

# SKYTALKING



with



## ARISTOTLE & BURGEOO

A Newspaper for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Graders

Vol. FOUR-Early Winter 2014-15

### Burgoo's Christmas Tree



More discussion about  
Burgoo's Tree in Burgoo's Blog

# KANSAS ANIMALS

## ANTELOPE & DEER



**Oh, Give Me a Home, Where the Buffalo Roam,  
And the DEER and the ANTELOPE Play;**

**EVERYONE knows the Kansas State Song, don't they?  
Well, why does the song mention the deer and the antelope?**

WHEN KANSAS WAS BEING SETTLED,  
BACK in DAYS of LONG AGO;  
THERE WERE LOTS of GRASSY PRAIRIES,  
THAT WAVED WHEN WINDS DID BLOW.

AND GRAZING in THOSE PRAIRIES,  
THOSE PRAIRIES GREEN and VAST;  
WERE MANY BEAUTIFUL ANIMALS,  
AND SOME COULD RUN SO FAST!

THERE WERE ANTELOPES and BISON  
and SEVERAL KINDS of DEER;  
And THESE ANIMALS WERE VERY PLENTIFUL,  
IN the LAND of the PIONEER!



### PRONGHORN ANTELOPE

ADULTS weigh between 75-100 lbs.

DIET is usually grasses and forbs.

During the early 1800's, it is estimated that 10 to 15 million antelope roamed across our Kansas prairies. Now, it is estimated that only 5,000 live in our state.



### WHITE TAIL DEER

ADULT MALES can weigh up to 400 lbs.

DIET can be numerous plants (grasses and forbs) and grain (corn) and acorns.

(Deer can be very adaptable)

The deer population dropped tremendously in Kansas in the early 1900s but now is growing rapidly again.

The white tail deer is more common in eastern Kansas because they prefer a more wooded habitat.

### NEW WORDS:

**VAST** - Large; Huge; A **vast** prairie is a (Adjective) prairie covering a large area.

**PRAIRIE** - A broad area of level or rolling (Noun) land that is covered with grasses.

**FORB** - A herb or plant that is NOT a grass. (noun) Clover, milkweed and sunflowers are examples of forbs.

# The ADVENTURES of MORGAN P. MOUSINGTON

THE FOURTH EPISODE of a NEW ADVENTURE for MORGAN and his FAMILY



In our last episode, Morgan P. Mousington was stuck in some rocks and his sister was helping him get free. As they were discussing the best way of getting him out of the rocks, a group of marmots saw the two mice from down the road.

"I say, it looks like that something is stuck up-side-down in the that pile of rocks," said the marmot that was pulling the wagon.

"Let me see," yelled the marmot in the back of the wagon. "I can't see anything from clear back here."

This marmot in the back then climbed out of the wagon and peered toward the rock pile.

"By George, I believe you are correct. If those legs that are sticking up in the air are attached to a body, then I believe a young mouse might be stuck... And, as you say.... It is stuck up-side-down."

A third marmot crawled out of the wagon to look, as well. After this marmot nodded in agreement that someone appeared to be stuck, he began thumbing through a book he was holding. He soon stopped turning pages and he began to point at something in the book.

"It says here in The Marmot Rescue Manual," said the marmot, "that if we see someone stuck up-side-down in a rockpile or a woodpile, we are to sound the sirens and proceed to perform a rescue."

"Well, of course we should perform a rescue," said the marmot that was pulling the wagon. "But do we need to sound the sirens if we are this close to the someone that is stuck?"

"I don't think it matters how close we are," replied the marmot holding the book. "It merely says to 'sound the sirens.'"

"Okay," said the first marmot. "Marcellus...sound the sirens."

A smaller marmot stepped out of the wagon. He was holding an object that looked a little like a small trumpet. He held the instrument up to his lips and began to blow.

"OOOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOO" came the sound from the marmot's shiny instrument. The sound of the "siren" was very loud and it carried throughout the area.

"Wow, that is a good, loud sound, Marcellus," said the head marmot. "You must have been practicing!"

As Marcellus nodded, all of the marmots jumped back into the wagon and the head marmot began pulling the full wagon toward the rockpile. Marcellus continued to make the siren sound as the wagon proceeded toward the rock pile.

"OOOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOOOWEEEEOOOOOO."

The wagon quickly arrived and all of the marmots jumped out and began to gather supplies from the wagon bed. Marcellus continued to blow his "siren." Melanie had been watching this and didn't want them to be making this much noise.

"SSSSSHHHH," said Melanie to the head marmot. "Must you make so much noise with that siren?"

"Well, that's what marmots do when they are members of the Marmot Rescue Squad," replied the head marmot. "We are very proud of what we do. Why shouldn't we make noise?"

"Well, I don't want my father to hear all of this noise and start looking this way. He doesn't know we are here and he will be angry if he finds out," replied Melanie.

"Why will your father be angry?" asked the head marmot.

As Melanie began to tell the head marmot the story of what had happened, the other marmots were climbing onto the rock pile and had started talking to Morgan.

"Can you hear us down there?" yelled one of the marmots, leaning over the pile of rocks where Morgan was stuck.

"Yes, I can hear you," replied Morgan.

"Good," said one of the marmots. "Now, we need to ask you a few questions before we get started. Then we can get you out of there!"

"Okay," replied Morgan. "I will answer your questions."

"First question. Are you up-side-down?"

"Well, of course I am up-side-down! My feet would not be up in the air if I wasn't up-side-down!"

Just then Mr. Mousington arrived and saw Melanie and what appeared to be Morgan's legs, way up in the air, sticking out from the rockpile.

**TO BE CONTINUED !**



## BURGOO'S BLOG

Hey There, Students! I'll bet you saw my Christmas Tree on the front page of the newspaper! Well, let me explain some things about the tree and how it came about.



Early  
December,  
2014

First, you may have noticed that it doesn't look like the TRADITIONAL Christmas Tree. It is a PALM tree! Aristotle and I argued a little about using this kind of tree. As you could probably guess, we don't have the usual type of Christmas tree growing on our gulf coast. I told him I thought that this one would work just fine! And I thought I decorated the tree really nice! What do you think????

I offered some of my friends the chance to hang their stockings on my tree for Santa to fill. I have even baked some starfish shaped cookies for Santa to snack on when he comes! You may have noticed that there are a few friend's stockings on there from characters you may not know. I will introduce you to them in the next several issues of our newspaper.

My friends and I are also going to sing some Christmas Songs at our party on the beach. Here's one song we are working on now:



On the first day of Christmas,  
my Momma gave to me,  
A Seagull in a Palm Tree!



On the second day of Christmas,  
my Momma gave to me,  
Two crabs baking cookies, and  
A Seagull in a Palm Tree!

BY THE WAY, Mr. Robbins and Haley will be emailing the "final instructions" for the "Request for Stories" about your Winter Break. This will be the time that you can write a story about how you spent your Winter Break and what exciting thing or things happened! (I think I am going to have one of my stories included in the email that Haley will send. That way you will be able to see how long the stories should be and things like that.)