


# THE WAY WE SEE IT

A group of five young boys are posing in a large, leafy tree. One boy is perched high on a branch in the upper right, wearing a white Under Armour t-shirt and blue shorts. Another boy is on a branch to the left, wearing a blue t-shirt and a blue baseball cap with 'AF' on it. In the center, a boy with glasses and a black hoodie is leaning on a branch. In the foreground, a boy in a grey t-shirt is looking towards the camera. On the right, another boy in a dark blue t-shirt and a white baseball cap with 'US' on it is smiling. The background is filled with green leaves and branches, suggesting a park or wooded area.

**Breaking.** Blake Wickham (8), Keith Bernat (8), Chase Kershner (8), Devin Perez (8), and Shane Wickham (8), pose in a tree at the Day in Denver field trip this past September. After a long day in the hot sun, they cool down and take a break under the shade of the tree. During the trip, you run around the city trying to locate 30 different locations within a two hour time period. Devin said, "It was a great experience, to get in a new environment for the day. It was an enjoyable time to get out of the stuffy classroom and spend time with friends," and Blake said "That he had a good time wandering around Denver with his friends and just not being in class."

# student life...

We took another step towards growing up.  
As we tried to figure out who we were.  
Some things became clear,  
our interests, our dislikes, our friends.  
While others things remained a mystery.  
How to heal a broken heart.  
How to work when you don't care.  
How to get more sleep.  
How to deal with braces.

We learned a lot about ourselves, and each other.  
We explored our passions, tried on different hats...  
Drama, Art, Writing, Robotics, Interact, Track.

Sometimes we felt out of place, lost and confused.  
What was my locker combo again?  
Was it a Blue day or Silver day?  
Did we have homework?  
Should I ask him out?  
Will she want to be friends?  
But through the uncertainty, we found comfort.  
Comfort in our awkwardness.  
The similarities in our diversities,  
are what made us, us.

Some days were better than others.  
Fridays, the day before a break, snow days.  
While others lasted forever...  
MAP testing and CMAS!  
But in reality, we loved it (most of it).  
Loved being in school, with each other.  
As classmates and as friends.

The friendships bonded us,  
Even if our cliques sometimes clashed.  
But in the end, they brought us closer.  
Closer as students, closer as friends.

We learned about how to interact,  
How to become better versions of ourselves,  
Through our gossip, fights and friends...  
The good and the bad times.  
This is how we, the students, saw it.

**Cheesin'!** Diana Tour (7) and Sierra Johnson (7), gather around Mrs. D'Amico's door, smiling. Even when math class is slightly boring or it isn't the most fun, at least these two friends have each other. **Learning Together.** William Blevins (8) and Reid Taylor (7) became closer friends when Reid was at teacher's aide for Ms. Kenton. For that entire trimester, Reid helped Billy and Ms. Kenton and learned from them both. **WEB.** Dawn Knapp (8) and Cassandra Clate (8) gather at a WEB meeting. You can tell they're good friends. WEB is a good way to bring people together, eighth and sixth graders.

