The Principal’s Challenge

Dear Johnson Families:

The “Principal Challenge” is a mystery. My vision of this challenge is you and your family would talk about this “mystery” and brainstorm what you think happened. Below is a short story leading up to the mystery of the photograph. Below are also some guiding questions you might ask your children. The point is to explore and generate conversation. This should be a family activity rather than each child solving the mystery. If you come up with a story as a family that you would like to submit, simply email it to me at gdawson@psdschools.org. I am excited to read what families come up with. I do have my idea of what happened and will post it at the end of the week. The fun will be to see how much your story and what I think happened match.

**The Story**:

Most days, I walk my dogs, a Pyrenees (in picture with objects) and an Anatolian. These are large dogs that protect our home from the larger animals in the area (bears, mountain lions, etc). As you can see from the pictures, I live outside of town in a very wooded, wild area behind Horsetooth Rock. One day, we walked our path along our dirt road. While we walked up the road, there were no signs of any animals anywhere. However, on our way back home along the same path we took up, we ran across the scattering of these objects in the road. We were only gone from this spot for about 15 minutes. We did not hear any commotion, but when we returned to this spot, my dogs were very excited and sniffed everywhere.

As you study the picture with the dark objects in the road ask yourselves:

1. What are these things?
2. What did they come from?
3. How did what they came from lose so many?
4. What might have happened?

**The challenge (Pick an option)**

You are a forest ranger and you need to figure out what might have happened in this picture and write down the story to report to your supervisor (Mrs. Dawson).

**OR**

Figure out what happened in this picture. Figure out who the characters in your story might be and write a fictional story from the perspective of one of the characters. Again, this should be done as a family.

I will not be giving any clues or answering questions to give a family an advantage 😊. The prize is a fun conversation with your children. Have fun with this and explore.

Best to you all! Mrs. Dawson





