And that was the best Thanksgiving meal the two had ever had.

THE END

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# The Punnies

by Lexa

Dear Diary,

Today was my first day of college, and it was probably the most chaotic day I've had since my brother, Tom the Tomato, moved to Fruitville with one of my best friends, Perry the Pumpkin. Who knew life could be so hard without those two? Sometimes I wish I had **bean** blessed with my aunt's **seeds**. That way, I could go live with my brother, but no. I'm a stick--literally. Well, more like a celery stick, but you get my point.

Anyway, today was crazy. I was just listening to my favorite **brock n' roll** station on my mp3 player when there was a loud crash. I just dismissed it as my dorm mates being clumsy and decided to **turnip** my music, but I was mistaken. Turns out, my best friend, Ollie the Onion, had slammed open my door, causing his smoothie to get everywhere and covering me from my head **tomatoes**. It would have **bean** the best thing I had ever witnessed, but he had a panicked expression, which made me a little concerned.

"I **yam** being chased," he told me, eyes wide with fright. "I just had to take a **leek**, and this guy started coming after me." His face was **peppered** with the remnants of his smoothie, and I grabbed some towels to clean up.

"Why would some random guy chase you?"

"Well, it wasn't some random guy; it was Sully the Squash, but something was seriously wrong with him. I told him I had caught feelings for you and he totally lost it. I mean, who does that?"

I staggered back a little bit, not sure if I heard him correctly. I tried to act like I didn't **carrot** at all, but I couldn't hide my astonished face. He *liked* me. How was that even possible? I had **bean** crushing on him for months, and never once had I ever thought he liked me back.

"What? What's wrong?" He had no idea--literally no idea that he had let something like that slip. Everything came out in blurred **limes**, and I had to withdraw from his closeness.

I knew I had to **romaine** calm, keep my emotions hidden, but I couldn't, "You like me?" I was so surprised that I had to take another step back, and I was **grape**-full for the shield my hair provided for my face.

"No," he said with an unnatural calmness. "**Olive** you, and I have since the moment our eyes met. In fact, you own the **kiwi** to my heart."

My heart **beet** in my chest and I couldn't find my words. His proclamation was a big **dill**, and I couldn't decide if I should have confessed my own feelings or just said nothing.



“It’s okay if you don’t feel the same way. **Lettuce** just forget I ever said anything and continue with our day.” His shoulders visibly slumped, and I forced myself to say the words that I had kept bottled up inside me for years.

“No. Wait!” I blurted. “**Olive** you too!” I had said them--the words that could decide the fate of my world.

Ollie the Onion stopped, glancing back at me from where he stood. “You like me back?” he pondered. He looked like he was about to cry, which was ironic because he was, in fact, an onion. “I thought you had eyes for Sully the Squash. He is much better looking and he has **berry** big muscles.”

“Maybe so, but we wouldn’t make a good **pear**. He doesn’t make me **peel** the way you do, and it doesn’t matter how fit you are. All that matters is that you **root** for me when I need you, and Sully could never do that.”

“So, do you want to go out and eat something? I could use another smoothie.” His eyes seemed to glisten with joy, and I held his gaze for a minute, hoping this wasn’t all some strange dream.

“Of course,” I answered, entwining my hand into his. “You are definitely the **pun** for me.”

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## Jokes

by Kaitlyn

**Turkey:** Why did the pilgrims’ pants always fall down?  
**Chicken:** They wore their belt buckles on their hats!

**Squanto:** Who isn’t hungry on Thanksgiving?  
**Margret:** The turkey---because he’s already stuffed!

**Grace:** What always comes at the end of Thanksgiving?  
**Calin:** The G!

**Layla:** Why did the scarecrow win an award?  
**Audrey:** Because he was out standing! (in a field)

Aaron: Can a turkey jump higher than the Empire State building?

Evan: Yes; buildings can't jump.

Addy: Why did the turkey want to join the band?

Sophie: Because he had the drumsticks.

Ava: If the Pilgrims were alive today, what would they be famous for?

Audin: Being the oldest people alive.

Brianna: What do you get when you cross a turkey with an octopus?

Micheal: Finally enough drumsticks for Thanksgiving.

Ethan: I was going to serve sweet potatoes for Thanksgiving, but I sat on them.

Annabelle: So what are you serving now?

Ethan: Squash!

Amy: What do call a sad cranberry?

Matt: A blueberry.

Maddy: What was the main thing the Pilgrims did during the first winter?

Rebekah: Starve...

**Source:**

<https://www.ducksters.com/jokes/thanksgiving.php>

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## Brain Games

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# Riddles

by Layla

1. I have ears, but I cannot hear. I have flakes, but no hair.

What am I?

**corn**

2. What can never be eaten at Thanksgiving dinner?

**Thanksgiving breakfast and lunch**

3. How can you tell which part of the turkey is the left side

**the part that wasn't eaten**

4. When does Christmas come before Thanksgiving?

**in the dictionary**

5. Which side of a turkey has the most feathers?

**the outside**

Source: <https://www.getriddles.com/e>

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# Puzzles

by Aaron

	9		1					
	3							7
5		8	9		4		3	2
8				5	7			1
		5		1		3		
1			6	9				8
6	2		8		5	7		3
7							5	
					9		4	

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## Did You Know?

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### Fun Facts

by Mariam

1. The average number of calories consumed on Thanksgiving is 4,500.
2. Four towns across the USA are named 'Turkey' in Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, and North Carolina.
3. In 2018, over 54 million Americans traveled during the Thanksgiving season.
4. On a 3,500 year old babalonian tablet, the first your mom joke was found.
5. Plates made out of wheat are made in Taiwan so people can eat their plates.



#### Sources:

- <https://worldstrides.com/blog/2016/11/9-fun-facts-about-thanksgiving/>
- <https://www.thefactsite.com/top-100-random-funny-facts/>

- <https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwj-ooG3y7z1AhULWqwKHYAEEALIQjhx6BAGBEAI&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.stickpng.com%2Fimg%2Fholidays%2Fthanksgiving%2Fthanksgiving-turkey&psig=AOvVawlKeBCdSft7T27M6hCBhNXI&ust=1572270753035613>
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## National Days

by Renee & Brianna

**November 1:** National Cook For Your Pets Day

**November 2:** National Deviled Egg Day

**November 3:** National Sandwich Day

**November 4:** National Chicken Lady Day, National Color the World Orange Day

**November 5:** National Doughnut Day, National Love Your Red Hair Day

**November 6:** National Nachos Day, National Saxophone Day

**November 7:** National Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds Day

**November 8:** National STEM Day

**November 9:** National Louisiana Day

**November 10:** National Vanilla Cupcake Day

**November 11:** National Sundae Day

**November 12:** National Pizza with the Works Except Anchovies Day, National French Dip Day

**November 13:** World Kindness Day

**November 14:** National Pickle Day, National Spicy Guacamole Day

**November 15:** National Clean Out Your Refrigerator Day, National Raisin Bran Cereal Day

**November 16:** National Fast Food Day, National Button Day

**November 17:** National Homemade Bread Day

**November 18:** National Princess Day, Mickey Mouse's Birthday

**November 19:** National Play Monopoly Day

**November 20:** National Peanut Butter Fudge Day, National Absurdity Day

**November 21:** National Gingerbread Cookie Day

**November 22:** National Cranberry Relish Day

**November 23:** National Cashew Day, National Eat a Cranberry Day

**November 24:** National Sardines Day

**November 25:** National Parfait Day

**November 26:** National Cake Day

**November 27:** National Jukebox Day, National Bavarian Cream Pie Day

**November 28:** National French Toast Day, Thanksgiving

**November 29:** You're Welcomegiving Day, Black Friday

**November 30:** National Mason Jar Day, National Stay Home Because You're Well Day

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## Extra-Curricular Update

by Corinna

Sign language club meets every month to learn about american sign language. Advanced sign language is for kids with at least one year of

experience. Kids in fourth through eighth grade can join at any time. I interviewed Mrs. Fogle, the life skills teacher, who sponsors this club.

**When did you start sign language club?**

3 years ago.

**Why did you start sign language club?**

So kids can learn another language and to give kids an activity to participate in if they don't feel athletic.

**How many kids are in sign language club?**

Around 25.

**When do you meet?**

The first Thursday of every month.

**How long does it take to learn sign language?**

To become fluent, it takes about five years.

**When did you learn sign language?**

I started when I was 9 years old.

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## How To...

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## Recipes

## Pumpkin Cheesecake Swirl Bread

### Cheesecake Swirl

- 1 8-oz. package cream cheese (at room temperature)
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 large egg

### Pumpkin Bread

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
  
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 large egg

### To make the cheesecake swirl . . .

1. Position an oven rack in the bottom part of the oven. Preheat oven to 325 degrees Fahrenheit. Combine the cream cheese, granulated sugar, sour cream, and egg in a large bowl and beat with a mixer until well combined. Then set aside.

### To make the pumpkin bread...

1. Spray a 9x5-inch loaf pan with nonstick spray and dust with flour. Whisk together granulated sugar and pumpkin puree in a large bowl, then whisk in the oil, pumpkin pie spice, vanilla, and egg. Whisk in the flour mixture until combined.
2. Reserve 1 cup of the pumpkin batter. Spread the remaining batter in the bottom of prepared loaf pan. Spoon the cream cheese mixture over the pumpkin batter, then put the reserved cup of pumpkin batter in a line down the center of the pan. Insert the tip of a paring knife into the batter and drag it through and up to swirl five to six times.
3. Bake until the top is cracked and a cake tester inserted in the center comes out clean (1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour 20 minutes). Cool on a wire rack for 30 minutes, then carefully transfer onto a platter or cake stand and flip upright. Let cool completely (at least 1 1/2 hours).

## Maple Apple Crisp

### Ingredients:

- 4 cups cored + sliced tart green apples (I used 4-5 apples)
- 2 tablespoons healthy, soy-free margarine
- 1 tablespoon pure maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 cup gluten-free quick oats
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons soy-free margarine (Earth Balance or coconut oil), melted
- 1/4 cup pure maple syrup

### Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Lightly oil a 9x9-inch square baking dish and put aside for later.
- **Make the filling...**
3. Cut the apples in half, core them, and slice thinly. You should have about 4 cups. I don't peel the apples since the peel adds fiber, but you can peel your apples first if you like.
4. Place the apples in a large bowl and add in the cinnamon and nutmeg until thoroughly coated.
5. Add maple syrup, melted margarine or coconut oil, cinnamon, and nutmeg, and mix to coat the apples thoroughly.
6. Spread the apple mixture in the bottom of the prepared dish and set aside.
- **Prepare the crisp topping...**
7. Using a medium-sized bowl, toss the gluten-free quick oats with cinnamon and salt
8. Add melted margarine or coconut oil and maple syrup. Mix well. Sprinkle the oats on top of the apples.
9. Bake for 45-50 minutes (or until the apples are soft). Allow to cool for about 10 minutes before serving.
10. Enjoy!

### Sources:

- <https://thefitcookie.com/healthy-gluten-free-maple-apple-crisp/>

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## Crafty Corner

## Making a Kumihimo...

### What You Need:

- ❑ Two colors of yarn
- ❑ Thin cardboard circle (you can use a cereal box) with a 4–6 inch diameter

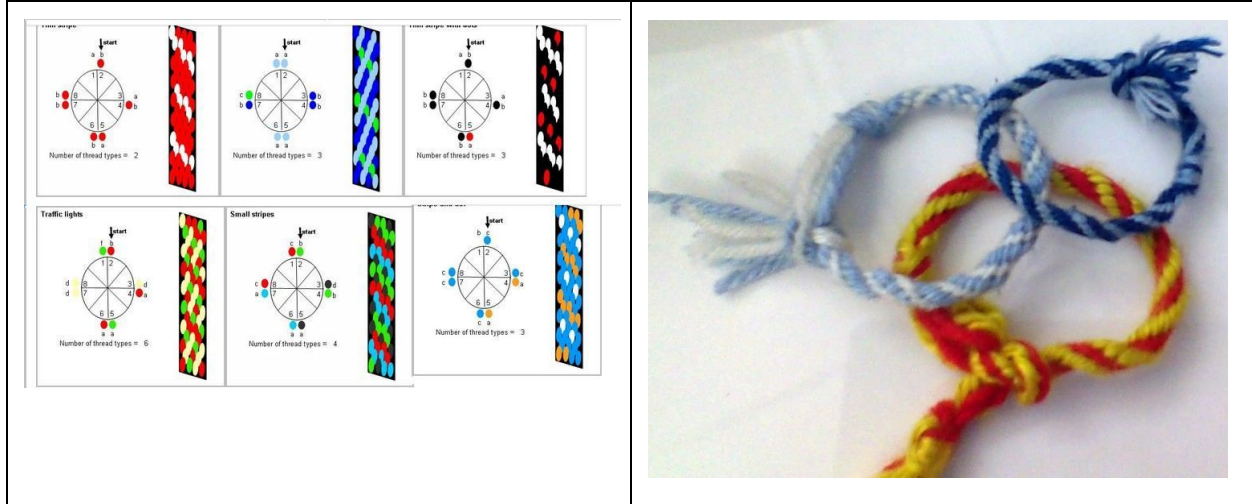
### How To:

1. Mark the north, east, west, and south points of the circle and cut a  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch slit at each of these marks. Then, cut a slit in between those slits so you have eight. In the middle of those slits, cut more until you have sixteen evenly-split slits.
2. Cut two pieces of yarn the length of your arm in both colors (you should have four pieces).
3. Gather all the pieces of yarn and fold them in half, knotting them in a loop knot so that you have eight equal lengths of string.
4. Push the knot through a hole in the center of the cardboard circle. Position the first color string on north and south, and put the other color next to it. Do the same for the second color except for east and west.
5. Make sure the first color string (north) is on the right. Bring it down to the right (south), and make a quarter turn. Keep repeating this until the bracelet fits your wrist.
6. Then, pull the extra string through the loop. Knot it, and cut off the extra string.

Note: For more help, watch this video!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y40cudjj76o>





Here are a few different pattern ideas once you've mastered the basic braid! :)

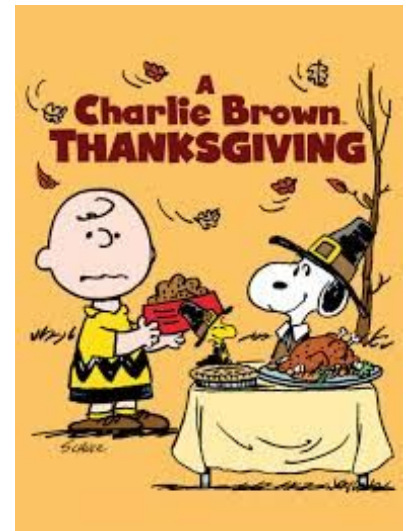
# Student Suggestions:

## Movie Mowdown

by Nick

**Title:** *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*  
**Release Year:** 1973  
**Reviews:** 100% Fresh on Rotten Tomatoes  
**Age Rating:** G  
**Duration:** 30 min

I always love a good Charlie Brown short. When I was a kid, I'd watch this every Thanksgiving, and I have to say that for a 70s movie, it has amazing-quality animation. Charles Shultz must've broken his hand many times drawing the frames for this movie! It's still humorous to this day. The animation is smooth and the dialogue always matches up to the mouths. I have to admit that I just learned how old it is while reviewing this movie. It's an amazing thing to watch with your



children during the November holiday. It's old and all of the pop culture humor isn't relevant anymore. It's like a Simpsons episode with multiple subplots, only there are no adults ever seen on-screen.

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## Book Review

by Annabelle

**Title:** *Rush Revere and the Brave Pilgrims*

**Author:** Rush Limbaugh

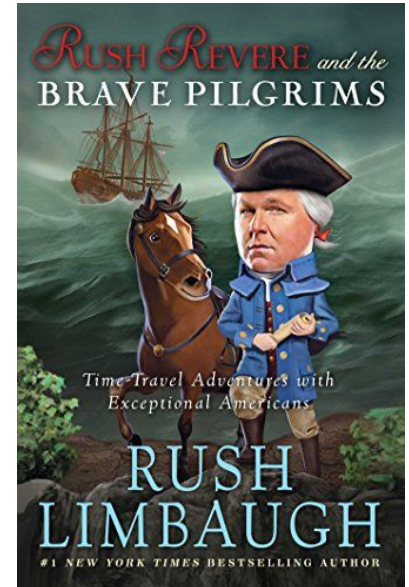
**Reading Level:** 5.4

**Audience:** middle grade

**AR Points:** 7

### Summary:

Rush Revere and his time traveling horse, Liberty, take on a Social Studies substitute teaching job, where they meet students Tommy and Freedom. Rush and Liberty travel back in time to teach the lessons to the class, and after an accidental clog incident, Tommy joins them on their adventures, and then Freedom, as Rush explores the lives of the Pilgrims who came to America so many years ago!



### Review:

Personally, I thought that this was a fun book. It portrayed one of the most important events in American history in a cool way while also staying true to the facts. However, I did find that the way Mr. Limbaugh wrote the story is a bit awful. I love to write, and believe that some of the wording the author used was a bit bland for an adult writer, and this made me sort of annoyed. Other than that, this is a great book, and I highly recommend it to anyone who wants a lighthearted, little adventure before you dig into a plate of turkey and potatoes this Thanksgiving!

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## Student Surveys

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## Staff Spotlight

by Ethan

This month, my survey found that the majority of 7th grade chose Mrs. Fabish for the Staff Spotlight. She is the most popular because she has a funny sense of humor, and her room rarely has distractions. She also keeps everybody quiet so you can do work peacefully. She's the "good kind of strict", meaning she approves of good behavior, and punishes bad behavior.

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## Poll

by Kaitlyn

**Go ahead and take our November Poll!**

Click on the following link to the Thanksgiving-themed questionnaire:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdr6AGPpdccubrflEaeJ\\_ZPBWBUdEFdsUIwI13CLiM6LgRzw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdr6AGPpdccubrflEaeJ_ZPBWBUdEFdsUIwI13CLiM6LgRzw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

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Thank you for reading! We hope you enjoyed. :)

The next edition will be published on December 1st, 2019, on the [Central Scoop Website](#) under the "The Paper" section.