

Introduction



What a joy it's been to chair this year's YSSW contest—from interacting with our region's outstanding teachers and facilitating judging at UTC to assembling this collection of our winning submissions. All is done with an eye toward promoting the literary arts and the creative energy of young writers. Reading the submissions this year, in my own experience as a judge and in reports from other readers/judges, has been an exercise in both humility and hilarity. The submissions, especially the winning submissions that follow, demonstrate exceptionally strong writing as they likewise provide a glimpse into the wild imagination of young minds. So, I thank this year's young writers and their teachers! You've given me much to laugh about, much to enjoy, and much to appreciate in your good work.

Many thanks, too, to the Board of Directors and staff of the Southern Lit Alliance, particularly Lynda LeVan (Executive Director). Lynda

deserves our thanks for her generosity and for her support of this area's outstanding young writers. Leadership at the Southern Lit Alliance and its partnership with UTC's Department of English combine to lift up and celebrate the literary arts in our region. I am grateful for the Southern Lit Alliance as a partner in this contest.

I also thank this region's dedicated teachers, K-12, who work tirelessly to instill in young minds and hearts the value of literature and creative writing. I am grateful for their efforts as they teach young authors to enjoy the craft of writing. Without our elementary, middle grades, and high school English/Language Arts teachers, along with parents and guardians, we would not have such fine work from these young people.

I am also grateful to this year's readers and contest judges. It is true that every submission is read by a faculty member in UTC's Department of English. Our faculty serve in this capacity with pleasure. In fact, it's not uncommon to hear our teachers sharing with one another submissions that are especially funny, creative, or inspiring. It's another way in which we contribute to this wonderful city and this region. I appreciate the time and care with which my colleagues read every submission. It is worth noting that more than 4,200 students from schools in the Chattanooga area and beyond submitted entries this year, so it's no easy task to manage, but our judges did so this year once again with grace and enthusiasm.

Finally, I thank Damon Miller and Madison Tartar, two outstanding undergraduate students in UTC's English program. Damon and Madison worked tirelessly to facilitate judging, to organize the winning submissions, and to create this year's winners booklets. They have spent countless hours managing the contest and collecting the winning entries for this publication. Indeed, they managed this substantial project with grace, with sincerity, with maturity, and organizational skills that that we typically find only in experienced professionals. I'm grateful for their outstanding work and their attention to detail.

Now, read and enjoy!

Joe Wilferth, UTC English Professor and YSSW Contest Chair

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Fishing

Dock

Bluegill

Worms

Fishing

Mac Bryant Kindergarten Boyd Buchanan School Patricia Zumbrun

Covered

Cold and wet.

Outside now.

Good and melted.

Am happy.

Winter.

Kasten Campbell

Kindergarten

Thrasher Elementary School

Teachers: Mrs. Bailey & Mrs. Wheeler

Glad

Shouts

Outside

Happy

Snow Angel

Sad

Leia Davis

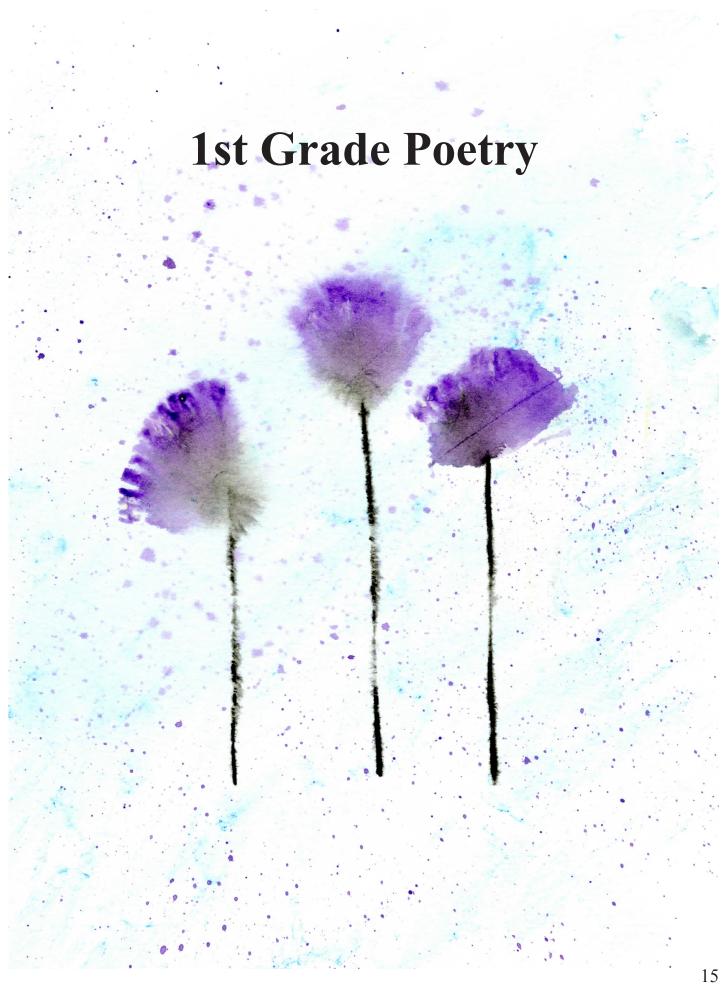
Kindergarten

Thrasher Elementary School

Teachers: Mrs. Wheeler & Mrs. Bailey

Disney Mickey Princesses Slinky Disney

Diya Sakthivel Kindergarten Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Patricia Zumbrun



Helpful Playful Games Drawing Science Likes to travel Alderson

J.T. Alderson 1st Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Amy Butcher

Juliette

Shy
Kind
Games
Tell Jokes
Reading
Learning to Read Books
Boyd

Juliette Boyd 1st Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Sarah Turbeville

Brendan

Creative
Playing
Remembering
Having Fun
Eating
Loving BBS
Cross

Brendan Cross 1st Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Sarah Turbeville

The Super Teacher

She is fast
She can fly
She is unknown
No one knows who she is

Abbigail Dollmont 1st Grade East Lake Elementary School Teacher: Emily Parsons

Woke up Looked out my window Snow was falling down Rushed downstairs Grabbed my sled Whooosh! Down the hill I went!

Margaret Edmondson 1st Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Judith Walter

Snow

Edible

Fun

Piling

Forming

Twirling
Cold Lovely

Snow

Florabella Holland

1st Grade

Boyd Buchanan School

Teacher: Amy Hunter

Happy, happy
Cold and snowy.
Come on home
The wind is blowing.
Happy, happy.
Make a snowman.
Come on out
Just grab my hand.

Henry Malone 1st Grade Thrasher Elementary School Mrs. Bailey/Mrs. Wheeler

Unicorn Hampster

Cute,
Fearsome Flying,
eating,
playing Happy,
Magical,
crazy creature
Pegasus

John McCarthy
1st Grade
Thrasher Elementary School
Teacher: Mrs. Carol Schoner

Cat

Fluffy, cute Running, Purring, Eating, Happy, Great, Exciting, Awesome Meow

Zoe McLaren 1st Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Mrs. Schoner

It will be Snowing I will be Outside I will be Glad

Thomas O'Dell 1st Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Mrs. Wheeler/Mrs. Bailey

Snow

Cold Edible
Falling Swirling Melting
Forming Twirling
Snow

Jensen Robertson 1st Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Amy Hunter

Mikey

Creative

Singer

Art

Kittens

Science

Learning to play the harmonica

Spearman

Mikey Spearman

1st Grade

Boyd Buchanan School

Teacher: Amy Butcher

Get a Christmas tree
Take it home with me!
String the lights Around and around and around!
Decorate with ornaments!
Glittery balls high up in the tree
So my dog
Doesn't eat them!

Mabry St. Charles
1st Grade
Thrasher Elementary School
Teacher: Mrs. Judith Walter

2nd Grade Poetry



Color Poem

Red Fire Fire is hot A forest fire is trees Red

Reese Eslinger 2nd Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Katelyn Statom

Color Poem

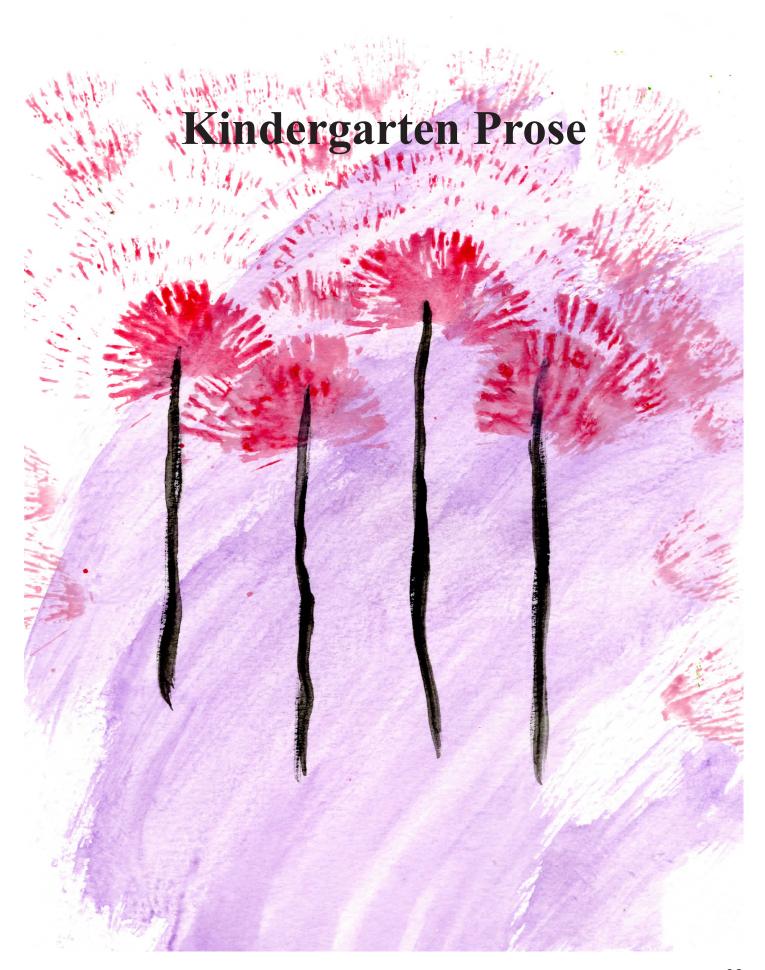
Blue Water Water moves when you jump in You can see yourself Blue

Hayley Long 2nd Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Katelyn Statom

Fall

Houses in the dark Candy that smells good Leaves are crunchy Sour candy Wind in the air

Will Marshall 2nd Grade St Peter's Episcopal School Teacher:Susan Bell



Favorite Toy

I like to play with my games. I have Sorry. I have Mancala. I have Uno.

Tommy Adams Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Laney Holmes

My favorite vacation

My favorite vacation was when we went to Florida. We went swimming and went to the hotel and watched TV. We watched football with my dad. We ate at Whataburger and I got the biggest cheeseburger. I liked playing in the ocean, but I got a lot of salt water in my nose and in my mouth. I went scuba diving too! I saw fish and I was trying to catch the fish. I wish I had a net to catch the fish!

Andrew Caldwell
Kindergarten
Grace Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Stephanie Monteleone

My Kitten

My kitten eats everything. She eats lettuce. Once upon a time I was eating a taco so I gave her my lettuce and she ate it all. Another day my kitten laid everywhere. She laid on Mommy's clothes. She laid on the chairs. She slept on the couch and then she slept on me. My kitten sleeps with me almost every night. My kitten tries to join us wrapping presents. Today she was climbing on the counter behind the cooking pot. I take good care of my kitty. I give her food and water. When she's lonely I put her on the couch with me. I got Skittles from a lady who was giving cats away 'cause they had so many. She came in a tiny box and she was really smiling when I got her.

Harper Exum Kindergarten Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Monica Tompkins

Bike

First put your helmet on. Then you get on the bike. Then you pedal. Hold on to the front. Pedal fast. Then you know how to bike.

Alejandro Garcia Kindergarten St. Peter's Episcopal School Teacher: Tracy Schuster

Barber Shop

I like to visit the Barber Shop. My favorite part is when he cuts my hair.

Crei Gordon Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Megan Methvin

My Favorite Place to Visit

I like to visit my dad.

Kenyon Greer Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Tracey Stevens

The Bunny and the Lost Carrots

Once upon a time there was a bunny and a rock. The bunny jumped on the rock. The bunny tried to lift the rock to see if there were carrots underneath. The bunny couldn't lift the rock. So it went to its den to try to find some carrots. There wasn't any carrots there. The bunny decided to look in another bunny's den but there wasn't any carrots. It decided to go see if a turtle had it. But the turtle did not have any. Bunny decided to search in the woods and the bunny found some carrots! The bunny brought them to its den and ate them. The End.

Audrey Hamby Kindergarten Boyd-Buchanan School Teacher: Monica Tompkins

Untitled

When I went to my grandparent's house for Christmas I saw my cousins. My cousin Jacey turned on some Christmas music on her phone and we danced. Anna turned her music on too. When we were done we got to play in Nana's den. Then we opened presents and we all got matching pajamas. We left Nana's house the next morning because it was Christmas day.

Olivia Haislip Kindergarten Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Maria Sessions

My Sister

I like to play with my sister. Her name is Aurora. We like to play Jumanji.

Winston Hearn Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Megan Methvin

The Three Ghosts And The Three Winds

One day, three ghosts were sitting on the post. The wind said,

"What are you doing sitting on my post where I am supposed to be sitting?".

And then the three ghosts said,

"Well, this is where our Grandpa said to be" Well, the wind said,

"Go,go, go - shoo! We do no need you on our fence! We are three winds, so you must get off. Shoo! Shoo! Spunt!"

They said,

"No, no, no, no, no, no! All our grandpas, all our aunts and all our cousins said to us to sit on this bench, so please, please Wind, do not do that!"

"Ok, fine!" said Wind, "you may sit."

But that was me, Mom, and Dad.

The End.

Phoebe Jones Kindergarten Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Jessica Trogdon

Playing

My hot wheel is going fast on the track.

Max Kohl Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet School

Untitled

After Christmas my family always goes to a cabin. All of my cousins in my dad's family and my Gran and Poppy go too. We went on a very long hiking trip. There was a waterfall that we saw. We also saw a huge fallen down tree. It had a huge hole. Then we turned around and I got to climb up the waterfall. Then we went back to the cabin and my grandparents always judge the cousin talent show. Then at night the cousins and my Poppy get in the hot tub.

Tucker Lusk Kindergarten Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Maria Sessions

Untitled

I like to visit the beach because it is very hot. There's a swimming pool. I can do back flips. I saw fish. Some were zebra and angel fish. It's really fun. I was in North Carolina beach. I also got a new mermaid doll. Her tail is rainbow. Her hair is purple and she is queen of the sea. I love the beach. It's the best. Me and my brother held hands. We walked on the gorge. We saw pretty cool and beautiful stores, libraries, and restaurants. We also bought some candy. Like tootsie rolls, starbursts, and sour gummies. I love to visit the beach.

Olivia Loveless Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Kayla Schroering

How to Rescue a Puppy

We went to a tree that was falling over. It was on a creek. There was a puppy there near the ditch and it's neck was under a branch. It was stuck. We had to lift up the tree branch and brought the puppy home. First we had to wash his paws up in the shallow creek where no trees had fallen over. We brought him inside and he took a nap. When he woke up he was ready to go outside and eat. He jumped on me and my other dog was nervous. The puppy was really fun to play with.

Finn Newman Kindergarten St. Peters Episcopal School Teacher: Tracy Schuster

Favorite Toy

I like to play with Legos. I like to build my Legos. I build with my dad. My brother wants some too.

Mays Rawlston Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Laney Holmes

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THE THREE LITTLE PIGS-The Sequel

The three little pigs left their house. They went to a village. They saw a man and they got a piece of bread and they walked back to their house to go to sleep. When it was morning, they went to another village and got a pizza and they ate the pizza and went home. Last night, a little pig snuck out of bed, went to grab a bite of pizza and go back to sleep and when he ate the pizza one of his tooths came out and it was morning and he got a gold coin. He went back to the same village and got another pizza and he ate it by hisself.

The End

Liam Ramey Kindergarten Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Tammy Downs

How Super Sarah Tamed the Yeti

This is the story of how Super Sarah tamed the Yeti. Super Sarah met the Yeti in an Icicle cave at night, she was in the cave cause she wanted to see what was in there. The Yeti popped out of a hole. She was nervous, but then she remembered Super Sarah wasn't afraid of anything. The Yeti started to dance so then she locked the Yeti beside the wall. And then she said, "I will only unlock you if you go outside".

Then the Yeti said,

"yes."

Then the Yeti went wild, so she brought her butterfly bush to the icicle cave then every single butterfly came to the bush. The Butterflies were different colors and he stared at them because they were so beautiful. And that is the story of how Super Sarah tamed the Yeti.

Sarah Stradley Kindergarten Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Katie Klepper

Places to Visit

I like to visit the sunrise. It is very beautiful. I want to see it right now!

Kate Studer Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet School

Teacher: Stacye Gibson

Untitled

I like to swing because it feels like I am flying.

Genevieve Stockman Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Kayla Schroering

My Favorite Place to Visit

I like to visit at Oppie's house. She is my grandma. We do fun things.

Max Shaw Kindergarten Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Tracey Stevens

A Reindeer and a Penguin

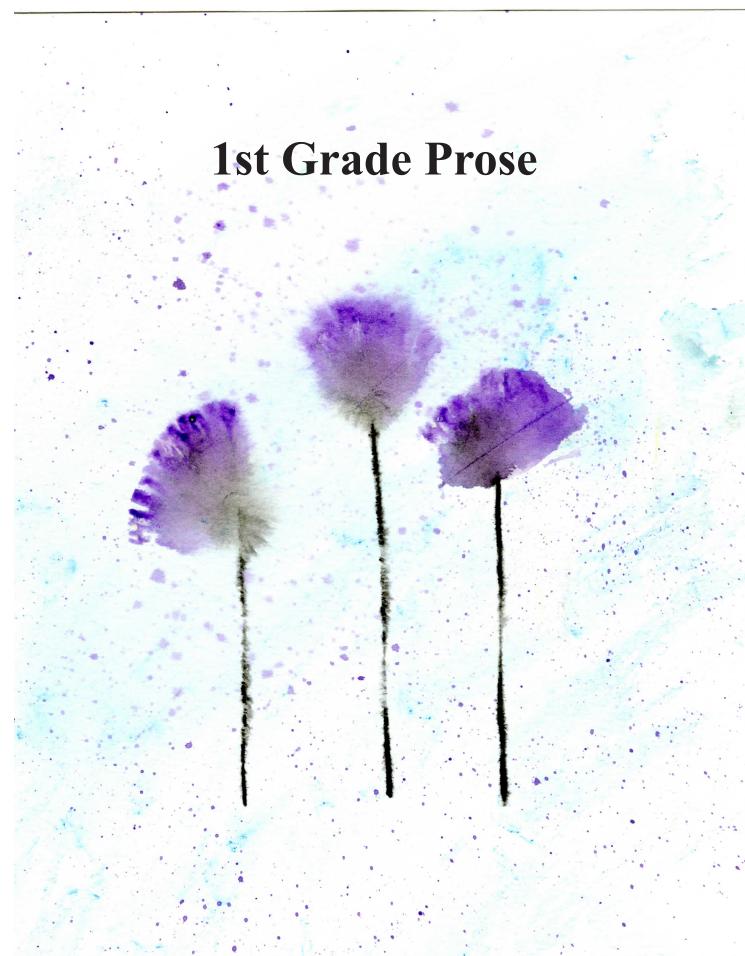
A reindeer one time met a penguin. They were playing together and the reindeer told Santa he found a friend. They had a Christmas lunch and the reindeer didn't want to leave his friend. Santa said the penguin could help out at the North Pole and stay with his new friend.

Easton Taylor Kindergarten Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Rebecca Lusardo

The Igloo Town

Once upon a time there was a snowman named Mr. Melty. He lived in an igloo with his wife, Clara. They had a village called Igloo town. Their friend named Bear was white and fuzzy and lived in the cave. They all played outside in the village. Then, they met a reindeer named Comet that showed them love and care by making friends with them. Clara and Mr. Melty had two kids, named Jordan and Mya. The kids played outside with their parents until they got sleepy. Then their parents carried them to bed. And they lived happily ever after. The end

O'Kari Tucker Kindergarten Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Julie Norman



Scout

One day a family wanted a dog. They looked and looked and looked for just the right dog. But they could never find the perfect dog. And then one day they found a dog that was perfect for their family, and they all loved him and took care of him. They played fetch with him, ran with him, and had so much fun with him! And his name was Scout. And Scout loved his new family, too. Before any of that happened, Scout was in a kill shelter all alone. He had nobody with him. But then, the family came and got him!

Hi! My name is Scout, and I'm going to tell you my story. I'm 10 weeks old and I am a brown and black puppy dog. I was in a kill shelter all alone, and I was so sad with nobody with me and no one to take care of me. I was so hungry and thirsty because nobody fed me there. But I knew that one day somebody would probably take me! Then, one day, somebody did—I was right! A lady rescued me and took me to her company. And then some people came and looked at me, and I could tell they loved me. The family had a little boy toddler who was 3 years old, and a boy that was a little older, and then two older girls, and two people that were really big! The family played with me and sat with me, and I could tell that they loved me. Then, they took me home, to a new place! I love to sit in their laps and play with them. They loved me, fed me, gave me water, and took good care of me. But sometimes they would get mad at me when I went to the bathroom in the house! But then after that, they still took care of me and I still got to sit in their laps. And that is my story!

John Antanaitis
1st Grade
Home School (Ingleside Tutorial)
Teacher: Juli Antanaitis

Good Job Doctors

On a hot and sunny day, I was going too fast on my scooter. I was having fun! When I was going on my scooter, I fell on the mulch. When I fell my dad and mom came and helped me. When I fell my nose bleed. I started to cry. I went to the doctor. They put a thing in my nose, my nose was a little crazy and cut. Good Job Doctors!

Carson Mae Chambers
1st Grade
Normal Park Museum Magnet
Teacher: Marah Smith

The Lost Dragon

Once upon a time, there was a boy. He loved dragons. One day, he was in the woods with his friends and they found a dragon. The dragon got scared when the kids got too close and he flew away. All of the kids then went home. The boy told his parents that he saw a dragon, but they didn't believe him. He went back to the forest the next day to find the dragon. The boy found the dragon in a nest made of leaves and sticks. The dragon was silver on his back with a black stripe down his belly. He also had bright gray-blue eyes with two horns on his head. The boy approached him slowly saying "it's okay" and finally petted the dragon's head. The boy climbed on the silver dragon's back and the dragon flew through the forest. The boy held on to the dragon's horns tightly. He could see the sunset while they flew through the sky. The boy felt like he was riding on a rollercoaster. The boy and the silver dragon continued to fly until they reached the ocean. They saw a ship in the water with eight dragons in cages on the deck of the ship. The silver dragon saw his mom and dad in a cage. They flew to the ship and the boy asked a man why he captured the dragons. The man was mean and told the boy he hated dragons.

The boy and the dragon flew away. They went back to the silver dragon's nest in the woods for him to eat and rest. The boy ran home to tell his parents about his dragon ride and the dragons captured on the boat. They believed his story. The boy and his dad made a plan to ride the silver dragon back to the ship early in the morning to release the other dragons from the cages. The next day, the boy and his dad flew to the ship on the back of the silver dragon while the mean man was asleep. They opened the cages to free all the dragons. The man woke up and came out on to the ship deck. The last freed dragon flew over to the mean man, picked the man up with his claws, and dropped him in the middle of the ocean. The silver dragon was happy to be back with his parents. He then took the boy and his dad back to the forest beside their house. The boy hugged the dragon and cried goodbye. The silver dragon was lost no more and flew away with his mom and dad. The boy and his dad went home talking about his great adventure.

Charlie Cline
1st Grade
Silverdale Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Fernandes

Untitled

Once upon a time there was a evil rabbit wizard named Reginald. He had a magic raven for a pet. He also wanted to take over a kingdom. So he looked in his spell book and found Medoosia, a spell that can turn anyone into stone. He turned the king into stone and the queen and the whole royale family. He took the crown off the kings head and sat on the throne. He became the king.

The end

Cadence Daniels
1st Grade
St. Peter's Episcopal School
Teacher: Angie Sell

The time I saw my dad again

My dad went to Afghanistan because he is in the Air Force. I did not see him for 60 days. Then he flew back home. I was happy to see him. My daddy is super funny because he goes like "Oh my God!" That is why he is funny. Last but not least, he took us to Sweet Frog to celebrate. It was amazing.

Zyan Davis
1st Grade
Normal Park Museum Magnet
Teacher: Amanda Lafferty

At the Beach

One sunny afternoon, we got to the beach and we looked for shells. I found a big shell. I found a heavy shell. I really wanted to keep it but it had a crab! We got ready to get into the water. I got in the water first. I went under the water. I saw lots of fish. I slipped in the water. I was bleeding and crying. I went back to the apartment. I went back to the beach. I saw a turtle. He was big. He was bright green. I followed him. He brought me to his family.

Keagan Dahlquist, 1st Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Beth McCoy

La aventura del viejo

Un día un hombre viejo fue al parque para dar comida a los pájaros en el parque. Cuando llego al parque él se sentó en una silla . Dijó "tweet tweet" y los pajaros bajaron para comer. Cuando eran las tres en la tarde el hombre viejo fué a su casa para comer. Cuando el terminó de comer fué a su cuarto para dormir y tuvo un sueño de conejos. El próximo día su mamá estaba en su casa visitando.

Dijó "mamá. ¿Porque estas en casa?"

Su mama dijó, "yo pensé que tú no queires vivir solo, entonces puedes vivir conmigo." Y él dijó, "no gracias mamá".

Entonces ella le empujó al carro. Cuando ellos llegaron a la casa de la mamá ella le puso a él en un cuarto pequeño y ella le dió un poco de comida y agua. El próximo dia él estaba muy cansado y durmió todo el día. Cuando él se despertó fueron las diez en la noche. Le dijo a su mamá que fue enfermo todo el día. Cuando ella estaba hablando con el hospital él estaba corriendo para la puerta. Cuando él cerró la puerta fueron las tres en la mañana . Luego los pájaros se fueron volando con él y nadie lo vió a él más .

Vincent Dudek 1st Grade St. Peter's Episcopal School Teacher: Sra. Garcia

The Kitty Goes to the Park

This is a story I wrote to dedicate to my class. These are some of the words you will find in the story:

- 1. Tired
- 2. Sleepy
- 3. Jumped
- 4. Happy
- 5. Dances
- 6. Twirls
- 7. Hopping

There was a curious kitty. She does a lot of fun things. Read the story to find out what she does. There once lived a curious kitty. On the end of her tail, it was blue. In addition, her ears and nose were pink. Her body was always purple.

"I want to go to the park," she said. "Come on let's go!" she said.

The kitty jumped at the cat park.

"I'm hopping! I'm hopping at the cat park!"

The curious kitty took a nap at the cat park. The kitty twirls her body at the cat park. The kitty is happy at the cat park because she loves to be outside. The kitty dances at the cat park. Finally, the kitty is tired from her very long day at the cat park. "PURRRRRRR."

Hadley Garvich, 1st Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teachers: Mrs. Bailey & Mrs. Wheeler

A Snow Day

When we have a snow day, we have no school. When we have no school, we stay at home. When we stay at home, we play in the snow. When we play in the snow, I get hungry! When I get hungry, I eat the snow!

Maddy Hicks 1st Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Sherry Blesch

Under the Water

It was a sunny day; I was sweating because I didn't want to go under the water. I couldn't stop sweating. I was scared because there were waves. I was scared because the waves were going fast. Then I got very brave and I went under the water with my mom. I was very, very cold. I was shaking. I was very, very wet too. The water was dripping off of me.

Jaylee Hutchinson 1st Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Marah Smith

Cracking my Head Open

One sunny day, I got in the big stroller at the top of a steep hill. I am all alone. I am planning to go to sleep. I got really comfy in the stroller. It felt good. The wind blew. The stroller slowly moves. I went down the steep hill. Air was blowing in my face! It was kind of fun! Crack! Finally, I cracked my head open. The moral of the story is never get in a stroller alone.

Roan Lindsay 1st grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Zeigler

Paper Airplanes

One morning, I was studying paper airplanes at my house. I was alone in my room. Then, I got my supplies. My supplies were scissors, paper, and my computer. Then, I had to look up paper airplane videos. I was really happy. Then, I had to make them. Finally, I throw them.

Conner McCoy 1st grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Zeigler

The Time I did a Kickflip

Once, I was outside and I grabbed my helmet and my skateboard, and I started to do a kickflip. Then I fell down and hit my elbow on the concrete. And I got back up and started to do it again. I went to try it again and I landed! Then I went inside to go to bed and I woke up for the next day.

Sam Parsons
1st Grade
Normal Park Museum Magnet
Teacher: Heather O'Brien

The Medicine

Once there was a little girl. She had a mother but she didn't have a father. One day the mother got sick and they didn't have any money for medicine. So the little girl went to the forest. She saw a swan. She asked the swan,

"Can I get some money for medicine for my mom?"

The swan said,

"There is a plant in those leaves that will make medicine."

The girl got the plant and went back home to give the medicine to her mom. The mom felt better and she married a new husband and that was the end.

Hansini Puttagunta 1st Grade St. Nicholas School

Teacher: Stephanie Marshall

Jumping in Leaves

I jumped into the pile of leaves. My neighbors came over. We played in the leaves. We made a video. We were acting like zombies in a grave. I loved it. We jumped in the leaves. We jumped and jumped.

Virginia Precise 1st Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Beth McCoy

My Favorite Season

I like to go to the beach in the summer. I like to go in the water, it is really warm. I like to make sandcastles. It is really sunny. It is really hot. I got to bury my Daddy and Mommy in the sand. My favorites season is summer.

Jeri Roaden, 1st Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Miss Katlyn Pollock

The Amazing Hit

I was up to bat at my last baseball game in the league. I was at the plate. My eyes were ready. I knew I would at least get on first base. I knew I could get a solid hit. I can't get out. Then I would let my whole team down. I wouldn't want to get out on my last game. If I was calm, I would have a better chance. The pitcher threw the ball and I hit the ball. It was a speedy grounder. But the pitcher got it. I thought I would be out, but he had a bad throw to first base. So, I kept running. I got to second base and kept running as fast as I could. Then the second baseman made a horrible throw to third base. I ran and ran. I looked behind me. I looked behind me. I saw the third baseman did not throw the ball. I got a HOMERUN! Amazing!

Owen Shaheen 1st grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Lower Teacher: Amanda Lafferty

Hero's First Christmas

Once there was a girl named Emma and her dog named Hero. She was in her backyard playing with her dog at Christmas. She had lots of Snowman and Santa balloons in her yard. She was playing in the middle of the balloons when something magical started to happen. The balloons were getting closer! Then suddenly there was a loud bang! Then she was in Christmas Land. In Christmas Land she met an Ice Fairy, that gave her a map and told her: follow this map and you will find your way home and meet new friends. So she followed the map to the snow garden where the Snow Princess was.

The Snow Princess asked Emma, why are you in my garden of snow? Emma said, I'm following this map to get home because magic brought me here to Christmas Land and I need to get home before time runs out. Just then, Hero started chasing a snow butterfly. It was the princess' pet. So the Snow Princess said you may pass through my garden if you'll let me come with you. Emma agreed and they left the snow garden. Hero chased the snow butterfly the whole way! They walked along the path where the map told them to go. They walked until they found a castle, but the door was locked. So Hero had an idea! Hero jumped through the castle window and used his paws to unlock the door for Emma and the Snow Princess. They walked through the castle and found the Ice Prince inside.

The Prince said, what are you doing in my castle and how did you get in? My dog Hero unlocked the door for us, said Emma. Then the prince said, you may come through my castle if you let me come too. Where are you going, asked the Prince? We are going to find the magic ice key, so that we can get home through the magic snow door before time runs out. So the Ice Prince and his pet Ice Cat named Joey came with them. They followed the map to the Castle of Christmas. They walked for a long time down the path searching for the Castle of Christmas. When they finally found the Castle of Christmas it was a big, pretty castle made of ice with big flags that had the letter K on them. K for King. This was the Christmas King's castle! The door was locked again! This time, Hero saved the day again by climbing through the window and unlocking the door with his mouth. After Hero opened the door they all went inside looking for the magic ice key. They found the magic lock and the key was inside. They needed a secret code to get the key out of the lock. Suddenly, Hero jumped on the lock and used his paws to figure out the code. He saved the day again! They took the key and followed the map to the magic snow door that would take them home. Emma put the key in and turned the lock.

As Emma opened the door the Snow Princess and the Ice Prince said goodbye to Emma and Hero. Emma and Hero went through the door and with another loud bang they were magically returned home. Emma took Hero inside and gave him three treats for saving the day three times. Then Emma said, I wonder what the Snow Princess and Ice Prince are doing now? The next day she got an envelope from Christmas Land. It said: Hi Emma and Hero. You can come back and visit any time. Love, Ice Prince and Snow princess.

Emma Grace Swindall 1st Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Steele

Zoowemomma

There once was a boy named Bob. Bob loved donuts. One day Bob ate a donut that was magical. He rumbled and he said,

"Was it a magical donut?"

The squirrel said,

"You did eat a magical donut!"

ZOOWEMOMMA!! Suddenly Bob's head turned into a donut. His family turned into donutheads. His name is now Donuthead. This is the end.

Hannah Tessier 1st Grade St. Nicholas School

Teacher: Stephanie Marshall

Untitled

The best thing to do on a snowy day is sledding. You can sled with your friends. It is fun to go sledding. I can go sledding with my family. I go very fast down hills when I go sledding.

Lydia Thomas
1st Grade
Grace Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Sherri Russell

The Time I Found Out Who My Teacher Was

It was a warm, sunny day, and my father told me that I had mail and I was super excited. I loved getting mail, because my sister and I always thought we were getting toys. Next, my father handed it to me and I read the little card Mrs. O'Brien sent us telling me that she was my teacher. I screamed of excitement. Then, I got extremely excited because at the time, me and Mrs. O'Brien went to the same church. So, I got even more excited. Finally, I ran through the house!

Fletcher Thompson 1st Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Heather O'Brien

Foxes

Foxes are sneaky and they are fast. They hunt for food and when they run in the snow it goes crunchy crunch crunch. They have warm fur to keep them warm.

Jalen Williams 1st Grade East Lake Elementary Teacher: Emily Parsons

2nd Grade Prose



The Day My Snow Yoda Came to Life

Once in a galaxy far, far away in a marsh cave, there was a Snow Yoda. Of course, it had to be cold. He was doing snow yoga. Then, Luke Snow-Walker came crashing in on his Sleigh-Wing into the marsh and Snowda fell out. Then Snow Yoda taught Luke Snow-Walker snow yoga and went into Snow-Yoda.

The End.

Garrett Anderson 2nd grade St. Nicholas School Teacher: Katie McCorkle

A Day in the Life

It was a dark rainy night. I was a little girl and I liked my name. It was special and pretty. Next, when I got older I started to crunch the corn and cook it. Then I asked my dad if I could go fishing for fish with you and he said yep we can with the family. Last, we went and I fell asleep and was happy too. My dad put me in my bed and covered me with a soft cozy blanckit.

Hadley Bruns
2nd Grade
Normal Park Museum Magnet
Teacher: Mrs. Pamela Caron

The Sandwich and the Pickle

Once there was a sandwich. She saw a little pickle that was in an orphanage and she wanted to adopt him. The little pickle wanted her for a mom so the sandwich adopted him. They had so much fun together. One day a knife snuck behind them and captured them. The knife tucked them into his hideout and cut the sandwich in half and the pickle into pieces. The knife put the pickle on the sandwich and put the sandwich on a plate in a house. The owner of the house came home. She put the pickle sandwich on her lips and almost ate it! But then Miss Sandwich opened her eyes and her mouth and said,

"Don't eat me and my son!"

So the owner dropped the sandwich and they lived kind of happily ever after. The end.

Kerrington Blair 2nd Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Miss Haley Shields

A Day at the Northeast

I am a boy that lives in a place that has lots of trees and it is named the Northeast. First, I came out of my longhouse and my dad went on a canoe. I went to follow him and then I got lost! Next, I had a plan to build an overlook and a flat spot connected to a tree. There is tree bark for the flat spot. Then, I tested it out and I could see a boat coming towards the land. Then, I ran down the ladder! Last, I found my dad at the shore and I ran to him and hugged him. He showed me the way home. I learned that there is always something that you can find unexpected.

Dylan Booker 2nd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Kara Kruchinski

How I Got My Bow and Arrow

The tall grass was waving in the plains. I had a blow gun. I asked my grampa if I could have a bow and arrow. My grampa said first I must show him I'm worthy. So I asked him if he could meet me in the plains in one week. So in that week I got supplies to make a target. Then, I set off to fined supplies. I needed three branches, sixteen leaves, five twigs of rope. And I practiced till it was time. Now I had the test. My grampa set up targets. I shot all but one. The last one I got my breth ready the blow gun I shot it. Whoooooshhh it hit! I got my bow and arrow. I felt so so happy when I got my bow and arrow.

James Divin
2nd Grade
Normal Park Museum Magnet
Teacher: Mrs. Pamela Caron

The Living Sea

Chapter 1: The Living Sea

Once upon a time there lived a newborn baby. Her name was Ooshyana. The ocean always played pranks on her. As she became older, she tried to prank the ocean back, but it was too wise. When she was 10, she played a prank on the ocean.

Chapter 2: The Prank

She got sand and froze it in a little container that was shaped like an apple. She took the sand out of the container and painted it red. She gave it to the ocean. The ocean tasted it. As soon as Ooshyana said, "Pranked you!" the ocean noticed.

Chapter 3: Made a Promise

They became friends. Ooshyana promised she would not tell anyone about the ocean. After that she did not tell about the ocean, but they still played pranks on each other. It was very funny. Once, the ocean squirted her with a fish.

Chapter 4: Scare Prank

Ooshyana got an invisible cloak and she threw a rock and ran. It almost hit the ocean, but the ocean stopped it. She kept trying to prank the ocean back, but she had an idea...

Chapter 5: Where is it?

When she went to prank the ocean, it was not there. Then, a paper popped up. It said, "Look behind you." When she looked behind her...

"Boo!" said the ocean. Instead of the ocean pranking her, it scared her!

Chapter 6: Rainy Day

It was raining outside. Ooshyana couldn't go out to play with the ocean, but she went outside anyway and saw a mermaid! But the mermaid was scared, so Ooshyana decided to cheer her up. Then the mermaid wanted to be friends. The mermaid's name is Arelle. All of a sudden, a blue sparkle dolphin came out from under the water and dove back in. Arelle said, "Show off!" to the dolphin. "Do you want to play with me, Ooshyana?" asked Arelle. Ooshyana said, "Yes." So Arelle took Ooshyana under the water. The ocean was very jealous.

Emily Dockens 2nd Grade Boyd Buchanan Elementary Teacher: Kayla Halstead

Football

I played football with Ellic for two years, and our team was named the Ravens. Our coach was Ellic's dad. Our uniforms were white and blue. They were the same colors as my school colors. It was cool to be on a team with Ellic because he is in the same class with me. We did not win a lot, but we were good. I threw the ball to Ellic. Then, Ellic threw the ball back to me. Getting a touchdown last year was cool. I felt good because I made a touchdown. My parents cheered for me. I will probably play football again next year. I hope I make five touchdowns.

Avery Evans
2nd Grade
St. Peter's Episcopal School
Teacher: Susan Bell

The Day I Was Home Alone

One morning on winter break, I woke up and I was home alone. I woke up and I looked in Piper's room. I wiggled downstairs and I looked in my mom's room and I knew I was home alone. I feel good about this. I tried to take a bath but the bath overflowed. So I got an idea. I can buy fish and food because my entire house is filled up with water. So I swam to the door, I opened the door and I got a car and went to the store. I bought fish. I came back and I put the fish in the water. I invited some people over like O'Dell Beckham Jr and Marshmallow so we could have a disco party. I also invited my friend Jacob. We had so much fun. I love that day. It was so much fun. My parents came home. They were mad.

"COOPER!! Go to your room!"

I was so mad too.

Cooper Gilbert 2nd Grade Lookout Valley Elementary Teacher: Candace Baggett

Berry Soup

I wake up very excited to eat the berries we collected yesterday for breakfast. I have a grumbling tummy and my mom is standing in front of me. I got up to see my sis, Hidden Fox, and my dad looking happily at me. They told me we needed more berries as we walked toward a tree full of berries. Pluck! I picked berries off the tree. Dad shook the tree as berries fell everywhere. We asked dad if they were poison or not as me and my sis filled our baskets. Finally, we ate Dad's awesome berry soup. As always, my sis ate in a flash. But, so did I! Berry soup is my favorite! This time I was done eating first.

Anna Hall 2nd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Chapman

Friends

I live in a snow globe left in a toy store. My snow globe has a volleyball and a soccer ball. I have two friends Gabriella and Abby. My snow globe is blue and it has the Eiffel Tower in it. It has very big snow and is rose gold. I have a Beanie Boo next to my snow globe. I am in the window. I see the Eiffel Tower. It is so pretty. A boy named David bought me. He took good care of me. He loved me so so much. The next day he and his family went to Disney. I exited my snow globe and then I grew taller and taller. Then I was a human! I am his sister now!

Fergie Hammel 2nd Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Hillary Waters

Snow Globe

I live in a snow globe left in a toy store. I have a dog. Her name is Saide. I have a brother and a sister. Their names are Andrew and Abbie. Every night I wake up my brother and sister. We go out of the globe. My sister and I look at the dolls. My brother looks at boring boy stuff.

Anna Kate Huggins 2nd Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Darris Waters

The Sick Princess

Once upon a time in a fair kingdom lived a princess. Her name was Shera. Shera was very nice. She was as soft as flowers and as sweet as apple pie. She loved her people, but one day she got very sick. She could not take care of her people. A few weeks later she was held by a spell. She was told the spell would wear off. Days passed and the spell did wear off. She felt free and not locked in the spell. She could take care of her people. They were so happy that Shera was better. But they forgot the witch that put on the spell on her was very greedy, not like the princess. The witch turned children into flies and frogs. She was planning to kill all of the kids, but it never worked because the people were locked in Shera's love. The witch tried different plans to hurt the people and Shera, but they never worked. The witch got crueler everytime she failed. But Shera kept the people in her love. Her love was always wrapped around them.

The witch had a very bad idea. It was to capture the princess! It worked. The king told his best knights to bring the princess back safely. They were terrified by the witch and her ogres. The witch's lair was very dirty. Something terrible happened and the knights got caught and locked up with the princess. They were unable to get out. The king was sad. He had to do something. He called all of his spies. The spies broke into the witch's lair and got the princess and the knights back. But when the witch noticed they were gone, she told her ogres to go get them. The king was happy to see the princess but not the ogres. He sent all of the knights to kill the ogres. The knights won the battle. Shera and her people lived happily ever after.

Bowie King 2nd Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Linda Pinter

Untitled

Do you want to go back in time to the Cherokee Tribe when you were a kid? First, our mom would wake us up bright and early to make the fire and make breakfast. The sons will hunt for deer, rabbits, and then find the three sisters, corn, beans, and squash. Next we will make more Cherokee masks to hunt the animals and to disguise them so the animals don't see them. Then, we would have the three sisters for lunch. It would be so good. Last, we would play outside. Then we would have deer and rabbit for dinner. Then we would go to sleep. That is what I would do if I were a kid in the Cherokee Tribe.

Naomi Koo 2nd grade Normal Park Museum Magnet School Teacher: Anna Livermore

Lost in the Woods of the Southeast

"Oh no!" I exclaimed "I'm lost!" How did I get out here anyway?"

I got a stick, stones and yarn. I sharpened one of the stones, grabbed the stick and yarn and tied them together. Woosh! I shivered as the strong wind blew past me. I walked around for a little while. Then, I heard footbeats form an animal. As it got closer to me, I noticed it was a wolf! Woosh! I ran as fast as I could. Luckily I lost the wolf. Then, I noticed the woods got damp and dark. I quickly got rocks and put them into a circle. Then, I got lots of thick sticks and one tin stick. Then I put the sticks in the middle of the circle. Next I put the think stick standing up used my hands to try to make a fire. My hands will be warm. The fire was warm, orange, yellow and red. Soon I got tired. Then, I drifted off to sleep.

Julianna LaPoint 2nd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Lower School Teacher: Kara Kruchinski

Sprite and Sophie

Once upon a time, there was a dog named Sprite and a tiger named Sophie. They ate ice cream at the park. They loved each other! They were best friends. One day, Sprite had to move from Georgia to Tennessee. They were both very sad. Then, a girl named Taylor helped them stay together by adopting both of them. Sprite barked and Sophie roared in excitement! Taylor took them shopping everyday. Then, they went home and had a feast. She loved them very much. They loved her, too! They lived happily ever after.

The End!

Taylor Llewellyn 2nd Grade Homeschool Teacher: Krissy Llewellyn

The Missing Toothbrushes

One day three monsters were enjoying brushing their teeth. They all went to get a quick drink of water. But when they go back to finish brushing their teeth, their toothbrushes were gone!

"Where could they have gone to?" said Book Man.

"They can't just walk away," said Pump.

"Chomp!" said Chomp.

They searched the entire bathroom but the toothbrushes were not there. So they did a big search. Book Man looked in the basement but they weren't there. Chomp looked in the living room but they were not there. Pump looked in the kitchen, but they were not there. So they all met in the hall and looked under the rug. But instead of finding their toothbrushes, they found a secret door and went inside. And to their surprise they found a thief with their toothbrushes. So they wrestled the thief and got their toothbrushes back and started happily brushing their teeth again. After all that, they wanted to watch TV but they could not find the remote! But then Chomp burped it out. He must have gotten hungry. All the monsters laughed in joy as they watched TV.

Emmett Mosley 2nd Grade Boyd Buchanan Elementary Teacher: Kayla Halstead

Home Alone

One morning on winter break, I woke up and I was home alone! I woke up, I went downstairs, no one. I went in the den and I thought they moved to another house without me. I was scared staying by myself but I can paint the house my favorite color. I stacked pillows in the front seat of the car. I drove to Wal-Mart and got paint, bright blue and green. I paid and went to the car and went home. I figured out how to open the can. I got it open and I found a brush. I painted the walls and decided to spell my name "Carson." It was funny. I painted the bathroom. I had more paint to paint the bathroom. I had to let all of it dry. My family showed up. They were so mad because they just painted the house. My dad and my mom and brother and sister, they were all mad. My mom and dad grounded me and sent me to my room. I cried and cried and cried. I made my head hurt. I took a nap after that. It was all just a dream.

Carson McBryar 2nd Grade Lookout Valley Elementary Candace Baggett

I need to Stay Up

Dear Dad,

I know you don't think I should stay up late but here is why I should. I have bad dreams that scare me. Sometimes I fall out of the bed. And sometimes I talk when I sleep. That makes me can't sleep.

Your friend, Jamarcus

Jamarcus McKinley 2nd grade Calvin Donaldson School Teacher: Mrs. Kristi Sahm

The Trip to Hogwarts

Today I got a letter. It wasn't just a lame letter. It was a letter to Hogwarts. I was really excited. The next morning there was a bus at my front door. I went in the bus and the bus was flying. We went a long ways away to get all of my stuff for school. I got my books and I got my wand. I got school clothes too. Then I got back on the bus and went home. The next day my mom and dad took me to the train station and I got on the train. I made some friends on the train. One of my friends from home, Lewis was going to Hogwarts too. I sat on the train with him. Lewis's pet was a mouse and my pet was a falcon. When we got to Hogwarts I got to meet Professor Dumbledore. I wanted to be in house Gryffindor and the hat picked for me to go there. I found my room and my roommate was Lewis. The next morning I went to the first day of school. They taught us how to make fireworks with our wands. Then we got to see baby dragons that were still in their eggs. I made another friend too his name was Maclane. My favorite thing we did was racing broomsticks and broomstick wars. My house won the first broomstick war and we were against Ravenclaw. One day I learned an invisibility spell and I made Lewis invisible. We played hide and go seek and Lewis won. I learned how to do other spells too. I could make people fly and I tested it on myself and I could fly. I really liked Hogwarts but I was ready to go home too. I rode a train home but I would go back next year. The end.

Jason Moore 2nd Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Sandy Greene

Untitled

Bump, bump, on the bus we went to Moccasin Bend. When we got there, a ranger told us all about Native Americans. Next he told us that Native Americans hunted mastodons. Mastodons are a little bit bigger than an elephant. Then, he told us the games that Native Americans played. They played Chunky and Stick Ball. Last, he told us conquistadores came to the Native Americans' land from Spain and they brought their diseases! There are still Native Americans out there. I liked going to Moccasin Bend.

Mathilda Petmecky 2nd grade Normal Park Museum Magnet School Teacher: Anna Livermore

La Playa de los Piratas

Una vez, yo fui a una playa en Florida. El viaje fue como de cinco horas. Al día siguiente, fuimos a la playa a jugar en la arena y el agua. Después de una hora en la playa, unas personas gritaban,

"İPiratas, piratas!"

Todos miraban al océano y allí estaba un barco de piratas. Alguien dijo:

"Alguien llame al ejército."

Ellos trajeron como diez tanques y un helicóptero. El helicóptero fue a atacar a los piratas. Pero los piratas lo fueron a atacar a él. Después de la batalla, el ejército ganó. Fue una aventura muy interesante en la playa.

Gavin Praytor
2nd Grade
St. Peter's Episcopal School
Teacher: Maria Carlone

Good Night my Snowman Came Alive...

It all started when I build a snowman with Cole and Audrey, my brother and my sister. When we wrapped the scarf around the snowman we thought that we saw it's hand move a tiny bit then it actually, truly, honestly waved!

"I saw it wave at me!!!"

I screamed, which surprised my siblings, but I didn't care. I just stood there gawking with my mouth open screaming! Then my siblings ran inside, got my mom and dad, just so you know they never scream so loud in their lives, it was so loud! They didn't even notice that the snowman ran inside but I did, so I chased him out and he ran away. So I gathered my family and we chased it through the woods, almost off the brow, around the block, in and out of the pool, and went to the fire station got in the firetruck put the sirens on and we barely got on when we check the time,

"it's midnight." I exclaimed and then in a blink of an eye the snowman was gone! We searched and searched then we finally gave up because we didn't know he was gone. We went to the house and the next morning I thought it was a dream. But I saw the water on the floor beside me and knew it had happened. I was so sleepy that I fell back asleep then I woke up and yelled "it was not a dream!"

So everyone knew it wasn't. And it never happened again (maybe once or twice!) The End.

Nissa Ruth
2nd grade
St. Nicholas School
Tankar Katia MaCarl

Teacher: Katie McCorkle

A Day in the Life

Hiss, hiss I was sleeping in my large wetu but the snake woke me up! First, I got my bow and arrow at 3:00am in the morning. I shot the snake and saved it for lunch. I ate rabbit, deer and elk. Next, I had hot berry tea. I made it by myself! Then I went swimming. I played which is the fastest. It felt warm. I ate dinner once again, I had hot berry sweet tea. Finally, I went to my large wetu and went to my soft bed and dreamed. The End.

Neel Shantha 2nd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Pamela Nelson

A Day in the Life!

Chirp, chirp, chirp I hear the birds chirping in the clear, blue sky. It was beautiful, it was a start to a good day. First, I made breakfast with Dalilah. I went out to wash my face with fresh water from the lake. I made my bed that had a fur blanket. Next, I went to find berries for Mom to make tea. I went to play stickball. Then, I made jewelry and vases with clay. The clay felt wet and squishy in my hands. Last, I got ready for bed. I listened to Dad's story about a legend of the moon. Mom made a snack before bed of berries in honey. Being a Native American is hard work!

Zuri Settles 2nd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Pamela Nelson

Thanksgiving Is Not Just about Turkey!

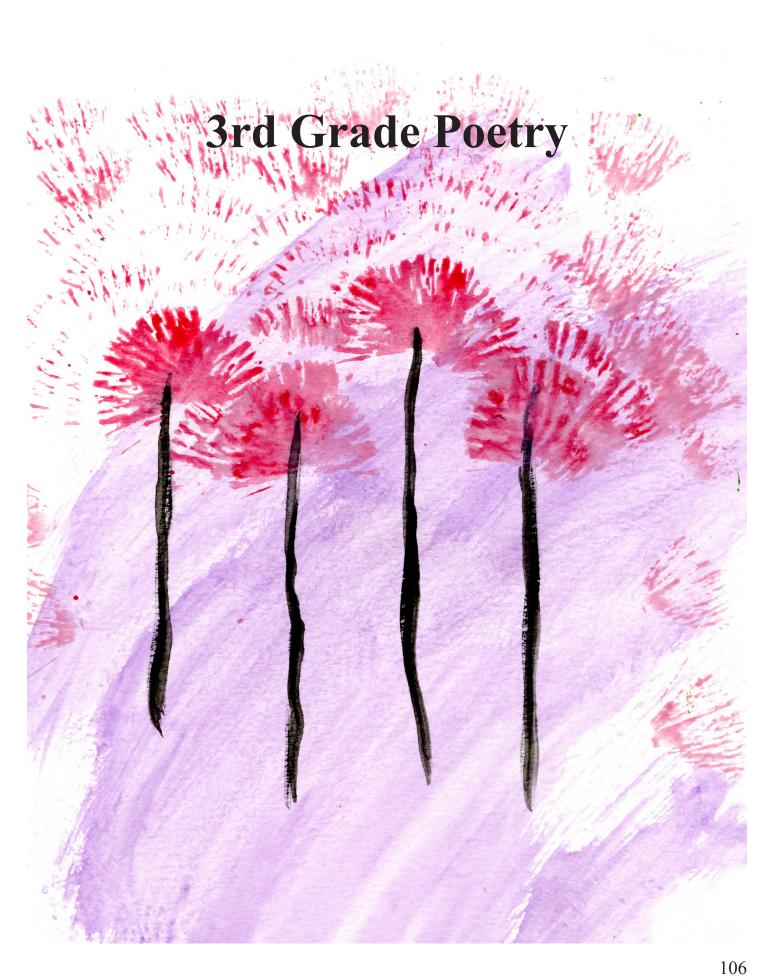
I, the turkey, have a plan to survive the Thanksgiving holiday. First, I am going to hide from my family, so I don't get lots of hugs and kisses. You know, when family members get together, they get mushy. Who really likes turkey meat anyway? I just want to play. I prefer football. One time, I made some good catches, like thirty yarders! Also, I want to play tag with my friends. We sometimes play hide-and-seek. My mom almost has a heart attack when I just play all of the time and do not watch out for the farmer. If he does try to catch me, I will run for my life. I would hide in a place that he would not think to look, under his bed maybe. That is, if I fit.

Chase Smith
2nd Grade
Soddy Elementary School
Teacher: Mrs. Tonia Mercer

The Hunt

My name is Wolf. My brother's name is Hawk. Hawk saw a deer. I heard a bird but we went after the deer. I hit the deer and Hawk killed the bird. I smelled tons of flowers. I got one for my mom. She will love it. I went home. It's made of wood. The wood is soft. For dinner Hawk and I had meat from the deer. The sun was going down. I had to go to sleep. I was happy for the great job I did.

Steel Smith 2nd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet School Teacher: Mrs. Chapman



A House Inside the Woods

When I grow up, I will live in an abandoned house

In the woods where the Indians used to live.

The house will be a cabin

All warm inside the woods.

I will have to grow a garden

And eat beans for my food.

All the animals will be my friends

Just as if they were humans.

There will be a stream

Where I can catch fish,

And over the stream is a tree

And on that tree there is a rope hanging

And that will be my rope swing.

I will take baths in that stream

In the summer.

There will be so many beautiful trees

In the Fall.

It will be very hard

but also very fun

to live inside the woods.

I will have a quiet place,

All the woods to me.

Naomi Antanaitis

3rd Grade

Home School (Ingleside Tutorial)

Teacher: Juli Antanaitis

Pickle tickle trouble

I gave a tickle
to my green pickle
I gave a tickle
to my silver nickel
I gave my pickle a bath
my pickle just hates math
So never give your pickle a tickle
Because it gets in a pickle tickle
Mess!

Kinsley Barnard 3rd Grade Big Ridge Elementary Teacher: Sandra Cipriani

Green Poem

Grass in the garden.
Luigi from Mario Bros.
My Shurley English.
My green troll.
My old shoes.
Watermelon from the store.
Our green washcloth.
My Hulk toy.
My dollar bill.
The pen in the school closet.
My brother's phone.

Rory Carpenter 3rd Grade Hilger Higher Learning

Green.

Teacher: Shelley George

Fireplace

Fireplace Hot, dangerous Burning, smoking, sparking Hard, heavy Wood

Lucas Coffelt 3rd Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Ione Matherley

One Wish

One wish, one wish, only,
I have one thing I want to see.
Although my Nanny is gone to heaven,
She continues to live in my heart.
It may seem impossible to you, but not to me.
One quick glimpse is all I need.
So please, please,
Try, try, your very best.
That is a lot to ask.
But you said,
"One wish, only."

Evie Nazor Comer 3rd Grade Nolan Elementary Teacher: Mrs. Leary

Blue

Blue is...

Salty like onion rings in the fryer Cool like lemonade on a hot day Sounds like music to my ears Feels like silk made in China Tastes like salt on gross food from a bad cook Makes your skin wet like a dolphin's skin Dangerous like a tiger in the jungle Lots of colors like the rainbow Magical like the galaxy Beautiful like my mom Blue is the ocean

Allison Crenshaw 3rd Grade St Peter's Episcopal School Teacher: Susan Bell

ANGER!

Very rough
Fire red face
Breathing hard
Dangerous as a dragon
"Don't mess with me!"
Never joyful
Disappointed
"I'm not your friend"
Get an answer wrong
Not eating Little Debbie's
Got in trouble
Stepped on a Lego

Quinn Davenport 3rd Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Hyer

Depressed

You scream and cry because the day you thought went bye-bye. Flowing down your cheeks of vain are tears because your day just turned insane. You can't stop your tantrum tear after tear.

Meg Finger 3rd Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Reasor

Red

Red, as a rose,

Red Easter decorations,

Red, as dark blood,

Red ashes from a fire,

Red is the color of the signal that says, "Stop!"

Red stripes on a beach ball,

Red lipstick on your lips,

Red hearts on your shirt,

Red circles on your shoes,

Red stripes on your shorts,

Red shingles on your roof,

Red fire trucks saving the day,

Red cherries sitting upon a table waiting to be eaten,

Red peppers making a person sweat,

Ruby red slippers on Dorothy's feet,

Red strawberries in a bowl,

Red foxes hunting in the night,

Red lobsters in the sea,

Red is the color of celebrations in China,

Red apples on a teacher's desk,

Red bedroom walls,

Red pandas at a zoo,

Red velvet cake upon a plate,

Red tomatoes in a crate,

Red angry birds on a T.V. show, and

Red is my favorite color you see.

That's why I wrote this poem, by me.

Maya Frassrand

3rd Grade

Nolan Elementary School

Teacher: Mrs. Leary

Grandparents are Grand!

Good artist
Returns my letters
Amazing
Never ignore me
Dives in the pool with me
Plays with me
Always nice
Returns my calls
Energetic
Never mean
Takes me shopping
Story teller

Eden Furr 3rd Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Ione Matherley

Sad

Gray like a Rain cloud, ready To burst with Tears. Always Crying, like Kids doing Something They don't Want. Really sad. As bad as Being lost in A deep, dark Woods, running Home, at least You think you Are. Sitting and Crying sad Tears. Always frowning Like a dead Butterfly,

Heart aching like fire.

Samantha George 3rd Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Womack's Class

Blue Birds

Little baby blue birds sitting in the nest,
Huddling to stay warm.
Winter is calling from the center of the heart,
Beating ever so slow.
The warmth of the mother would be so nice,
And perhaps a slice of warm.
But a storm is upon us,
Leaving the babies helpless,
Sitting, waiting, sad, maybe even scared.
Morning is now here,
So sunny, but cold.
Mother is here huddling with her babies,
As the sun is rising.

Elise Giles 3rd Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Mary Ferguson

Happiness

Happy is the feeling of laughter. Happy is fun. Happy is nice friends. Happy is comfort. You are all of it.

Martin Glover 3rd Grade Thrasher Elementary Teacher: Mr. Matt Sentef

Big Dumb Duck

there once was a big dumb duck who one day ran out of luck he ate someone's pie and was sentenced to die now you see him making a buck

Hudson Goodrich 3rd Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Michelle Mann

Fall Is...

Cool, spooky pumpkins scaring people Pretty, crunchy leaves falling out of the trees Bright, shining sun hurting your eyes if you look Big, red farmers getting work done Itchy, green grass spreading out on the ground

Logan Hadfield 3rd Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Lisa Holland

Snow Riding

We walk out the door

the early morning fog is laying on the fields

We breath in the cold brisk air

steam comes out of our mouth and nose

When we breathe.

We go to the barn

hop on the quads

turn the ignition

The quad roars to life

then sputters

and shakes

and shuts off

I try again and then

it roars

then sputters

I push the throttle

before it can shut off

Finally

It stays alive.

I switch the gear

out of neutral

It starts to roll forward

I push the throttle and roar off

into the snow-covered field.

The icy bottom-layer

hiding under the snow cracks

and the snow crunches under the tires as I ride

I see the snow-covered cows

in the field beside me

The engine roars

louder and louder and I feel the heat off the engine

as I push the throttle further.

further into the field

I can see a house with smoke coming out of the chimney

bright lit Christmas trees decorated

with red, green, and blue.

I make a sharp turn press the brakes at the same time

As I turn the quad around

It sends snow flying into the air

like a snow tsunami
I drive towards the middle of the field clutching the handle bars doing donuts
It sends snow flying in all different directions
I took the quad back to the barn so
I could go back to the house
and snuggle by a nice, warm fire.

Dahra Karimian 3rd Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Heidi Mies

Fall Is...

Tasty, crunchy apples getting picked Spooky trick-or-treaters going out at night Colorful, bright leaves falling from the trees Big, working farmers growing food Loving, caring families eating food together

David Litchford 3rd Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Lisa Holland

Pain

Crying madly
Covering-spot if anyone saw
Moving wildly
Mouth open for a long time
Yelling
"Help!"
"Owwwww!"
Screaming big time
Big, choking breath
Hit my face into a pole
Fell off my bike
Skinned my Knee
Got a shot from the doctor

Sunjay Ravinder 3rd Grade The Bright School Teacher Mrs. Hyer

Fall is...

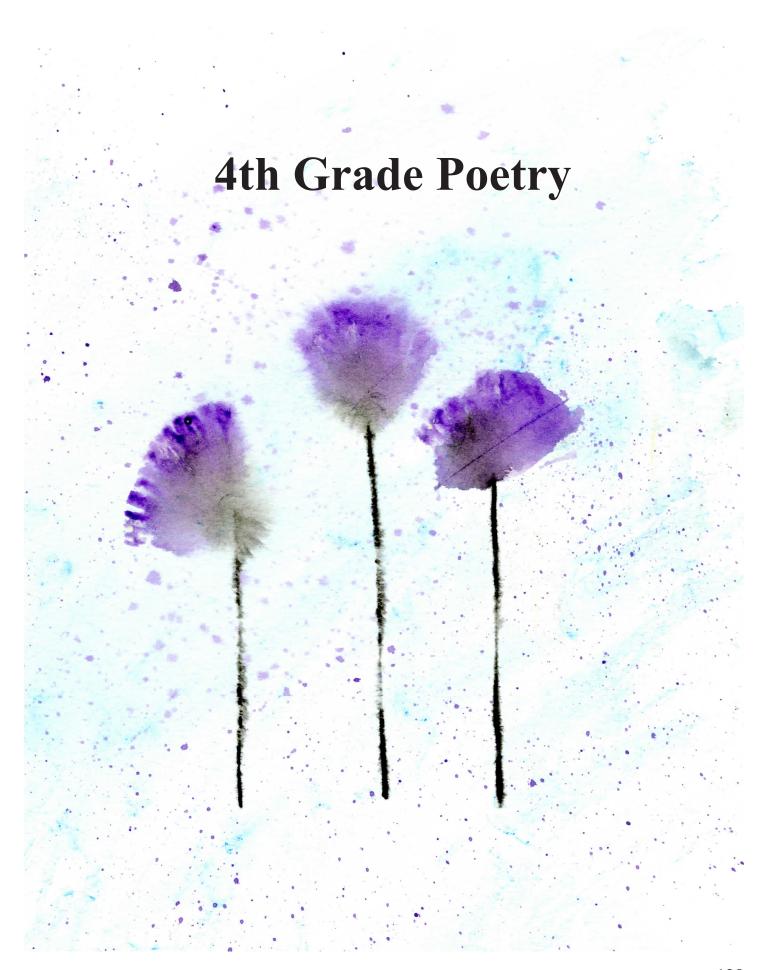
Juicy, red apples being picked Creepy, fun festivals making people laugh Warm, scratchy hay wagons being pulled Round, orange jack-o-lantern being carved Spooky, dead costumes being scary

Payton Rider 3rd Grade Boyd Buchanan Teacher: Bonnie Ray

Winter

Igloos lying
Near the sea wall
The waves tore apart
Eager to splash the hard
Rocks into the sea

William Schrader 3rd Grade Boyd Buchanan Teacher: Bonnie Ray



Untitled

When I try to rhyme I try to rhyme But I don't have time I look at my dime I try some lime I sat on my bed And I used some lead I looked at my head in the mirror And it was very red I saw a cat It attacked the rat That wore a hat There was a mat It was very fat I was tired I sat And I found a bat I saw the dog That was in the fog He tripped over a log In the forest i had to jog I went to the zoo I saw a kangaroo

Kaise Abazid, 4th Grade Annoor Academy Teacher: Kelsay Cate

Untitled

Let me take you back To when I was about four My hands were still small Could hardly open a door I would watch it on Saturday Either on TV or at the game All I wanted to do was play Just like they do...All the same For my birthday my dad got me a ball I didn't care that it was so hot All I wanted was for it to be fall My Mom said No, No you are not The school year was about to start It was going to be my first year Wasn't sure I had what it took to be smart But I knew I wanted to get my gear My Mom and Dad finally agreed So I needed them to get my stuff I had to learn to hit and work on my speed Wasn't sure if it was going to be too rough My coach was a dad of a friend of mine He taught me to snap and block as well All I needed was work and time And by the end of practice, boy did I smell I played my first two years and it was a success Made new friends that were here to stay My Mom and Dad said Yes, Yes, Yes But my third year I had to go to Red Bank to play New coaches, new players and new faces It really started to get fun As we got older, we played at different places Even in the snow and some in the sun My last two years we only suffered 1 loss We've worked hard at practice everyday As a team captain, I go out for the coin toss And if we win big, we get pizza after we play It's been 5 full seasons of play And I wouldn't change a thing I can honestly say I haven't missed a day

And you can tell by my 3 Super Bowl rings
Mom and Dad never miss a game
I see them sitting on the edge of their seat
They always scream and yell out my name
At the end of the day, we are a hard team to beat
I love to play football
At first it was a hard sell
But the rest of the year I play basketball and baseball
At the end of the season I hang up my pads
But I still love to go out back and throw with my Dad

Andrew Ashley
4th Grade
Thrasher Elementary
Teacher: Danielle Lillie

Drifting on my Back in Warm Ocean Water in Brazil

Over my head I see blue sky clouds turning into shapes of fish behind me I hear fish jumping then something touches me like a hand just seaweed to my right I see a seawall I need stand up and move I do, then my grandma calls crabs ready I love my grandma

Carlos Balieero 4th Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Allison Sakich

Five Flopping Fish

Five flopping fish sipped frappuccinos, Fanta, and Root Beer Floats. Fifty more rushed through the door until The frappuccinos were no more. The Fanta vanished without a trace, And all the floats were hidden, Just in case.

Wyatt Beasley 4th Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Amy Boyanton

Papaw

Kind, happy
Loving, talking, caring
Making waffles, walking Riley
Laughing, hugging, kissing
Pretty, funny
Nana

Gabrielle Boyd 4th Grade Boyd-Buchanan School Teacher: Geunita Ringold

Seasons Haiku

January snow
Ice below and snow above
Wonders of winter
Spring alas blooms flowers
Chilly yet warm feel of air
Spring is bringing cheer
Lake of blue and lush
Beach of swans and warm June sun
Warm and sunny sky
Fall winds blow leaves down
Chilly feel is all around
Fall has brought us here

Owen Brewer 4th Grade Nolan Elementary Teacher: Lindie Roden

Winter (My Cat)

Dark as a shadow in the night,
Hunting as an eagle in the sky,
Quick as a shark in the endless ocean,
Funny as a baby in his crib,
Shiny as the bright moon in the dark,
Smart as a fox in the weeds,
Hissing as he defends himself,
Lazy as a sloth in the trees,
Skillful as an Olympic athlete in the pool,
My cat winter-Meow Meow!

Oliver Conner 4th Grade Nolan Elementary Teacher: Lindie Roden

The Beloved Outdoors

The brave river crashing it's way down the path. The tree's leaves raining the fall colors down from the sky as I gaze up from the river. Wind fighting my hair as it blows. Squirrels scare me scribbling through the swaying trees. Birds overhead fluttering through the curved sky as I listen to their merry sound.

Henry Coulter
4th Grade
St. Peters Episcopal School
Teacher: Randi Schlosser

Fraggle

He has bat ears And fur of black When he eats He always smacks He waits for me At the door each day He is really fast When he runs away He loves for you To pat his head And sleeps in My warm, soft bed He lays by me When I feel blue I love Fraggle Yes I do

Satchel Cundiff 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Raquel Newton

Let's Be a Sloth Today

Let's climb a tree,
Or find a leaf to eat,
Let's use our slow joints,
To climb the highest tree points,
But please don't harm us,
For you may alarm us,
After all we are so harmless,
It might take us all day,
But this is the sloth way!

Alice Eaker 4th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Ms. Bethany Schklar

The Bird

The bird is beautiful
It makes lovely music
It flies so gracefully
The bird has many talents
It gathers worms for its babies
It builds a fluffy nest
The bird has black diamonds on each of her wings
And a brightly colored beak
It is amazing in all its ways.

Caroline Hilton 4th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Glass

Laying in the grass trying to read at my house in Chattanooga, Tennessee

Over my I head see beautiful red and orange leaves
Falling off the trees, flowing with the wind It's as if it's raining them
But they never hit the ground
I can hear behind the house,
My dad getting out the grill, to cook and my brother's feet
Pounding against the dirt.
To my right, I see a crow squawking with his scary eyes looking at me
I sit up and see an eagle drifting back to feed her babies
I wish I could stay.

Mia Kinney 4th Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Allison Sakich

Fall

Orange
a round, fat pumpkin
flowering mums
fresh pumpkin pie
a colorful wreath
Red
a crisp, juicy apple
creamy cranberry sauce
bright, falling leaves
an apple-pumpkin scented candle
Yellow
homemade applesauce
sun glowing off the leaves
the glow of a campfire
soft hay of a hayride

Cason Laing
4th Grade
Hilger Higher Learning
Teacher: Shelley George

Georgia

Where the cotton grows
Where the pine trees sway
Where I was born
Where I will stay
As a kid, I moved away
But I'll be back
One fine day

Naomi Malone 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Raquel Newton **Hockey: A Sonnet**

Skates that scrape the ice, snow that flies at stops, Players racing around a frozen sea. Fast slamming bodies into boards that rock Are just some reasons why I love hockey. Passes flying-saucer soar from taped sticks, Teammates calling for the puck with a shout, Shots that find an opening lightning-quick, Acrobatic goalies dive: keep it out! Dekes that become in-motion poetry End in crazy goals I'll try later outside, Red lights flashing, horns sound the victory So much fun I think I'm losing my mind. When it comes to hockey, nothing is bad. I love it most when I watch with my dad.

Alex McCarthy
4th Grade
Thrasher Elementary School
Teacher: Danielle Lillie

Mother Nature

The tree branches wove around the bold trunk as if
Mother Nature was knitting.
Nearby
a frosty stream sprinted out of my eye trickling as if
to whisper "slow poke".
Owls screech
behind the bold trunk
Mother Nature so expertly made,
but I did not take my eyes off
the running stream.

Jasper Parker 4th Grade St. Peter's Episcopal School Teacher: Randi Schlosser

Brave

Brave is going into the dark without a light
Brave feels like a spark of awesomeness on your tongue
Brave tastes like a taco with extra hot sauce
Brave smells like your lucky socks that you wear all week
Brave sounds like lightning hitting the Earth
Brave looks like a bald eagle flying into a storm
Brave makes you not afraid to fight
Brave makes you stronger in your life

Jaxson Simpkins
4th Grade
Big Ridge Elementary
Teacher: Sandra Cipriani

Untitled

Poems Or End of poems are Made Sometimes

Brody Thompson 4th Grade St. Nicholas School Teacher: Alice Revenig

Forest Rain

The redwoods are damp Wet with cold rain dropping down Reaching the trees roots

Henry Tutera 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Courtney Johnson

Untitled

Over my head, I see snowflakes
Falling down, glistening in the moon
Blowing in the wind, all the way down the street
I listen to the strangers laughing
The howling wind makes the voices fade away
I look down and my shawl is dragging in the frozen ground
Making the snow melt
I shiver, wishing I wore my boots
The air is too cold not to cry
My tears freeze on my cheeks
I look for something that I have never seen before
I wish I could get out of this place I will never call home

Miriam Fazio-Vives 4th Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Allison Sakich

Homework

Slowly walking up the stairs Lights go off, here and there Now the moon hangs just right It's time for me to say goodnight

Annabelle Wilson 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary Teacher: Courtney Johnson

Pawpaw

Loving
Lots of lectures
Super nice, bald head
Makes lots of new friends all the time
Kind

Caroline Williams
4th Grade
Boyd-Buchanan School
Teacher: Geunita Ringold

The Spring Day

Roses are red,
violets are blue.
There is sweet sugar
and bright orange honey.
The cats are purring,
the dogs are barking,
the water is calm,
the bees are buzzing,
the wind is blowing,
the flowers are blooming,
the earth is spinning.
What is it I see?
It's spring I see and it's just like me.

Amelia Willyerd 4th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet School Teacher: Miss Matty Kuhar

5th Grade Poetry



Fishing

A beautiful scene. The geese are flying over. The water rippling.

Brody Barnett 5th Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Jane Beasley

Merle the Squirrel

Weiner dog saw a black cat

He ran but he stumbles and falls

He is a weiner that jumps and rarely barks

He licks, he has floppy ears

He is a weiner with no bun

He has no mustard

And he has no ketchup

He is a weiner that is a dog.

He eats and sleeps

He is a weiner that you can not eat

He does not play with toys, he does not do tricks

He jiggles and wiggles

He is a weiner dog

He can not read he cannot write

He smells like dead fish

But feels like a Yeti

If you close a door he

Runs into it

He is just a big old weiner

Oscar Bailey

5th Grade

Normal Park Museum Magnet School

Teacher: Mrs.Henderson-Black

Sounds in the Night

I walk on the edge of the forest.

The light is very poor.

My feet crushing the leaves on the forest floor.

I see the snails,

I see the tails,

Crawling along the old rickety rails.

I see a buffalo all tough in its trail.

It's looking at me with anger.

It's getting to my mind,

I hear a scratch and a grind

My train is finally here.

Griffin Beck 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School

Teacher: Karen Simpson

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Family

Mom hardworker, fun caring, loving, giving mother, mommy, father, parent amazing, forgiving, helping funny, friend Dad

Piper Benton
5th Grade
Boyd Buchanan School
Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Jones

Dreams

I picture crickets chirping and I laying in grass With stars dancing and the night so vast

London Brevard 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

Climbing Tree

Sway forward Sway backward Feel the rough bark as you climb Pain struck your knees Bark hit them hard The pain can't stop you So keep climbing Climb higher and higher Forget the pain Be a bird in the sky Climb higher and higher Don't stop Until, you get to the top There you see the next one The next one to climb You've reached your goal Now scamper down fast Run to the next tree like your free! You see your knees they hurt but they can't stop you On to the next climbing tree

Caroline Curtis
5th Grade
The Bright School
Teacher: Mrs. Ann O'Brien

Winter

It's winter
The snow is glowing
That means winter is showing
It may start to get cold
But the Christmas spirit is bold
The Christmas tree shines
As we sit by the fire
Reading our favorite book
We peek out the window for a look
Here comes the stars
The sun is going down
As we start to lounge
I start to get tired
Merry Christmas

Sydney Douglas
5th Grade
Normal Park Museum Magnet
Teacher: Mrs. Jamie Jorgensen

Slick Cheetah

A fast, slick cheetah
will run past you
in a blink
Watch out!
It might wink at you
when it goes by.
Or it might sink its razor sharp teeth
into your teensy, tiny toes.

Ezra Duble 5th Grade Hilger Higher Learning Teacher: Shelley George

Starry Starry Night: A haiku

Starry starry night.
Painted with color black and white.
God made this world good.

Dillen Foster 5th Grade St. Nicholas School Teacher: Lynne Mulligan

Life and Death

Life is hard but you need to be tough Worry about the present as if it just struck Forget the past as it's just ashes in the wind Don't go lashing as you won't always win You're not through please don't give up You feel like you're done but don't give up There's people who love you so don't give up Please don't go I don't want you to leave I'm on the ground saying Jesus please I'm sorry I have to go I promise I'll see you later Please don't be sad How can I not be sad? You're going to go and not come back Just believe me I'm telling no lies I'll see you later, I've had a good life Now say Goodbye

Avery Glover
5th Grade
St. Peter's Episcopal School
Teacher: Mrs. Nelson

Twins

When you first begin to be a twin things may get a little tough

Sharing a room may turn into a monsoon

And toys are a whole different matter

Wait!

What's this!

You say you're identical!

Wonderful!

Well when you're identical things are impeccable

No one can tell you apart

The clothes are the same and hey not to blame!

But you've got to play your identical part!

Wear the same clothes

Maybe two afros,

Blue eyes, two eyes,

Something in between

Identical twins have all the fun it seems...

But let's say you're different

It's not all bad

You are unique

And unique you are

So stop wishing and just be who you are

Kate Henry

5th Grade

Thrasher Elementary School

Teacher: Karen Simpson

Just Chicken

I am a chicken I was cooked last night.

It was scary and it gave me a fright.

There was lots of leftovers so they ate very light.

Out of the refrigerator I must go.

Into the freezer and it feels like snow.

The door shuts and a cold wind blows.

Weeks later I am eaten again.

Then I saw a smoothie blend.

Then again I still have some of my meat.

The humans are not at all neat.

There is chicken all over the floor.

I will escape through the back door.

Quinn Holland 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

Let's Talk

Let's talk

About me and you

Things that are smooth

About people that are imperial

Kellogg's cereal

Fantasy and fairy tales

Trips, falls, and fails

Sweets and spice

And everything nice

Balls, courts

Grunts and snorts

Things and stuff

Billy Goats Gruff

Let's talk

Just me and you

About the fake and fiction

And stuck things and addiction

Bombs, grenades

Swords and blades

About gravitational pull

Donkeys and mules

Lakes, pools

Tables and stools

Moos and meows

Cats and cows

Quacks and clucks

Chickens and ducks

Oofs and K.O.s

What's the difference?

Nobody knows

This doesn't rhyme

I'm out of time

Decaf coffee

Lemonade tea

Let's Talk

Just you and me

Carter Kaylor

5th Grade

Normal Park Upper School

Teacher: Mrs. Brock

Loss

I don't remember my great-grandmother well
I can't remember her name
I do remember a nursing home
A visit with her cost me a visit at the museum
But she gave me a gold watch with a locket
The locket had a picture of my great-grandfather
The one I never got to meet
It reminds me of my little brother
I lost him for a little bit
But then I found him
I can never find my great-grandmother or father

Soleigh Kueter 5th Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Ann O'Brien

Hurricanes

Hurricanes hurt my Oompa Loompas
It got my kazoos
Now I have the blues.
My factory flooded
My products thudded.
I'm out of money
And this isn't funny.
I'm slowly drowning
And my kids are frowning.
I'm out of noodles
And I lost my poodles.
I hit my head
And I wish I was in bed
Hurricanes

Rocco Knoop 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

The Library

The library is the place I love the most.

When I step inside its book-filled walls,

I take a moment to acknowledge

All the stories stacked high.

They are calling for someone

To open their word-filled pages and read their lines.

So, I oblige them by walking down aisle after aisle,

Skimming over titles, trying to pick the perfect book.

When I find a book I like,

I settle in some quiet corner and begin to read.

The library is silent,

But my head is a whirlwind of sounds.

I might hear the shout of battle,

Where good triumphs over evil.

Or I might hear the call of the sea,

As it kisses the side of a boat as it sails to adventure.

After a while it will be time to go.

Even though I'd like to stay, I'll have to come back another day.

The library is the place I love the most,

But for now the library is closed.

Caleb Lee 5th Grade Hilger Higher Learning Teacher: Shelley George

Thankful to be Free

Soldiers and Veterans are strong and brave.

They fought for our lives and freedom so we can live without fear

When we go to bed at night.

Soldiers from all over fight for their lives, and ours.

Some don't come back, and die.

Crashing planes, explosions, and flying shells.

So brave.

Laying down their lives for us.

Some people don't appreciate what they do.

But some will wave that red, white, and blue.

Some will take a knee.

But that is not for me.

I wave the flag high and proud

So every one can see.

How great it is to be free.

When my brothers come home.

I know that they were out there for me.

Alex Lind 5th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Renae Marcus

Tests

I walk into the classroom.

It's time for my test!

I studied all night and didn't get any rest.

I did flashcards, and worksheets, and quizzing, Oh my!

I'll do my best or at least I'll try!

As she passes out the test, I get ready to begin my quest.

7 X 9 is 63 or is it possibly 70?

I can't decide! What will it be? A, B, C, or D?

I only have 5 minutes, you see! I must finish this very quickly.

Oh no! I only have a little time left.

So that means I'll just guess the rest.

I think I picked the right letter.

Next time I should study better.

Mia Lucas 5th Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Michelle Rudolph

Books of a Poet

Eyes locked on each imagination filled page.
When I read, it's like I can't age.
Even in books meant for a little one,
I really can't help having some fun.
It's like eating an ice cream on a hot summer day,
or like drinking cocoa, while in the wind, snowflakes sway.
When you read, your mind wonders with ideas. It's true.
Anyway, for now, I bid you a gloom-filled ado

Ben Monterde 5th Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Michelle Rudolph

Carries' winter

Carrie woke up one day to the call "CARRIE!"
Her mom needed help with Seattle,he was crying.
"What do I do Carrie!"
"Have you tried giving him his rattle?"
"Oh. So that's what I'm supposed to do."
"KIDS BREAKFAST!"
Carrie wasn't even hungry so she ate one berry.

Sara Muretcehajic 5th Grade Annoor Academy Teacher: Kelsay Cate

The Cat Doesn't Care

The fur shifts back and forth The lick of cleanness. It gets more wet each way it goes The cat doesn't care The fur moves like grass Getting hit by wind. It keeps minding its own business The paws get wet It dries fast not wet anymore The cat doesn't care No hair gets in the mouth Clean cut no crazy hairs sticking out They all fit in The cat doesn't care The colors look like they go together But they don't. Just colors mixed But the cat doesn't care

Lauren Oxford 5th Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Ann O'Brien

Will You Remember Me?

Will you remember me when the world ends?
Will you remember me if I die?
I can't bear to see you sad.
I love to see you happy.
Will you be happy if I leave?
Would you be happy if I stayed?
All these questions
That you have to answer.
But don't worry;
Only answer...one
Will you remember me?

Rylee Raley 5th Grade St. Peter's Episcopal School Teacher: Mrs. Maounis

My Dad

I had a great dad, He was the best dad, He was disabled, He was limited to things, But he was happy, He was a sailor, His heart sailed, He made us happy, But then, He sadly died, We were very sad, There was a funeral, But we weren't invited, He gave my mom a rose bush, It always was dark and gloomy, Until the day he died.

Isabella Rice 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

Untitled

I gazed in the bowl And saw nothing in sight. Then I remembered, It was Halloween night. I needed to cook Some food for the kids So, I decided to make My homemade ribs. I brought a skeleton, A rotten egg too, A brain squished with grapes A small shoe A salad mixed with fish skin, A cricket covered in chocolate, A deep-fried wig And an old, cold socket. So I stirred and stirred And saw something surprising. My bowl of goodies Had started uprising. It went up and up Away and Away. It started to rain And didn't stay. Everyone looked up Everyone was shocked Their eyes popped out Their buckets dropped. They all stood still And I could tell with a blink of my eye

Zain Rifai 5th Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Ann O'Brien

This was not gonna end well...

The Blue Jay

Beautiful birds fly Blue, white, black and shades of gray Flying towards the sun

Connor Sumrall 5th Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Mrs. Jane Beasley

Science or Reading

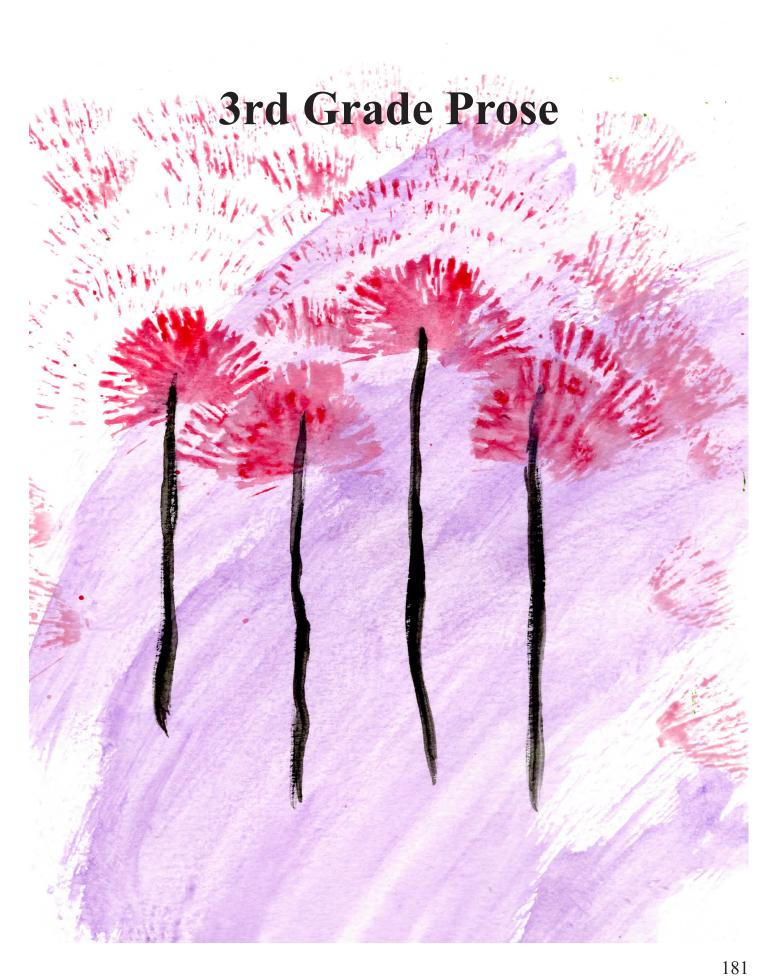
Science
Fun, cool
organizing, exciting, interesting
chemistry, biology, books, words
learning, riveting, calming
adventurous, magical
Reading

Macy Tapp 5th Grade Boyd Buchanan School Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Jones

Kindness

Kindness is what we all need
And what we want our cuts to bleed
Kindness is always what we eat
When we have a great feast
Kindness is all we love
And what we see in the great above
Kindness is what we desire
And what we all admire
Kindness is in the light
That we all see at midnight

Emily Williams
5th Grade
Thrasher Elementary School
Teacher: Karen Simpson



How The Unicorn Gave Up It's Horn

One day a unicorn was jumping around fairy land and she did'nt even need to worry about anything because fairy land didn't have any bad things that were going to come there. But one day the Unicorn safty patrol came to her house, and said "Hi I have some bad news." What she said. "Well there's a tornado and one Unicorn has to give up something that can control the tornado to the skygods so they can control the tornado and make it not go to fairy land or it will kill all the unicorns and they will die. So the Unicorn said "I will think about it." And of went the safty patrol to warn other unicorns about the tornado. So she went into her den feeling sad so she snuggeld into her bed with her blanket and she went to sleep... In the morning she went of in the woods and thought about what the unicorn safty patrol said about the tornado. Then a couple seconds later she found 3 baby unicorns! They did'nt have a home so she thought and thought. Then she desided to take them home!

When she got home she fed the 3 baby's "Here you go eat some food." She said "I will name you Ava, sarah and Kristen." She said with a big smile on her face. Do you like them she exlamed?"

"Yes!", they squeaked as it loudly ecoad in the den.

"Do you want to go play?" she asked.

They pointed out the hole and nodded "OK" I gess we are going outside to play! Gagoo Ava said scureing outside the den.

"Wait up," she said looking at the 3 unicorns. She got close to them and used her horn to put them in a magic bubble.

Kristen said "do it again!"

Ava said "go higher" Sarah laghed.

So she did. After a while of playing in the forest the safty patrole came back and said "its not safe out here. You need to go home" he said.

"But our home is 18 miles away!" Ava said.

"You can come with me, to my home!" But hurry!, the tornado is coming!

"OK" come on girls we have to go to his home"!

So of they went running it the wildernes. On the way it started to rain. She just wanted to stop Then she thought about what the Unicorn Safty Patrol said again she was determed to make it stop and it was her horn and she through her horn up in the air and they ran of to his house. In the morning thay looked at the sky and it was all clear, and that was how it was all afer that.

Harley Barrett 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet

Teacher: Amber Scott

Each Day is a New Day

When I wake up I the morning I see the sun peeking out from over the hills. "Each day is a new day" I say to myself.

I know that all days are cool in their own way. I hear the birds chirping. My mom comes in my room with my breakfast. She puts it on my bed and kisses me on the forehead.

"Good morning sweetie"she says.

I eat my food like a monster. When I finish, I bring it into the kitchen as I run downstairs to say good morning to everyone. I put my dirty dishes in the sink as I hug my family. I see my elf, Jack, in my Christmas stocking as if he has been waiting for me to find him for a very long time. I look over to the kitchen table and notice a big wonderful cake that says Maya in icing that was blue. I wondered what the cake was for as I thought about Christmas. Then I thought "there is something else on this day. My brother said something about a birthday. Could it be that it was my birthday? Then all of sudden my family started to chant something. They were chanting happy Birthday . It was my Birthday the whole time. Now I know for sure each day is new day.

Maya Bearden 3rd Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Michelle Mann

The Pineapple Touch

One day I woke up and I was at the beach, standing under a pineapple tree. A pineapple fell down and bonked me on my head. I tasted it and it was amazing! Then I asked the tree if I could have the pineapple touch. Later did I know that was a magical tree. Early the next morning, I woke up and went downstairs. I knew that it was Saturday because I could smell the pancakes that my dad was making. I touched my pancakes and they turned into a pineapple. My wish came true! I got the pineapple touch! I told my dad that I got the pineapple touch, but he did not believe me. So, I got so mad that I touched him, but I forgot that I had the touch so...he turned into a pineapple!

I raced up the stairs and said, "Mom, I turned Dad into a pineapple!"

But my mom did not believe me and she walked downstairs, I heard her scream as she raced upstairs and she went back into her room.

"Oh my gosh," I said, "what am I going to do?" I opened the door and it turned into a pineapple. I was getting pretty hungry so I got a knife and it turned into a pineapple. I thought and thought about what to do and remembered how I got touched under the pineapple tree. Right away I went to the beach and I tried to find the tree. There were so many trees. Finally, after an hour, I found the tree and asked it to take back the touch. I touched a bush. It did not turn into a pineapple. The curse was broken. I wonder if it was all a dream?

Ann Boehm
3rd Grade
The Bright School

Teacher: Mrs. Allie Hyer's Class

The Only One Left

Once there was a little village in the forest. There was a little girl and her name was The Girl Who Was Faithful. Everyone was dieing of no water and no food. The people had nothing. The people would take and never give to the god. The Girl Who Was Faithful would give water and food. The girl would help people when they were sick and dieing of no helth. The people thanked the little girl. It been days now and her people are dieing even more. She would take care of them and try her best. The Girl Who Was Faithful was the only one who could save the village.

"I can't live like this," shouted The Girl Who Was Faithful." This is to much pain I can't take it anymore, "cride The Girl Who Was Faithful.

The Girl Who Was Faithful had one flower left from her family. It was also the only flower left.

"I have to give up the only flower left and it's my only hope," sadly the little girl said.

So The Girl Who Was Faithful was sad that she had to give up the one and only flower left. Even though that was given from her family The Girl Who Was Faithful never gave up. So The Girl Who Was Faithful put the flower in the ground and the next day the sky became brighter the forest grew more beautiful flowers. Then there was food and water. The people were helthy and weren't sick anymore. Then rain came down and everyone cheered. The Girl Who Was Faithful was happy but also sad because the flower was given from her family and it was the only flower left. Everyone would have a party every year because of The Girl Who Was Faithful and how she made flowers for her people. The people did what they could to be like The Girl Who Was Faithful. The people never gave up and did what they been tought.

Zoey Chea 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Courtney Hueter

Untitled

"Its my first real day of school" exclaimed Ella hummingbird excitedly jumping up and down.

Ella was enthusiastic about her first day of school . ''Drink your hibiscus flowers before school'' said her mom. Ella was so excited she barely took one sip, but when she got to school she saw a brilliant peacock with reagul feathers . Ella tried to look like that beautiful peacock all morning. That afternoon she tried to be as close as possible to the peacock . At recess she marveled over the pretty aqua ,green purple, and blue colors that covered the peacock from head to toe. Ella even went so far as to ask where she got all those bright colors. But the peacock just walked away making her feathers swish behind her it bothered her even more in class though because the peacock sat right in front of her.

Heartbroken Ella climbed of the bus and walked heavily up her driveway that was wet from the rain ''How was your first day of school ''? Said her mom great mumbled Ella then she stomped of to her room as she looked at books about hummingbirds she made an astounding discovery she was a very interesting bird to she had features that other birds didn't have she could fly fast and move her wings in a circle she was olso very pretty she dicided she would be glad to be herself.

Kate Debenport 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Emily Pittman

The First Dog

Once upon a time there was a little girl who lived in the mountins. She was without a family. So, she had to hunt on her own. She liked to avoid danger. For this reason she only hunted the Woly Mamif. She was hungry and tired she was a long way from home. So she kept walking. She saw a rock it was a perfect place to rest. But she didn't know that she was being falloed by a wolf. Ruth ruth the wolf was beging for food. Just then his ears percd up.

"What do you hear the only thing I hear is the crunch, crunch, crunch of my crunchy rhino ripll and it is all for me."

Then the wolf ran away and she saw why. She was able to get away just in time. The sun was seting she came acros a cave. She was going to have her dinner and then hmm, hmm the wolf was asking for food again. The wolf let out a short sharp bark and then, the wolf started to tug on her for some reason. And then it ran away. The girl thoot about the wolf's other warning and she ran away too. She fallowed the wolf to a tree, it was the perfet place to rest. She climbd up the tree then she discovered the wolf was begging for food again. The wolf's eyes sparcled

"What can you see in this darkness? Only thing I see is my wooly rhio ripll and I plan on keeping it all to myself."

Its ears went back, its hair went up, the wolf looked so horrible that she tossed all her food down. But the wolf wasn't intersted in dinner anymore. The wolf run away. The cave girl thoot there might be danger nearby so she hid too. And then siber thooth cat jumped down from the tree. The siber thoot cat was gone by morning. They looked at where the Wooly rhino ripll once was. The girl thought about how the wolf saved her life.

"Wolf, if you help me hunt with your sharp eyes, good hearing and keen sense of smell, I promise I will share my woly rhino ripll with you."

The wolf wagged his tail.

"I will call you the dog, the one who wags his tail."

The End

Eda Ertoklar 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Courtney Hueter

My New Baby Sister

I had just woken up from a sleepover at my friend Elisabeth's house, when I heard "Ding, dong." I ran to the door with a huge smile on my face.

"Dad!"

"Are you ready to go meet your new sister?" my dad said cheerfully.

"Of course I am!"

"Then let's go."

"Thanks for having me," I yelled back to Elisabeth as I walked out the door.

"You're welcome," she said waving goodbye.

As we walked to the car my hands shivered in excitement.

"Dad," I said as we drove off,

"what is her name?"

"You'll see when we get there."

I was so excited I couldn't even think. As we got closer and closer to the hospital my heart filled with joy I got out of the car. I ran as fast as I could to the huge double doors right in front of me. I ran and ran as my dad showed me where the door was. We were finally there! I pushed opened the door to my mom's room!

"Mom! Mom!" I cheered! I couldn't believe my eyes. There sitting on my mom was my sweet little sister. "Mom, Dad, please, please, please, tell me her name," I begged.

"Her name is GRACE!" my mom and dad said all together in excitement and pure joy.

I love that name I thought to myself with a smile. My mom handed me Grace in my arms. As we walked to the car I couldn't believe I was finally a big sister!

Nancy Charline Cox Farrell
3rd Grade
The Bright School
Teacher: Mrs. Reasor

Mega Carrot Vs. Ultra Knife

There once was a boy who didn't know how to use a knife. One ordinary day; Friday to be exact, the boy was having carrots and mashed potatoes for dinner. There was knife right next to his plate. Magically, one of his carrots came to life. It started building up strength and it turned into a super hero named Mega Carrot. The next morning, the boy ate ham. Everyone else was asleep including Mega Carrot when, suddenly, the knife came to life. He was holding one little knife in each hand. The little boy, named Aaron, ran up the stairs and woke up Mega Carrot and told him that there was a live knife. Mega Carrot came running down. Lights of colors started blooming out of him. Ultra Knife tried to jump on top of Mega Carrot and slice him into pieces. But Mega Carrot suddenly swooshed his hands, caught Ultra Knife's handle, and threw him into the oven. Ultra Knife started heating up and melted. The End.

Martin Glover 3rd Grade Thrasher Elementary Teacher: Mr. Matt Sentef

The Fish Squad

This is the story about a school of fish that get chased by dangerous aquatic animals, looking for dinner. Hey bro. I'm Eel Capone. I'm the leader of the fish squad. Roughest school in the sea. I'll tell you the roughest thing me and my group ever had happen to us. It was midday and my group was tired. Someone said they would rather be eaten by a shark than keep going. And that's what almost happened.

Someone screamed "I take that back!"

My buddy Bugsy Seagull bellowed "All fins moving! Swerve formation!"

My other bud, Jimmy Gills, was already getting them into their spots.

"If none of you want to get eaten, I suggest you move!"

Me, I was swimming at the front, my buddies right behind me.

"Let's move! No man left behind!" I screamed. The shark right behind us, I suddenly recognized him. "Gary? That you?" I said, surprised.

"Hey, Eel. Mind if I take someone?"

"Take fishy face. He said he would rather be eaten than keep going."

"Thanks."

After that dude was gone, the trouble started. A seal picked off the worst members of my group. I escaped, of course. After that I was literally two inches away from a hungry frogfish.

Without getting eaten. WHACK. Ouch. I'm happy I'm not him.I later went over to ask for some supplies. But, I wasn't paying attention and was next to a jellyfish. He got me wrapped in his poisonous tentacle thingies and was just about to eat me when I got back my senses. Now, it was my turn to do the smacking.WHACK.SMACK.CRACK. That guy was rendered unconscious. I swam away with the supplies. Anyway, I figured out who was behind all this trying to eat me. A group of sharks, all led by Gary!

I said "Salmon Sammy, get up here. I need you to make a net about fifty feet. You can do that, I assume?"

"Of course." Sammy said matter of factly. After he made the net, we went to their lair. They were planning to have a whole school called the fish squad [us] eaten. Salmon Sammy was setting the trap above them. I had said "if you die, die with honor." He got the trap set up and gave the remote to trap the sharks. I smashed that button as soon as I got it. The sharks were trapped! I let the bacteria eat them. After that, life was normal. I got a few more members and trained them. Sammy got most of the credit that I said he could have as much credit I said he could have. This is how much he got: 99 percent. I should at least get 1 percent because I pressed the button. This the end of my story.

THE END.

Hudson Goodrich
3rd Grade
Thrasher Elementary School
Teacher: Michelle Mann

Untitled

"You are not acting like yourself today Serenna" "Are you feeling ok?", asked her friends Rosette and Natilie.

They went outside and they were frisking mermaids. But then Serenna started to play with Lily the peacock. Lily the peacock was the most popular bird in the school because her feathers were so shiny and beautiful. Then Serenna thought Lily the peacock was better than her because she was so popular. Serenna wanted to be like lily the peacock. When they started to play. Mrs. Twinkle there teacher suddenly called them to line up to go inside for tinker lab. Mrs. Twinkle told them to find two patners for the activity. Rosette and Natilie wanted to be with Serenna chose Lily the peacock and Kacy. Serenna told Rosette and Natilie that she would pick her next time. Kacy was Lily's best friend. They met at camp. The activity was to make an Native American and a colonial artifact. Lily, Kacy, and Serenna were making a dream catcher for the Native American artifact and for the Colonial artifact they were making a miniature ship. After tinker lab they went to do daily five. Serenna tried to sit as close to Lily and Kacy as she could. After daily five Serenna asked Lily were she got all of those blue, beautiful, and bright feathers.

"Your so silly said Lily the peacock I was born with feathers!", exclaimed lily the peacock saying it very quickly.

Then Lily the peacock just walked away making her feathers swish behind her back. She felt shocked that Lily the peacock just walked away and annoyed her. Then Mrs. Twinkle called Lily the peacock to come to talk to her. But Lily the peacock annoyed Mrs. Twinkle. Then Mrs. Twinkle went over to grab her and she had to go to the principal's office. Then Serenna relized that she shouldn't play with Lily and Kacy. She should have played with Rosette and Natilie instead of Lily and Kacy. So she went to apologize to them and the became best friends again. Serenna learned that its ok to be yourself. She also learned that she was just as good as Lily the peacock and that you should never be like someone else. Then Serenna felt very delighted to be herself and have her best friends back.

Kaitlyn Koo 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Emily Pittman

If I were a pioneer...

I would live out far west. I would have to ride in a wagon to get there. We would live in a log home. My Pa would have to hunt for food. If a wheel broke off a wagon my Pa would have to fix it. I think I would gather berries to eat. If I were a pioneer, I would work very hard. My Pa would chop down wood to build a house. In winter time the animals will hibernate. We would have to trade things we love to survive. My ma would make butter in the churn. I would do a lot of chores every day. We call deer meat venison. We will eat venison. In winter we would get snow and pour hot syrup on it, and that would be our candy. I think I would sleep in a trundle bed. There would be wild animals in the woods also. I know I would like being a pioneer.

Destiny Lame 3rd Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Launa Cooke

Untitled

Jack Lamar loved frosting. Because of that, he didn't eat well. He didn't eat his greens, or his cheese, and even his meats. Every time his mom made him food, he wouldn't eat because he'd sneak frosting just before dinner and then, he wouldn't feel good. One night he went downstairs when everybody was asleep and snuck a cupcake. He licked the frosting off and threw the cupcake away. Then, he went to bed. The next morning, he got dressed, slipped on his shoes, and went out the door. He walked down to the bakery to buy his mom a muffin for breakfast, but he was distracted by a golden colored cupcake. He checked his pocket for money. He had two bucks. He looked at the price on the cupcake tag. It was \$1.99. "Perfect!" Jack thought. He took the money out of his pocket.

"Could I please have that golden cupcake?" asked Jack.

"Oh, sure," said the cashier.

Jack reached over the counter and handed him the money. The cashier gave Jack the cupcake. Jack immediately ran out of the door. When he got home, he ran to his room and carefully unwrapped his cupcake, licked off the frosting, and threw the rest away. Then, he ran downstairs where his mom handed him a glass of water and some toast. He took a bite and it turned into a thick creamy frosting. Jack was surprised. He smiled. It tasted so good to him. Afterwards, he drank his water and it also turned to frosting.

"Jack, you ate all your breakfast!" said his mom.

"Yep, it turned to frosting."

"Ha ha! You're so funny," laughed mom, "Now, get off to school."

Jack walked out of the door. He opened the door to the school. He was a bit late and his class was already taking a test. He sat down and put his name on his paper. He started his test. Jack had a bad habit of chewing his pencil. As he was chewing his pencil, it immediately turned to frosting. Jack ate the whole pencil! Then, he looked down at his test. He was beginning to get thirsty.

"Can I please get a drink of water?" Jack asked his teacher.

"Sure," said his teacher "but, be quick."

He stood up and began to walk out of the room. He turned out the door and down the hall. He saw the faucet, leaned over to get a sip of water, turned the handle and while sipping the water it turned into a sweet creamy frosting. Jack was starting to get annoyed. When he got back to his classroom, they were already lining up for lunch. He quickly got in line and when they got to the lunchroom, he shook the lunch lady's hand.

"Thank you for my lunch," Jack said. But, before she could answer, she changed from human to frosting. She just stood there. Before this, frosting was Jack's favorite thing, but now he hated it. Then, Jack remembered the golden cupcake. What if the cupcake was magic and that's why everything he touched turned to frosting? Seeing someone with a phone, he snatched it and called the bakery.

"Hello," said Jack.

"Oh, hello," said the cashier, "what's up?"

"Bad stuff," said Jack, "I turned my lunch lady into frosting! Could you turn her back?"

"Sure," said the cashier.

"Oh, thank you," said Jack.

"Wait," said the cashier.

He waited. Finally, the lunch lady turned back into herself. Jack realized that he shouldn't be so greedy.

Jack Lamar 3rd Grade The Bright School

Teacher: Mrs. Cindy Womack

Trail Wise

I like Trail Wise. If you, my dear reader, were wondering, it is a trip to a very special place. It is a bit scary there too because there are venomous snakes there. I'll tell you about the very first time I visited. The bus slowed down to a halt. My friend, Lyrah and I unbuckled our seatbelts and sprang to our feet.

I said, "We should be careful."

"Yeah," agreed Lyrah.

We carefully got out of the old bus. The rocks moved under our feet. I looked around and decided it was safe.

"Pictures everyone!" smiled my teacher, Mrs. Copeland.

Our teacher led us to a cabin. I looked around. I could see the beautiful green on the tall looking trees and feel the hot sun. I walked on the grass and on to the wooden steps of the cabin. The door creaked a bit when I opened it and slammed shut when I closed it. Mrs. Copeland told us about Mr. Mark. He looked way different than I imagined. I thought he would look like a college student, but he looked like a grandpa with no glasses. He had a stiff voice, and he was very serious too. Mr. Mark, our teacher for Trail Wise, said we could put our lunch boxes on the wooden table outside. Then, he told us some stuff about nature. He told us that snakes were hibernating. We went for a walk, and I looked at my feet just in case. I went through the tall moist grass. I saw a bamboo forest. It was as tall as a giraffe. I was happy we didn't go in there. I was starting to get a bit hungry. My class went on the trail with rocks. Rocks crunched under our sneakers.

Mr. Mark told us, "We are going to make a competition. You are going to be put in groups."

He sorted us into groups with 4 people. I was with Britain, Alison, and Charlie. We named our team Tree Eagles. Each team came up with a challenge. Our team thought we would do a bull's eye challenge. We put a pretty green leaf in the middle of the bull's eye, and a yellow leaf, and then a brown leaf. There was also a big pile of dirt, and we made a square out of sticks. We used rocks as the darts. We had about one hour to finish. We had 3 teams in all: the Sly Foxes, Tree Eagles and one other team. Our team was up first. The two competing teams came to our area. We went to the other team's area too, and my favorite game was obstacles. We had to run, jump, and crawl. It was time to have lunch. The leaves crunched under our sneakers as we headed to the wooden cabin. We went past the bamboo forest and through the tall grass. We drug our feet to the wooden cabin, and opened the creaking door. We grabbed our lunch boxes and headed out the door. Our lunch boxes fell to our table, and we dropped down to the bench. Then, I unzipped my lunch box and dug in. I gobbled up my Cheetos, ate my yogurt, drank down my apple cider, and I was already full! It was time to go. I got out my fan and waved it at myself, as our old bus started down the curvy road.

Anna Lazarus
3rd Grade
St. Peter's Episcopal School
Teacher: Susan Bell

Untitled

Once upon a time there was a monster, a monster that loved ice cream. His name was Elerbert. He would go to the ice cream shop every day and get his favorite ice cream. One day a little girl came to his favorite ice cream shop and got all the ice cream.

Elebert saw a guy and asked him, "Did you see a girl that had ice cream in her hand?"

He said, "Yes, I did. She went in the forest."

Elerbert went through rivers and by dinosaurs, but he could not find the girl. All of a sudden he saw a huge light shining on the beach. He saw the girl on a chair eating all of the ice cream. They did not speak the same language. The girl spoke like a mouse. Elerbert spoke like a horse. Elerbert had an idea; they could use sign language.

Elerbert signed, "Can I have some ice cream?"

The girl signed, "You can."

Together they ate all of the ice cream.

Victoria Martinez 3rd Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Tammie Fricks

How Blue Birds Came to Our Land

Once in the woodlands by the Great Lakes lived a chief, his son, his daughter, and their people, the Iroquois. His daughter, She-Who-Follows-the-Wind, always wore a deer hide dress and tights. Her long, silky black hair glistened in the sun. Her brother, He-Who-Is-Faithful, always wore an elk skin shirt and baggy pants. He braided his long, silky, black hair and tucked eagle feathers in it. One day, they went out into the woods to gather firewood.

"Brother, I found a hollow log. This would make a great instrument!" said She-Who-Follows -The-Wind.

"Perfect! I found a long, strong, sturdy stick to hit your hollow log," said He-Who-Is-Faithful.

They forgot all about gathering the firewood. Feeling tired and hungry, they turned around to head back home. They soon realized they were lost. After an hour, they found a path back to their village. When they got back to their wigwam, they started to play the most joyful song anyone had ever heard using the hollow log and stick. Their people wanted them to play it all night, but since their father was chief, he commanded an order that the people had to go and give his poor children a rest. In the morning, the children started to walk back to the tree and brought the hollow log and stick with them. When they started to play, the bluest birds came out of the sky and flew into the tree. She-Who-Follows-The-Wind started to climb up to the top. When she reached the top, she shouted, "Brother climb up to the top and be quick about it!"

"Why?" responded He-Who-Is-Faithful.

"It will be worth it! I promise with my life!"

He-Who-Is-Faithful climbed up the tree. When he got to the top, he saw the bluest bird he had ever seen in his life! They then realized the great spirits had given the blue birds to the earth because their music was the happiest the great spirits had ever heard in all the land. From that day forward, the brother and the sister were always honored because the blue birds came to them when they played their music. In addition, from that point forward every year a celebration was held in honor of the siblings for bringing the blue birds down from the havens and to our world.

Zora McDonald 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Barbra Lail

Louie Spaceship Hogue

I want to tell you about my dog, Louie, and I want to tell you how much I love him. I love him to the moon and back. I love him to infinity. Louie is my goldendoodle. He has white, soft hair. He sometimes gets dirty and gets a little brown on his chin from playing in the mud. Louie is so big, I can't pick him up. My white furry dog has black eyes with a black nose. When we got Louie, he came with the name Mickey but we changed it to Louie. He was my gift when I turned five years old. I am nine years old now, which makes Louie four. My family came up with the name Louie from the Lookouts. We made his middle name Spaceship because when he jumped in the air it looked like he was flying like a spaceship. When my mom said we should name him Louie, I thought yes, that is perfect! So that is Louie's first name and middle name is Spaceship too. He is my space dog and I love him so much! Let me tell you about the day I got my dog, Louie. It was the day of my fifth birthday. My mom and dad said they were going to get me a surprise. I guessed so many things. I thought I was getting a trampoline. My mom and dad left the house while my grandmother came to stay with me. I was so excited when they came home with a big box with a big blue bow. I opened the box and a white puppy jumped out. He was a boy! My cousin, Mclean, came over to see him. That was a long time ago when I was five.

Remember, I am nine now. Can I tell you about life with Louie? When Louie was a puppy, he would chew on my moms phone. We thought he was perfect until he went potty everywhere! He jumped all over the place and loved to play everyday. Now he is calm because he has a sister, named Estelle. I don't want to talk about Estelle, lets talk about Louie. Here is something else about Louie. When my family and I were going to my grandmother's house with Louie there were other dogs like my cousin's dog Bella. They were fighting. Bella was chasing Louie when we got outside. Louie was limping. His paw was bleeding. We took him home and took care of him. My brother and I made him a fort with blankets, chairs, and a fan. I was so glad he did not have to go to the vet. Louie has been my best friend for four years. I love Louie. He is my whole heart.

The end.

Lillian Hogue 3rd Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Mary Ferguson

The Two Headed Dragon

The two headed dragon is very misunderstood. Everyone thinks he is mean, but he is nice. He lives in my backyard because he is a threat to everyone else because he has two heads. It was playing and one of the neighbors saw it and freaked out; I was inside washing the dishes ... then I heard him scream, so I ran outside. He had passed out because he was so scared. Then I put the dragon in a hiding spot. Then I called 911 and an ambulance came, luckily. He was fine whenever he woke up; he was panicking saying "dragon". So, I said "what dragon?". I said that it was a dream, he said "good".

The end.

Anthony Passalacqua 3rd Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Miller

The Mouse Freed the Lion

The mouse was prowling through the field. The owl was doing what he always does - trying to catch food. The mouse didn't get eaten though. The mouse sat on the lion looking upon the savannah. The lion caught the mouse on his back.

"Ahhhhhh!"

He's scared of the mouse. He let him go.

The mouse told his kids. Lion, "This mouse is my new friend!"

Hunters built a net to catch the lion. They caught the lion.

"ROAR!" The lion's strength wasn't enough.

The mouse tried to free the lion. The lion did not think the mouse could do it. The mouse kept freeing the lion. He freed him! The lion thanked him.

Caleb Paxton
3rd Grade
Hilger Higher Learning
Teacher: Shelley George

The Spectacular Snowman

Once there was a eight year old named Eli, he had brown hair, blue eyes and he really wanted to make a snowman. It was the coldest day of winter. There was a 90% chance of snow and a 10% chance of rain. When Eli heard about this on news channel 54, he rushed right toward the closet to get his fluffy and warm, cold-weather, hat, mittens, and jacket. The snow had just begun to fall from the sky. So, Eli rushed to his front yard and to his surprise it was completely covered! It had only been snowing for a few of seconds. How could this be? This snow must be magic! The snow could stay together for days and was perfect for building a snowman. What luck! Eli went to get his mini snow plow to plow up enough snow to start his work. Even though he plowed up a lot of the snow, the snow was still falling fast. He piled all of the snow in one spot so he wouldn't have to walk the whole block to gather snow. Then he made the biggest part of the snowman, the bottom. It was hard for him to keep making the snowman because there was snow flying everywhere, but Eli kept working. It wasn't long before he had taken his mini snow plow out again because he had used a lot of snow on the first part of his snowman. This time he plowed way more snow and it was still coming down. He piled the snow up at that same spot as last time. Now it was time to build the second part of the snowman, the body. Eli had some difficulty with sliding snow, but he didn't give up. He was set on building a snowman.

Finally, it was time to create the very last part of his snowman with the snow, the head. The snow was still falling heavily down. Even though Eli's hands were frozen, he still built the snowman's head. There before Eli, was the biggest and best snowman he had ever built, but there was more work to do. Eli knew that he had one more step to complete to have the perfect snowman. He had to decorate his snowman with eyes, a nose, a mouth, arms and of course, a hat! Eli remembered his family had a carrot patch surrounded black pebbles. He thought he could use one of the carrots as a nose and the black pebbles for eyes and a mouth. Then Eli searched his yard for two sticks for his snowman's arms. There was one last thing that he needed for the perfect snowman, a hat! So, Eli snuck inside and stole his father's fancy hat without making the slightest bit of sound. Then, he carefully added the hat and finished his snowman. When Eli saw his snowman, his heart nearly exploded with joy and he ran to gather his family. When they all arrived, they exclaimed, "What a spectacular snowman!"

Eli Sabatini 3rd grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Heidi Mies

Tom Cat

One day a cat came to our door and said, "Knock, knock." We said, "Who's there?"

He said, "A freezing cat who wants to come inside."

The cat came inside and had some hot chocolate. His name was Tom Cat. We were so surprised that he could talk. My mom was so surprised that she passed out! She woke up five hours later with Tom Cat right beside her. My mom found out that Tom Cat could help around the house, but he would not clean without his hat. He liked wearing a hat. I called him Tom Hat because he always wore a hat. Sometimes Tom Cat would cook dinner. When he did, all we got to eat was fish! We already had three cats. When they met him, my three cats started pouncing on him.

After two weeks had gone by, the cats started getting along better than the first day they met each other. Eventually, Tom Cat got tired of doing his chores, so he made the other cats do them. While they were doing his chores, Tom Cat ate popcorn and watched TV. Every day Tom Cat ate more and more popcorn, and he got fatter and fatter. Then he was so fat he could not do his chores. We go tired of him not doing his chores. My neighbors wanted a cat so we gave Tom Cat to our neighbors. My neighbors already had a dog. Tom Cat was sad because he was never going to get a dog to do his chores. Tom Cat was too scared to ask the dog if he could do his chores. Tom Cat was too scared the dog might chase him. Since Tom Cat knew he would have to do his own chores, he made a game out of it and made it fun.

Keaton Smith
3rd Grade
Silverdale Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Shannon Blakemore

How Lightning Came to Be!

Once long ago a thunderbird had large wings and lightning eyes. His home was a thick, brown branch with some moss in the woods. He was still a baby, so he could not fly. One day he tried to fly, but he fell and an Iroquois native caught him. He was knocked unconscious, so the native took care of the him. When he woke up, he blinked he made a mysterious beam of light. However, he could not control it. Therefore, he burned holes through the native's tepee.

The native asked, "Can you control your blinking?"

"NO I CAN'T CONTROL IT!"

He started to flap his wings. There was a loud boom every time his wings went up and down.

The Iroquois native said, "ARE YOU OK?"

Quiet muffling

"IT IS SO LOUD! YOU'RE JUST MUFFLING THUNDER BIRD," said the Iroquois native.

Then the native caught the thunderbird.

"Do you think you can control it?"

"Probably not! It might take over my life, and maybe even the whole world!" said thunderbird.

"Okay I'll try to let you fly. Just do not flap your wings too much. Oh, and don't blink too much."

"Okay, okay! I got it. Let's do this!"

So thunder bird went on and flapping his wings. Therefore, that is how lightning came to be.

Kamden Smith 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Barbra Lail

Tina the Mermaid

Tina, Bubbles, Angel, Crystal, Mama and Papa lived together in Pearly Waters on Aqua Court. They are the Fishman family and they are mermaids. Tina has always wanted to become a famous seahorse rider and jumper. Tina's older sister Crystal doubts her abilities and wants to stop her. Will she achieve her dreams? One day, Tina swam home from school with her 10 year old sister Angel. They both attended Mrs. Parsly's swim school and every day they swam home together. Angel, like Crystal, was always mean to Tina because of Tina's dreams to be a famous seahorse rider. But no matter what, Tina was determined. The sisters loved to tease Tina about her dreams. They would say, "you will fall on your face and break your hip." Tina was tired of the teasing and planned to go straight to her room after saying hi to her mama. But she heard a ding and then another ding. It was the call for a family meeting. In the family room, mama and papa were panicking trying to clean quickly.

"Mom, what's going on in here?" Angel asked.

Mama said, "We are having a family meeting."

Tina was very excited because she had a learning presentation about seahorses programmed into the tv. She sat down in one of the comfy ladyback chairs and put her fins up on the ottoman.

Angel said," Tina, those fins so gross, you were just playing in the seagrass."

Crystal said, "you're so gross."

"Crystal and Angel, stop making fun of your little sister," said Mom. "Say sorry to Tina."

"Sorry mom, sorry Tina," Angel and Crystal said together.

"Okay, let's call this family meeting to order," Papa said.

"This is very exciting news and a privilege for the Fishmans. The most famous seahorse jumper of all is staying at our house during competition week and eating all of her meals with us."

Mama exclaimed, "Dianna Margaret Soomers!" Tina jumped up as mama screamed, "yes, darling, lower your voice."

"OMG, she thinks Dianna will like her," Crystal said.

"Tina, would you like to share your sea horse riding report?"Mom asked. "No, no, everyone listen to Tina."

Tina walked up to the tv screen and pulled up her report.

"Seahorse riding is one of the most popular sports in all of the great sea, especially in my town of Pearly Waters. I have a dream to be a seahorse rider. Did you know seahorses have a unique tail that is called a prehensile or grasping? Seahorses are poor swimmers without the guidance of a mermaid. They prefer to anchor to objects to keep still."

"Tina, that's enough. You need to get your homework done and get ready for our visitor," said mama.

Tina did her homework and went to bed early after eating her seafood pizza. She was the first downstairs in the morning waiting for Dianna. They are breakfast together.

"Dianna, my daughter Tina wants to be a famous seahorse jumper one day just like you," mama said.

Dianna said, "How would you like to come back with me to Alvester Lands so we could

ride together?"

"That would be a dream come true!" said Tina.

At the end of the visit, Tina went with Dianna and became the most famous seahorse rider in big waters at the age of 27 and she won every competition she attended because of Dianna Margaret Soomers. Crystal and Angel always apologize for doubting her and she continued riding forever.

Lela Kate Sorrow 3rd Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Reasor

The Old Man Touch

Once a genie said, "you have 2 wishes."

And I said, "everything I touch is an old man!"

So, I went down stairs and I was going to drink my milk when instead it turned into an old man. I screamed! I thought I could turn the meanest kid in the grade to an old man. I went to school and saw him. He turned into an old man! My class laughed at him. I liked it at first, but then I went to get a drink and I drank old men. It was disgusting.

Then, I asked the genie, "can I have it back to normal, please?" He said, "Yes!"

Finally, everything was back to normal except for the mean bully. I didn't feel bad for him because he deserved it.

Ari Soss 3rd Grade The Bright School Teacher: Mrs. Allie Hyer

How the World was Made

Once a long long time ago their was a family two childen and a father, the two kids names were Emmy and Otis, there mother died when they were little, there dads name was Alex, Emmy is 10 Her brother is 11. It was 1500 when there mother deid and when she was still alive Emmy and Otis ask their mother how was the world made she was sick when they ask

"I don"t know I wonder to"

"she died from cancer"said Emmy "my friends mom has cancer"wisperd Emmy

"what tell her I'm sorry"said Otis "I'm going to ride the horses" hollered Otis "holly smokes why is there a dog in the woods"said Otis

Emmy was behind him

"what are you doing here"said Otis

"I wanted to ride my horse to, and I wanted to see what you were doing" said Emmy

"look at the dog I found .said Otis

The dog barked "ahh" Emmy had fell off her horse Otis did not know what to do he was thinking what to do he though he should get his dad but he said to him self she needs me so he started fire and and got food he made the tent out the deer skin, Emmy was in the tent with the dog. The next day Otis saw Emmy"s anckle it was really big, he let Emmy wake up, when Emmy got up she said oww Otis was really worried.

Otis said "do you want to trie to go home "said Otis

"no I fell of my hores last night I do not want to trie to go home do you see my anckle" said Emmy

"ok ok I want you to get better I can't get you better I just want to know if you want to trie to go home" shouted Otis

"I can't get on a horse even, its not easy without mom" cried Emmy

"I know its not easy" sid Otis

"Ok but where does the dog go" said Emmy

"I don't know" whispered Otis the dog was running away "come back" yeld the two Otis was running, Emmy was yelling and sitting down, the dog fel in a hole it had baby pups in it Otis said are those your pup the dog led to some where it was a died mother wolf

"I should have a name for you" said Otis Otis picked up the wolf pup and brought them back to the tent.

When Emmy saw them she said

"they are so cute can I hold them can a hold them" cried Emmy.

"One second" said Otis "but there are 10 of them did the mother get mad" said Emmy

"The mother ran away" wisperd Otis feeling gilty for telling Emmy

"Why said Emmy looking down "I really don't know what happen" said Otis walking "but" why would she leave her pups like that" wipserd Emmy

Otis was getin fire wood, right out there tent. Can I hold 'em, the horses looked at them and then one of the puppy snized

Emmy and Otis laughted "that is so cute laughted Emmy

"Yeah" cried Otis laughing

"I wish we could keep one" cried Emmy with tears

"Me to" cried Otis with a pink face then they took a nap when they wolk up Emmy said with a tired face. "I'am glad you're here Otis said "I'am glad you're here." The next day her ankle got a little better so they found the way home into the sunset.

Elli Welch 3rd Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Amber Scott

A Perspective from a Survivor of the Hindenburg

I am one of the survivors of the Hindenburg disaster. I once worked on a huge zeppelin. After leaving school, when I was thirteen, I wanted to work for my family, since my father had lost his job. I was lucky to find a job cooking and washing dishes for the Hindenburg crew. Did I mention that the Hindenburg was longer than two football fields? It was similar to an airplane without wings. Zeppelins were quicker to fly from Europe to North America, taking two and a half days compared to ships, which took two weeks. It had two floors of beautiful rooms! Passengers ate gourmet meals. Zeppelins flew close to the ground. People could even see dolphins and whales swimming playfully in the ocean. A lot of the zeppelin was taken up by 16 large "gas cells." They were bags of hydrogen gas, which was extremely flammable. A spark would create a huge explosion. However, German zeppelins had flown over one million miles without any issues.

The Hindenburg was supposed to land on the evening of May 6, 1937 in Lakehurst, New Jersey, but a storm had slowed it down. Finally, around 7 p.m., it was preparing to land. The zeppelin lowered slowly. Movie cameras were filming it. A small flame showed up randomly at the back. All of a sudden, KABOOM! BOOM! KABOOM! That was when I heard an explosion. A wall of fire came running towards me! A burst tank splashed me. I hoped I would be lucky enough to survive. It turned out, I was right. I quickly rose to my feet, saw a door, and kicked it open. Fortunately, we were close to the ground, so I jumped. After the tragedy of the Hindenburg, I married and soon had kids. I have lived to the age of 92.

"I was grateful for everything I was allowed to experience after that." Werner Franz (Vaughn White)

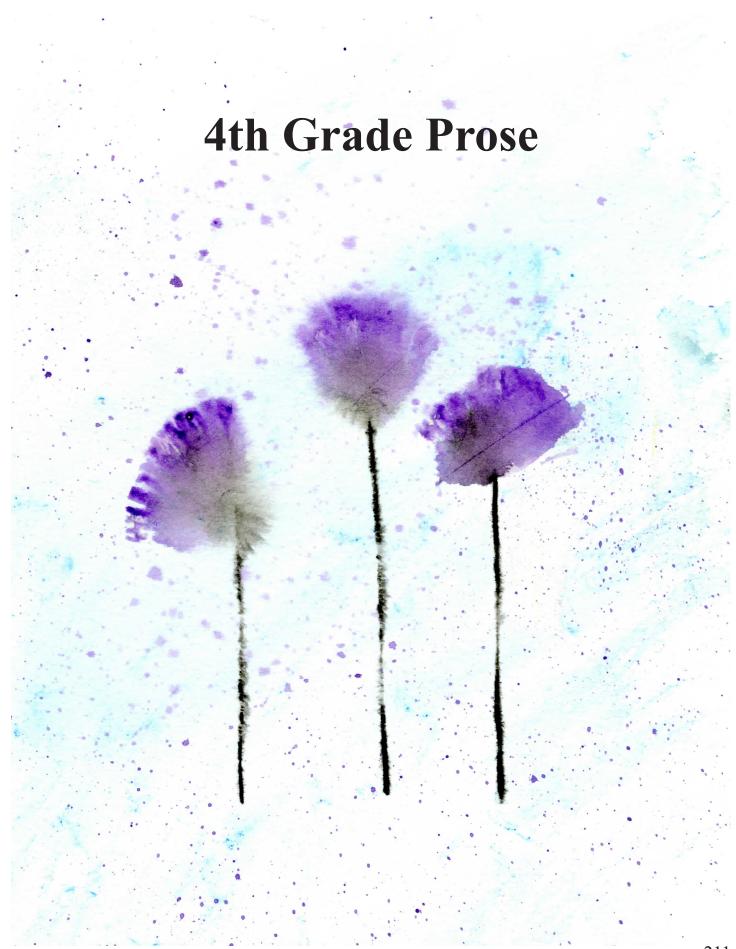
Vaughn White 3rd Grade Nolan Elementary School Teacher: Rebecca Leary

Eww! Dog Food

It all started on a marvelous day when I was two years old, and I was eating delicious dog food. At that time, I loved it, and my sister, Sophia, who was four, was at home. So I went into the pantry and was eating the dog food ravenously, when my sister caught me. Immediately, Sophia told my mom. Of course, I was still eating the yummy dog food. Mom shrieked at me to stop. Suddenly, Sophia tried to defend me when I got really upset, because I was told to quit eating my dog's food. I pulled a huge chunk of hair out of my sister's head. Boy, I was in really big trouble. I had to go to time out. It felt like two hours. Finally, I got out of time out, and I apologized to Mom and Sophia.

I said, "I promise I will never eat dog food again or pull my sister's hair out." To this day, I have kept my promise.

Isabella Zotos 3rd Grade Nolan Elementary School Teacher: Mrs. Leary



The Lost Soulmate

One day, a peacock named Pamela was strolling about a rainforest in Africa where she lived. When Pamela was going to her cozy home she heard a sound. THUD! Before Pamela could blink, she was thrown in a cage and tossed in a odd looking truck.

"Help, help!" she squawked.

The whole way to the mysterious place Pamela squawked and squawked and there was some more squawking after that. Finally, after an hour or two she got to the unknown place, Pamela saw a sign that said ZOO. A bearded man grabbed Pamela's pen who gave it to a women who walked over to an exhibit, which then carefully dropped Pamela's cage and opened the cage door and delicately took Pamela out and released her into the exhibit and left. There were many other peacocks in the area, but one stood out. He had marvelous feathers and a charming smile. Pamela wobbled over to the handsome peacock and said,

"Hi, I'm Pamela, who are you?"

"Palmer, the name's Palmer." Pamela blushed and said, "I am from Africa, I was taken from my home today. It was very mournful." Palmer said,

"Oh I am so sorry."

"It's ok," she said,

"Meet me at the pond tonight please."

And then with that, Palmer left. That night the two peacocks talked and talked, soon they were talking every day. One summer day Palmer asked Pamela to be his forever soulmate.

"YES!" Pamela cried.

But a week later in the middle of the night, Pamela was stolen and taken to another zoo. Palmer was very sad. One night Pamela knew she had to escape, she jumped over her fence and shuffled right out of that Zoo. She walked for miles, feeling like she lost everything, her home, her soulmate, her life. But finally, Pamela saw the zoo and with glee she wobbled over to her exhibit. Once Palmer saw her he cried, "My lovely you're back, oh how I've missed you!" Since that day on the two peacocks lived happily ever after!

Everly J. Bosinger 4th Grade Nolan Elementary School Teacher: Lindie Roden

Mystery in the Library

Once upon a time, there was a magical children's library where all the characters come to life at night. Biscuit, the little dog, is always the first one out of his book. One night soon after Biscuit scampered out of the beginning readers section, he was joined by Pinkalicious and her mischievous little brother, Peter, who likes to prank people. More of Biscuit's friends came to life to play and they were having a great time with some of their favorite book character buddies when Biscuit began barking loudly.

It was a good thing Fancy Nancy could speak dog.

"What is it?" she asked Biscuit.

Fancy Nancy listened for his reply. With a concerned look, she announced to the others, "Winnie the Pooh is missing! Biscuit can't find him anywhere and all he found when he looked in his book was the lid to Pooh's honey pot!"

That's when Fancy Nancy went into full detective mode so she could help Biscuit find his friend. Everyone was worried about Pooh and wondered where he could be, but they knew Fancy Nancy could solve the mystery. Fancy Nancy set out to question everyone who came to play in the library that night. King Arthur said he saw Winnie the Pooh with Eeyore who was looking very sad about something. King Arthur said that maybe Pooh ran away because he and Eeyore got in an argument.But Fancy Nancy knew that Eeyore always looked sad and that he and Pooh were best friends so there was nothing that could keep them apart. But where was Winnie the Pooh? The search continued and Biscuit sniffed around the library shelves for clues. Just as he was about to enter the chapter books section, he discovered a pile of cupcake wrappers, some crumbs of pink icing, a few sprinkles, and some sticky honey-flavored handprints. Biscuit called Fancy Nancy over to see the clue.

"Someone likes cupcakes a LOT. Who could it be?" she asked.

Tom Sawyer was quick to point his finger at Pinkalicious. Pinkalicious and Fancy Nancy were friends so Fancy Nancy knew that Pinkalicious' mom put her on a strict diet of no cupcakes because she turns colors when she eats them. If it was Pinkalicious, everyone would know by now!

"My brother likes cupcakes, too," said Pinkalicious!

Fancy Nancy turned to Peter who had been playing cops and robbers with his pal Tom Sawyer.

"It was me," said Peter with a sigh as he took off the robbers mask to show his bright pink face! Like his sister, Peter had a problem with cupcake icing. "I painted honey on the walls of the broom closet so Pooh would go in. When he smelled the honey and went in, I locked the door. I'm sorry. I thought it would be a funny prank. Fancy Nancy and all the book characters ran to the broom closet to let Pooh out. They found Pooh still licking the honey off the walls. He never even knew the door was locked! Peter apologized to Pooh and promised not to lock his friends in closets again.

Leah Brooks 4th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Glass

They're watching you

It was a nice, sunny morning, Lily and Emma woke up because of the wonderful smell of pancakes. On their way downstairs, it was almost like they were floating. As they sat down, Lily asked her mom if they could go play with Alex, the girl next door.

"Yeah, sure. Right after you're done with your breakfast," their mom said.

"Okay." Lily responded.

Then Emma whispered to Lily, "Let's eat fast so we can go play sooner."

"Good idea, Emma," Lily said.

They are fast. While they were putting on their boots they were saying goodbye to their mom and dad. They walked out the door and ran to Alex's house, and knocked on the door. Alex answered the door. Emma and Lily asked if she could play.

Alex said, "Hold on, let me ask my parents."

Then Alex shut the door. She didn't come back for a while. So they knocked on the door again--no one answered. So they put their ears up to the door and heard, "Go or die, go or die,"in a very little kids voice.

They opened the door and saw dolls facing the T.V.

They thought to themselves, "Alex doesn't like dolls; doesn't even have any."

They rubbed their eyes and looked back and still saw the dolls, but this time, they were looking at them. They got creeped out and screamed and ran. When they got to their doorstep the dolls were there. They screamed again and ran.

As they ran they said to each other, "Let's go to Maggie's house."

"Jinx!" Lily said.

"Lily, this is no time to jinx each other," Emma said.

"You're right." Lily said.

When they arrived at Maggie's house, they ran in and called Maggie's name over and over: "Maggie, Maggie, Maggie!"

As Maggie walked down the stairs with a doll in her hand--one of the dolls that Lily and Emma saw--Emma said, "Oh, Maggie, there you are."

"Wait, Maggie, put that doll down right now!" Lily exclaimed.

"What? Why? There's nothing wrong with it." Maggie replied.

"There are a million things wrong with that doll." Then they began to fight and then Lily noticed that the doll was gone.

"Uh, guys, where's

the doll?" Lily said, in the middle of the fight. Then they went and scattered and tried to find the doll.

"Aaaaaaaaah!" Emma screamed.

"She found it," Maggie and Lily said. They ran to the kitchen and saw the doll sitting on the counter with a knife in its hand.

Then they heard, "Guess you chose death."

They all screamed and ran to Maggie's room where they saw the dolls on the bed with their legs crossed, "Let's play the game of death. Come on, it'll be fun."

"Aaaaaaah!" they screamed, and ran back into the kitchen.

"Let's set up traps everywhere and then trap them. But, we make them think they're trapping us," Lily said.

So they set traps everywhere--upstairs, downstairs, even the backyard. When they were done, the trapping began.

"Hey dolls, hey dolls," and the net caught them and they stabbed them where their heart was and ripped them to shreds and threw them in the trash.

An hour later, the trash guys came and one of them saw the dolls and said, "Hey, Jim."

"Yeah, Fred"

"I found these dolls," and lifting the dolls up he said, "you want to give these to your daughters? They like dolls, right?"

"Yeah, sure," Jim said.

Sophia Candan 4th Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Shana Ivarson

Josh's Great Adventure: The UFO Incident

Josh is a blue merle miniature Australian Shephard. He lives in Roswell, New Mexico which is home to the Roswell UFO incident. Josh's owner is Trent, a 12-year-old, pimple-faced, skinny boy who is in the 6 th grade at Marcel Middle School. Trent loves Josh and spends time with him when Trent is not at school, taking Josh on long walks and throwing the tennis ball for him in his large back yard. Little does Josh know that when he is at school each day, Trent goes on his own adventures. This is a tale of one of Josh's greatest adventures yet—the UFO incident! One day when Trent was at school, Josh was lounging on his lawn chair in the back yard. It was cushy and just right for afternoon naps in the sun. Josh had stolen a bag of potato chips from the garbage on one of his walks with Trent and had hidden the chips in his big fluffy fur. Josh was looking forward to taking a nap on his lawn chair and eating his chips while Trent was at school. The sun felt good on his stomach, and Josh was dozing in the chair. He could barely keep his blue and brown eyes open, and Josh fell asleep in the warm sun.

All of the sudden, Josh startled due to a cold breeze on his fur. He was confused and could not figure out why it had suddenly gotten cold. He glanced around and realized he was not in his back yard in Roswell any more. Josh was laying on a cold, metal table like one of those tables in his most hated place, the vet! The table was in a gray, rounded room. There blinking lights on the wall and weird sounds coming from a room next door. Josh heard a "vvvvrooommm, vvvvrrrooom, vvvvrrooomm." The noise sounded like the engine of a car. Josh then felt a sharp jerk upward like he was moving off the ground and suddenly he felt like he was moving forward very fast, like he was riding on a roller coaster. Josh thought he might be in for a wild ride!

Next, Josh tried to get off the table. He slowly moved one paw and then the other. Josh could not get off the table. He realized that he was strapped down with cold, metal clamps. Josh tried wiggling out, but that did not work. Josh twisted his head and neck around and tried to bite into the clamps, but that did not work either. Josh was stuck, captured while he was taking his afternoon nap! Then, a strange creature slithered into the room. Josh bared his teeth and tried to lash out at the weird thing. The creature was large, skinny like a pencil, and looked like a snake. The creature had a big head with a large eye ball sticking out on the end of a tentacle. The creature had a mouth that appeared to always be open, and the mouth did not have any teeth. There was a long pointy tongue in the creature's mouth. The creature had two arms on the side of his pencil-thin body. Each arm had one hand with six fingers. In one hand, the creature held a drill, and there was nothing in the other. The creature slithered toward Josh with his long, skinny, snake-like body. Josh was afraid, very afraid!

Josh cowered on the table and tried desperately to get away, but Josh was stuck! More creatures slithered into the room. Oneheld a scalpel, and another held a saw. Still a third, held a needle and a shot. The creature holding the needle and the shot suddenly spring forward. Josh felt a prick in his right paw. Josh slowly got really sleepy, and his vision got blurry. Josh felt like he was having an out of body experience. He could look down at his body clamped to the metal table. He could see the scary, snake-like creatures slithering around his body. Josh heard saws and drills and could see the creatures at work, like surgeons. Josh could not feel a thing. He thought this was the weirdest dream ever. Josh swore he must have

eaten some moldy potato chips from the trash! Suddenly, Josh awoke with a start! He was still dazed from his afternoon nap and was thinking that he had the strangest dream. Josh stretched each leg and circled each paw. Josh was off that nasty, cold, metal table. Josh realized he was in his comfy lawn chair. He got up off his lawn chair and walked around. Josh was shaky and walked dizzily. He looked to the corner of the yard and saw that his pooch pal, Diego the chihuahua, was looking through the fence.

Josh said, "Man, I had the strangest dream."

Diego asked Josh what happened. Josh said it felt like he was abducted by aliens. A few seconds after he said that, Josh wondered if it was really a dream. Josh walked over to Diego. All of the sudden a huge gust of wind came soaring at them. It knocked Josh over! Josh and his pooch pal looked up to the sky to see a large, gray UFO fly up and away from the house. Josh barked at the UFO until he could no longer see it in the sky. Then, Trent rode up to the fence on his bike. He yelled at Josh to quit barking. Josh tucked his tail and whined.

He turned his head toward Diego, and Josh said, "I am glad to have my human home." Josh slowly walked towards Trent.

As he did, Diego yelled, "Nice glow!"

Josh wondered what he was talking about and looked at his reflection in a puddle. Josh realized that he was glowing green and thought that it must have been from the alien surgical procedure he experienced. Finally, Josh knew that he did not have a weird dream. Josh was another UFO incident in Roswell, New Mexico. Josh trotted to Trent and barked. He was ready for a Josh and Trent walk and vowed to never to steal any more potato chips from the trash again! Josh swore that was what started his greatest adventure yet—the UFO incident!

Levi Crowe 4th Grade Boyd Buchanan Elementary School Teacher: Mrs. Kay Lee Smith

Middle Earth

Our story begins with a girl named Molly Hampton. Molly lived in France with her father. Her father had built a small house in the woods. Molly was about 10 when she asked her father for a bow and ten arrows.

Her father, who was a kind man, said to his daughter, "I will make you these things, if and only if you promise me you will not follow the midnight fairy."

Of course, Molly said, "I will not follow the fairy."

Soon Molly's father gave her the things she desired.

That evening Molly asked her father, "Father, when I go out with my bow and arrows I would like to try them out. I promise I'll be safe and I have weapons, may I please go?"

Her father who trusted her, returned her question with, "my darling daughter, you may go into the forest alone just be careful, always be mindful of the creatures around you, don't stray too far."

Molly was very thankful for this and after supper she went out on her own. There were many spectacular sites. It had started to snow and she could see the moon's light shining down through all the icicles and she said to herself, "It must be a full moon, I've never seen such brightness coming down to the world."

Then she saw a glistening little silhouette that was floating, it was no bigger than her pinky. She thought it was amazing to see such a tiny creature. She stepped forward to get a closer look at this tiny creature. She could almost tell at once it was flying. She thought to herself, "this must be a fairy."

Then she said to the fairy, "hello."

The fairy just stared at Molly as if she was crazy.

Then the fairy said, "Hello, I am Serena, I am a Midnight Fairy. Please come with me." Without thinking, Molly followed Serena. They came to a great tree that had a hole in it.

Then Serena said "Jump Molly, jump in the hole!"

Molly jumped in, she could feel herself traveling through time and space. The feeling was not pleasant or terrible. When she had opened her eyes, she realized that she was not on Earth anymore because she could see fairies, elves, witches and wizards. Then she remembered stories her father had told her about a place called Middle Earth. She had a sudden realization that she was in the place her father called Middle Earth! Then Molly saw and old witch on a broomstick. She seemed to be coming closer to her. Then the old witch came down to Molly and told her to get on the broomstick. Despite what her father said, she got on with the witch and then went flying through the air.

Then the witch said, "My name is Helga."

Molly said, "I am Molly."

Then Helga smiled and said, "what a brave girl you are getting on a broom with a witch and telling her your name without hesitation. Oh and we are going to the queen of fairies."

On the way to see the queen of fairies, a blast of fire hit them and they went swirling through the air.

Then Helga started to yell, "It must have been a dragon! You must fight it!"

Molly then said, "But I can't, you're the witch. All I have are my bow and arrows, I cannot defeat a dragon!"

"Oh my dear girl you have so much more than just a bow and arrows! You are smart, brave, and strong. I know you can defeat it" said Helga.

The dragon was emerald green and huge. Molly was worried that she might not live to get back to Earth. Then, with strong arms she pulled back the bow. The force of the arrow being let go knocked her down. She did in fact kill the dragon but she did not see it happen because she had been knocked out. Molly then mysteriously woke up in the house with her father.

Rainie Davis 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary Teacher: Danielle Lillie

MIA'S TERRIFYING ADVENTURE

What if it sinks? Thought 10 year old Mia Gusher as she fidgeted with her bracelet that her twin sister (who sadly passed away) gave her. She was in her room of a boat that belonged to her uncle. Mia, along with her parents and her brother plus Uncle Ben were sailing the big ocean blue in an old-fashioned luxury yacht from 2018. It had all the safety features that any boat owner in 2018 ever wanted. Of course, the year was 2037. The reason Mia was so paranoid about the boat sinking is because her great, great, grandfather was on the famous TITANIC. He didn't make it out alive, but Mia's great, grandmother lived.

"Hi there, Stinky." Mia looked up.

It was Andrew, with his drone "Luis" floating above him. Andrew was her brother. And while Mia was 10, he was 13.

"Go away." Mia said stubbornly.

"But, what if I don't want to!"

Andrew teased, "Anyway, it's time to eat."

Mia sighed and said, "Fine. I'm coming."

As soon as Andrew walked out the door (along with his drone), Mia leapt to her feet and dashed to her wardrobe and opened the doors to reveal a hologram. She started looking up dresses to wear on the hologram. "Hmmm.... should I wear this orange dress, or this long one?" After trying to figure out what dress to wear, she decided to go with some jeans and a white shirt with purple polka dots. Then, Mia took the hologram and clicked on the outfit she wanted, and it immediately, teleported onto her body. The clothes she already had on had been teleported into the hologram. Then, she squeezed one of her golden earrings and, poof! She magically appeared in the dining room... it was 2037 after all! Everyone was already there (even Andrew, who was expected to all ways be late to dinner). The smell of heavy salt water and spaghetti reached Mia's nose as she slid into her seat. The dining room was tiny, and it was connected to the living room, witch had a balcony.

"Mia?" asked Dad

"Yea, Dad?" Mia answered back.

"Are you okay... you look a little green."

"Why? Is she seasick?" Andrew called out.

"Shut up, Andrew. I'm fine"

"Hey, quit the sass, Mia." Andrew argued back.

But her Dad and brother were right. She was still a little worried about the boat sinking. As she started eating, there was a moaning sound coming from the boat. She didn't think twice about that sound. However, her uncle went pale and left the dining room in a pace.

"Maybe Ben forgot something." Muttered Mom, looking quite sick herself.

After dinner, they all went to bed, but Mia couldn't sleep. She kept thinking, "I know it's going to sink. I KNOW it's going to sink." She tossed and turned, until Finally, she made up her mind to get dressed. She unfolded the clothes that she used during dinner and put it on under her PJs. Then, Mia decided to go get a drink of water. As she headed to the kitchen, she heard her uncle muttering in panic.

"Uncle Ben?" Mia asked as she poked her head in the control room.

"What, what, what, what! Who is it! Oh it's just you, Mia."

"Uncle Ben?" Mia asked. "Are you okay?"

"What! Oh fine! Yes, of course... just, go to bed." Uncle Ben said as he shooed Mia away.

As she retrieved to her soft bed, the boat started rocking in a weird way, and Mia started getting goose bumps. She tried hard not to pay attention to the rocking of the boat or her goose bumps. When Mia got into bed, she was more tired than ever. Mia got into a cozy position and slowly drifted to sleep.

"WAKE UP MIA, WAKE UP!!!!!" Mia woke up immediately. It was Andrew shaking her awake.

"What's wrong!" Mia said just as terrified as Andrew was.

"The boat..." Andrew said desperately.

"What about the boat?" Mia asked.

Just then, Luis (Andrew's drone) came gliding in to answer Mia's question.

"THE BOAT IS SINKING!!!!"

"WHAT!?!"Mia screamed.

Mia got out of bed and dashed to get her sweater and started taking her PJs off. When she was ready, she met Andrew outside her room.

"Come on, Mia. Come on, Luis!" Andrew called. "I already woke up Uncle Ben, Mom, and Dad." said Andrew as they ran towards the deck. The boat was leaning to one side as they ran to safety.

"MIA! ANDREW! GET OVER HERE!!!" Mom yelled.

As they retrieved to Mom, Uncle Ben said, "Come, now. Get in the lifeboat, quickly."

Dad was already in there- with food and water and blankets. First, Mom got in the lifeboat. Then Uncle Ben, then Andrew. Finally, it was Mia's turn. As Mia got in, she remembered: I forgot my bracelet. My twin sister's bracelet.

"I forgot my bracelet, Mom!!" Mia shouted over the raging waves.

"It's too late, honey!" Mom screamed back.

"But it's my sister's bracelet!!" Mia cried.

"... I'm... sorry, honey. There's nothing I can do..." Mia's soul was filled with anger.

"Then I'll get it myself!!" Mia shouted out.

Mia climbed out of the lifeboat and jumped. Surprisingly, she landed on the deck.

"SWEETY, NO!!!" Mom hollered desperately.

Mia began to run into the flooded yacht. The water was up to her chest, and it was freezing cold. Mia waded to her room, and dove down to find the bracelet. It was pitch black and the only way to find the prestos item is to rely on her sense of touch. Mia felt smooth wood and bed sheets floating around, but could not feel the crystal like texture of her bracelet. Hmm.. My snow globe, my projector, Aha! My bracelet! Mia got ahold of the bracelet and took of for some fresh air, but she could not find fresh air. Mia realized that the whole boat was under water! Mia was panicking and her lungs were aching, but she knew she had to stay calm. Mia looked around to see if there were any air bubbles. Then, she felt a button and pressed it. An air bubble appeared. Mia went into it, and took a big breath of air. Now all she needed to do was get out of there. Mia took another big breath and disappeared into the water.

As she swam forward, Mia felt the doorframe. She was out of her room. Mia swam forward again and realized she was lost. A wave of panic came over her. She was running out of air. She knew this was the end. Mia closed her eyes. Good by, world. She thought. Good by Andrew, good by mom and dad, goodbye uncle Ben... wait? Doesn't one of my earrings have a night vision hologram? Mia squeezed her left earring. It worked! She had night vision now. She could see everything clearly. She was in the hallway. All she needed to do is head to the kitchen and turn right. Mia headed to the kitchen and turned right. She was on the deck, but the whole deck was underwater (about 3 feet under)! The water was now so cold that even her eyelashes felt cold. Mia looked up. The surface was so close... Mia closed her eyes and swam as hard as she could.

Gasp!

Mia was at the surface. She had made it. She survived. She survived a sinking boat and managed to get her bracelet. While Mia was happy of being alive, she was also sorrowful. Her family was probably devastated, thinking she was dead. To make matters worse where was her family now? They could have been rescued already. Plus, who knows what's in water? Sharks could surround Mia and she wouldn't even notice. Just then, Mia saw something shiny in the water. She dove down to get it and went back up to examine it. Right away, Mia saw that it was Luis! The drone began to speak in a very weak robot voice..

"The water... it destabilizes me..." said Luis "I came after you...with the last bit of power I have left, I will show you where your family is..."

A beam of light came from Luis and it shown to a tiny lifeboat. Mia's family! Mia beamed and turned to Luis.

"Tell Andrew..." Luis continued. "That I was more than just a drone... I was like a brother... and that I will miss him..."

"Oh, Luis!" Mia cried.

"You are like a brother to me as well and I will miss you too!" Luis's programed face smiled and glitches away.

He was gone. "Rest in Peace, Luis." Mia whispered.

She put Luis in the water The drone sank deeper... And deeper... Anddeeper.

"Miaaaaaaaa!!!"

Mia turned.

She had forgot all about the beam of light. It was her father shouting in the distance from the tiny boat.

"Dad!" Mia cried as she was lifted onto the boat.

Mia took a time to acknowledge her family. All of a sudden, she started crying. She couldn't stop. Mia cried for being alive. She cried because her family found her. She cried because her great, great, grandfather didn't live. She cried for Luis, and soon enough, everyone was crying. They cried for a long time.

"WAAAAA!!" Uncle Ben wailed.

"Look!" Andrew called out, "A cruise ship."

Coming down to them. The colasole ship stopped right next to the ant sized lifeboat then, they all heard a voice from the ship and it said: "Hello, we have come to rescue you, now if you please get off your lifeboat and onto the ladders," said the voice over the cheering of the crowd

on the deck. Soon, they were on the cruise and were given food, clothes, a private room, and all the medical attention they could ever have. Later, when they were all in bed, Mia gave thanks to god for letting her live. When she was done, closed her eyes and went to sleep...

Lara Davila
4th grade
Thrasher Elementary School

Beach Surprise

It was a sunny day at Hilton Head Island, on the beach. A perfect day for swimming. After me, my Dad and Mom ate breakfast, we got ready to head out to the beach. We went out the door with some towels, sunscreen, and some beach toys. Once we came out of the building's shade the sun hit me like an oven and I could see the ocean sparkling. It always gives me have a happy feeling that makes me want to jump up and down. We started walking towards the shore, then I spotted several people kite flying, running, biking and swimming. You know that feeling you get when your toes slide into sand and it feels like heaven? Well I had that nice feeling. We settled into a spot that wasn't crowded. My Mom sat in her chair, but not me, I ran for the waves! I felt the cool foaming water around my feet. Then I saw my Dad getting into the water too. I ran to him and we walked out father into the rolling waves. I went out farther until the water came up to my shoulders and I stood on my tip-toes. Suddenly I felt a searing pain on my right arm.

"OUCH!" I screamed. "OWIE, OWIE, OWIE!" I screamed out again.

My Dad asked "What, what, what is it?"

We quickly got out of the water and went over to the lifeguard stand. The lifeguard said that there were a lot of people being stung by jellyfish that afternoon because the shore water was warm and jellies like that. He put vinegar on my red arm so it would help the stinging. After that we went to a small swimming pool because he told us the salt water in the ocean would make the sting feel worse. But my sting hurt so much, I didn't want to play and we went back to our condo to rest. My Dad used a credit card and rubbed it on my arm to get any tentacles out of my skin because you don't want anything left in your skin. We didn't find any tentacles and that was good because that would have hurt too. The burn mark on my arm even looked like a long thin tentacle in the picture my Mom took. The next few days after that, I played in the shallow tidal pools that are left after high tide because they are safe and don't have jellyfish. I've been back to that beach a few times since I was stung that day when I was 4 years old, and I am still a little scared of getting back into the ocean each time, because I remember that searing pain from the jellyfish.

Aiden Dysinger 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Courtney Johnson

Untitled

My name is Windsnap. Yes I am a wolf, but don't take that against me! I'm the good guy! It seems like everybody thinks wolves are monsters! Well, we're not! I'm not sneaking behind you, waiting until you turn your back! Anyway, I work for a organization called Wild Claws. Wild Claws makes sure the forest stays the way it should. Wolves are on top. That is very hard with our enemy. Our arch nemesis is the bobcats. Their plan is to take over the forest, and take all the woodland creators captive! I don't know how they plan to do this, so this is where my story begins.

"Agent Windsnap, I need you in my office now!" called Boss through the intercom of my room.

I hurried into his office. "What is it?" I asked, a bit worried."

Our army fought the bobcats but was forced to surrender! I expected them to take our supplies, and they did. But, after they took our weapons, they trapped the army! So, the main part of your mission, is to free the army and run. The next part of your mission, is not to die.

"I was a very good planning and fighting agent, but was famous for goofing off on missions."

"Got it!" I said carelessly.

I used my nose as a map, so it was easy to find them. I ran off track about twelve dozen times to chase a rabbit or a deer. Finally, I reached their base. The wolves were outside, and I was pretty sure the bobcats were trying to trick me. But as careless as I was, my nose still worked just fine. So I pranced around their base, freed the wolves, and then (completely ignoring what Boss said) I started to Samp; S-sneak and snoop. Pretty soon I was so lost in my crazy world, that I totally forgot what I was doing. So, it didn't take too long for dozens of bobcats to surround me. It took a while for me to notice, because I was busy playing Damsel in Distress. I was at the end of the game, where the damsel (me) kisses prince charming. Unfortunately, a bobcat was just the right distance behind me, so that when I whirled around to kiss "prince charming" I accidently kissed a bobcat.

"Oh my hero, I love you more than I can explain." I opened my eyes to see "prince charming" just to see a prickle-furred bobcat. "Whoops!" I said.

The bobcat leaped into the air caterwauling. I spun around to run away, but saw another wall of bobcats.

"Uh...heh,heh,hey fellas! How ya doin?"

Then I got an idea. I was going to let them tell me their plan, then I was going to act so crazy, that they would let me go. Then, I would go back to Wild Claws, and tell Boss their plan so we could defeat them! Perfect! The bobcat started to talk, so I put my plan to work.

"Well, well, if it isn't Windsnap!" I couldn't stop myself, "Um...actually it is," I said. "I know it is! Apparently, you don't know that evil guys are supposed to do that when they capture their enemy!" He shouted, annoyed. "Yeah, yeah, whatever." I said, rolling my eyes. I heard the bobcat mutter something about annoying dogs, but then he went back to talking.

"When we attack your base tomorrow morning, there will be no army, no Windsnap, and the wolves will be helpless!"

He started to do that evil laugh thing. I thought about telling him that I had freed the army, but I figured I would let someone else burst his bubble."

Anyway, now that you now our plan, we can't just let you run free, can we?" he growled.

"Well it wouldn't be that hard just to let me go, and maybe show me to the door." I said.

The bobcat glared at me. Then I got the best (and funniest) idea ever.

"Will you marry me?" I said making big smoochie lips.

The bobcat looked like he was going to blow up. He started to breath heavily. The other bobcats looked at each other, and then backed up and shrank down. I decided to light the firework.

"So," I asked, "is it a yes or a no?"

At those words, every single bobcat that was surrounding me dashed for cover. That bobcat then went wild. I took my chance, (while he was busy tearing down a curtain) and shot past him, and down the hallway. Somehow I managed to find the door, but just as I got out, a swarm of bobcats came up behind me. A chase, how fun! I sprinted here and there until I lost the bobcats. I got back to Wild Claws, and Boss was at the door.

"Tell me you made yourself useful, while you were gone." He demanded.

"Well..." I said and smiled.

I told him all about my adventure. So, in the end, we defeated the bobcats, and I got a whole lot more time to play Damsel in Distress. I have always been goofy, and I always will be goofy. That's just the way I am, and I'm proud of it. That's my story, and now there is nothing left to say but the moral: Damsel in Distress is very fun to play! Just kidding! The moral is anyone can achieve anything, no matter what they look like, what others think of them, and what they act like. So, I guess I'll just say see you next time! Windsnap, out.

Emma Dunlap 4th Grade Nolan Elementary School Teacher: Lindie Roden

Untitled

One morning, Henry looked out the window in his room. He saw the new leaves rustle. He thought, I don't really want to go to school, but I know I have to.

"Come down, it's time to go to school!" called his mother.

On the way to school, Henry looked out the dark window in the car. He saw a bird. He thought of what it would be like to be a bird. He thought it would be awesome. When he got to school, he walked into his classroom, and he saw his classmates practicing cursive. He joined them, and he thought, I think I want to be a bird watcher. His next class was gym class. He couldn't get the bird out of his head.

"Did you hear anything I just said?" asked his coach.

They were lifting weights. He could lift 30 pounds. When he got home from school, he thought, I have never seen a blue jay. I want to watch for one. He went outside, and he watched the crows soar around. Then, he saw a crow hit their neighbors' window, and it fell to the ground. He ran to the hurt crow.

"Dad, come quick!" Henry called.

"Coming!" yelled his dad.

His dad came out and Henry cried, "Can we take it to the vet?"

"No!" yelled his dad. "It's a wild crow!" His dad went inside.

"I guess I will have to hide you and take care of you," Henry said to the bird.

Henry went inside to get a shoebox. When he got back, the bird was still there. He scooped up the bird into the shoebox. He put the shoebox that had the bird in it into the basket on the back of his bike.

"I'm taking a ride on my bike!" yelled Henry.

"Ok!" yelled his dad back.

Henry started riding his bike to the vet. When he got there, he asked, "Can you help the bird?"

The desk lady said, "Sure, but it will 10\$."

"Ok," said Henry. "Can I run home to get the money?"

"Sure," said the desk lady.

He rode his bike home.

"Can I have 10\$ to spend on chips at the Town Square?" Henry asked his dad.

"Sure, just get 10\$ from my room."

"Ok," said Henry back.

Henry took the 10\$ from his dad's room. He rode his bike back to the vet. When he got there, they were almost done, and he paid them.

"It turns out that it's wing is broken, but we took care of it," said the desk lady.

When they brought the crow out, it had a cast on it's wing.

"We can take care of it until it's wing is healed."

"Ok," said Henry.

When they were done, he rode his bike home from the vet, and he rode his bike home. When he got home, his dad asked," What did you get?"

"Ummmmmmm..." said Henry. "Chips and soda."

"Ok," said his dad back." Did you bring anything back for me?"

"No, sorry," said Henry back.

"Then let's go to The Town Square together," said Henry's dad.

"Ok," said Henry back.

They got in the car and went to The Town Square.

Reese Finlay 4th Grade The Bright School

Teacher: Mrs. Allison Sakich

A Bear's Story

"K-rack!" Ben was just born when his mama bear was being hunted. "Bang!" The sound of shouting men filled Ben with fear when all of a sudden, "crackel!" His mama fell down in the dirt and within seconds his mama had passed away. Ben would rather help his mama than run and hide but he had no choice. The hunters were getting closer and Ben didn't know what to do so he ran as fast as he could and he finally found a place to hide. It was a big boulder that was sticking out of the side of a hill. The hunters finally decided to leave as all of the animals in the forest came out of their hiding spots to stare at Ben with their eyes wide open. Ben looks down at his legs and sees one of them bleeding. That's when he felt the pain. Ben hobbled over to a nearby pond. He gently sticks his foot into the water to heal the pain.

"Are you okay?" whispered a raspy voice into the shadows.

"I'm fine and who are you?"

My name is Wilson and you are?" Wilson whispered.

"My name is Ben," Ben said in a shy voice.

Wilson hopped out of the deep dark forest and revealed himself. He was a big grey animal with triangular ears and smooth fur. Wilson was a wolf. Mama had told Ben not to be around wolves. Mama had said that wolves were the sneakiest animals in the forest. Except for one wolf. This wolf was very nice. Ben's mama said he was the nicest animal she ever knew. Was that him though? Ben was not sure he was. When Ben was just about to ask, the wolf said "come with me" as if he already knew what Ben was going to say. Ben followed Wilson and they finally reached a very wide and tall cave with no animal to claim it.

"The cave's for you" Wilson said. "It's for when you hibernate."

Ben had forgotten that it was almost winter. Ben said thank you and dozed to sleep in his cave. The winter months had passed and it was the beginning of March when Ben had just woken up from his nap. He limped to a nearby creek to get some water and salmon. He noticed Wilson in the distance with a poor looking face staring down at the waters.

Ben walked up and said, "What's wrong?" "Humans are moving into the forest and taking our land" he said, in a quiet voice.

Ben paused for a moment... "We could scare them off," Ben said. "Have they already built houses?"

"No, but they've cut down most of the trees and they're building on Sunday," whispered Wilson.

"How did you know when they're building?"

"I saw it on a dropped newspaper."

"Well, when did you learn to read?" Ben questioned.

"That doesn't matter," Wilson said. "Anyway, we might be able to scare them off," Ben said.

On Monday they woke up early to see what was going on. It took about two hours to get to the construction site. Once they made it they were terrified. The humans were huge, but their machines were as big as the cave. Next thing they knew they were back at the caves. "We are going to have to plan how we are going to do this." So they planned and planned. They finally planned out the things they were going to do. They had a plan to go out at night and ruin the

site. Wednesday they got in the garbage. Thursday they broke into someone's car and Friday they hid the keys to all the bulldozers. But that still didn't do anything. So Ben and Wilson went and told every animal that humans are taking over their land.

"All carnivores and herbivores shall join together and get back our land!" Wilson said. All the animals planned to do it in the afternoon. Than Saturday it was the hottest day outside. The men were soaked in sweat and tired. Then they heard a huge noise. It was the animals! Men were screaming and running. Birds were chasing them, bears were messing with vehicles and snakes were climbing up their arms. They ran off and never returned. The animals had won and victory was theirs! The animals headed back to their homes and Ben and Wilson headed to the cave. Ben thought of mama and hoped she was proud of him and then glanced at Wilson and thought of him as one thing...family.

Chance Garvich
4th Grade
Thrasher Elementary
Teacher: Raquel Newton

The Sea Temple

Robert and David are very good friends since kindergarten. Robert is a tall, cubby kid with hazel eyes and blonde hair. David is smaller with dark brown hair and green eyes. They like to go on adventures and have lots of fun outside and inside. This is their tenth adventure and they are going to explore the ocean. Robert and David say good-bye to their mothers and meet up at the park carrying their scuba gear. Robert and David decided to catch a taxi and headed for the harbor with the dive boats. Once Robert and David got aboard the boat the pilot took them on a 30 minute boat ride to deep water. Both boys put on their scuba gear and got ready. They have great equipment and an emergency kit. When they were ready, they did a back flip into the ocean to find something interesting. It had been a twenty minute swim without success to find something to explore. While sitting on a floating buoy, they decided to take a rest. Robert looked down and saw what looked like strange, glowing lights.

Robert said to David, "This looks interesting so let's go explore those lights."

Both boys felt excitement as they back flipped into the water. As they dove down they made out a shape that looked like a sea castle. It was about the size of a big house and made of gray walls. The lights that caught their eyes were actually glowing worms that had attached themselves to the dark walls. Both boys took out their flashlights as they went inside to explore. David noticed that a big, red and yellow spider had attached to the head of his friend. Using his glove Robert knocked the spider away, then he used his spear to stab the spider. Very carefully they continued to swim further inside. Robert felt as though something swam close beside him. Looking behind him there was nothing there after all. Robert continued to follow David who was further ahead. David checked to see if Robert was still with him.

Both boys suddenly saw in front of them a huge octopus with its arms spread out in front of them. Each tentacle had a treasure chest in it. Robert and David both threw their spears at the octopus aiming at its eyes. The octopus reacts too fast and snapped both spears in half with his beak. The boys suddenly realized that the octopus had the advantage and that they had to do something quick. Taking out their flares from their emergency kit each boy shot each a flare toward the octopus. The bright flares temporarily blinded the octopus and caused him to let go of the small treasure chests and cover his eyes. David acted quickly and picked up a treasure chest and stuffed it inside his suit. The boys quickly swam out of the temple and headed to the surface. To their surprise the dive boat was right next to them and Robert and David climbed aboard. At the harbor both boys decided they had had enough adventure for the day. They got a taxi and returned back to the park. The boys then walked to Robert's house so that they could see what was in the one treasure chest that they managed to get. The boys first tried opening it with theirhands but it was locked and shut tight. Using a hammer they were able to break the lock. To their surprise the box contained a treasure map.

Robert looked at David and said, "I think this is just the beginning of our great find"

Charlie Harris
4th Grade
Silverdale Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Glass

Shyan's Adventure Of: The Lost Baby

"C'mon Shyan. Time to pick up Kyle from Day Care, Play Care!"

Oh, great Day Care, Play Care is SO boring! I thought. I put on my blush and got in the car, and a while later I felt that something was wrong. My left hand started tingling. (I'm physic and get a tingling feeling when something is wrong, but I haven't told my parents.)

"Mom," I trembled, "something is wrong."

"Oh, don't worry your pretty little head off," my father said.

I didn't even ask him the question! A while later, we were at Day Care, Play Care. No one was in carpool, and there were tons of cars in the parking lot.

"What's going on?" I asked.

We parked quickly and ran inside. Everyone was on the playground examining a hole in the rocks.

"It's as big as a watermelon!" a woman yelled.

There was a filled bucket and a shovel, a baby shovel, right next to it. We looked for 3-year-old Kyle. He loves to dig.

"Have you lost Kyle?!" I asked, panicked.

A grandfather said, "Who's Kyle?"

I squeezed through the crowd with my mom to find his teacher.

"NOOOOOOOO!!!!!!" I screamed.

I was as mad as a bee that got smacked!

My mom stomped up to Mrs. Tracy, "YOU—LOST—HIM--!"

My mother said in a maniacal voice. Meanwhile I was thinking about what to do.

"I'm going down the hole." I said.

"Please don' go." A little girl said, she was in tears.

"I have to, but I promise I'll be back safe."

"Otay." The little girl said.

I grabbed the itty-bitty shovel, waved farewell to everybody, and jumped in the hole. The light from outside lit the pathway. Everything was already dug. So, I laid the shovel down and kept crawling on wet, wet dirt.

"This is weird." I whispered.

After a while I climbed out of the hole and saw my house.

"I feel like he's inside." I whispered.

I appeared in my mom's garden. I saw the door wiiiiiiiiide open. And a mess in the kitchen. I got up and walked as slow as a tortoise to the door. I peeked inside.

"EEEEEEEE!" I screeched in happiness. My brother was sitting, eating crackers, making a mess. It was as messy as a barn. He dropped everything and ran to me.

"Sissy!" he croaked.

"Hey, grab your helmet really quick."

He ran up to his room, then down with his helmet. I grabbed his hand and my helmet. I put him in my bike basket, and rode quickly to Day Care, Play Care. My mom looked as sad as a crying emoji when we got there.

"Look who I found!" I shouted.

"Oh!!!" My mother croaked, "you found him!!!"

"Yep! I'll tell you the story when I'm in bed, let's go home."

So, we put my bike in the car and drove home. Therefore, we were all happy to have him back with us.

Brodi Headrick
4th Grade
The Bright School
Tancher: Mrs. Allican Sci

Teacher: Mrs. Allison Sakich

The Fixers

"Crash!"

"No!" I yelled.

I can't believe I dropped my iPad. "Finley, time to go to school," shouted mom.

"She is going to kill me," I thought.

"Okay, I will be right down." I put my iPad under my bed and ran down the stairs to leave for school.

When I got to school, I tried not to worry about my iPad. So, I turned my thoughts to picking a book for Library Day. I decided to try an origami book.

"Hey Maddie, can you show me where the origami books are?"

Maddie said, "Sure."

That day when I got home, I made five origami figures: an otter, raccoon, tiger, fox, and a whale. Then, I tried to get my iPad to turn on, but since there was now a crack in the screen, it would not work. I put it back under my bed. My mom called me down for dinner. I left all my origami figures in a circle. When I came back from dinner, they were huddled around my iPad. I was confused, so I asked my sister if she had moved my figures. She said she did not and that she did not even know I had made some. That night I drifted off to sleep thinking about what I had seen. When I woke up the next morning, I saw my origami figures in a circle on my night stand and my iPad on the desk. I walked over to my iPad and to my wonder, there was no crack! I was kind of scared, no one knew my iPad was cracked. Suddenly, I heard a sneeze. It sounded like an old person. When I turned around, I saw the whale origami blowing his nose.

"Pardon me," he said in a thick British accent. All the other figures hushed him.

"Did, did you just talk to me," I stammered?

"Great going Rust," the tiger said.

T he fox stepped forward, "I'm Rosy and these are my friends: Splash, Digger, Fury, and Rusty." I nearly fainted.

"We are the Origami Fixers. We fix any problem. Usually, we do not expose ourselves to people. So, this moment is a bit awkward. Sooo...," said Rosy.

Then, I looked down and they were frozen.

"Well isn't that weird," I thought.

The next day I made a seahorse and monkey origami figures. I named them Bubbles and Chunk. I accidentally ripped Chunk; which made me sad. I went to bed thinking about poor old Chunk. The next morning, I woke up and walked over to my desk and to my surprise, Chunk was as good as new. But, really and truly I was not surprised. I knew who had fixed him. It was comforting to know that I had my very own "Fixers" for when things became broken.

Finley Holmes 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Courtney Johnson

The Christmas Story

A little girl named Alex went to see Santa Clause.

After taking pictures, Santa said, "Alex at 12:00pm on Christmas Eve, snap your fingers and say 'I want to go to the North Pole' and you will be there."

So the tree was lit and it was almost time. Alex was super excited, she really wanted it to work. The clock struck twelve and it was time. Alex snapped her fingers and it happened. Alex was at the North Pole! It was amazing when she saw Santa's workshop!

So without a second to lose, Alex ran over and a little elf named Snowflake said, "Hello there, you must be Alex. This is a one time experience so have fun!"

The elves had little hats and big ears. When Alex walked in, it was amazing seeing the biggest toy factory ever. She saw the teddy bear department and the bouncy ball department. Little elves were running around with boxes andbows.

Snowflake said, "Let's start the tour. First on the list is to tell Santa you are here. Santa will take it from there."

Santa came in the workshop and told her he had one condition with the tour, Alex could not tell anyone, not even her parents.

He also said, "You were the nicest person this year and always the nicest person gets the reward."

Alex got to design and make her own doll for her sister. After visiting all of the departments of the factory, Santa took her to his favorite part of his workshop. It was Mrs Clause's cookie making kitchen.

Santa said, "You should probably have a snack before you take your journey home."

So she picked out the chocolate chip almond blueberry cookie and it was the best she had ever tasted! Just before it was time to go, Santa took Alex around to the back of the workshop to see the reindeer. In the song it says Rudolph's nose glows and it sure does!

Santa said, "It's time to leave now. Thank you for joining me. Have a lovely Christmas tomorrow."

Alex needed to snap her fingers, close her eyes and say "I want to go home." She did just as she was told, but nothing happened. Alex went to Santa to tell him that it didn't work, so Santa said, "This has never happened before. You will just have to ride home with me on my sleigh." Alex helped the elves load all of the presents and climbed aboard the sleigh with Santa. They waved goodbye to Mrs. Clause and all of the elves and were on their way. After many stops to deliver presents, it was time for Alex to head down the chimney with Santa and go to bed. Alex looked out her window and heard Santa say, "Ho Ho Ho! Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night." Alex went to sleep and woke up to a magical Christmas morning. She was so excited to see her sister, Claire, open the new doll she had helped make. Claire loved it! Santa had left for Alex a glow-in-the-dark bouncy ball, a little Rudolph stuffed animal, and two dozen of her new favorite chocolate chip almond blueberry cookies.

Caroline Hilton Silverdale Baptist Academy 4th Grade Teacher: Mrs.Glass

Full Moon

It was a dark and scary night. I was walking home from school. When I got to my house, I danced. I danced like I have never danced before. Then I whispered to myself, "I got the moves like Jagger". I looked outside. It was a full moon.

I asked myself "Is this going to happen every full moon?"

Then I looked over at my brother. He was a unicorn. My dog was a demon. Then I went outside still dancing like a pro. My brother burped rainbows. Then I hear someone say "OMG!! We're all going to DIE!!" Everyone in the neighborhood was screaming.

"Now what the heck" I thought to myself. "Why is the best wrestler John Cena here?" Three hours later... I looked around for my mom.

When I found her, I asked her "Mom, can you drive me down the street?"

I see people walking around.

"Is that Odell? Todd Gurley? Okay. This is weird. Is it a full moon? Of course. Why is Harry Potter running around like he had 1,000 pieces of candy?"

One month later...

Was that just a dream? A dream because of the full moon? Wait. John Cena Is standing right in front of my bed and I see rainbows coming out of my brother's mouth! Oh no. Not again!!

Gus Ingham 4th grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Mrs. Lillie

The Deer

One day I went outside to feed the deer. So I got the food and went to feed the deer. I do this every week so feels pretty normal to me. But, then something odd happened. A deer got really close to me, like closer than normal so I freaked out and ran back home. Then I came back next week, still a little freaked out. But this time the deer wasn't there. So I dropped the deer food and started to walk a little bit, you know, trying to find the deer. But then I saw something in the bushes. I walked over and pushed the bushes aside. There he was, just sitting there sadly.

I was surprised and amazed when the deer said, "What are you doing?"

Before I could respond, the deer further said, "I'll make you a deal. If you give me more food I might be normal."

It was getting late, so it was not until the next day that I could bring the deer more food. Then I hid, waiting to see if the deer would come to eat this feast.

Before I knew if the deer could even see me, I heard him say, "Thank you."

"You are welcome," I replied.

The deer and I became friends and we talked every day for four years. Then one day, the deer was gone. I worried and worried but could never find the deer before I moved off to college. One Christmas, I returned home to my parents' house to visit. I took a walk down the path where the deer and I used to run. Just as I was remembering all the good times, there the deer was. I ran to him and he ran to me. I took the deer back to the house to show my parents and spread the wonderful news.

Connor Jenne 4th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Voss

ZERO

Hello I'm Carlton Zero, this is my story.

PROLOGUE

ZECROBLORIS an evil soul with a horrible heart. He was the god of evil and dismay. His brother, Cranian was a nice god. He created light and fairness. They battled for thousands of years. One day, Zecrobloris was at his worst. So Cranian made the elements to fight his brother. He created fire,ice,wind,space,time and water. He gave the villagers this power to beat his brother. So Zecrobloris tried and tried but was no match for these elementals. He died but his soul lived and passes from person to person for twenty generations till it came to Fred and Liam.

Chapter One - Bombs Away

Then I realized why 1478 people was a big family. It was packed! We had just begun eating when we all heard planes. In seconds two bombs were dropped on our house my parents said run but it was too late the building was ash! I waited for hours to open my eyes when I did I saw it. The building was gone.

Chapter Two - After Shock

Mom, Dad, anyone heeeeelp ii-it-tt-sss goone all of ittttt! Scratch what I said earlier this is the longest 3 hours of my life. I waited in the principals room for ever to get accepted to boarding school. The TV was on in there it said on the news that they caught the people who bombed us. There names Fred and Liam Zecrob I thought what a stupid name, the wind was blowing. I tried turning my head but it was like it followed me. I stuck my arm out to feel the wind and suddenly it disappeared. That night my rooms shutters were open and the wind was blowing in the air. I felt like I could feel the wind.

Chapter Three - Winded Weary

I reached over to get my water and then the wind blew my water of the stand. The glass broke and I got so mad. It made quite the comtotion. People were spying on me when there

[&]quot;Carl get up honey." said Carl's mom.

[&]quot;No." said Carl.

[&]quot;Carlton Vicson Zero, get up now!" shouted Carl's mom.

[&]quot;Fine." he said

[&]quot;The family reunion is in 30 minutes. You still have to do your morning routine."

[&]quot;Why do we have to go to Springfield? It's 2 hours away." said Carl.

[&]quot;Because we rented a whole building for the reunion." his mom said.

[&]quot;The longest 3 hours of my life passed." thought Carl.

started to hear the wind. Some saw the whole thing. They were calling me freak. So I ran out, they grabbed knives and started running at me so I hid in the airport. I bought a ticket to England and got on the plane just in time. I stuck my arm forward and the plane went flying with the talewinds. And we arrived 2 hours early I got off and ran till I read the news a asteroid was headed straight for London.

Chapter Four - Asteroid Attack

How the what! An asteroid going straight for London. It was a couple miles away. People were screaming in the street Big Ben was broken from all the fire. It was seconds away, but I put my hands up to shield myself then the asteroid went flying into space. People called me a hero not a freak. I was so happy!

Chapter Five - African Plain

The next day I went to Africa to test my power. Then went to a cave and someone in there said he had power. I said one with power just like me! I said what is your name he said Android One. I asked what is your power space he said. Hmm we should team up I said he said ok. THE END

From Book TEN

So One said Zero yes said One. I think I see a dragon oh no. We have to go.

Kolby Kaylor 4th Grade St. Nicholas School Teacher: Alice Revenig

MR PENCIL

Hello! I'm Mr. Pencil and I live in Mrs. Schklar's class with my family, Mrs. Pencil, Baby Pencil, and Sister Pencil. We live on Ground Street, under Table Drive, Index Card House, 121. For some reason the kids and Mrs. Schklar have not been here for two weeks! All I know is me or my family can not leave from under the table. It's way too dangerous out there. So many loud, noisy, BIG kids! Maybe it's safe to leave just this once... I mean there's no kids? I run to the store and grab three jumbo bags of eraser bits to eat on the way. I'm off to explore the classroom! I emerge from under the table to find a vast landscape of rug, tile, and big fluffy gray mountains. Suddenly, I hear a boom and kids pour in! Uh-oh! The giant named Hadley pulls out a chair and hits me! I fall over dramatically. Suddenly I am being lifted off the floor by that Henry Ritter kid, then I get dropped into a big gray box full of more pencils. DEAD PENCILS!!! Panic rises in my chest (or lead rises, I can't tell) as the box is shut.

"Okay let's clean our pencil boxes!" says Mrs. Schklar joyfully.

I get dumped on the floor. I run home as fast as my stubby legs will carry me! I will NEVER leave again!

Kyla Kruchinski 4th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Ms. Bethany Schklar

The Train Bully

Knox and Stella were playing and fighting outside with David when they heard the whistle of a train.

"Let's go check it out," said Stella. "I bet we can find Paul the Poodle. He needs a good swipe to the nose because he is always bullying everyone."

The cats took off toward the train station. As they slowed down, they stealthily hid behind some port-a-potties.

"P-U! I am glad I go in the grass not this..." complained Knox.

"Shush! Paul is right there! He's getting on Train 546. Let's climb the ladder on the back of the train and jump on top." Stella said sternly.

"Ok-ay," said Knox hesitantly.

They strapped on their masks and scurried up the ladder. Crouching, they watched down the length of the train car for the little brown nose of Paul. Suddenly, a little nose pushed out of the window. As they moved forward to swipe, they almost gave away their positions on a smaller dog.

"That was close!" Stella whispered.

"Yeah, that was NOT Paul!" Knox said in shock.

After a few more minutes of patient and silent waiting, they saw a brown nose that was indeed Pauls. When they realized it was him, they began to creep forward, barely even moving. As Stella was going to reach down and give Paul a good swipe on his nose, the train started moving and jerked her back with a scream. Knox tried to take advantage of Stella being knocked back, but Stella reached out and stopped her. Knox whirled around, full of anger, and said, "Why did you stop me?! I was going to complete our mission and give him..."

"Shush! Why are you yelling?" Stella whispered.

Knox rolled her eyes in frustration. "You want to try to hit him at the same time?" Yeah, I'll count down. Three...two...one...Go! Both cats quickly swiped down on poor Paul's nose, hanging on with their other front paw. As they heard Paul's howl of pain, they huddled back down onto the top of the train and stayed there until it stopped. When they jumped off the train, Paul was hiding very pitifully behind his owner. He seemed to be scared.

As soon as he spotted Stella and Knox, he asked them, "Were you the cats who hit me in the nose?"

Knox nodded while Stella answered. "Yes, we wanted to show you how painful bullying is." "Yeah, I'm sorry I bullied your friends so much. I'm trying to learn to be good in obedience school. I think it's helping. We're on the way there now. I gotta go, I think my owner is pretty confused. I don't think he understands what's going on," Paul replied.

As the sun started to set, Knox and Stella headed back home. All was good again on Little Bear Avenue.

Boston McClarty
4th Grade
Hilger Higher Learning
Teacher:Shelley George

Queen of Cats

Long ago in ancient Egypt the Egyptians saw the world like this: The Sun-God Ra made the world the sun and the other gods, such as Nut the sky goddess and others. But this story is about another Bastet the Goddess of Cats.... This goddess is half-cat and half-woman. Bast was originally a fierce lioness warrior Egyptian of the sun throughout most of ancient Egyptian history, but later she was changed into the Cat Goddess. She was also seen as the daughter and consort of Atum-Ra. She also had a son with. Atum-Ra, the lion God Maahes This is the end of facts.

Now the story. Also called Bastet or Basthet, the Goddess Bast, is widely known today as the "Cat Goddess." By day, Bast would ride through the sky with her father, the sun god Ra, his boat pulling the sun through the sky. Ever watchful, she protected Ra from his enemies. Soon after that she became "the Lady of the East." Also, at night she transforms into a cat. Legend has it that, by day, Bast would ride through the sky with her father, the sun god Ra, his boat pulling the sun through the sky. Bast is one of the few sun goddesses that is also classified as a moon goddess, with her glowing cat's eye reminding us of the moon that it reflects (she is in many, many stories as different goddess). The worship of Bast began around 3,500 B.C.E., before the invention of writing. In 950 B.CE. became the national religion; when her hometown, Bubastis, became the capital of Egypt. This is the end to the story of Bast...the Egyptian goddess of cats and much more....

Cameron Poe 4th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Kayla Rominger

Moon Shining

Prologue

Four years ago in the kingdom of night a female guard named Secretkeeper was keeping a secret; a dark secret. This was no ordinary guard, an ordinary guard would have been training and messing around with the other guards, but she never did any of that. Then one day she realized she had laid an egg. This egg (like it's mother) was no ordinary egg. Her egg was a speckled egg; no Nightwing egg was ever speckled. A regular Nightwing egg would have just been pitch black. Her egg also had many little silver scales. She was a little disappointed that her egg looked quite weird, but she accepted it. Then she realized what would happen if the other guards found out, they would for sure kill her for not giving it to the queen. She decided to hide her egg in the rainforest, but there was one problem, the guards. She would have to make something up like...killing a sloth for the queen, yes that sounded like a good plan. So she flew to the Nightwing guards guarding the tunnel to the rainforest, she lied to them and off she went to the rainforest. It was the most peaceful place she had ever seen; it was perfect.

She took her egg and gently placed so the moons were shining over it. She had learned that if you hatched under one full moon you had the gift of prophecy and visions of the future, two full moons and you had the gift of prophecy, visions of the future, and mind reading, three full moons was so rare that it gave you the gift of all four and even the gift of animus powers. So she placed it under the moons hoping for it to hatch under at least one full moon, and a couple days later it happened her egg was now a newborn female dragonet, and she was so happy. Then she noticed that her dragonet was staring at the moons not moving a muscle. She decided to name her dragonet Moonwatcher, and when she called her name she came right to her. She hugged Moonwatcher as tightly and as gently as she could. Suddenly a booming voice called Secretkeeper's name and immediately knew it was one of the guards. She quickly made a burrow of leaves around Moonwatcher so she could sleep soundly.

"Get in," she quickly said to Moonwatcher, and she did exactly as she said.

Then the booming voice came again, and she quietly said, "Stay safe Stay hidden. Stay secret." Then she left Moonwatcher to live in the rainforest inside a burrow of leaves. The next morning she began to hear voices in her head, she realized that it was a sloth because of the slow sleepy nonsense in its mind. But then, she started hearing other voices, and they definitely weren't sloths or monkeys. They sounded more like...Rainwings? Moonwatcher thought for a moment and then realized that that shouldn't even be a question. Of course there are Rainwings here it is literally the Rainforest. Also it's raining... A lot! And when I say a lot I mean A LOT! She decided to keep listening---after a lot of listening she fell right asleep because of all the boring nonsense Rainwings think about. Then, (of course) she had a dream about Rainwings. It was the weirdest dream a dragon could have (apart from the fact that she had just hatched).

The next morning, she had decided to look for some food. The first thing she noticed was a sloth, making is way through the viney trees. She quickly pounced on it, killed it, and began to eat... it tasted fine at first but then it tasted worse then moldy mangoes, and she spat it out right onto the forest floor, she decided not to eat it and moved on. Also she didn't want to leave any evidence so she began to drag it into a bush. Then she noticed that something was coming, she thought it was a toucan at first, but no. This was no toucan, this was a live Rainwing. She

quickly hid in the bush bringing the sloth with her. She watched quietly as the Rainwing slowly walked around the bush, observing her as much as she could. She noticed that Rainwings can change there scales to any color of their liking (mostly based on their emotion). She thought that it was incredibly beautiful, but then the Rainwing ominously opened her mouth and revealed two sharp fangs (almost like a snake).

Then she saw something else, like a black liquid dripping from her fangs. Then she aimed for the tree above Moon and the black liquid shot out from her fangs completely melting the branch she hit. Moon screeched and hid in the darkest shadow she could find.

"WHO'S THERE!" the Rainwing screamed. Moon, thought as if the whole Rainforest could hear her. She walked through the bushes and walked past Moon (thankfully). But then she saw the dead sloth behind the bush and let out a terribly loud scream, "Eeeeeee, no, no, no!"

"Why is she so terrified?" Moon curiously thought. Didn't they eat sloths all the time too? I mean there isn't really a variety of meats here. The only other food here would be... Oh, of course they only eat fruit. Well that kind of makes sense if you think about it because Moonwatcher didn't lie the sloth and she probably wouldn't like any other animals here either. So she decided to try some fruits, she ended up liking a lot of the fruits and tried not to eat any meat at all. She also decided to not hurt any more sloths, monkeys, toucans, and so on, but to leave them be and live a happy life.

"It's going to be years before any other dragon understands me." Moonwatcher quietly sobbed. Years..." To be continued...

Mia Rands 4th Grade St. Peter's Episcopal School Teacher: Randi Schlosser

Untitled

See, one evening I was riding my bike home from the store because I had to get some lemonade. {What can I say? Mom was out.} My dog Lucy was trotting beside me. When I got home I went straight to get my ball and make the lemonade. I wanted to write in my journal outside on the swing. Suddenly my mom came out of the house to check on me. She watches my every move. I can't get any time to myself.

"Are you OK honey?"

"Yey," I replied.

"OK," she said as she went back inside.

I tried to take another sip of lemonade, but my sister yelled, "What are you doing?" out the window.

"Leave me alone," I snarled.

All of a sudden, Lucy rolled over on my ball," OH NO Lucy!"

The ball rolled into the woods. That's bad. The woods are dark and scary. I don't like the DARK, but I had to get my ball. I grabbed my backpack and set off.

"GRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR", I growled. "Watch out WOODS, Here I come."

I went in to the woods; then I heard the rattling of branches. Next I saw something, a sign and something else unexpected: a wall with a door. Lucy just jumped over The door was locked, so I climbed over the wall. I had to get my ball. Suddenly an unusually small man with a foreign accent jumped out of a bush.

"Gid away. Gid away."

"Oh I'm, sorry sir. I'm just exploring. I didn't know this was your property."

"Gid out, gid out," and began waving his hands.

Lucy growled a little, then dropped on her bottom and scooted backwards and away. He opened the door for us. I started back home. As I walked, I remembered the sign. I went back to read it. I saw it said something about a disease that was spreading over the plants. I wondered if the cure was in one of the books I have from my grandparents. About five minutes later, I arrive home. I go crawling through the window to the shed because I don't what my mom to ask what I'm doing. I'm sitting on the shed thinking and waiting for the right time to go to that man's property. My sparkle high tops glitter in the slight moon light. I get my backpack off my shoulder and check to see if the cure was still in my back pack. It was. I start to climb down the ladder and jump down. Good thing I left Lucy in my room.

I run through the forest almost tripping over rocks while pushing branches away. I don't want to get slapped in the face. I hear an owl in the distance. I wish I'd brought Lucy with me. It's getting darker. I can only see about five feet in front of me. I put my hands out as the night darkens and touch the rough brick of his wall. Whew. I crawl my way on top of the wall on a really bushy spot and I jump. I feel my feet squish on the soft grass. I fall on my knees. Luckily, I still have my backpack. Suddenly, a full moon comes out from behind a cloud and I can see my way. There's a gravel path leading up a slight hill to a group of plants as tall as I am. Their leaves are covered with little bumps I can feel. I pull out my spray bottle and start to run around and spray it on the plants. When I'm done the plants start to lighten up. The flowers start to bloom feel good that I did something

GOOD. Now I better get home before I get in trouble.

Lucinda Ranalli 4th Grade The Bright School
Teacher: Mrs. Allison Sakich

Secret of Names

Lea looked at the flower. It looked perfect. But Mother is going to say that nothing can be perfect. Lea created 100,000,000,000 flowers in her short life. And this is only the beginning. This young planet need to grow.

"Lea!" somebody shouted loudly, "As a nature spirit, you need to create this planet. And what are you doing?" This somebody was her sister, Ria.

"I am making a flower," Lea murmured.

"Flower? Lea, I am 123,456 years old and you are only 8,777. Believe me, flowers are not the most important part of the planet," said Ria,

"This planet needs mountains and rivers. Finally, it needs a name!" Lea looked at the sky.

"But you said that people are going to change it. There is no need to give it a name," she said.

"I am talking about a true name," said Ria, "Every animal, every person, every insect have a true name. This planet needs one, too. Nobody can hurt a person if it doesn't know its true name. This is why we told ancient people to name their child with one name, but call him differently. This way they will save him. But then, people forgot our advice. They thought that nothing can hurt their child. So Mother decided that every person will still have a secret true name that even this person itself doesn't know. Only the chosen ones can learn their true name from us."

Mother was 100,000,000,000,000 years old. Lea was really young nature spirit. She was only 8,777 years old.

"Mother is waiting for you!" shouted Flora.

Lea ran to Mother's tree. It wasn't too far. It takes few moments to run here.

"This planet needs a name," said Mother. "How about Nellita?"

Lea ran into the room. "I'm here," she said.

"Oh, Lea. My Inner Eye told me that there is a chosen one on a planet that is called Earth. I am going to send you to tell her the true name. Her name is Nola Annabelle Jackson. She lives in New York. Go!" said Mother.

And Lea ran. She ran through galaxies. It was so beautiful in space. Stars were shining. Planets were looking like big marbles. It's not believable that nature spirits have created all this planets. And some of them will be destroyed in future. But this is the rule, that everything that was created, will be destroyed once.

"Nola Annabelle Jackson. Nola Annabelle Jackson," Lea said to herself.

There was a bright light. And then... "Meow!" said somebody's cat. Then another voice, "Ginger, you already had a fish cracker."

Then somebody enter the room. This was a girl with long black hair. Lea never seen anybody with black hair before.

The girl came closer and then asked, "Who are you?"

"Lea," Lea answered.

"I am Nola," said the girl, "How old are you?"

Lea waited few seconds and then answered, "8,777."

The girl seem to be surprised, "I'm 11 years old."

It was Lea's turn to be surprised. "I'm a nature spirit and I am here to tell you your true name," finally said Lea.

She came closer and touched Nola's hand. There was a bright light and then Lea saw it. Nola's inside. She was so beautiful. Long black hair, deep blue eyes, kind and beautiful smile. Then angel voice said, "Margarita." And there was wind. They were flying through the galaxies. And then... They were on a very familiar planet. By the very familiar flower. There was beautiful Nola, Lea and... tiger! It was Ginger! Nola's cat!

"Nola, your true name is..." said Lea, "Margarita. This cat's true name is Jumanji."

Lea smiled. She waited few moments and then said, "You need to go back to your planet. But never ever tell anybody your true name. Goodbye!"

Nola realized that she was sitting on a carpet in her room with Ginger. Maybe it was a dream? But then she saw that she was wearing Lea's necklace "Margarita," she said to herself.

Anastasiya Sankevich, 4th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet School Teacher: Miss Matty Kuhar

The Unknown

Boom! Lighting and thunder filled the sky, but no one was afraid of it. Everyone learns to in Alabama. The rain was left over from a hurricane five days ago, but that wasn't the only bad news. I could feel the rains of change soaking my body. A flash of lightning struck the sky letting me see the words that were carved into metal: NO TRESPASSING. It has been a week since my friend left to go to Connecticut, and I am afraid she isn't coming back. I stared at the black fence. The familiar black lining looked like it wanted to get away from something. The house had gone for sale last week and was bought two days ago. I was afraid of what these people might be like. I walked home with boots filled with water. When I got home I was welcomed by the sound of a kettle ringing. I then saw my Mom pouring hot tea into a thermos.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

My Mom's blue eyes sparkled at me. "Going to meet the new neighbors," she replied with a smile.

My Dad walked in with his raincoat on. His big bushy eyebrows told me I'd be walking in the rain again. We started out into the cold, windy afternoon. Finally, we came to the fence with the metal sign on it. My parents gave me the look they give you when they think it is time to leave. Too late.

"Hey!" an unfamiliar voice yelled. "This isn't your property?" a man came walking toward the fence.

"Why are you here? he asked.

"Did you read the sign?" Yes," my mom replied. "We just wanted to welcome you to the neighborhood."

A smile spread across his face. "Visitors," he said slowly.

"Come in, come in." I would look back on this day and regret saying yes. When we got inside I noticed tons of boxes laying around. "The process of moving" I thought.

"Margaret, we have visitors," he yelled.

To strange people appeared. One was a kid about my age with short fuzzy red hair and green eyes. The other was a woman that was very tall.

"We brought tea," my Mom said breaking the silence.

"Why don't you two go play why the adults talk?" said the man. The boy and I went down the hall to where his room was.

"My name is Arnold" Arnold said not looking at me.

We finally reached the end of the hall where the door to Arnold's room was. We walked into the dimly lit room. Boxes were piled up to the ceiling, but many things had been taken out of the boxes. It was different from when my friend lived in the room.

"Don't touch anything" Arnold snarled.

"Why?" I asked.

He didn't answer.

"What's this?" I asked reaching down to touch a black orb perched on a pedestal.

"Don't touch that!" Arnold hissed at me.

BANG! Something sharp hit me in the forehead. I laid there, knocked out. About five minutes later, I opened my eyes to see a giant horse with a long red mane and a horn coming

out from the top of its head. Then I saw a giant black oval that seemed to be sucking things into it. I stood up, watching the creature stick its horn into the oval and pull its head down. As this was happening, the oval seemed to get smaller and smaller until there was nothing left but a black orb on a pedestal. The creature started to shrink. First, its two back legs pulled into the back of its body. Then its tail disappeared. Its head started to shrink, and its main started to get shorter. After a minute, I started into Arnold's green eyes.

"What was that?" I asked breathlessly to Arnold.

"The unknown," Arnold sighed.

Eleanor Soydan 4th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Kayla Rominger

The past

I wake up on the last day of school and I am excited. I am ready for a new fresh day of school. After school I come back home in a rush. Now I am wondering what to do. I am thinking about what to do but then all of a sudden I hear a noise so I come downstairs and I see a portal. It looks round and orange so I jump into the portal and suddenly I start going through time. First thing I see is my old house and me when I was 4 years old through the window. I sneak and look through the window and I am playing and running all over the place and that's all I see before I get sucked up from a portal. But before I go back the portal was blue this time. I teleport into my room and I hear my mom saying "it's time to eat " so I come downstairs and eat. After that I go back up stairs thinking about what was going on and what was happening and then all of a sudden a blue portal appears again and I see myself when I was 4. The first time I saw myself when I was 4 I started to worry. I knew what happened so I first started to look for more orange portals because maybe I could tell myself to go into the orange portal. I did not find any though so I started to worry even more but all of a sudden I see an orange portal but it sucks both of us up.

After it sucked us up myself when I was 4 said "who are you?" then I replied "I am you from the future and now we both start worrying and thinking about the portals. Then we both start looking for the portals and we finally found one. It was a blue portal and before I go in I say "goodbye!"

And he did too so myself from the past went into the old house and I went into the portal. I teleported in my room and felt really lucky my family was down stairs not looking for me or calling me. I then start to wonder about myself from the past and if that would happen again but after I thought about all of those things I began to be happy and started playing.

Ibrahim Sidiqi 4th grade Annoor Academy Teacher: Kelsay Cate

The Escape

In the middle of the night, an eleven years old girl named Eve and her friends, Sky and Melissa, quietly tip toeing through the hall ways of an orphanage toward the exit door. These three friends had become good friends since Eve met Sky and Melissa at the orphanage four years ago. Eve was sent there because she lost her mother and father in a flood. As for Sky and Melissa, they were too young to remember why they were there. The friends planned this escape for a very long time. Tonight was the night because the guard had food poisoning earlier and he was sleeping instead of keeping watch. The three girls felt that this is the right time to carry out their plan. They let out a sigh of relief at the same time once they were out the door and headed toward the nearby village. Haft way toward the village, the friends were too tire to travel further so they decided to stop to rest. The rest stop was at a wooded area, and found cover under a big tree. The night was cold so the friends huddle together to stay warm. They managed to build a build a little fire pit out of twigs and leaves to ward off the animals. In the morning they walked the rest of the way to the village. They went from door to door to ask for work in return for housing and foods. Finally, at the end of the village, at a house further from all the other houses, the owner agreed for all three of them to stay and work for him. The man had a huge piece of land that have many different crops which needed harvesting. Eve, Sky, and Melissa, worked all day harvesting the crops until sun down. At the end of the day, the man said that they could have dinner with him if they can cook. They knew how to cook because at the orphanage they were taught how to cook, especially vegetarian dishes.

That night was the three friends felt happy and free and full of hope that they had found a good home. That night, the three girls awoke by a low weeping sound. They could not go back to sleep, so they ventured out of their room to find out where the noise was coming from. The man had told the girls earlier not to leave their room after dark. He would be out for the night for a party in the next town and would return by dawn. The girls follow the noise and came to a small door. This door was locked. Melissa, being a detective mind, search high and low for the key. Sky advised that it was not a good idea because they would be tress passing, and if the man found out, they would be homeless again. Eve suggested that they find out what was behind the door and return to their room before the man came back They found the key and opened the door. The door led them to an underground room. They saw a boy locked up in a cage, dressed in old clothes and looked very dirty.

The boy said he was kidnapped by the man of the house. At first the man treated him nicely, but then one day when he told the man he had to leave, the man did not let him go. The girls felt sorry for the boy and let him go free. Since they did not want to be kidnapped like the boy, they decided to leave with the boy that night. When they were out of the house, the boy told the girls that he lived in a village near the Crystal Kingdom. They agreed to accompany the boy home. Along the way they found out the name was Josh, who had loving parents but no siblings. At foot of the village near Crystal Kingdom, two knight approached the four, they were searching for their Prince who were sent by the Queen to search for the Prince. Josh finally told the girls that he was the prince of the Crystal Kingdom. He left the castle to find his own adventures because he was bored. In the castle, he had no brothers and sisters and no one wanted to play with him because they were afraid of being reprimanded. The knight brought

Josh and his friends to the queen and king. Josh told the queen and king what had happened to him. After hearing Josh's story, the king and queen wanted to reward the girls by offering them to live in the castle as their adopted children. Eve, Sky, and Melissa was over joy with happiness. They had finally found a new family, not just any family, but a royal family. They accepted the offer with grateful hearts. From that day forward, they lived a good life. Sky grew up to be a knight. Eve grew up to be the new queen. Melissa grew up to be the royal doctor. The End

Farrah Tran 4th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Voss

Helping the Bees

Did you know that the bees' population is decreasing? Without them you would not have as many fruits and veggies. Although bees are dying we are trying to give them help. However, not everyone knows how important it is to help their population grow. Here are a few reasons why the bee population is decreasing. A bee keeper I read about in, "Bees feel the Sting" used to have millions of bees. Now it is too quiet around the hive. People say a virus is partly to blame for the population decreasing. It's spreading from flowers to bees to the bees' hive. Other say mites are to blame. The mites will latch on and suck their blood. Poor bees! This is how bees are decreasing. Now you're probably asking how can you help? Here are a few ways how others are trying to help. The same keeper I read about gives the bees a special nutrients to prevent more losses. A little girl made a type of lemonade called Beesweet to sell to her community. Which is sweetened with honey. Then she will send the money to organizations to help bees. Another way someone helped was a group of people announced they would plant wild flowers across 7 million acres of land. That is bigger than Maryland. Those are a few ways people helped. As you can see bees are decreasing, but also receiving help too. It would be sad not to have many fruits or veggies, and also unhealthy for us. So I hope scientist find a cure for our bees.

Madison Tate 4th Grade Thrasher Elementary School

Teachers: Courtney Johnson & Raquel Newton

Sincerely, Elodie

Dear Diary,

My name is Elodie Waters, and I'm from France. I know my name doesn't sound French, but I promise I'm telling the truth. Isn't that what diaries are for? Today we moved to America, and my mother gave me this diary. Let me tell you what I look like; I have long red hair, pale skin, and gray eyes. Most people think I'm pretty, but I disagree. Enough about me, let me introduce you to the rest of my family! I have a mother, a father, an older sister named Camille, and a baby brother named Gabriel. I like everyone in my family but Camille. She is such a pain! My mother is 40, my father is 42, I'm 12, Camille is 16, and Gabriel is 1. That's all I have to say today! Now back to unpacking.

Sincerely, Elodie

"How was your "diary session"," Camille said unnecessarily.

"Good," I replied.

Camille walked past me and spilled her red fruit punch all over my new white shirt.

"Sorry, so clumsy," Camille said as she walked past me.

"Girls, what language you speaking?" I heard mom say in French.

"Mom, remember to speak English now," I reminded her.

"Watch your tone, young lady," Mom warned.

"Mom," I whined. She looked at me with one of her famous it's-time-to-shut-up looks, and I retreated back into my room.

"Have fun in your new school!" Mom shouted as I walked out the door the next day. I didn't bother to answer because I knew I was going to have a horrible day anyway. When I got to school, there were four girls in front of the gates.

"Well, well if it isn't Elodie Waters, the new girl," One of the girls said. "I'm Stephanie, and I will be showing you around today."

"That's fine, I know my way around," I lied.

"You will come with me, or I will make this school year the worst one you will ever have," Stephanie threatened.

"It already is, now that you are here," I muttered. Stephanie clenched her fists together.

"Girls, what's going on?" I heard a teacher ask.

"I was just getting to class," I said and walked away from Stephanie and her friends.

Dear Diary,

I have good news and bad news. Bad news: Stephanie is the popular girl of the school. Or should I say the pain of the school! From what I've heard, her last name is Valentine, she is super athletic, and she has a boyfriend. Seriously?!?! I didn't know you could have boyfriends in 7th grade. The other girls in the popular squad are Jennifer, Charlotte, and Camryn. Luckily, that's all the bad news! Good news: I made a friend! Her name is Weilan and she is from China. She has long black hair, beautiful brown eyes, and is very short. She is so nice and generous! I really have to stop writing and go to sleep. My mom is bugging me to go to bed.

Sincerely, Elodie

The next morning, I opened my eyes and I was face to face with.....Gabriel! I picked him up and carried him to my mom and dad's room. I heard a whispered conversation going on in there.

"Louis, you are forgetting how dangerous hiking in the Andes is," Mom whisper-yelled.

"What happened to Lucette will not happen to Elodie!" Dad said a bit too loudly.

"Who is Lucette? Why would I go hiking in the Andes?" I asked, bursting into the bedroom, which meant I was breaking one of Mom's top ten rules. Dad acted like I wasn't there, but Mom flipped out.

"Please tell me you did not just break one of my top ten rules!" Mom yelled. That was when I knew a bad punishment was coming, but Gabriel started crying, so Mom went to feed him his breakfast. While she was doing that, Dad explained everything.

"You see, your science teacher told us that there was a hiking trip to the Andes available, and your mother and I were arguing about it."

"Yeah, the teacher told me. It's all coming back to me now, but who is Lucette?"

"Lucette was a friend of your mother's, and she, Lucette, and I went on a plane to the Andes. I had gotten frostbite, so I stayed at camp while Colette- I mean your mother- and Lucette went exploring. The air was getting hard to breathe for Lucette because she had asthma, so she collapsed. Your mother tried everything to save her, but she never made it,"

He said, wiping a tear from his eye. "But in my opinion, I think your mother is being very overprotective."

"So do I, and I will let you go," said Mom from the corner of the room. "Do you want to go?"

"Definitely, and I'm sorry about what happened to your friend," I said.

"That's fine and I'm getting hungry, so let's go eat!"

Miriam Fazio-Vives
4th Grade
The Bright School
Teacher: Mrs. Allison Sakich

The Squirrel and the Magic Acorn

Once there was a squirrel who found a new tree to live in. Now he's done making his nest. Then he heard a voice.

"Hello; who's there?" No answer. "Hello?" he said again. No answer. Then he shouted "Who's there? You'd better come out!".

Then the squirrel climbed down the tree and saw a fallen acorn on the ground. Then he said "Are you the one making all that noise?"

"Yes", the acorn said with a smile.

Then the acorn said, "I'm sorry. It was my first time falling off a tree. I'm a magic acorn, you know. I can grant you three wishes but there are two rules. Rule number one: I can't bring anything back from the dead. Rule number two: I can't make anyone fall in love. Now, if you get me back up in the tree I'll grant you the three wishes".

"Ok, ok", the squirrel said. But the acorn said "I also want a special place in your nest!". "MY nest? Why?"

"You want your three wishes, right?"

"Fine!", so he took the acorn up the tree. "Ok. We're here now so what are your three wishes?"

"Ok. My first wish is for a new nest since you're taking mine!"

"Abra Kadabra Alakazam!" BOOM! A new nest!

"Ok. Now I want a lot of nuts to store for the winter". Then the acorn again said "Abra Kadabra Alakazam!" Then there was a big lump on the ground. The squirrel said "What is that?" and the acorn said "Go and see!". Then the squirrel dug that big lump in the ground and saw a little acorn and said, "These are the nuts, right?".

The magic acorn nodded itself and said, "Yes".

Then the squirrel said 'Can I make my third wish? I wish for a quiet place with no squirrels trying to steal my nuts'.

The acorn again said "Abra Kadabra Alakazam!"

Then...POOF! They were in Kansas, quiet Kansas. The magic acorn said, "I've been giving wishes for the past one million years so I'm going to give you one more wish. Now use it wisely. When I gave this wish to people they used it on something weird. Go ahead and use it".

"Magic acorn, I wish you free!"

"What?"

"I set you free!"

Then the acorn started to spin and spin and spin and then he burst into tears and said, "Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you! Can we be best friends?".

"Yes!", said the squirrel and they lived happily ever after.

Lane Warren 4th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Heather Prairie



The Man Who Thought He Was Dreaming

Bob Johnson lived in a small apartment, in one of the tallest buildings in New York City, with his dog named Peanut. He worked as an accountant in an office located on the 42 nd floor of the Empire State Building. Like most people, Bob had a normal life. He took a taxi to and from work each day, watched TV every night with his dog, ate pizza, and then went to bed. Bob lived a pretty normal life until one night he found himself dreaming, or so he thought. In his dream, Bob rode on the top of a moving car. The next morning, he woke up on the couch in his apartment. Bob thought this was weird because he went to sleep the night before in his bed. Bob noticed he had some spare time before he had to be on his way to work so he turned on the TV and started watching the news. This is where the story got interesting. He saw himself riding on the roof of a car. Bob was in shock seeing himself doing this because he did not remember anything about it. Bob, being confused, grabbed his computer and left for work.

The taxi driver who usually took him to work each day asked, "What in the world were you doing last night?"

Bob replied, "Why do you ask?"

"Because I saw you on the news riding on the roof of a car," the driver said.

Bob replied, "Honestly, I do not know."

His taxi driver did not say another word to him the rest of the ride. The next morning, Bob woke up on his kitchen floor. He looked around and saw cooked steak on the stove. This worried Bob because of his incident the night before. This also concerned Bob because he could have caught his apartment on fire and injured himself, Peanut, and other people in his building. Bob looked around his apartment to make sure he hadn't done any other crazy things. Bob had many other incidents doing some pretty wild things while he was basically sleep walking. Most of the time, nothing serious happened; however, there were a few incidents that worried Bob. One morning, Bob walked to work to avoid another awkward conversation with his taxi driver. On his way to work, someone grabbed his arm and pulled him into an alley near the Empire State Building.

The man who grabbed him said, "I saw you on the news and I know what is going on with you."

Bob said, "First of all, who are you?"

The man said, "I am sorry. My name is Steve Wilson. I guess you don't remember riding on the roof of the car. Was it almost like you were dreaming?"

Bob replied, "Yes!" Bob was excited because he thought maybe this man could help him.

Steve said, "I had the same problem as you and was able to sleep through the night without doing crazy things."

Steve asked Bob if he had any more incidents and Bob told him about one of many other incidents that had occurred. Bob told Steve about a morning that he woke up feeling like his head was extremely heavy. He'd gone into his bathroom to comb his hair and that's when he saw Peanut duct taped to his head. Steve chuckled and then told Bob he'd experienced similar sleep problems in the past. Steve pulled out a small cup with a lid on it from his jacket. He told Bob to open it.

Bob opened the cup and inside was a purple, bubbling liquid. Steve told Bob the liquid was from a plant that grows beside the Amazon River and after drinking it he was back to his normal self. After hearing that, Bob grabbed the cup and drank the entire thing. When Bob pulled the cup away from his face and looked up, Steve was gone. Bob seemed to have ordinary day and went through his normal nightly routine of TV and pizza. He went to sleep that night and woke up in the morning without finding any evidence of another incident. Bob felt good to be back to his old self.

Gabe Abercrombie
5th Grade
Silverdale Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Westcott

My Brother

My hero is my brother. He has ADHD, also known as attention deficit hyperactive disorder. This means that in order to succeed in things that most people do easily, he has to work twice as hard. He has a very hard time paying attention to things and to make matters worse, he's extremely antsy and has trouble sitting still. Many people don't think ADHD is a real thing, but I know it is. My brother was diagnosed with ADHD when he was four years old after he struggled with "behavior" in preschool. He is incapable of sitting still on his own and he has to be told things several times to actually commit it to memory. My brother has gone through behavior therapy, social therapy, and diet modifications; when those options failed to help, the doctor suggested that my brother begin medication to help control his behavior and to keep him focused. Each morning, he has to take medicine to help him pay attention in school and learn. My brother tries his best to get good grades, but he still doesn't always succeed because of this disorder. As soon as he is finally able to succeed in one thing, an entirely new obstacle comes in his way. He is always struggling, and nothing is ever easy for him. Each day, I watch for two painstakingly sad hours as my brother works hard to do his homework.

He is the most positive, caring, and encouraging kid, yet he has trouble with writing, reading comprehension, and memorizing his multiplication facts. He also doesn't understand social situations, and has a hard time making friends. Other kids don't always want to hang out with him, simply because he's different than them. To add another burden, grown-ups expect for him to follow in my footsteps in school and activities, but he seems to always fall short. When he doesn't understand things or has too much energy, people laugh at him or give him disapproving looks. Despite all of these challenges, he still smiles, hugs, laughs, and has a positive attitude towards everybody. He just wants to be included and accepted. Maybe you don't think ADHD is a real thing, and that it's just an excuse for a kid to misbehave. But I know that's incorrect. I also know that my brother is braver than any other person I know, simply because he careens through his hardships with a smile on his face. My brother always tries, even when others might give up; I think we could all use a lesson from him. My brother is my hero

Isabelle Alpers
5th Grade
Nolan Elementary School
Teacher: Mrs. Wetherly Kennedy

Promise

We all know that Noah's ark is a story that includes a lot of animals. Animals that were friendly, and some that were not. Animals that could get along, and some that could not. Animals that were annoying, and some that were not. Animals that had an owner, and some that did not. This story started on a nice, beautiful, spring morning. A big, fluffy, lovable dog was running through the sandy desert when he saw a man down on his knees. The man was looking up at a bright light. The bright light had a voice! The fluffy dog had no idea what was going on, so he went over to observe. He heard a voice speak to the man.

"Noah, you need to build an ark. It will rain for forty days and forty nights without stopping."

"Whoa-doggies, squawk, squawk," said a very loud goose.

"You have got to be kidding me!!!" said the fluffy dog. "Not that annoying Lucy Goosy goose again!!"

It quickly started to rain. It rained for five, ten, then fifteen days. The days seemed long but the fluffy dog passed the time by chasing animals that dogs are supposed to chase. He chased the bunnies and everyday there seemed to be more of them to chase. To change things up, he would chase the squirrels around the ark. Finally, after forty days and forty nights the rain had stopped. Noah let everyone off the boat and they all stepped onto dry land. All the people gathered on the mountain top and thanked God for saving them. All the animals were grateful too. God promised that He would never destroy the whole earth by a flood. As a reminder, God placed a beautiful rainbow in the sky.

Noah looked down into the fluffy dog's eyes and said, "I want to thank you for staying loyal to me all this time. I want you to stay with me, and I will take care of you. You need a name. I think I will name you Promise."

Now, Promise liked what Noah was saying so he accepted Noah's invitation. Noah's wife even gave Promise a job. She told Promise to keep all the bunnies out of her garden.

"You can chase, but do not harm them," she said.

So, Promise the dog learned to obey, and learned to get along with animals that dogs normally don't get along with. Over the years he even found Lucy Goosy goose to be less annoying.

Ruby Marie Altenberg 5th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Westcott

A Husky's Life

Hi my name is Alex. I am a brown husky with a white muzzle, stomach, and tail. I am a good dog. I can hunt, I can find. I am the best dog, or I thought I was until I chewed up Liam's shoe and he got mad. He called me a "bad dog" and put me outside. But, he left the shoe on the ground. Obviously, I was going to find it and chew it. I live in a family of sled dogs. My owners name is Liam. Our pack leaders name is Jack. He is playful when he wants to be but usually is bowing down to Liam. I don't like that. I want to be top dog, but our owner makes the rules. Jack and I are brothers. We were bought at the same time. I knew Jack and I would be together till death. We used to be 100% playful, but now we barely even speak to each other. We usually growl or something. Pop Rock, Jack, Amber, Cheesecracker, and I all go hunting, but they all get in front of me. I almost never catch anything. Liam doesn't like it when that happens. I am closest to Liam. I like to look around and protect him while I run. We are close, super close, but he likes Jack better because he is the lead sled dog. When we go sledding, I am beside Amber. We are last in the sled order. We often run and jump and play until Jack comes and barks, "Playtime is over." Training begins, but Cheesecrackers always jumps up and licks his face.

Jack growls, "Stop."

Then we line up and when Jack is gone we play again. We go on an adventure every Tuesday. Tuesdays are special. First, we eat a dog biscuit. Then, we go to train at Arf Arf Training center. One Tuesday all the dogs including me went to training and we found our owner tied up. The ropes were tight. We were all tugging at the ropes, but it was just making them tighter.

Then Jack said, "They are like shoes."

Then I started to chew the rope like shoe laces and before I knew it they snapped. Owner was free! Jack and I jumped up and licked his face till he fell laughing. I loved it. This time he called me a good dog. I was happy, but confused. Does that mean I get to chew more shoes? To my relief, owner threw two shoes one to me (Alex) and one to Jack. Jack usually doesn't chew shoes, but he thought this might be fun. We chewed and chewed until little pieces flew off. We kept on. This is the most fun I've had with Jack. Then it was like Jack and I were brothers again.

Lacey Barnes 5th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Upper School Teacher: Kelsey Batts

The Man Who Changed my Life in Four Days

Wednesday, October 19, 2007

Dear diary, a man came to our house today. I was the only one home, so I couldn't answer the door. Keegan and Asia serve as my parents for now, but it may not be like that forever. I am home alone because Asia is taking April, my sister, to art since she doesn't have her drivers license yet, and Keegan is at the gym. They trust me home alone, cause I don't get out of my room most of the time. The man kept pounding on the door at this point I was getting scared. "What if he is here to kidnap me!" I thought to myself. I stayed in my bed, shaking. "He could be busting through the window anytime now," I thought again. I walk downstairs.

I'm not that much of a coward. I'm small enough that I can hide behind the rocking chair in the parlor, a clear view of the front door. He had very dark skin and dark sunglasses, and he was bald. He was so huge, he looked like a bodybuilder. He was wearing a big black suit with a white tie, not really kidnapping clothes . He had a black wire attached to a mechanism on his ear going to his mouth. He was talking into it, like a microphone. He was still banging on the door and talking into his microphone, probably to the other guy. They had an black SUV. I ran into the living room and I knew he saw me. He pounded harder, like my heart. I curled up on the sofa. Please go away, please go away. I thought. Suddenly I heard a young woman talking to someone. It was Asia! She had came in through the back door and apparently didn't notice the big black SUV parked in our yard. She was talking on the phone.

"Yeah, wow, okay, sounds great. Sorry, I have to go. Catch you later, bye!"

"Asia, Asia!" I yelled.

"What?" She said, "I was in the middle of an important phone call! What is your problem?"

"Someone is trying to kidnap me!" I whispered.

"It's probably just some Boy Scout", she tried to tell me. I rolled my eyes.

"He was banging on the door!"

"I'll go talk to him."

He was still banging on the door, and Asia looked at him with her mom look. It shows without saying, "Seriously? Stop."

He stopped. Asia's good like that. I'm hiding behind the chair again...

"Greetings," He says.

"Hello," Asia said.

I came out from behind the chair, and went to hide behind Asia.

"Now, who's that you got there?" He asked.

"This is my daughter," She lied.

"Is it really?" He said, while he pulled out some papers.

She gulped, "Yes."

She was making it worse. The man asked me to go away for a second. I have ears like deers, so, I still could hear them.

"I am here to make your sisters life better,"

"You mean my daughter,"

She was making it worse. I knew who he was all of the sudden. He was a social worker.

One of those people who stay in your home, examining everything, and making sure your parent is a good fit. I don't think leaving me at home and lying to someone about me, really made a good first impression. He doesn't know, Asia may be whacking me with a stick. I walk towards the door

"Excuse me, I did not invite you back," he says.

"Since when are you my parent?" I replied snottily.

"Since now," he whispered under his breath.

"What?" Asia asked.

"You don't look like a social worker," I told him.

"I'm a special qualification," he replied.

"Oh..." said Asia, just realizing who he was, "you know, yeah, I'm sorry but we must be going now, I need to go pick up April from art class." Mr. Social Worker didn't buy it.

"How long is her class?" He asked,"10 minutes?"

He was a smart one. Asia had gotten there 15 minutes ago. Somehow he knew that she had just dropped her off, and that it was only 3 minutes from our house. He was still standing outside the door arms folded.

"This did not go well," he said, "You have two days to change my mind. Otherwise I will be picking her up on Saturday."

Saturday, October 22, 2007

Dear Diary, we didn't change his mind. We couldn't. He didn't listen.

"Bye Asia!" I said, crying. The whole family was there, crying. I was going into the big black car. My worst nightmare was coming true. It was a bumpy road, I started to get a headache. "Stop the car."

"Excuse me?" He said, shocked.

"Now!"

"Not now!" He exclaimed, "We have to go."

"Okay," I said, calmly and quietly. Suddenly, I threw up all over his bald head. I couldn't help it. He cussed, and swerved into a ditch. I moved around him, unlocked the door and started running with all my might back home. I wasn't feeling very well still, and I hit my leg on the dashboard when we crashed. I looked back and Mr. Bald Guy was trying to push it out of the ditch. He was a mess, vomit everywhere. Gross. I turn back, I wish I didn't see that. I finally got home and everyone was still crying. They were a mess. I pounded on the door, and winced, realizing that was how it all started. Asia was not happy. An hour later there were police at our door. Again, not happy. Thank goodness the vomit guy wasn't there. If he was, I'd probably pass out. I lied and said that he was trying to kidnap me. That should hold them off for a while. Plus, sometimes it's a bit good to lie. I guess. I'll keep you updated tomorrow.

Emie Behar 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

WHAT TO WRITE?

I am sitting in a car waiting for us to get to my grandparents' for Christmas. This is my homework and I am trying to get it done. 250 words is what I want to type, but what about? 211 words left. I could write about knights and princesses. No, too childish. How about something non-fiction. No boring informational text. How about a Christmas story. No, I hate that idea. 176 more words to go. Maybe a love story. No, too sad. Maybe something happy. No, too many rainbows. HELP ME!! Tomorrow is Christmas Eve. How many words left? Oh, 146 words left. It is hard to write because I do not have my teacher looking over my shoulder helping me with revising and editing. And, I am not a very fast typer. I do not have too big of an imagination, either. 103 words left. Once upon a time, there was a chair who could talk. He had flowers all over with wooden legs. And all he did was talk. Talk, talk, talk. Until one day, many clouds appeared in the sky. It was so dark that day that no one could take one step without bumping into something. The chair was so scared that he just started talking to calm himself down. The clouds were so annoyed that they decided to leave the town and go somewhere else. The chair was a hero and he lived happily ever after. The end. That could work. Nah, I do not like it. Let's think about something else. What do you think I should do. Yah, I'm asking YOU. Oh, you think I should just give up? I wish I could. But this is homework, and homework is homework. I have already accomplished my word goal. Two more words...The End.

Talley Blackman
5th Grade
St. Peter's Episcopal School
Teacher: Mrs. Nelson

Untitled

Once there was a girl named Anne. She was a small girl about twelve years old, she loved to go to the woods to get free from the world like, her family and most importantly, school. The year was 1896 and school was a cruel and horrid place. They all hated her. Peggy was the worst kid in her class. All she ever did was, steal her books and call her names, chase her all the way home and kick her. It was awful. She couldn't understand what she ever did to Peggy and her friends. "Was it because of my ugly black hair?" "My pale skin?" She just wanted to go away sometimes. One day, as she was lying in her room she heard her mom call for her to do some chores. Anne was a one of nine in her family. She had two brothers, four sisters and her parents.

"Will you go outside to get water for dinner?"

"Yes, mother."

As she made her way outside with her bucket she heard rustling in the trees. She was slightly confused but just thought it was the squirrels making their way back to their nests. It was around 7:15 in the beginning of winter so it was getting dark quickly. The walk there and back would probably be at least 30 minutes or more. As she was walking she felt like somebody was watching her so she looked all around her. Anne saw nothing. She was scared and she really wanted to go back home to her nice warm bed and cozy fire in the living room. She was cold and uncomfortable. Time passed and she made her way to the river to get her water. As she filled her bucket with water she started to cry. Not a usual cry, a hard sob. Now she definitely thought somebody was watching her so she slowly looked up. She saw a shadow quickly duck behind a tree. She slowly backed away with her bucket. When she looked back there was a boy standing in front of her with a small box in his hand. The boy was about her age, With brown hair, an odd jacket with rainbow streaks down the side arms and shoes that had laces and a white thing at the front of it. They stared at each other for a solid two minutes. Anne thought he looked so weird.

Suddenly he said, "1986."

She was still very confused. Then she heard a click, and a bright flash. "I think you will like it there."

She was never seen again.

Mady Campbell 5th Grade Normal Park Upper School Teacher: Mrs. Brock

Untitled

Only once a year, a girl named Marietta turns BLUE. That's the only day she never goes to school, she never is sick, never has a cavity, never been to the doctor, she was perfect. She had long blond hair and a red dress that went down to her knees. She never had real friends, but she has FANS. If Marietta was seen blue, people would laugh at her or, she thought. Some people made fun of Marietta for her long hair that would draw in the dirt and leaves, she just said to herself "They are just jealous," but where they? Marietta only had one real friend, her name was Ava. Ava called Marietta mary, at recess they played horses but still never mentioned being blue. One day at school a new kid named Jerry came to school but there was something off about him, he.was.BLUE! All blue, his shirt, skin, eyes, hands, EVERYTHING!!! Everyone was normal though did not stare not even make fun of him.

"Uh Ava?" said Mary.

"Yea?"

"It's the new kid jerry, he is BLUE! If you don't mind me asking... Are you blue once a year too?"

Mary said. "Ummm y-yes. It's TRUE IM BLUE! INFACT TOMORROW I'M BLUE!!" Ava yelled out on the playground.

"Same! I'M BLUE TOO AND TOMORROW!!" Mary said back.

That day mary, Ava, and Jerry played together on the playground. The next day EVERYONE came to school, but.they.were.all.BLUE.

Aidan Curley 5th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet School Teacher: Mrs. Henderson-Black

Pencil

Hi I'm a pencil. Today I will be telling you my story of how I once was a big, proud, young, and happy pencil to how I became a small, unproudly, mad/sad, and old pencil. So one day I was born and I was made just like any other pencil was made. Then they took me and dropped me in this thing called a "box" and I knew this was the start of my life. I thought of what a happy life I was going to have and how I would meet lots of friends and I would live the happiest life then all the other pencils in the world. But that did not happen. This is how it happen I was unboxed and pulled out of the box. The thing that pulled me out was a little kid named Zoe. She had brown eyes, she had white skin, she also was wearing a blue shirt, she was wearing pink pants, and she had blonde hair, and was very pretty. I could tell she was a nice, caring, loving, and kind kid. And she was. She took me and putted me into her box with other things in it, I think it was called a "pencil box." For some reason she never used me at all. I think it was because she liked me and wanted to keep me brand new. And I was right and how I know is because she took me everywhere she went and we also talked and played. Until she found a new pencil, that she liked better than me.

Then she dropped me on the ground and "bang" was the only thing I heard in that moment. This was the saddest day of my life. My best friend just banned me from her life. Then another kid named Josh picked me up from the ground. I was going to have to restart my life with Josh. The first few days where ok but Josh did not talk to me or play with me like Zoe did but I guess that was ok. Then he picked me up and he started to write with me and it was like I was dragged from one place to another and it hurt a lot. The next day Josh took me out of his pencil box and told me I was his slave and I had to do whatever he told me to do. I knew that Josh was the opposite of Zoe, even if she dropped me and he picked me up off the floor. This is not right and then I knew I had to something about this. So the next day I got all the pencils in the room to help me decide what I should do about the boy. And we decide the oldest pencil should decide what I do knows the best and because he has been in the same situation as me. We decide to yell for Zoe and tell her all about what happen when she dropped me and how Josh found me on the ground and was MEAN! So in the morning I yelled at Zoe but she did not hear me, so I yelled again but it was louder and she did not hear me. This was bad. I think she just did not want to talk to me.

Then Josh picked me up and said, "What are you doing."

This was bad I thought. Next he picked me up and started to draw and write with me and he also kept do this until I was a small, little pencil. One day it was the start of the new school year and I was so happy to make new friends and to meet new people. Then the day came and I could not sleep at all the night before. When I got to school I sat down, but before I sat down I got a brand new pencil. The pencil started to talk to me which was a little weird but it was ok with me. We become best friends or BFF. Until one day i could not find the pencil and I was so sad, but I knew it was time to move on. Then I walk with sadness in every step and got another pencil. And then a few days later the pencil was starting to shout my name and I thought he was just mad at his new owner and he wanted to be with me again, but I just ignored him because it just was not worth it.

Then I saw the worst thing and felt super bad for him because when I turn around see if

he was still there, but instead of seeing him still there, I saw that he was picked up and drawn with a boy named Josh. And Josh never nice to his stuff. That how I knew that this was bad, but I didn't know what to do. So I ask Josh it I could barrow his pencil and he said yes. Then he gave me a different pencil then the one I wanted, but I knew if I ask every day for a pencil, that maybe he would give me that pencil, but he did not. This is how I know that the pencil will never live again and I was so sad.

Alyssa Chea 5th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Jamie Jorgensen

A Life Changed by a Cat

One day, there was a girl named Luna. She was coming home from school. Her cat was waiting for her at the door like he did every day. When Luna came home, to her surprise, Socks jumped into her arms and started to purr. Socks never does that.

"Are you ok Socks?" asked Luna, while petting him.

"No, the city is in danger Luna," said Socks.

Luna was in total shock. "You...You talked! My cat talked!" Luna said in excitement.

"Yea, I talked, but you can't tell anyone. What are you doing? Put that phone down!" Socks said.

"Heh...sorry," said Luna. Then, Luna put her phone down. "Earlier, you said the city was in danger. What do you mean about that?" Luna asked.

"Oh right! So, it's kind of a long story," Socks said.

Luna was determined to know about it. "I have the time, it's Friday, and so I have today and the weekend."

"Fine Luna, I will tell you," Socks said. "So, while you were at school today, there was a robbery at a jewelry store and that's where you come in Luna."

Luna interrupted, "Me?!"

Socks replied, "Yes you, now let me finish. So, you are in a group of heroes called Glitter Moon and you need to find the other girls."

Luna yawned and agreed with finding them. "I will find them tomorrow, I'm way too tired, now goodnight Socks." She yawned again and fell right asleep. Then, Socks curled up beside her and fell asleep.

The next day, Luna wakes up and stretches. "Good morning Socks. Socks? Where are you?" Luna's mom was near, so Socks said nothing but "meow". Luna heard Socks in the kitchen scratching the fridge. Luna then ran to him and grabbed him.

"Do you want to be thrown out?" she whispered. "Mom said next time you did that you would get thrown out!" she complained.

I forgot!" he said.

"Right..." Luna said slowly and sarcastically. She grabbed the milk and poured some in his bowl. "There you go boy," she said when her mom passed by her. Next, she grabbed herself some breakfast and got ready. After she got ready, she met up with her friends, bringing her cat with her.

"Hey Socks? Do I get to choose my group?" she asked.

"Well, you don't, but your group is standing right in front of you," he replied.

"Really!" she said excitedly. "I can't believe this!"

Luna's best friend Maria said, "Did your cat just talk?"

"UGH! Here we go again! Yes, I talked and you, Luna, and the others are a group of heroes called Glitter Moon," he explained to them. "Y'all have to catch the robber from yesterday and save the city."

The girls looked confused and surprised. Then, out of nowhere their clothes turned into uniforms with giant bows in the front.

"Wow!" the girls yelled.

"So pretty!" Luna said. "Come on! Let's save the town girls!"

They ran to the jewelry store that got robbed. Right when they got there the alarm went off and a man with a bag was running out of the store.

"Gotcha!" Maria said to herself. Next, she ran after him and grabbed the bag and the man.

She yelled, "Get him!"

After that, all of the girls ran up to him and grabbed him. Finally, Maria safely returns the jewelry.

The man chuckled, "You think this is over Glitter Moon? Well you were wrong!"

He gets free and gets in a fighting position. The girls get ready for a fight.

"Let's dance," he said.

Luna kicked him and he was defeated. Then, their clothes went back to normal and everything else did too.

"Good job girls! You defeated the robber!" Socks said.

That was how a girl's life changed by a cat.

McKayla Duckett
5th Grade
Silverdale Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Renae Marcus

The Day Breaker

"No! This is my project, you can't fire me for something I created."

Gary was a construction worker who wanted to make the job easier by creating a tool that could lift anything. He looked big and tough no one messed with him, until now. Gary worked so hard on the project that was now it was ruined.

"You know, it's unfair when someone creates something great then then someone ruins it, that's what you're doing." Gary grabbed the gravity breaker (Gary's project) and put it on his wrist. His eyes turned red, he clenched his fist. Something was wrong. The gravity breaker took him over. The gravity breaker was in control now.

"Gary don't do this! Please!" Gary's boss said.

"Call me The Daybreaker."

The Daybreaker lunged his fist forward at his boss, sending him flying to his death. The gravity breaker gave TDB--The Daybreaker--visions of how to create another dimension. TDB lifted the gravity breaker to the sky and pounded his fist to the ground. Something in the sky appeared. It was a meteor! But not just any meteor; it was yellow. SMASH! It hit the ground and created an explosion that rumbled the earth. TDB walked to the small crater. It was about five meters wide with a yellow rock in the center. He pick up the yellow rock and crushed it in his hand. The pieces floated from his open palm and formed what looked like a portal. It got bigger and bigger, until it was the size of a building. The portal roared like a big monster. A few minutes later, something came out of it. A Malduga. Its mouth was the size of a classroom, its body the size of a building, its arms stubby and short with each the size of a human. It had huge red beady eyes that glimmered in the sun and moonlight and slimy skin that would literally burst at you like a tiger pouncing on prey. After the first monster emerged, more followed. Ten Maldugas came out of the portal within five minutes, and every single one headed towards the city. One Malduga got shot down by a helicopter and fell down, smashing ten people trying to evacuate, including 11 year old Dan. When Dans car crashed, he lost his arm along with his parents. His parents died during the crash, Dan was knocked unconscious giving him a concussion forgetting about his parents, forgetting that he even had parents. Later when he was still unconscious, a mysterious figure picked Dan up by forcing the Malduga to roll over. The mysterious man took Dan somewhere never heard or seen before. Dan woke up.

"Where am I?"

"You're in the Korok Forest," said a mysterious voice.

Dan looked around and saw a very very futuristic small village.

"Why is it so small and hidden?"

"Because we don't want the humans to find it," the mysterious voice said.

"Why?"

"Because we are afraid that the humans will use our technology unwisely and kill us."

"Wait a minute ... are you the Korok King?"

"Yes, indeed I am."

"I've heard many legends about you and the Koroks!"

The Korok King laughed a little and said "Come with me."

The Korok King took Dan to one of the small structures. They opened the door, and there

it was armor.

"Put this on young one, you'll need this."

"For what?"

"Fighting."

"Fighting?" said Dan in surprise.

"You need to fight the Maldugas before the King and Queen Malduga come." "And one more thing, do you like your new arm?" Dan looked at his right arm and saw a metal arm with lines going left and right, down, and up across each other, with three big spikes on the top of the arm.

"It can also stretch up to one thousand feet."

"Wow!"

There were now twenty Maldugas in the city. The Queen Malduga would arrive soon. Dan was worried, but a little bit excited. After TDB created the portal he traveled to the next city, where in the forest there lie a base in the middle of the forest. He went inside and saw a missile. He used the TGB to clean it off it was good to go. He set a timer to tomorrow 12:00 a.m.

"The city is doomed!" he laughed

When King and Queen Malduga arrived, Dan ran to the city as fast as he could. But TDB got in his way. They met each other for the first time.

"Did you do all of this?" Dan said.

"Yes," TDB said as Dan got out his sword. TDB pushed him back and Dan used his arm to grab TGB. Dan then ran up to him then stabbed him with the sword, killing TDB. Dan grabbed something from his pocket which turned into a hoverbike and he quickly rushed to the woods where he saw a missile was going to launch. He got there just in time; the missile launched so Dan grabbed the missile with his new arm and latched on to it. When he got on it, he hit what was going to make it explode. He looked over and saw the King Malduga. The missile turned to the city. Finally he destroyed what was going to make a huge explosion the missile now was facing the King. The missile was still going to explode. The missile was falling too fast he now was hanging on with one hand, his robot hand that was damaged. The arm suddenly broke with a "CRACK!" Dan was falling down, down, down and landed on the King Malduga. The missile hit the King with a "BOOM!" He saw the King Malduga dead on the ground. He also saw Queen Malduga dead. The King was what kept the Maldugas alive.

Charlie Flynn
5th Grade
Thrasher Elementary School
Teacher: Karen Simpson

Love and War

Chapter 1: Carlton

It's been two months since I joined the army. Training is tough, but I have finally found someone who can help me. Her name is Ally. I met her the first week of training. When I saw her face, my heart smiled. I really like her, maybe even LOVE her. When she throws her hair back, it's so cute. I'm getting off track now. I wrote this journal entry to document our battles. We are at war with Mexico. Yesterday, they sent 3 attacks on our lower work stations. We have to go out tomorrow for our first battle. The E1 squadron is heading to the west side of the Mexico border. I have to pilot the mounted turret. It will be difficult for me since I don't have much training with it. This is Carlton E1-Private, signing off.

Chapter 2: Ally

Hi, my name is Ally, but that's not important. I'm writing this diary for two reasons: 1: I want to record moments in the war for history books, and 2: If I die, I want that cute boy named Carlton to read this. To Carlton: I think you're cute! Anyways, we have a big battle tomorrow and I have to ride in a tank. I'm scared, but I'm decent at tanks. I am going with my squadron to the middle of the Mexico border. Carlton told me that he was going to the east border, so maybe I will get to see him. Sgt. Rick told me that I should go to bed now, so bye whoever is reading this.

Chapter 3: The Battle

"All troops, on your stations!" said Sgt. Rick.

"Yes sir!" said the troops in unison.

The tanks rolled out of the deployment carrier. The barricades were set up. The weapons were deployed. Sgt. Rick shot the first shot from his cannon. It hit an enemy soldier. Carlton was attacked but he quickly used his turret to clear a safe path through the enemy troops. Their goal was to take out the enemy commander. Sgt. Rick went in the path first. He walked past a few barricades, when he heard a noise. He got out a smoke grenade, but then an enemy soldier came out and killed Sgt. Rick. The squad was terrified. The enemy commander sent troops toward them. Ally was across the field when this happened. She got out her M16 rifle, and braced herself. She ran to Carlton. Carlton had a KSG-12. They went to the barricades to fire. Carlton hit a few enemies. He was defending the squad, when an enemy soldier kidnapped Ally. She was in the back of their group at the time. The squad didn't realize this until all the enemy troops were gone. Meanwhile, Ally is in the enemy shuttle being brainwashed into their soldier. The brainwashing caused her to forget everything, including Carlton.

"Wait, where's Ally?" said Carlton.

"I don't know," said a soldier.

"Ally, Ally?" they all called out. Ally was gone.

Chapter 4: The Reunion

The squad walked around the empty battlefield looking for a sign. They saw Commander Siwa with her squad by a barricade.

"Commander Siwa!" said Carlton. "We lost Ally and we don't know where she is!" "We didn't see her body anywhere, so they must have taken her." Carlton said.

"What's her ID?" asked Commander Siwa.

"1763," Carlton replied. Commander

Siwa entered the number in her tracker. "I found a trace of her," she said. "Let's get in the shuttle"

Carlton sat in the back of the shuttle, as he started to cry. "What if we don't find her?" he cried.

"It will be okay," said a soldier.

They arrived at their location. It was an enemy outpost. They went towards it, when the door burst open and troops came out. They took down all the troops, but then another troop came out. It was Ally. She aimed at Carlton.

Carlton said, "If I'm going to die, then I want you to know that I love you."

Her brainwashing effect wore off and she fell to the ground. When Ally woke up, she walked up to Carlton and kissed him.

"I love you too, great job soldier," she said in a semi-romantic tone.

Just then the enemy commander walked out the door.

"Ally you traitor!" she yelled.

Commander Siwa threw a grenade at the enemy commander. It took out her and the rest of the outpost. When everyone got back, they had to find a replacement for Sgt. Rick.

"Why not has Carlton become sergeant?" said Commander Siwa.

"What about me?" asked Ally.

"As sergeant I officially make you co-sergeant, said Carlton.

Carlton and Ally dated for a few years after they left the army, and they eventually got married. The end.

Matthew Grant
5th Grade
Grace Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Shana Iyarson

The Girl who Cried Monster!

It all started as a normal day at the library. Kyla was just turning in a book when the librarian said, "Did you like the book?"

Kyla said, "Two thumbs down."

Mr. Thomas said, "This book is a classic."

"Yeah, but I like scary books because-"

The librarian cut her off, "Why don't you just go find another book?"

"Hey, Tyler!" Kayla said to her best friend.

"Hey, what book are you getting?" asked Tyler.

"Frankenstein" she replied.

"Nice!" "Kayla, are you sure you want to get his book? Frankenstein is also a classic."

"Yeah, but it is scary." Bang! Mr. Thomas slammed the stamp onto the book as he checked out the book.

Tyler and Kyla were talking on the way home, when Kyla realized he left her bag at the Library. She got her bag, but when she looked at Mr. Thomas, she saw that he had two tanks. One had a tarantula in it, and the other had dozens and dozens of crickets. Kayla stared in confusion. They, MR. Thomas took a hand full of crickets and ate them! Kayla looked in disgust. Then, she saw that he was a monster. Kayla ran out of the library and ran home. Later, she called Tyler and told him about what she saw. Of course, Tyler did not believe her, so she wanted to get proof.

The next day, she went to the library, and she turned in Frankenstein. She pretended to shut the door, and instead of leaving, Kyla tried to get as close to Mr.Thomas as possible. Right as she got the proof, he saw her! She ran and ran, but she got stuck in a corner. Mr. Thomas seemed like he wanted to ear her, but Kayla went through his legs and ran home without stopping. When Kayla got home, she called Tyler right away. He now believed her.

Tyler said, "If I was you, I would go somewhere else. He is probably heading to your house right now!"

She went downstairs and looked out the window of the door, and Mr.Thomas was right there. "What are you doing here?" Kayla asked.

"I was returning your backpack." Mr. Thomas answered.

Kayla locked to door and said, "Ok, just leave it on the porch." "Mom! Dad!" Kayla called out after Mr. Thomas left.

"What?"

"Mr. Thomas is a monster!"

"Monster!" said her little brother Trey.

"Kayla stop trying to scare your little brother."

"I'm not joking. Mr. Thomas is a monster! Here is proof!" "Look at this app." Kayla said and showed them

"We are going to invite Mr. Thomas over for dinner tonight, and I don't want to hear any more of this monster business, okay?" said Kayla's mom.

"Okay, but.."

"Stop, go."

Ding, dong, the doorbell rang. "Okay, Mr. Thomas is here. No more monster stuff." Said Kayla's mom.

She opened the door and said, "Hi, Hello. Kayla would you like to offer Mr. Thomas a meatball?"

"Here you go." said Kayla.

"Mmm, whats for dinner?" Mr. Thomas asked, and Kayla's mom answered, "Well, it was going to be a surprise, but since you asked, you!"

"Excuse me!" asked Mr. Thomas. "That's right, you!

Then, Kayla's parents turned into vampire like mutants and ate Mr. Thomas.

Dad said, "That was close. He almost got away. Now kids,"

Kayla cut him off,

"You just ate Mr. Thomas!" Dad calmly said, "Kids, never ever tell anyone. Do you know why? Because they would kill us!"

"Oh no! More monsters!" Trey exclaimed.

"Well take care of this."

Then, my parents transformed back into mutants.

"Hey, What's for dessert?" My dad said,

"Well since you asked, you and this pie. Ha! Ha! Ha!"

Avery Glover 5th Grade St. Peter's Episcopal School Teacher: Susan Bell

Mr. Thorn and the World of Color

There once was a kindly young man who lived in a black and white world called Monochromatic. The man's name was Point E. Thorn, or Mr. Thorn. He seemed very peculiar, because he was the only one who wanted to find the mysterious thing called "color." In Monochromatic, no "color" was present. All books, clothes, trees, and flowers were black and white. Mr. Thorn, however, was miserable.

"Why does Monochromatic have to be so, well, monochromatic?" He would mumble this to himself everyday, because everyday was the same. He would wake up at 6:00 am, get dressed, and eat breakfast. Next, he would go for a daily stroll through town. Then, when all of that was finished, Mr. Thorn would go to all of the different libraries across town, and check out every book about "color." After this came lunch. During the afternoon, Mr. Thorn would practice his violin, often getting it ready for a performance. By then it was evening, which meant dinner and bedtime. One day, Mr. Thorn woke up and announced," Today shall be different. I will find this 'World of Color,' and show all of the beauty to the people of Monochromatic." So, on his morning walk, he brought all of the things he thought he might need; a change of clothes, his violin, money, food and drink, and his pocket knife. He packed all of his things into a sack, and started off. Mr. Thorn had no idea of where he was going or what would happen. All he knew was that he wouldn't stop until he found the "World of Color." He walked for hours and hours. Suddenly, he bumped into something.

"What could this be?" he exclaimed.

He bent down feeling the edge of something. He tugged and pulled. Then out of nowhere, a bright light appeared. Mr. Thorn shaded his eyes to see.

"Yes! I have found the World of Color!" Ecstatic, he stepped inside.

Mr. Thorn seemed transformed. His dark grey pants turned corduroy blue. His grey button-down shirt turned pale yellow. His hair was sandy blonde. And his eyes, they sparkled like moonlit sea, right after a harsh storm. Mr. Thorn felt as though he was a different person, a new person. Then he started naming off the colors.

"Red for the color of the roses, Orange for the sunset. Golden yellow for the grain field of which I'm standing in..." He went on and on. "Green for the grass, Blue for the sky, and purple for the sky when the sun says goodbye."

(He had read this poem in a book about color). Mr. Thorn settled himself for sleep. Then he heard a loud, snuffling noise that seemed to be coming closer. Suddenly, something licked his face. It felt slobbery and slimey. It was a dog! It appeared to be a small type of corgi, with tan and white fur. Mr. Thorn said, "Hello there. Are you lost?" He checked for a collar, but there wasn't one. "I guess you can come with me," Mr. Thorn said. "I will name name you Perriwinkle. How does that sound." Perriwinkle licked his face in response. "All right, all right, you can sleep with me, but lay still." The next day, Mr. Thorn woke to a dilemma. What about Monochromatic? He thought. Should I stay here or go back? Then, as if a light bulb had clicked, Mr. Thorn had an idea. He ran to the border, with Perriwinkle right behind him. Then he took out his pocket knife, and flipped out the blade... and he cut a huge breach in the border of the two dimensions!

Light and color flooded over the barren city of Monochromatic. People stopped and

stared. Then, they cheered. Monochromatic wasn't monochromatic anymore. Finally there was color in the world as we know it... so next time you read, read a little more. Next time you write, write a little more. Next time you dream, dream a whole lot bigger.

Emma Hornsby 5th Grade Orchard Knob Elementary School Teacher: Jennifer New

Untitled

I am going to tell you a good story about me. It all started when I was 10 or 9 cause my friends call me that age. My mom didn't have a lot of money. We were not wealthy like the other people. This was in the year of 1999. This was the saddest year of my life. My dad was a worker and he worked at a restaurant. But the owner only paid him \$8 a day. My dad would get home with half of a pocket of money and that was only \$8. Yesterday my dad never came home from work, so my mom went to the restaurant and asked "where is Joseph?" They didn't say one word except, "leave," so my mom left. I was just waiting right at my door for my dad to come in. Then this happened.

Dad said "hey I'm back."

Mom said, "I don't care if your back."

Dad said, "why are you mad at me I didn't do anything wrong."

Mom said, "then why were you so late to get home, also when I came to the restaurant and I said, can I see Joseph, they didn't say anything except leave. Then I left."

My dad started to get really mad at my mom.

Mom said, "Why did they not let me see you."

Dad said, "They fired me stupid."

Mom said, "Why though."

Dad said, "I got in a fight with one of the customers."

I knew mom was about to burst into flames, but she didn't get as mad as I thought she was going to be. My neighbors would always chant, "You got fired!" Dad always would get so mad he would break a window. Everyday a window would be broken, and that's how we lost most of our money of buying windows for my dad. One day dad went to get a job and mom went to get a job so I was going to be left alone in the house. Then there was a man that showed up at the door of my house. I thought it was my dad, so then I opened the door and saw a random man, so I closed the door shut. He started to chase me all around the house I thought he was going to catch me, but he was so slow. Why did he try to catch a kid that runs for track he had no chance, but this man was tough. He would cut me off at some corners of the house, five minutes later, he was right in front of my face and I didn't even expect it. I was running so hard and he disappeared behind me so I thought he was going to cut me off again, but he sneaked up behind me and caught me. I started to scream than he put a piece of duct tape on my mouth and I couldn't get away. I wonder were my mom would think I would be. Then the man took me to house right next to them in a secret room. Called the Creepy Nest. There were spiders and bats in there! Some of them look like big spiders. Then the man came down to the Creepy Nest.

I asked, "Why do you want me?"

The man said, "I hate your family."

I said, "Why, our family hasn't done anything to you."

The man said, "I was the man that got in a fight with your dad. And at that time I was about to get that job, but your dumb father of yours thought I said something mean."

I asked, "What did you say to my dad."

The man said, "Do you guys have any job offers cause it looks like you guys need some help. He probably thought I meant you guys need some help."

I said, "Get another job."

Then he finally agreed with me and he got a good job, but he forgot to untie me. I had to sit in a dim room full with spiders, bees, and insects. When the man got to my house he looked very happy. He had a crazy face like he had come out of a party. He was jumping around like a big unicorn. I couldn't tell if he was happy or mad? He had come over to me and ripped the duct tape off of my mouth. I was screaming like I came out of a tattoo place, or something like that.

The man said, "Sorry."
I asked, "Why are you happy."
The man said, "I got a new job."
I asked, "Are you going to untie me or not."
The man said "yes."

So I got untied and ran out of the basement but the man stayed there until I left his site. I got with my mother and hugged her. I said "Bye" to the man. I told dad to get a better job and he did. He started to work at a technology place. He lived a long life and so did I. I grew up to be a big man.

Zachary Isaac 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

Letter from a World War 1 Trench

Dear Ma, Nov.13 1916

We finally got to the battle... the trenches are horrible. These trenches are deep long pits, covered with sandbags and surrounded with barbed wire. There are rats here that are the size of a cat! Our rations are small and there seems to be no way to keep clean in these dank, foul-smelling, trenches. One of my friend's foot has swollen up. He even stuck a bayonet in it and said he couldn't feel a thing! I have to clean the latrine. It is a horrible job! Foul smelling excrement can make anyone go insane. I haven't been killed.... Yet. The lookout has spotted a group of enemy soldiers crossing the stretch of land between us and the other trench, which we call "No Man's Land." I will have to fight them. Remember the promise I made you? That I would come back? Well, ... I'm sorry I may not be able to keep it. We are losing men left and right, our defenses are crumbling, and we are too weak to fight! Oh god... a enemy soldier has found my hiding place. I'm so sorry, I'm so s- I have delivered this letter to you on your sons behalf. I found his body riddled with bullet holes, this letter in his hand. I wish I could say that he survived, that he woke up later. But I cannot. Your son is dead. As a service to him, I have delivered this letter to you. I'm truly sorry for the loss of my comrade, your son. With greatest sorrow,

Naveen Jestice.

Naveen Jestice 5th Grade **Battle Academy** Teacher: Ms. Dana Brainerd

Aliens

"Welcome to Camp Tree Top! I am your camp director ,Eli Marshall. For those of you that are new to Camp, we have a few rules. Rule one is no trying to escape the cabins at night. Rule two, ok now this is a little weird but, no trying to jump into the fire. Now the reason I say this is because one time my little brother, Carter, did that. Say hi Carter."

A man on the stage waved to the crowd.

"Now back to the rules. Well that's all good-night your trunks are in your cabins. Ohh! Wait, at this Camp we have no counselors. Now good night."

"Wow this summer is going to the best, no counselors!"

The next day the same girl who had said that it would the best summer ever had fallen out of the top bunk and onto the floor. Her name was Lyila.

"Ouch, that hurt." she said rubbing her head.

"You would think that without any counselors they would put rails on the top bunks in case someone was a rough sleeper."

The other girls in the cabin started waking up too. They started to get dressed and make their beds. When they finished cleaning the cabin the girls walked over to the dining hall. There were four in total, Addie, Lyila, Jordyn and Cassy.

"Hey Lyila, how did you fall off your bunk," asked Jordyn.

"I don't know, how did you know I fell?" she asked, confused.

"I sleep under you, crazy."

"Oh right, wow, I forgot. I must have been so tired last night I slept so hard I didn't remember." she said laughing.

"GUYS!" yelled Addie.

"ADDIE!" yelled Lyila, sarcastically.

"No, seriously, this is really weird but, how could Lyila have fallen off the bed if there were rails on it? Guys what I'm saying is that there were rails on Lyila's bed, there was no way she could have fallen off her bed. Now this is the weird part, someone must have had to pick her up and shove her off or dump her off the bed without touching her! Now what is the only thing that could do either of those things?" said Addie.

"Harry Potter! He could do both of those things," screamed Lyila.

"No. I mean, yes, but no. It wasn't Harry Potter, Lyi." said Addie.

"What if it was some type of alien?" said Jordyn.

"Hey guys," said a snarky voice.

"Ugh it's just Brennan guys don't pay attention to him."

"Aww are you still mad about me dumping water on you Lyila?"

"Yes, Brennan, actually I'm furious about it," said Lyila.

"Ok, I don't care," he said, trying to play it off cool.

"Ugh, here come the rest of them," said Cassy, who sounded aggravated. Cassy Smith never lost control, so this was new to the girls.

As Brennan left with the rest of the boys left Addie looked over at Cassy and said in astonishment, "Are you still Cassy Lola Smith?"

"Ha ha ha. Very funny yes I am."

Brennan ran back to the girls and said to Jordyn, "Mom says she is sending mail to you. See ya later, Sis."

"Ugh I forgot you were cursed to have that as a brother," said Lyila.

The girls, after breakfast, went to their cabin to change into their bathing suits to go swimming. They walked down to the lake but then something crazy happened. Lightning struck but it was bright green. The lifeguard told the campers to go to their cabins and have F.O.B. (flat on back or a time to chill) for the rest of the day. As they walked back to the cabin they saw them standing right in front of their cabin was three aliens. The girls went through the back door and into the cabin. They had locked the front door to the cabin when the left to go to the lake.

"What do we do?" Asked Cassy.

"I'll tell you what we're gonna do," said Jordyn. "We're gonna close the blinds and not let them know we're in here."

"Ok that sounds like a good plan." Said Lyila.

"I just wanna say that I was right." said Addie.

So each girl went to the bathroom which was the furthest room from the front door and called Eli the Camp director and told him that there where aliens and come to cabin thirteen. The girls left Camp and never came back. After the two months of camp were over the aliens left and didn't come back either, and to this day people and scientists still don't know why the aliens came.

Rae Karimian 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

The Dog

The dog was just a normal dog that lived in the dog store. The dog was lonely and nobody wanted him. One day a family came into the store. He did not jump. He did not lick. He did not wag his tale. He just sat there. It was something about this dog that the family liked. The dog use to wag his tail, bark and lick but he never was picked to go home with anyone and he gave up. So this sunny but cold day the dog was picked to go home. When the gate opened and the dog keeper called him the dog took off running out the front door. The dog ran and ran. He crossed the street and counted four lights. He dashed across a pot hole, he jumped over a fence. He ran and he ran. The family back at the dog store was in shock. The little girl started crying and she was really upset. The mother was puzzled and confused. The day was determined to make sure they found the dog. The dog keep kept apologizing to the family over and over. He did not train the animals to act this way. The dog keeper instructed the family to go home and he would send his team out to search for the dog.

Within the next hour the team was out searching for the dog. The dog was scared and had been trying to follow this familiar scent. He could smell toys that he use to play with and peach cobbler filled the air. He walked slowly smelling the ground. He came to a restaurant where he found a little girl playing with this familiar toy and the smell of peach cobbler. But something was different about this place. There wasn't a front yard nor was there a fence. There was no wooden front door or a doormat that said, wipe your paws. This is not it the dog thought to himself. The family went home but decided to stop at this particular restaurant. The little girl had taken with her to dog store a little toy to give to her new little friend. While in the restaurant the family had their meal and a dessert, peach cobbler. They sat there wishing there day could end a little better.

The family had lost their dog Max. Max was a standard poodle. He stood with pride and he was very alert and smart. One day Max was playing in the front yard with his favorite toy. He never went over the fence but this particular day Max did. Max never came back home and he was lost Max. Max walked away from the restaurant with is head held down low. He crossed the street. He went to an ally and laid down on a cardboard box. He cried and he was cold. Max did not blend in with the other dogs. You could tell Max was a loved dog. He was groomed but his hair was a little tangled. He looked like he needed a good bath but it was something about him that was different. The team was out looking for the dog. The searched all around the grounds and even went miles and miles away from the dog store. They were determined to find this dog for this little girl. The family shared the story about the dog they once had. The called the store to see if they had a dog like theirs. The dog keeper told them they had a dog very similar to that and for them to come down and see him. The dog keeper passed four lights and walked down several blocks and he approached an ally. He noticed that the dog was laying on a cardboard box. The dog keeper walked slowly over to the dog. He did not want to scare him. As he was approaching the dog jumped up and took off running.

He was dodging cars, jumping over curbs and he even jumped into someone's trunk. The truck closed and the car was moving. The dog keeper could not keep up. He was so mad at himself. He knew he needed to call the family and tell them the bad news. He knew he would never be able to find them. Before the dog keeper called the family he decided to go to

the police and give the description to the car along with the tag number. The only problem is the police may not take this case serious. The dog keeper thought why not give it a try. So he told the police the family drives a Honda van about a 2008 and the tag spelled, POODLE.

The police officer said they would look up the tag information and give him a call but it would be the next day before they could get back to him. The dog keeper called the family who just arrived home from eating at the restaurant. The dog keeper told the family that he found the dog in the ally but the dog took off running and eventually jumped in someone's trunk. The dad was happy at first thinking he was going to give his daughter the good news. But quickly his happiness disappeared. While the dog keeper was telling him what happened he told him that the dog jumped in a van. The dog keeper gave the description of the van. Then he said the tag spelled, PODDLE. The dad got excited again and yelled to his wife to go out to the van and check the trunk. The wife ran outside and there she saw a poodle in the back trunk. She opened it and out jumped this big dog. He ran to the front yard, he sniffed, he ran up the steps to the wooden door, he sniffed the door mate that read, wipe your paws. He started barking and wagging his tail.

Max was home.

Jaden Hudgins Key 5th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Chrissy Steffey

Was Columbus Really A Hero?

A lot of people think Columbus was a good man. A hero even. He was brave enough to sail across uncharted waters to find a place new to all of Europe. But most people who say and write that don't mention some of the terrible things that he did. I'm going to share those things with you, and as you read, I want you to think: was Columbus really a hero? When Columbus reached America, he thought he had landed in India, so when he saw the native peoples coming, he called them "Indians". The Natives gave him and his men small gold ornaments, which, to Columbus, meant there was gold on the land where he had landed. Columbus took a handful of Natives and sailed back to Spain. Once there he told his sponsor, Queen Isabella, greatly exaggerated tales about the land he discovered, and showed her all the gold trinkets. The Queen was impressed by his story and agreed to pay for another voyage.

Once he was back in America, Columbus continued his search for gold. He believed that the Natives were hiding where the gold was, so he ordered that each Native bring him to bring him a certain amount of gold at a set time. If they didn't make the dead line, they would have their hands cut off. Columbus still wasn't getting the gold he wanted, but he was profiting from something else. He had turned the Natives into slaves and any who disobeyed would have their ears or nose cut off. The horrified Queen of Spain sent for Columbus. When he arrived, he managed to get the queen to send him on one last journey. When he came back to America, he ordered that the Natives provide food for him and his men while he searched for gold. After awhile they refused, but Columbus convinced them to again, by claiming that a solar eclipse that was happening was his doing. Finally, he had to leave America never to return. All he left behind him was pain, death, and destruction. Not only had slavery and soldiers killed a lot of the Natives, but also sickness, brought by Europeans, which the natives could not cure. This meant millions more would die.

After doing all the research for this, I've decided that Columbus had the potential to be a hero, but he was not. His actions caused the death of millions, and he didn't gain anything. He didn't even find a way to Asia! The only thing he did that might be worth remembering would be that he had enough courage to sail across uncharted waters to the place we call America.

Caleb Lee 5th Grade Hilger Higher Learning Teacher: Shelley George

Untitled

"This year, Maddie, you're going to do Morning Math," my mom declared.

"NOO, I don't want to do Morning Math," I groaned.

"To bad," my mom said firmly.

A few weeks went by and Morning Math unfortunately started. On the first day my grandma had to drop me off super early at 7:30.

"You have morning math today," she said reminding me.

"Okay," I said in an annoyed voice wishing she hadn't reminded me.

I dragged myself out of the car to go to Morning Math. As I was walking in the hallway I noticed a bathroom right next to the KEC. I stopped walking, put my hand on my chin, and thought. Should I stay in the bathroom until morning math was over, or should I be responsible and go. The overwhelming urge came over me. I ran to the bathroom, closed the door, and locked it. In the bathroom, I smiled at myself in the mirror, but that little bit of happiness lasted just a few minutes. The whole time I stared at the floor and thought about a bunch of different things. I thought about what I was going to do tomorrow, friends, family, and other things. However, I mostly thought about why it was a good idea to go to bathroom and skip Morning Math.

"Morning Math is probably over by now" I thought. I left the bathroom and I was shocked. I was in there for hours! I was sadly late for class. I learned a very valuable lesson. That lesson is that you shouldn't try to get out of things. You should just do them. If you don't you'll regret it.

Maddie Marsh
5th Grade
The Bright School
Teacher: Mrs. Ann O'Brien

The School Daze: Trouble in the Building

Chapter 1

Mrs. Roberto's Class

Lindsay walked for about ten minutes until she reached her middle school. She checked the time. It was 6:58 when she opened the large double doors and walked inside. The halls were crowded, so she ducked and weaved to avoid everyone. She finally reached locker 304 and opened it. "Okay," Lindsay said, looking at her class list. "I need my reading notebook, binder, and A Ring of Endless Light for Mrs. Roberto's class." She glanced at her phone. Argh, 7:03! I have two minutes to get to class, she thought to herself. Lindsay flew up two flights of stairs and sat down right as the bell rang. Mrs. Roberto started her long speech a minute later.

"Text evidence is very important. It supports your thoughts and..." Mrs. Roberto rattled on and on.

Lindsay thought about her own life and how she moved this summer. She thought about how lucky she was that her best friend moved here a year earlier. The class put up with Mrs. Roberto's speech for an hour. During that time, Lindsay took notes and doodled her cat Milky Way's black ears, paws, nose, tail, circle around her eye, and white body. Finally, the bell rang, and everyone rushed out the door.

Chapter 2

Mr. Warnsky's Class

Lindsay walked back down the stairs to her locker. On the way, she ran into one of her friends, Tiffany.

"Lindsay!" Tiffany called out while running towards her.

"Oh hey, Tiff!"

Tiffany had sparkling green eyes, short, brown hair, and she was athletic and outgoing.

"Lind, I know that look. What's wrong?"

"Nothing, I'm just tired." Lindsay replied, opening her locker.

"Ok. Wanna head to English together?" Tiffany said while grabbing her binder and checking that she had last night's homework.

"Yeah," Lindsay said while slamming her locker shut.

Lindsay had known Tiffany since first grade, and they had been lucky to be in the same classes 1st-6th grade. When Tiffany's mom died, her dad went all around town looking for a job, and Lindsay and Tiffany had lots of sleepovers a month ago.

Lindsay walked and talked. "So how's your dad doin'?"

"He's ok I guess. He really depends on me, Jeremy, and Kayla," responded Tiffany.

Kayla was Tiffany's dog and Jeremy her 13 year old brother.

Lindsay looked Tiffany over. "How are you doing?"

"I'm ok I guess," Tiffany responded, looking like she was about to cry.

"Hey, I'm really really sorry. What you're going through is unimaginable. Do you wanna hang out after school?" Lindsay asked, feeling super sorry for her.

"Yes! Of course!" she said, cheering up.

"Ok. We'll talk later, after class." Lindsay said, sitting down.

Mr. Warnsky started talking.

"Good morning, class. For today, we will be working on writing cursive quickly. Now write what's up here."

Lindsay hurriedly started writing down the paragraph on prepositions in cursive. All of a sudden, the fire alarm started blaring.

Chapter 3

Fire

Everyone looked up, panicked and startled.

The intercom came on with the principal Mr. Hardwood's voice. "GET OUT OF THE BUILDING! THIS IS NOT A..."

The power shut off. Lindsay grabbed her sketchbook and phone and lined up behind Tiffany. When the class stepped into the halls, they were hit with burning heat and smoke.

"Cover your...cough...faces with your shirts and...cough cough...follow me! "Mr. Warnsky said panicked.

They made their way to the door and burst out. Everyone in the class lined up in the back of the building and watched in horror as the teachers counted everyone. The principal walked around the building, telling everyone to meet in the front. Once all the grades were there, Mr. Harwood started talking.

"Everyone, this is a very tragic event, and I'm glad you all got out safely. Your parents have all been alerted and are on their way right..." His voice was interrupted by the siren of a fire truck. While the firemen tired to put out the fire, Lindsay and her friends talked. The group included Lindsay, Tiffany, Katie, Makayla, and Amber.

"Guys, I'm really really scared," said Amber, who was quite timid and shy.

"Oh, Amber, at least we won't have school for a while!" said Makayla, who was fair and always looked on the bright side.

"Hey, wanna see if we can have a sleepover tonight? I'm free, but it can't be at my house," said Katie, who was smart and kind of geeky.

"It can be at my house," Lindsay stated.

"Ok!" the rest of the group squealed in delight.

BUZZ BUZZ, Lindsay's phone started to vibrate. "Hold on guys, it's my mom." Lindsay's mom said, "Sweetie, I'm so sorry about school, and I'm on my way right now. I want to have a sleepover to cheer you and your friends up. What do you think?"

"Yes, Mom! See you soon."

"Be safe, Lindsay!"

"LTKMA!" Lindsay shouted their group's initials. "Our sleepover is on!"

They all started planning. "Oh, we should watch a movie and eat popcorn and ice cream!" said Tiffany excitedly as Lindsay hurriedly scribbled down the ideas.

"What kind of movie?" Lindsay asked, looking up.

"Horror!" exclaimed Makayla.

"No! Way too freaky. How about romance?" suggested Amber.

"Oh, I got it!" Everyone turned to Katie with wide eyes. "A drama/horror movie...duh!"

"Perfect..." Lindsay said while writing it down. "But we'll need more than just a movie."

"Ooh, what if we make cupcakes or cakes or maybe both?" asked Amber.

"Ok, what else?" Lindsay asked, finishing the thought.

"A pillow fight!" said Makayla excitedly.

"Perfect, and to wrap it all up, we'll do makeovers and eat my mom's homemade doughnuts in the morning," Lindsay said while finishing the list.

Lindsay's mom honked her horn. "Guys, I gotta go. See y'all later!" Lindsay said as she climbed into her car. Then reality hit. Lindsay watched in silence as the flames were engulfing their school faster than the firemen could keep up.

Natalie McGann 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

Untitled

My mom and dad are always telling me to do things and teach me to be responsible: "Unscramble your socks before you put them in the dirty clothes basket." or "Close your bedroom door when you play with your toy's." News flash... I usually ignore these requests. Why, you ask? Because, I'm lazy. However, my laziness has put some people and animals I love at peril. For about two and a half year's my mom told me to close my bedroom door, so my dog won't eat my toys. If you think I closed my door than you must have been under a rock for the first part of the story. So, yeah, I lost my favorite toy to the dog. "RIP Army man." I also lost some of my favorite stuffed animals to that dog, too, and a delicious hot dog! However, one time I learned a responsibility lesson the hard way. It started off as any normal Sunday would. My family came over around 12:30 for lunch. We were all talking and watching tv, when suddenly, we heard a loud crash!

"WHAT WAS THAT!" screamed my mom.

"I don't know!" I replied.

Why is the table cloth on the ground? I thought to myself. That's when I saw my dog eating bacon so fast he was choking.

"Mom," I called. "What?" she asked.

'Ollie pulled the table cloth off the table!" I yelled "He what!!!" she yelled back.

"I said, Ollie pulled the table cloth off the table!"

"Well, where is he now?" my mom asked

"He's right there by the table cloth."

"I think you mean he was right by the table cloth." Mom replied.

That's what my mom said right before we saw a blonde blur shoot out the door.

I thought to myself, "Oops! Why is the door open? I'm about to get in big trouble. I might as well spend as much time chasing that no good, trouble making dog. I'm hoping my mom will be distracted by cleaning up, so I won't get in big of trouble. This started as a peace full morning and turned into a wild goose chase. I had to chase that stupid dog up and down the street for 5 min. Then, my dog, just stopped! He just, stopped! Then he... uhhhhhhhh. He just walked strait in! But when I walked in it was a hole different story. When I walked In I could see my mom's teeth grinding her face looked like a cheery it was so red. So much for being distracted. I'm just going to say that was the last time I left the door open. Keep in mind I said that was the last time I left the door open, not the last time I didn't unscrambled my socks before I put them in the dirty clothes basket.

Max Minninger 5th Grade The Bright School

Teacher: Mrs. Ann O'Brien

Get Up and Talk

Once upon a time there lived a girl named Issie. Now Issie was not perfect everyone laughed at her every day because she had braces or that she had split ends and much more but that would be too long to say. She always came home crying but she could not help itsometimes she even came back home with a hole in her shirt. But the bad thing is that she did not tell her mom about anything her mom thought she had many friends but that was a lie she really only had 1 and she did not even go to the same school and did not see her very often. The next day at school Issie tries sitting at a different table and not the one next to the trash can where no one ever sits but Issie. She was about to sit down but remembers her manners and says "can I sit here" but they hesitate and pretend like they did not here her but after a minute they scoot down one even though there was already a free seat. The next day she couldn't take it anymore so she asked her teacher what to do if someone is bullying you but he said "just ignore" she thought that was stupid so she did not do it.

A couple weeks later a new girl comes in and Issie was not too excited because to her it just meant more hate but little did she know that this new girl was different. On the playground at recess Issie was reading a book and some boys started picking on her and the new girl saw it unlike any other person she got up and said "why do you do that" and one of them responded "cause it is fun" and she said "really because the only thing I find funny here are your pants". And they all ran away in a flash. They became best friends and soon enough Issie learned that if you want them to stop you have to be the bigger person. That means that you have to stand up for yourself and not just cry. You have to get up and talk.

Florencia Hilles-Moya 5th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet – Upper School Teacher: Kelsey Batts

Midnight

When I woke up I knew today would be special. I was getting ready for school when I heard "SARA!!!!!"

Then I ran downstairs so I can see what's going on. When I came my mom said.

"Are you ready for school?"

"Yes." I said.

So she had to talk to my brother for making us late while I ate pancakes. I was done and my brother (Idris),had just started, my mom had to rush him. Then we were on our way to school.

When we got there Idris said. "Umm...I forgot my folder."

"Really." My mom said.

So we had to go all the way home. And then Idris found his folder then he sat down to finish his pancakes. Then when we got to school we were late. My mom was late for work, and we were in trouble. So when we entered there were two kids,they were us. I told my mom there was nobody but us. When my mom checked the Email she saw there was no school today I said

"OH MY GOD. They said there was school today and now there is no school."

"Be grateful Sara. There is no school."

I suppose I thought. "Well that means we have to go NOW!!!!"

So Idris and I got into the car and we went home. My mom left home to go to work. So we went inside, we saw our dad.

"Dad! What are you doing here!!!!" Idris Yelled.

" I am off of work today." My dad said.

I asked if we could go to the horse barn. He said "Yes we can." When we got there they said they were closing.

I said "Why?" They were missing a horse.

So I said "I can help!"

So I ran to the car and said "Let's get a move on!"

Soon we were on our way to the forest. I jumped out of the car and said "come on!" "

Okay." said my dad. Then we ran all around the forest, we went back to the car and then my dad said "Sara we have to go."

I was like "But we have to find the missing horse."

"Sara we can find the horse after school tomorrow Said Idris.

"Okay." I said.

I was sad I just wanted to help. So we got in the car and went home. It was night so we went inside and we ordered pizza. When mom came we were eating pizza. Well I wasn't eating pizza. Why? I wanted to eat with Mom.

"Hi Mom." I said.

"Hello." Mom said.

When we finished our food we all went to bed. Then I woke up and got ready I wore a maroon sweater and a sweater with skinny jeans. When I went downstairs I saw a bowl of cereal and Idris was sitting and eating his cereal.

I said. "Hey what's wrong?"

He said "Nothing. But there is no school today."

- "REALLY, AGAIN!"
- "Yep." said Idris.

I said "At Least we can find the horse.

- "Yeah you're right." Idris said.
- "DAD!!! Come on we are going to find the horse."
- "Okay I'm coming." So we went to the car and Dad said.
- "Where are we going this time?" Idris said "The beach." We went to the beach. When we got there we looked all around the beach. We didn't find the horse. Then when we got into the car.

Dad said "Now where are we going?"

I said "What if we went back home and check the backyard?" So we went back to the house and then to the backyard. We were all looking for the horse. I said "I FOUND THE HORSE!!!!!!"

Everybody ran to me, the horse was black and the people at the horse place told me his name is Midnight.

"Midnight! Thank you little girl." Then they took Midnight. But Midnight hid behind me.

"Hey it's okay." I told him.

So he went with the people from the horse barn. I said my goodbyes, and then left back to his home. Before they took him back to the barn, they said "What do you want for the reward?"

I said "Nothing." Their faces were in shock, like they thought I wanted money or a toy. But I didn't want anything.

They said "Are you sure?"

"I just wanted to help." I said.

Then they left. So we went inside the house, I felt good helping those people. Idris was looking sad so i asked him what's wrong. He didn't reply, so I thought he was sad. But he went upstairs and fell asleep in his bed. Then I fell asleep, when I woke up it was summer break so I ran downstairs and said "I'm going to the horse barn to see Midnight!" Then Midnight was outside.

Sara Muretcehajic 5th Grade Annoor Academy Teacher: Kelsay Cate

Imaginary

A13 was sad. He had been waiting for someone to pick him so that he could go to the real world for years. He had been stuck at the Imaginary Friends Implanter for Geographical Operations (or IF-I-GO), for 27 years. A13 was one of billions of different combinations of imaginary friends. A13 was one of the most out-of-this-world combinations ever. He had monkey feet, lion legs, a hippopotamus body, a giraffe neck, and an elephant mouth. After any kid made up a combination, their thought would transfer to the head of IF-I-GO. The head would look at her forms, find what number matched that combination, and call that number over the loudspeaker. That number would report to the main office building, and get teleported to the kid, who would give them a name, for there were no names in IF-I-GO, only numbers. One day, when A13 was having an exceptionally bad day, he couldn't believe his ears. Had he just heard his number? No.... He waited a few seconds. It came again.

"A13, please report to the main office building". He couldn't believe his ears. After 27 years, he was going to go to the real world. He walked. He was as shaky as an earthquake. He walked in the doors. The head, who looked nothing like he expected, was as surprised as he was. She looked exactly like a normal human. Of course, A13 didn't know this, for he had never seen a real human. She had asked him to walk through the teleporter. He stared at her as he walked. The next thing he saw was unbelievable. It was, weird. He saw long, green lines all over the ground. He turned and saw someone that looked kind of like the head of IF-I-GO.

"Hi" he said. "my name is Elroy."

"Hi, I'm A13, at least, until you give me a name."

"Of course I am, silly! Your name is now, um, well... I want it something different, not Bill or Joe. Hmmmm...UMDIA! THAT'S IT! THAT'S A PERFECT NAME!"

"Ok..." Umdia said "...that is an odd name, but whatever. Would you like to go for a walk? I did that all the time at my old home!"

"YES!" said Elroy "Our first adventure! It will be great!"

So, Umdia and Elroy went on a walk.

"Where, where is this?" Umdia asked.

"Johnson City, Tennessee." replied Elroy

"Oh." Said Umdia "That's an odd name."

"HEY!" yelled Elroy "LETS GO SOMWHERE FUN!"

He exclaimed "Don't do that again! You scared me to death! I thought you were hurt!"

"Sorry, I won't do it again" apologized Elroy

"Anyway, where would you like to go?" asked Umdia. "I don't know. Do you have any ideas?" Elroy asked

"I don't know any human world places, but my friend, B12, once talked about a place he had been to called the 'North Pole'. He said it was covered in a white, cold powder. Know where that is?"

"Yes." replied Elroy "but that's too classic. Plus, the powder is snow. How 'bout Costa Rica?" asked Elroy

"I don't know where that is," said Umdia "but whatever you want!"

"Okay! Hold on tight!" Elroy put his fingers to his head.

"think really, really hard!" "I'm get- get'in nauseous" groaned Umdia

"almost there..." Elroy mumbled "Woah. I'm okay now, but, this 'snow' looks yellow, not white, what is this stuff?"

"Silly! That's warm sand, not cold snow!" Elroy said

"Oh, um well want to do something fun?" asked Umdia

"Yeah! let's build a sand castle!" Elroy told Umdia

"Ok, how do we do that?" asked Umdia

"We just take some sand, shape it, and place it on top of each other to make a big house!" Elroy told Umdia

"That sounds easy! I can do that!" exclaimed Umdia.

So, the two friends walked down to the beach. They built HUGE sand castles. They had so much fun. Afterwards, they were hungry, so they decided to go eat at a restaurant.

"This is odd food!" said Elroy "It's roasted caterpillars!" "This is quite an odd delicacy" agreed Umdia.

After they finished dessert, (which was sweetened caviar) it was nighttime. They unhappily agreed it was time to return to Tennessee. That night, the caterpillars caught up to Elroy, making him sick. The next morning, he was in a lot of pain. And when Umdia came into his room to ask him what he wanted to do that day, he had vomited everywhere. Umdia rushed Elroy to the hospital. The doctors said he wasn't looking good. Umdia had been in the waiting room for hours. The time had felt like the time he spent at IF-I-GO, although it was only until about lunchtime. Umdia had read all the magazines, watched the hospital PowerPoint on the TV about 20 times, and watched about 30 people leave and come in the room. Then, after what felt like hours, the door opened, and the doctor called Umdia. He slowly walked toward the door. As he opened it, he saw his hands were fading. He thought about Elroy dying after one day AND it being his fault. He pushed the thought away. He sat down at a large desk with a few doctors.

"We have done everything we can" they started. "but he is gone."

As soon as it had started, it was gone. Umdia saw the world vanish in an instant. He was back at IF-I-GO. He stared crying. B12 came to his house to comfort him. Then more and more Imaginary friends came. They mourned with him. They cried with him. They talked with him. But none of it helped. Umdia still sat, crying. But then over the loudspeaker, he heard a number "F6, please report to the main office building, F6" Who is that? He asked his friends.

"Look at your number tag" said B12.

He looked. It said F6. He was going, again. He stepped through the portal. Then, he heard a voice: "Hi, I'm Elroy."

The End.

Neyland Peterson 5th Grade Silverdale Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Melissa Wilson

Pigs

Once upon a time there was a pig and the pig said "Oh my gosh there is bacon over there". Three seconds later another pig later came over. Then another came over and 30 seconds later 299,999,997 came over. The bacon was barely below the clouds. There was a treadmill below it. The bacon was the MEGA BACON!!!!!!!!!!! The OMEGA BACON is a bacon with a face of a noob!!!!!!!!! There were three hundred thousand pigs over there. Then a butcher came over and was like I can start a business with this many pigs. The pigs saw a truck filled with bacon but, the pigs wanted the OMEGA BACON!!!! The pigs were a rare type of pigs. They were CARNIVORES!!!! They loved bacon a lot. But one day was horrific for the pigs, a butcher came and killed like 100,000 pigs. The butcher became like the 4th richest person ever. The OMEGA BACON WAS LOST! The OMEGA BACON was seen the pigs traveled the world and the last stopped at Madagascar. The pigs found a small jungle and found the OMEGA BACON!

The pigs ate IT!

Will Pollak 5th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Teacher: Mrs. Jamie Jorgensen

The Signed Ball

Henry Ferguson quickly ran and hopped in the taxi. It was the 1920s and Henry was headed to his first Major League Baseball game. He was extremely enthusiastic and excited. Since moving to New York, Henry had longed to see the famous New York Yankees play. His dad said there wasn't time because of his busy job, but one day a friend gave Henry tickets and his Dad's boss finally gave him time off from work! Now, he was actually in a car ambling to the ballpark. He felt like he was in a dream as he watched the streets of Manhattan through the window. About five minutes later, he saw Yankee Stadium, the house that Ruth built. It was then that Henry thought, "How cool would it be to have a ball signed by Babe Ruth?" The line to the stadium was gigantic. After what seemed like an eternity, Henry and his dad handed over their tickets and found their seats, which were just below the centerfield bleachers. Then they saw the great Bambino step onto the field.

"This will be an exciting game," Henry said, and he was certainly correct.

Henry had expected Ruth to be the one knocking homers, but he was wrong. It turned out it was actually someone named Lou Gehrig who was scoring points. Amazingly, he hit three awesome home runs! But they never landed where Henry was sitting. He'd brought his black baseball glove, so he was trying desperately to catch one. In the middle of one of the innings Henry's Dad asked him if he was hungry. He said he was starving, so they got up and bought a couple of sizzling, tasty hot dogs. A few minutes later, they went back to their seats to watch the rest of the game. The Yankees were on offense, as a runner slid toward third base like a mole into its hole. Henry turned his attention to the batter, who turned out to be Gehrig, as the pitch was thrown. It looked like it would be a hit, and it was!

"Home run," someone shouted.

It was headed right toward Henry, so he raised his glove. As he closed his eyes, he felt and heard a loud thump. Had he caught it? Henry felt hope and tension all swirled together as he brought down his glove to see whether or not he'd caught the home run. He slowly opened his glove and saw the ball! Henry was ecstatic, and he showed his dad. The game soon ended, and the Yankees won. At the far end of the stands, Gehrig was signing balls, so Henry walked toward him. Lou soon signed his ball and Henry stared at it for a very long time. When he eventually looked up, he saw another player coming. It was Babe Ruth!

"Hiya, kid," he said.

"Would you like that ball signed?" Henry, too amazed to speak, nodded, and Ruth signed the baseball.

Finally, Henry owned a ball with both Babe Ruth's and Lou Gehrig's signature on it! He went home and added it to his baseball collection. "Now to start collecting baseball cards," he thought.

Luke Rainer 5th Grade Home-School

Teacher: Melinda Rainer

The Scariest Moment

Jensen, a happy day, and all fog in the air. My family and I were heading to the Signal Mountain trails, behind SMMHS. My brother, Jensen, was laughing at one of my dad's silly jokes. Me? I was too focused to laugh, even though it was a simple walk. I get way too pumped for stuff like that. When the car pulled to a stop, I let my dog, Teddy, out of the back, and grabbed his leash. The gravel crunched like cereal underneath me as I crouched down and clipped the leash on Teddy. We started towards the stairs that lead to the trail, and I jumped ahead of everyone else (my mom, my dad, and Jensen.) Suddenly, Teddy jumped back and started tugging on the leash, cowering down like he did when he did something wrong. As puzzled as I was, I let him run back to my mom. I lifted my foot to step onto the first step, glancing down as I did so. Then... then there was something worth screaming for; something vou don't want to have an encounter with...Knees shaking, I scrambled back, screaming as high as my lungs could manage. There, where I was about to place my foot, was a diamondback rattlesnake. My dad came rushing over saying comforting words, like "it will be ok", but mainly "what happened??" I barely heard these things, for I was in shock. All I could manage was "s-snake". while I recovered, my dad took photos. I finally recovered after a few minutes, just in time hear it rattling its tail, and it slinked away. My dad told me it was sunbathing in the last of the sun in the cool fall. We ended up still going on a walk, but, mind you, we were very cautious.

Isla Richard
5th Grade
Nolan Elementary
Teacher: Heather Murphy

Hello America

Hi, I am Marie and the time 4am me my parents and my two brothers are on the move. We have to get out of Europe before sunset. We finally arrive at the harbor the ship we shall be taking is called the Diamond of the Sea. We boarded the very large ship, now we are off to America. We are only one day into the trip and mama is already seasick. I can already tell this is going to be a long trip. Though the ship is large there is a shortage of beds. Most people on the ship are very nice, but there is on boy who I just can't stand! Mama is doing better though she is still very weak. Papa has started doing work for the captain and earning 3 American dollars a week. Papa told me when we get to America he would buy me new shoes, splendid isn't it! We are to pull up to America in two days. We are here! We pulled up to Ellis Island and hopped off the boat. Oh it felt so good to be on land! After about a week we left Ellis Island and headed to New York, New York. Papa had already bought an apartment. As we walked down the streets I noticed lots of stores and fancy restaurants, people in New York must be rich! When we got to the apartment a little scream escaped Mama's mouth. There was trash all over the floor one cupboard was split in half on the floor.

Papa let out a slow whistle and said, "Marie, Jacob, and Charlie go get a broom and cleaning supplies we've got a long day ahead of us."

When we finally had the apartment looking nice we went out to town. Over the time we were on the ship papa made 50 American dollars that's enough to buy a big cake in one of the fancy restaurants and 3 pairs of leather shoes. Papa says we should not waste money on a cake! I see the big delicious cake in the window mama must have noticed that I was upset and said we would make our own cake. Papa took us to a big department store to buy new shoes. I got a sturdy pair of buckle ups and Jacob and Charlie got nice lace ups as well. The shoes costed \$10 each leaving us with \$20 to buy groceries. Produce is so expensive here in America! It's Christmas Eve and I am very excited! Papa has got a job as a store clerk and to think the ships captain paid him more he's only making \$2.50/week. Mama does laundry for the many rich people in this huge city. Because mama and papa don't make enough to live on Jacob gone to work at a stockings factory because he's the oldest. I just could not sleep last night I was so excited for Christmas. I woke up at 5am this morning and woke Jacob, Charlie, mama, and papa. Waiting under the small tree was 3 presents one for me, one for Jacob, one for Charlie. I ran over to the tree and unwrapped the gift. It was a gorgeous doll. Jacob got a bunch of books and Charlie got a football. Even though we used to get a bunch of gifts in the old country where papa had a good job I was so excited. The department store papa works they is having a Christmas banquet. I put on my nicest dress and the whole family left and headed to the store.

We walked into the store and the biggest Christmas tree ever. On the balcony overlooking the store was the longest table ever overflowing with all sorts of delicious food. Mama and I had baked a cake though it was nothing compared to their wide variety of desserts. The dinner was the most amazing thing I have ever put in my mouth. After dinner the store owner told us to gather around the tree. There were at least 50 families. After a long speech he pointed out the many presents around the tree and he said "To thank all of our workers we will ask the children to find the present with their name on it and shall be there Christmas present from us to them".

Then suddenly it was like a stampede of children trying to find their present. Charlie and Jacob found there's they both got a shiny red bike. I noticed there was one kind of hidden among the branches that had to be as tall as me. My curiosity got the best of me, and I ran over to see who would receive the huge gift. To my surprise my name was written in beautiful cursive on the tag. I ran over to mama and papa and pulled them over to watch me unwrap the gift. I unwrapped the gift in record time when I was done it revealed a huge doll house big enough for my new dolly! Just as I finished unwrapping the gift the owner came on the loudspeaker and said "do you like your gifts kids?" Kids all around the room yelled "yes!"

The owner said, "I have another announcement. I have decided to promote one of our hardest workers to manager and that is Edward Johnson would you come up here Edward?"

Oh my goodness that's papa, papa's been promoted! A look of surprise crossed papa's face. After the gala we heading home all beaming. It has been five days since I got my doll house and papa got promoted. Today is New Year's Eve. This year has been crazy, but I'm glad to welcome the year 1924. I can already feel that it's going to be a great year! America is very different from the old country but I think I will like it just as much. This is Marie Johnson signing off.

Henley Robertson 5th Grade Thrasher Elementary School Teacher: Karen Simpson

Ice-Skating Accomplishment

"Finally!" I exclaimed after days at the local ice rink practicing my forward crossover. It felt good not to fall, for once.

Paige, my older sister and ice-skating instructor, stopped to congratulate me.

"Good job," she complimented, "Keep working, it's getting there."

Paige taught me everything I know about ice-skating, but I really gave her a challenge this time. The forward crossover was the first ice-skating move that I really learned. I mean, I could do a simple spin, but that was it.

"Watch me, Piper," Paige instructed. I watched her, enthralled as she easily crossed her right leg over her left. "See, I'm not just crossing over once. I'm doing it until I finish the turn," she explained.

"Like this?" I asked and attempted it for the first time, slowly and on the wall.

"Kind of," she said gently. "Now, this may take a while; it's a pretty complicated move," she warned me.

"That's fine," I assured her.

On the first day practicing, she had me holding onto her arm, crossing over in tiny circles in the middle of the rink. I repeated that on the next day. On the third day, I circled in the middle until I had it basically perfect. After that, Paige had me skate on the wall, using it for balance during the crossover. I continued working like that for two more days.

"You're almost there," she encouraged me.

I just had one more step left, and it was the hardest... Doing it. I spent four days on the final step. The first two were mostly spent falling down and getting back up.

"I'm never going to get it!" I worried out loud.

"It's okay Piper, this move took me a few days as well.", she tried to reassure me. It didn't help a lot, but I tried to smile.

"I'm definitely going to get it this time, I just know it!" I started skating, building up speed little by little. I was at the turn; I just knew I was going to do it! I crossed one leg over the other. CRASH! I realized as I fell that I had to keep going, I had to keep trying until I got there.

"Ow!" I exclaimed.

"Piper! Are you okay?" Paige asked me with worry in her voice.

"Yeah, I can keep going; I won't stop until I get there." I said determined.

"That's the spirit Piper." Paige helps me up.

The third day was full of stumbles and trips. I either wobbled, fell, or panicked. Every time I did any of those things I would fall down. I fell down a lot. One visual of that was on a slightly colder winter day when I was very close to quitting.

"It's so cold! Can we please resume this tomorrow? Please?" I complained often.

"No, you're so close! You'll have it in a few more days now, I just know it!" I could tell that Paige really believed in me.

"Okay fine." I caved. I kept trying until my feet felt like they were going to freeze off. On my last attempt before we left that day, I almost had it. I crossed my leg over very smoothly, and was about

to finish my crossover, when some random kid skated out in front of me. I had to stop so abruptly that I fell over. Of course, that was when my mom made us leave. On the fourth day, I did it, I have absolutely no idea how I did. I was just crossing over like normal, expecting to fall, almost crash into another kid, or basically any other scenario where I failed. I did it though.

I crossed over, my guard high up, my eyes on every single kid, making sure I did not hit one. I stopped thinking about my crossover and let my thoughts wander. I thought about what I wanted for dinner that night, about how much I wanted a cat. Maybe that was just the trick, not paying attention, because before I knew it, I was on the other side of the rink and Paige was by my side congratulating me.

"Great job Piper! I knew you could do it!"

"Finally!" I jumped up and down, basking in my achievement after so much hard work

Piper Ryan
5th Grade
The Bright School

Teacher: Mrs. Ann O'Brien

Marsha the Bear

Hello bear how are you said Marsha. Hello Marsha how are you sad bear. Great how about you come over to my cottage for some porridge asked Masha. Yes I will what time so I can be home by curfew asked bear. Ok the time will be 9:00 ok is it ok asked Marsha. Perfect time ok be there then said bear. 9:00 So once bear got to Marsha's cottage they had a feast and they both loved it so it got really late so eventually it was too late for bear to walk home so he stayed at Marsha's. The next morning. Well let's just say that Marsha woke up. TO BE CONTINUED....

Gaige Scott 5th Grade Normal Park Museum Magnet Upper School Teacher: Kelsey Batts

Chicken Island

Everything was normal. The moon washed down on our quiet green meadow fading it a blue color... almost white. We ate the fireflies in the night, and slept in the tall plumes of grass. The rising sun would beat down on our backs creating a glossy effect on our feathers. We ate weeds in our gardens so that our plants would live and taste sweet. We felt great, and we were happy. Well as far as I know... Anyway, we chased off the mice that scampered into our fields, we hid from hawks preying on us, and we joked and smiled all day. We danced in rain and bathed in mud. We ate and we ran, and we slurped up worms from the ground and beetles under turned over rocks and stones. We were happy... Until one day everything changed. There was no more rain. It just stopped and a terrible drought formed forcing us all to leave. All but two of us me, Wisteria and, Alder my brother We stayed. Keeping loyal to our home. The sun sends out a call of air that sweeps away all of the dust gathering in it.

"Alder, Where are you now?" I called to my brother, as I searched for him.

"The little field, I believe the grass here is edible." he said with a grunt.

"Are you sure about that it looks... Well... brown." I sigh as he pulls up a clump of dry grass in front of me, the blazing sun hurts terribly on my back with an effect that tricks my eyes, to see fresh green blades of grass sticking up and growing to the sky. I wished so badly for green delicious grass...

"Jealous that I was the one that found it this time?" Alder smirked as he swallowed a beak full of dead blades.

"No way! And how are you even eating that?" I ask him

"It's not so great... but at least it's food." He replied with a sigh, and spit out the dirt at the root of the grass. He dragged his leg on the ground in search for an insect of somesort.

"Don't get your hopes up this place is deserted, no one's coming back. Not even the bugs." I say with a wince as a tiny maggot appears from the ground. "Well maybe not everyone." I add in as he sights it to.

"Hey, Wisteria, how come we're still here then? Why can't we go with the others?"

"Because, we missed our chance we've gotta stay here until the rain returns."

"What if it never comes back though? We might die here!"

"It will, and we won't" I ensure him, but I was pretty doubtful myself.

There was no water or food here. We can't survive. He stutters worriedly, "Wha-what will we eat though?"

I stare into his golden eyes. I see the fear in them. He has no courage he wants to leave. So do I. And that is why we do. Both of us are tired. Our feet ache from walking, and we want to stop. The trees dance in our path showering leaves from the canopy. I want to see a pool of water in front of me rippling in the wind splashing with fish on this hot day, but all I see are trees. Suddenly a dark feeling comes across the world. A thick dark cloud swirls and burns my eyes. Soon I can not even see my wing in front of my face. Nor can I spot, Alder! I panic quickly I call his name, before I Feel his wing on my back.

"I'm right behind you don't worry."

He hisses, but I can hardly hear him over the roar of the fire blazing in my face. Sparks spit out of the flames. They fill the air in a bright shining sea, but not the good kind of sea, with

water and kelp, It's a swirling tornado of sparks.

"Is that-" I break off as a flicker of light sizzles into my skin.

"A spark storm." Alder finishes for me. As soon as he says this, they pour down storming over us as the smoke gags our throats unable to see in the black cloud of smoke. The flickers melt into our skin turning to black specks of dust. We turn the other wing and run. The fire chases us through the forest catching the trees and trapping us. The wood flames up spreading through the rest of the woods. We watch in horror as we stay stuck in a ring of embers ash and fire. I close my eyes as tight as I can squeezing them shut as I squeeze Alder's wing. All I remember is feeling the burning on my skin, and shedding bitter tears and waking up in a cold dark cave, with only a few feathers still on me.

"Alder!" I squawk After recovering from the shock. At first he doesn't answer, and I'm afraid he isn't here with me but then I hear a pitiful

"Baww baww." and a "What is it, Wisteria." in a moody voice. "Look," I mumble in aw with a partly, annoyed-with-my-brother tone and an excited one "Is that..." I point to a blue figure on a pedestal, in front of a large painting with bright blue wings and a beak I step up to it. I make out a statue of a falcon standing tall with two eyes as gems. I notice one of them is only a rock while the other one is a blue gem shining against the sunlight pouring in from the outside.

"The blue eye falcon..." Alder finishes, staring in awe beside me.

"Wow." I whisper. I notice a scroll of writing beside it. I read it, it's hard but I can see it barely Take this for the good of others the eye of the falcon of bluest feathers, if you take it for greed use it for a good deed. Use it wise and return the eye, or in your future bad things lie.

"Alder, we found the eye!" I squeal jumping up and down in excitement. "We found the eye!" I repeat, I bring my wing towards the encrusted stone. I pull it from the engravement in the statue. It glows an eerie turquoise and a blinding light engulfs me into a white world.

Petunia! Pebbles! Welcome back! Joku! Bruce! Aspen! I missed you! Hickory! Apple!

And Sorrel! I can believe it!" I shriek out all my friends names. I'm out of breath and my heart is beating so fast I feel like it's about to burst. I rush over to hug each and everyone of them. We prance around soaking our feathers and overjoyed to see our friends again. We laugh, and we play together as the rain still pours. The sound of happy hens seeing each other again makes me proud. Proud not only because I brought them back together, but because those bouncy balls of feathers are my friends.

Kate Schwall 5th Grade Chattanooga Christian School Teacher: Lisa Tallent

Untitled

I wake up, in a murky black room. "Hello?" I say trying to remember what happened. Suddenly a door opens to a grassy outside. I can only remember certain things like cows go moo but I can't remember if i had seen a cow before. Then other doors open up with other people but they look angry, what had happened to them, more important. What happened to me? I run with all my might out of the prison until a big shock hits my body enough to stun me but not enough to hurt me. A person walks out a golden door onto the mushy wet ground.

He says to us with a polite tone "You have been chosen to be warriors" the man says. "Whoever are the last 5 people will be brought to the next place". The man suddenly raises his tone "This is NOT a game you may ally BUT you will not all survive." suddenly he dissipates into thin air turning into dust screaming "The world counts on you!".

Our force fields vanish resulting in many people standing confused, where am i? I hear someone step, then the next, over and over until everyone starts running and our doors disappear right behind us, I hear muttering but my eyes stay focused on the people what they look like and what they would do. I run after the tree far away and grab the food stuffing in my pockets until i realize we are stuck in a fort with mossy walls! I start climbing up and the wall goes on forever in thickness. People start getting angry behind me fighting until we heard loud screaming. Female, was it? Or is it a trick, that man dying didn't seem like a trick.

Kai Schoff 5th Grade Normal Park Upper School Teacher: Mrs. Brock

Blaze's Origins

I'm Blaze, and I am the weirdest kid alive. You probably surprised to see me, a 10-yearold kid in a black ninja costume with ruby flame design on it. But that's natural. Come on, those robots we escaped are going to catch up. Let's get to my ship. Nice, huh? The original Flame Ninja created it. Sit down. I'm going to get us out of here. Buckle up. So now that we're up here, I can tell you why all of this has happened. You see, it started when-oops. Enemy in sight. Blam, blam, blam, blam! There. Autopilot. NOW I can tell you. It started on a sunny day. Pretty normal. No robots or lasers or enemies. Yet it was the third day after my grandfather died. I was at his house, tinkering around. It was a huge mansion of wood. There were only strange amulets, mechanical parts, and old wonders. I was just playing around with a blue gauntlet. I was used to Grandfather's powerful artifacts working. This one was especially cool. It levitated things at will. I was in the middle of floating myself around the room when a glow caught my eye. It was a robot eye. I levitated it to get a closer look, and a whole body popped out of the heap. Then I ducked as its arm swung at me. The fingers were claws! It was lethal! I dropped it, hoping it would smash, but it landed perfectly. Then its other arm turned into a blaster! I dodged the laser and used the gauntlet to stop it, then hurled it back at the robot's head. A crack of the laser meeting the robot's head, and it fell. I noticed a blue glow, and a hologram appeared from the robot's eyes.

"Good job, warrior!" It was Grandfather!

"You are now the rightful bearer of the Flame

Ninja's robe, skill, honor, power, vehicles, and sword. Use these powers wisely. You are standing above his base. Please enter the elevator." A glass tube opened, and I stepped inside.

"Dropping."

"Wait, WHAT?!!" I have never felt so sick in my life.

The tube stopped in a huge cavern, full of weapons and suits in canisters. This very ship was on a ledge, along with a motorcycle, glider, and hoverboard. A supercomputer was on another ledge. Three canisters extended towards me, and I was told to choose one of the ninja costumes inside. One had silver flames, the other had gold. I chose this one, and then a sword appeared with a belt on me, followed by the whole costume. Then an alert flashed. Robots were attacking a weapons building! I hopped on the motorcycle and roared through a gate. Then I pressed a button that jumped it to the building. I found them on the ninth floor. I pulled out the sword and jumped on one of the five. Its head clattered to the floor, and I shot a fireball at another, setting it ablaze. Once I had defeated all of them, a spaceship blasted above the building.

A beam of red light sucked every weapon to it, plus money from other buildings. More robots jumped down from the ship, and I was surrounded by an army. The motorcycle landed on a lot of them, then I jumped on it and span it around. The rest were knocked out. I jumped it onto the ship, then saw a huge robot. Its eyes shot red lasers at me, so I roared away, then pressed a button that turned the motorcycle into a mech, and drew the mech's sword. The robot extended a blade from its arm, and we began to battle. You look surprised. Oh, right, it was my first day and I was pulling off expert attacks. Grandfather taught me how to defend myself and all about the Flame Ninja. I used the mech's jetpack to boost my strike, and it went through

the robot's shoulder. The robo put its blade through the mech, then shot it over and over with a cannon on its arm. The mech plunged over the side, and I was doomed. Then I remembered: In an old scroll at Grandfather's house, it was said that the Flame Ninja could summon a phoenix at will. I ejected from the mech and concentrated on the image of a phoenix. A talon... the ground was coming fast... two feet... any minute now... a head and body... I would hit the ground... WINGS! The phoenix burst up in a flaming streak, headed right for the robot. We hit it in the chest, and then the phoenix ripped out its core energy source. Then, with the robot out, I created more phoenixes and we launched an all-out attack. The ship exploded in three minutes, and I flew the phoenix down, then pulled up so that we soared at ground-level. That was my first day as the Flame Ninja, and now, I go everywhere, defeating all that threaten Earth.

Joseph Sherrard
5th Grade
Thrasher Elementary School
Teacher: Karen Simpson

The Molosiforest

Once there was a little kid named Bob Jeffrey. When this little boy grew up, he wanted to be a hunter. His parents were not that happy about it. As he got older he started to learn all the hunting techniques. When he got to college there were not any classes for hunting. So he did the only thing he could do in this situation, he quit college and ran straight to the woods. One day in the woods, he heard a strange sound. He followed the strange sound. It got louder and louder and faster. He came through some bushes and saw a rare species of Molosiforest. He was so amazed that he drew a picture in his diary. When he looked up, it was standing right in front of him! Unfortunately, no one has heard from him since. People have been trying to find any clues to show where he died, but they couldn't. After 50 years there was a group of 20-yearolds that heard about this rare mystery and wanted to find out where it had happened. Miranda, Jeff, Larry, and Cindy set off to the woods. Miranda likes to leave trail marks so they don't get lost. She is kind, fast, and really good at running. Jeff is a skilled hunter who looks a little scary. He has a big scar across his eye from a bear. Larry is a scaredy-cat, but he wants to be with his friends and really wants to be famous. Cindy loves being outside and she loves going on adventures. She is also the only one of her friends to have completely read "War and Peace". The friends were confident that they were going to solve this mystery and find the place where Bob Jeffery died. They were also hoping to catch a glimpse of the rare Molosiforest. Cindy found something! It was large blue bag with a "B" on the front. It was full of something. She passed it to Miranda to open. It had deodorant, nail clippers, and shoes inside. Miranda thought the "B" stood for Bob Jeffery. Miranda was sure they were close.

They continued walking for about two more hours. Then they saw the type of bushes where Molosiforest have been spotted before. They looked at each other nervously and slowly crept towards the bushes. They spotted a gun, a diary with a picture of a Molosiforest, and a shoe. Miranda knew this was the place! She knew this was where Bob Jeffery had disappeared! They had solved the 50 year old mystery! They peaked through the bushes and saw the amazing Molosiforest. It had two newborn babies laying next to her. Larry took a picture and sent it to the newspaper. Even though Jeff is a hunter, he knew he could never shoot this beautiful and rare animal. They were excited that they had solved the mystery and found this awesome creature. But, they were also scared they would get attacked because of what had happened to Bob Jeffery. So they kept their distance and kept quiet while admiring the animal.

When they finally returned home, their was a huge party for them! The newspaper put their picture on the front page and wrote a story about how they solved the mystery. Miranda, Jeff, Larry, and Cindy realized all their dreams had come true. They were now rich and famous! However, the friends knew that their adventures weren't over! They looked at each other and smiled knowing they wanted another mystery to solve.

Miranda looked at her friends and said, "Anyone up for round two?"

Hayden Smith 5th Grade Grace Baptist Academy Teacher: Mrs. Shana Ivarson

Skipper Saves the City

Zooming through the sky catching bad guys: the one and only, Skipper! We start out our story with any other day, or at least so Skipper thought. Ms. Catnip was busy making a huge bomb to DESTROY THE CITY, AND TAKE OVER THE WORLD! And Skipper knew nothing until she was walking through the city, looking for problems to solve when she saw what looked like an abandoned warehouse. For any other person this would look like nothing, but Skipper knows criminals sometimes use them. She didn't suspect too much until she saw a sign that said, "Don't enter," and "DANGER," so she had to go in. Before we get into the action, let me take you a little back. Ms. Catnip is the biggest criminal in the city, and Skipper has gotten so close to catching her soooo many times, Skipper knew though that if she caught Ms. Catnip she could possibly be saving the city!!!! Now back to the story. Skipper knew she was safe; she had 10 years of professional training. So she slowly opened the door, "CREAAAK!!" And she saw right in front of her Ms. Catnip! She swung her paw immediately and quickly tried to put her into cuffs. But Ms. Catnip broke away.

"Skipper requesting for backup, come soon!"

Not too much talking went down, just fighting until Skipper pulled out her taser and zapped her "ZZZZZZZ!!!!" Skipper then put Ms. Catnip into cuffs. And that is when the backup arrived and put her into the undercover FBI car. As they were driving back to a police station to question her, they noticed she wasn't working on the bomb so maybe it was activated! Skipper then told them what she thought and how she needed to go back to check. Skipper then quickly turned the car around and tried to go as fast as she could, every second matters. As she got there, she quickly ran through the door, and she was right, there was a clock ticking right there in front of the bomb with 10 minutes left! So as quick as she could, she pulled out her doggy defuser and opened the bomb, started clicking some buttons and coding the defuser, BUT IT SAID IT WOULD DEFUSE IN 10 MINUTES!!! But skipper was a dog, and she was color-blind! So she thought if she trimmed the rubber of both cords she could tell. So after she trimmed them slowly and carefully, she saw the cord on the right was obviously the defuser cord. So she pulled out her pocketknife and got to work. Smoke was filling up the room so Skipper had to get out quickly. She put her shirt over her face, cut the last strand of copper cord, and ran out of that warehouse as quickly as she could. Later, Ms. Catnip would be sentenced to a life in jail for trying to kill and destroy the whole city. This now brings our story to an end of how Skipper saved Doggy Town and lived happily ever after!

James Steffner
5th Grade
St Peter's Episcopal School
Teacher: Mrs. Maounis

Crumbled Pieces

This legend is about a couple of teenage boys who took a stroll in the woods on a midsummers' night. The eldest was Liam. Liam was a very bright boy who excelled in school and was always thinking one step ahead when he played sports or board games. Because of this, his best friend Logan, and little brother Noah easily followed him in everything he did. Despite being in the same grade, Logan was almost a year younger than Liam. Being younger, Logan always felt the need to act tough and hide his true feelings inside else he feared being thought of as a baby. Noah was Liam's little brother. No matter where Liam went Noah was not far behind and Liam did not mind at all. Together, these three were inseparable. When they were younger, their father told them to never go into the woods without a parent and would scold them for even playing near the edge. The boys just thought that their parents were being overprotective, as they often were, but little did they know there was something in the woods deserving of their parent's warnings. Unfortunately, their warnings only made the boys more interested. One night, the three boys met up and set off into the woods. Liam brought his camping flashlight so he led the way with Noah and Logan right behind. They walked until the moon was high in the sky. Had it not been for the clouds, they would not have needed the flashlight but instead shadows danced as the clouds moved in front of the moon. After a while each thought they were seeing things move just beyond the edge of the light but none could catch a glimpse so they didn't say anything to each other.

Finally, they stumbled upon a small overgrown graveyard whose fence had fallen down long ago. Logan was eager to read the tombstones and as he shined his light upon them he found the names and dates had worn off leaving only faint scratches where they used to be. Noah called Liam over with his light and began tracing the date with his fingers, 1869. Just as they boys realized the date was 150 years earlier a strong breeze blew and they heard a loud crash behind them as a tombstone fell and broke into pieces. Logan walked over to where it once stood and peering into the hole that was left found an old wooden ammo crate deep inside. The boys worked together to untangle the roots from around the crate and out of its shallow grave. Using a piece of the shattered tombstone, they pried it open and found many pictures inside. From the uniforms it was obvious that they were from the Civil War. All of the pictures had one young man in common but each included other soldiers, brothers in arms, and some even with dark spots on them where blood had dried long ago. Before putting the crate back into the hole, each took one picture. By this time, it was getting even later and the moon was almost gone. Knowing that their father woke early, Liam and Noah rushed Logan to get back to their houses and quickly into their beds. That night, each of them had a dream, a nightmare, of the person who was in each picture chasing them, reaching for them, and repeating that he wanted what was his. The next morning the boys met up online as they did every morning and began to share their nightmares. Noah suggested that they return the photos and asked Liam to take him back out there the that afternoon. Logan thought the others were being silly and wanted to keep his picture so did not return with them to replace what was taken.

The following morning Logan did not sign online so after breakfast the brothers set out for Logan's house. When they got there, his mother said that she had not seen him but let the boys in.

They were surprised to find that Logan was not in his room and the picture was not on his dresser where he said he was going to keep it. Noah wondered if he had gone to return the picture so, for a third time, the brothers set off back into the woods. As they approached the graveyard they saw Logan laying on the ground next to the crumbled pieces of tombstone, curled up in a ball, fast asleep, clutching the picture close. Startled awake by Liam, Logan was disoriented and had no memory of how he returned to the spot. As another breeze blew they heard the wind speak, mine. Logan threw the picture back into the hole then all three ran. They did not stop running until they were back to the edge of the woods safe from the fear inside. The boys never again went back to the graveyard nor did they speak of their experience to anyone else or each other.

Sean Stephenson
5th Grade
Silverdale Baptist Academy
Teacher: Mrs. Melissa Wilson

The Moon

Do you know all about the moon? Well here are some things you should know about the moon. The moon is white and grey. About 60 moons would fit inside. The moon is 1,079 miles wide. Mercury and the moon are the same size. The distance from the Earth is 1,496,000 miles. Here are some facts about the moon. The first fact that I have is that the moon has no atmosphere, but it does have quakes. Another fact is that it is the fifth largest moon in the solar system. Third fact is that the moon has been walked on by 12 people, but only American males. Fourth fact is that if a person is on the moon he will weigh less. Last fact is that the moon orbits the Earth every 27.3 days. The moon also has phases. It has eight phases. The first one is the new moon. The second one is the waxing crescent. The third one is the first quarter. The fourth one is the waxing gibbous. The fifth one is the full moon. The sixth one is the waning gibbous. The seventh one is the third quarter. The eighth one is the waning crescent. These are the eight phases of the moon. In conclusion, these are some facts about the moon.

Kathy Velasquez 5th Grade East Lake Elementary Teacher: Ms. Lauren Velo