

# Black Cat News

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## April Fools' Day Prank Ideas

By Henri S.

April Fools' Day occurs on April 1 every year. People in different cultures have been playing tricks and pranks on each other for decades although no one knows exactly why or when it started. Some think it started in the 1500s when France switched to the Gregorian calendar (history.com).

Whenever it started, it's known as a day to play hoaxes or practical jokes on others, often yelling "April Fools!" at the end to clue in the subject of the April Fools' Day prank. Here are some pranks I found. Maybe give one a try this year.



\*Clear nail polish on bar of soap

\*Saran wrap a toilet

\*Sauce packets under a toilet seat

\*Fake bugs in a lamp shade

\* Toothpaste in Oreos

\*Air horn on a chair

\*Onions dipped in caramel

\*April Fools' Ice (Mentos ice cubes)

\*Baking soda in ketchup



APRIL  
FOOL'S DAY



# Groundhog's Day

Groundhog's Day is a day to predict the arrival of spring. The tradition started on February 2, 1887, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. We have been celebrating it ever since! According to the tradition, if the groundhog sees his shadow then we will have six more weeks of winter! But, if it doesn't see its shadow, spring will arrive early! This year, he saw his shadow, so we will have six more weeks of winter.



# The History of St. Patrick's Day

By: Evie W.

## History

St. Patrick's Day is a widely celebrated holiday among the Irish and even some people who aren't Irish. But, did you know that St. Patrick's Day has some real history?

To understand the history you first need to know who St. Patrick is. St. Patrick is known as the Patron Saint of Ireland. He wasn't actually born in Ireland, but he was born in British Romania. One day when Patrick was on the beach with his family at the age of 16, he was kidnapped by pirates and brought to Ireland. Gladly, he escaped and went back to his family, but shortly after that he had a vision that the Irish were calling him back. Patrick went back to Ireland and taught the people about Christianity. He was also said to remove all the snakes from Ireland. Doing all of this gave him the name of St. Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland. It was said he died on March 17, 461. St. Patrick's Day is a whole day meant to honor him and his accomplishments.



## First Celebrated

When was St. Patrick's Day first celebrated? The first St. Patrick's Day parade wasn't in Ireland. It was in a Spanish colony in America, but the Irish people have been observing the Roman Catholic feast since the 9th or 10th century. There was also another early St. Patrick's Day parade in 1772. Irish soldiers marched in New York to honor The Patron Saint of Ireland, St. Patrick. St. Patrick's Day has been celebrated for hundreds of years and is still being celebrated today.



Sources:

<https://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day/history-of-st-patricks-day>

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Saint-Patricks-Day>

# Saint Patrick's Day Jokes

By Brooke R.

What kind of spells do leprechauns use?

Lucky Charms.

Why do leprechauns love to garden?

They have a green thumb.

Why shouldn't you borrow money from a leprechaun?

Because they're always a little short.

When does a leprechaun cross the road?

When it turns green.

What do you call a leprechaun who broke the law?

A lepre-con.

How did the leprechaun win the race?

He took a shortcut.

What did the leprechaun say when the video game ended?

Game clover

Do people ever get jealous of Irishmen?

Yes, they get green with envy.

# Shamrock

The classic, minty green shake is the *staple* of the famous fast food restaurant, McDonald's. McDonald's was founded in 1955, and twelve years later, the Shamrock shake was proposed by Hal Rosen. Once it was served, people just couldn't get enough of it. Although many seem to favor this beverage, it is only seen one month a year, around the holiday of St. Patrick's Day. **MAKE THIS AT HOME WITH A COPYCAT RECIPE**

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1	
Servings Per Container 1	
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b> 580	Calories from Fat 150
% Daily Value*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 16g	<b>25%</b>
Saturated Fat 10g	<b>50%</b>
Trans Fat 1g	
<b>Cholesterol</b> 65mg	<b>22%</b>
<b>Sodium</b> 190mg	<b>8%</b>
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 74g	<b>25%</b>
Dietary Fiber 0g	<b>0%</b>
Sugars 80g	
<b>Protein</b> 12g	<b>24%</b>
*Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.	



## CUSTOMER REVIEWS

- "I need one of these, they look delicious!"
- "Best item on menu."
- "My comfort drink to be honest..."
- "I wish these came in an EXTRA large"

# Popular Foods for St. Patrick's Day by Ava J.

There are many foods you eat around this time of the year, but some are much more popular than others. These are the most popular foods for St. Patrick's day:

Number One - Shepherd's Pie is a very popular food during this time of year with its variety of ingredients and versions. It was created to be a dish with leftover ingredients and meat.



Number two - The second St. Patrick's Day food is Irish soda bread. Click [this link](#) to get a recipe. This is a common bread to have on St. Patrick's Day because this bread is a symbol of celebration. It started in Ireland when people could only afford this type of bread.

Number three - The final most popular food on St. Patrick's Day is corned beef. This has become a tradition dating back to when immigrants came to America and could only afford the less expensive option of corned beef.



# Popular Homemade St. Patrick's Day Desserts

by Raegan H.

Not only do people enjoy dessert in general but happen to make their own around holidays. Here are some popular desserts, made around the date of St. Patrick's Day.

## Shamrock Sugar Cookies

This classic, go-to dessert will most likely be seen on any dessert tray you encounter around the holidays. Crafted dough topped with royal icing is something you *just* can't beat. Although it's a simple relish, they're better than a pot of gold.



## Irish Caramel Coffee Brownies

A delectable brownie stuffed with natural ground coffee and topped with caramel drizzle is a perfect proportional dessert. Not to mention the smooth ganache on top. With new flavors every bite, it surely won't disappoint.

## Irish Creme Macarons

The hard shelled macaron is not only featured in this dessert. But inside of it, piped Irish cream and drizzled chocolate frosting perfects the recipe. You'll never think of comparing this to a regular macaron, let alone a macaroon.



# St Patrick's Day

Q H M W Y S V W Z J H R G D O M W M R U  
 S C X F A H P U T H P C A R N Z K O T S  
 K R O N W A L M K A O R A I E A S Q U L  
 H A R P E M R D E R E N N S N E L I S B  
 P M P G D R S Q U V C G J W H B N E F U  
 H S I R I O A P O T O F G O L D O K R Y  
 P J W P S C C L E P R E C H A U N W A I  
 K A N C P K C Y P Z C V X L L J P D E G  
 G R R R F S C I T L E C F U N N I F Q E  
 Y W S T C H H V I N C O C C R L U P S G  
 T N X M W A I Y P V F K U F O M O C N O  
 N E S C U K L F V T E E Y H C T F Q I L  
 U S X A R E F D C U O A P E A Z S F O D  
 T L F X P Z O V V Z V G B T P S S U C K  
 T D X H X V J T R M V O O L I S D Y X P  
 O O G G G E E R N O Z L H G M B F U A D  
 D N M A I J P Q J U H Z C I U X Q I C M  
 X E C W K G H C N P S Q W R H O B Y X W  
 A I T C B C N P R M T W D F Q S K M R G  
 O U N Q R N G W D U I B D C J Z E B I F

Celtic  
 Gold  
 Holiday  
 Jig  
 March  
 Rainbow

Clover  
 Green  
 Ireland  
 leprechaun  
 Potato  
 Shamrockshake

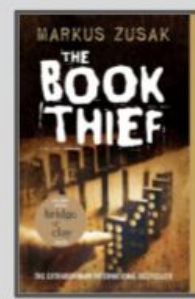
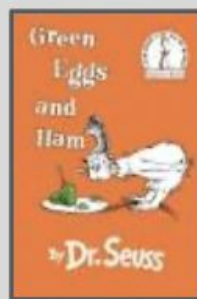
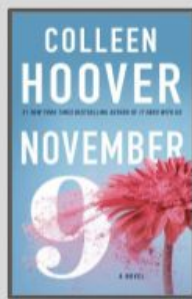
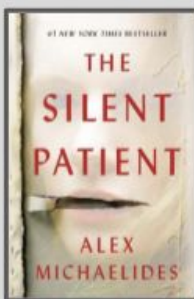
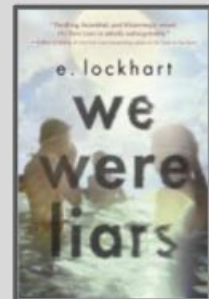
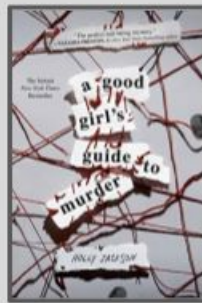
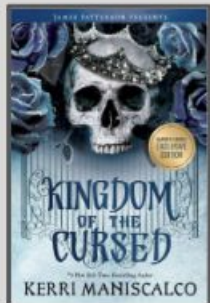
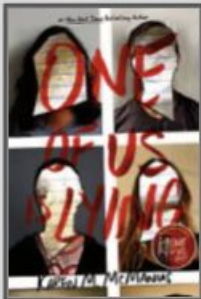
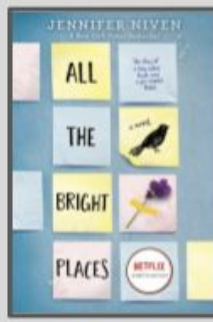
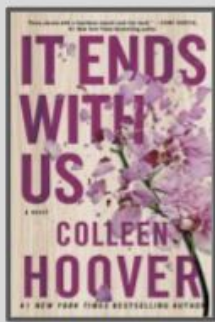
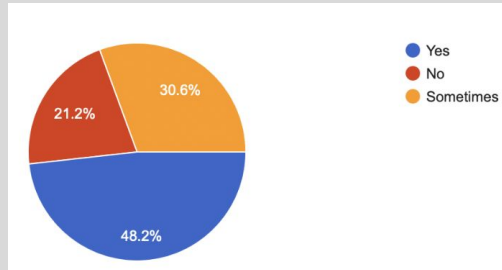
Coins  
 Harp  
 Irish  
 Luck  
 Potofgold  
 Trap



# What books do West Salem 7th graders like to read? By Breckin C.

First, I asked the 7th graders if they liked to read. Then, I asked them to rate some books. 85 people completed the survey.

Do you like to read?



# Favorite School Lunches

By Sammy A.

I surveyed the 7th graders about their favorite and least favorite school lunches. Here are the results:

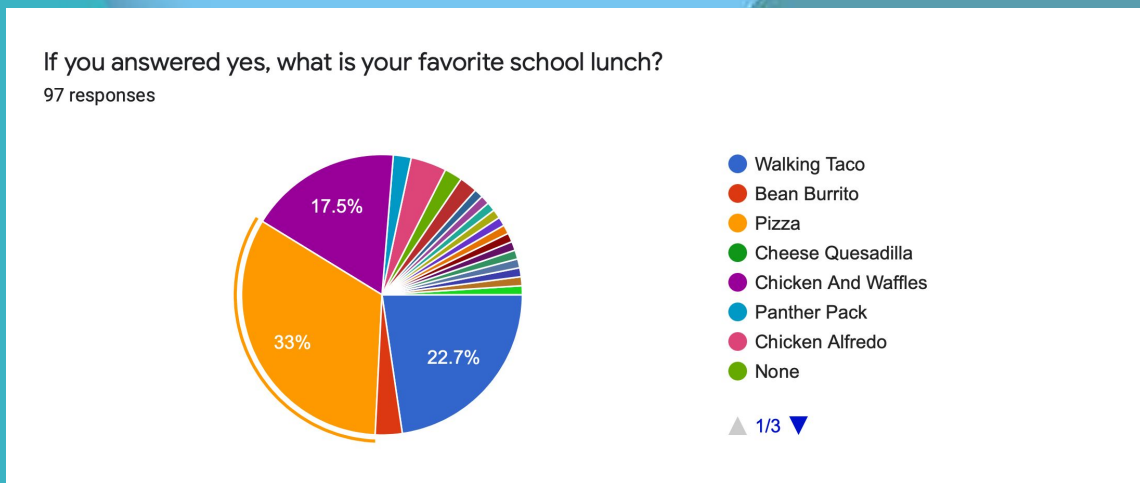
## Do you ever eat school lunch?

Yes 98 (93.3%)

No 7 (6.7%)

## What is your favorite school lunch?

1. Pizza 32 (33.5%)
2. Walking taco 23 (24.3%)
3. Chicken and waffles 20 (21.5%)



## What is your least favorite school lunch?

1. Bean burrito 14 (15.7%)
2. Tater tot hotdish 11 (12.4%)
3. Cheese quesadilla 10 (11.2%)

# Know Ms. Lovely

By Jon G.

**When did you get your first teaching job?**

Lovely: January of 2021

**Why did you want to teach resource?**

Lovely: Because I worked at a camp with kids with disabilities and I really liked it.

**Where did you start your teaching career?**

Lovely: West Salem Middle School.

**Why did you chose 7th grade?**

Lovely: Because I can joke around but also be serious.

**What is your favorite part of the day?**

Lovely: Probably Resource because that's where I get to help kids the most.

**What is your favorite part about teaching Resource?**

Lovely: Helping students and making connections.

**Where did you grow up where did you go to school?**

Lovely: I grew up in Racine, Wisconsin, and I went to Case High School.

**How much longer do you want to teach resource?**

Lovely: A few years

**What do you do in your free time?**

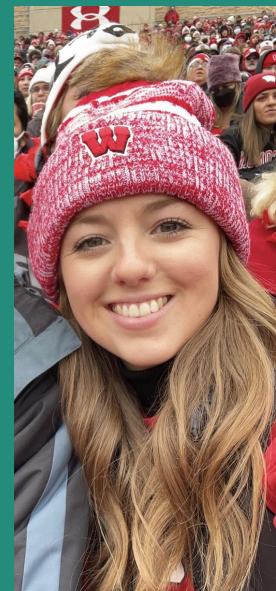
Lovely: Hike and go up north.

**Do you want to teach any other grades in the future?**

Lovely: Yes, I want to teach 4th grade.

**Is there anything else you would like to add?**

Lovely: I like teaching middle school!



## Mrs. Weber by Liliana L.

**When did you decide you wanted to be a teacher?**

Answer: She said she decided when she was in 3rd Grade

**What inspired you to teach?**

Answer: Her 3rd Grade teacher

**How long have you been teaching math at the middle school? How many years total?**

Answer: She has been teaching 4 years at the middle school, 24 total years

**If you weren't a teacher what would you be?**

Answer: She would be a sports broadcaster

**What college degree (s) do you have?**

Answer: She has a bachelors in education and a masters

**What other jobs have you had?**

Answer: She was bank teller, a waitress at Rudy's, a cashier at K-mart, a nanny, and she worked at the brewery in La Crosse.

**Favorite food?**

Answer: She loves to eat Mexican

**Favorite animal?**

Answer: Her favorite is a pig

**Favorite sports team?**

Answer: She loves the Vikings

**One of your hidden talents?**

Answer: She can roller skate, she can drive a forklift, she's a super good slam dunker in basketball

**Any pets?**

Answer: She has two dogs, Lola and Cooper

**Favorite song?**

Answer: She likes "Toes in the Sand" by the Zac Brown Band

**Biggest pet peeve?**

Answer: When people smack their lips



# Meet Mrs. Foet

**(student teacher in 7th grade science)** by Brea L.

**Where do you go to college?** UWL

**How many years have you been in college?** 5

**When do you graduate?** This May

**What is your degree in college?:** Biology education, Spanish minor.

**Why do you like teaching?/What is your favorite part so far?:** I love the students and think they're funny.

**When and why did you decide to be a teacher?:** During my second year of college because I found my passion for biology.

**What were your other jobs before this?:** I worked at a cranberry marsh and as a waitress.

**What is your hometown?:** Wisconsin Rapids

**When you were in school, what were your favorite subjects or activities?:** Math, gym class, lunch

**Hidden talents? If so, what?:** I can make a 3 leaf clover on my tongue

**Hobbies?:** running, hiking, drawing

**Favorite color?:** yellow

**Birthday?:** Sept. 25

**Favorite animal?:** dog

**Favorite sport to play/ watch?:** cross country

**Anything else you'd like people to know about you?**  
I've never gotten my ears pierced, and I have a dog.



**What's your favorite hobby or thing to do outside of school?**

I like watching TV and working on our house.

**Have you always wanted to be a teacher?**

No, I worked as a method development chemist before working here.

**What degree do you have?**

I have a Bachelor of Science in organic chemistry.

**Do you like working here?**

I love working here! I love 7th graders the most and we have the best team of teachers.

**What do you like to do in the summer?**

Remodel, paint, go on car trips, and go to concerts

**What's your hidden talent**

Sudoku, and I can read maps really well.

**What's your biggest pet peeve?**

People on their phone while driving.

**Do you have any pets?**

We used to have 2 dogs, 2 cats and a rabbit, but we're down to just one dog now.

**What's your favorite show or movie?**

Harry Potter

**What's your favorite song or musician?**

James Taylor, Bon Jovi, 80's rock

**Where did you grow up?**

La Crosse

**If you could live anywhere, where would it be?**

I love London or Italy.



# Mr. K(aryea) by Jackson W. & Payton K.

**What's your favorite hobby or thing to do outside of school?**

Play soccer or any sports in general.

**Do you watch any sports? If so, what's your favorite sport to watch?**

I like to watch soccer, basketball, and football. Sometimes hockey.

**Have you always wanted to be a teacher?**

When I was a kid, yes. When I was in college, no.

**What do you like to do in the summer?**

To be outside

**What's your hidden talent?**

I can cross my eyes.

**What's your biggest pet peeve?**

When people are disrespectful and drive slow.

**Do you have any pets?**

No

**What's your favorite show or movie?**

*Rush Hour*

**What's your favorite song or musician?**

Ed Sheeran

**Where did you grow up?**

I was born in Liberia, Africa, and I went to Minnesota when I was 12 because I had no choice

**If you could live anywhere, where would it be?**

South Carolina because the water is nice and it's on the coast

**What is your dream vacation?**

Wherever the World Cup is at



# Super Mario 64: The Most Revolutionary Game Of All Time

by Rico G. & Lucas F.

Released in 1996, this wasn't the first 3D game, but it revolutionized the industry in a way that's still seen to this day.

The Super Mario 64 developers were tasked with making a 3D video game. The problem was a 3D game on this level was never made before. They were tasked with the impossible.

After two years of development time, Super Mario 64 was complete with 15 main levels and a few bonus levels. It was the only 3D game like it. All 3D games released after would follow this game's footsteps.

The actress who voiced Princess Peach also wrote the game text. That means this person put in a lot of work because she double the work. That shows how important this game is to them.

## Super Mario 64 Facts:

- Nintendo originally planned for as many as 40 levels but had to be cut back due to its rushed development time.
- There is a goomba that spawns in the void and is only there for a fraction of a second.
- Originally they had plans for multiplayer with Luigi but was cut due to time constraints.
- The actor that voiced Mario had no prior knowledge on Mario.



# SUPER BOWL 2022

 by Brea L.

The Los Angeles Rams beat the Cincinnati Bengals 23-20 in [Super Bowl 56](#) Sunday at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles. It was a very close game and had multiple jaw dropping plays. This was the Rams' fifth time to the Super Bowl (they've won it one time) and the third time for the Bengals. The Bengals have never won a Super Bowl before, so many people were rooting for them. It was a close game up until the last couple minutes. The Bengals were at the 25-yard-line. Aaron Donald almost sacked Joe Burrow, but Burrow got it off at the last second. It was an incomplete pass and the 4th down, so that sealed the game.

## HALFTIME SHOW

This year's 2022 halftime show at 6:30 pm on Feb. 13, was definitely one to remember. The performers were Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Mary J. Blige, Eminem, and Kendrick Lamar. A lot of people know them as the rappers of the olden days. The songs they performed were "Next Episode," "California Love," "In Da Club," "Family Affair," "No More Pain," "Alright," "m.A.A.d. city," "Forget About Dre". They definitely wowed the crowd with their extremely hyped performance. The grandparents not so much...Like I said, this was the rappers of the 80s, so it didn't impress people who grew up before the 80s. It still was a great.





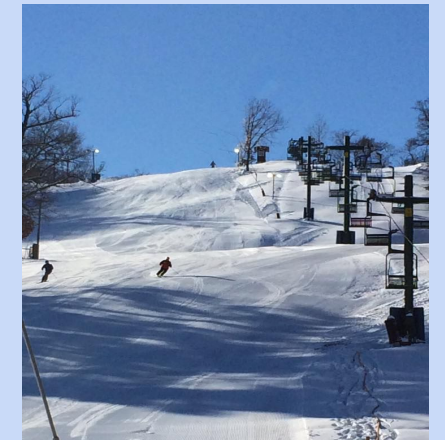
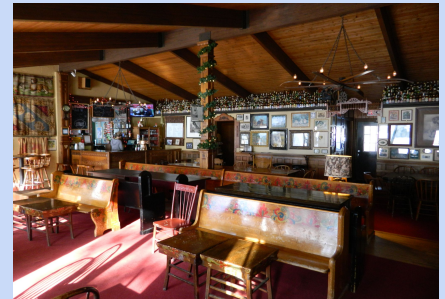
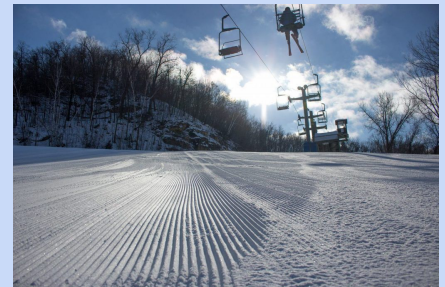
Since 1959, skiers have fallen in love with Mt. La Crosse and their welcoming service! Mileaway, Midway, Rope Tow, Lower Mileaway/ Apple bottom loop, Spotlight, Thanks LP, Aug's Access, Ahnna's Dive, Call it Quits, White House, Rainy Day, Thunderation, Salvation and Damnation. These slopes offer a great variety of options for skiers and snowboarders.

When you are ready for a break or just at the hill to watch, the unique chalet offers food, a ski shop, rental and repair shop, and an award-winning bar. Windows overlook the slopes and trails providing attractive views of Winter in Wisconsin. Mt. La Crosse's eighteen slopes and trails are serviced by three double chairlifts and one rope tow located on the bunny hill.

Mt. La Crosse is a perfect place to spend a day off!

One of our own teachers even got interviewed about this topic:

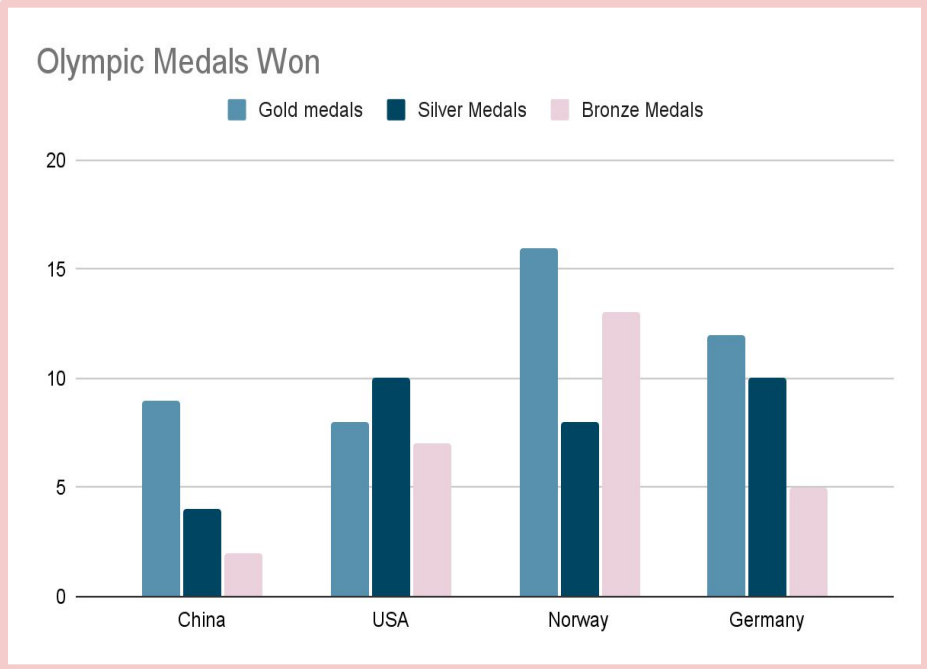
[Mr.Mahlum interview](#)



# 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics

Addy M. and Bella Q.

The Winter Olympics started on February 4, 2022 and ended on February 20th. There were 224 athletes in the games with 15 sports. The different sports were alpine skiing, biathlon, bobsled, cross-country skiing, curling, figure skating, freestyle skiing, hockey, luge, Nordic combined, short, track, skeleton, ski jumping, snowboarding, and speed skating. The countries that participated in the Olympics are Australia, Austria, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland, The United States and Russia under the ROC.

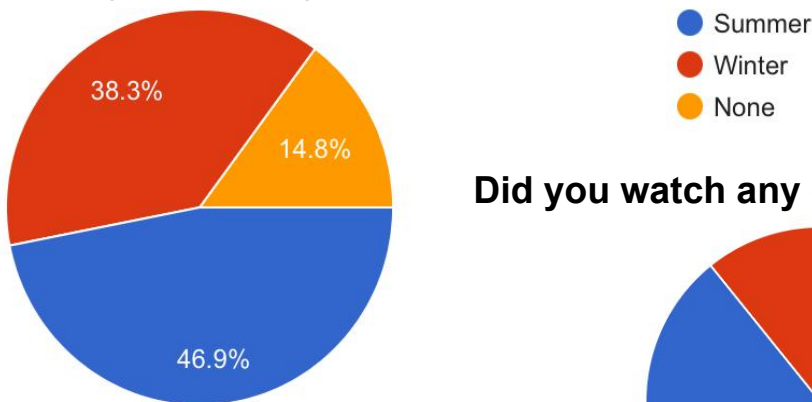


# Olympic Sports

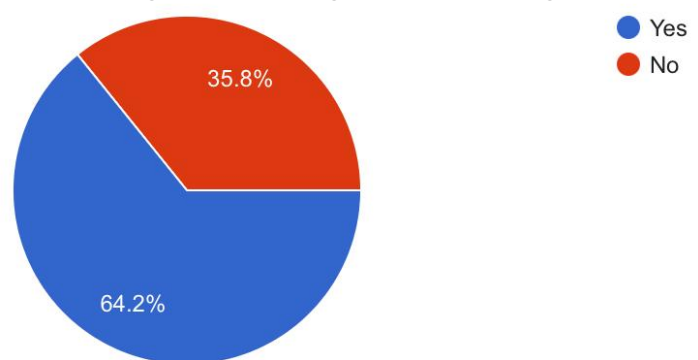
By Elliott C.

I surveyed the 7th graders about the Olympics. Eighty-one people responded. The results show that majority prefer to watch the summer Olympics. Only 64% of 7th graders watched any of this year’s winter Olympics. And, out of all of the sports, people watched snowboarding the most.

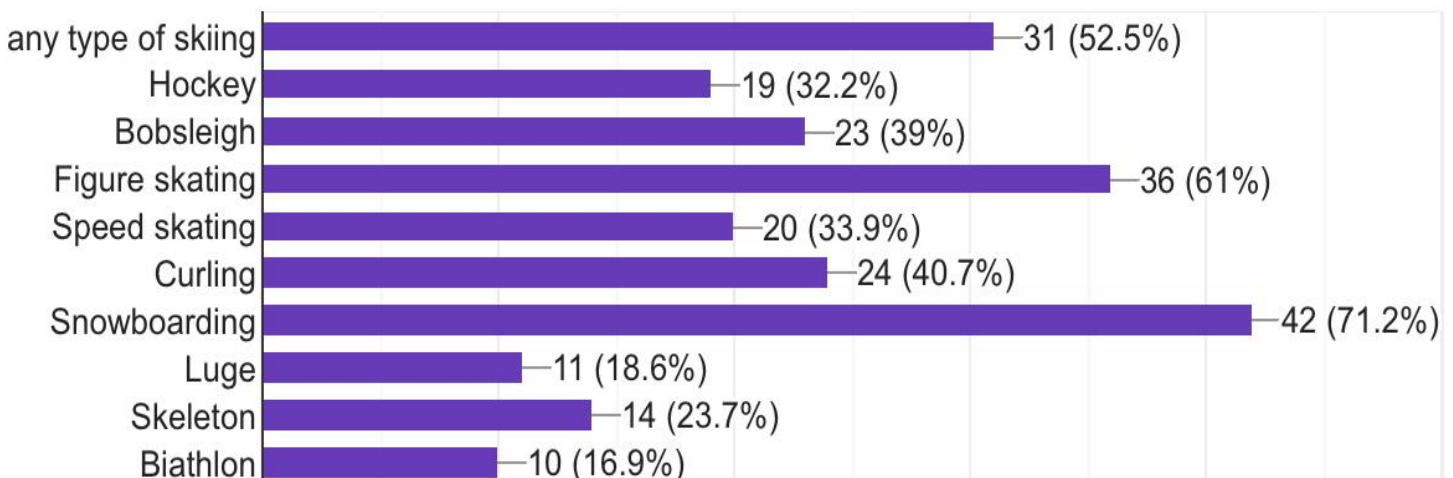
## Which Olympics do you prefer?



## Did you watch any of the Olympics this year (2022)?



## Which winter Olympic sports do you watch?



# April Calendar

By: Anna K and Alicia Z

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 April Fools Day	2 National Ferret Day
3 National Find a Rainbow Day	4 Tell a Lie Day	5 National Caramel Day	6 National Siamese Cat Day	7 National Burrito Day	8 Day of Silence	9 National Unicorn Day
10 National Siblings Day	11 National Submarine Day	12 National Grilled Cheese Day	13 National Scrabble Day	14 National Look Up at the Sky Day	15 National Anime Day	16 National Librarian Day
17 National Cheese Ball Day (also Easter)	18 National Animal Crackers Day	19 Wear Pajamas to Work Day	20 National Banana Day	21 National High Five Day	22 National Jelly Bean Day (also Earth Day)	23 National Lovers Day
24 National Skipping Day	25 National DNA Day	26 National Pretzel Day	27 National Tell A Story Day	28 Workers' Memorial Day	29 National Zipper Day	30 National Adopt A Shelter Pet Day