

# UP-HILL BATTLE

Our question was, "Have you hiked a 14er before?" and these adventurers responded.

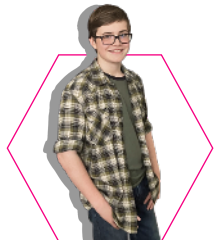
By Mataya Farling and Aleah Bettles



"Gray's Peak: It was a hard climb. It took a long time, and we had to bring these backpacks full of water," Isaiah Gonzales (7) said. "It was super hot."



"I hiked Gray's Peak. It was hard at first, but then it got easier, but then it was hard to breathe. When I got to the top I felt really rewarded," Lizzy Burgess (8) said.



"I hiked Mount Albert. It was difficult, but it got easier as we went because I got used to the pain," Lincoln Wicke (8) said.

# COUNTRY ROADS

Explorers travel around the Colorado Mountains all summer long. Story by Aleah Bettles and Laina Wood

When Coloradoans talk about escaping to the mountains, some picture snow covered beautiful peaks offer more, especially in the summer. Those activities include zip lining peak to peak, camping, mountain biking, and rock climbing.

Science teacher Jacob Underwood's favorite thing to do in the mountains over the summer was hiking. "I enjoy it because I like getting outside and seeing all the cool stuff that is really close to our home. We don't have to go far to get into the mountains to see all these pieces of beautiful scenery and

**COLORFUL COLORADO.** While hiking 30 miles over three days with her father, Nora Butler (8) eats breakfast near the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness Area. On this morning, they finally saw a moose.

wildlife," Underwood said.

Others prefer to spend their time in the mountains getting their toes wet...like literally. "When we go to the mountains over the summer, we go to the hot springs," Jayla Garrido (6) said.

Sometimes those mountains can be unpredictable, though. Take Cambryn Henderson (8) for example. "I was on the steps about to go up to my condo, and a grizzly bear was just standing there. I screamed at the top of my lungs," Henderson said.

All taken into account, one thing's for sure: Colorado is always an adventure.



**WHAT A TROLL.** On the Trollstigen Trail in Breckenridge, Westin Brees (6) and family pose in front of the 15 ft. troll created in 1970 for the International Arts Festival. "I always do a really tiny walk with my family when I'm there," Brees said.





photo donated by amy junker



photo donated by mearissa hickman

**SAY CHEESE!** At Garden of the Gods in Colorado Springs, Sunny Bolen (6) hangs out with her best friend. "We were going on a three day trip to Manitou Springs, and we stopped to take a selfie. My favorite part of the trip was hanging out with her for the first time," Bolen said.



photo donated by meahle brownlee

**CRUISING ALONG.** Justin Brownlee (7) goes for a drive. "I drove the go cart around with my cousin at my aunt's house," Brownlee said. **COOKING IT UP.** While camping, Taylor Nickel (6) hunts for food. "I was looking for mushrooms in the wilderness to serve with steak," Nickel said.

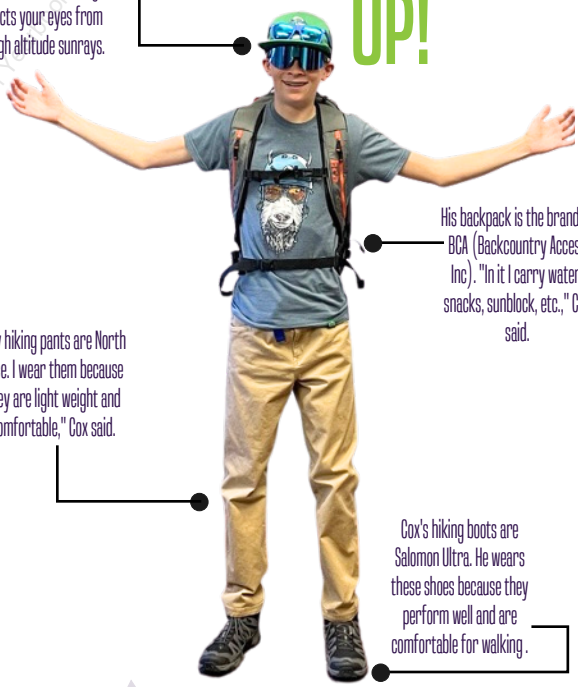


photo donated by tara nickel

# ALL GEARED UP!

Henry Cox (8) demonstrates appropriate hiking gear.  
By Aleah Bettis and Laina Wood

"My sunglasses are Bliz," Cox said. Wearing sunglasses while hiking protects your eyes from the high altitude sunrays.



His backpack is the brand of BCA (Backcountry Access Inc). "In it I carry water, snacks, sunblock, etc.," Cox said.

"My hiking pants are North Face. I wear them because they are light weight and comfortable," Cox said.

Cox's hiking boots are Salomon Ultra. He wears these shoes because they perform well and are comfortable for walking.

# R A D D O