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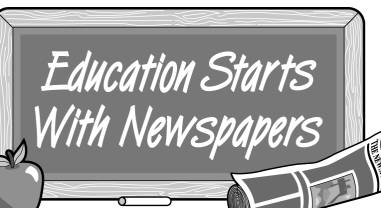
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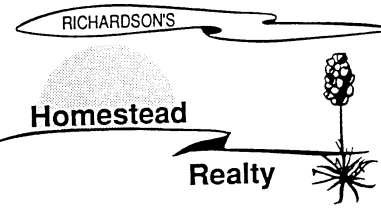
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Elizabeth Ruiz (above) displayed the results of her test of which wrap keeps cut apples the freshest in the refrigerator at the Grant Junior High science fair Friday. The “winner” was waxed paper. Arielle Bonsall (middle) demonstrated her tornado, and Jillian Parker (bottom) told a visitor about her taste test. Photos by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

## Grant Junior High tests science

### Students test a variety of hypotheses

By Sharon Corcoran  
The Goodland Star-News

Where can you see a tornado in a glass box, baby pheasants, bowls of cereal and a demonstration of how to tell you have hard water? At a science fair, of course.

Students at Grant Junior High had a variety of projects for their science fair, many giving them an excuse to play or to eat.

One student had to know which brand of paint balls is the best, so he tested it out. Whitney Archer wanted to know which brand of popcorn leaves the fewest unpopped kernels. She found out it was Act II.

Several students tested which brand of cereal stays crisp longer in milk; others tested whether students could tell the name brand from the store brand.

Does the way your food look and smell influence how it tastes? Students found that in some cases it does. Jillian Parker said the appearance of yogurt influenced people's taste more than that of grape juice and that the appearance of granola bars hardly made a difference.



One student tested whether others could tell Diet Coke from Diet Pepsi and found out 13 out of 25 could not; 12 could.

Brian Boyce found that the acid in Coca Cola dissolves coins. The soda contains phosphoric acid, he said, which is used in fertilizers and soaps. That could make you pause before taking a sip.

Would you know if someone was lying to you by his body language? Danielle Bedore found that she could usually tell. She asked fellow students a series of 15 questions and told them to lie on four of them. Bedore said she could usually tell which ones they lied on because they looked away and their voices changed.

Caleb Lucas, whose parents own Nature's Sparkle Water Conditioning, did a demonstration of how to tell hard water from pure water and how to measure your water's hardness.

Steve Mangus examined the reasons for the decline in the pheasant population, and Arielle Bonsall figured out that the most common month for tornadoes in Kansas is May.

Addressing a less serious issue, Alegra Ragels found that a student is able to put up to 94 gummy bears in his mouth at once. And she made an interesting observation about her research: “A guy has a way bigger mouth than a girl.”

Who has the cleanest mouth, a human, a dog or a cat? What is the most popular style of music among junior high students? What is the most popular type of fingerprint? If these are burning questions on your mind, ask a junior high student. Some of them have figured out the answers.

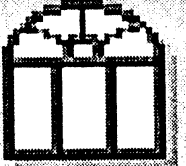




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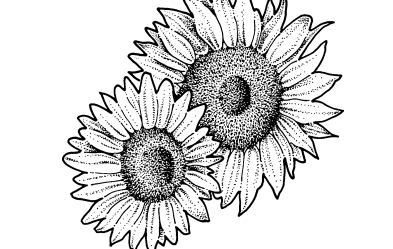
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