

CityKidzWorld

Fall 2012

Volume 4, Issue 15

Back to School!

**VOCABULARY
WRITING
CONTEST INSIDE**

**FABLES, MYTHS,
AND FAIRY
TALES!**

**LEARN ABOUT
OUR ONLINE
CREATIVE
CONTESTS**

GREAT NONFICTION INSIDE



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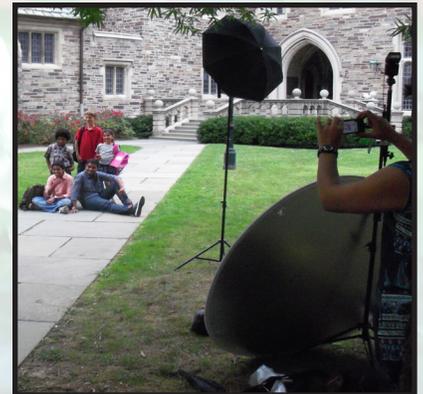
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Cover Models:

Abhinaya Mukundan is a prolific 3rd grader who writes all of the time. **Ellison Murray** is a 1st grader who loves drawing and reading. **Preetam Inampudi** is an 8th grader who loves writing and math and making great friends.

Vednath Eleti is an 8th grader who likes to watch the news and come up with interesting theories about current events.

Tyler Hummel is an 8th grader who enjoys baseball, golf, fishing and playing his guitar. His favorite subjects are math and science.

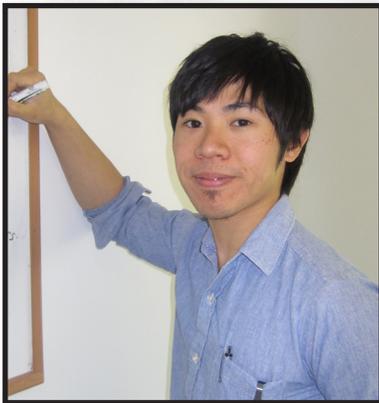
THE CREATIVE WRITING SPECIALISTS

Writing Studio Director, Melissa Edwards, has been teaching for 20 years.

Her passion is creative writing, but she also feels it is important to help students master grammar and punctuation as well as enhance vocabulary in order to facilitate life-long success in writing. She has taught at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels. She is currently a college professor.



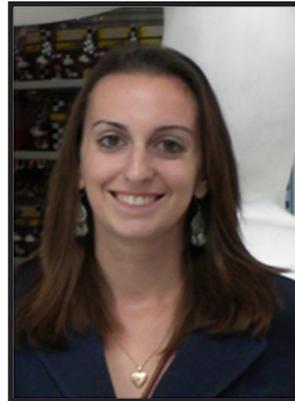
Laurel is a fantastic teacher and the students loved it this summer when she found the savory smelling nut and looked it up on the internet to learn more about it. Laurel teaches in homes and in the studio. She is awesome!



Daniel is the white board wizard. He can persuade even the most reluctant writers to get their thoughts out. He helped many of the students work on their stories this summer. Thanks Dan!



NYU bound Michael did a fantastic job this year and all summer working with students of all ages! His creative methods really get children excited about their stories. Wish him luck on his MFA!



Kaitlyn worked all summer to help her home-based classes get their stories completed. She is inspirational and dedicated! She will be teaching kindergarten this year in a local district. Good luck!



Peter joined the studio teaching staff in late spring. He has been working as a language arts teacher for several years.

City Kidz World Writing Studio

Mon., Thurs., Fri. - 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sat. - 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Sun. - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

3530 Rt. 27, room 205, Kendall Park

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Who Stole the Queen's Crown?

By Prisha Priyadarshini

Once upon a time there was a queen named Alice, who was the queen of Fairy-Land. Also in Fairy-Land there were three fairies named Tina, Glow and Candle. They were sisters and lived in a rainbow flower. The Queen was their mother and the king was the father.

In Fairy-Land, there is pixie dust everywhere and only fairies live there.

One day they heard that the mean fairy wanted to be the queen. At night, the mean fairy stole the queen's crown. When the queen woke she noticed that her crown was gone, she called the guards and the fairies. Glow, Tina and Candle searched for the queen's crown, but the crown was nowhere to be found. They went to the mean fairy cave. They found Alice's crown on the mean fairy's spell shelf.

They found some spells to turn the mean fairy into stone.

The fairies ran to the fairy meeting. Suddenly, the mean fairy appeared at the meeting. Candle threw a stone spell at the mean fairy until she turned into stone forever.

Everyone cheered and was so happy in Fairy-Land. Queen Alice got her crown back. The fairies got something special. They got pixie dust and they lived happily ever after.

Prisha is an enthusiastic 2nd grader who travelled far all summer to work on her story at the Writing Studio! Have a great year Little Miss Writing Rock Star!



Picture of a Cousin

By Preetam Inampudi



This drawing is a picture of my cute little cousin when she was a one year old. Her name is Srinidhi and now she is four. I drew this picture because I love her.

Love

Preetam



Preetam is a talented 8th grader who enjoys spending time with his family and drawing pictures of them.



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The Big, Fat, Fight!

By Abhinaya Mukundan

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” the thunder slammed and the lightning crashed while the evil witch was planning to kidnap the prince of Rainbow Land. She said to her evil partners, “Let’s go and kidnap the prince for the flying shoes I want. We can neutralize him with a sword or he’ll soon perish from starvation and dehydration. He’ll of course perish because we live in a volcano. We can survive because we’ve special powers so we don’t feel the heat. But remember that there is lava, then on top a lot of rocks and then a huge sheet of ice. We have to make sure we don’t fall in the ice. If we do, we will perish.”

“Then, why did you put ice?” asked a goblin.

“For our enemies, of course! Anyway, Goblins! Hop on your dragons! Let’s go!” They zoomed out of the volcano.

In Rainbow Land, Princess Amy and Prince Williams were in their bedroom.

Princess Amy laid down on the king-sized bed with a beautiful, patched quilt decorated on top. Prince Williams was by the window looking out at the waves rumbling as the thunder struck it with force.

“Hopefully, we don’t have another fight with the goblins, dragons, and that horrible witch in the Dragon Of The Doom Palace,” said the Prince.

“Yes. I hope so,” Princess Amy sighed.

All of a sudden, a big, red, fat dragon with sharp claws grabbed Prince Williams and quickly flew away. Princess Amy screamed, “Come back, you stinky fatty!” The dragon and Prince Williams disappeared into the night. Princess Amy ran outside as the thunder roared and the lightning screeched.

She dashed to the edge of the ocean and called out, “Isha, Navya, Krishna, Vishakha, and Mathangi! I need you to come here straight away!”

Amy heard a few splashes and the colorful mermaids came up. Each of them had a golden rope tied, lightly around their necks ready to be connected Amy’s carriage. Amy, who was now sitting in the back of the small carriage, usually held the other end of the ropes. Amy hopped onto her seat, clipped on her seatbelt, held onto the ropes tightly, and next thing you know it they were on their way to the Dragon Of The Doom Volcano Palace.

Amy never got wet underwater because she had super powers that work on some things.

Amy explained to all the mermaids what happened a few minutes ago.

Amy told Isha to lead and move a bit faster so the others behind would follow her lead.

Isha, the blue mermaid, went as fast as she could go.

Suddenly, Amy declared, “You know what? Today I am in the mood for swimming, not sitting!”

Amy hopped off her seat and immediately spotted a volcano. She knew Prince Williams was there, but did not know where he was in that humungous volcano.

She swam as quickly as she could and finally got to the shore.

Amy reassured the other mermaids that everything was going to be fine and that if she needed help she would call them. She told them that she was going to try to rescue Prince Williams on her own.

She used her flying powers to fly to the top of the Volcano Palace.

When she got to the top of the Dragon Of The Doom Volcano Palace, she gasped.

Amy quickly hid behind the wall and peeked out. She saw a green goblin with two, pointy ears, one sharp nose, and fifteen, green, big eyes.

She thought, Oh no! How am I suppose to pass this scary-looking goblin?

She quickly pulled out her wand, pointed it at the goblin, and whispered, “Awada Karamba Prince Williams!” In a split second, the goblin looked just like Prince Williams! Amy quickly said again, “Awada Karamba goblin!” this time pointing the wand at herself.

Amy looked just like the goblin, which she saw earlier.

Amy passed the goblin and the goblin thought that he was still a goblin and Amy was one as well. She saw an elevator so she went inside it. As soon as Amy got inside it, she clicked the button with bars on it.

Amy figured out that it looked like a prison and thought that maybe that was where Prince Williams was.

When Amy was in the middle of the elevator ride, it stopped! She heard the witch say, “Let’s neutralize the prince at night, so he won’t know that we will be coming!”

Amy thought, when at night? It is night right now!

Then Amy heard the witch say, “Finally, the elevator is here! Let’s step inside!”

Amy thought, thank god I turned into a goblin!

Then, she had an idea. The witch and her partners started to go near the elevator. All of a sudden, Amy clicked the button to go down to the jail. The witch and her partners saw that the elevator was going down. They kept walking and decided that they could hop on in time. But the witch, two goblins, and one dragon



to be con’t on page 6

con't from page 5

missed, and perished in the cold ice, down below.

Amy was so happy and said to her wand, "Awada Karamba Princess Amy!"

She was back again.

Finally, Amy reached the prison. She could not open the prison door!

She took her wand and spoke, "Retrievio ax!"

Amy snatched the ax out of the air and hit the bars.

While Amy was trying to crack open the bars, the ax slid out of her hands, through the gaps in the silver bars, and Prince Williams caught it.

He hit the bars and it broke!

"Oh, Williams! Are you all right?" Princess Amy asked with concern.

"Yes! I am fine, but it stinks in here, and I really want to get out!" Prince Williams smiled making Princess Amy laugh.

They went inside the elevator, got to the top of the Palace, and saw the goblin Amy saw before.

"Why are there two MEs?" whispered Williams.

"I did a spell to keep us safe. Now hide before he sees us!"

Then Amy held out her wand, pointed it at the goblin, and screamed, "Bubble crudubble!" The goblin that looked like Prince Williams fainted.

"Yes! Now we can kill him easily!" Amy shouted.

Then she screeched, "Bubble trouble die!" The goblin did not move a finger. He was no more.

"Well, we have only one goblin and one dragon left! They are probably at the battlefield. Let's go!" Prince Williams commanded.

They flew to the battlefield with the mermaids chasing after them to watch the show.

When, Amy and Williams finally reached the battlefield, the goblin and the dragon had already started preparing for the battle.

The Princess and Prince, got out their wands and said, "Sword elimo!" and each of them got a sword.

The dragon laughed, "Well, I am going to get those shoes for my master!"

"Oh, ok! How are you going to give them to your master?" Asked Williams with a smile.

"Well... we will just hand it over to her, of course!" the goblin chuckled.

"Good luck with that, because we already killed her!" Princess Amy giggled.

"Oh no! You killed our m-m-m-aster!" the goblin stammered.

"Don't cry! We can keep the shoes for ourselves!" the dragon laughed.

"Oh, let's fight already!" the goblin screamed.

Amy's sword hit the goblin's sword and they began dueling an intense battle. Finally, after many tries, Amy's sword

hit the goblin's neck, and he perished.

Williams was working on the dragon, but the dragon's fire made him get burns. Williams tried more hits, but as the sword was going to hit the dragon, the dragon's fire made Williams drop his sword.

Williams picked it up and every time he tried to move a side, the dragon moved too.

Finally, Amy motioned for Williams to keep fighting with the dragon. While he was doing this, she crept behind the dragon and struck him on his back. He dropped down, dead.

Princess Amy and Prince Williams high-fived each other and chuckled.

They both ran to the water with the mermaids trailing behind.

Amy turned herself into a mermaid and hopped into the water with her mermaid friends.

Then she said to Mathangi, "You can be the leader!"

Williams hopped onto the seat and clipped on his seat-belt.

Mathangi was first, Amy was second, Krisha was third, Navya was fourth, Vishakha was fifth, Isha was last, and of course Williams was dragged behind in the seat.

They all swam as fast as they could.

Finally, they reached Rainbow Land.

Amy said to the mermaids, "Because of your great work, you can now live in the Palace!"

"High-five, girl!" shouted Krisha.

"I am never going to forget this moment!" exclaimed Vishakha and Navya.

"Thanks a million, Amy!" smiled Mathangi.

"I can't believe you are doing this for us!" Isha giggled.

All the mermaids gave Amy a big hug.

"No problem!" Amy chuckled.

"Let's go inside! It's twelve o'clock at night!" gasped Amy.

They went inside and Amy showed them their rooms.

In each room, there were some dresses, a pool (in which they sleep in), and a library.

The mermaids slept silently in their pools, Prince Williams and Princess Amy slept silently in their bed, and the rest of the palace did not know that there was a big, fat fight!

Abhinaya is a brilliant 3rd grader who writes fast and beautifully! She has a future in writing!



A Proud Day

By Hafsa Rahaman

The day I felt proud was when I got first place in the state for an art competition in 2011. I was in third grade. I didn't think that I won.

One day my mom and I were driving home. She stopped at the bottom of the driveway to get the mail from the mailbox. There was a big envelope for me. I just thought that it was from my school. I didn't think it was anything special. I opened the envelope.

To my surprise, it was a certificate that said, "Congratulations, you won first place."

I was just blown away! The paper said I made it to Washington D.C.

I told my family and they were really happy for me!

Later, my sister and I were on the computer and we were so bored that we went on the Google search. We typed my name in and we saw my painting! The caption underneath my painting said my name and that I got first place state-wide in an art competition.

My painting had two hot air balloons. Behind the balloons were a mountain and a lake. When we clicked on it, it displayed a website that had the second and third place winners. I thought that I was very famous. I started screaming so loud that the whole house could hear me. I was so hyper. My mom told me that I was not famous, but she said it was possible that the mayor saw it. I was still really happy and that was the best day ever!



1st Place Artwork by Hafsa



Hafsa is a proud 4th grader with many stories to tell. Read her two stories in this magazine. She worked hard this summer.



The Fly's Lucky Rock

By Aryan Karakoti



Somewhere in the middle of the woods, there lived a fly and his dad. They lived under an apple tree. There was also a river filled with frogs near their home. One day the fly and his dad went on a log next to the river. They played catch with the fly's lucky rock. Eventually, the fly threw the rock too hard and it landed on the other side of the river. The fly was upset because he lost his lucky rock on the other side of the river. The fly went closer and closer to the river. Right when the fly was about to dash across the river, his dad yelled, "Don't be stupid! This river is infested with frogs."

Then they both went home since it was getting dark.

When the fly was sure his dad was asleep, he snuck out of the house to get his rock. He wasted no time and quickly went across the river. The fly jumped with joy when he finally saw his lucky rock beneath a leaf. He grabbed his rock and started heading back across the river. As he was flying back with his rock, a frog jumped out of nowhere and shot his tongue straight at the fly's leg. Right when the frog was about to drag down the fly, the fly held on to a branch. The fly had no other choice, so he threw his lucky rock at the frog. The rock went in the frog's mouth. The frog stumbled and let go of the fly. The fly went home sadly. Instead of his lucky rock, he now had a broken leg.

The fly learnt his lesson and now knows that no amount of luck is better than your parent's advice.

Aryan is a serious guy with great stories to tell. Read his story!

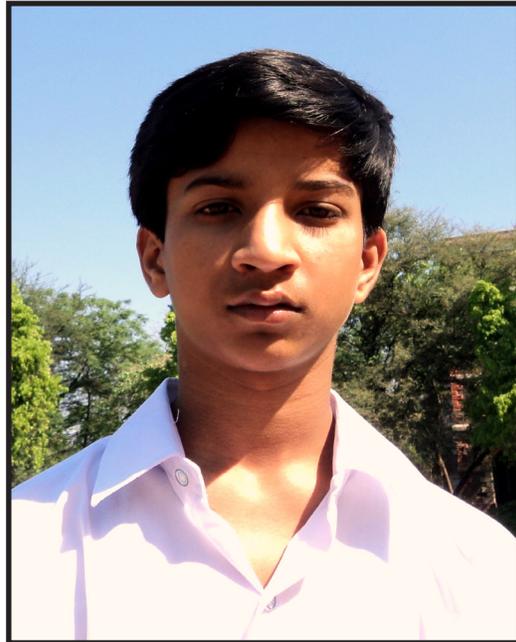
Featured @ www.citykidzworld.com

Meet the Summer Queens of City Kidz World!



Bestfriends Laya and Aishwarya talk about their writing collaborations at www.citykidzworld.com! **Learn about their upcoming charity project!**

By Tanmay Singh



Tanmay is a budding artist in India. He has submitted several works of art to this magazine over the years!

Meet Kirstie Belle Diongzon



Future Illustrator!

Kirstie Belle Diongzon was our illustration intern for a few weeks at Summer Camp.

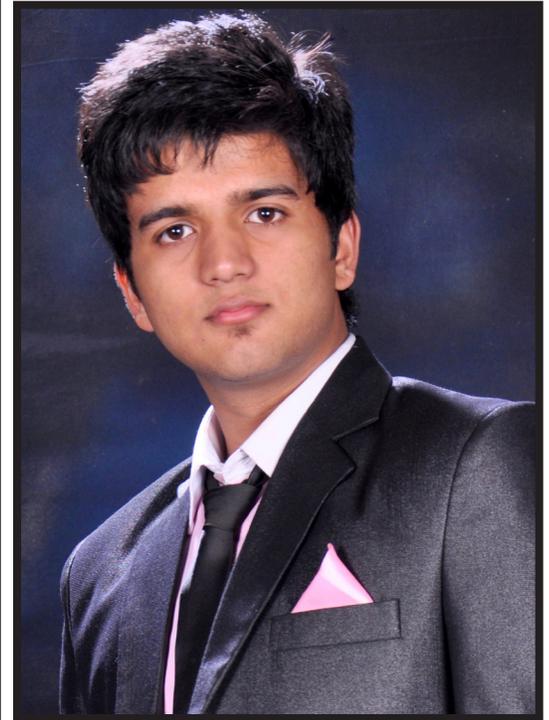
Every week she came in to sit one-on-one with the kids to come up with the story illustrations that are featured in the magazine. She is currently attending School of Visual Arts in New York City as Illustration major in her third year.

She realized her passion for art in high school and finally pushed herself to tread the road toward her dream of sharing her works with the world. Eventually she would like to inspire children and young artists to follow their dreams and passions without fear.

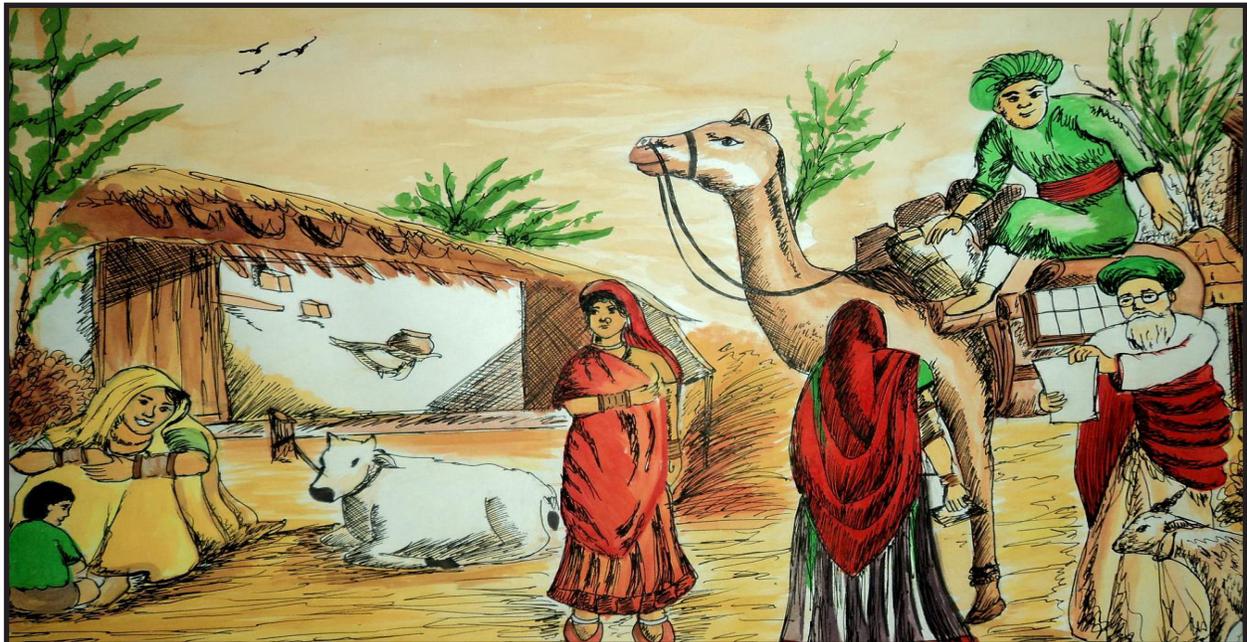


Art Expressions

Archit Singh



Archit is a great, young artist. He continues to submit work to the magazine whenever he can. He lives in India.



The Fairies with No Light

By Sindhu Balamurugan

The fairies Alina, Elizabeth, and Liana were sitting in their small, poorly built cottage feeling very hungry. To add to it, they were under a spell by the evil witch who took their light. To break the spell, they needed to get the light from the castle. *Alina has sparkly, pink wings, shoes and a dress. Elizabeth has sparkly green and yellow shoes, wings, and a dress. Liana has sparkly purple shoes, wings, and a dress.* Every day, the witch recites a poem that teases the fairies about their lack of light:

**You have no light
It gives you such a fright
You have no sight
You could fall from a good height
As I just said
You have no light**



Sindhu is a hard working 3rd grader who worked very hard on her story for 5 weeks.

Everybody was so scared, but Alina said, "You can't just stand back. You must keep trying." The fairies came up with a plan. They knew that there was a map in Garden Valley leading to the angel who could help. They kept on walking until they saw a restaurant called Fairy Hut, so they each had a Fairy Pizza. After they ate, they walked more. Elizabeth said, "Ohoo! There is ice cream!" They stopped again and ate ice cream. Finally, they walked a mile. "Look, the map!" Alina said. Everyone was very happy!

They took the map and looked at it. It said: YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO KEEP THE MAP!
Liana said, "Oh Man!"
But Alina said, "Luckily I have a paper and pencil."
They quickly wrote the directions. After they were done, they started walking. Soon, it got dark. Elizabeth opened the backpack and took out the blankets and pillows. They slept. Zzz!

The next morning, they got up. They started walking. There was a strong wind. Their map flew away. Oh no! They did not know where to go, but they did know how the angel's footsteps looked. They walked randomly until they found the footsteps.

They followed the footsteps. Finally, they got to the angel Angela. Alina, Elizabeth, and Liana said, "How can we get to the

castle of light?"

Angela said, "I will give you disguise clothes." She also suggested that Alina act as the princess's sister and Elizabeth and Liana to act as visitors. Angela said, "Also I will give each of you a hundred gold coins." Alina asked if they could sleep in the home of Angela, the angel. Angela said, "Yes." They slept. Zzz!

The next morning, they ate breakfast and then tried their disguise dresses and they started going to the castle. They got to the castle and there were two guards. The guards asked, "Who are you?" Alina said, "I am a lost princess's sister." Elizabeth and Liana said they are visitors. The two guards let them in the castle. There were many ooh's and aah's. It was night very soon. They all slept. Zzz!

The next morning for breakfast, they had a buffet. They were all so happy. Alina had fun with her pretend sister and Elizabeth and Liana had a lot of fun in the castle. Then the witch's spell was broken. They went back to their old home and now they had light. After three days, they got a new, big house with new clothes in the closet and all different types of food.

Drawing Contest Winner! School Daze

By Aditi Laddha



Find interactive online contest at
http://www.citykidzworld.com/posting_area.php

The Mysterious Island of Rubies

By Parth Sampat

It was midsummer in Las Vegas, Nevada. It was scorching hot - 110°F to be exact! The four brothers were staying in the New York hotel for 15 days. Since their dad was very rich, they had a lot of money to live in such an expensive hotel. These were the names of the brothers: Nick, Ethan, John and James. Nick had a very bulky mouth and an oval sort of face. Ethan was a very weak boy and his eyes were light blue. John's skin color was pure white like vanilla ice cream. James was very strong and his eyes were hazel. There was one thing in common between all of the brothers; They were all really brave.

There was a secret. It was that John had a map of a secret island where he thought there was gold. Also, John had found a key in his cabinet. Just in case, John decided to take the key with him to go gold hunting, but he did not want to go by himself.

"Hey brothers, you want to help me find this island?" asked John. Sure," said the three brothers.

John examined the island on the computer and found that the island was four hours away from Las Vegas in a car.

"So are you up for an adventure my brothers?" said John. There was no reply because the answer was *of course*. They all went to the rent-a-car place and rented a car. Since John and Nick were the only ones who had licenses, Nick would be the one to drive the car. Off they went with Nick driving and John navigating the car.

Their main goal was to get a lot of rubies and get a grand Ferrari because they had always wanted a convertible Ferrari. During the car ride, Nick and John were quarreling about who would get to drive if they bought a Ferrari. While they were on their journey, bad weather developed. There was heavy rain and some hail stones. Disregarding the bad weather, James and Ethan were arguing over who was going to get the most rubies. "Hey guys, we have a big problem here," exclaimed Nick and John. They did not know what to do in this bad weather!

"Hey, hocus pocus; you can never get more rubies than me," yelled Ethan! Nick flashed the windshield wipers as fast as he could, but hail stones kept on damaging the glass little by little, and rain kept on pouring on the windows! They were terrified! Hail was falling down from the skies as big as hamburgers! Rain was falling down as thick as branches! As they were approaching blue skies, the bad the weather stopped instantly. Then they saw a castle on an island.

"Oh no. There is no road for us to drive on," said John. "We have no other choice," said Nick! Then they drove on the grass. Then they approached the castle. When they tried to push the castles door open, it wouldn't budge. They tried harder and harder. Then John remembered that he had a key. It was a miracle. It fit in the hole! They were really happy they could get in, but they were also wondering how it fit.

"Luck is with us today," said Nick to John. Then they went inside, and right in the corner of their eyes were the rubies! They were already jumping up and down in excitement for the rubies! They went to touch them, but a king lived in this castle! He set the first trap. Deadly Scorpions! They were totally freaked out! Ethan saw cameras so he put tape on all of them so nobody could see them. On a TV screen they saw the King's face and they recognized them! It was their Uncle Robert's castle: their dad's best friend.

So then they went marching up to Uncle Robert and spoke to him. They told him that they are his best friend's sons. Their uncle was sorry that he had set traps for them. Now they understood how they got the key from their house. Their dad was allowed to visit anytime. He was so kind to give them all the rubies! They had the best adventure in the world! After, they bought a nice Ferrari and had much fun in their brand new car!

Parth is an enthusiastic 6th grade with sophisticated ideas. He is working on developing great stories.



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Trip to Mars

By Bridget Lobo

Once upon a time, in the suburbs of New Jersey, there lived a family with three children named Susan, Hailey and Jackie. The girls shared the same interests and games and most of all, they loved exploring. One of their common interest was to go to outer space someday and explore a planet. Every day they would ask their parents whether it was possible to take a trip to outer space, but they would always hear the same answer.

"It's not that easy honey. We have to wait for the right time and opportunity," their parents would say. Then one day the telephone rang and the three girls excitedly heard their mother saying, "Is this for real? When? Where? How many days? What should we pack?"

The girls thought that they had won a lottery and were going on a vacation. Their eyes beamed as they impatiently waited for their mother to hang up.

"Where are we going mom?" asked the youngest of them Susan.

"You won't believe this kids, but we are going to Mars."

"Mars? As in the planet Mars?" asked Jackie.

"Yes," said mom.

The girls were thrilled. The parents went to a special website to email the scientist who had called them and told them about the news. The scientist asked the girls' ages and details of the family. The scientist told them to meet him at the space center that Saturday no later than 4p.m.. He told them that he would also provide the rocket ship and spacesuits for the entire family. One day before they were to leave, the girls received a special package in the mail, which contained their space suits. Saturday arrived and the girls were ready for the trip of their lifetime. At 3:30 p.m. the father drove everyone to the rocket launching place. The scientist (whose name was Bob) was impatiently waiting for the family to arrive.

The scientist told the family to change into their spacesuits. Susan was excited and a little scared. She was the youngest and realized there would be a lot of scary noises when taking off. She clutched her spacesuit tightly and followed her sisters closely as they went into to the changing room.

"Mom," Susan called.

"Yes Susan," her mom said.

"Can I sit next to you in the rocket ship?"

"Sure," her mom said.

After everyone changed, they all went to the launching area

ready to board the rocket. Suddenly, the sisters heard a big noise. They craned their necks to see what it was. It turned out another scientist was checking to see if there was enough fuel.

"Come on girls," her father said, climbing the rocket ship and taking his seat. Everyone put on their astronaut helmets and buckled up.

Bob also donned his space suit and sat in the front seat to navigate the rocket ship. When everyone was ready, the doors of the rocket ship shut tight and the countdown began.

"Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, blast off!" the girls shouted.

The engine roared like a hundred lions. They were off to space. Two days later they reached Mars. The girls bounced off on to the surface of Mars. They saw houses and Martian children playing in the backyard much like earthlings do. They had supermarkets, daycare centers, pet stores, restaurants and even a post office. There were also funny looking automobiles and bus mobiles moving from one end of the planet to the other. Susan was frightened when she saw the Martian children.

"They don't look like us," Susan said. Jackie was very keen on making friends with the Martian children and playing with them.

While they were playing a game, one of the Martian children slipped inside to explore the rocket ship in which the family had arrived. The absent minded scientist left the door open. The Martian children happily went in.

"A Martian went into our rocket ship!" Susan cried. The girls took off after the Martian. They heard spritzing sounds. To the girls horror, the Martian was pouring water on all of the computers on the dash board. When the scientist heard the spritzing sounds, he ran to the rocket ship with the parents following, but it was too late. Damage had already been done and the rocket ship was fried. Bob quickly thought of a plan and called the scientists back at



Bridget is a fantastic 4th grade writer, whose imagination is growing daily!

Congratulations Miss Budding Author!



Nerf™ War

By Manan Vajariya

For the past few months, my neighborhood friends and I have had nothing to play when we go outside. Its been very boring and we really need something to do. A couple of days ago, I searched online. "What you can do during the summer." As I was reading, I came to a topic on having a Nerf War. It was the perfect thing to do. All of my friends love Nerf™ and we were planning a Nerf™ War last summer, but we never actually had it. That night, in my bed, I thought of some game ideas and rules.

Weapon options - In the war, you are allowed to have a primary, secondary and tertiary weapon. You are also allowed to bring a knife made out of a foam dart so that you can melee people. You are out of the game when you are shot by two darts. For my primary weapon, I would bring a Deploy with ACOG scope and two to three extra clips. For my secondary, I would bring a Vortex Proton with six disks in my pocket. Lastly, for my tertiary, I would bring a Double Barrel with two extra shells hidden inside the stock.

Capture the flag - Capture the flag is one of the longer games that I have in mind. There will be two territories separating the neighborhood. On each side there will be three flags. The objective of the game is to have all six flags on your territory. If you are shot twice when you are on the other team's territory trying to steal a flag, you must go to their jail. The only way you can get out of jail is if one of your buddies comes to rescue you without getting shot. You also have to be careful on the way back because you can be shot then too.

Escort- This game will most likely be a short and relaxed game. There will be one president on each team. In the first round, a chosen team will have their president on the jail of the opponent team's territory. The objective of the game is to rescue your president and bring him back to your territory without getting shot. But here is the twist: the only way that the president

can leave the jail is if there are two people rescuing him. If any one of the three people gets shot, they ALL must go back to jail. Now, they can only escape from jail one at a time.

Team Death Match - This will be the simplest game type. The team will just neutralize their opponents. When you are neutralized, you will respawn in your team's assigned spawn spot. After ten minutes, the team with the most neutralizations will win.

Those were only three games types that I have thought of so far, but I am still thinking of more. I hope we can have this war over the summer and I also hope that we have enough people to play. If we have the war, it will be a blast. I'm looking forward to it.



Manan is a talented 8th grader who loves to write all types of stories and create movies. He also knows how to make up great Nerf™ games!

Trip to Mars cont'd from page 12

with the parents following, but it was too late. Damage had already been done and the rocket ship was fried. Bob quickly thought of a plan and called the scientists back at earth from his super magical cell phone that worked without batteries. The family spent two days in the rocket ship, while anxiously waiting for someone to rescue them.

"Are we going to live here forever daddy?" asked Susan.

"No honey. We'll be out of here soon," said the dad.

Two days later, the family caught sight of another rocket ship and saw an astronaut climbing out. The name of the spaceship was "Curiosity" and the astronaut's name was Karen. She motioned for them to come. The family and Bob were relieved to see "Curiosity" and Karen, and were eager to go back to Earth. She told them she would take them back to Earth. The scientist and the family got on. They got back to earth safely and were in their own, sweet home soon.

"Was that a dream?" asked Hailey.

"No dear. We did indeed go to Mars," said mom.

"Hope you girls had a good time. Good Night!" The girls looked out of the window that night and smiled as they saw the stars and knowing that their dream of going to outer space had come true.

"Boy what a ride it was!"

That's How Gold was Invented

By Riya Sandesh

“Ah! What a wonderful day to be outside,” said Tammy the frog. He was sitting on a lily pad in his favorite place, the pond. The pond was large, dark-blue and looked like a smooth, dark blanket. Tammy, one of the smartest frogs around, was staring at the beautiful, golden sun. The sun looked bright and was high and up above him. He said, “Why can't one day I jump so high that I could reach the sun and explore the world around it.”

While Tammy was admiring the sun, something tiny and golden dripped down on Tammy's slippery hand. It felt warm at first, but then it hardened as soon as it fell. He determined that it was some type of a metal. He ran into his house and showed his parents. “Look what I found. It is a piece of metal from the sun,” he said.

His parents did not believe him. They said to him, “No! It should not have come from the sun. The sun never breaks.” They did not doubt him for long because soon they saw a bunch of yellowish, golden drops dropping down and forming into a block.

Tammy realized that the drops got darker as they fell. Soon there was no sun.

Tammy went outside and pushed the big block into his house. He looked at the block closely and saw that it was the same type of that had fallen earlier.

His observation was right! He called the metal Gold. The next day he was the prince of the woods because he discovered a metal that is really rare.



Riya has been working all year and now she has joined the ranks of published writers. Congratulations Riya! You made it!

Watch Riya's Interview!



<http://www.citykidzworld.com/fiction.php?for=4th>

Video Alert!



Ninjas vs. Dragon

By Param Shah

Once upon a time, there was a place in the universe. Near the corner was a world called Earth. In that world was a big continent and in that continent was a state and in that state was a city and in that city was a little kid who wanted to be a ninja when he grew up. His name was Spikey.

Spikey was walking around the house when he found a dojo in his living room. There was a secret door behind the couch. He went in and saw so many weapons in the dojo. He went out of the dojo and went to call his friends. He went to two of his friend. Their names were Sam and Matt. Spikey told Matt and Sam that he had a dojo behind his couch, but neither one of them believed him so Spikey dragged both Sam and Matt to the dojo. They both fainted.

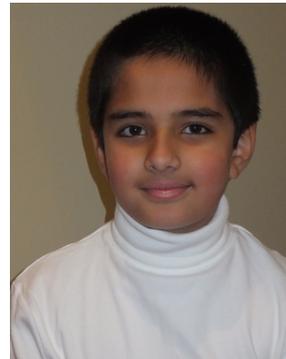
They woke up after a while. They all saw another door. They opened the door. There was a big kingdom in front of them. The kingdom's name was Ningania.

They went to the front. There were guards dressed as ninjas. Spikey thought, "That explains the dojo." They went to the guards. They wouldn't let them in because they weren't ninjas. They went back to the dojo and changed into ninjas. Spikey was a green ninja. Matt was a red ninja. Sam was a blue ninja. They talked to the guards and let them in. When they went in, they saw so many weapons and most of all, there are so many ninjas. They were in all kinds of colors. Spikey asked to meet the king. They went to the main part of the kingdom. There were escape doors and weapons. They finally got to the king. He was nice. Spikey told the king that they were new. The king told them all the rules. When he was about to tell them about their enemy, "the dragons", a big boom happened. The king went on the loud speaker and told everyone to get into their fighting positions because the dragons were attacking. Before Spikey went to his fighting position, he looked through the window. There were dragon headed army men, flying dragons and dragon like

cannons.

Matt said, "What are you waiting for?" Spikey and his group went to their fighting position. Sam had a sword. Matt had an axe. Spikey had two ninja stars that come back to you.

They went outside the castle. It looked like the ninjas had more men, but no flying ships. But the ninjas had bow arrows too and so it was kind of okay. Spikey and his group stayed inside. They were looking at the battle field. They saw that it was bad. They thought of ideas. Sam thought of thinking about digging a tunnel under the battle field. They told the king their plan. The king approved it. He just told us to watch out for dragon diggers. They went out into the battle field. They all gave thumbs up to the kings. The three ninjas went to start digging the tunnels. They all worked together to dig just one tunnel. They used their special weapons to start digging. They turned their weapons into shovels. As soon as they got half way through, Spikey and his group saw a tunnel. They thought it was the dragon diggers. They went through that tunnel and saw three dragon diggers. They all attacked them and they died. They took their shovels. It was a lot easier with the shovels. Soon they got to the other kingdom. It was about the same size. They got to the main part of the kingdom. They got out of the tunnel and were right in front of the dragon king. He was completely surprised. Spikey told the dragon king to surrender. They defeated all the army men. The king surrendered and the ninjas won. Spikey and his friends went back to the dojo. They all promised not to say anything ever again.



Param is a creative young man who is improving each day. He is in 5th grade.

The Chipmunk and the Squirrel

By Hafsa Rahaman

Once upon a time, there was a chipmunk that had fast running legs and a squirrel with slow running legs. The chipmunk was light brown and the squirrel was gray and white. The chipmunk had four sisters and six brothers. The squirrel had no sisters or brothers. The chipmunk always bragged about how fast he could climb up the biggest tree, which was twelve feet long. The tree



had big, bushy green leaves. The squirrel tried his best to climb as fast as the chipmunk. The chipmunk had a big, juicy acorn that no one would ever find. The squirrel wanted it so badly, but the chipmunk did not share it with the squirrel. Instead the chipmunk said, "You will get the acorn if you win the race up the tree."

The squirrel asked, "Which tree? The one I climb that is twelve feet long?"

The squirrel practiced from sun up to sun down. The chipmunk did not bother practicing at all.

The next day was the race. The day of the race, was really nice because it was 75 degrees.

The wind was blowing and the sun was shining. Also that whole week was like that. The race was starting and the chipmunk was bragging again. The chipmunk was out of breath so he got really slow. The squirrel was halfway up the tree and all of the chipmunk's brothers and sisters were cheering for the squirrel because the chipmunk always bragged.

The squirrel was at the top of the tree. The squirrel won the race!

Unexpected Day!

By Maleeha Irfan

One sunny morning, I woke up. Suddenly my mind refreshed that today was the first day of school. What time is it? I asked myself. Then I looked at my alarm clock. It read 9:30 a.m.. It's 9:30 a.m. I'M GOING TO MISS THE BUS! I screamed so loudly. Then I took a deep breath and got out of my bed as quick as a cheetah. I dashed down the stairs and fixed myself a delectable breakfast. Then I ran swiftly outside. I ran and ran till I got to my bus stop. When I got there, I saw no children and no bus.

My parents were at work and no one would drop me off to school. "How could that be?" I said hoping for a fluke. Tears rolled down my cheeks one by one. If my parents found out I didn't go to school, they would be SO ANGRY! Then I walked home feeling down.

I was so dejected. Once I got home, I tried calling my parents, but they didn't pick up. So I just went to my room to inspect my alarm clock one more time to authorize that when I woke up it was 9:30 a.m. When I looked at the alarm clock it said 6:50 a.m. How could that be? I asked myself. When I woke up it was 9:30 a.m. and now it is 6:50 a.m.? Then I thought maybe the alarm clock was the wrong way when I checked it in the morning. From that day on, I learned that I shouldn't let an alarm clock trick me.



Maleeha is a hardworking 5th grader who has great stories to tell!



Art By Dharma



Dharma Skinner is an excellent, budding artist.



The Baby Thief

By Hamid Irfan

“Bring, bring, bring, bring, bring, bring!”

I woke up to the sound of my alarm clock blaring, almost popping my ear drum. I tapped the snooze button and dragged myself up. This was my usual schedule, but something was different today. I was giving a presentation, which meant promotion or demotion. I quickly rubbed the sleep out of my eyes and went to the bathroom to wash up and shave.

I washed my face and did my business before getting out of the bathroom. I dashed downstairs and fixed myself a bowl of cereal. In addition to that, I got some bread and egg and quickly chomped down my food in between gulps of orange juice. The orange juice tasted bad, since I had just brushed my teeth. After finishing all my food, I pulled on my suit and tie and rushed to get my dress shoes and suitcase. After getting all I needed, I rushed to start my Toyota Sequoia. After waiting around two minutes, I changed my car's gear and revved out of my driveway. I drove to the train station and paid the price for parking and my ticket.

Then I waited for the next train to NYC and let the conductor punch a hole in my ticket. I walked in, feeling the cool air from the nearby fan slap my face. I took a seat next to a man who looked suspicious. Then this awkward man that I was trying to shield my eyes from started yelling at me in a language I did not speak. I quickly ran to get another seat. I opened my briefcase and reviewed all of my work I had done for this one day for the billionth time. I fixed some grammar and spelling mistakes I had made on my PowerPoint. Then the conductor told us that the next stop was Downtown, NYC. I packed myself up and waited at the exit for the door to open. A few minutes later the door opened.

I got out and called for a taxi to drop me at the building where I work. As I got out of the taxi, I paid the driver and walked inside the building. I went to my office and gathered a few things. Then I went to the meeting room and I showed my badge to the security. They let me in and beckoned me to a seat. I told them I was presenting and they lead me to a table with a projector and many wires. I sat down and hooked up my computer to the projector. Then I waited and listened to other people speak about the server they were making for the bank and how it was impossible to hack the server.

Meanwhile, at home, my wife woke up to the sound of a huge bang and my daughter crying. My daughter was one and a half year old. My wife woke up and scolded my daughter. That day she had hosted a party at a five-star restaurant called Garden State Banquet. My wife got up and searched for her tickets. She panicked. She couldn't find the tickets. She had put it under her pillow, but she couldn't find it anywhere. She frantically searched the whole house. Then she called the hotel where she was hosting the party. They emailed new tickets. My wife printed them out. Emily (my baby daughter) was crying and wailing while the tickets were printing. My wife came back in the room with Em-

ily and searched for her suitcase so she could get her gold. She couldn't find it so she thought she had misplaced the suitcase.

She was wrong. The suitcase was nowhere to be seen. She panicked and called me. I was presenting with my phone on vibrate so the only thing I could feel the phone messaging me as I was talking about what I had invented. When I was done, I told my boss that I had gotten many calls and he let me call my wife back.

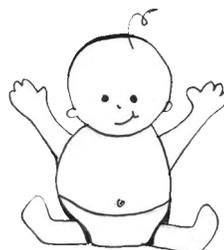
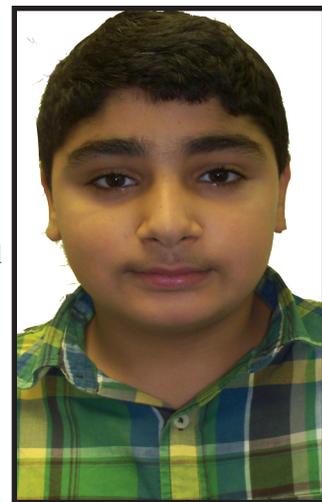
When I called, she sounded like someone died, but when I found out what happened, I was relieved, but still panicked. I told my boss what happened and went home. The train, which brought me home and regularly took thirty minutes, felt like thirty years. When I got home, I saw cops surrounding my house. I walked inside and talked to my wife. *Some things were missing.*

Later...

That night, before my wife went to her party, I threw out the garbage. I saw blue tickets inside the dumpster in my house. I took them out and saw they were for the same party that my wife was about to attend. I told my wife and she told the story of the whole day. Then a light bulb went off in my head. I checked the garbage and saw that the suitcase was in there. I quickly called my wife and we called the cops and told them what happened. Then I figured that Emily, the baby, had thrown the tickets and the suitcase outside and they landed in the trash. I told my wife and she laughed and left for her party.

After that, I moved the crib to the other side of the room and I learned to never put a baby's crib near a window. Also, my wife had a great time at her party. I got a promotion because how good my speech and how well I handled my situation. After that everything was great and even better than before. Nothing ever *fell* out of the window again.

Hamid is an intelligent 7th grader with a fantastic imagination.



The Trouble with Summer

By Sreekruthi Dubagunta

It was a hot summer day. The sweat drizzled down my chin like rain. I came home panting. I turned on the small, lavender fan on the coldest mode in my medium-sized living room. Then I plopped down on my soft, silver rug and my sweat disappeared like a raindrop on a sunny day.

Moments later, as I continued to rest, I heard a loud popping noise. My body quickly sprinted up into the air and my head spun around looking for the cause of the noise.

Suddenly, my sharp detective eyes noticed that my fan had split into two parts. On the floor, I spotted nine fan blades broken into small sharp pieces, as well as long, blue wires.

All of a sudden, I felt the warmth of the summer air breezing throughout the house. Then, my brain struck a fantastic idea! I started running to my friend Shrey's house.

Ding Dong! Ding Dong! I rang Shrey's door bell so many times that it felt as though I rang it 90 times.

Shrey rapidly opened the fancy door engraved with gold. She was drenched in sweat. It looked like someone poured a glass of water on her head.

"Ooh!" Shrey panted, "My fan just broke."

My brain felt like it was going to crack!

Shrey and I walked to the nearby department store. I immediately looked for fans. After we found two small, lavender fans, we brought it to the counter and carried it out of the store.

We both walked back to our own homes and turned on our lavender fans. Finally, the icy, cold breeze touched my hot face. It was such a relief to have a fan in the house a hot summer day.



Sreekruthi is a fantastic 4th grader who worked with her creative writing teacher all year to develop great writing skills. Isn't this story marvelous!



The Best Adventure

By Om Amin

Once upon a time, there were two brothers named Jhon and Jhonny. They wanted to find the gold and be the richest men ever. They decided to go to Treasure Island. Jhon called the taxi to get to the boat dock. On their way, the engine of the taxi broke down. Both brothers were disappointed, but suddenly they saw a bus stop and waited for ten minutes to get on the bus.

By riding on the bus, finally they arrived at the boat dock. They rented a cool, red motor boat get to Treasure Island. On the way a giant wave hit the boat and Jhon almost fell off, but Jhonny helped him back up. Jhon was all wet and he was feeling cold. It took them twelve hours to reach to the Island. They were both tired and hungry. They found a mango tree and ate until their tummies were full.

After the mango party, Jhon took out an old map from his backpack. They followed the map and came to a dark cave. They went inside the dark cave. They were scared and excited. Jhon spotted a sparkling hole on the floor. Jhonny and Jhon got two big shovels and started digging for an hour. At last they found two buckets of gold! Jhon and Jhonny became the richest men ever.



Om is a talented 2nd grader who has been working on his story writing all year! This was a great accomplishment for the summer!

Camping with Alex

By Lukas Adamson

One day my mom said that my mom, dad, brother, and I would go camping with Alex, my best friend. My mom, dad, brother and I packed up our camping gear and took off.

Two hours later, we arrived at the campsite. I was excited because it was my first time camping. When I looked around, I saw lots of triangle and dome shaped tents. To my left, I saw a small mountain. To my right, I saw tall plants. We parked in the parking lot and unloaded our gear. Alex ran up to my car door and opened it. "Follow me! I'll show you where our tents are!" said Alex. "Ok dude," I said. I followed Alex to where my tent was going to be placed. We climbed rocks, crossed logs, and found stuff in our mini nature walk. When we got back, we set up our tents. My tent was kind of small, but my parents' tent was huge. Alex showed me around after we set up the tents. We went with his break dancing buddy, Samuele, to the small mountain. Alex showed me how to climb it: first climb up the hill then climb up "Wormrock pass" then climb up the stone steps, and watch out for the prickly cactus and ... "Boom" you are at the top! We played till sunset, but the day was not over yet. It was dark when we climbed down the

A true story

mountain. By the time we were done playing the food and fire were ready. When we looked up we saw the Milky-way galaxy. Then we stuffed ourselves with enough brownies and s-mores until we couldn't eat anymore. When I thought life could not get any better, my dad said we would go for a drive. During the drive, I taught Alex how to tell planets from stars. Then my dad parked somewhere and we got out. We went to the sidewalk and kept walking. Suddenly, I saw a bunch of telescopes! I looked through all of them. At one telescope, I saw a Ring Nebula! Then we left. When we got back to the campsite, we went to sleep.

When I woke up, I thought I was in a freezer. I got dressed, got a blanket on and ran to the fire. Later, when we got used to the cold, we saw some kids next to our caves. We did not mind so we played a lot. Later we went to the caves and went in. Our so-called "Junior miners team" went in. Our flashlight spotted a sparkly thing on the wall. We tried to dig it out, but we couldn't, so we just left an "x" there. Then, we came down, packed up and left. I am sure one day we will come back and try to find out what the sparkly thing is...

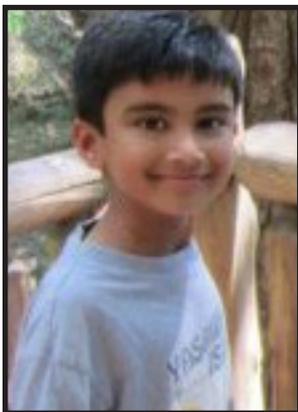


Illustration by Kirstie Belle Diongzon



Lukas is an imaginative 4th grader. He really had some great stories to tell this summer. Here is one of the great ones!

Shawn, the Great Swimmer



By Yash Nishikant

Once upon a time, in a big village, there were happy people who worked hard and had fun. In this village, lived a little boy named Shawn. He was brave and intelligent. He had the ability to swim and run super fast. Every day he used to run on the coast and swim in the ocean.

One dreadful day, an evil witch flew by the village. Her hair and skin were white as snow and her eyes were like two, green marbles popping out. She also wore a hat made of sticks and had a magic wand in her hand.

She looked at all the happy people and laughed an evil laugh.

Yash is a 2nd grader who spent a lot of time learning how to write stories this year. Look at this great story.

"I'm going to put a spell on these happy people and make them frozen," she said. She used her wand and zapped people with her spell. All the people in the village turned frozen and they looked like ice sculptures. But there was one person who escaped her spell – Shawn! He was swimming underwater and the spell couldn't reach him. He saw the witch and got out of the ocean. "Looking for me?" he said. The witch tried to grab him, but he started running. He was a fast runner, so the witch missed him.

He quickly climbed a tree and when the witch came near, he jumped and stole her wand. He then pushed her in the ocean.

"I can't swim! Help!" the witch screamed.

"If you want me to help you, then promise me to turn my village back to normal," Shawn said.

"OK, I promise," the witch said in a tiny voice.

Shawn helped her out and gave her wand back. She removed the spell and the ice sculptures started to drip and turned back to people.

"You are such a brave boy. I'm sorry I won't do this again," the witch said.

"Yes, you did a bad thing. Never trouble anyone again," Shawn said sternly.

The witch promised and went away and everyone lived happily ever after.



Tom the Tomato

By Dharma Skinner

Background:

Tom the Tomato is an ordinary tomato who lives an extraordinary life. He's nothing special, but he makes the Universe a better place, one heroic act at a time. This story is the fourth in the "Tom the Tomato" series by Dharma.



Dharma is a fantastic 2nd grader with a great imagination.

One day on the moon, a lonely evil scientist decided he needed a sidekick. He decided to make one out of some evil mud that he invented, but it turned out to be an evil BLOB instead. The evil Blob gobbled the scientist up! Tom the Tomato was asleep in his bed when the phone rang. It was his boss. The boss said, "Tom, an evil scientist made an evil blob, and it's coming our way!"

Tom jumped out of his bed, and he put on his Anti-Blob Moon Block. Then he went to his backyard, got the water hose, and put 100 gallons of water in some buckets. Then he went to the space station, got in his rocket ship, and flew to the moon. The trip was a little bumpy, and the water was spilling out. Tom was worried that the water would get on the control panel, but he got to the moon okay. When he landed, the Blob's house was right in front of him.

He decided to go into the garage to see if there was a door to get into the house. Tom opened the garage door. The garage was a mess, filled with junk! Tom went inside. The door closed, and he was trapped!

Good thing he had a laser. He cut a hole into the house and found the Blob. He took the buckets of water, and threw the water at the Blob. The Blob melted, and it said, "Aaaaah! I'm shrinking! I'm melting," like in the Wizard of Oz. It smelled like one million day old cheese left out in the sun forever. Tom reached into his pocket and said, "Good thing I brought this clothes pin!" and he put it on his nose. Tom left and he went back to Earth on his spaceship. The next morning he went to Town Hall. He made the announcement that he killed the Blob. All the people on planet Earth cheered.



The Dragons Attacking Atlantis

By Everett Murray

One hot day, a bad, giant, blue, stinky fire-breathing dragon named Buscar with deadly fangs, came to a large, gray castle on a secret island. Everyone was afraid of the Buscar the Dragon except one of the super knights named Adam. This knight, Adam, had armor as black as night and his sword was sharper than a mountain tip. When the Buscar, the dragon, landed in front of the hidden castle, the guards of the castle ran inside to tell good King Jos, who also happened to have strong, magic powers. King Jos told his best knight, Adam, to go and face Buscar the Dragon. Brave Adam went out to face the dragon. There was a battle! Adam threw his sword at Buscar and injured his leg. Buscar managed to scratch Adam with his giant claws, put a hole in his armor and seriously injury him. Adam did not get up and so almost everyone thought that Adam, the Knight, did not survive.

Then, Buscar, the dragon, started destroying the castle. He swiped his tail and broke the castle in half. While Buscar was attacking the castle, the King ran out to Adam and used his strong, magic powers to heal him.

Adam magically got back up and this time he set a trap for Buscar with a cannon. He shot the cannon into a mountain. The rocks from the mountain fell on Buscar and finally the fire-breathing dragon was destroyed. After that, Buscar's family arrived at the castle. They were so angry, that they made the entire island sink by burning and destroying everything on the island with their fire.

The only people who survived were the Brave Knight Adam, King Jos



Everett is a completely awesome 4th grader who really likes his brother most days! They collaborated to give this story and this castle some meaning!



Illustration by Ellison Murray, 1st grade

and a messenger. They managed to swim across the ocean and crawl onto a beach in Manhattan, New York. As you might imagine, eventually they were walking around the streets of New York looking poor and unfortunate.

They started asking people walking by to help them fix their island called Atlantis, but no one believed them except for me, Everett Murray, and that why I am writing this story!



The One Thing I Want...

By Saba Kolsawala

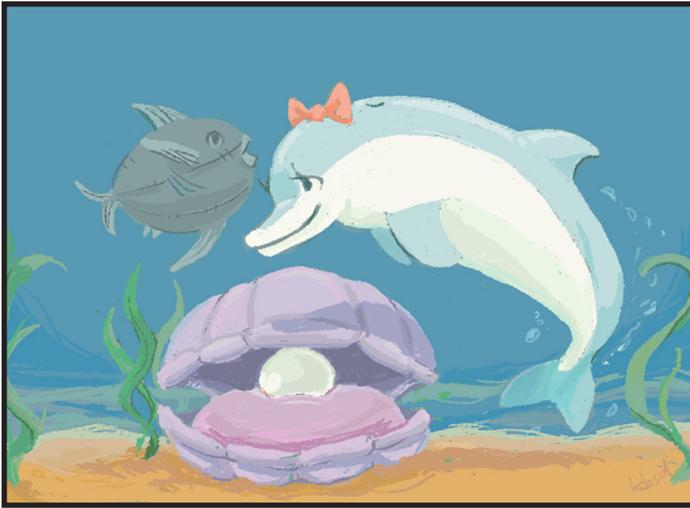


Illustration by Kirstie Belle Diongzon

One day a dolphin mom, a dolphin dad and their dolphin daughter went shopping. Their daughter dolphin saw a moon fish and she really, really liked it. She showed it to her parents and asked them if she could get it.

“Mommy, Daddy, can I get the moonfish? Please, please, please.”

Her parents told her, “We can buy this for you on your birthday! We promise! For now, let’s buy some food. Ok.”

“Ok,” said their daughter.

And soon her birthday came and she was on her last present, she was wishing for it to be a moonfish. All nine gifts were necklaces that were made out of leaves. The tenth gift was from her parents. It was a gift box with a goldfish and not a moonfish. She asked her parents if she could talk to them and she said, “I thought you were supposed to get me a moonfish?”

“Oops. I think we did not buy it...” said her parents.

“YOU, YOU DIDN’T BUY IT! But you promised me!” And to make her happy again, they went out to the ocean and not only got her a moonfish, but also got her the most rare pearl on earth that could be found in the ocean!

Saba is a wonderful 3rd grader who loves to work on her stories and eat her vegetables.



Illustration by Kirstie Belle Diongzon

Tarantula and the Ant

By Ellison Murray with help from Everett Murray

Once there was a Muffin Man named Nate living in a big, white bakery house. It was in Africa in a deep, dark forest with yummy, magical fruits growing from trees and flowers.

Nate, the Muffin Man, decided to make a cool magic muffin on a hot day. On a hot day this magic muffin gives you the power to feel cool and make all the water you drink be ice cold and taste like mangos. When the muffin was in the oven baking, a big, scary, hairy tarantula named Alex stole it.

On the way home, Alex Tarantula ran into a big, round ant named Sonic. Sonic the Ant asked, “Are you stealing the muffin Alex Tarantula?”

Alex Tarantula said, “NO.”

Sonic Ant said that Alex Tarantula was stealing. Sonic Ant told Alex Tarantula to give the muffin back. Alex Tarantula didn’t listen. Sonic Ant said that he was going to tell Alex’s dad Marvin and Nate the Muffin Man. Alex Tarantula still did not listen.

Sonic Ant told Alex’s dad and Alex got in big trouble by his dad Marvin.

Finally, Alex Tarantula gave the muffin back to Nate, the Muffin Man, and he said he was sorry. He learned to never steal anything again, especially not a yummy, magic mango muffin.

Ellison is a jolly 1st grader who loves to run, jump, play and eat when he is not writing about a yummy muffin!



The Detective

An Allegory

By Tanish Kumar



Tanish is a serious 4th grader who spent time this summer writing and reading!

One hot, summer day, a smart detective named Blake was watching television. He heard a noise. Beep! Beep! Beep! Blake heard a loud alarm coming from the bank.

Blake ran to the bank, but he was too late. He was tired of being late to all of the crimes. Blake went to the detective store. He bought a watch that beeps when a crime is taking place.

Blake went back with his new watch. The next day, Blake was

watching television. He heard his watch alarm sound. Blake called the police.

They quickly went to the bank and caught the thief, but the thief said he was innocent. The police asked if Blake had proof. Blake said no and so everyone went back home. Blake was mad because the thief got away again.

Blake heard his watch.

He asked the police for one more chance, so the police and Blake went to the bank. They caught the thief again. The police asked if Blake had proof that this was the thief.

After that, Blake was stumped. Blake thought for a long time to figure out what he could use for proof, but he could not find any proof. The police left the place without any proof and they did not arrest the thief.

Suddenly, Blake had an idea. He knew what he could use for proof. He ran to the police and gave his proof. As he was doing that, the thief started walking to the door, but the one police officer noticed him trying to get away and yelled, "Stop."

Then the thief started running and the police now realized that he was definitely the thief.

The police and Blake went in the police car. They chased the thief and finally caught him. Then the police handcuffed the thief and shook Blake's hand and said, "Thank you." After that incident everything was good in town.



Haunted Subway

By Abhinav Kumar

I was walking down the dark subway station. I thought I was beginning to be followed. Then I heard a screech. I quickly turned around, but it was only a subway car screeching to a stop. Then dark shadows started to appear on my face. Right in front of me was the haunted subway.

I gulped down some air and took a step toward the subway. Dark, old lights flickered in the subway. By this time I was almost scared to death. Suddenly, the doors began to close as I went in. Thirty seconds

later, we were off. We slowly and gradually made our way out of the dark, cold and scary subway station. Unfortunately, there was no one else on the subway with me. Okay, now you could say that I was scared to death. This was the scariest moments of my life. I backed up in to the corner of the subway.

"AAA!" I yelled. I was caught in a net. I ran to the middle of the train car in "terrorification". I took off the net. But it was only cobwebs. I sighed in great relief. I looked out the dusted windows. There was nothing in sight except evil dark. Suddenly, the subway jerked forward at full speed. I went flying in the air and I landed head first into the wall, "KABOOM!" I opened my eyes. My body was painning all over. I stood up. Then scary shadows started to approach me. I felt like I was imagining stuff. I wiped my eyes, but it was real. A scary shadow was in front of me ready to haunt me. I screamed a blood curdling scream. The shadow came closer and closer and closer. Then I vanished in thin, haunted air and I became a ghost. From then on, no one ever dared to go to haunted subway station again.



Abhinav loves to read and write and he spent this summer doing both!

The Misunderstanding

By Afrah Rahaman

Afrah created a fable with a fantastic lesson!



Mike the mouse was walking all day in New York City to find the perfect new mouse hole. Mike had to move out of his old hole because it was as crowded as Times Square on New Year's Eve. Mike looked everywhere and then he finally found the perfect-sized hole for him. When he went inside, he knew that was the right hole for him. His dad was with him and had most of Mike's furniture and his things. They put everything in his new hole. Mike gave some of his furniture to his brother, Mark, to keep until he found a new hole to live in. Mark lived right across the street from Mike's new hole. Mike called Mark to let him know he was coming by to pick up the furniture.

Mike walked over to Mark's hole so he could get his furniture. When he arrived at Mark's hole, he knocked, but no one answered. Then, Mike remembered Mark telling him he was going somewhere, but he was going to leave the door unlocked for him to pick up the furniture so Mike walked right in. As he was walking into Mark's house, Arnold, the armadillo was watching him. Since Arnold knew that only Mark lived in that hole, Arnold thought Mike was breaking into Mark's house. When Mike walked out with the furniture, Arnold thought Mike was stealing things from Mark's house. Arnold thought about telling Mark about this mouse, but he decided it wasn't a good idea. Instead, he told his friend, Robert the rabbit, when he came hopping by.

"Hey, Robert we have a new mouse neighbor, but he steals things. I just saw him robbing furniture from Mark's house," Arnold said. Robert looked as scared as a child watching a horror movie. Then, Robert thought the mouse was going to rob their houses. They both felt very apprehensive that they were going to get robbed, so they rushed home to protect their houses and their stuff. What they didn't know, was while they were talking, hovering right above them was Patty the Parrot and she heard every single word they had said. When Patty hears things she always repeats the exact words.

"Hey Robert, we have a new mouse neighbor, but he steals things. I just saw him robbing furniture from Mark's house," Patty squawked. Tommy the turtle heard what Patty said and decided to call the porcupine police. The police came as fast as a jaguar running at full speed. Then, there were sirens and police were standing at every corner of that area. Arnold, Robert, Patty and Tommy guided the porcupine police to Mike's house. At that time, Mike was settling in his new home. The porcupine police barged into Mike's house and arrested him. Mike looked puzzled, but then he realized what they were talking about. He called Mark over to help explain to the police what had really happened. After they heard the story, the porcupine police let Mike go. Arnold, Patty, Robert and Tommy all apologized to Mike for accusing him of something he didn't really do. Now they know not to accuse anyone before they know the whole story.

The Mystery of the Spooky Cottage

By Srinidhi Ekkurthi

Have you ever seen a ghost? Well, Alex and Suzanne have. It all started on May 1, 2012, when the two girls grabbed their jackets and headed out to figure out the secret of the haunted house where no one dared to go. Alexa and Suzanne headed out their lobby door. They went out of their apartment building and walked across the road to check out the spooky cottage.

The outside of the cottage had blue chipped paint all over it and it was surrounded by large ants, slimy bugs, and green goop. There were long, green vines growing against the cottage walls. Sticky spider webs covered the cottage door and windows.

"This place looks so spooky and dark," said Suzanne.

"You're right on that one," Alexa pointed out. The two girls split up to see if it was actually haunted.

"I found something! I found something!" screamed Suzanne. She found gooey, green goop on the ground.

"Eww!" screamed Alexa.

"It looks like green barf!" she exclaimed.

Alexa saw something near the house. She went closer, since there was a fence between them. She continued until she couldn't go further. She peeked through the fence and saw something really weird. The person that was living here planted different types of plants not known to science. There were purple and brown glow-

ing plants, and orange and pink glowing plants. "Suzanne come here, but quietly," whispered Alexa.

"Look at this. It's awesome. Whoever lives here is a great gardener," said Alexa.

"I want to pick one," said Suzanne.

"Don't!" said Alexa. But it was too late. Suzanne already picked a green plant.

"Please don't pick my plants," muttered the ghost. The two girls turned around feeling extremely scared.

"Are you a ghost and did you say please?" asked Alexa.

"Yes and yes," the ghost answered, "My name is Sam and I am not mean."

"Oh, my name is Alexa and this is my little sister Suzanne."

From that day on, the girls become best friends with Sam. Now the girls knew that creatures not known to science do exist.

"That was a great story," said Alexa's friends.

"It's not a story. It's real," answered Alexa.

"I don't know if it's true, but it is a nice story," said Jenny.

Finally, after much convincing, the girls trusted Jenny and she turned out to be friends with Sam, too.



Srinidhi worked hard to write a story with plenty of description.

The Lamb and the White Wool: a myth

By Annonya Arkala

One day a lamb god with white wool and a roll of the cotton with bright eyes were on a huge farm. They were fighting over who could make the most wool coats. The white roll of the cotton said it could make more coats than the lamb god. The roll of the cotton screamed saying, "I am better."

The white roll of cotton was making funny faces and making the lamb god feel sad. The lamb god said the he would turn the white cotton into a white cloud in the blue sky. The next day the lamb god kicked the white cotton roll of cotton into the blue sky. The

white roll of cotton stayed there forever. From that one cotton in the sky many more white cottons grew and made other clouds. From then on, the cotton learned not to be greedy. That is how clouds form.

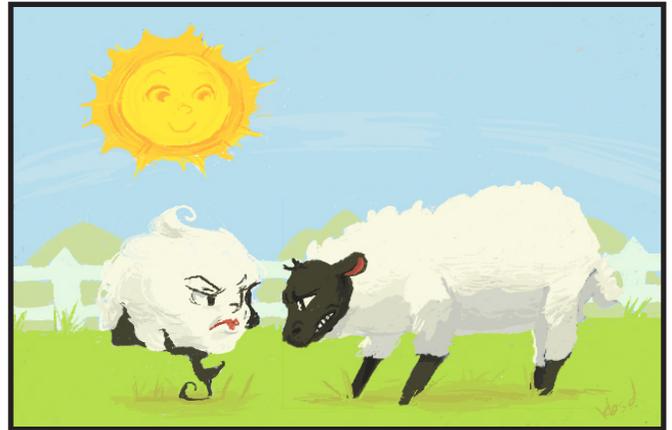


Illustration by Kirstie Belle Diongzon



Anonya spent several weeks perfecting her writing. She is a gifted writer who gets better each day.

Super Monkey: a myth

By Varun Kota

One day there was a monkey. He saw a mountain growing larger and killing trees each second. The mountain was expanding and crushing all the trees. The monkey didn't want the forest to die. The mountain had power to crush the forest. The monkey raced to the mountain. When he climbed the mountain, he saw a face. The mountain asked, "What are you?" The monkey said, "I am a monkey."

The mountain answered, "I guess you're trying to stop me from killing the forest."

"If you don't stop, I'll jump on you," said the monkey.

"Ouch! Fine, I'll shrink," said the mountain.

The next day, the mountain turned into sand and that's why the beach has sand.

Next, the monkey went home because he was tired.



Varun, a first grader, was quite motivated to spend time writing this summer and one day a clever story leapt out of his pen! Enjoy "Super Monkey".



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S O D I O U I E T I P M B D A
L N M I A D T R S I Z A T X L
I J R E A L A I C A P T E W K
C A A E W C S N T R R H K E B
N S R C T O I T A S Z E S B O
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Illustration by Aditi Laddha

BAND

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ERASERS

NJASK

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QUIZ

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CHOIR

HOMEWORK

PENCILS

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TEACHERS

WEBSITES

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RECESS

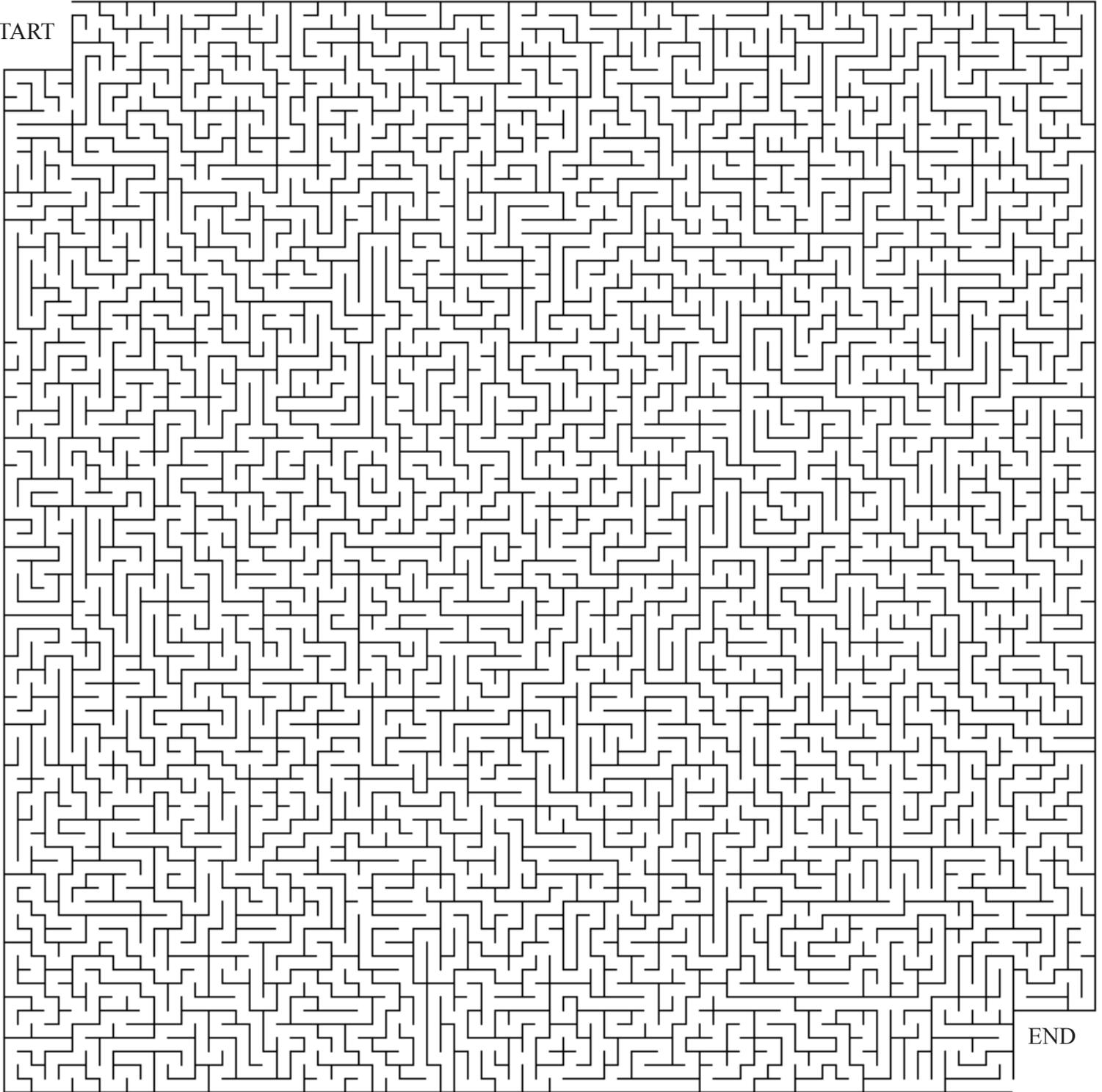
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Word List

abate aberration diligent nonchalant convergence opulent scrutinize ostentatious renovation tactful
mundane pretentious frugal evanescent venerable extenuating wary



A Word from Drawing Contest Winner:

AditiLaddha from India!

Hi I am Aditi Laddha. I'm 15 years old. I'll turn 16 this October! I'm in grade 11 and studying in The Shishukunj International School. I have taken up humanities with commercial arts as an subject. I'm planning to be a graphic designer when I grow up, as I have a flare for art and I love creating new things.

I love creating illustrations for my room's bulletin board and making bright and colorful stuff. Children's illustration books have fascinated me all my childhood and that's how my inclination towards illustrating developed.

My work can be viewed at <http://www.theexclusivearts.com/>



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Disabled child: A Scape Goat

an inspirational essay about rights of disabled children

By Tanvi

Laughter echoes the room as the child sits like a wilting plant about to burst into tears. She rolls her wheelchair outside the room and in the corner of her eye she sees children making fun and teasing her. At one time or another you must have seen a scene just like this or something similar: a disabled child getting teased.

According to the Oxford English dictionary, disability is a term used to describe a physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses or activities. These children get teased every day and no one has the nerve to stop them. Disabled children should not get teased because it hurts their self-esteem and hurts their small chance of mixing with other children socially.

Disabled children need help, not discouragement. All you have to do is to ask yourself one question: Is this right and fair? Just like us, children with disabilities are humans. They should not be treated any different. Disabled children should not be teased. It hurts their self-esteem. Research shows that the repugnant attitude of other children towards a child with a disability results in a melancholy child. For this reason, a disabled child is really sad and depressed because of their "difference" or disadvantage. That is not fair. The abusive comments that people say should not cause depression. Allison Smith, a 6th grade student in the Comets unit, said, "I know a girl who had one leg shorter than another and was teased at camp. The boys imitated her by limping on one leg and laughing." As you can see, the disabled students are powerless. It hurts their self-esteem and now the child does not feel good about themselves. They think that something is wrong.

They dream of doing things we can. Even if one person stops teasing these children and stands up for them, it will change a person's life. Neha Nishikant, a 6th grade student, commented, "The students with disabilities should not have to gain your respect and kindness they should already have it." These people are like us and should get the respect they deserve. Why do we have to tease them, which causes them to be sad and why should they be treated any different than you or me?

Disabled children have trouble mixing with other children socially and by teasing them we are not doing any good. Socially? What in the world does that mean? It is the thing you do every day. Talk to your friends, interact with others and simply be yourself around everyone. Disabled children have trouble doing that and teasing these children is not going to help. Envision yourself with no one to talk to - you're always alone. What fun would that be? It is a common fact that disabled children have no friends, but what are we going to do about that? Dhruvi Sheth, a student, said, "I remember once a girl in a wheel chair had her books in her lap and she was going to her class.

Some really atrocious girls decided to make fun of her

and pretended to make friends with her, but then knocked the books out of her lap and dumped them onto the floor. I saw a tear trickle down her face. A moment ago she was smiling and so happy, but that smile instantly turned into a frown." As you can see, if you make friends with a disabled child, it will make them happy, but if you make them sad that amazing smile will, within a few seconds, turn into tears.

This helps prove that disabled children have trouble mixing socially and if you try to be friends it will really make them happy. On the other hand, if you tease them it will only make their whole situation worse. All of us have the responsibility to help these students, not make their lives worse. These kids have no friends and are constantly being laughed at. I remember once I had a friend in preschool who was born without one hand.

She was one of the most polite and kindest people I have ever met, yet students were not kind to her. I came up to her and we talked for a little and I found out she was not a bad person. Why was teasing necessary? Once again this proves that disabled children have trouble making friends and teasing does not help. Did you know that out of 20 students interviewed, all of them said that we should help these children yet, no one does. You never know they might actually be nice and you can help them. There are many ways you can help a disabled person. For starters, set aside your differences and become friends. In my experience, no one wants to be friends with a disabled child because he or she is different.

"Our greatest strength as a human race is our ability to acknowledge our differences, our greatest weakness is our failure to embrace them," ~Judith Henderson~

Many times throughout my life I have heard this saying as well as the saying "being different is not a bad thing." These quotes are all true, but why does no one follow them? Disabled children are "different" but those differences should not separate us. They should make us friends. Their whole life will be better if you just become friends with them and be nice. Differences should make us friends not enemies.

Undoubtedly, disabled children should not get teased because they have a disadvantage. Disabled children have feelings and they have trouble mixing with children socially so you shouldn't be teasing them. It is time to stop this and make these children's lives better!

Tanvi is a fantastic 7th grader who has been published many times. She is on her way to being one of the top young writers in New Jersey! Keep up the great work!



Beautiful Day

By Anoohya Arkala

On beautiful summer day, bunnies hop around the green grass. Bright green leaves sparkle in the warm sun the hot invisible air swirls around the children. The warm sun throws sparkles of light rays on the black driveways. The tall green trees give shade to the sweaty, little children. The blue sky cools down children and adults play fast tennis. Dogs that are so cute go for long walks and play with children. Deer with horns come to eat bunches of bright, green leaves. Good little children come along quickly biking with friendly parents. Water sprinklers and hoses go on, and children run through them. I hear children calling, "Hello. Are you there? Do you want to play outside?"

"Yes," all the friends answered.

Parents go outside for big, steady walks. Children can't wait till their nice parents take them to the wonderful water parks. Water balloons shoot through the warm water always splashing all over the place. Butterflies fly to the park. Bees buzz loudly to the bee hive and flowers. Fireworks "boom" in the dark blue sky. Bugs fly around scaring children. Dragonflies zoom around so fast and a hot summer day is the best day ever.

Anoohya is a great writer.



A Futuristic World...

By Atif Kazi

In a futuristic world, a student, janitor, a basketball player and a pilot were riding in a submarine and they were very hungry.

"When are we going to get food?" the janitor questioned.

"Guys, look!" the student exclaimed. They all cheered when they all saw a big fat "M", meaning they're at McDonald's. They all got off, went in line and took their orders.

Right after the crew sat down, a random guy yelled, "Fire!!!!" and everyone started screaming and running.

The crowd went nuts in a bad way. It's so excruciating that the basketball player cried, "I'm going to be late for my trophy presentation!"

"Everyone calm down!" exclaimed the pilot. The group was trying to escape the burning restaurant until they found somewhere safe to hide. Everyone went in the super cold freezer. All of the members stood there for two hours. "Is it over?" the student asked. The ball player checked the door and it wouldn't open. "Oh, no!" he screamed. "We're locked in!"

They've waited for hours for help to come until the pilot found something strange.

"You guys want to look at this" he called. Buried inside the ice block is a spaceship which can lead them to a different planet.

"Cool!" everyone remarked. The basketball player bought a very hot ball with him to thaw the ice. One dribble and the whole block melted.

The whole gang was astounded as the janitor yelled, "I call shotgun!" "You call shotgun for everything!" the student mocked. They had no time to waste. They went in the ship, started the engine and began the countdown. "10...9...8...7...6..." the pilot started. Oh, just push the button already!" the basketball player shouted. The button was pushed and the next thing they know, they're in space.

Once the gang reached the galaxy, they had nowhere to go so technically, they're lost. "We're so lost, we don't even know where to go," groaned the janitor. The pilot set coordinates to Mars and said, "We have no choice. We're going to Mars!" The spaceship zoomed as fast as it can to Mars and they arrived. "So how long are we going to live here?" the basketball player asked. The student replied, "as long as we want."

...to be con't



Not Your Average Fairytale

By Esha Dahake

Once upon a time, there lived a very beautiful mermaid named Aqua. She had a very wonderful, but odd talent. You see, Aqua could make gold by playing the harp. When she strummed a jazz type song called 'Golden', gold bars and coins would just poof up! Nobody knows how the talent came to be, but it just happened when Aqua played 'Golden'.

When the gold first appeared, many other mermen and mermaids tried to do the same. But, there was no luck. In order to prevent anyone from using Aqua's talent for bad, Aqua was kept in a secret place known only by Aqua's family.

One calm morning, Aqua's parents, the King and Queen of Sitnalta, went to visit Aqua in secret. Making sure nobody was watching, the King and Queen made their way to the secret cave where Aqua lived.

"Aqua, Aqua," the King whispered.

"Hmm? Oh, Dad, Mom," Aqua answered.

"We have something very important to tell you," the Queen said.

"What?" Aqua asked.

"Well, your father and I decided that we need to get you married. It's time that we got you out of here after ten years! You will be married to Prince Percy of Supmylo. We are friends with his parents, so he will take good care of you. Oh, and one more thing-Percy is not a merman, but his father is Poseidon, so he has powers like us," the Queen explained.

"What? As if marriage isn't bad enough, the guy I'm getting married to has legs! He better be hot! Oh, sorry, I mean 'handsome'," Aqua replied.

"Well then, good. He will come here tomorrow, and you better be nice!" the King instructed.

"Okaaay," Aqua sighed.

"We better be going then," the King declared.

"Bye," Aqua said. She watched her parents swim away.

The next day, Aqua woke up and got ready for her meeting with Prince Percy. She shined her pink tail, put her prettiest seashells on, and put her teal hair in an updo. She looked gorgeous. Now, all she had to do was wait.

Minutes passed, the hours, and after that it was evening. Just when Aqua was going to lose hope, she heard the sound of rushing water.

'I think it's him!' thought Aqua.

Knock! Knock! Somebody was knocking on the door to the entrance of the cave.

"Coming!" Aqua called out. She swam to the door.

When she opened the door, she saw a young man-who was floating-with blonde hair wearing royal clothes. He had legs!

'Not bad,' Aqua thought.

'Hi, I'm Prince Percy of Supmylo,' Percy said.

"Nice to meet you. I'm Princess Aqua," Aqua replied.

"These are for you," Percy gave Aqua a bouquet of sea flowers.

"Thank y-" "BOOM! The wall of the cave crumbled to pieces.

A giant mechanical hand attached to a black submarine grabbed Aqua and pulled her away.

"Aaahhh!" she screamed. "Help!"

"Princess!" Percy yelled.

He swam after the submarine, but it was too late.

"Muhahahaha-hack-cough, chocking here! Water servants! Gulp, gulp. Now then, where was I? Oh yes! Muhahahahaha! Better," said an embarrassed, but now satisfied voice.

Aqua's tail had now turned into a pair of legs, like it always does on dry land. She looked around, and found herself in what looked like an evil submarine room.

"So, who's your little boyfriend there?" asked a large, bald man wearing black sunglasses.

"He's not my boyfriend. He's just my wimpy fiancé," Aqua answered. "Who are you anyway?"

"I am Dr. Doom!" he raised his hands, and just as you're thinking, bolts of lightning flashed.

Aqua shook her head in disappointment.

"Okay, but what do you want from me anyway?" Aqua asked.

"What do you think dumb? I want you to make gold for me! Don't try to lie Princess, I know what you can do," replied Dr. Doom.

"Okay fine, but I need a harp," Aqua declared.

Snap! Dr. Doom snapped and one of his servants



Esha is a great writer who makes sure she uses great vocabulary in her stories.

con't on page 32



con't from page 31

immediately brought in big harp, which you could tell was very expensive-to the room where Aqua was tied up.

"Well, I need my harp," Aqua scoffed in a sassy way.

Dr. Doom snapped his fingers again. This time in a z-formation.

Another servant walked into the room with Aqua's harp.

"How did y-- Oh never mind!" said.

Back at Aqua's cave, Prince Percy swam around frantically. "Oh no! The Princess is gone! I must confront must confront the King and Queen of Sitnalta!" Prince Percy said to himself.

"Wait, no, it will be too late. I must go myself! I can use my dolphins to track the trail of the submarine," Percy decided, still to himself, with the exception of his dolphins.

Prince Percy swam to his carriage that was being pulled by his dolphins, which were very pretty, and told them to lead the way.

"How long are you going to keep me waiting?" Dr. Doom complained.

"Till' you give me everything I want BUB! You want me to play the harp right?" Aqua said sweetly on the outside, but evilly on the inside.

"Are you trying to blackmail Dr. Doom? Well fine! I'll get my gold anyways," replied Dr. Doom.

"Okay then, I want...a pet dolphin, the finest seafood made by the famous cook, Oogliano, and, oo! Oo! Pearl necklaces, ruby rings, and jewels, and...you, Dr. Doom to massage me!" Aqua demanded.

"What?! The jewels were far enough, but now massages by me! Anything, but that, please! If you want massages, ask my servants, but not me. Dr Doom protested.

"No massage, no gold. Besides, you have the best hands to massage my stressed shoulders. Otherwise I won't play the harp correctly!" Aqua smiled innocently even though she was feeling a little evil on the inside.

"Fine, punk!" Dr Doom yelled.

"Actually, it's Princess," corrected Aqua.

"Oh my gosh, I wonder what evil things that man must be doing to Princess Aqua," Prince Percy wondered. "She must be missing home."

"Ahhh. This is the life. I am not missing home at all!" Aqua exclaimed.

"Of course you are not! You have it all here. The best food, jewels, and best of all I am massaging you!" Dr. Doom said loudly.

"Tehehehe," Aqua whispered.

"Okay, this is enough! Now you have to make gold for me. I have bombs planted on both of your parents!" Dr. Doom yelled.

"You're just saying that!" Aqua said uneasily.

One of Dr. Doom's men, who was also dressed like Dr Doom, except with full head of hair, and white sunglasses, gave the evil man a T.V. remote. Dr Doom clicked a button and a flat screen plasma T.V. lowered down from a string attached to the ceiling, right in front of Aqua. Dr Doom hit another button and the T.V. started to play footage of something.

It was two of Dr Doom's men inside Aqua's parent's sleeping chamber.

'How did they get there?' Aqua thought.

Aqua's parents were sleeping and the men attached a miniscule device, which was the bomb, to the king and queen's crowns, which they wear 24/7. Then the footage ended.

"When did they plant the bombs there?" Aqua questioned.

"While I was massaging you. If you try to do something other than what I tell you to do, I press this button on the remote, and Ka-Boom! No more king and queen! Muhaha-hack-cough, cough. Not the cough again, servant!" Dr. Doom said evilly. Aqua giggled as quietly as she could.

"Ahhh. That's better. So start playing Princess! Or you know what happens," Dr. Doom rubbed his hands together like an evil man does.

"Fine. But it only works underwater. So unless you have a giant pool, no gold," Aqua claimed. Snap, snap! Dr Doom snapped his fingers. Then, a bunch of servants pushed a clear and giant tub filled with water into the room.

'Wow,' Aqua thought. Some of Dr. Doom's men untied Aqua and since she had the power to have legs in dry land, the men stood behind her, then pushed her, so she would walk.

Aqua started walking up the stairs that led to the top of the tub. When she reached the top, the men pushed her in the pool. Her legs automatically turned into a fishtail.

The Princess swam down to the bottom of the pool, where her harp was placed. When she looked up, she saw a chair sinking to the bottom of the tub. Aqua caught it, sat on it, then took a deep breath.

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'Oh my gosh, I hope someone saves me, just like in those fairytales! What am I saying?! That's never gonna happen.' Aqua thought.

She reached out her hand to the harp; just when she was about to play the first note.....BOOM! The left side of submarine was blown to bits, and many of Dr. Doom's men were thrown back. Everyone who didn't get hurt, including Aqua and Dr Doom, turned their heads towards the explosion. It was Prince Percy.

"Good thing I had this mini bomb!" Percy exclaimed. The submarine started sinking because of the explosion, which brought tons of water flowing in.

"Give me the Princess, evil man!" Prince Percy demanded. (Aqua was now caught by Dr Doom, who had the remote, too.)

"Never! One push of this button and no more king and queen of Sitnalta!" threatened Dr. Doom.

"Fine. It was worth a try. Sorry Princess; I really like you, but I don't stand a chance against the evil man. Guards, take me," Prince Percy said cowardly.

"Seriously? You're just gonna give up like that? I knew you weren't right for me!" Aqua replied.

"Well that was easy. It's fine guards. Let him go," Dr. Doom ordered.

While Percy left, Dr. Doom, some of his men and Aqua ran to the Emergency Escape Pod, which went to Dr. Doom's Underwater Mansion before the submarine sank to the bottom of the sea.

"No one can save you now, Princess," Dr. Doom murmured.

When they reached the mansion, the guards put Aqua in another pool with her harp.

Aqua observed the mansion. From the outside, which was all black, the mansion looked big. But on the inside, the mansion looked pretty small, probably because it was cluttered with junk. There were a hundred paintings and pedestals with fancy items like vases on them. On the inside, it didn't look evil at all.

"Play. Or you know what happens!" Dr. Doom ordered Aqua.

Aqua started playing the song that made gold, knowing that no one would save her now. Just as she was about to strum the last note, the one which would make the gold appear, nothing happened. She finished the song and gold materialized.

"My gosh!" Dr. Doom exclaimed, looking wide-eyed at the gold.

Ding, dong! The door bell rang to the non-water entrance breaking Dr. Dooms stare.

One of Dr. Doom's men opened the door... and TSSSKKKK! An icy breath blew onto the guard, instantly freezing him. An underwater frostfire dragon stepped into the mansion. It was the most beautiful dragon Aqua had ever seen (she had a soft spot for them). He was covered in sparkly gems and had sapphire eyes. The Princess fell in love with him.

A swarm of guards attacked the dragon. They used hi-tech laser guns, and spears, but, the dragon easily blew ice on or swiped the guards aside, until there was only Dr. Doom left.

Again, Dr. Doom had caught the princess and had the remote in his hand.

"One more step, and I push the button for the bomb!" Dr. Doom shouted.

"Hand over the Princess!" the dragon demanded.

'Even his voice is beautiful' Aqua thought.

"Never!" Dr. Doom yelled.

His hand reached for the button, but before he could push it, TTTSSSKKK!

The dragon froze Dr. Doom right on the spot, then hit him, so he broke into a million pieces.

"Thank you, O mighty dragon! You saved me!" Aqua exclaimed.

"It is my duty elegant Princess. Your parents told me to look over you, but one of Dr. Dooms men must have covered my ears with something while I was asleep, so I couldn't hear your cry for help. It must have fallen off, because I heard you later, and came right away," The dragon explained.

"Oh, what is your name, noble dragon?" Aqua asked.

"Draco," the dragon replied.

"Princess! I heard the news! You are safe!" Prince Percy shouted

"Oh, its you," Aqua answered.

"You know what to do, Draco!" Aqua said.

TTSSKKK! Draco froze the Prince.

"Thanks!" Aqua replied.

Draco and Aqua soon fell in love. They redecorated Dr. Doom's mansion and everyone lived happily ever after. Well, not the Prince. Oh well!

6 Squeak Squeak!

By Aishwarya Mukundan and Laya Venkatesan

“Tik-tik-tik,” the cart squeaked as it trembled through the tracks, heaving the weight up the hill.

Aishwarya and Laya’s hands started to get clammy as they clenched onto the metal, encased bar.

The sun beat down on their faces, as Laya and Aishwarya stood in line in the scorching heat.

“I can’t stand it anymore,” Aishwarya complained pouring a bit of water down her head to cool herself.

“I know - this line is abominable and the sun is no better,” Laya agreed, leaning against the hot, stinging railing.

Aishwarya and Laya glanced at the radiant sign, flashing with different colors that read WILD MOUSE.

They saw people, at least 1,000 ft. above them who were hollering and waving their hands up in the air furiously.

“This looks like some fun!” Laya grinned looking up at the many smiling faces.

“Yeah I can’t wait until we get onto this ride!” Aishwarya exclaimed as her smile widened.

The line they were in began to inch forward.

Finally, it was their turn to get on ride.

“Welcome to Hersheeeeeeeeey Park! Pleasebuckleyourseatbeltsandnofeet-orhandsoutsidethecart. Wearenotresponsibleforlostitemsorappliances. Reminders-thatherearesuddenmovementsofthecartthatcanleadtonauseousness. Enjoy the ride!” the man with the microphone spoke very fast.

Aishwarya nudged Laya and they both looked at the man with astonishment.

“Did you get a thing he said?” Laya raised her eyebrows smiling.

“Yeah. Two things. Welcome to Hersheeeeey Park, and enjoy the ride!” Aishwarya imitated chuckling.

Laya chuckled along. “I know. What is he? A radio announcer?” they both laughed.

“Hop on!” a different lady in the same blue uniform called, gesturing to Laya and Aishwarya.

“Excuse me mam, but do we have to jump into the carts while their moving?” They both ambivalently asked with a sudden look of despair.

“Oh, don’t worry girls! A lot of people get a little nervous jumping into the cart, but don’t worry about that. Just hop on,” the lady said reassuringly.

“Let’s give it a shot,” both of the girls shrugged their shoulders as they got into the cart conscientiously.

Back to the beginning...

“Here comes the big drop,” Laya’s voice began to shake as she tightened her grip on the bars.

“Ya-huh,” Aishwarya’s voice trembled.

The cart reached the top, and started rocking back and forth, frightening all the people on board.

In an abrupt movement, the cart slid down the tracks, causing

everyone to screech.

“AHHH-HHHHH-HHHH!!”

Laya and Aishwarya squealed with excitement.

The girls saw that the track was turning, but realized the cart kept going forward.

“Laya, ummmmm...look,” Aishwarya stammered as she pointed to the end of the track.

“We are going to fall!” The girls screamed in unison.

All of a sudden, when the back wheel of the cart hit the curve, it whipped around, causing almost everybody on board to scream. Laya’s stomach jumped in shock, as Aishwarya’s head spun in circles.

They gazed downward and gasped at how high they were. I wonder what’s coming next? The two girls thought in curiosity.

“OH-” Aishwarya began with an apprehensive look.

“MY-” Laya continued clutching on to the bar as tight as she could.

But before they could yell another word, the roller-coaster jerked around the track, making everyone on the coaster fling sideways.

“GOSH!” The two girls finally finished their phrase, screeching with alacrity.

The cart made a few more convoluted twists, turns, and twirls like a mad racecar.

Finally, the ride slowed down, and the girls had to jump off.

“Whoa!” the girls gasped as they were breathing heavily.

“Let’s do it again!” Aishwarya chortled.

“Definitely!” Laya’s smile turned into a grin, as they gave each other a big high-five.



Illustration by Kirstie Belle Diongzon



Aishwarya Mukundan and Laya Venkatesan

The Aqua Mystery

By Laya Venkatesan

Marshall, Marlon, and Madeline are aqua sapiens, who are people who live in the sea. They are indigenous to the sea, and have high Tec waterproof suits that keep them protected, and also give them the ability to breathe easily. Their dwelling is a sea house that has all the supplies they need to survive. They look like normal people, but wear an electronic suit. They were born without their suit in the sea. However, their suit slowly grew into them. They've been living in the sea for 12 years, but in seas years, that's about 5 decades. Even though they have adapted to their environment, they have yet to explore about themselves as well as the sea. This is just one of their journeys...

Madeline yawned, rubbing her eyes, while she saw the water in their sea house turn to a brighter shade of blue. She shook her head in disbelief, when she saw her two brothers, Marlon and Marshall, fast asleep on their sea beds.

"Marlon! Marshall!" she screamed, shaking them vigorously back to reality.

"WHAT HAPPENED?" they screamed in a sudden shock, looking around the sea house.

Madeline rolled her eyes. "Nothing, it's time to wake up." She tucked her dark chocolate brown hair behind her hair, as it cascaded down her back.

"Phew," the boys sighed in relief. "I guess it's time for our drink."

All of them rose up to the sea with their super sonic speed, released their mouth mask, and took a sip of the water from the sea. As they plummeted back down and exited their sea house, a putrid smell filled the sea.

"Ugh! What's that horrible smell?" Madeline pinched her nose, making a face.

Marshall shrugged his shoulders. "It seems like its coming from Reef Road," he guessed, pointing to the road sign.

"Let's go!" Marlon gestured as the three siblings pushed their bodies forward, and wiggled their arms and legs, as if they were jelly fishes.

A bright red light pierced their eyes, which meant that they had to wait. As it switched to a green light, they swam hurriedly through Reef Road.

"Look!" Madeline pointed to a bunch of trash bags, sitting on the bottom of the sea.

"Oh no! Someone is polluting in our sea. It could give all of the sea creatures terrible sicknesses," Marlon remarked, filled with anxiety.

"W-w-what do we do?" Marshall asked petrified.

Madeline bit her lip. "We should figure who is doing this, and tell the person to stop," she suggested. "But, first... we should find clues from the trash bags."

They all dived downward to the trash bags, and scrutinized them, curiously. Marshall squinted his eyes toward the trash bag, pretending to be an investigator.

"Aha!" Marlon exclaimed with a faux French accent. "Look at this," he pointed to a negligible scratch on the garbage bag.

"What's that supposed to tell us about this culprit?" Marshall questioned.

"That is a very good question. It will tell us that this person has sharp nails," Marlon pointed out.

"Bravo, we figured out that the person has sharp nails," Madeline facetiously cheered.

"Seriously guys... we got to focus and be serious about this. It's a big deal. How about we go ask the other creatures? They know a lot about this kind of stuff," Marshall remarked.

All of them swam through Reef Road, and headed to the Sea Lizard Street. He had almost all the answers. The sky suddenly faded to more somber colors, and made the sea seem bleaker.

Sea Lizard was still asleep on his bed of sea roses. The redolent scent of the roses was relishing.

"Ummm...excuse me, Sea Lizard. We have a question for you," Madeline tried to not be too loud.

Sea Lizard blinked a couple of times until he saw the three children clearly.

"Oh, how may I help you?" Sea Lizard asked in a high pitched, monotonous voice, almost sounding like a robot. He rubbed his rough, light green tail on the leaves.

"Well, we found a lot of trash bags near Reef Road." Marlon got cut off.

"WHAT?" Sea Lizard gasped.

"Sea Lizard, please try to hold your questions and comments till the end," Marshall tried his best not to be brusque. He cued for Marlon to continue.

"Anyway, we think that it will cause bad sicknesses to all the sea animals. We need your help to find clues about this culprit, and tell the person to stop," Marlon explained.

"Okay, I see... well this person must be coming

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back to throw some more garbage in Reef Road, so you can you guys get out of the water?" Sea Lizard asked, looking at the three children closely.

The boys stared at Sea Lizard clueless, hoping Madeline had the answer.

"We can get out of the water if we take off our sea suits. Underneath our sea suits is our land suits, which helps us survive the conditions on land," Madeline explained thoroughly.

Sea Lizard had a big grin planted on his face. "I have an idea. Tomorrow afternoon, take off your sea suits, so your land suits will be on. Get out of the water, and find a hiding spot somewhere. Once you see or hear this culprit, get out of your hiding spot and tell him or her to stop throwing the garbage in our sea!" Sea Lizard cooked up a scheme.

"That's an excellent plan!" Marlon exclaimed filled with elation.

"Thank you so much Sea Lizard!" Madeline alluded to the boys that it was time to go back home.

"Bye!" they waved, and headed back to their sea house.

"It's g-g-getting pretty c-cold," Marshall shivered.

"I t-think we s-should get our blankets," they all rose up to the top of the sea, grabbing their woolen blankets.

The three children looked at the sky, and the beautiful full moon, that illuminated the sky.

"How beautiful," Madeline admired, mesmerized by the gorgeous sky.

Marshall and Marlon groaned, wondering how long Madeline was going to look at the sky.

Finally, Marlon broke the silence, "It's getting dark Madeline. I think we should go to sleep now."

"Oh yeah, sorry," Madeline atoned, as they all dived back down to their sea house.

Marshall squirmed up in his soft, feathery bed. Madeline curled into a ball, and rocked back and forth in her wool blanket. Marlon stretched out his arms and legs, while his eyes were wide open, staring blankly at the sea.

After a long night rest, they all woke up in the early morning.

"We got lot of time until the afternoon. I think we should explore the land and figure out where to hide and everything," Marlon vaguely suggested.

"Good idea, but let's first take out our sea suits," Madeline reminded.

"Okay," Marlon and Marshall agreed.

They unzipped their sea suits, and were now wearing their bright yellow land suits.

"Whoa, it feels really cold all of a sudden," Marshall pointed out.

Without another word, Marlon, Marshall, and Madeline swam to the top of the sea, and got out of the sea.

"Look!" Madeline pointed to little, yellow grains of sand in astonishment.

They sat down on the sand, and felt the rough texture. "Wow, the land is really cool," Marlon remarked.

"Hey guys, look at this!" Marshall showed Marlon and Madeline a red, gleaming button on their land suits.

Before Marshall pressed the button, Madeline stopped him. "Are you crazy? Who knows what that red button could do to us?" Madeline questioned conscientiously.

"Come on! We have to take some risks!" Marlon pleaded. "And plus, why would anything dangerous be on our land suits?"

Madeline sighed. "Fine, but you owe me," she smirked.

"I guess," the boys chuckled. Marlon paused for a dramatic affect, and then hit the button.

Suddenly, a voice started talking. "This is your wish maker. Anything you want or need, you can wish for. This is a magical device that has to be used properly. No more than 5 wishes per day. You can not wish to have more wishes. When you want to make a wish, you have to press the red button and say your wish. We shall grant your wish. Be very careful with your wishes because once you wish for it, it can not be changed," the voice explained.

"OH MY GOSH!" they all yelled in unity.

"I have an idea. Let's just wish to get rid of that garbage," Marlon said.

"No. If we do that, the culprit won't even realize what he/she is doing is wrong," Madeline disagreed.

Marlon moaned. "Fine."

"Guys, I think we should try this out and see if it even works," Marshall suggested.

"Good idea; let me try!" Marlon pressed the red button and wished, "I wish to find out what those yellow grains are!"

The robotic voice started to talk again. "That grain is called sand, the more or less fine debris of rocks, consisting of small, loose grains, often of quartz. This grain is found near many bodies of water, such as lakes, ponds,

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oceans, and seas," it belabored the children.

"It works!" Marshall and Marlon exclaimed in shock.

The sky slowly started to get darker, as the clouds took over the sun's spotlight.

Suddenly, the clouds cried out water, as the rain started plopping down on the sand. The boys grimaced in disgust, and quickly covered themselves under a rock. On the contrary, Madeline twirled around, enjoying every drop of the rain.

When the rain slowly turned into a slight drizzle, a mild zephyr blew past the children. Marlon and Marshall exited the rock to enjoy the breeze.

Madeline's land suit looked like a yellow, cheetah print outfit. The boys were spotless, since they were hiding under the cave-like rock.

"Hey, that's a perfect hiding spot!" Madeline motioned to the rock.

"Yeah, it is!" Marlon agreed.

The siblings crowded under the rock. They vehemently looked around, waiting for the culprit to come.

After a few minutes, they heard loud thumps, judging that the culprit was big.

"The culprit is coming!" Marshall whispered eagerly.

"You mean culprits!" Madeline corrected, pointing to the men, who each had a garbage bag thrown over their shoulder.

"Oh my gosh; we better tell them to stop now!" Marshall admonished with dismay.

Faster than a blink, they crawled out of the rock cave, and stood up, so the men could see them clearly.

"I think you should stop polluting in the sea. It might harm the sea animals!" Marlon asserted.

After a long silence, the men started bursting into laughter.

"How cute! It might harm the sea animals," one man mimicked.

"Little kids trying to stand up for their environment," another man snickered.

"Children these days...always caring for animals," a man caustically commented with a haughty smile planted on his face.

Marlon, Madeline, and Marshall glared at the men.

"What are we going to do now?" Marshall questioned in concern.

Madeline bit her lip, thinking of a solution. They heard splashes coming from the men throwing trash bags into the sea.

"I think I have a good idea! They don't know what it's like to be a sea animal, dealing with all the pollution," Madeline began.

Marlon caught on. "So, in an act of reciprocity, we'll make them animals!" he smirked.

Marshall's eyebrows furrowed, as he stared at Madeline and Marlon in bewilderment. "But how are we going to make them animals?" he asked.

Madeline and Marlon exchanged looks. "Wish Maker!" they simultaneously answered.

"Good idea!" Marshall exclaimed, as he pressed the red button on his suit, "We wish to have those men turn into sea animals."

Suddenly, the men disappeared and were put into the sea.

"That's what you get for polluting in our, I mean the sea," Marlon screamed, hoping the men could hear him from above.

"Please! Forgive us! We didn't mean what we said; have mercy!" one man pleaded underneath the water.

Another man pinched his nose, disgusted by the pungent, strong, stinky smell of the garbage. "Please; we'll take out all this garbage if you let us free," he offered.

Madeline sighed. "Okay, but do you understand what pollution is doing to the sea animals?" she ensured.

"Yes! Yes! Yes!" shouts came from the sea.

Madeline pressed the button, "Turn the "sea animals" back to men," she instructed.

The men turned back into themselves, and started picking up the floating garbage.

"Thank you very much!" they all thanked the men.

"No problem; you guys sure do have a lot of empathy for the sea animals," a man remarked.

"Yes we do!" they smiled knowingly.

*Laya wrote up a storm
this summer!*



Fish's Chase to Success

By Laya Venkatesan

The Challenge

Fish wandered around the deep ocean. His shiny scales illuminated the water. The sun shined on him as if it were his spotlight. He gazed up to the sky and saw the ominous clouds starting to overtake the sun as if it were a bad omen.

Fish sensed a group of animals swimming near by.

Suddenly, Seahorse and his gang triumphantly swam by Fish. "Fish, I bet you can't swim faster than me," Seahorse teased brazenly.

Anger seemed to arouse Fish. "What a braggart," Fish thought. He decided to put an end to his smugness and arrogance. "Well, how about we have a race and see who truly is the fastest," Fish challenged.

Seahorse cackled and his face gleamed with a cunning smile. "I doubt you could beat me," he snickered. "We'll have the race tomorrow morning," Seahorse announced, and he swam away.

"Oh no! What have I done?" Fish exclaimed. "There is no way I could beat Seahorse!" Fish felt abased and apprehensive. He woefully sighed.

One of Fish's friends sauntered by and couldn't help notice the anxiety on his face. "What's the matter Fish? Is everything all right?" he asked.

"Well, it's just that..." Fish started tentatively. His friend, Starfish's eyes seemed so solemn yet eager.

"Seahorse challenged me to a race, and I know I'm not fast enough," Fish finally blurted.

"Hmmm..." Starfish thought. "Oh, I know! Go and ask wise Octopus! He knows everything! I'm positive he can help you," Starfish exclaimed, trying to encourage Fish.

Fish's hope rose and his frown turned into a smile. "Thank you!" he exclaimed in appreciation. Fish was "bubbling" with alacrity, and was on his way to find Octopus.

The Search

He recalled that Octopus lived in the coral kingdom, and traced the way into the sea of coral. Finally, Fish's eyes led up to Octopus sitting on his coral throne, with different shades of coral piled up. The blue, pink, green, red, and orange colors of the coral were aesthetically pleasing.

"Excuse me, Mr. Octopus. May you please help me with something?" Fish shyly asked, feeling the need to address him in the name of Mr. Octopus to ask his favor in a reverent manner.

"Oh please, call me Octopus! What iz zhe matter?" Octopus replied in somewhat a French accent.

Fish thought Octopus was an affable and reliable character, so he gained more confidence to speak to him. "Well, Seahorse is having a race with me tomorrow morning, and I think my fins are too weak to swim as fast as him. Do you have anything to help

make me faster?" Fish questioned.

Octopus squinted his penetrating eyes at Fish, as if he was almost looking through his soul. "Ah, yez! I zthink I have a potion zhat I could create for you!" Octopus answered. He got out his pot made out of sea clay, and mixed in some chemicals and liquids.

Suddenly, in a rapid movement, Octopus splashed the potion onto Fish, but (of course) Fish couldn't feel it



Illustration by Kirstie Belle Diongzon

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because he was already surrounded by water. However, he assumed the potion worked because he felt a sense of strength and power. "Thank you very much! Will this make me win the race?" Fish wondered.

"Definezely, no doubt! You will win for sure!" Octopus' reassuring voice seemed to almost soothe Fish, infusing a newfound sense of self-confidence. "Thanks again!" Fish waved his fin and swam back to his home to rest for the big race.

The Rest

As Fish rested on his soft reef, Octopus' voice echoed in his mind, and comforted him as he slept. "I'll just do my best!" Fish thought. He felt courage and motivation as he slept, and knew that the next day awaited him.

The Race!

Fish felt a bumpy, rough hand sliding up and down over his fin. When he opened his eyes, he saw a blurry image of Starfish, looking extremely eager.

"Fish! It's time for the race! Seahorse is waiting near the racing place! Good luck!" Starfish informed.

Fish awoke and thanked Starfish. He swam to the racing place, and saw Seahorse and his little passé cheering him on.

"Are you ready?" Seahorse asked with a haughty grin. His eyes were locked on Fish.

Fish took a deep breath, and hoped the potion worked. He was aligned next to Seahorse, and had to cross the finish line to win the race.

"Ready, set, GO!" Octopus waved the flag, as he kicked off the proceedings.

Fish pushed his fins up and down to go faster and faster. But, Seahorse was ahead of him. With more determination, Fish pushed his fins harder and harder by the second, to get ahead of Seahorse. Fish kept on remembering Octopus and his words. He knew the potion wouldn't let him down. But, Fish stilled worked harder to race ahead of Seahorse. After all, Fish wants to try his best and wants to win the race without any help. The potion is just a good luck charm for Fish. The finish line was nearing, and Fish was an inch behind Seahorse. Fish's fins were moving at rapid speed, and he was so committed that almost nothing can get in his way. In the last few seconds, Fish swam ahead of Seahorse and won the race! He was so happy, and knew he owed a 'Thank you' to Octopus. Every fish

applauded for Fish with their fins. Seahorse's jaw dropped, and although he was shocked and humbled, he graciously accepted the fact.

"You at least got second place," Seahorse's friends tried to console.

"That is the same thing as last place!" Seahorse did his best to control his anger, but still congratulated Fish. You have to be good sport in competitions. Fish sprinted towards Octopus. "Thank you so much! The potion really helped!" Fish thanked.

"Whaz potion? Zhat was just seawater!" Octopus chuckled.

Astonishment hit Fish's face. "What!" But, how did I win the race?" Fish asked curiously.

"Oh, zhat was because you believed and you gained zhat self-esteem. You felt like you had more power, so you won the race! I just pretended to put a potion on you so you zhink zhat you will win. But, all that work was just you!" Octopus explained.

Fish learned that you never should give up on something, and always work for it. He also learnt that you should always believe in yourself! Then, nothing can stop you!



Laya is a fantastic and prolific 7th grader who has been writing short stories for at least a year! She's going to be an author one day.



The Monkey Back in Time

By Shawn Krishnan

It was in the boring times of the 1940s, where there was nothing fun to do in comparison to now, until... One day a scientist named Ernest Rutherford was in his lab, when he figured out a formula to time travel. He built a time machine and tested out his formula.

"BOOM," a portal appeared. He did not know what would happen. Ernest sent one of his monkey's into the future.



Shawn is an imaginative and fun loving 5th grader. He did a great job writing this summer and he came up with this great story that will be CONTINUED! Keep up the great work Shawn!

Later...

It was almost a year since Ernest had sent the monkey into the future. He had started to think that the monkey died, but one morning, "BOOM," the same portal opened. The monkey jump out. In his hands he had a pen, an umbrella, a magazine, and a strange bomb labeled US ARMY in bold black letters. Ernest decided to claim that he had made the bomb when really his monkey found it.

He called it the N.U.K.E for short, but fully named it Non-U.S.A-Killing-Equipment. He gave it to the U.S Army as a prototype. A day after Ernest had given the army the N.U.K.E., Japan attacked Peal Harbor. The Government decided to use Ernest's prototype not knowing it was a nuclear bomb.

It blew up half of Japan! The world started to get scared of the U.S and other countries decided to end the wars. Ernest started a terrible mess. He knew the FBI would look for him so he jumped into the future. No one knew where he was, until...

to be continued...



The Battle

By Farhan Mohammad

A long time ago there was a fierce battle against the Knights and Fire Dragons. One day, the king said to his wife, "These children will grow into knights and they will take over the awesome world."

"Huh?" said the wife. The king wanted the Knights to take over the world. The mother wanted the Knights to be helpful.

Three years later, dragons fought in wars and so many people were killed except the two brothers; the strong, brave, good Knight; and the ugly, bad Knight. The evil Knight complained to the good Knight about their father's death. *Actually the bad*

guy killed their father so he could be the leader.

"Why did you do this to me?" asked the good Knight.

"Why did you do this to me ?" asked the bad Knight.

"Fine. Let's fight," said the bad guy. They fought and fought. Finally, the good guy lost and he was locked up in the cave.

Two months later, the good Knight found a nice dragon and he saw that the bad Knight was there with his dragon. There was another fight and finally the bad Knight lost and he was locked in the cave for ever."

You will get darkness, payback," said the bad Knight. But the good Knight smiled and walked away.

Good always win!



Farhan, who is always happy, wrote a fantastic story about good over evil! We look forward to more great stories from him! He is in the 2nd grade.



The Demented Fairytale

By Richa Dahake

One day, a brave and adventurous pirate named Captain Michael Seafoam set out to find the treasure of the ghost of Captain Dracasso III. His ship was sailing off the coast toward the Creaky Cave. The sea cave was said to be haunted by a giant squid, but Captain Michael Seafoam wasn't scared of that myth. He sailed into the sea cave ready to fight any threat with his mighty sword. He could see a pile of gold, diamonds, and jewelry in the back.

When Seafoam was moving his ship forward, he didn't know that the giant squid was watching him from under the murky waters. The squid sprang up and attacked the captain, but Seafoam was ready when the sea creature attacked him. He swung his sword at it and chopped it up into giant squid salad that fell to the bottom of the sea.

Captain sailed to the back of the sea cave and rewarded himself with the treasure of Captain Dracasso III. He hadn't noticed earlier that there was a baby wolf that was sleeping near the gold. He didn't want to leave it there so he brought it with him and named it Marauder. They both sailed away rejoicing about the treasure.

The captain and Marauder didn't know that during their adventure, someone was watching them, Captain Michael Seafoam's stepmother, Pandora. She is an evil gypsy witch who watches her stepson through her crystal ball and puts

obstacles in front of him so he can't get treasure. She does this only to get even when he tried to poison her as a child because he thought she killed his dad. She was the one who made the giant squid appear in front of Seafoam when he went to search for Captain Dracasso's treasure. She wanted that treasure from him so she could prove to him that she is stronger than him and the treasure will make her richer than everyone in the world. A ring in the treasure could make her strong and undefeatable. Now all she needed to do was to capture them and take the treasure from him to become Supreme Overlord of the World. Pandora sent a bratty, annoying, teenage fairy to search for them to put her plan into action. She could have used her crystal ball but she couldn't get a proper signal to where Seafoam was. So, she had to put all her trust into the little fairy, Iris. Iris set out to find them.

Seafoam was relaxing his days on an island in the middle of the ocean. Marauder and he were playing with their treasure on the coast. They brought the treasure back into their

hut and were ready for sunset when they heard a knock on the door.

"Who could find me in the middle of the ocean?" he thought. He opened the door and to his surprise, he saw a little teenage fairy. He asked her what she was doing here and how she found them. She answered saying that her name is Iris and that she was looking for a vacation home here. Marauder howled at her. He could tell that she was lying. Michael got the message and pointed his sword at her. He asked her the same question again in a more



stern voice. She said that he doesn't scare her.

"How much annoying could she get?" Seafoam thought.

"Well, are you going to ask me to come in?" asked Iris. "Not until you tell me why you really are here," replied Seafoam.

"Fine. Your stepmom sent me to check on you and see what you are up to," she blurted out.

"What! I knew that vicious woman was up to something! I thought she would forgive me by now! She's probably been watching me all my life and wants to get revenge on me!" barked Captain Michael Seafoam.

"Well, angry much?" Iris exclaimed. Seafoam, still steaming with fury, marched into his hut and started packing up to leave.

"What are you doing? Where are you going?" Iris questioned.

"I'm leaving this place with Marauder to go after my stepmom. Come if you want," yelled Seafoam.

"Not like I have a choice because I already ruined Pandora's plans for you," declared Iris. Michael slammed the hut's door and got on his ship. The fairy fluttered behind him.

Captain Michael Seafoam's ship was crashing down on the high waves. He could tell a storm was coming. While Seafoam took the sails down, Iris and Marauder went down to the



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lower deck to wait for the storm to go by. Seafoam soon joined them, but forgot to put the anchor down. They waited hours, not knowing that the ship was moving. They got so tired that they fell asleep.

It was morning. The light shone through the windows of the ship onto Seafoam's face. He noticed that the ship wasn't swaying on water. He came up on the deck and saw that they were on a beach.

"I must have forgotten to drop the anchor," he thought. He stretched on the deck not knowing that he was on his homeland. This was where his stepmother lived, and she was watching her stepson from her new and improved HD crystal ball.

Captain Seafoam, Marauder, and Iris started to explore the island. Only Iris knew she was on Pandora's island, but she didn't tell Seafoam because she wanted him to figure it out by himself. They walked through the dense forest, not knowing what they would meet. Michael was ready for any ambush with his sword in his hands gripping it tightly. Marauder, by his side, started howling.

"Better get ready for an attack, unless you want to be a dead meat," Iris warned.

"Ready as ever," The captain said as he raised his sword. Just then, a five-headed creature that was a hybrid snake-lion leaped out from behind the trees. It had the body of a lion, but it had five, long snake heads coming out from where its head was suppose to be. The creature was towering 30 feet above Seafoam. For some reason, Michael thought that he had seen this creature before. Then, he remembered, it was locked up in the dungeon in his castle back home. He looked around and noticed he was on his home island.

"Not the time to linger over memories - time to fight!" he thought to himself.

He jumped high and chopped one of the heads off, then another. He thought that he was on a roll, until when Iris shouted from behind him.

"Captain, stop! Don't chop the heads off the monster!" screamed Iris.

"Stop yelling Iris! You're making me lose concentration," Seafoam yelled back at her.

"No! Stop!" Iris was still yelling with all her might. "When you cut one head off, two grow back!" Seafoam stopped to see that after chopping two heads, the five-headed creature now had seven heads.

"Why didn't you tell me about this earlier, Iris?!" hollered Seafoam.

"I tried to, but you wouldn't listen to me!" Iris shouted back.

"Well, then how do you kill this thing?!" demanded Seafoam.

"I don't know! You're the hero, right?!" You figure it out!" Iris yelled. Seafoam climbed up a tree and swung from

the branch. He raised his sword high above his head and struck the monster's stomach. The creature wailed and dropped to the ground.

In the castle, there was a cry "No!" How could he defeat my dear pet, Hybrida? He may be stronger than me now, but after I get the ring, I will be superior!" Pandora was the one yelling. She was watching him from her crystal ball. Next to her was sitting a black crow. She commanded the crow to go to Captain Michael Seafoam's ship. Then, she told the crow that he should get the ultimate ring from the treasure chest and fly back to her. The crow flew out the castle window to obey his master's commands.

Seafoam's victory was congratulated by Marauder jumping on him playfully and licking his face. As for what Iris said to him, "Come on. We should keep moving. Your stepmother has more plans for you."

"What does she have that we don't?" asked Seafoam with Marauder still on him.

"Nothing yet," replied Iris.

"What do you mean? Does she have an army coming or something?" questioned Michael.

"No, she won't need that," Iris murmured.

"What are you talking about then? I'm confused," Seafoam said frustratingly.

"I'm saying that she's getting a ring," Iris looked up and saw the black crow fly towards the ship.

"A ring from a treasure, one that was Captain Dracasso III's, but now is yours. It was there all along. The ring makes you invincible with unimaginable powers. When she gets the ring, she will be undefeatable. You will be the first of her victims and then world domination," Iris told Seafoam.

It took a while for it to sink in. Then he asked her, "Why don't we just get the ring from my ship now and defeat her and get done with it?"

"Because it's too late. She sent a crow to fetch it," Iris said as she pointed at the crow in the sky with the ring in its claws that was flying back to the castle.

"How could you not tell me this before? I could have prevented it from happening!" Seafoam yelled at her with Marauder howling beside him.

"Now's not the time to argue. Let's go to the castle," announced Iris.

"Fine. But I'm not through with you!" shouted Seafoam. They walked toward the castle and reached its gates. Seafoam tried opening the gates.

"They're locked and won't budge," said Captain. Then the gates eerily creaked open, letting all three of them enter. They walked through, and then the gates slammed shut behind them.

"Creepy," announced Iris.

"I guess that's the woman's style of doing things now," added on Michael. Marauder barked seconding on that thought.

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They kept walking through the ruined courtyard and up the steps leading up to the front door. The sun was setting behind them giving a shadowy look upon the door. It was a huge door made of wood that had paint peeling off, and had an intricate swirling design made of rusting steel.

"Looks like someone did not order an exterior designer," commented Iris.

"She must have changed the whole scenery after my dad died and I moved out," said Seafoam. Before he rang the doorbell, Seafoam asked Iris, "How come you don't remember how the castle looks?"

"Because Pandora summoned me into a room in the castle. So, I was just at home and the next thing I know I was here. After she told me my job, I was teleported miles away from the castle onto the island," replied Iris.

"Oh. Okay. I have to warn you both about something. The servants that work here are possessed by my stepmother. She has total control over them. So, What I'm trying to say is don't touch, talk, or look into their eyes because you will be possessed by her. Do we understand?" warned Seafoam.

"Yes, Captain!" Iris said as Marauder howled in agreement.

To that, Michael rang the doorbell. You could hear it ring loudly in the castle. The door creaked open without anyone to invite them in. Seafoam was the first to step in. He signaled that the coast was clear and then they both entered behind him. The house was dimly lit; there were four lights on the walls that showed light. The drapes were open letting moonlight flood in. There were no servants in sight so that lessened the chances of being possessed. There was a huge staircase that led upstairs.

Before Michael was going to step on the stair he heard a voice whisper in his head, "Go to your room child. That is where I will be waiting for you." The voice belonged to Pandora.

"Lets go," he commanded.

"Wait! But we don't even know where she is!" argued Iris.

"I do! So let's get moving!" exclaimed Seafoam. They climbed up the stairs. There were two corridors; one on the left and one on the right, just as he remembered. His bedroom door was the last one at the end of the right corridor.

"This way," he said, as he marched in to his room. He paused a moment before he put his hand around the door knob.

"You can do this Michael," Iris assured. Captain put his hand on the door knob and opened the door.

Pandora was sitting on Michael's bed, her hands crossed in front of her with the ring visible on her pointer finger. She was staring right at Seafoam. Her eyes were bright red and aching for revenge.

"Welcome home Michael," Pandora said in her unfriendly, icy tone.

"Oh Iris, well done. You may leave now; you are no longer useful to me," Pandora said as she waved her hand to show that Iris was dismissed. She didn't budge.

"Well then, stay. And Michael, you've grown so big. How old were you then? 10? 11? And I see you got a puppy. What's its name?" Pandora questioned Michael.

"It's not a puppy. It's a wolf, and his name is Marauder," answered Seafoam in a stern voice.

"All right, enough chit-chat. It's my turn to play the revenge game," Pandora said as she used the power of ring and levitated Seafoam, crashing him through the wall.

"That is for trying to kill me!" Pandora yelled.

"Marauder, go," Seafoam said hazily. Marauder jumped on Pandora. That made her lose concentration on Seafoam. That was Seafoam's chance to get up, take his sword out and fight his stepmom. Except - he didn't have enough strength to get up. Iris saw that Captain was losing his only chance so she gave him most of her power to make him strong. Michael felt the surge in energy - not questioning where he got it from. He took out his sword from its sling and was ready to fight. Pandora gained consciousness and brought up his sword with her magic for herself to fight with too.

Their swords were clashing, but Pandora was winning with her evil powers. Then, she swung her sword and cut Seafoam's arm. An explosion of pain rushed through him, but he didn't stop trying then. He swung his sword as hard as he could that knocked his stepmother's sword out of her hands. He pointed his sword at her face and scolded at her, "Enough! This has gone far too long! Give me the stupid ring where I can hide it and no one can ever reach it again!"

"Never!" she said swatting the captain's sword to the floor and becoming a huge lady snake-like monster. Seafoam fell back as he was shocked by his transformation. Marauder ran over to help him up and howled at the beast. As Seafoam was getting up, he whispered to Marauder his one and only plan he had to defeat Pandora. They put the plan in action.

Seafoam stood tall with his sword in his hand, "Now!" he yelled. Pandora was confused, and she stood still while waiting to see what would happen. Then, out of nowhere, Marauder jumped on her back and sunk his teeth into her. She yelped in pain and fell on her hands. Seafoam snatched the ring off the monster's finger as she slowly transformed back into a woman. Marauder removed his teeth from her and backed away.

"You die now old woman. Marauder, eat her!" commanded Seafoam. Marauder didn't need to be told twice. Marauder had the feast of his life. It took him only a few minutes to gobble her up. They were both about to leave when they remembered Iris. She was lying down against the wall; life was draining from her. Her face was pale and she couldn't move.

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“No! She is dying! She must have given me strength before,” Seafoam cried. Marauder licked her face trying to cheer her up, but it didn't work. Marauder started whimpering.

“Marauder, I don't know what to do!” declared Seafoam.

Then Michael just recalled that his stepmother was evil gypsy witch. So, there had to be something that could save Iris. He rushed into her room full of liquid and found one labeled 'Life Elixir'. It had only a few drops left, but he still grabbed it and rushed to the fairy. He put the remaining elixir in her mouth and stood back. Iris started regaining color and could stand up. Marauder howled in happiness and the captain smiled. They were still glad that she was better.

They walked out of the castle to their ship for another adventure ahead.

Twisted Poem

By Artif Kazi

I was walking with an ice-cream cone.
Showing off my crown then I sat on my throne.

When I got back home, I was all alone.
Heard an annoying sound, so I had to groan.

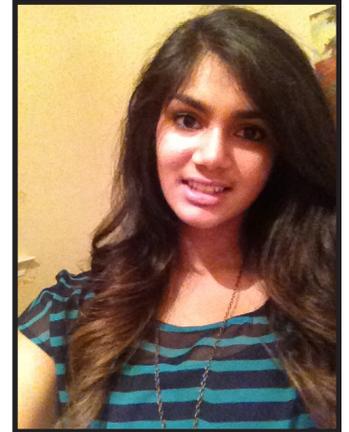
So I yelled, “What's going on and where's my bread?!”
And I knew that the cut down trees were dead.

I couldn't believe it, my mind was blown!
It made me mad, so I stole some money for my car loan.

Oh, no! I thought. The police found me.
I told them, “I was just playing Wii”

I guess all of my dreams are thrown in the trash.
10 years in jail, more like 10 years of no cash.

Richa is an extremely talented 8th grader who is on her way to becoming a great writer! Stay tuned!



Artif is an inspired high school student with a clever mind when it comes to writing poetry.

Bluemask

By Sagar Kamireddy

Once upon a time, there was Tony Bluemask doing his homework and Sagar in house doing nothing. There is also Cindy Lee doing her science project.

After Tony did his homework, Tony invited Sagar for a playdate. They all played video games and talked together. When they heard about Echotron destroying the city, Tony quickly turned off the videogame and pressed the alarm.

Then Tony, Sagar, and Cindy raced to the city where Echotron was and started the battle.

Tony started defending the city with a tornado. Cindy hit Echotron with a big fist and Sagar punched Echotron to the ground.

Then Echotron ran away leaving the Earth. People cheered to the three heroes and thanked them for saving the world. They all went back home and played.

They lived happily, ever after.



Sagar is imaginative and he is interested in writing. He practiced his writing a great deal this summer.



The Spectacular Adventure

By Shree Amin

It was a beautiful day in Kansas City, Kansas. Dorothy and her cousin Amelia were laying on the ground trying to make shapes out of the clouds. Toto was playing with a red ball. Dorothy had her hair pulled back into two braids and was wearing a blue and white checkered dress with silver glittery flats that she had gotten from her last adventure to OZ.

Amelia had her hair out and her bangs pulled back with a bobby pin. She was wearing white kapis with a green tanktop and she had green and white flip-flops on. All of a sudden, Toto started barking.

"I think he wants us to fetch him the ball," Amelia said.

"Mabye," said Dorothy as she reached for the ball, but Toto backed off. Then he looked to the sky. Amelia and Dorothy looked too and saw that Toto was trying to tell them about the huge, black and gray ship in the sky.

"Wow," Amelia and Dorothy said at the same time, but they were too scared to link pinkies. Then Dorothy scopped Toto up and she and Amelia headed to go home, but before they could, a big claw came out of the ship and captured them.

Inside the ship Dorothy saw some octopus like creatures that were in a tank, but she didn't bother to ask what they were. Then a very ugly looking witch came out and said, "Hello. My name is Witch Evilene of Darkastle."

Evilene had green skin and a wort on her face. She wore a long black dress, pointy black hat and black high-heels. She was petting a black cat that was in her hands. Finally they had arrived at Darkastle.

"Welcome to Darkastle," cackled witch Evilene. When they went inside, Evilene locked Amelia and Dorothy in a room with Spiderman, a wizard and a baker. Toto was locked up with a camelon. Dorothy and Amelia were thinking about how to get out. Dorothy was looking around the cell and then she spotted Amelia's bobby pin.

"Amelia, we can use your bobby pin to unlock ourselves!" Amelia gave Dorothy a hug. Then when they were out, they unlocked Toto and the camelon from their cell and then unlocked spider man, the wizard, and the baker. Then all of them went in Amelia and Dorothy's cell and Dorothy made a plan.

"Amelia and I will go to the knights' room and dress up as one and distract Evilene while Spiderman will go to the lab and get the sleeping potion and pour it on Evilene so she sleeps. The camlon will sit on her so if she wakes up, then the camelon will scare her and pour more sleeping potion

on her. If she wakes up and starts to walk toward the cells, then the baker will go to the lab and make a pastry/donut and sprinkle some crazy powder on it so Evilene goes crazy and we get out of there."

"I'm in," Spiderman said and so all of the animals did so too.

"Then lets get rolling," Dorothy said.

So they did.

Dorothy and Amelia went to the knights' dressing room, and to their luck, nobody was there. Then silently they got into the suit. Since Dorothy weighed more, she stood on the bottom, and Amelia got on top. Then they found scissors lying on the ground and picked them up, then Dorothy cut two eye holes for her eyes and then they headed out. In fact, they met Evilene on the way.

"Hello madame. We have some questions to ask you."

"All right. Tell me but hurry up," Evilene said. Meanwhile, Spiderman went to the lab and tried to find the potion, but there were seven other knights in there. Spiderman used his web powers to put the web on their mouths so they didn't speak. "Finally, done with them," thought Spiderman.

Then he went back to the spot where Amelia and Dorothy were still distracting. Then Spiderman silently opened the bottle, and poured the potion all over her. Evilene opened her mouth to say something, but she immediately fell asleep.

Then they all high-fived each other.

"Horray, we're free!" they cried, but they weren't. One of the smart knights in the laboratory had changed the potions and now Spiderman had given her the wrong potion! Evilene was hearing all their plans! Then when everyone went back, Evilene got up and tried to walk. Eww! Something was stuck to her foot! Then she felt it and realized it was the camelon! She shook her leg, but the camelon would not budge. Then she gave up and started walking. Then the camelon grabbed the potion with his mouth and poured it all over her again. Even though it was the same potion, the camelon was helping. He was helping to get rid of that potion, and he finished the bottle. Then when she started walking again, Toto leaped out of nowhere with a scary monster mask with scary hair! This time, Evilene got scared and she fell to the ground. As quickly as possible, the baker and the lizard rushed to the lab. There were those knights with the webs on their mouths. The wizard found all the ingredients to make the crazy donut and the baker quickly made it. Then when they were going

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A Beautiful Day

By Asrita Sai Yalamanchili

A beautiful day feels warm.

It smells like the fresh summer air.

It makes me want to stay outside till it's dark.

I like to see the bright, green grass and baby-blue sky.

On a beautiful day, the sky should be clear so you can go outside and play.

On a beautiful day, the wind should be blowing in your face.

The warmth of the day should make you feel secure.

It's fun to go hiking on a perfect, summer day.

I also can bar-b-q outside with all my friends and family.

I enjoy eating popsicles on a park bench when the sun rays are pointing right at you.

On a summer day it's always a great day to go swimming because it's warm outside.

On A beautiful summer day, I like to swiftly run through the woods.

On a perfect summer day, I like to quickly gobble my breakfast so I can go to my creative writing class.



Asrita is an extremely talented writer, with many more stories to share! This is a great poem.



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out, one knight blocked their way, and there was no way to move in or out so the wizard used his last wish, to get out. They were out. The wizard wasn't using his wish for anything because it was his last wish and he could only wish for small things. They ran over to Eviliene, and stuffed the donut in her mouth and she went into a 7-year sleep, so then the wizard and the baker ran back to the cells where all their other friends were and they claimed their victory. Then Amelia, Dorothy, and Toto asked Spiderman, the baker, the wizard, and the camelon if they wanted to celebrate at their house and they said yes. All of them walked to Dorothy's house. When they got there, Dorothy's aunt and uncle said, "Why it seems we have some visitors."

"Can they stay for dinner? Please?"

Dorothy and Amelia asked.

"Of course," their aunt said.

"But first tell me if you guys had fun when you played outside."

Then they all looked at each other and answered, "Yes."

For dinner they had pizza and the camelon had some leaves. Toto had some dog food. After dinner, Amelia and Dorothy asked their aunt and uncle if their friends could sleepover and they said yes. Amelia and Dorothy also asked if they could go over to their house. They said yes to that as well. That night, while going to sleep, Amelia, Dorothy and their new friends put on some music and that's how they went to bed.



Shree is a focused and studious 4th grade student of language art. She is becoming a great writer.

Road Trip

By Tyler Hummel

Every year when school starts, the teachers want you to write a report about what you did this summer. This year I actually have something fun to write about. I went on an eight day long road trip with my dad for my 13th birthday. We went to five different baseball stadiums and games during those eight days.

Our first stop was Cincinnati, and the Reds were playing against the Arizona Diamondbacks. Before the game, there was a big storm and every time there was thunder, the stadium shook. I got a baseball autographed by the third baseman, Todd Frazier, and a Jay Bruce bobble head. Before the game, there were fireworks set off from two big pillars, and during the game, each time a pitcher struck somebody out, fire would come out of pillars. During the game I had Skyline Chili; only the best Skyline Chili can only be found in Cincinnati. This chili is different from other kinds because instead of kidney beans, there is cinnamon, making it sweeter than any other chili. It was really good. The Reds lost the game 7 to 1. We left Cincinnati early the next morning to move on to Cleveland.

We spent three days of our trip in Cleveland. On the first day in Cleveland we went to food network star Michael Simon's B Spot for dinner. I had a sweet and juicy hamburger with a flavorful lump of pulled pork on top. The burger also had coleslaw and spicy Michael Simon ketchup made just for the B Spot. We also stumbled upon a carnival and almost got sick on one of the rides. The next day we went to Pittsburgh for the day. We ate at Primanti Brothers in Pittsburgh. I had an egg, bacon, and Swiss cheese sandwich with French fries on it. The sandwich was so big I could only eat half. Afterward, we saw the Pittsburgh Pirates play the Miami Marlins game. I liked the graphics that showed up on the big screen when a Pirate came up to bat. I got an autograph from pitcher Jeff Karstens. The Pirates won 4 to 3. We then drove back to Cleveland.

Later the next day, we went to the "Rock and Roll Hall of Fame". My favorite thing was the guitar room. There was a lot of cool stuff. You could spend two day in there listening to music. The hall of fame is right in front of Lake Erie. Lake Erie is one of the five great lakes and

the tenth largest lake in the world. The Purple Parrot was a sports bar we ate at. I had Buffalo wings and chicken tenders. If you ever go there, the Buffalo wings have one type of hot sauce and it's pretty hot. We also went to a Cleveland Indians and Baltimore Orioles game. Before the game, I got a home run ball in batting practice and an autograph from Johnny Damon. The Indians lost 3 to 1. After the game there was a fireworks show and a rock concert. A day later, my dad and I were in De-

troit for a Detroit Tigers and Chicago White Sox game. The stadium is cool because there are stone tigers outside. I got three autographs that day. I got one from Phil Coke, another from Duane Below, and another from Darin Downs. During the game Miguel Cabrera hit two homeruns; the second one was his 300th career homerun. The Tigers won 6 to 4.

We finished our trip in Toronto. I went to a castle called Casa Loma. The castle was built in the early 1800's by Sr. Henry Pellet of England. The structure has thirty-six rooms including the master suit, five guest rooms, and two towers. When the castle was built it cost around \$15 million dollars, but now it costs around one-hundred million dollars. We also got to see the CN tower. After, we went to see the Toronto Blue Jays play against the Oakland Athletics. The stadium was cool because they had a dome that can open and close. Too bad I didn't get to see Jose Bautista play. During the game we ate poutine. Poutine is French fries with cheese curd and gravy on top. The Jays lost 7 to 2. One the last day we stayed at Niagara Falls. It was cool because I've wanted to see the falls for four years. In the morning we got to see the falls and start our six hour trip home.



Tyler is a 13-year-old in 8th grade. He enjoys baseball, golf, fishing and playing his guitar. His favorite subjects are math and science.

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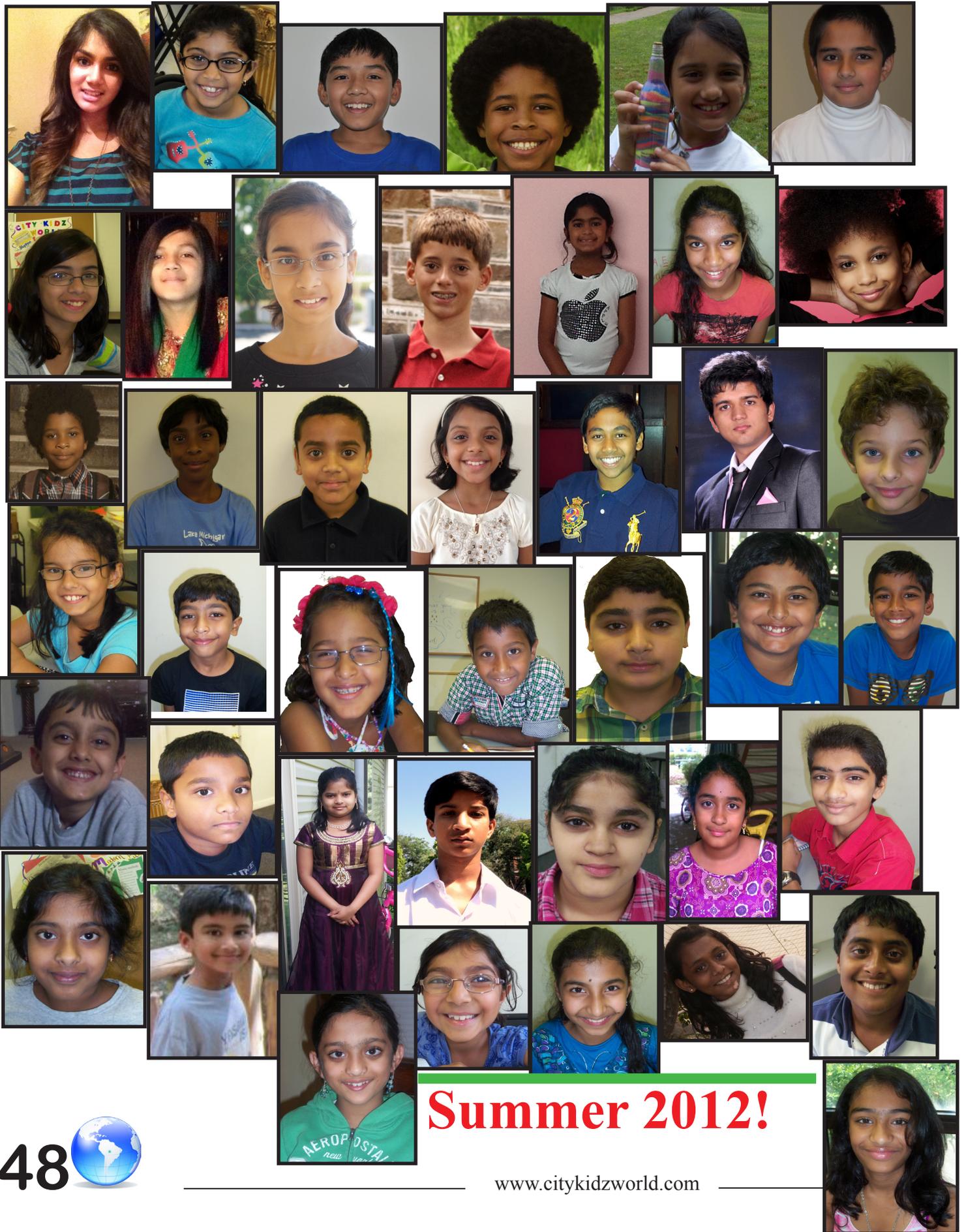
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