



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders
Written & Illustrated by Mrs. Dingman's 5th Grade
May 2016

After listening to The Secret Knowledge of Grown-ups,
written by Caldecott Award author David Wisniewski,
we created our own version of "the rules" and their "truths".

We wrote with creativity, demonstrating our growing vocabularies
and our understanding of alliteration.
Enjoy our rules, OUR explanations, and our senses of humor!

This project met with Pennsylvania Core and Academic Standards:

PACS ELA E05.C.1.3 write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique,
descriptive details, and clear event sequences

PACS ELA E05.D.1.1 demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage

PACS ELA E05D.2.1.4 choose words and phrases for effect

PACS ELA E05.A-V.4.1.2 demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, nuances in word meanings

Pennsylvania Science Academic Standard 3.7.5 Technological Devices



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The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #10:
Pick up sticks outside

OFFICIAL REASON:
To keep the yard tidy, clean, and clear

**THE TRUTH:**

Keeping the yard tidy is important, but it is not the truth. The truth is keeping the sticks from forming a GTM (giant twig monster.) If you don't pick up sticks, the dirty sticks will slowly slither into a form of a GTM destroying everything. He/she can pick up the whole deck of your backyard, or the pavement that's on your driveway!

What is a GTM you say? How is it strong? After you don't pick the sticks up, the slimy sticks get hard and tired of sitting there, so they slowly form and control the hideous hulk. GTMs came all the way from Canada. One time a boy named Patrick Smith got his whole house destroyed by the Canadian catastrophe!

GTM's start their life as weak, mushy little twigs or sticks. But, if you don't pick them up in 30 hours, they form the strongest monster alive. Lucky for you there are 2 things to avoid this problem 1. Take a chainsaw and cut the sticks into small smithereens. 2. Burn the sticks or use them as sticks for your campfire. You maybe heard of the RM (rock monster) did you? They form when you don't pick up rocks! GTMs and RMs can destroy a whole city!

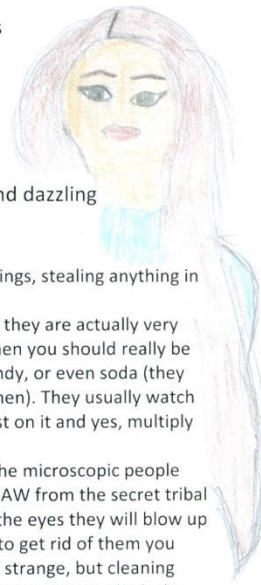
Twig monsters can form in any other types of yard products, like RM (rock monsters) DM (dirt monsters) and GM (grass monsters.) Now you know the truth about why it's important to pick up sticks!



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #10
Clean your room

OFFICIAL REASON:
You should clean your room to make it clean and dazzling

**THE TRUTH:**

At night microscopic men and women hide under your belongings, stealing anything in sight, obtuse or microscopic.

You're probably wondering, "are there children like me?" Yes, they are actually very devilish, stealing all your toys! But, if you bring food in your room, then you should really be careful now! They will rob ANYTHING like old pizza crumbs, moldy candy, or even soda (they like cola). These little varmints are called LMAW (little men and women). They usually watch MTAM (moldy things and me). If you have a TV, they will eat any dust on it and yes, multiply MORE dust for you to clean! And that's not even the worst part.

If you awaken during the night, hopefully you don't, and see the microscopic people stealing your belongings, you'll be in trouble! The ancient files of LMAW from the secret tribal of "fifth of the graders" (aka FOTG) says that if you stare at them in the eyes they will blow up into millions of creepy bugs and occasionally food. Now if you want to get rid of them you have to bring in the weapons, cleaning supplies. Now it might sound strange, but cleaning supplies are packed with little super heroes that clean and terminate the LMAW. The little people will be destroyed and your room will live in serenity once more.

Now you're probably asking, "Why did our parents keep this away from us?" Well, they thought if they told us we would explode like the LMAW people so they never spoke about it unless your room was very messy. Your parents might ground you but, rarely if you're lucky, they might clean it for your safety. Now that you know this secret, I trust you to keep it and NEVER EVER TELL ANYONE! Now you know to always clean your room if it's untidy and horrid.

(This is a warning, you must always clean your room otherwise the LMAW will come and they will find you, and you just might become a feast for them). And if your room is too horrendous, spray some perfume or air fresher (btw they hate good smells!) Well my day is done. I have saved billions of children. Remember to have a vacuum just in case. Goodbye, and remember to clean your room!



Angelina Roberts

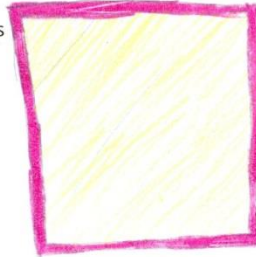
May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders



RULE #14:
Brush Your Teeth

OFFICIAL REASON:
It keeps your teeth clean.



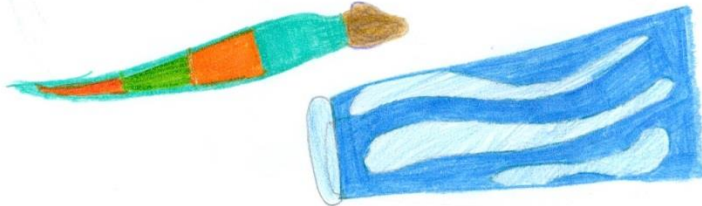
THE TRUTH:

Your parents like to make amazingly crazy excuses just to bother you. They say you will get YYT (Yucky, Yellow Teeth)...so not the truth. Your parents say that to scare you away. They also say that you will look like a crinkly old man who never brushes his teeth.

I have also heard other stories like you will get made fun of, but the people who make fun of you are the ones that are rotten. Your parents also freak you out and say that you will not have any teeth... also so not true! They lie and say they do not want to go out with somebody who does not look presentable or somebody that never brushes their teeth.

I've also heard things like your teeth will scream for help if you do not brush them or your teeth will rot away into tiny little molecules. If you believe what your parents say to you about brushing your teeth then you might be wacky!

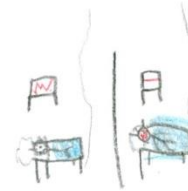
I learned my lesson that I should not listen to my parents about brushing my teeth because they might be crazy!



Charles Hammer

May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders



RULE #16
Flush the toilet

OFFICIAL REASON:
It's flat out disgusting and rude



THE TRUTH:

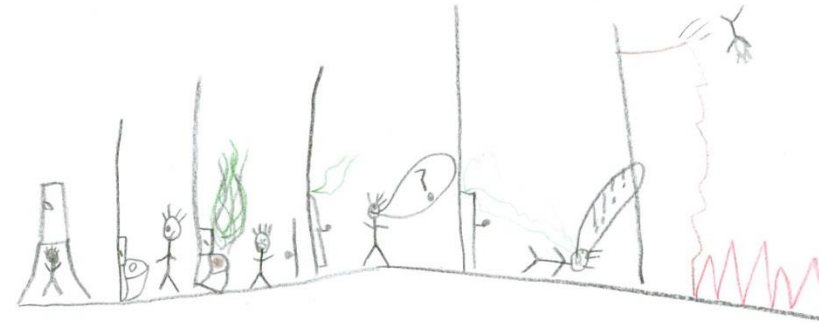
If you don't flush, putrid gases will rise from the toilet and make your brain drunk. The gases are made of 35% carbon dioxide, 55% gigabits, and 10% farts. Yeah, the gases are made of the weirdest things.

This guy named Jeff Loo never flushed a toilet in his life. Jeff had 7 toilets in his house. He got so drunk from the gases that he jumped off a 100-foot high cliff onto a bunch of spikes. Somehow he fell right in between two spikes, and survived.

Later in his life, he got a disease called GIB "gas infested brain." You get paralyzed after a while if you don't treat it. Unfortunately, he died from it.

There is a cure for GIB. You have to drink 5 gallons of water in 5 minutes. If you drink too slowly, you will become paralyzed. Pour another gallon up your nose. The water will clear the gases from your brain.

Just listen to your parents if they say to flush the toilet. Don't even get me started with porta-potties!



Bradley Coe



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

May 17, 2016



RULE #17

Don't fight with your sister.



OFFICIAL REASON:

It is not nice, it makes mom and dad go bonkers, and you should love each other because you're brother and sister.

THE TRUTH:

That's true but if you fight with your sister she will turn into an enormous, terrifying, slimy, green troll and slowly devour you into her steaming stomach.

If you don't want this to happen then don't fight with your sister. You also can throw a bunch of super slimy sea snakes and slugs at her so she'll slurp them up. If that doesn't work you will most likely be dead by now. But if you somehow, somehow make it out alive, RUN as FAST as you can. GO! These big, ugly, tacky things or the [BUTT] hate fast food to their rotten core. Which is why your sister would rather go to a super suave fancy food restaurant named something like Diana's Delicious Darn Good Delicacy, when you just want to go a gnarly fast food feast named something like Freddy's Feed Yer Face Fast Food Feast.

If you don't believe me, go to the Super Duper Pooper Scooper Super Tip Top Tippy Toppo Secret Association. They will have files filled with impeccable evidence. They will have perfect pictures and a lotta letters of encounters with this terribly terrifying troll. To get there just flush your head down a toilet, no joke.

Here are the 5 silent sassing signs of when your sissy sassy sassafras sister turns into a mean green machine. 1: you will start hearing her stomach growl and grumble. 2: This no good nasty troll will start getting crippling cranky. 3: She will start moaning and groaning. 4: The tricky icky sticky troll will have a googly glow in her bright red ewey eyes. 5: Your swishy swishy sister yells horrifically and transforms.

So, in my conclusion calculation, don't fight with your sister, unless you have a drop-dead death wish or want to get slobbered by a tiny, tangy, tingly tongue and then get shish-kabobbed.



Paige Gualandi



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #22:

No phones at the dinner table

OFFICIAL REASON:

It's rude and disrespectful



THE TRUTH:

If you play your phone at the dinner table your phone would want to eat with you.

There have been many insane incidents when kids have played their phones at the dinner table. Let's just say phones have a big "appetite." Once your phone smells food it will beg for it like a peppy puppy. Then it will get hangry. How do I say this? Um... not so much like an adorable puppy anymore, and will start stealing all your food until there is basically nothing left in your fridge or freezer.

Once the phone eats all of the food it searches for more. It will go under the couch cushions to find cracker and cookie crumbs and even eat the dog's dry flavorless food! Eventually, the phone will grow bigger and bigger and grow a bigger desire for food.

Some bad things have happened after there was no more food left in the house. For instance, the phone will start trying to eat your cats and dogs, and eventually your phone would finally succeed. After that, it will start eating your bossy brothers and selfish sisters and if you were a lonely child I would watch out. Then they'll eat your parents too! If kids continue to play their phones at the dinner table, phones will start to eat cities, states, countries, and even continents!

In conclusion, one way to stop phones from destroying the world is by not playing your phone at the dinner table or your phone might even eat you!



Kaycee Land

May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #33:
Don't run in the house

OFFICIAL REASON:
You can break your mom's stuff



THE TRUTH:

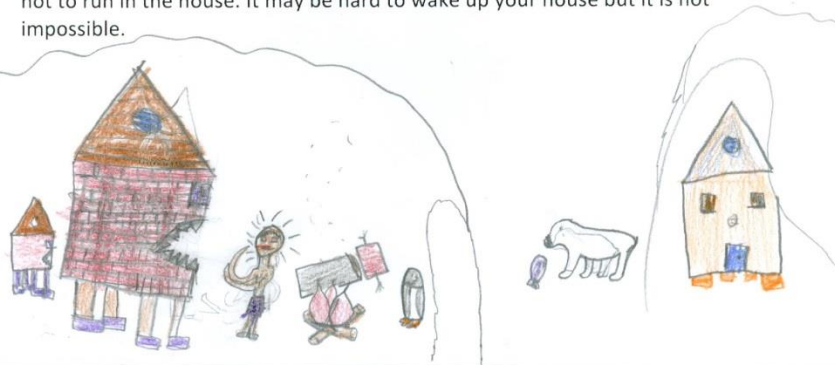
The truth is your house is really a monster from planet NCM or (not cute monsters).

Back in Egypt, a long time ago, King Tut ran into a house. It ate six of King Tut's servants. But King Tut wanted one to live in instead of a pyramid that is shadowy and strange.

So he sent out his servants to catch one but the only one of the servants that lived was Chakwal and he came back with a BAME (broken arm and missing ear).

So King Tut set out his servants to catch a house. He thought it would be just like the first time where they would trip and hit one, but naught nothing, not even a front door was found.

So King Tut went out himself to find one. Several months had passed but not one house, No windows, NO door. So King Tut made it all the way to Antarctica. He was freezing so he stopped in a cave and made a fire which was a small sun to him. King Tut was so loud a house ate him so he would shut up. So now you know why not to run in the house. It may be hard to wake up your house but it is not impossible.



Rebecca McFeely

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #34
Don't walk on the back of your shoes

OFFICIAL REASON:
It's bad for your shoes and we can't buy new ones!

THE TRUTH:

If you walk on the back of your shoes you crush the air holes that your chickens need.

Now, what are chickens? Well, chickens are these microscopic colorful creatures that live in your shoes.

Chickens have a square body and triangle head. They have two arms and two legs. They may also have a tail. If they have a tail it'll be completely different from any tail you've ever laid eyes on. There are about 24 chickens in each shoe and about 48 in a pair. Chickens come to live in your shoes because they evolved from the peas you eat. So the more peas you eat the smarter student you'll be.

A chicken's job is to send your brain the message yes or no (YON) for YON questions. Chickens also are the main source of your common sense. Chickens tell your brain the answer by using echolocation (CUE). Somehow the CUE answer reaches your brain in .000001 of a second so you can answer that YON question correctly or/ and (O/A) be able to respond with the right common sense action. In order to get answers that fast you need to follow rule #34.

Since you've all disobeyed rule #34, yes you're guilty of disobeying rule #34, you may as well know the symptoms of chickens dying. The first symptom is faint screaming. Eeeeeee!!! The second is your ears popping. Pop! The last symptom is you falling over. Ah!

Now, for the cure that the one, the only, Professor Zutued came up with is to either wear slip-on shoes O/A buy the new farm fresh grown chickens. If you buy a chicken every time a chicken dies, they will cost about \$100,000,000.99 (plus tax) each. Unfortunately those are the only cures that scientists have found to work. If you possibly come up with another solution please contact Professor Zutued at CHICKENSRULE@zutued.net.

So in conclusion, I would recommend following rule #34. Remember, your actions have consequences. Over and Out (OAO)!



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #36:
Brush your teeth

OFFICIAL REASON:
It keeps your teeth clean



THE TRUTH:

Brushing your teeth does keep your teeth clean, but that's not why adults tell you to brush them. The real reason is to stop the bacteria from having you as a snack.

You see, when all of that bacteria sits in your mouth too long you can get a serious case of HBB, or hungry bacteria blow-up. The bacteria begins to wake up after about a week or two in your mouth. When the blubber mold (the more technical term for bacteria) completely wakes up, CHAOS! Since the blubber mold has been asleep so long it is hungry and thinks that you could be a quick snack. When this happens HBB begins. When HBB starts the bacteria covers your entire mouth. Then, it begins to overtake your entire face! Eventually, it covers your entire body so it can feed away at you!

Don't worry though, because there is a way that has proven to stop HBB once it starts. It's called The Spritzzy Spray. The Spritzzy Spray is a technique which makes the blubber mold shrink down and fall asleep. The technique is one in which you get a hose (or any other water container) to spray (throw water) at the bacteria.

The water makes blubber mold (bacteria) fall asleep, as it does with any other liquid. This is why the bacteria went into your mouth. It likes being in your mouth because it is always moist from saliva. The blubber mold prefers wet or moist areas, but the problem is that it makes the mold fall asleep because the moist area is so comforting. When it stays in this moist area for so long it hibernates for about a week or two (This is about a month in blubber mold time).

You're probably wondering how humans found out about this. It all started when Tiny Tim went into a coma for a week because of falling off a wall (Tim was holding Humpty Dumpty's hand when Humpty fell). You see, Tiny Tim wasn't always tiny. He actually used to be gigantic. Some people even called him Tall Tim at the time. Sadly, though, he went into this coma and wasn't able to brush his teeth. Tim's doctor and parents came in one afternoon and saw the monstrosity of Tim covered in the blubber mold! They thought that maybe spraying him down would get it off. So, they sprayed him with water and the blubber mold shrank back down and was sleeping away. They were all relieved, but Tim's doctor and parents found that Tim had a miraculous mishap! Tall Tim had become Tiny Tim! After this, many more conundrums like this happened. Even Humpty Dumpty had this problem. People called this blowup HDB, Humpty Dumpty's Blow-up.

To end The Blubber Blow-up Battle of the 1880's, parents kept a close eye on when (or if) children or other adults brushed their teeth. This solved that problem, but in 1890 children asked why they had to brush their teeth, and adults told them the truth. This was a bad idea because the children were so shocked by the answer that they went into shock. This woke up the all the bacteria because they were unconscious for a week or two. This urged adults to make the decision to keep it all secret.

Just remember, if you ever think of skipping brushing your teeth to do something fun, have some water handy just in case all that blubber mold decides to wake up for a tasty snack.

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #55:
Don't stay outside all night.

OFFICIAL REASON:

You will be exhausted and won't want to go to school the next day.

THE TRUTH:

The truth is if you stay out all night you will be taken by many creatures and other things.


For example, the enormous GER, or the "Giant Eating Rock", comes out at any second. These rocks combine to make even bigger rocks to eat even bigger creatures. You can only survive from these 6ft creatures with a shield or axe.

Also, moss-like creatures will sting you and burn your skin for a short period of time. These creatures will make you so exhausted your eyes will shut completely. You will even fall down and sleep right then and there because of these nasty green creatures.

If that's not bad enough, you will be chased by brain-eating zombies. These zombies are different. They could run 20 MPH and could attack at any second. These zombies are 13 feet tall and are over-sized because of ZGH or "Zombie Growth Hormones."

I suggest you listen to your parents and don't go outside after dark if you want to live the rest of your life. Also, listen if you want to go outside ever again.



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders


RULE: #57
Don't eat too much candy

OFFICIAL REASON:
Because it is unhealthy and will damage your teeth

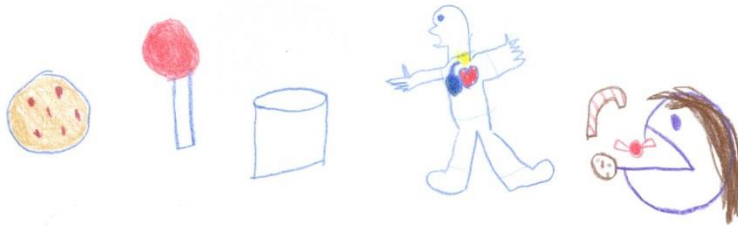
THE TRUTH:

ECM (Evil candy mussels) will make your entire body explode. Yes, the human body has the incredibly weird ability to explode. Because of that, scientists ask moms and dads not to let their children eat too much candy. When the ECM activate the candy-exploding device inside your body (the exploding device is next to your heart), there is no turning it off. Don't believe me? This is proven by the candy expedition by Miss Candace Cane. Here is what happened.

In the candy expedition or CE, Miss Cane was a famous candy creator and made only two kinds of candy...milk and dark chocolate. Soon, she got bored with the two kinds of chocolate and decided to go on an adventure to find different kinds of other candy. In many different countries, she sampled all the many different kinds of candy and discovered cookies, lollipops, marshmallows, and many other kinds of sweets. During the CE, Miss Cane had eaten over 300 pieces of candy! The ECM had already activated by then.

One day, Miss Cane had discovered a red and white candy in the shape of a cane. She called it a Candy Cane. When she invented it, her body thought if it ate one more piece of candy, she will explode. Sadly, Miss Candy Cane ate the candy and she exploded. This adventure came to be known as The Candy Expedition (or TCE).

So, now you know why it is important to not eat too much candy or you will be like Miss Cane. Make sure to listen to your parents, and do not eat too much candy!

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders


RULE #59:
Clean your room

OFFICIAL REASON:
So it stays neat

THE TRUTH:

You don't want big T-Rex shirts and long-legged pants to come back to rule this world again. They might destroy us all.

Yes it's true, there were once terrifying creatures that almost took over our world. They are creatures that live in your room that want to take over this planet, but hopefully you keep them in your dresser. Right? Well they aren't just shirts that you put on, they are monsters or as I like to call them, terrifying beasts. One time I didn't clean my room and all the shirts in my room that were on the floor got up onto the bed and made a humongous pile of dirty clothes.

Warning: DON'T LEAVE YOUR CLOTHES ON THE GROUND! They are clothes that like to be left out but that can't happen anymore because they want to take over again.

Now for the long-legged pants. I don't think you want to get me started with the long-legged pants. But, I will tell you anyway. Now these are the nasty ones. They are the ones that throw dust bunnies and shoot dirt. I don't know why. They just do. They are the dangerous ones so watch out! If you eat food in your room and you don't finish then they are going to eat it and leave crumbs. And if you leave your dresser drawer open they all are going to get out.

I heard that back in the old days those pants were gigantic creatures that ruled the world. That's why before they destroyed our world they shrunk them to a smaller size. That's why we keep dresser drawers shut, so the T-Rex shirts and long-legged pants don't escape. Keep your room nice and tidy PLEASE!

Now you know the real reason why you should clean your room. Make sure that you clean up after yourself 24/7 or our world might be ruled by clothing monsters. If you don't clean your room it will just get messier because those terrible monsters will make it worse.



William Hicks

May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE # 69

Take out the trash

OFFICIAL REASON:

So it doesn't smell



THE TRUTH:

The truth is if you don't take out the trash it mutates and will attack. When you put the trash into the garbage can it's at its early stages of mutation which is smell. Scientists have calculated about 76% of the deaths in the US are caused by trash bag mutation (or TBM). When you put the trash into the garbage can it is still mutating at a high rate. Within 48 hours of putting the trash into the can it will be fully mutated. If you see a fully mutated trash bag avoid it and call the National Mutated Trash Bag Association (or NMTBA). When angered it goes on a complete rampage and will destroy everything in its path.

When mutated it takes a form that is so ugly it puts people into shock when they see it. It has taken up to three years to be stopped. Have you ever heard of the town Hills Pine, Alabama? You probably haven't because it was destroyed by a trash bag mutant.

Hills Pines was eaten off the map. It was the very first trash bag mutant case and the most disastrous. What happened was a boy named Bobby didn't take out the trash. It mutated in his bedroom and destroyed his entire town. He was the only survivor. But it didn't stop there. It went on to the airport of Alabama and was taken down there.

These are the true reasons you take out the trash.



Hanna Ali

May 17, 2016

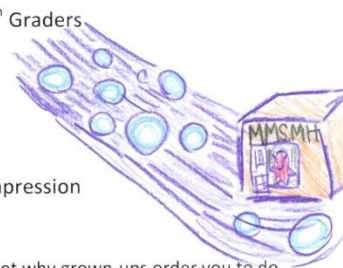
The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #87

Behave in Public

OFFICIAL REASON:

Because it makes a good impression



THE TRUTH:

Of course it's polite to behave in public, but that's not why grown-ups order you to do it...

You could unleash the big, bad, beastly, monster, (or the B.B.B.M) inside you. When you go wild in public, the energy of the attention rush to a mean, mad, secret monster headquarters (or the M.M.S.M.H.), is just waiting for that monster energy to pay a visit.

There are four steps for turning into a monster. First: you start to get hairy. Next: you get really angry. If a monster wasn't angry, it wouldn't be as dangerous, and wouldn't have the urge to turn the human race into soufflé. Last: you get razor sharp claws (meant for slicing the flesh of an incredibly unlucky civilian), Then: you grow insanely large canines (meant for sinking your evil, bloodthirsty, fangs into the poor, innocent dirt, and creating a planet-destroying, tornado/earthquake/volcano/hurricane/what-ever-other-undiscovered-natural-disasters-are-out-there-on-this-strange-strange-planet).

Grown-ups say that a long, long, long, long, long, long, long, long time ago, cavemen were the only "people" out there but that's not true... the only "people" out there were the B.B.B.Ms. Years after years we got more obsessively aware of how we looked, and a *teensy* bit more intelligent (no offense cavemen). Therefore professional scientists found out that if the human race would act more civilized we would look much, much, *much*, more attractive. Of course we immediately took action, which is why the human race looks how we are.

Therefore, you should never, ever, ever, ever, ever, ever, *not* behave in public.



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #99
Brush your teeth

OFFICIAL REASON:
So you don't get yellow and disgusting teeth

THE TRUTH:

You get these little things in your teeth called BM or "baby marshmallows." They have faces and go between your teeth.

They act like little creatures but they're just in your mouth. They are as small as a lady bug but they can't fly and the BM "baby marshmallows" have creepy little faces. Their face looks like a tarantula.

They are really scary in the mirror. When you look it's so scary that the mirror might even break. When they go into your teeth it is very hard to get them away. Basically you have to brush your teeth for 10 minutes, 2 times a day, for 1 month.

When you get them you didn't like brushing your teeth so it's very hard to get them away. When they're between your teeth they make your teeth rotten. They eat away at your teeth. It is so ugly when you brush your teeth. If you don't brush for 10 minutes guess what happens? The BM "baby marshmallows" eat your toothbrush. Basically what happens is when you are brushing your teeth they eat the toothpaste and make it all dirty and then they throw it all back on your teeth.

That is what happens when you don't brush your teeth for a while.



Kathleen Becker



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #100
Do not get a midnight snack

OFFICIAL REASON:
It would give you a bellyache when you wake up in the morning

THE TRUTH:

The midnight hour is when all the ghosts come to eat a late night dinner.

Every night when the clock strikes midnight, you hear your grandfather clock play a tune. That's when the ghosts come. Some ghouls like to enter through the walls and doors while others like to teleport. You also hear spooky, scary sounds when phantoms enter the abode.

Ghosts set up the dining room table to begin their feast. They place down plates and glasses on the table. They also set down napkins with forks, knives, and spoons to get ready to begin their feast.

Ghosts eat and drink just about anything. They go through your refrigerator to see what delicious dessert items, such as cake, cupcakes, cookies, and ice-cream they can seek to go with their meal. They put food in the oven, such as steak, pork, chicken, salmon, tuna, flounder, and any other items to eat.

Many terrorizing ghosts like to feast when the clock strikes midnight. They eat like it's a buffet and like it's their own home. They search your whole kitchen to find what they need to begin feasts. They leave ectoplasm when they leave the house they broke into. You find your kitchen plates and glasses in shards the next morning when you wake up to eat breakfast. Don't ever get up to get a midnight snack.



May 16, 2016



Gabrielle Birkland

May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders



RULE #101:
Don't eat all the snacks

OFFICIAL REASON:
You would waste food



THE TRUTH:

If you eat all the snacks, you will anger the soundless monster in the house that is getting a snack. If you get a midnight snack, the greedy monster would be mad. It would take every food you have, and stomp away to its cave taking what it has with it. It would waste more and more food, leading the monster to come back again and again when you go shopping.

You can call the monster a Sneaky Hungry Monster. Of course, the monster would bring its friends after it has eaten its lunch so we can't take "their food." Since the monster is not forgetful, it would bring its friends to share the food. The monster's friends and the monster would make an untidy mess after they're finished. Those monsters are very selfish when it comes to eating food.

Besides that, the monster would never stop coming no matter what, even if you move to a different house. The monster has a tracking device of your food to see if the fridge is empty or not, and if it is, it would know you either went shopping or you moved to a new house.

You would never want to go in and get a snack ever again after you heard the TRUE stories that can happen to you. You could follow my advice and not eat too many snacks, or you would make a bad decision and make the monster angry. This is all up for you to decide.



James Zayatz

May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders



RULE #103
Do not stay outside past dark



OFFICIAL REASON:

You might get hurt and it will be getting late, which means that it is getting close to your bedtime.

THE TRUTH:

The truth is that while you are inside getting ready for bed, your trees are throwing a party. Yes, trees. And their parties last until daybreak.

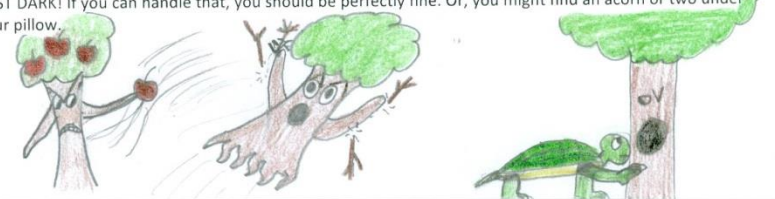
The trees throw these playful parties due to one thing, HS (Human Stareaphobia). Your trees get looked at by humans so much that they slowly develop HS, which causes them to go insane at night. They express themselves in many, many, many, and in case I didn't say it, many ways.

First off, the risk-taking and especially the daredevil trees, such as Oak, have leaf-diving competitions that can get very out of hand. The famous cannon-bark dive sends hundreds of acorns zipping through the air faster than the fastest jet known to man. That is why two in every six people find acorns in places close to their windows, such as living rooms, bedrooms, and sometimes even kitchens. The ungraceful jack-trunk dive jostles the giant jumpers so much that some trees crack their limbs. This splitting motion splinters the judges, which doesn't give the trees the best score or the trees' bodies the best treatment.

Some trees get too crazy at these parties and hurt other trees. These absurd trees are usually apple trees, probably because their apples are rotten beyond the point of even worms being able to eat them. Branches snap as trees slap. The apple trees turn apple juice into apple PUNCH, literally! Also, some absolutely, positively insane trees take everything that they see, besides other trees, and stuff them in the owl holes inside them. This is why there has been an extreme decrease in Tennessee Tree-Touching-Turtles in the Tennessee area.

Even though almost all of the trees in your yard are extremely energized, Weeping Willows are not. Even if you think you do not have these trees in your yard, you do! They can stretch and bend their trunks so much that they fit inside the trunks of the trees that you can see in your yard. They can stretch like this because of their extreme yoga classes they take during the parties. The Willows consider any living distraction as another member of the yoga class. That means that the distraction, whatever it is, must do the impossible yoga up until the break of day. The yoga stretches so strongly that it can throw the trees' roots out with ease, let alone a human's back.

However, there is one way to prevent yourself from having to endure all of this: DO NOT STAY OUT PAST DARK! If you can handle that, you should be perfectly fine. Or, you might find an acorn or two under your pillow.



Emily Barlotta

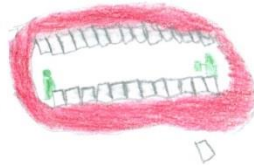


The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

May 17, 2016

RULE #286:
Brush your teeth

OFFICIAL REASON:
So you don't get a cavity

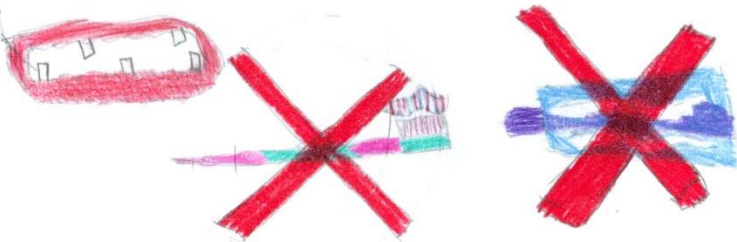


The TRUTH:

The truth is that MG (microscopic goblins) are going to try to haul out your teeth so they can move right on in. First the MG try to loosen your teeth. Trust me it all begins with a tiny voice in your humongous head forcing you to devour all of the sweets you can get your hands on.

Then they convince you to eat things that are as hard as a boulder. Then the MG tries to make you get a super painful cavity. They screen pictures of solid sticky caramel candies into your head. Next when your parents tell you to brush your teeth the MG convince your brain to skip. Now the MG finally try to make some space.

It all begins when the MG decide they want to use your precious teeth as punching bags. Then they tell your brain to wiggle your teeth until they finally aren't there. Don't believe me? Then go talk to Aunt Sally about how she lost her teeth. Oh, yeah, and by the way, don't forget to ask Uncle Joe as well.



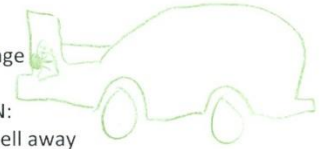
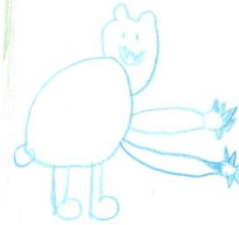
Wyatt Hassenmayer

May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #420
Take out the garbage

OFFICIAL REASON:
Because it keeps the smell away



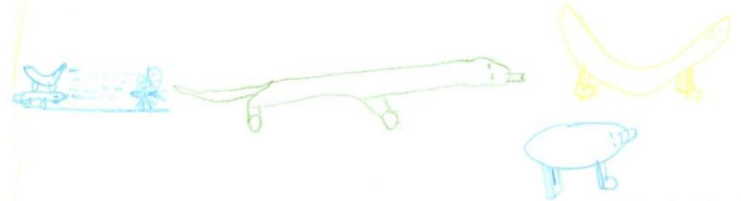
THE TRUTH:

Any leftover food will come alive and eat you because you tried to eat it. Once there was a war between man and food. Don't you kids ever read your history books? Haven't you ever seen the show "Man vs. Food"? Don't you know who we were fighting in the Revolutionary War?

All the animals don't want another war between food and man so they eat our food for us that we don't need. That's why fat and chubby bears knock over our garbage cans so they can eat the horrendous, mean, lowlife food before it comes alive. You should thank the fat and chubby bears. Also, that's why you feed the bucktooth deer your bread. The deer eat your bread because they're like us. The gluten inside it won't eat away at our organs because we are special.

Garbage trucks come to take away your garbage and crush it before it's too late. They put it in metal trucks for a reason. That reason is because the food is very strong and if it comes alive in the truck and the truck was plastic or glass it could break out. They never ever miss a day so they can prevent the war from happening. That's also why I'm going to become a garbage man when I grow up. You should become a garbage man and save the world every week just like I'm going to.

You also have to watch out for the banana mice. Those are very deadly, unlike the pepperoni frogs, which are only harmful if they get mad and shoot poison at you. You might want to be extra careful of the celery salamanders. They eat their food brothers and sisters just to watch you starve. Eventually you will learn what to do if another war happens and hopefully you'll take my advice. Now remember the consequences or else.



Samantha Hadley

May 17, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #597:

Don't interact with people online

OFFICIAL REASON:

They could harm you and track you down



THE TRUTH:

The "people" inside the computer are actually gremlins in disguise as humans and when you open your mouth to speak to them they yank you in the computer and torture you with your worst nightmare.

When you are online you are very vulnerable to other "people". You may think someone is your friend, but when you go to talk to them they turn on you and yank you in the computer.

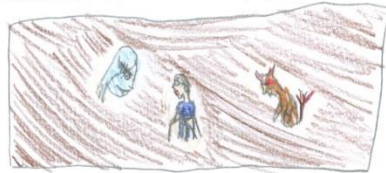
It first happened in 2010 when an old guy named Bob Weselworth was talking to his "granddaughter". She started to talk to him sweetly, and then asked a question. When he tried to reply she yanked him into the computer screen. Well I hope you see now that not everyone is your friend. Even if you think you know them well you may not. They could still be gremlins! They will attack when they see you even move your lips.

Gremlins have developed since 2010. They can now jump out of the computer in their human disguise. Here are 3 signs that will tell you if they are gremlins:

1. They might make some very unique and strange sounds like, "Mamtonias" or "Youtahi"
 2. They eat like pigs. If you give them food they will shove it in their face without giving it a second thought
 3. They have extremely long necks with a lot of long, gray hair on the back of their neck
- Those are some things you may want to look out for.

Don't worry. There is a way to kill them. The materials that you will need to kill them are a fly swatter, pepper spray, and an orange that is peeled. What you then need to do is take the fly swatter and spritz the pepper spray on it. Then put down the fly swatter with pepper spray on a flat surface and take the peeled orange and squeeze the orange on the swatter. This will create a vibrant orangey-reddish color on the fly swatter. What you might want to do, if you have it, is spray paint the swatter the same color so it will look like a normal fly swatter. That will relieve the gremlin's suspicions. Once you approach them with the swatter, you have to smack them in the face 3 times.

So now you see what talking to people on the internet can lead to. I hope you never make the mistake that Bob Weselworth made.



Madison Gillan

May 16, 2016

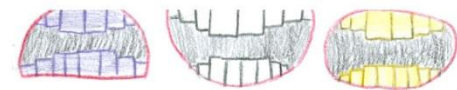
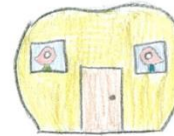
Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #708:

brush your teeth before bed

OFFICIAL REASON:

so you won't get cavities and your breath won't smell bad



THE TRUTH:

The truth is that tiny men called Cavity Citizens live inside your teeth. If you don't brush your teeth before bed, the Cavity Citizens will get angry. Most of the citizens that live inside your teeth are germophobes, so they like their hometown, called Mouth Mania, to be clean. If I were you, I'd never forget to brush my teeth before bed because your Cavity Citizens will not be happy. Trust me. You do not want them to be frustrated.

If your citizens are not happy you will definitely notice. If they are angry, your teeth will feel hollow because the Cavity Citizens have left their "houses" in protest. Also, you won't be able to eat because your citizens will refuse to operate the chewing system from the Great Big Tooth, or the GBT. The GBT is a highly technical tooth that allows you to move your jaw up and down. If you haven't brushed your teeth in over a week, you will probably hear a faint voice repeating "Error." This is the effect of the GBT not being used for a week.

If you want to know if your Cavity Citizens are angry, then look at the color of your teeth. If your teeth are white, then that means your citizens are happy. This means you probably brush your teeth every day. If your teeth are yellow, then this means your citizens are annoyed. Yellow teeth mean you probably only brush your teeth twice a week. If your teeth are black, your citizens are gone because you have never brushed your teeth before and your breath smells horrifying.

Purple teeth mean your Cavity Citizens have spray-painted your teeth purple, and you really need to go see a dentist.

Now that you know the truth, all you have to do is keep your Cavity Citizens happy. I would not recommend forgetting to brush your teeth ever again because if I were you, I would want to eat.



John Nagy

May 16, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #836:

Don't gobble your food as fast as you can.

OFFICIAL REASON

It is rude and disgusting.

THE TRUTH:

First, when food is on the way down it grabs a chunk of skin off your throat causing a cough. The cough may be painful, last a while and also have a Pain in Your Neck (PIYN) which will last for about an hour. Don't worry about the bloody beast now in your body if there is a bloody taste.

Next, the food sucks the water and all other fluids from your body. This may make you extremely thirsty today. Don't worry about the Crazy Lightheaded Syndrome (CLS). It goes away eventually. Also, try to go to the bathroom soon so the next step doesn't hurt.

Finally, it comes out as a painful digestion. You may take a while in the bathroom with Painful Digestion (PD). You will want to bring a couple of bananas and something to entertain you.

So, for your own good, don't eat or gobble food as fast as you can. This may cause you a lot of problems on the tangy toilet in the big bathroom. Trust me; this is not an outstanding experience. I know this because I've been through it. So try not to get Fast Food Gobbling Syndrome (FFGS).



The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #911:

Don't play too many video games

OFFICIAL REASON:

It's bad for you to look at the screen too long

THE TRUTH:

The truth is that you will get sucked into the video game and all the video game characters will come out of the video game and take over the world.

This has happened before but at that time they called them the GRPD or the giant realistic pixelated dudes and they still call them GRPD. When this happened for the first time they declared it as World War 2... and a half. The American Army was sending in air support but it ended in a defeat. It finally ended when the British came in their fancy clothes and their tea and scared the GRPD away.

If this happens to you don't call 911 because that's the rule number. Which means don't call 911. It would be a disaster, so don't do it. I would prefer to call the British instead and tell them to wear their fanciest clothes and bring their freshest tea. You don't even want to know what happened to little Liam. Now that was a huge disaster. It's a good thing he called the British. I almost forgot you can also call the President to break it down. Then they will really run for the hills.





Adam Slate

May 16, 2016

The Secret Knowledge of 5th Graders

RULE #999:
Don't play video games all night

OFFICIAL REASON:

It is bad for your eyes and you will be exhausted the next day.

THE TRUTH:

The truth is that it will burn your eyes and you will be tired but when you play all night the game characters will come out and grow on you!

Back in 1989 people experienced this strange phenomenon by playing the ATARI all night. The first person who experienced it was Johnny Cathead. He played all night and then the characters came out and grew into his organs.

This kept happening all over the world but one tiny kid survived. Joann Witworth had them. She figured out if she ate a lot that it would get rid of them but it had its downside. She would get fat.

She ate and ate until all of the little characters were gone. Then she told all of her friends that if you ate they would be gone and none of them believed her. So they have them and she doesn't.

That's why grown ups tell you not to play video games all night or that will happen to you.

