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The Weird, Wonderful Friendship of Aphids, Mushrooms, and Ash Trees

If you think your friend group is complicated, wait until you hear about aphids, ash bolete mushrooms, and ash trees. It's like nature's version of an awkward group project—with snacks included.

First, meet the aphids: tiny, squishy bugs that basically set up lemonade stands on ash tree roots, sipping the sap all day. They're living their best lives until the ash bolete mushroom shows up.

The ash bolete is a mushroom with a plan. Instead of minding its own fungal business, it wraps its little mushroom threads (called hyphae—bless you) around the tree roots and the aphids. And here's where it gets weird: the mushroom actually drinks some of the sweet aphid sap the bugs are slurping. Yes, it's like borrowing your neighbor's soda without asking.





Meanwhile, the ash tree—this big, patient giant—tolerates the whole situation. In return, the mushroom helps the tree absorb nutrients from the soil. The aphids get their sugary feast. Everybody wins. (Except maybe the tree's dignity.)

Isn't it amazing how God designed even the tiniest creatures to work together in strange and clever ways? From the giant ash tree to the microscopic aphid, everything has a place and purpose.

Next time you see a mushroom, a bug, or a tree, remember: God's creativity is so awesome, He invented this bizarre little friendship just because He could.

-Camp Pastor Ryan Freed







Thursday ROOM AWARDS

Handel: Room 10: Abbie L, Bethany, Maude & Olivia Mozart: Room 7: Nathalie, Ada, Erin & Raelle Strauss: Room 9: Maggie, Sienna & Avarie

Cleanest Girl's Hall: Strauss (IMPRESSIVELY clean!)

Bach: Room 2: Brendan, Felix, Zebedee **Beethoven:** Room 5: Jo, Reagan, Judah & Ellis

Cleanest Boy's Hall: Beethoven



Schedule \ Day Highlights

7:00 8:00	Wake Up Ticket to Breakfast
9:00	Session XVIII
	YOR - Choose-A-Spot
	GBB – Class - Library
10:00	Chapel
10:30	Rehearsal
12:00	Lunch
12:45	Rehearsal
1:15	Dorm Time
2:00	Recitation/Reception

Answer: Haydn seek!







Friday's Menu

Breakfast: Baked oatmeal, eggs, cereal, milk/juice

Lunch: Pork tenderloin, veggies, grapes

Reception: Punch & cookies