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Date - 11/15/2018

SPEECH

“A Cloud’s Journey”

[Speech delivered by Mark Zuckerberg at New Hope Elementary School (Chapel Hill) on Friday, December 14 to Mrs. Jones’ kindergarten class]

Before I begin, I’d like to ask for a quick raise of hands **[raise hand]** how many of you have ever seen a cloud before? **[wait for audience to raise hands]** Yeah! We’ve all looked up at the sky before and seen a cloud moving in the sky above us, right? They’re always there watching over us! Now, imagine that a cloud above you in the sky belonged only to you, and it held everything you needed, from your family pictures, your music, your movies, even the stuff you like to read and draw! And no matter where you went, that cloud was there, waiting for you to open it up and take out what you needed at any moment! Pretty cool, right? Well, that cloud does actually exist, just online! Let me explain how it works!

Ok, so how many of you have a computer at home, or have used one here at school? **[wait for audience to raise hands]** Nowadays, using computers is something we do most every day, but when I was a kid, barely anyone used computers the way we do now! Back in the day, if you wanted to take a picture or some other file with you from home to school, you’d have to put it on to something like a USB stick, which plugged into the computer and could magically hold on to your files and go with you wherever you went. It may seem

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complicated, and it kind of was, but ‘the cloud’ has made all of that so much easier! ‘The cloud’ that I’m referring to doesn’t actually live in the sky, but lives inside your devices; your laptops, your tablets, and your smartphones **[hold up smartphone]**. Everyone that uses ‘the cloud’ has one that belongs only to them, and they can use it to access their files anywhere they go!

When people use ‘the cloud’, all of their information is held safely inside it until the owner decides that they want to take something out to use it! How many of you have ever put something in a safe, or seen your parents do it? **[wait for audience to raise hands]** ‘The cloud’ is a lot like a safe, where you put the things that matter to you inside of it, and then secure it by having a secret combination that only you know! It’s like if your cloud actually was up in the sky, only you would have the power to reach up into the sky **[reach up with both hands]** and take hold of the cloud so you can open it up!

As I mentioned earlier, the greatest part of using ‘the cloud’ is that you can access it no matter where you go! Imagine if you saved a picture of your family to your cloud, and then flew 5,000 miles across the country; all you’d need to do to open up your picture is a device and the knowledge of your secret code to get in, and “voila!” **[make big gesture with hands]** your picture is right there!

‘The cloud’ has really changed how we use the internet, how we access and share the things that are important to us, and how we live our lives every day! As you get older and start using technology more and more, you’ll learn more about how ‘the cloud’ works

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and how you can use it to learn and create awesome things! You'll probably even start to use it while you're still in elementary school! Your parents probably already use their own clouds, so when you go home this afternoon, ask them to show you how *they* use it make their lives easier! 'The cloud' is one of the coolest modern inventions, so get excited to have on of your own some day!

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