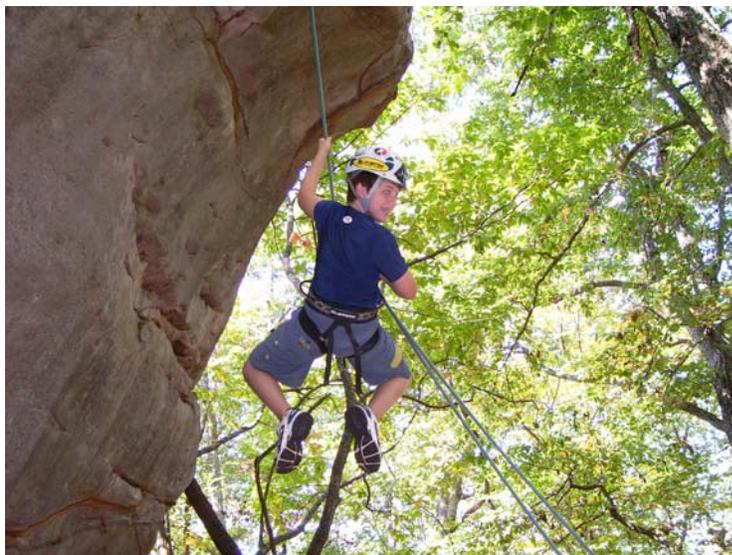


Homeschool Herald

The Newsletter Created By
and For Homeschoolers

The place to share your creative creations.



We hope you enjoyed the past issues of the *Homeschool Herald*. The September issue is here, so read on! The homeschoolers have worked hard this month, and they never cease to amaze with their creativity and imagination. Included in this issue are their articles, original artwork, stories, and more. Enjoy!

Starting this month, a Georgia homeschooler will be featured in the cover photo of each *Herald* issue. If you have a photo to submit, please

send it to Homeschool Excursions with a brief description.

This month you can see John Humphrys learning to repel at Rock Town in northwest Georgia. He began climbing last year and has greatly improved his skills through lots of hard work. He is 11 years old, has been homeschooling for 2 years, and enjoys the flexibility of being able to enjoy the outdoors on special outings such as the visit to Rock Town. John is also an excellent

student, is learning to play guitar, and likes hiking and back-packing.

Send us your creative creations! We want it all! Everyone is welcome share, and we would be delighted to publish your contributions!

Submissions may also be sent via e-mail or snail mail. Please contact us with any questions, comments, ideas, or suggestions.

Welcome!

Homeschool Excursions hopes you enjoy the September issue of the *Homeschool Herald*.

Homeschool Excursions is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established to provide a valuable resource to homeschool families in Georgia. The *Homeschool Herald* will serve to build community and support since it's available to all families.

Our homeschoolers possess a wealth of creativity, and we hope this newsletter provides an accessible outlet for their expression. All contributions are welcome including pictures, stories, articles, and more. We invite everyone to share ideas, suggestions, and creations.

*-Vered Kleinberger
Program Coordinator*

**SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW
EVERYTHING?**

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.

SPACE CAMP

This summer I went to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. It was fun! Let me tell you about my trip. I saw a space shuttle that looked like an airplane, and I got a backpack full of cool tools to use throughout the museum. I folded up the Lunar Rover and drove a space shuttle simulator. You can not imagine how big the Saturn 5 Rocket is! At the height of a 30-story building, it was the tallest rocket ever made. Life in a shuttle is very hard. You have to sleep upright and ride an exercise bike just to keep your muscles strong. NASA sent some animals into space before humans because they wanted to see if they could live or not, and they did! Well, thank you for letting me tell you about my trip.

Written by Samantha Morgan, age 7

SU DOKU

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

The numbers 1-9 must be in every column, row and box

THE SHADOW PEOPLE

As I write by candlelight,
I see the fire burning bright.
The shadow people come to play,
I wonder if they've come to stay.

Around the room they frolic high,
Dancing to the Song of July,
They climb upon my fish mobile,
With their children at their heel.

They jump upon my trophy set,
Some children dance in a quartet.
Then back around the firelight,
Dancing around with much delight.

I blow it out, a plume of smoke -
Away run the Shadow Folk.
In the darkness of my room,
I think about their merry tune,
And how they danced around so high
To the Music of July.

Written by Rebecca Miller, July 2006, 9 years old



Artist: Sage Gilleland, age 10

**WHY DO THEY CALL LARGE TRUCKS
“SEMIS”? SEMI-WHATS?**

The power unit of commercial trucks, the part that actually pulls the load is called the “tractor.” The tractor pulls some form of trailer, either a “full trailer” or a “semitrailer.” According to Neill Darmstadter, senior safety engineer for the American Trucking Associations, “A



semitrailer is legally defined as a vehicle designed so that a portion of its weight rests on a towing vehicle. This distinguishes it from a full trailer on which the entire load, except for a drawbar, rests on its own wheels.”

Semi is short for “tractor-semitrailer,” but most truckers use the term *semi* to refer to both the trailer alone and the tractor-semitrailer combination. Since the tractor assumes part of the burden of carrying the weight of the semitrailer, the “semi” must have a mechanism for propping up the trailer when the power vehicle is disengaged. The semitrailer is supported by the rear wheels in the back and by a small pair of wheels, called the landing gear, which can be raised and lowered by the driver. The landing gear is located at the front of the semitrailer, usually just behind the rear wheels of the tractor.

Submitted by Doug Watkins, Jr., of Hayward, CA

Feldman, David. Why Do Clocks Run Clockwise? and other Imponderables. Perennial Library, 1988. page 179.

Index of images:

<http://www.douglaswilson.com/>

**HOMESCHOOL EXCURSIONS
UPCOMING EVENTS**

Our calendar is always changing. Continue checking our website or join our e-mail list for updates.

- October 4-7 Rendezvous in Lafayette
- October 13 A Day at 74 Ranch in Pickens
- October 17 First Look at the High Museum of art in Atlanta
- October 19 Monthly Climbing day at Adrenaline
- October 24 Gourd Crafts with Scott Jones
- October 26 Aladdin at the Alliance

We have many outdoor and craft activities in the works, so check back soon. Don't miss out on the fun!!

FALL IS IN THE AIR!

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

There are nine words hidden in the puzzle above. They can be found up, down, across, diagonal, and backwards.

Word List:

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| Leaves | Colorful | Rake |
| Holidays | Cool | Breezy |
| Squash | Jacket | Blankets |



Artist: Sage Gilleland, age 10

BIRTHDAY CARD FOR A FRIEND

Silent whispers in the trees,
floating on the humid breeze,
crickets chirp, cicadas hum,
a special occasion has come
and gone,
the forest is singing its quiet song,
for you, yes, for you.
Winter is gone, spring is too,
the forest is singing its joys to you.
The special occasion has come so fast,
I hope this birthday wish will last.

Written by Rebecca Miller, July 2006, 9 years old



Artist: Dominique

WEEDS? WHATWEEDS?

Greenbriers seem to grow everywhere! They're found blanketing bushes, in tangles around trees, and elsewhere throughout the southeast (and east coast). You've probably noticed them as their thorns reached out and grabbed you. But I bet you didn't know that they're edible and contain medicinal properties. So remember, don't kill it, use it! Some of the many uses include:

- The young shoots are excellent cooked like asparagus.
- The young shoots, leaves, and tendrils are good prepared like spinach or added fresh to salads. Use the young shoots and leaves as long as they remain tender and juicy, often well into summer.
- The rootstocks of many species yield a gelatin substitute.
- American Indians rubbed stem prickles on their skin as a counter irritant to relieve localized pains, muscle cramps, and twitching.

- Leaf and stem tea used for rheumatism pains and stomach troubles.
- Wilted leaves were poulticed on boils.
- It's not confirmed rumors that the roots contain testosterone, but they may contain steroid precursors.
- The root is rich in starch and can be dried and ground into a powder. This can be used as a flavoring in soups or for making bread.
- The root bark is astringent and slightly tonic. An infusion of the root bark has been used as a wash in treating burns, sores, and pox.
- Greenbrier thickets provide dense cover for small mammals and birds.
- It is effective in open woodland areas and native plant areas. May be trained as a hedge or incorporated into a hedgerow for property lines. Also effective when grown along the ground as a ground cover, providing good erosion control for slopes and banks.



There is an abundance of information available about the uses of Greenbriers. The Peterson Field Guides are always a terrific source, particularly *Edible Wild Plants* and *Eastern/Central Medicinal Plants*. Please research all plants before

using them, and NEVER pick and eat anything without first consulting an herbalist or a qualified plant guide. Always be aware of whether the area you are gathering from may have been sprayed with chemicals.

Index of images and information:

Peterson Field Guides

<http://www.ibiblio.org/pfaf/cgi-bin/arr.html?Smilax+laurifolia>

<http://www.mobot.org/gardeninghelp/plantfinder/Plant.asp?Code=A154>

<http://www.irritatedvowel.com/~woodsyril/images/greenbrier.jpg>

http://www.bio.davidson.edu/courses/botany/spring01/common_greenbriar.html

Think twice before you pull that weed! You may be throwing away a medicine chest's worth of resources.

Please consult your physician before making any medical or dietary decisions.

Compiled by Plant Enthusiast, Vered Kleinberger

BOOK CRITIQUE:

JUNIE B. JONES BY BARBARA PARKS

My Momma and I began reading Junie B. books when I was 4 years old. We finished all the Junie B. books (the series) when I was 5. We just read the new Junie B. book 'aloha-ha-ha'. This book is GREAT, I tell you! It is a very funny story. When Junie B. goes snorkeling she saw an eel and got super scared and swam away from her parents and got in trouble. I tell you people Junie B. is such a funny girl!!!!



She is sweet but kind of a trouble maker. The other day I pretended to be Junie B. Jones in my Karate class. I was a big doofus girl and got in trouble just like Junie B. My favorites are 'Junie B. Jones Smells Something Fishy' and 'Junie B. First Grader: Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!'

These books are very funny but I warn you people don't act like her!

Written by Erika Skeel, age 6

2. While the muffins are toasting, cut the ends off of the onion and peel away the outer skin. Chop the onion into little pieces (smaller than a raisin).

3. Wipe the mushrooms with a damp paper towel and slice off the very end part of each stem. Slice the mushrooms as thin as you can.



4. Make a tomato sauce by mixing the tomato paste, water, and oregano in a small bowl. Add a dash of black pepper for a spicier pizza.

5. Put your oven mitts on and place the toasted muffins on the broiler pan.

6. Top each with 1 tablespoon of the tomato sauce. Sprinkle with the onions and mushrooms and place a slice of cheese on top.

7. Put your oven mitts back on and place the pizzas under the broiler (of a stove or toaster oven), about 4 inches away from the heat. Broil until the cheese melts, about 4 or 5 minutes.

From: http://www.cspinet.org/smartmouth/recipes_articles/index.html
<http://www.victoriapacking.com/pizza.html>

MMMMM...FOOD!!

MUFFIN PIZZAS

Instead of calling for delivery, prepare these miniature pizzas in minutes.

Ingredients:

- 2 English muffins (whole-wheat, if possible)
- 1 small onion
- 4 fresh mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons canned tomato paste, no salt added
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- Black pepper (optional)
- 4 thin slices part-skim mozzarella cheese

1. Slice or separate the muffins into halves and place them in a toaster or toaster oven. Toast until the muffins are golden brown.

CROCK POT:

SMOKED SAUSAGE STEW

- 4 to 5 potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 2 16-oz cans of green beans
- 1 lb pkg. smoked sausage sliced
- 1 onion chopped
- 2 T butter

Layer potatoes, green beans, sausage and onion in a slow cooker; dot with butter. Heat on low setting for 4 to 5 hours.

makes 4 servings



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Talk to you soon! Laura Daniels

Phone: 678-454-0243 Email: joyfulblessing4@yahoo.com

website: www.shaklee.net/joyfulblessing

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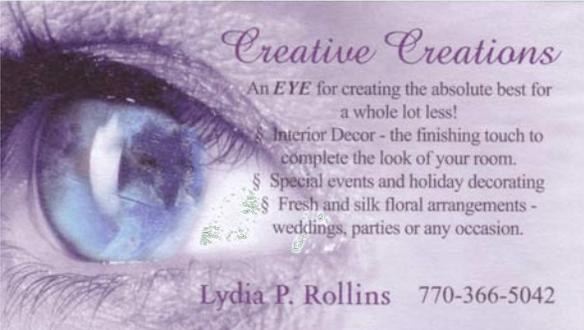
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The Creative Mind

The Creative Mind is the brainchild of Phillis Bostar. As a Homeschooling mother, she understood the need for a creativity based learning program that would help her children learn and enjoy the journey. Over the years, she developed a program using discovery, curiosity, & imagination for children ages 4 to 13 years. Ms. Bostar has enjoyed the popularity and success of her classes through the eyes of her own and many other children.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Many families have asked if their homeschoolers can submit contributions even if they can't attend the planning meetings in Pickens County. Of course they can! You are welcome to e-mail or snail mail their creative contributions to Homeschool Excursions.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO...

- All the homeschoolers who contributed to the production of each issue. This couldn't have been done without you!
- The Pickens County Library for allowing us to use your facility for our meetings.
- Janis Kleinberger for all her assistance and generosity.
- The Jones Family for their continued support.
- The Daniels Family for their support and encouragement.
- Teri Verhine for her relentless devotion to provide a fantastic Enrichment Program for our homeschoolers.
- Our advertisers for their help in making the newsletter possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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We gladly accept tax deductible donations to supplement program costs in an effort to make all of our exciting activities affordable for everyone.

Homeschool Excursions, Inc.
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Jasper, GA 30143

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Thank you for your support!
We're looking forward to a fantastic year!!

Mail form to: Homeschool Excursions
PO Box 1283, Jasper, GA 30143

The September Issue

Fall is in the air! Cool weather, rain, and beautiful leaves help make this season fantastic! Let us know what you're up to. Have you been on any new hikes? Have you read any good books or cooked an amazing recipe? Do you play an instrument? Send us a recording for the online version of the *Herald*.

This month brings a new feature to the *Homeschool Herald*. Each issue will highlight a different homeschooler on the cover. Our students are amazing! They have

diverse interests, a variety of skills and talents, and all have a lot to share. Send us a photo and a short biography of your homeschooler for the coming issues.



Our third year of activities is off to a great start, and we would like to thank all the families who have supported us as we've grown. We are looking forward to an exciting school year. Many new programs are being organized, as well as some large scale projects. We look forward to seeing you soon!

What's Inside?

Space Camp!

Read all about Samantha's adventures at Space Camp in Alabama.

Weeds? What weeds?

Greenbrier spreads its tangles wherever it can! Don't kill it,...use it.

Poetry

Rebecca shares some of her beautiful poetry with us this month. Enjoy!

Songs, Poems, Pictures, Stories, Articles, Games, and More

See what the homeschoolers have created this month. Each Herald is very different, so explore this issue, and we hope you enjoy the creativity of these homeschoolers!

Homeschool Excursions, Inc.

PO Box 1283

Jasper, GA 30143