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# WEEKEND BREAK

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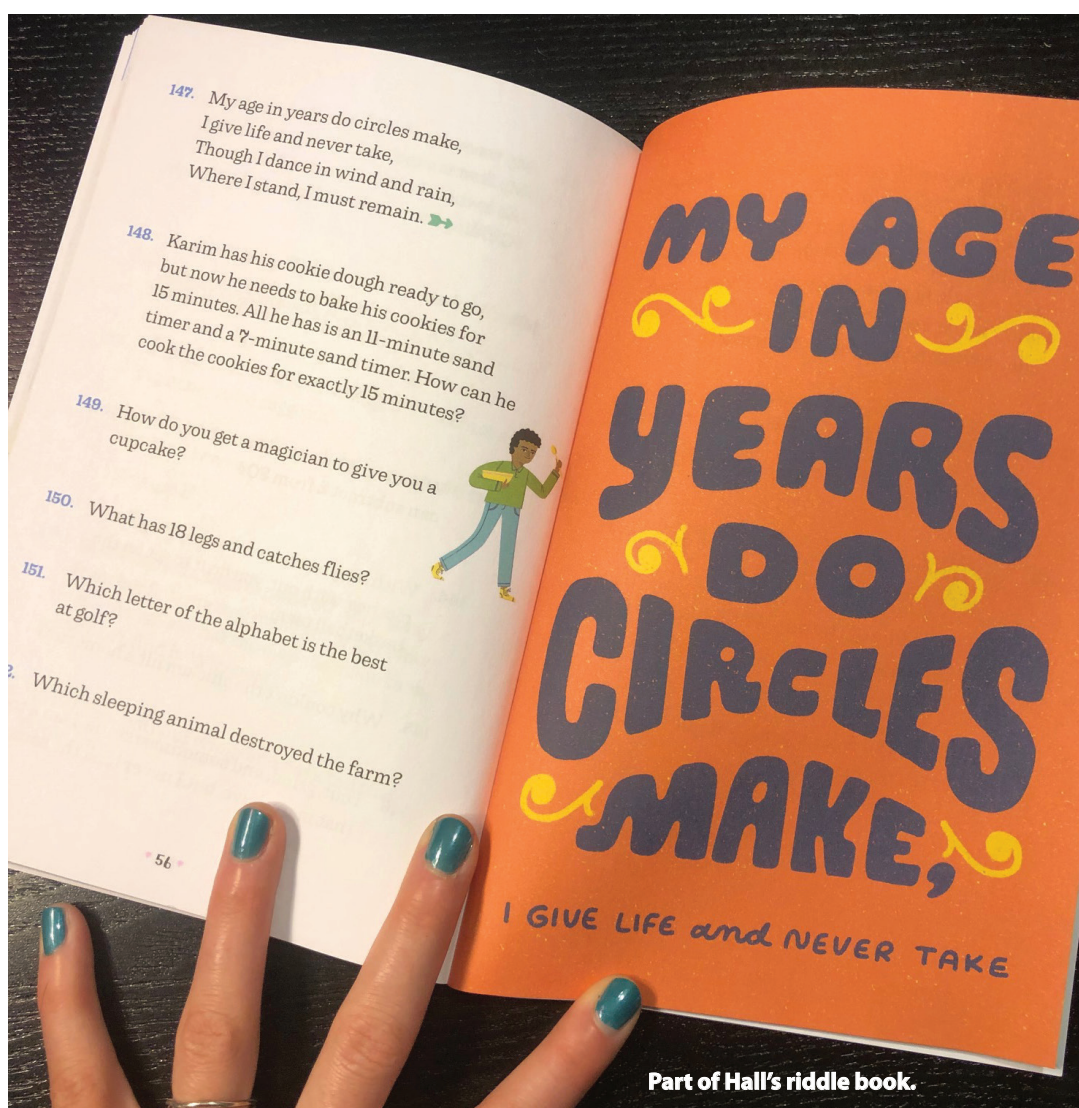
## A RIDDLE A DAY

Danielle Hall and her book, 'The Challenging Riddle Book for Kids.'

Photos by Amanda Thrasher

### Local educator showcases diverse characters in children's book

By ALYSSA EVANS  
The Astorian



Part of Hall's riddle book.

**W**hich animal gives the best hugs? How do you get a magician to give you a cupcake? What has two hands but can't hold anything?

These are just a few riddles published in Astoria resident Danielle Hall's new book, "The Challenging Riddle Book for Kids." The book, published earlier this month, features 200 riddles for children ages 9 to 12 to solve.

"I want kids to know that being able to solve a riddle is not 'Are you smart or not?'" It's not a sign of intelligence that you can solve a riddle. Sometimes it takes determination and thinking about different kinds of intelligence," Hall said. "You don't have to be smart to solve riddles, you have to be determined."

Throughout the book, Hall encourages kids to use critical thinking to solve the riddles. For example, when solving the riddle "What has two hands but can't hold anything?" the trick to solving the question is to think about all the things that have hands, then imagine human traits, Hall said.

"The answer is a clock. The question takes kids through some of the logic in riddles. Then, they can get to the answer and have a toolbox to think critically and hopefully feel more successful," Hall said.

Hall is a trained classroom teacher, who specializes in high school English. For the last few years, she's worked on creating educational resources to be used in classrooms. Her unique creations range from trivia questions to escape room puzzles.

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**THROUGHOUT THE BOOK, HALL ENCOURAGES KIDS TO USE CRITICAL THINKING TO SOLVE THE RIDDLES.**