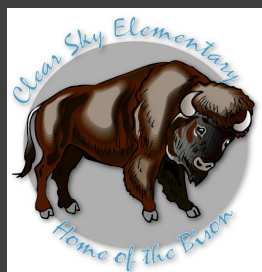


# Bison Bulletin

May 2021

Clear Sky Elementary

Page 1



**Kellie Roe**  
Principal

**Katie Berry**  
Asst. Principal

**Attendance Line:**  
303-387-5902

**Office Phone:**  
303-387-5900

**School Day:**  
9:10am - 4:00pm  
**Office Hours:**  
8:30am-4:30pm

**Clear Sky PTO**



*Advertising in this  
newsletter does not imply  
endorsements by the  
school or district.*

## Message From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Well, we have almost made it to the end of this very difficult year. I can't begin to tell you how much I appreciate the support we have received from our parents throughout all of the different learning postures we have experienced. You have navigated hybrid, in-person and remote learning with flexibility and determination. I know it wasn't always easy, but I am truly grateful for the effort you put in to collaborate with us to make this the most successful year possible. I want to thank you for raising amazing children that persevered through an unprecedented time!

I think we can all agree that many of our students have some unfinished learning. The district is working on a plan to address this through tutoring, summer school and on-going intervention support during next school year. Parents, I encourage you to continue reading with your children this summer. It is the very most important and beneficial thing you can do for your child. But please also remember to let them be kids! It is important for them to run and play and relax. This has been a very stressful year for them too and they could use a break!

I am looking forward to next school year and hopefully a return to normalcy. Our PTO has begun planning our family events and I am excited to see you in person! Our PTO is still looking for members at large so if you would like to be more involved next year I encourage you to consider joining!

As always, thank you for sharing your children with us. It is an honor we don't take lightly. Have an amazing summer!

Sincerely,

Kellie Roe  
Principal

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these great companies!

## The Berry Patch

Hello Clear Sky Families,

Thank you for all you have done for our students this year. We have had an amazing year with some ups and downs. Our students have persevered through hybrid, remote and in person learning, and they have done it all with grace and grit. We have amazing staff, students and parents that make Clear Sky the place that it is. We do have a full month left of school with more amazing learning that will take place. Please help support our students all the way to the end, as we know that as the weather gets warmer and the sun is shining we want to play in the sun. We always want to end strong and use everyday we have with the students to help them grow as learners.

Finish Strong,  
Mrs. Berry

## Douglas County Virtual Art Show

Congratulations to all the Clear Sky students chosen to be in the 2021 Douglas County Virtual Art Show!

Kindergarten: Lily Perez, Rebecca Price, Guthrie Pacella and Dominic Daniels

1st Grade: Christian Brechun, Sadie Cable, Lily Conley and Rogan Austin

2nd Grade: Gabby Kinzer, Ila Maxfield, Everly Crank and Tristan Corson

3rd Grade: Evelyn Wells, Alex Brechun, Emilia Carretto and Gavin Merkel

4th Grade: Brianna Jones, Dallin Hart, Jory Chavez, Ella Adams, Abby Wright and Gemma Bateman

5th Grade: Alek Symchych, Leighton Brooks, Julia Dern, Charlie Buchanan and Sophia Rice

6th Grade: Kamden Wagner, Annalie Carlson, Ashley Reurer, Lily Adams, Caitlyn Alborghetti, Annie Price, Ivy Rodriguez, Jackson Dickerman and Annaleigh Seeley

To enter the show, please visit [www.dcsdk12.org/artshow](http://www.dcsdk12.org/artshow).

This year, there are two new kinds of awards that invite students, teachers, and parents to interact with some amazing artwork. Voting for both awards closes on Friday, May 8, at midnight.

- **Kid's Choice Award** - DCSD students nominate their favorite piece.
- **WOW Award** - Anyone can nominate their favorite piece.

The Virtual Art Show will remain live through the end of the school year.



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## Physical Education

### This last month in PE...

#### K-6th

- In April, we finished our jump rope challenges and we're introduced to new activity games to play on the playground and the field during our playground games unit.



### Now in PE...

#### K-6th

- We are wrapping up the last weeks of the school year with different team activity games to play! Some fan favorites will be included in these last weeks, such as different dodgeball games and kickball!
- Field Day is also just around the corner and we are looking forward to a lot of sunshine and fun, friendly, competition in our station games!

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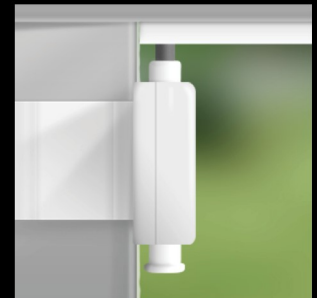
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Door Guardian Inswing



Door Guardian Outswing



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## ELL News



Dear families,

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the school year! This year has been a challenging year for all of us: parents, students, and school staff members! With that being said, we wanted to take the time to thank you for all the support you've given us and your children. We couldn't have done it without you.

**Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Roudani to our English Language Development here at Clear Sky! We are over the moon excited for Mrs. Roudani to share her expertise with all of us and our families!**

**On a separate note, we've been informed that ACCESS testing scores won't be in until the very last week of school at the earliest. We will be promptly communicating with you these scores once we receive them, so please stay tuned!**

It's important to remember to continue with academic activities during the summer to prevent a learning gap and to ensure readiness for the next school year. Please encourage your students to read daily, practice writing about the book, and discussing the books they read with you.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns! In addition to emails, TalkingPoints is a great way for you to stay connected with us during the summer.

Abeer Sawaged  
[adsawaged@dcsdk12.org](mailto:adsawaged@dcsdk12.org)

Hannah Roudani  
[hroudani@dcsdk12.org](mailto:hroudani@dcsdk12.org)

303-387-5954

## Lost and Found Items

Please view the Google Slideshow:

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1v8AqNPeyXaXNf48tDW3KCv3nZmFueA-4C4EWzUf-kxo/edit#slide=id.gd164a02f6c\\_0\\_10](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1v8AqNPeyXaXNf48tDW3KCv3nZmFueA-4C4EWzUf-kxo/edit#slide=id.gd164a02f6c_0_10)



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## Science Lab

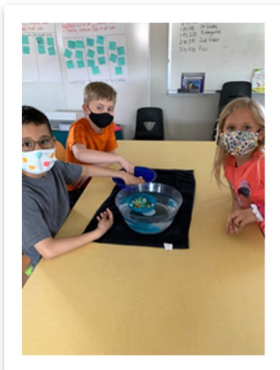
The science lab is looking for paper towel donations! Thank you so much.

During the month of April, our focus was “thinking like a scientist” while creating and conducting experiments. The intermediate grade levels designed their own experiments and created lab reports while the primary grade levels focused on forming a hypothesis and making conclusions.

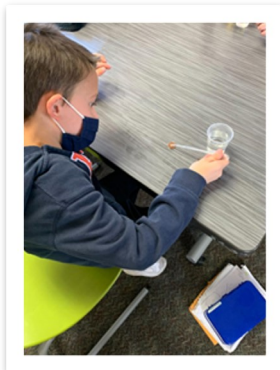
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**Kindergarten/First Grade:** Our youngest scientists learned how to form a hypothesis. They conducted multiple experiments with the focus on confirming if their hypotheses were supported or unsupported.

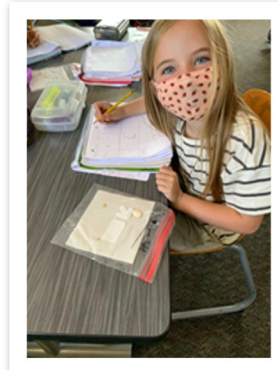
**Second/Third Grade:** Second and third grade botanists learned about seeds and plants. Through experimentation, students learned that most seeds do not need light to germinate but they do need water. They dissected a seed to discover what was inside. Students then discovered that once the seed turns into a plant, light is needed for the plant to continue growing.



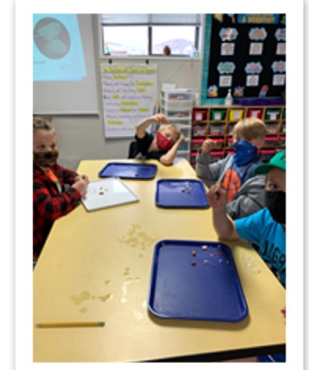
How many marbles will it take to sink the container?



How many drops of water can you fit on a penny?



Experimenting and tracking data for seeds in the dark and seeds in the light.



Seed Dissection

**Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!**

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**(720) 878-4107**  
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## Science Lab, continued...

**Fourth-Sixth Grade:** Our oldest scientists focused on the scientific method and created their own experiments. Fourth and fifth graders created experiments involving Gobstoppers and other types of candy. Sixth graders created experiments involving toy sea creatures. They came up with a testable question, considered variables, formed a hypothesis, wrote the procedure, and collected data to form a conclusion. It was fun to see the students investigate their own testable questions.



Measuring the mass of the toy sea creatures.



How do different liquids affect the growth of a sea creature?



How does temperature affect how a Gobstopper will dissolve in water?



Does the position of the Gobstoppers affect how they will dissolve in water?

Thank you for sharing your students with me. Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or comments.

Mrs. Andereg

[Christy.Andereg@dcsdk12.org](mailto:Christy.Andereg@dcsdk12.org)

## Meet Buttercup!

Clear Sky recently had a very special, four legged visitor. Buttercup is a licensed therapy dog who works at Castle View High School. She stopped by our school to introduce herself and her accompanying School Resource Officer (SRO) Scott Gillespie. Buttercup is a 2 year old golden retriever-sheltie mix who works with Officer Gillespie in his duties at the school. She is the first therapy dog to work with a SRO in the state of Colorado. Buttercup provides support and comfort to students during emergency drills, traumatic occurrences, stressful situations, those dealing with anxiety and depression, school activities, as well as increasing positive awareness between students, staff and law enforcement. We hope more licensed therapy dogs will be paired with SRO's within our school district in the future!



## In the Innovation Lab

I can't believe we are already at the end of another school year! It's been a crazy, but fun year. We've survived hybrid learning, remote learning, in-person learning, and of course the quarantines. And through it all, the CSE students have created some AMAZING things! I've been so proud of their hard work.

During this last rotation in the Innovation Lab, students have been working on a variety of things. Depending on their schedule, the older students have had the opportunity to select a project that interests them. They were able to choose from all the different topics we've covered this year, as well as previous years: designing & building, robotics, game design, BreakoutEDU, stop motion animation, coding, and more.

As for the primary grades, stop motion animation was one of our key activities. During their work, students used the following two iPad apps: Stop Motion Studio & iMotion. Both of the basic versions of these apps are free, but you can make in-app purchases to access more advanced features. Another activity done by all primary grades was Bloxels. This is a fun app that allows students to design and create their own video game. They are able to create over 160 different rooms/levels, as well as create a custom character and game designs.

Be sure to check out photos from some of the classes!

---

## Summer Fun



I would say that one of the most important parts of summer break is getting out of the house, away from the screens and enjoying the outdoors! On those rainy days, or when they need a little indoor time, here are some great resources for students.

### Coding

You might remember back in December that all of the CSE students participated not only in the Hour of Code (HOC), but in our coding unit as well. You can still find all of our HOC resources on the Innovation website via this [LINK](#).

HOUR  
OF  
CODE

### Camp Invention



Another DCSD teacher by the name of Kelli Smith will be running the Camp Invention here at CSE. (I am currently working towards an endorsement in STEM & Computer Science and I will be participating in an externship this summer.) Be sure to check out the flier as part of this month's newsletter for more information.

## Looking forward to next year

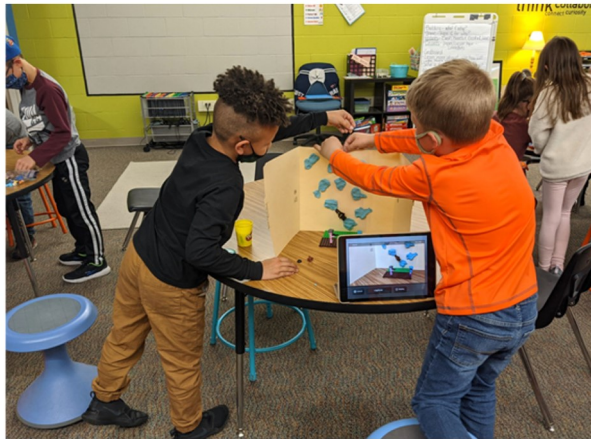
I'm excited to spend some time this summer evaluating the various design challenges and activities we complete in the lab. I plan to apply some of my new skills and learning from my current endorsement program, including read alouds, data literacy, and elements of play & exploration. I will still be focusing on design thinking and our LAUNCH Cycle. Want to learn more about either of these? Visit these two resources:

- Design Thinking - <https://www.ideo.com/pages/design-thinking>
- LAUNCH - <http://thelaunchcycle.com/>



## Want to Donate?

We are always looking for materials, expertise, and extra hands! We are currently looking for the following items: Clorox Wipes, paper towels, Snap Circuits, LEGO people/figures, old games that might be missing pieces or are no longer being played, an old Operation game...we need it for dissection. Visit our updated Google Doc (<https://goo.gl/3RIMpJ>) to see what materials we need. If you want to volunteer your time, please feel free to contact me. You will find a form on the "Maker Program Materials" page.





## April Star Bison

Here is the April and Final Star Bison of 2020 - 2021 school year

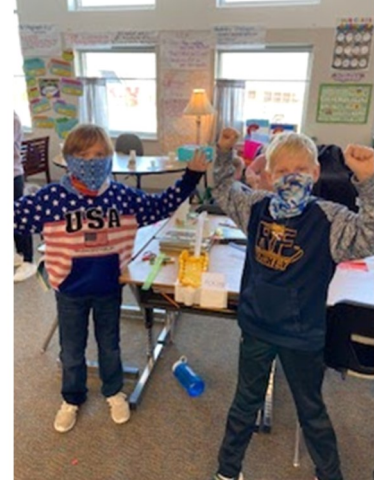
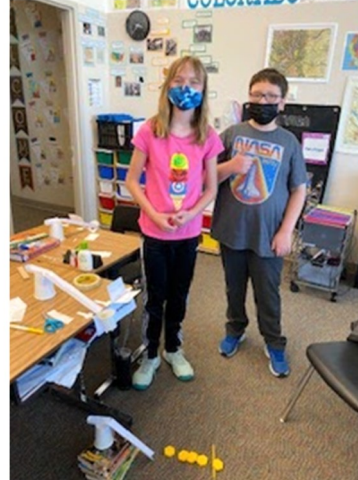
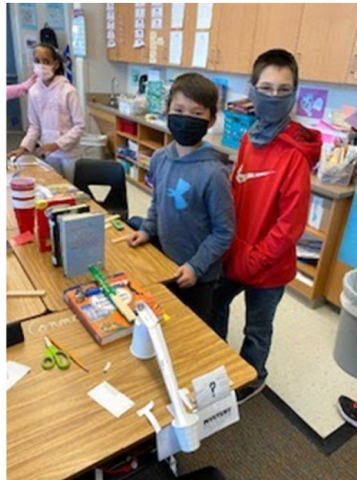
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ujRiAO23MyQAFHTgJwvAM-z6o3x-zORz/view?usp=sharing>

Thank you to Sky Zone and Chick-fil-A for the prizes for March and April.



## Fourth Grade

Fabulous Fourth Graders have been studying about different forms of energy. They have conducted many experiments to understand the following concepts: Energy can be moved from place to place, energy can be produced, used or released by converting stored energy, and when objects collide contract forces transfer so as to change objects' motion. The pictures are students creating their multi-step chain reaction machines.



## Jennifer's Gems, For the Treasure that is your Child

Hi, I'm Jennifer Phillips, the Occupational Therapist at Clear Sky Elementary. I would like to share with you some Activities and Resources for your child to explore over the summer. Enjoy your summer break, looking forward to sharing another year together in 2021-2022. Please feel free to email me with any questions. [JPhillips@dcsdk12.org](mailto:JPhillips@dcsdk12.org)

### Fine Motor Activities:

1. Cutting practice: use items such as paper plates, kleenex box, yarn, cut out different size shapes
2. Hole punch- follow lines on a shape, hole punch a shape, hole punch letters of your name, hole punch b,d, p, q, out of a magazine or newspaper.
3. Stack dominos
4. Stringing beads with yarn or string
5. Squeezing clothespins- place on a plastic container, paper plate
6. Push buttons/coins- make a slit on top of a plastic container and use pincer grip to place buttons through the slit
7. Tearing tissue paper and gluing on a shape/picture
8. Place coins on the table-quickly flip each one over from heads to tails (time yourself)
9. Practice or Learn how to tie shoes
10. Play with putty/play dough
11. Make your own Play dough: Kool Aid Play dough <https://youtu.be/YHuOAm4D3M8>
12. Link for Coloring pages: [Coloring pages](#)
13. How to Draw link: [Drawing Link](#)
14. [Finger Exercises](#) 1
15. [Finger Exercises](#) 2
16. Folding paper-Origami, paper airplane
17. Buttoning/zipping
18. Finger painting
19. Manipulative games/puzzles
20. Lacing cards

### Ideas for Sensory options:

1. Place beans or rice in a large container-hide small items in the container, buttons, coins, beads, paperclip, ... find items without using your eyes, just feeling with your hands
2. Make shapes out of the beans/rice/cheerios, letters
3. Place some shaving cream on a cookie sheet or on the counter-use fingers to write name or letters/numbers
4. DCSD Website: [Calming Corner apps](#)

### Gross Motor Activities:

1. Wall Push Ups: Place flat hands on the wall- stand ~2 feet away from the wall, bend and straighten your arms
2. Jumping over tape placed on the floor/garage-jump forward/back, right/left
3. Throwing socks into a laundry basket
4. Throw a small ball or sock up in the air and catch it, use both hands then progress to one hand and then the other hand.
5. Link for Yoga: [Cosmic Kids Yoga](#)
6. [YouTube video making letters of the alphabet](#)

### Visual Perceptual Ideas:

1. Mazes
2. Dot to Dot
3. Tracing figures
4. I Spy books/Hidden pictures
5. Matching/Finishing a picture
6. Visual Discrimination-finding the differences between pictures

**Resources through Douglas County School:** [Art Camp](#)

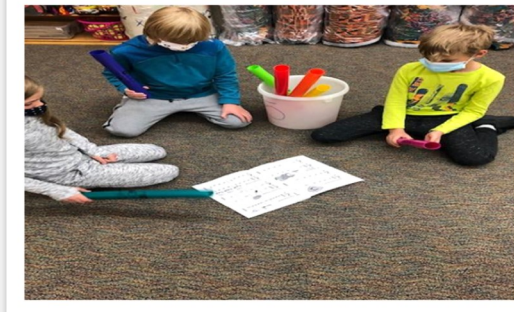
**Typing Resources:** Free Typing Program: [Typing Pal.com](#) all students have a free account through Clear Sky [Typing.com](#) (Free typing program) Log in through google account

## Music

As this school year comes to an end, I couldn't be prouder or all of our Clear Sky students and their hard work in music. This year we have been working on multi-cultural rhythms in all aspects of music. They have thrived. I can't wait to see what next year brings. Congratulations CSE students. You are all **ROCK STARS!**

Next year:

**RECORDERS:** All students in 3rd and 4th grade will be required to order their recorders and books at check-in in July. All 5th – 6th who do not have a recorder and book or need anything new, may order it at this time as well.



**Clear Sky Singers:** Choir will return next year. Information will be available at the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Thank you for a wonderful year,  
Mrs. Dome

## Bison Buddies@Clear Sky Summer Camp 2021

Join us for a summer of fun, friends and memories that last a lifetime!



**Summer Camp:** Tuesday June 1 - Wednesday August 4, 2021 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

**Grades:** Children entering Kindergarten - 6th Grade (Note your child does not have to be a Clear Sky student to attend our Summer Program. If child does not attend a Douglas County School, we will need immunization card for child.

**Child Care Fees:** \$35 per day per child, plus the cost of the field trip on travel days.

\* Fee includes Camp, one weekly field trip due to covid-19, as well as DCSD Transportation Restrictions, afternoon snack, games, crafts, sports, and much more!

**Registration:** Begins Monday May 3, 2021. Summer registration is to be completed through your School Care Works Parent Portal. New Families to Bison Buddies can go to the Bison Buddies website and click on BASE REGISTRATION 2020-21 to register: <https://sites.google.com/a/dcsdk12.org/clearsky-bison-buddies/home> **There is a \$75 non-refundable registration fee for a single child, \$100 non refundable registration fee for families registering with siblings. Fees are good for one year.**

**Field Trips Include:**

Boondocks, Cheyenne Mtn. Zoo, Pirates Cove, Skate City, and a whole lot more!  
Staff- to- child ratio is 1 to 15 depending on destination.

Transportation is provided by DCSD. A weekly calendar is provided with an exciting theme, daily activities and excursion information. Bison Buddies will be closed on Thursday May 27 & Friday May 28 to prepare for June 1, 2021 Summer Program. Locations and excursions are subject to change.

For more information call: Cell (720) 880-8154. Wrk#303-387-5918

E-mail: [sterling.decosta@dcsdk12.org](mailto:sterling.decosta@dcsdk12.org)



# WE'RE HAVING A BOOK FAIR!

Dear Parents and Families:

We are working hard to keep kids reading and raise critical funds for our school with our Scholastic Book Fair. We are so excited to be able to offer students this wonderful experience to help them become lifelong readers.

Our Fair will be both in person AND online and will connect your kids to notable books and inspiring characters. And all purchases will directly support our school library!

## Important information for our Fair, held May 10th – 13th:

**Safety First:** The safety and well-being of your child is our priority. We're taking extra precautions to host a safe, socially distanced Fair at our school, focusing on preventive measures.

- **Contactless Checkout:** With Book Fair eWallet, a convenient digital payment account, your child can shop the Fair cash-free. And now grandparents, friends, and others can contribute to the eWallet to help build your home library!
- **Shop Online:** Experience the Book Fair fun by visiting our Book Fair online! You can shop over 6,000 products — and all orders ship direct to your home (with free shipping on book-only orders over \$25\*)! All purchases made during the Fair will bring our school 25% in rewards.

More information on how to sign up for eWallet and featured books will be coming in the next few weeks! Please save the dates!

### Clear Sky Elementary's Book Fair

**Book Fair dates:** May 10th – 13th

**Shopping hours:** your student will shop during their assigned Health Class time.



[Follow us on Facebook](#) - Clear Sky Elementary

## Tip from the psychologist Mr. Phil

"**Resilience** is the ability to thrive despite challenges, adversity, or significant sources of stress." The American Psychological Association (APA) offers these 10 tips for building resilience in children and teens:

- 1) Teach the importance of making connections with peers
- 2) Help them by having them help others
- 3) Maintain a daily routine
- 4) Take a break
- 5) Teach them self-care
- 6) Move toward your goals
- 7) Nurture a positive self-view
- 8) Keep things in perspective and maintain a hopeful outlook
- 9) Look for opportunities for self-discovery
- 10) Accept change"

A vertical poster for Douglas County Libraries' Galaxy DCL program. The background is a dark blue space with stars, a large blue planet with a ring, a grey cratered moon, and a red planet. At the bottom, a stylized orange and blue rocket with purple flames is launching from pink clouds. The Douglas County Libraries logo is at the top. The text 'GALAXY DCL' is in large white letters, with 'TO BOOKS & BEYOND!' below it. The main promotion text says 'HELP OUR SCHOOL WIN \$500! It's really easy.' followed by instructions to sign up for the Summer Reading program. It states that the school with the most sign-ups by July 31 wins \$500. Registration starts May 1 online at DCL.org/summer-reading or June 5 at the library. It reminds users to include their school name and grade. The poster ends with 'Let's win!' and the website 'DCL.ORG/SUMMER-READING' with a note that the contest winner is announced in August.

Douglas County Libraries

# GALAXY DCL

TO BOOKS & BEYOND!

## HELP OUR SCHOOL WIN \$500!

It's really easy.

All you have to do is:

Sign up for Douglas County Libraries' Summer Reading program, Galaxy DCL.

The school with the most sign-ups by July 31 wins \$500.

Register online starting May 1 at [DCL.org/summer-reading](https://DCL.org/summer-reading) OR sign up at the library starting June 5.

Be sure to include our school name and your grade so we get credit.

Let's win!

**DCL.ORG/SUMMER-READING**  
Contest winner announced in August.