



**2015 Colorado National Geographic State Bee
Sponsored by Google and Plum Creek
Semifinalist Press Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Local Student Named Colorado National Geographic State Bee Semifinalist by
National Geographic Society**

Student's Name: Sohan Sur

Parents' Names: Surupa Sengupta and Sumit Sur

School Name and Address: Peak to Peak Charter School 800 Merlin Drive Lafayette, CO 80026

Grade Level: 7th

The above-named student has been notified by the National Geographic Society that he is one of the semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2015 Colorado National Geographic State Bee, sponsored by Google and Plum Creek. The contest will be held at the University of Colorado-Denver on the Auraria Campus, 1381 Clermont Street in downtown Denver on Friday, March 27, 2015.

This is the second level of the National Geographic Bee competition, which is now in its 27th year. School Bees were held in schools with fourth- through eighth-grade students throughout the state to determine each school champion. School champions then took a qualifying test, which they submitted to the National Geographic Society. The National Geographic Society has invited up to 100 of the top-scoring students in each of the 50 states, District of Columbia, Department of Defense Dependents Schools and U.S. territories to compete in the state Bees.

Each state champion will receive \$100, the "National Geographic Atlas of the World, 10th Edition," a medal, and a trip to Washington, D.C., to represent their state in the National Geographic Bee Championship to be held at National Geographic Society headquarters, May 11-13, 2015. The national champion will receive a \$50,000 college scholarship and lifetime membership in the Society. The national champion will also travel (along with one parent or guardian), all expenses paid, to the Galápagos Islands, where he/she will experience geography firsthand through up-close encounters with the islands' unique wildlife and landscapes. Travel for the trip is provided by Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic. Visit www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee for more information on the National Geographic Bee.

National Geographic Channel and Nat Geo WILD will air the 2015 National Geographic Bee Championship final round, moderated by award-winning journalist Soledad O'Brien, on Friday, May 15, at 8 p.m. ET. The final round will be aired later on public television stations. Check local television listings for air date and time in your area.

How would you fare as a Bee contestant? At the school Bees this year, students had to answer such questions as:

Six-time Super Bowl champions, the Pittsburgh Steelers, play football near the source of the Ohio River in which state—Alabama or Pennsylvania?
Pennsylvania

Balboa Park, with more than ten museums, performing arts centers, and gardens, is located in which southern California city?
San Diego

Taylor Swift performed songs from her album Red last summer in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of which Asian country that borders the South China Sea?
Malaysia

Disney's blockbuster movie Frozen is set in the fictional land of Arendelle, which was largely inspired by the country of Norway. Norway is located on which European peninsula?
Scandinavian Peninsula

MEDIA NOTE: Prior to the state finals on March 27, press materials with additional information about the state- and national-level contests will be posted at <http://press.nationalgeographic.com/geo-bee/>. To be notified when these materials are available, or for other inquiries, contact Kelsey Flora (kflora@ngs.org / 202-828-8023) or Farley Fitzgerald (ffitzgerald@ngs.org / 202-775-6119) with the National Geographic Communications office. You may also contact the State Bee coordinator, for additional information.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

With a mission to inspire, illuminate and teach, the National Geographic Society is one of the world's largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations. The member-supported Society, which believes in the power of science, exploration and storytelling to change the world, reaches over 600 million people each month through its media platforms, products and events. National Geographic has funded more than 11,000 research, conservation and exploration projects, and its education programs promote geographic literacy. For more information, visit www.nationalgeographic.com.

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