

CityKidzWorld



Volume 5:Issue 17

Spring/

Summer 2013/

April/May/June

Meet
Matt Wong
A Brilliant, Young
Jazz Musician

Read about Hafsa
An Award Winning New Jersey Artist in 4th grade.

Grand Prize Winners
Laya - Allegory
Rav - Myth
Ashna - Gnome Story

Contest Fun!
Vocabulary
Fables
Drawing
Photography
Short film



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Submit material to City Kidz World magazine at
editor@citykidzworld.com.



Dear Readers,
 City Kidz World magazine wishes to engage the young community in a creative experience. I hope that you will read this magazine and be encouraged to pick up a pen and write or draw! Enjoy this reading experience.

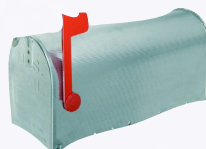
Thank you,
Editor, City Kidz World magazine

Cover Models: Mahiyah is a great 5th grader who loves school. Ritvik is a wonderful 7th grader who practices his writing. Rebecca is a cool 2nd grader with great ideas and fantastic bike riding.



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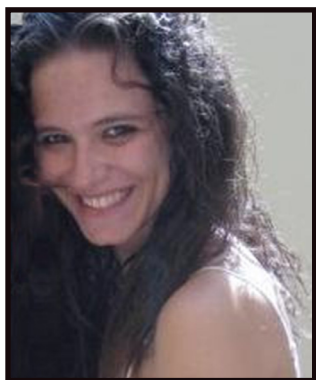
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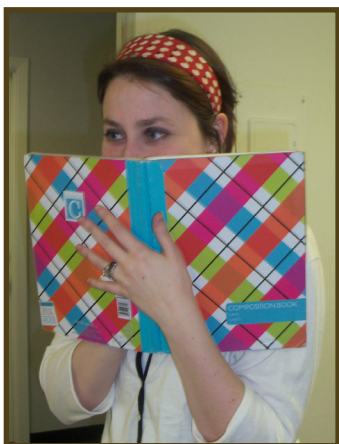
Meet our Language Arts Specialists

Creative Writing Muses

Director, Melissa Edwards, has been teaching English for 22 years. She has experience teaching K-12 and college. She is certified to teach language arts, English, reading, and journalism and she has been teaching English on the college-level for 9 years. She loves teaching in the studio and also teaching her own, two elementary school-aged sons.



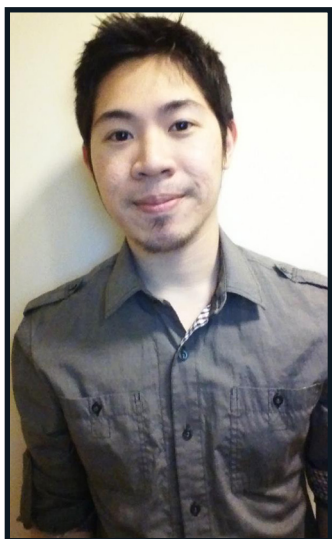
Look out for Heather and her huge water bottles! As the Punctuation Princess, Heather will use her colorful pens to whip your grammar into shape.



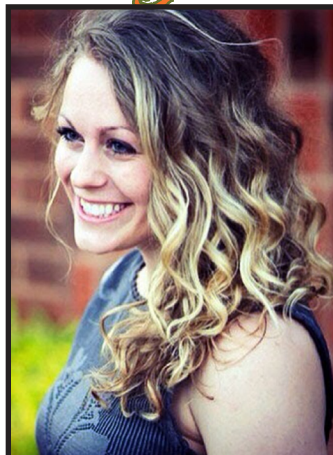
Julia Kravchin is a gifted teacher who is patient, intelligent, and always ready to help! She has multiple talents with an education from Rutgers that includes literature and art. She also has experience in teaching ESL. She is also our talented artist-in-residence this issue. Enjoy her beautiful artwork in this issue.



Laurel is a fantastic teacher with several years of experience. She encourages children to be creative, while helping them master spelling, punctuation and vocabulary. Laurel teaches in homes and in the studio.



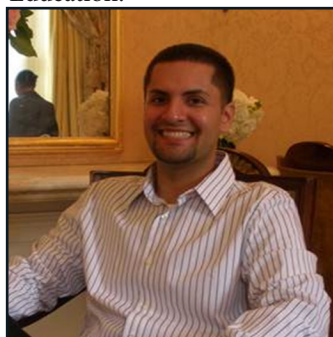
Daniel is the white board wizard. He can persuade even the most reluctant writers to get their thoughts out. He has a degree in English.



Irene Stibitz is a valuable part of the Writing Studio teaching team in Bordentown. She is an expert in creative writing and comprehensive language arts.



Chris York is the Creativity King. He enjoys brainstorming ideas with students. He is currently pursuing a Master's in Education.



Rafael Manzanares is a brilliant academician with fantastic ideas. He is an expert at teaching critical thinking.



Laura teaches elementary and middle school home-based classes, and loves having her students use sensory perception with their writing. She is currently a substitute teacher for three different school districts.



Jess has taught freshman composition and fiction at the University of Washington, and she has taught writing at an arts camp. She also taught at a camp for gifted middle school students.

The creative writing muses work with students every week on grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, writing and confidence!

ARTWORK:BY HAFSA



Meet Hafsa: An Award Winning Artist

Not your Average 4th grader

CENTRAL JERSEY - Hafsa is your typical, fun loving 4th grader who loves to giggle and laugh and talk to her friends. However, if you talk to her some, you will learn that she is also a talented artist, who recently won the 2013 Aviation Art Contest sponsored by the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation for the second consecutive year. This year's theme was "My Favorite Air Sport".

Her winning entry is a colorful picture depicting a person sailing across the sky near a scenic mountain with a flowing body of water.

She said that she enjoys art and puts a great deal of effort in continuing to develop as an artist.

Hafsa is developing her art by attending art classes weekly.

She hopes to continue to be successful as an artist.



**1st Place Drawing
2013**



How I got Lost in the Galaxies

By Sachchit Madhyastha

DAY 1

I did not know I was lost until... I found out that I was in the Spiral Galaxy. I was surrounded by creepers. I did not know what to do. I felt like digging in the planet Minecraft. But when I started digging, the creepers started to find me. The moment I could escape, I found myself trapped with bedrock. Bedrock is rock where you cannot dig. Then I had an idea. I climbed up and built a rocket ship. I left the Minecraft planet and found myself in the comet galaxy. This galaxy was about how to launch a comet to the Milky Way galaxy. I landed on the Planet Halley. There were a lot of comets built. The people who built the comets were nice.

"Come in," said Bill.

I was surprised. This was how comets were built?

Bill said, "We use a launching pad to throw the comet to the planet named Khan. There the people launch the comet to the Milky Way galaxy. Their pad is stronger and better than ours."

I got a phone call saying, "Comets are chaos."

"Stop launching comets to the planet Khan," I said.

"NO WAY," said Ben.

"I will destroy the planet Khan," I said.

I dropped asteroids on Khan. I drove myself to the Monster galaxy. In this galaxy, monsters from 31 planets chase you.

I landed on the planet Skeleton. Skeletons use bone arrows to kill you. When I landed on the planet, I saw a skeleton throwing bone arrows at me. I had to run as fast as lightning. When I was running, I saw all the skeletons chasing me. I dug a hole and went to the rocket ship. I saw the skeletons attacked by arrows. I flew away and went to the meteorite galaxy. Their meteoroids are launched to the Milky Way galaxy.

John said, "We make meteoroids and this is planet Alpha,"

I said, "Meteoroids kill people."

"You lie," said John.

I did a 720 kick on him. Then I went to the MPC villager galaxy. I felt like resting.

DAY 2

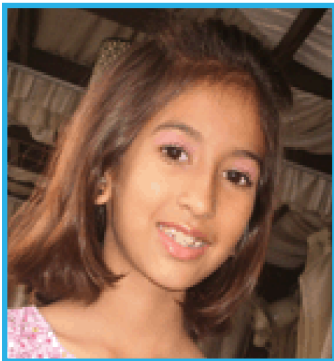
When I woke up, I found that there was no MPC villagers at all. Instead there were zombies. I got a phone call saying, "We the MPC villagers fled the village because there are zombies and we are waiting for you."



Sachchit is an excellent writer. He is getting better each day.

con't on page 9

Artwork of Shruti Laddha of India



Shruti Laddha of India

Shruti Laddha, born on February 5, 2004, is the younger daughter of Mr. Girish Laddha and Mrs. Savita Laddha. Shruti showed inclination towards arts and paintings right from her childhood. Looking at her elder sister Aditi Laddha making colourful illustrations. She was inspired and would make colourful paintings. Her parents said it is great to watch Shruti making such wonderful colourful drawings and entering the world of Arts.



Gnome, By Shruti Laddha

Shruti, is studying in Shishukunj International school grade 3. At present she is 9 yrs old. She received 4 international prizes over a period of 2009-2012.

Shruti has recently illustrated for "The Hutch" a reputed children magazine. Her illustration has been chosen to appear on the cover page. Her works can be viewed at <http://www.thexclusivearts.com/shruti-arts/portfolio.php>.

Submitted by Family

Waking Up in China

By Esha Pillai

Esha is a great beginning writer!

If I woke up in China and no one understood a word I said, I would be very sad.

I would find a phone and call my family. I would wait at the International Airport of Hong Kong. If that were too far, I would pray to Hanuman and Ganesha.

Before that, I would see the Great Wall of China. I would be a teacher and get some money to buy food to eat. I would get chicken dumplings and soup to eat. I would go to a realtor to rent a house to protect me from hurricanes.

When my family comes, I will get a taxi and drive to the airport. I would thank the Gods that helped me find my family.

I would hug my dog and parents. I would kiss them and smile, and I would say, "Good Bye China."

GEORGE WASHINGTON

By Vikramaditya Rajput

Once upon a time there was one man in an army who was George Washington.

He was the father of our country. George Washington was the best man in the world.

He was the first president.

George Washington got elected for four more years.

He was president for eight years.

He was a good president.

George Washington was American.

George Washington has white hair.

George Washington has light skin.

When George Washington was 21 when he was in the army.

George Washington rode a horse in the army.

He fought while he was on his horse.



Vikramaditya is a wonderful writer.

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Winner

The Snow Princess

GOLD

By Ashna Narielwala

Once upon a time, there lived a girl named Mia. She lived in a town called Ditley. She was six years old. She was a happy and friendly girl. She loved to play in the snow. She liked to go sledding on big hills with her friends. There lived an evil gnome in the mountains. Her name was Minlin. She was very powerful. The only way to take away her powers was whenever she does a spell, whoever breaks the spell, defeats her powers. One morning, when Mia woke up, she saw that there was no snow in her land. It was winter! On the windows of her room, there were black marks that said, "The gnome is here, the gnome is here." Mia ran outside. She had a unicorn. It was magical! She said to the unicorn, "Can I go to Alaska?" The unicorn put her head down on the ground. And then the magic began to happen. There was lots of wind. The wind lifted her. And in one minute, she was in Alaska. Mia had brought a bucket with her. She grabbed a lot of snow. She



went back to her town Ditley. When she threw the snow in the grass, her land started to change. Minlin lost her powers. It was wintertime and everybody heard that Mia saved the day. They called her the "Snow Princess".

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Magic Flower

By Ria Limbachia

It was a brisk morning when my family and I were hiking on the Sugar Loaf Mountain. While we were hiking, we came upon many amazing things. The things we saw were beautiful flowers and animals like humming birds and many Blue Jays. One of the Blue Jays led me to this amazing flower. The flower had sparkles, glitter, and it was multi-colored. When I picked it up the glitter, it got on my hand. I screamed, "Ahh." While the Blue Jay was flying around the flower, I picked it up and wondered, "What type of flower can this be? Is it a magical flower or something else?" Of course I went with my first guess, which was that it was a magic flower.



Ria is a great writer who has learned to tell a fantastic story.



By Ria Limbachia

I picked it up and wished for a blue bicycle and the storm happened. The sky grew darker. Big winds were blowing. The wind was blowing faster than a Bugatti. I shut my eyes and held the flower tight to my chest. When I opened my eyes, I saw the blue bicycle right in front of my face. I ran to my brother saying, "This flower is magical! This flower is magical!" He did not believe me. I told him, "If you do not believe me, make your own wish." He did. He wished for an iPhone 5. The storm came back and what laid on the floor was an iPhone 5 with a black and yellow Steelers phone case. My brother ran to my dad with excitement saying, "This is a

magic flower! Ahhhh." My dad made a wish for a mansion, but the storm did not appear; neither did the mansion.

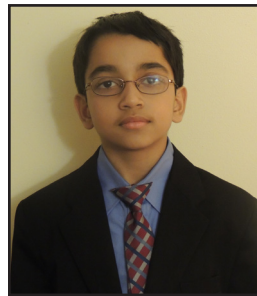
I told everyone, "Let's start hiking back." When we got back our house was not there, instead there was a mansion. That was the best hiking trip anyone would ever go on. We all lived happily ever after.

Moon Colonies

By Rohan Saba

Have you ever thought about living on the moon? Well, it is possible. There is a 35% out of 100% chance that it can happen.

With money, we can make a human colony on the moon. The problem is money and resources. What I mean is we need water, food, oxygen, power, and a dwelling on the moon! We have to ship some of these things to the moon, and for every pound we ship to the moon, it costs us \$50,000.00! But, some things we get from the moon itself. For example, oxygen is trapped in the soil, so we have to extract it. Now, I'll tell you how to get the things needed to make a moon colony. For a dwelling, we can make regular homes with oxygen. To get water, we have to search underground: mine. If the water is not found, we have to ship water from Earth. For food, we would ship it from Earth. To lower expenses, we would grow



Rohan is a thoughtful and intelligent writer! You will read many great essays from him in the future.

crops on the moon by putting chemicals in the soil. Lastly for power, people can mine Uranium on the moon and use nuclear energy. The other option is to use solar energy. For all of these things, it'll cost us hundreds of billions, or even trillions of dollars. Maybe we can do it later in the future.



Mr. President

By Navya Gutti

Fred and Gunther were sitting on the porch. It was early in the morning and the sun was rising. They both were waiting for someone special. Suddenly, they both perked their heads up. A limo pulled up in front of their cabin and the president walked out. They were shocked to see him, but then they remembered that they entered a contest, raised the most money, and now they won the contest. The prize was a visit from the president.

Gunther dropped his mouth open as Fred invited Mr. President into their small cabin. Five security guards followed behind and Gunther walked into the house. Mr. President, Fred, and Gunther all took a seat. Fred started a conversation.

"So what types of house décor do you dislike?" Fred asked.

Mr. President replied, "I don't like many things, but I do not like dull color decorations." Fred and Gunther stared at the brown walls and wooden floors.

"I don't like animal skin mats and furniture, and portraits of hunters."

Fred and Gunther stared at the bear mats and bear fur covered sofas, and the portraits of the hunters in their family.

"One moment," Fred said to Mr. President.

Fred grabbed Gunther's arm and pulled him to his room.

"Do you know what this means?" Fred whispered.

Gunther nodded.

"Our cabin has everything Mr. President hates!" Fred exclaimed.

"What are we going to do?" Gunther inquired.

"Follow me and do what I do," Fred reacted.

Fred walked up to Mr. President.

"You must be tired from your long trip, how about you take a nice long nap for an awfully long time while we do something?" Fred said.

"Yah, something special," Gunther added.

Fred and Gunther escorted the president into a guest room. The other five huge security guards walked in and locked the door behind them.

"Get the paint cans and the circle mats from the attic!" Fred

shouted.

They both raced upstairs and grabbed the paint cans and mats from the dusty attic. Soon, Fred and Gunther were painting every wall half red and half blue. They were the only colors Fred and Gunther had.

Fred tossed the circle mats on top of the bear skin in every room. Suddenly, as Gunther was about to dip his brush in the paint, the ladder wobbled, and the paint can fell with a loud THUD! Gunther and Fred stared at the paint splattered all over the floor. Gunther scrambled down his ladder and started scooping up the paint with his hands and wiping it against the paint can.

Fred now started helping Gunther scoop the paint up. Suddenly, the knob to the president's room started turning. They started scooping so fast, it was as if they were running for their lives at the end of the world.

Mr. President banged open the door and boomed, "What in the world is happening here?" Fred and Gunther stared at the president for a moment. When they were done, they both replied, "Nothing!"

But Fred and Gunther were busted by the president.

"Our small cabin has everything you hate and we wanted to make it the most comfortable place for you, to stay but we failed," Fred confessed.

Mr. President laughed at this response, and soon Gunther and Fred smirked and then out came laughter. The president gave a gift in return for being nice to him. Fred and Gunther were allowed to visit him whenever they wanted; the good thing was he'd even pay for the trip. Fred and Gunther said goodbye to the president, and took a long nap in the afternoon after the wild day with the president. They learned that they should do their best to make others welcome, but they shouldn't hide their true



Navya is getting better and better each issue! This is a great story.

con't on page 11

con't from page 5 *How I got lost in the Galaxies*

I needed my rocket ship. I used a diamond sword to kill the zombies and I fled.

When we escaped the MPC villager Galaxy, a MPC villager named Frank said, "We must go to the Milky Way galaxy."

When we were about there, our rocketship had no fuel and fell on the planet Neptune.

I said, "I just studied that Neptune has terrible weather and winds up to 700 miles per hour."

A giant came and said, "The giants can bear Neptune's weather and wind."

"Can we get back to Earth?" I said.

The Giant said, "What is $-10^* - 100000$?"

I said, "It is 1000000."

"You are granted back to Earth," The giant said.

When we were there with the MPC villager, the people were so joyful and jolly toward me. "Delta, you got launched to another galaxy because a bad guy launched you there and he is killed."

I said, "I saved the MPC villagers."

I was dreaming that I did not know that it was 6: 40 a.m.

Mom said, "Get up."

I said, "It is 6:40 a.m.already?"

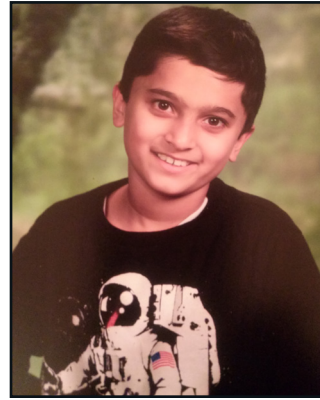
THE AMAZING ADVENTURE

By Dhruv Kharod

Once upon a time there was a sword fish talking to his friend on the phone. His friend was a sting ray. The sword fish's name was Shout and the sting ray's name was Twist. The phone call was about going to Fish Flags. The next day the adventure begins.

Twist and Shout and Mr. Fisherman (Shout's Dad) went to Fish Flags. They went to a show about Nemo, the great fish. After travelling underwater with Nemo for an hour, Mr. Fisherman decided to be adventurous and take a ride on the dragon coaster. He instructed the boys to follow him, but Twist and Shout were so involved in the show that they didn't realize they were at the entrance to the Ferris Wheel instead of the Dragon Coaster.

Now their worst nightmare begins. They looked around and they noticed that they were standing in the line with all the strangers in front of them. The line they were in led to Ferris Wheel. The boys realized that they were lost and they started going BANANAS (Dhruv's crazy word for 'scared')! Well... they still had a little part of their well functioning brains left in their heads, which told them to look at the map and find their way to the Dragon Coaster. While they were going around and around the park, trying not to get lost again, Mr. Fisherman was still standing in the Dragon Coaster line waiting for the boys. He waited and waited for the boys (who were scratching their brains trying to figure out the keys in the map). After waiting for a while, he started getting worried about the boys. He went back to the Nemo's show and asked the guard if he had seen the two boys with him. The guard



Dhruv has been working harder each week to become an excellent writer! He is creative.

still remembered Twist and Shout because of their smart talks and he also knew where they went. Mr. Fisherman went exactly where the guard told him to go... Ferris wheel.

Twist and Shout finally figured out their way to the Dragon

Coaster. Now everyone was looking for everyone, but no one could find anyone. Twist and Shout were at the Dragon Coaster, while Mr. Fisherman was at the Ferris wheel waiting.

The sun set in the sky and left the darkness behind. It meant only one thing- time to go home. Everyone started going towards the parking lot. Twist and Shout also started heading towards their car in the hope of waiting for Shout's dad at the car.

Miracles always happen and God always helps those who are brave and find their way out. Mr. Fisherman was standing right before their car.

It was not a bad day after all...The boys learnt one more lesson today: Believe in yourself, face your fears and always listen to your good brain, which will show you the right way.

By Sharanya Madhyastha

MY DREAM HOUSE

My house has a gate and it has a very big roof. In the house it has lot of things. It has pool, and on the other side there is a big, hot tub. There is also a place to sit down near the pool. There are steps and three rooms in the house. The rooms are very big. The living room is very big and it has a very big T.V. On the top floor it has three rooms. One is for my Mom and Dad, one if for my big brother, and the third one is for me.

There is also a big basement in the house. We all play in the basement. I also call my friends to come to play with me in the basement. I like to play Chutes and Ladders™, dress up the doll, snakes and ladders etc. We also have a small library in the basement. I like to read there. I also paint in basement. And also I like to watch T.V.

We have big garage and a big backyard. I love my dream house and I would like to live there.

Sharanya is a great writer who is becoming better and better each week.



MONSTER

By Abhinaya Mukundan

The adamant boy looked behind him with trepidation. His friend smiled. She had dark brown hair and had a one-side bang. She had brown eyes and loved animals so much. She was also good at math. She was 9 years old. Her name was Abhinaya. The boy had black hair and did not like animals at all. He was 10. His name was Jack. Abhinaya wanted to go out into the forest and try to see if the king of worst animals, a big dragon, actually existed. She read about it in a book called All Types Of Animal Beasts. She was just about to leave to go look for the beast, but Jack went along. He finally said, "Why are we going in there?" Abhinaya said, "To look for the dragon beast of course!" "What!" Jack shouted.

"Just come on!" Abhinaya sighed.

Jack finally whispered, "Fine!"

Soon they were in the forest searching. Suddenly, behind them a dragon crept up. The dragon, the one Abhinaya wanted to find, started chasing them! Now they were stuck with a beast following them! The beast had big teeth for defense and the kids had their intelligent minds. Then Abhinaya thought about her beast book. She was thinking about whether she left it at home or if she left it in her bag. She remembered that she was running and her bag was thrown off her shoulders. Then she looked behind her and saw a blue bag up on one of the trees. She started running the other way. Jack screamed, "What are you doing?"

Abhinaya shouted, "Getting my bag!"

Jack started following her, but did not think it was a good idea.

Abhinaya thought Jack thought that he did not even want to go to the forest, but Abhinaya did not care. Then she saw a squirrel that was hurt on top of the tree. So she climbed up the tree so fast. When Abhinaya reached the top, Jack was at the bottom screaming. He wanted to save himself so he started climbing. He was finally at the top, and saw that Abhinaya was already taking care of the squirrel. She was



feeding him with apples, but then Jack pushed the squirrel into the bag. Abhinaya scowled, but put the apples into the bag so Jack wouldn't shriek. Abhinaya opened the beast book and started looking around for the dragon picture.

When she found it, she read aloud, "Dragons are fearless animals. They can put fire on you and do whatever they want to do. The only way to distract it is to make it eat."

Abhinaya said, "Come on! Let's get started! I have a good idea!"

Abhinaya started coming down the tree with her bag and the squirrel. Then she started putting apples in a row that lead up to her.

She let the squirrel run away and hollered, "Jack don't come down!"

Jack was disappointed, but was happy he didn't have to do anything. When the big dragon came up to Abhinaya, she scratched his spiky skin. The dragon roared in a happy greeting and continued eating.

Abhinaya asked the dragon, "Do you have a name? Do you want to live in my house as a pet?"

Jack was in awe. He could not believe it. Abhinaya smiled and got on top of the dragon.

Abhinaya screeched, "Jack get on top of him!" Jack got on, frightened, and held on tight. The dragon ran to Abhinaya's house and Abhinaya named him Howard.



Epilogue

Abhinaya had Howard as a pet. She trained him and he was always good. Jack was not afraid of Howard anymore, but he was afraid of other animals.



Abhi is one of the fastest 3rd grade writers in all of New Jersey. She is getting better each day.

con't from pg.9 Mr. President

Fred now started helping Gunther scoop the paint up. Suddenly, the knob to the president's room started turning. They started scooping so fast, it was as if they were running for their lives at the end of the world.

Mr. President banged open the door and boomed, "What in the world is happening here?" Fred and Gunther stared at the president for a moment. When they were done, they both replied, "Nothing!"

But Fred and Gunther were busted by the president.

"Our small cabin has everything you hate and we wanted to

make it the most comfortable place for you, to stay but we failed," Fred confessed.

Mr. President laughed at this response, and soon Gunther and Fred smirked and then out came laughter. The president gave a gift in return for being nice to him. Fred and Gunther were allowed to visit him whenever they wanted; the good thing was he'd even pay for the trip. Fred and Gunther said goodbye to the president, and took a long nap in the afternoon after the wild day with the president. They learned that they should do their best to make others welcome, but they shouldn't hide their true selves.

Myth Contest Winner!

The Creation Of Spring



By Rav Kaur

Once upon a time, there was a poor magician and a wealthy man whose name was Jack. Jack was mostly happy, though there was one thing he did not appreciate. The weather was always spine tingling. It always snowed, hailed, and rained. It was so freezing that you couldn't even venture outside the house without a winter jacket.

One day, Jack set off to the magician's house. He offered the magician 1,000 gold coins if the magician could change the weather to Jack's liking. He wanted it to be not too hot, not too cold, and he wanted the plants to have enough rain so they could bloom. The magician thought for a few minutes and then gathered a big swirly spring, a very bright light bulb, some water, and a weird smelling powder that was bright pink. He dumped those things into a large bowl. He mixed with strong, steady strokes until the stuff inside the bowl was a fine, rubbery substance. The magician suggested that Jack go home, since he thought the experiment would take days. Over the next few days, while Jack fretted, worried, and waited, the magician was feverishly working day and night. The magician thought that he had a slight chance of winning 1,000 gold coins. Maybe then he would be able to make a better living. Finally, after one tiring week of nothing but work, the magician was finally done. He was probably the most exhausted man on the planet, but he didn't care. His



Rav is an extremely creative writer who has been coming up with great stories for the entire school year.

hard work was about to pay off. He immediately called Jack over. The two men accelerated outside, exploding with excitement.

The magician skillfully set up his spring mechanism on the bare, uneven ground. He placed the jelly like substance on top of the spring. He carefully pulled back the spring and let go. The jelly like substance flew into the sky and kept going until they could see it no more. All of a sudden, the dark, gray, unappealing sky turned a heart-warming shade of blue. The snow immediately stopped, and the snow on the ground vanished. The trees and grass turned a lush green. Tiny, multicolored tulips popped out of the refreshed earth. It started turning surprisingly warm.

Jack threw off his coat and laughed with joy. He congratulated the magician in a job well done and handed him 1,000 gold coins. However, Jack wasn't the only ecstatic one. All the plants and other people and animals were grateful to the magician. Jack named the weather Spring, after the magician's mechanism. This is how the glorious season Spring was created!

Alice the Great Chef

By Meghana Reddy

Once a girl named Alice wanted to become a famous chef. She was 6 years old. Her birthday was on May 6th, 2009. Every birthday she wished to become a famous chef. Her favorite color is green. She doesn't even have one green dress because their family doesn't like the color green. Her parents always let her be a chef. She looks like her mother. She has yellow, tan skin, and wears highlighted pink shoes. She cooks in the kitchen when her parents sleep because they want food. She has her own room. The walls are pink, her bed is pink, and everything else is pink. She started cooking by taking cooking classes. Everyday she takes a different menu and gets together with people. The person's names are Sassy, Sparky, Alice, and Kristy. Sassy gives out the things. Sparky tells what to give out. Alice

Meghnana is practicing each day and her stories are becoming better each day.

She makes the food. Kristy puts the food in the machine that can seal stuff. They deliver food to people by driving it in a truck. She cooks the same food at home also.

She became a famous chef by going to a cooking studio. The same person gets to taste the food every time. Then they setup a restaurant and hire the helpers to taste the food. They give their feedback on the food. That is how she became a famous chef.



Florida

By Anirudh Jasti

I love Florida (Fireworks, Lights, Outstanding Rides In Disney World Adventure).

How and where should I start my story. O.K come and feel my experience in my story.

"Knock! knock!" I said, "Who is there?"

"It's me Ani," said my dad. I opened the door and jumped on him and said, "Hey dad, happy to see you." He hugged me tightly and gave me a kiss and said Ani there is a surprise for you and Raghu. I just get down as quick as lightning and asked what's that. He said we are going to Florida for one week. Me and my brother screamed louder than a siren on a police car.

On Saturday night we went to Florida by airplane. By the time we reached there, it was almost 11 o'clock. We rented a car and went to a resort where we are going to stay for next 4 days.

When I entered the resort house I screamed with joy. I dashed to all the rooms and they were all so cool.

It feels like we are at home. We unpacked the stuff and got on the bed. I was talking to my brother about the next day and I saw he faded off to sleep, while I was still talking to him.

When I woke up this morning, and looked out the window, I saw the sun who was so willing to greet me.

All four days, we woke up early and got ready to go to Disney World E.P.C.O.T., Magic Kingdom, Animal Kingdom, and Hollywood Studios.

My favorite ride was this ride called, "Buzz Lightyear's Space Attack", where you shoot enemies and get 100 points for every enemy you get. If you shoot an enormous robot, you get 300,000 points. I shot things and in total I got over 500,000 points. My other favorite activities were Speedway, Stitches Greet Escape, The Brain Stormer and lots more.

My least favorite activities were Legend of Sparrow, The Haunted Mansion and Carouseusel.

Then on fifth day we shifted to LOEWS Resort in Universal studios. For next three days we are going to stay there. This resort is cool because I can hear the screening sounds from the park. By reading this you can imagine how near is it. The best thing is we had to go by boat car.

If you want, you can walk too.

That day we went to Universal Studios. It was as hot as fire. It was so so hot, I felt as if I were being grilled into a sausage. Thanks to my dad because he got me a hat. Before riding the rides we rode to a restaurant to eat. I am going to be brief about the day so that you guys don't go crazy.

My favorite ride is Revenge of the Mummy. That's my top most ride in this park because it was super fast, twisting and very dark at inside. The craziest part is that my mommy was

shouting

"MOMMY!" on the Revenge of the Mummy ride. And some other are MIB-2, The Simpson's ride and all 3D/4D shows. My least favorites are Terminator-2 and ETadventure.

The day went so quickly. We went back to resort and got fresh up and went to an Indian restaurant for dinner. The food was delicious. We went back to the resort and slept quietly without uttering a word. It was a "tiredy" day.

For the next two days we went to Island of Adventure. Oh yeah, I need to tell you one important thing. That is get your "EXPRESS PASS" that is so cool you can skip the long boring waiting line and go pretty fast to rides, which is the best thing due to that we went almost every ride 2 or 3 times. But we are so lucky, you know why? We got these "EXPRESS PASS" for free! We also go an early admission to the Harry Potter ride and breakfast at Three Broomstick because we stayed at their resort. So cool, right?

On the sixth day, we went out at 8 o'clock and finished the Harry Potter ride and breakfast by 9 o'clock. Slowly, we started to explore the park and went to all the rides and shows. Me and my brother liked the park so much that we went on the next day too.

In this park I liked all the rides so I can't mention everything. I was tired and hungry that I didn't have enough strength to take a step. Anyhow. I made it to the room, and my dad got us pizza. We ate and then slept, not even saying good night to anyone.

Today is the very, very last day of my vacation, and the sun was so sad that I had to leave. As we were leaving the resorts, we said bye to the Universal Studios and on the way, we said bye to Disney World. When we got on the flight, we said bye to Florida.

Okay guys, stop here. This is the end of my journey. I hope you like my whole vacation. If you are between 1 to 15 years old, I strongly recommend you to go to Florida.



Ani is a great 2nd grade writer and has been writing for City Kidz World for 2 years.

Drawing Contest!

Theme: **Summer Fun**

Draw a picture that depicts summer fun!

Ages: 10 to 14

Deadline: July 1

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com

Breathing in Water

By Neha Chaudhari

"Hey Megan, watch me catch a wave!" Hailey screamed, running to the big, mighty blue ocean. Hailey and her best friend, Megan, were at the beach. The sky was light blue with white, puffy clouds floating overhead. Hailey was going to surf. It has been a long time since she had surfed. The lifeguard, Timothy, was on the lookout today. He was a typical teen who loved surfing. Hailey had wavy, short blonde hair that reached her shoulders. Her seawater colored eyes, shimmer and sparkle in the sunlight. Megan has short, light-brown hair to her shoulders that fell into curls. Her chocolate-brown eyes make her look like a cute little puppy.

"Make sure you do not get hurt!" Megan called out, like she was talking to the world. Megan was always worried about this. Here I go! Hailey thought with delight. The big shape of a wave was coming near. Here she goes.

A moment later, she knew she was on the water, surfing.

"Wow, you are doing great!" Megan smiled. Hailey turned back, the moment later she turned around, a wave slapped her right in the face. SPLASH! The only thing she heard last, was the sound of the lifeguard's whistle. She fell deeper and deeper into the water. She did not know what was happening. "Wake up human, wake up!" a tiny squeaky voice called. Hailey woke up in that second. She thought it was her little brother, Jake. When she made out the shape, she realized that it was fish! Many fish! What is going on here? Hailey thought. She suddenly knew she was underwater.

"How can I breathe in water?" Hailey wailed at the fish.

"We do not know human. We think it is part of you," they grinned very happily.

"We saw some other human with blonde hair that had a whistle around his neck. We decided to attack him and he went back up. We thought he was the one who attacked you and drowned you in the water."

The fish looked proud of its doing.

"NO, why did you do that? He was the lifeguard and he was supposed to save me!" Hailey cried, tears in her eyes.

The fish started to cheer up Hailey.

"Why don't we give you a tour?" They asked. Hailey nod-

ded. It would cheer her up and also, she realized that maybe she should look around this magical place of the bottom of the ocean. Hailey found so many friends and talked to the fish, who were touring her around. Hailey suddenly felt like falling. She shook it off and kept swimming. Then, she suddenly saw a huge building in the water. Fish were swimming all around it.

"That is the king's castle," they said. The same feeling happened again. She felt like falling. Suddenly, she started to float up. "Uh... What is happening guys?" she asked. She kept going up and up. One of the fish held her by the arm and all the other fish helped.

"We think you are turning back to your regular human form of not breathing in water...we say good bye to you," they all smiled. Suddenly, one of them left and quickly grabbed something on the sand. It was a purple shimmery gem. It swam back and carefully handed it to Hailey.

"We will miss you," they grinned and let go of Hailey.

"No but I didn't get to... I will miss you too," Hailey cried with one shiny, blue teardrop fall from her sea blue eyes. She floated up and up and suddenly could not breathe.

Sorry Miss Cooper. I did not know this would happen!" Megan cried with flowing tears that flowed nonstop, talking to Hailey's mom. Hailey floated to land, few yards away from her friend and family. Timothy came running and helped her start breathing again. The family was happy to see her safe. She made a vow that she would not go surfing again. The family decided to go out to eat pizza.

"I am glad that I am safe!" Hailey said hugging her best friend. She felt that purple gem in her sweater's pocket and also vowed that she would keep that gem safe and sound.



Neha is one of the most creative girls in 5th grade. Keep up the great work.



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The Witch

By Hasika Arkala

Once upon a time there was a witch. The witch kicked everyone out of their home. Then everyone went to a different house. The witch chased them again. Then all of them went to a different house. Then the witch never found them again.



Hasika is an amazing pre-k student with great stories to tell already.



My Piano Recital

By Prisha Priyadarshini

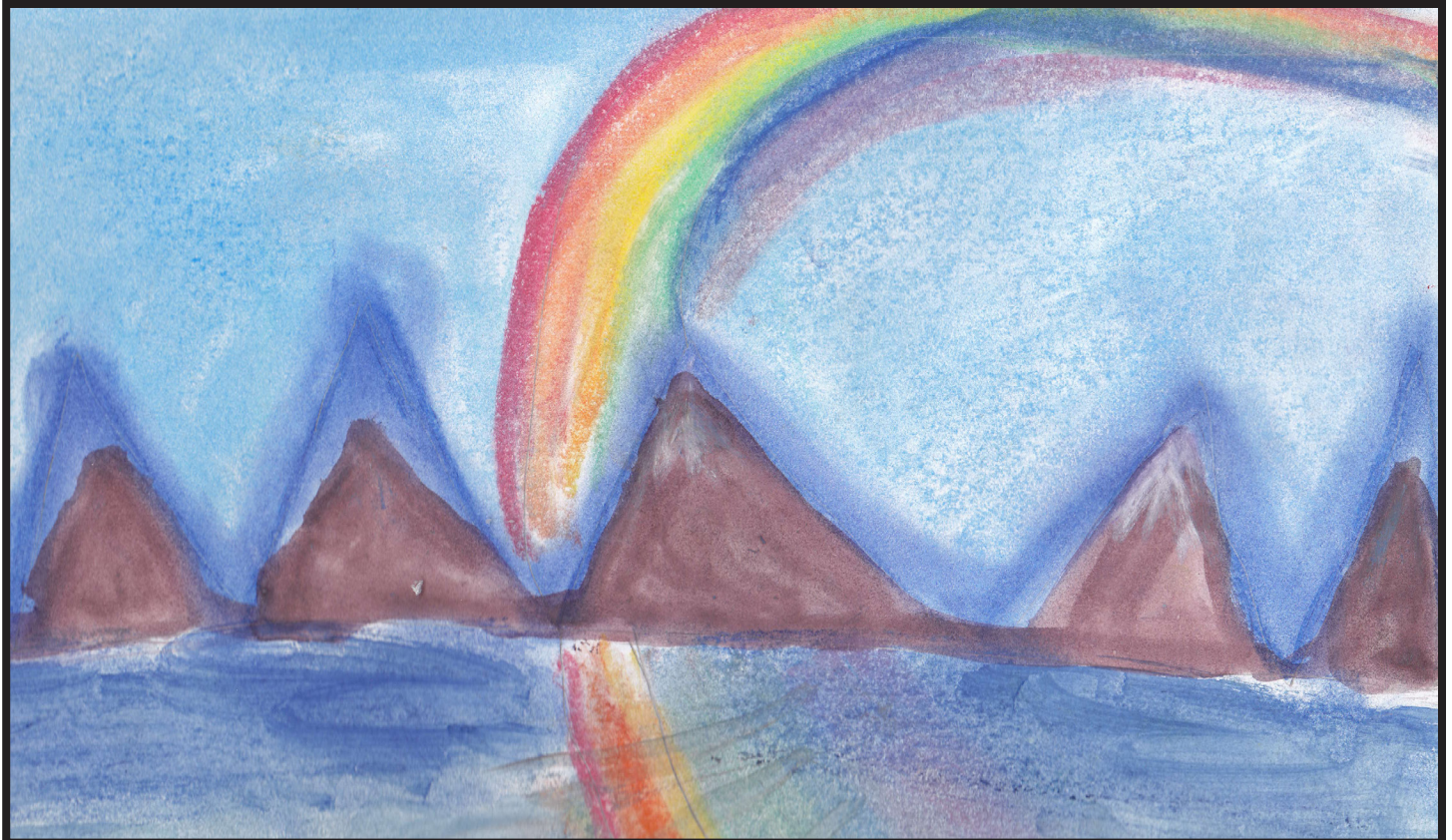
I was very eagerly waiting for my piano recital at the Westminster Conservatory. My recital was at 3:30 p.m. at the Williamson's Hall on Sunday, February 17, during the President's Day weekend. It was a very special, red letter day of my life.

It was a cold, chilly Sunday. I was so excited to get to my piano recital, but first I needed to go to my swimming class. I put on my bathing suit. After that, I went for swimming. I kept thinking about my piano recital. After the swimming class, I went home to take a shower. I took a shower and got dressed in my lovely outfit: a red dress with black flowers on it. Then we drove to my recital. I reached there at 3:15 p.m. The Williamson's Hall was a big hall and had a very big, grand piano. I was the fourth performer. There even was a violin player and a trumpet player. When my turn came, I walked nicely on



Prisha is an extremely talented creative writer who in the process of becoming an advanced writer.

the stage, took a bow and started playing my two pieces: Waterfalls and Lady Bug Waltz. After I was done playing, everyone clapped and I took a bow and went back to my seat. When all the performers were done, we all took a bow and went to our parents. My teacher congratulated me and my parents were very happy and proud of me. After that I took some pictures and went to Olive Garden to eat my favorite pizza and then we went home. I'll never forget this special day of my life, which made me very happy and looking forward to my next recital...Recital



Artwork By Prisha Priyadarshini

www.citykidzworld.com



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My First Day of School

By Riya Manchanda

I woke up to the sound of the tweeting birds. I didn't want to get up, but my mom said I needed to get up. I stretched my arms and legs and fell back to sleep. My mom screamed at me and said, "You're late!"

I pulled my fuzzy, cozy blanket off and put on my purple, pretty glasses. I walked to the bathroom very slowly, got my pink brush, and put the smooth paste on it. I rubbed it on my teeth, put some water in my mouth, and spit it out. I went to the soft, cozy towel and wiped my whole face with it.

I went out of the bathroom, went to my room, and got my clothes that I was going to wear out. I went to the bathroom, pulled my clothes on, and went out of the bathroom. I went downstairs, got ready, put my shoes and my jacket on, ate my breakfast, and drank milk.

I ran outside to my bus stop, walked up the black, hard steps, and went to my seat - number 11. I put my seatbelt on and waited for the bus to move. I read the book *Princess and the Pea*, and when we got to school, I walked down the hard, black steps.

I walked to the front doors and went in. I walked to my classroom and went to my beautiful desk and unpacked my backpack. I wrote my homework in my agenda, put my work in my mailbox, and went to do my morning work.

When I was done with morning work, I walked to the carpet and played learning and math games. In one of the games called Silly Rhymes, my friends, Melinda, Miranda, and I made a very, very, very, very, very, long, long, long, long, long sentence, and it was silly, but then it was getting late. So, we went to silent reading, and we had to have two connections in our book and write it on a piece of paper.

Then, I was so happy because it was time for lunch. For lunch I ate Indian food like rice and chicken.

After lunch, the teacher blew the whistle, and we had to line up because we were going out for recess. I played with my friend Manavi, and we played a game called Tag, but then we started getting very, very tired. Instead of tag, we played on the swings. We waited in line, and while we were waiting, I saw people on the swing holding hands and swinging at the same time. I thought, we could do that too.

I told Manavi, "Hey, do you want to do that? What they are doing?"

She said, "Sure."

Then it was our turn to go on the swing so we ran to the first two swings and held hands. We ended up going at the same time, but the teacher blew the whistle, and that meant we had to line up and go inside the school.

Riya is an awesome 2nd grader who really remembers that first day of school!

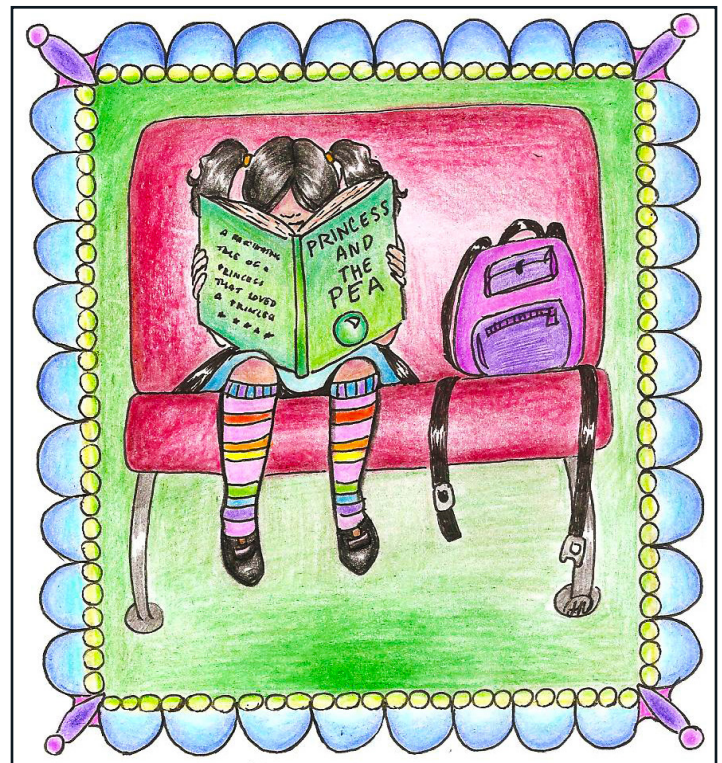


When we went inside the classroom, all of us went to our seats and got our writing folders out. I got my rough draft out and copied it on my new copy. The title of my new story was, "When I Went to the Water Park," and I was glad I moved to my new copy. It was my second time writing a story in school.

We had a lot of time for writing, but then it was time for reading a book. So my teacher, Mrs. Mangene, read a book about Martin Luther King Jr. and knew lots of facts about him. I also learned facts about him, but after reading the book, Mrs. Mangene wrote on the paper on the white board. We wrote a lot of facts about Martin Luther King. My teacher was very surprised with us.

Then the school bell rang, and I had to pack up for the day. So I got my binder out and put my mail in my folder. I closed it. I got my book bag and put my lunch box in it. I put my lunch box and binder in my book bag. Then, I sat in my seat and waited until my bus was called.

Then I heard a voice call, "Bus 5!" So I quickly went outside and climbed those hard, black steps onto the bus.



Art By Julia Kravchin



MY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

By Manavi Gupta

I was so happy to see my dad at the airport. It was 2 a.m. and I was very sleepy. We drove from the airport to our house and packed for school. It was the first day of 2nd grade. I was excited and scared. I went to the bus stop, but came back with tears on my face. My mom asked what happen. I said, "I am scared so I don't want to go."

She told me that Mamma and Papa would drop me off at the school, but when we got there, I started to cry. They told me that they would pick me up early.

I went to the classroom, and my teacher, Miss Prairie, introduced me. She was the best teacher ever, sweet as well. I loved her a lot. She told me where to sit and what to do. We started to do Daily Edit. Everybody helped me. I was excited, happy, nervous, and scared. As the day went on, I wasn't scared and nervous anymore. We went to the carpet and did Morning Meet. We played a game called Pebble Pebble.

We went to lunch. I didn't know who to sit with so I sat on an empty seat. The girls next to me were Erine and Catherine.

"Recess Time!" the lunch aid said.

We rushed to our line and we started to go through the gray doors and into the wind... Shhshh.... shh...

At recess, I played with my best friend Riya. We went on the swings, on the slide, and on the black top.

"Recess is over!" the lunch aid said.

"Aww," we said.

"Let's play again tomorrow!"

Manavi is a wonderful creative writer. Enjoy.



When we got back inside, it was Catch Up time.

"What's Catch-up Time?" I asked.

"It's when we catch up on our work," my teacher answered.

"Ok," I answered. So, for five minutes, I made cards.

"Gym! Gym!" everybody shouted.

"Yes, Gym time," said Miss Prairie. Everybody lined up to go to Gym. I was excited too.

"Right here!" Mr. Loyd, the Gym teacher, said. He also told us to partner up so I partnered up with Riya.

"Yeah!" we both shouted as we got the ball.

"Have fun!" he cried. We started to throw the ball to each other.

"Awww. Boring!" we shouted. Mr. Loyd told us to challenge ourselves - Under Leg, Over Head, Hiking the ball.

"Yahoo!" we said.

Then everybody came to the red circle.

"Clean up time!"

When we got back, it was snack time. Miss Prairie gave me snack.

After snack time, it was math. We learned partial-sums. It was easy.

"Time to pack up," Miss Prairie said. We quickly packed up.

The first bust called was #5, my bus. Bye!

The Life of Christy

By Divyansha Kara

Once upon a time, a poor little girl named Christy lived with her sisters, mother and father. She was 12 years old. One day Christy's whole family got attacked by a bear.

Christy went to find shelter. After an hour of searching, she found a tree for shelter. The tree was covered with beautiful green leaves. Christy was so hungry that she had to eat leaves, plants, and bugs. A second later, Christy's stomach hurt so badly that she wanted some medicine.

Her medicine was water, coconut, and fish mixed together. She couldn't walk so she was crawling to the nearest lake. When Christy reached the lake, she saw a dock and started crawling to the end of the dock. Christy saw an old lady, Sally Ride, fishing.

Sally Ride got to India after a twister. One day Sally was at her house doing house work. Suddenly, she felt the ground shaking! She looked outside and saw a twister coming. "Hurry! We have to get out of the house!" she told her husband, Mike Ride. He did not listen; he was listening to the radio instead. When Sally took one step out of her house the



Divyansha works hard and she is becoming a fantastic writer!

twister was coming after her. She ran to her room and hid under her bed. Mike came running after her, but when he was right about to reach Sally's room it got swept away by the twister and Sally and the room were sent to India.

Christy went to Sally to get the fish and water. When Sally Ride saw her, she asked in a kind voice, "Who are you? Why are you taking the fish and water?"

When Sally took the pail of the fish and water, she looked at Christy again. She put Christy on her tug boat and took her to an island. There was a lot of coconuts, water, and fish on the island. When Christy felt better, they went for fishing. They lived happily ever after.



Suburbs

By Ayush Prakash

If I had to choose a place to move, I would choose a suburb because it is not too crowded and it is not too rural. It is safe.. Living in the suburb ,is a lot easier and safer than living in a city, farm, beach or mountain.

A suburb is better than a crowded city. In a city it is so crowded there are many traffic jams. Cities have no open space for fields or children to play outside. There are no grass field play grounds. Cities are mostly made near the sea and there are lots of noises in city and out the city. There are also lots of vehicles, which cause air pollution.

A suburb is better than a rural area. A farm is too rural. There might be snakes and wild animals. There might not be enough electricity on a farm. They don't have clean roads. In the rural area, there aren't many good schools, like there are in the suburbs. A suburb has a lot of spaces and has lots of places, not like only one market or one school and one post office. In a country side, it takes a long time to get from your house to school by walking, but in a suburb it takes a few minutes to get to school from your house.

A suburb is a safer than a beach. Near a beach there are a lot of storm warnings. For example, we had a big storm called storm sandy and it destroyed the south east part of Rhode



Ayush is one of the hardest working writing students in all of New Jersey. He is on a wonderful writing journey.

Island beach. At a beach, water could billow that could cause flood in the areas and cause adverse situations.

A suburb is a safer place than a mountain. On a mountain, it is very dangerous if you fall from the top of a mountain. It is very cold in nights, morning and during winter too. For example, it can take a long time to get to the top and while you are climbing, you could freeze and get very sick if you live there. And when you go to bed you will have to wear a jacket then go to bed.

This is why a suburb is a great place. It is better and safer than a city, beach, farm and mountain. This is why; if I were you, I would move to a suburb. It is not too crowded like a city. It is not too rural area like a farm. It is safer than a beach, and it is not too dangerous like a mountain. So that is why I suggest you to move to a suburban area. It is very peaceful area. I know you will love it there. You will never want to move from there. I guarantee you 100% you won't want to leave.

The Story of Jay - The Tiger

By Ritvik Mattipalli

Once upon a time there was a tiger named Jay and he lived in the Zoo with his father Sherkhan and mother Amrutha. One day the Zoo didn't want the tigers any more so they took them back to India.

When Sherkhan found his great, great, great grandfather's Cave, he said, "Amrutha, we must live here." When they entered the Cave, a hunter came by and reloaded his gun. Then Sherkhan said, "RUN," and they all ran to the end of the Cave. Jay asked his father, "What is a hunter?"

Sherkhan said, "A person who has a deadly weapon and a hunter will kill any animal in sight." Then Amrutha said, "Look, we have some leftover steaks."

Then Jay asked his mom, "Is It dinner time yet?"

"Yes," said Sherkhan.

After they ate all the steaks, they went to bed.



Ritvik is an ambitious 2nd-grader who loves to write about animals.



The next day Amrutha said, "Look you have a new baby sister!"

"What is her name?" said Jay in an excited voice.

"Her name is Kirtana," said Sherkhan in a happy voice. All day long they told Kirtana how to walk. Then after twenty minutes Kirtana started walking. When it was dinner time, Amrutha did not eat until 9 p.m. because Kirtana was hungry and Amrutha needed to feed her. Then they all went to sleep at 10 p.m.



How The Batman Comic Is Better Than Its Movie

By Chintan Vajariya

The Dark Knights comic is better than its movie.
Because:

- I love comics.
- Movies are bad for your eyes.
- Books are good for knowledge.
- Movies are boring.
- Comics are easy to read.
- In every page there are pictures.
- Movies are violent.
- It takes less time to read a book than to watch a

movie

Books travel faster than movies to country by country.

Movies don't stay long enough so people can watch the movie in the theaters and books, you can read forever.



Chintan is becoming a better writer each day! He works on fiction and nonfiction and its awesome.



Magic Eyes and Dreams

By Manas Bommakanti

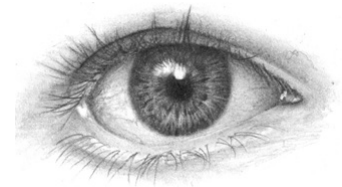
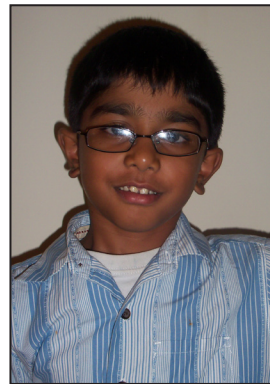
"Good night!" mom and dad said.

"Good night!" Jack said back to his parents.

After thirty seconds: His mom and dad went out of his room and turned off the lights. The dream that Jack had was about going to many different places in the world such as Bronx Zoo, Jenkinson's Aquarium, the Artic, and beyond. Jack wanted to go to many different places.

After three hours: The next morning Jack woke up, he heard animals roaring, it was super bright, and he saw trees! When eyes were fully wide open, he was at Bronx Zoo! Yikes! He should make sure no one sees him because he was at the zoo at 6:30 a.m., plus no one is inside the zoo(including zoo keepers). Then he closed his eyes again for good luck and then when he opened his eyes he was in a dark place with glowy things. Now, he was in Jenkinson's Aquarium!

After five minutes: He was thinking about his eyes and his dream. His dream was about going to many different places, and when he closes his eyes and opens them, he's in a different place. Then he realized that he has magic eyes and dreams.



Manas is becoming quite a creative writer! This is an interesting, zany story!

Magic Eyes! Magic Eyes! Magic Eyes! Jack has them! Also, dreams! Also, dreams! Also, dreams! He has them, too! M-m-m-magic eyes and dreams!

The fifth time he closed and opened his eyes: He was on top of the Taj Mahal! Yikes! There was no way to get down. He has to get home in five minutes.

After two minutes: He had an idea when he closes his eyes, he can have a "1-minute" dream about going home and when he opens his eyes, he's home! Then he tried his idea.

After two minutes: It worked! He was home!

Contest Alert!

Write a Fable of 500 to 700 words.

Ages: 8 to 12

Deadline: July 1

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com



Brownie's Adventure

By Bridget Lobo

"Paula we have a surprise for you," Paula's mom shrieked as she poked her head in Paula's room.

"Coming Mom," she lethargically mumbled. She pushed back her dark brown hair as she walked into the living room.

"Paya!" screamed her little sister Annie.

"There you are Paula," her mom said.

"What's the surprise?" Paula inquired.

"We're going to Disney World!" Paula's parents surprised her.

"I'm taking Brownie Bear!" Paula shouted as she ran into her room and hugged her favorite brown bear.

Brownie was Paula's first bear that she owned when she was born as a welcome gift from her father. She had loved that bear every since. Paula could not believe her ears! Was this a dream?

"Paula, wake up! We are going to go to Disney World today!" her mom whispered as she gently shook her sleeping daughter to wake up.

"Hmmm?" Paula mumbled as she threw her sheets in the air. She brushed her teeth and ran down to eat her pancakes. Paula saw that Annie looked sad.

"What happened, Annie?" she asked her sister, putting her arm around Annie.

"Waah! I can't go to Disney World!" Paula's sister shouted.

"That's okay. We'll go again one day," Paula sympathized.

"You promise?" Annie asked. "Cross my heart," Paula confirmed.

"You sure know how to calm down your sister," Paula's mom complimented.

As the car pulled away from the driveway, Annie pushed her nose on the storm door and waved goodbye to her sister with a sad face. Paula felt sorry for her sister having to stay at home with a babysitter, while they enjoyed themselves at Disney World.

After an hour, Paula and her parents got to the airport. They did the check-in and after about an hour, they were at the security check. Very soon they were sitting in the airplane. Again, Paula squeezed her stuffed animal.

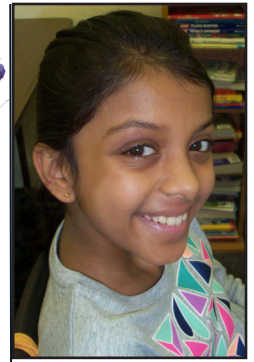
It was about half an hour into the ride when a lady asked Paula, "There are three choices for dinner. They are beef hot dogs, a hamburger and a taco. What would you like?"

"I'll have the hamburger," Paula politely said.

The lady gave her a hamburger and another lady asked Paula, "What would you like to drink?"

"I will go for the apple juice," Paula said.

Paula had dinner and went to sleep with Brownie in her



Bridget has tremendous promise as a writer.

Winter is Gone

By Isha and Harnoor

Winter's gone,

Spring is here,

Let's bring some joy with the Polaris Cheer!
P-O-L-A-R-I-S this year so far has been the best!

Teacher's make us laugh all day,

They are the best,

What can we say?

2 trimesters over and the 3rd is here,

Soon the cold wind will disappear.

Over spring break vacation I will go south,

One will go north,

And I will just go back and forth.

Every week came a test and we would just hope we show our best!

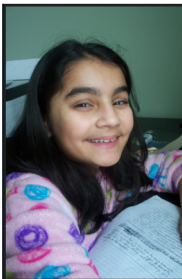
Research project, commentary, experiments galore, ancient Greece and 3.14.

Hashtags and piggy's come and go,

Still our Polaris spirit continues to grow.

P.O.L.A.R.I.S we're up above all the rest we shine so bright up in the sky,

We never let our spirits die...GO POLARIS!



Isha has beautiful poems to share.

con't on page 34

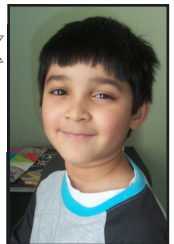
Dragon Ruling the World

By Krish Shah

Once upon a time, long ago, a dragon named Krish was trying to rule the world. He did that by destroying buildings.

The people were scared, but they did not give up. So they called a fire fighter. They figured out

that the fire fighter was useless. So they called the cops. The cops did no harm, but they needed a stronger force. They called the military, which actually made the dragon go away.



Krish is learning to write stories.

The Story of Retalia

By Abhiyudh Rajput

An average Greenville family Jerry the slime in the heavens
Note: CaptainSparkles has been shortened to Cpt. Sparkles

The Invasion

Chapter 1

Continued from winter story.

Retalia rejoiced as (CaptainSparkles) Cpt. Sparkles became the king of Retalia. Better life came for the kingdom. The only hardship that occurred was the Creeptopian invasion. Creeptopia was a bordering kingdom that was the home of the hostile mobs. Creepers, skeletons, zombies, and mobs galore called this place home, but they wanted a bigger home so they invaded Retalia. Soon after the invasion, most of Retalia was burned, tattered, or destroyed. Cpt. Sparkles was in shock when he discovered the damage that the mobs had done. Suddenly a loud pounding noise came from the door. A creeper in a silky, red gown came inside. The creeper was deactivated so he couldn't explode. Cpt. Sparkles' nobles then grabbed the letter from the creeper's abrasive hand.

"King wants a something back," the creeper hissed slyly he then slowly walked away. The letter the creeper gave was from the Wither King. The noble slowly read the letter word for word

Dear Cpt. Sparkles,

I, King Wither the IV, have kidnapped your daughter your son and your villagers. To get them back, you will have to pay me with 9,000,000,000 diamonds to renovate my castle. If you do not pay many diamonds your kingdom will be taken over by Crepetopia.

Your (Could be) replacement king
King Wither the IV

Cpt. Sparkles confidently went to Retalia's many mines. He collected and found. He went through the many scattered chests in the kingdom. He searched through the many veins of caves. He finally collected all the diamonds he could find, but only found 8,999,999,999 diamonds.

"I only need one more diamond. This is terrible. On the sake of Notch why?" Steve groaned. He went once again, but didn't find any. He even searches on level eleven. It was useless, but not entirely. He found something that just might be better than a weapon in his new plan to save Retalia.

Chapter 2

Jerry

Cpt. Sparkles found a giant, green creature. He made a sloppy

sound and was very jelly like. Steve then realized he was the slime that came from the Creeptopian invasion. He quickly attacked the creature, which let out four little cute creatures. Cpt. Sparkles then sliced the three slides, but left the one that screamed green, lean cute little machine. He named him Jerry and walked out the cave. Cpt. Sparkles' master plan then came true. He had a Creeptopian weapon and had his whole army that he could use to fight against Creeptopia. Cpt. Sparkles then went to his meeting room and called all the remaining population together.

"I Cpt. Sparkles have decided that we all shall rebel together against Creeptopia as a country. I have brought Jerry our new military assistant. We all could fight back together as a country! Who's with me?" Cpt. Sparkles yelled. Everyone devoured the news and got ready. The people at the meeting then went to the armory and got armed. Even Jerry got armor. Then everyone went to the weapon's master and collected their weapons. Everyone received weapons just to be safe. The army received the best weapons. Then everyone trekked off on to the Green Path to Creeptopia.

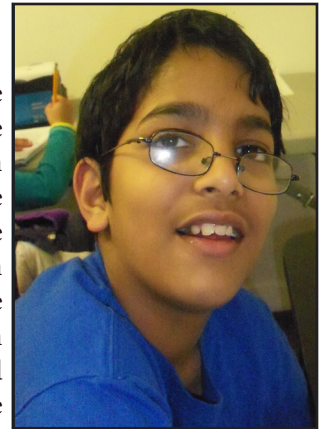
"March! Assemble! And go!" The captain bellowed.

Cpt. Sparkles, Jerry, and his army then marched all the way to Creeptopia.

Chapter 3

The First Encounter Cpt. Sparkles and his army were walking on the green path to Creeptopia. They were overlooking Halloween Town. Skeletons, zombies, and spiders thrived here. Many different creatures were guarding the entrance.

"Charge!" Cpt. Sparkles demanded. His knights lunged forward and stabbed their swords into the guards. The archers shot their bows at the civilians and charged through. Zombies, and skeletons were roaming the land; spiders were hanging off the trees and built webs over the various lava pits. This was the only place where these dangerous creatures were allowed to live. Jerry was eagerly participating in the battle as well. His sheer size and his immense crushing power made him a helpful ally. Cpt. Sparkles then secretly went to the master of Halloween Town. It was the spider queen.



Abhiyudh is a hard working writer. His stories are getting better each issue.

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con't from page 21 *The Story of Retalia*

"Hello Spider Queen!" Cpt. Sparkles scowled.

"Hello Captain Sparkled!" The Spider Queen hissed back.

"That's not my name!" Cpt. Sparkles said back.

Cpt. Sparkles then shot his enchanted arrows. The enchantment made the spider master come back to the good side. All her devotees died off. Cpt. Sparkles and his army then marched off to the next town in Creeptopia, Greenville. Cpt. Sparkles then reassembled his army and continued along the Green Path to Creeptopia. Then they saw giant statues of a dragon and the Wither. Creepers and slimes were erecting statues of many different famous figures from Creeptopia. Then Cpt. Sparkles noticed that there were two types of creatures in Greenville. They were the harmless and the harmful. Some creatures like Creepers were thought to be harmful, but most of them were like plain normal people. The harmful creatures were the minority. The harmful creatures were the ones that erected the statues. Jerry then got all of his harmless friends together.

"Come on guys we have to defeat the slime prince," Jerry squealed. Cpt. Sparkles, his army, and the rebelling population of Greenville then fought the Slime prince. Then suddenly the slime prince had a heart attack. All of his followers then died as well. Next one of the creepers exploded causing all the harmless slimes to vaporize.

Chapter 4

The Memorial

Cpt. Sparkles was now left with the remaining population of Greenville. He counted all the of the people he was in command of, but he was missing one person. It was Jerry. All the soldiers sobbed and cried. Many of the creepers ran off to Retalia. Cpt. Sparkles was heart broken. He couldn't do anything to stop it and that made him feel every bit more worse.

Cpt. Sparkles and his army then marched off.

"Reassemble, and march," Cpt. Sparkles said depressingly. His eyes then created a storm as he remembered the memories he had with Jerry. They soon reached Retalia. Cpt. Sparkles then climbed up to the top of his castle and made a memorial for Jerry.

"We will miss you dearly Jerry. You have done so much for us. How can we every repay you. We hope you have a great life Jerry up in the clouds. We want to say I love you," Cpt. Sparkles cried.

Chapter 5:

Lava town

Cpt. Sparkles's face was very dreary and sad he and his army mournfully walked down the Green Path to Creeptopia. They

were almost done with their adventure. They only had to tackle down one of the guards so they could reach the king. Lava Town was the last guard. It was a really feisty one as well. It was so violent and scary there that the the King had to create a separate portal that brings a person to Lava Town.

Pretty soon, Cpt. Sparkles and his army arrived at the portal. Soon they all got zapped into another dimension. Lava was flowing all around them. Flying ghosts, and fire burning creatures populated the hellish land. Many of Lava Towns inhabitants were easily tempered and shot fireballs at the army that invaded their peace. Giant purple fortresses scattered the landscape. This was the most dangerous city in Creeptopia and Cpt. Sparkles wanted to find a way out, but it was too late. All of Lava Towns citizens became one giant creature. It had one blue eye and shot fire everywhere. It soaked in the various lava pools and falls nearby. It screeched like a chimpanzee and roared like a million lions. It was the lava troll that was in many of Retalia stories. Cpt. Sparkles instinctively set up an enchantment area and magically powered up his bow. He got Infinity II and Freeze IV. He immediately shot the arrows from the bow and froze the fire troll. After that, many of the soldiers followed, pulling the delicate bowstring of their amazing bows. At this rate, the fire troll eventually died. The fire troll screamed, "Eeahn, Eeahn!" and left experience orbs in its place.

Chapter 6

Creeptopia we are here! Luke Cpt. Sparkle's son suddenly appeared. He guided his dad's army out of the dangerous lava town area. He led them across a rickety bridge across lava. When everyone crossed the bridge, they all went through the scary portal. Hundreds of people crowded into the portal and reached the lion's den in Downtown Creepetopia. Many different creatures lived here. Creepers, zombies, skeletons, spiders, and many other scary entities lived here. They all were slaves for the king. Luke and Cpt. Sparkles then led their army through the terrain of Creeptopia. They slashed the mobs and made way for the army. They passed many buildings and saw the many different diamond castles the king built.

"What a greedy person," Cpt. Sparkles then thought.

Suddenly, as they walked, the whole city blacked out. A gleaming light was coming from the top. A flying three headed creature was holding a torch. He had a red, velvet gown on his back and had a shiny gold cap. It was King Wither the IV. The king shed light on the many villagers trapped.

"Help us. Don't spare him," the villagers shrieked.

"How will you help them? You have to go through me and my wife the Enderdragon," The Wither chuckled

con't on page 23

Moving to Singapore

By Sraavya Penumudi

Hello I'm Yvonne. My family and I are right here in front our new house. Let me tell you why and how I got here. I came from San Francisco, California. My family and I moved to Singapore because my dad got a job there. There are also more opportunities in Singapore.

I am in 7th grade. We live in a mansion with a swimming pool and 45 rooms. I was happy about the house and hobbies, but not the school and meeting new friends. I mean there were people speaking Mandarin EVERYWHERE! How am I supposed to know anything they were saying! I am new in the country and only a few people could speak English.

I go to school the next day with my older brother, Adrian, and little sister, Aaliyah. My parents say to make friends; you should say, "Hi and how are you?" I see some girls whispering to each other in Mandarin. The girls' names are Cheryl, Valerie, and Zaina. Luckily my teacher is English and introduces me to the class.

At recess I see those same girls and I say, "Hi, How are you?" They look at me weird and laugh. At gym, Coach Wong made us run laps. Cheryl, Zaina, and Valerie tripped me while I was running. I rolled down a hill as the girls laughed. Coach Wong said, "Are you okay?" I said, "Yes, I'm okay." I didn't want to be a cry baby in front of my class.

Once I came home, I was quiet. I knew for a fact that I was getting bullied. I was a leader not a follower in California. My family knew something was wrong, even my little sister. When they asked, I said that nothing had happened.

The next day I went to school and the girls took pictures of me and posted it all around the locker room. It said, "Yvonne, the girl who trips. Does she have a problem?" I got so upset, I started crying.

This time I had to tell my family, but again something stopped

me. I was entering a spelling contest at the school. I got all prepared and Cheryl entered too. She came up to me and said, "I'm winning not you and if you win, you will face a consequence from me." I knew the word I misspelled. I did it for Cheryl. I didn't talk at all.

My parents were getting really suspicious. They questioned my brother and my sister about me. Adrian said, "I don't know, but it's probably because she lost the spelling bee." Aaliyah sucked her thumb and yelled, "I go to bathroom." She's only in Pre-K 3. I overheard the conversations while I was reading my book.

It was 7:45 a.m. and my siblings and I were waiting for the bus. Finally, the bus came.

I think my Social Studies teacher was the best. Her name was Ms. Bridgette. She assigned a project and everyone had to pick a topic. Whichever one the class liked best, would be the project our grade would be doing.

That night I told my parents. They said, "Why couldn't you have told us earlier and do you know another girl in your class you can make a friend with?" I knew this girl named Jasmine. So I decided I would make her my friend. My parents also gave another suggestion. That was that the topic for the project should be bullying.

Jasmine agreed to be my friend. Everyone in the class raised their hands for bullying as the topic. In fact, Ms. Bridgette even was impressed with me. I was happy. The three musketeers stopped being mean to me and were nice. They said that they were just being vengeful because they used to be bullied. From then on I was a leader of good things not a follower!



Sraavya has a great story to tell.

con't from page 22 *The Story of Retalia*

for him.

"Hello Cpt. Sparkles the great. Fight me again," Antvenom snarled. Cpt. Sparkles that slashed him with his sword killing him within 5 seconds. Cpt. Sparkles then shot his arrows at the wither. His army than joined him as well. They all shot flame, freeze, and intensity arrows at the evil yet royal couple. They became so scared of their son and his army that they ran away and gave their kingdoms land to him.

"Just leave me and Endy alone. I promise I won't harm you.

You could take all my land and my creatures, but leave me alone," The Wither cried. But after that the Enderdragon divorced The Wither. She became one of the many immigrants from Creepetopia and went to live in the now peaceful kingdom of Retalia.

"You know I want to quit this life of being a general. I want to become an author," Cpt. Sparkles said to Luke as the marched back home to Retalia.

When my Tooth Fell Out

By Ian Mathew Poonolly

One night a dangerous storm called Sandy struck NJ. In one house the power went out. A little boy who lived there had a loose tooth that was going to fall out. The boy was a little scared. I just forgot to tell the name of the boy. His name is Ian. Let's move on now to the story. The boy went downstairs. He asked his mom, "When the storm will land fall?" she said. "It's going to land fall soon." Just then a bright lightning flashed across the sky. "That is one fast lightning strike," he said. Then the power went out. "Aaaaaah," he shouted. "It's OK," his mom said. "Where are you guys any way?"

"We are here," Ian's grandma said. He saw a candle floating in the air.

"Alien!" he yelled as the candle landed on the table. Everything was standing still in the room. But outside, wind was blowing like crazy with loud whistling sound and rain. Ian walked toward the candle. He saw hands, legs as he walked

Ian sent a fantastic story.
Thanks for participating!

more, he saw faces. Aaaaaah!" he shouted. It's OK said his grandma. It's us. Oh, it's really dark.

"How about now," asked his dad, turning on the flash light in his face. "Stop that," he said.

"Ok," said dad. "Let's play guess who," said mom. "Great idea," Ian said.

"Guess who I am?" asked Grandma.

"Mom," Ian shouted. They played for at least 3 minutes. At last when it was mom's turn to act, she wandered around pretending to look for something and Ian shouted, "That's DAD!" and that very moment his tooth fell out! Woooooohooo! he thought to himself he will write a story called 'When my tooth fell out'.



The Edd Family

By Anoohya Arkala

Once upon a time there was a happy family who was planning to go to their cousins' house, but all of a sudden Mr. Edd asked if they could go to his friend's house instead of going to his cousin's house. The family listened to Mr. Edd and went to his friend's house instead. Mr. Edd's friend's name was Mr. Lodess. Mrs. Lodess made ravioli and chips, but she put some secret drug in Mr. Edd's food to make him turn into a mouse. When she gave the food in the container to everyone, she accidentally gave the wrong container to the family. Mr. Edd's dad had the container with the drug in it. Soon after Mr. Edd's dad ate the food, he started growing whiskers, mouse legs, and huge ears.

Mr. Edd's family was really scared after seeing Mr. Edd's dad looking like a mouse. The entire family was really sad. Mr. Edd's dad was really nice. He spoke so quietly and never screamed at anybody. Mr. Edd was so mad that he almost wanted to kill Mrs. Lodess because of making his dad turn into a mouse and almost to be dead. From then on there was no bond of friendship between the two families. Mr. Edd and his family rushed out of the building and ran home. None of them realized that they had left Mr. Edd's dad behind. Mr. Edd's dad stood there crying and his little mouse

Anoohya is one of the hardest workers in New Jersey. Her writing is getting better every day. She is awesome.

tears drifted onto the floor and eventually he ran and hid away.

Later that night, when Mr. Edd's family was going to bed, the grandmother found that something was missing; she felt that a big part of the family was missing. The problem was they didn't know what was missing. Mr. Edd's daughter and son found out that grandfather was missing. Mr. Edd's twins realized that they had left their grandfather behind in the house of the Lodesses. The whole family rushed to the palace and wanted to get grandfather back. Everyone was, "Grandfather, grandfather! Dad, it is us!" Eventually Mrs. Lodess put cheese on the floor so that Mr. Edd's dad would come out and eat the cheese, which contained a special drug in it that would make mice turn into humans. Grandfather couldn't stand his hunger so he came and ate the cheese. He slowly grew back his human self. The families are still enemies and will be forever.



The Other World

By Ananya Krishnan

I know a place where cherry red roses and crisp white lilies bloom. A smooth path forges its way through the field, leaving the delicate flowers to adorn the grass around it.

Where the tall, healthy trees grow flows a crystal clear lake. Fish of all kinds: goldfish, angelfish, and clownfish swim in the glittering waters. Refreshing, green leaves hang from the long, crooked branches of the beech trees, and the winding path leads the way through the colorful and peaceful woods, until the river's end. This place looks too good to be true, like there can only be a place so perfect in someone's dreams. No place can be this peaceful and serene.

"Lilly! Where are you going?" A short, brunette girl called for her best friend.

"I don't know," Lilly huffed as she continued down the muddy hill. Her personality was just like her best friend, Rosie. Though they looked like exact opposites on the outside, they were the same on the inside. Suddenly, in the spur of the moment, Lilly tumbled into a large, green bush and all that Rosie saw before she lost track of her best friend was a flash of her blonde hair, and then nothing. Everything was unnaturally silent. The birds that were squawking earlier no longer made a sound. The leaves under Rosie's feet didn't crunch. Nothing happened. She reluctantly moved closer to the oversized bush and swallowed hard, poking her hand in the bush. Something pulled her forward, raspy thorns scraping her arms and legs, before she was fully through the bush and on the floor next to Lilly. Rosie now looked shaken up, and Lilly looked like a mess. Her hair was in her face and her face was bright red. Rosie took a look at her surroundings. They were sitting in the middle of a path, surrounded by various types and colors of flowers. There were tall trees outlining the lake that glimmered in the sunlight, and the round of birds chirping was now ringing in her ears. "W-what..." Lilly trailed off, unsure of what to say or think.

"Where are we??" Rosie finally asked after a long moment of silence.

"I-I don't know," Lilly replied, surprise and confusion etched into her soft voice. Rosie got up, and was followed by Lilly. They walked down the path for a while, bewildered.

"Maybe this is some kind of magical other world!" Rosie fantasized. Lilly, the practical one, bit back a laugh. Rosie was always reading many fictional novels, and Lilly was positive Rosie was going somewhat insane.

Who am I? Most people don't know me. The people who do aren't around to tell the story, anyway. No one has ever gotten out of my trap. These two girls, Rosie and Lilly, won't leave,

either. Of course, I still have to wait for them to figure out their challenge, but they won't succeed. No one has ever succeeded any of my missions. They're impossible! I am known as Lady N., and I am the maker of the scene of paradise that was described earlier. My magic created the other world; my imagination. No one can escape me.

Rosie and Lilly stopped dead in their tracks when something started glimmering in front of them. In a blinding flash, a lady appeared, floating in mid-air. She had a long, flowing and shimmering golden gown that swished whenever she moved. She had long, luscious golden-blonde hair and bright blue eyes that pierced into the girls' souls. "I've been expecting you," she said in her smooth, controlled voice, and a sickly sweet tone.

"I'm Lady N.," she continued after a pause, "I made this world. You have three tasks to do, and if you succeed, you may go back to your world and live a long, happy life. But if you fail, you are here to stay forever, and you shall be my servants, like these other innocent souls.." She snapped her fingers and an army of people, the youngest in the front, appeared. Lady N. smirked evilly and snapped her long, thin fingers again, making them disappear. Her eyes became narrow slits as she seemed to be scrutinizing the girls. Then, she said, "keep walking down the path, and you will find the first one and only clue you will receive for your first task. Complete the first task, and you receive one wish, other than going home. That's the big prize for then end... if you succeed, that is." She laughed and wagged her finger at them as they began retreating backwards, in search of the large bush. Her laughter because cold as she faded into thin air. The moment she left, a determined Rosie started moving forward. Lilly, who was far too frightened to move, found her legs and ran after Rosie. "Rosie! Are you actually going to do the task instead of searching for that bush?" Lilly shot. Rosie rolled her eyes. "Come on, Lil. You know that Lady N. is for real, and that bush isn't there anymore." Lilly sighed and caught up to her best friend quickly. They kept walking in silence for what seemed to be like hours, when a small, gold slab in the ground caught their



Ananya is a gifted and talented writer. You will enjoy her stories.

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con' t from page 25 *The Other World*

attention.

They bent down, and Rosie pulled at the slab, to no avail. Then, they both pulled at it, and with a loud popping sound, it came out of the ground, pulling with it a small, folded piece of gold paper. Lilly hesitantly opened it and a bright light blinded them, fading as quickly as it arrived. The small piece of paper had a clue written in it: two people who think the same won't know where the emerald is lain, unless they look for it in the rain. The girls scrunched up their eyebrows in confusion, wondering what the clue could possibly mean. Suddenly, Lilly, who was very logical, said, "hey, I think the 'two people who think the same' are us, because best friends think the same, ight?" Rosie nodded, saying "Oh, and we might have to find an emerald in the rain." she piped up. It was Lilly's turn to nod. Suddenly, out of nowhere, it started pouring.

However, it wasn't rain. It was emeralds! When the first emerald hit Lilly, she picked it up and took it in her hand. "Its plastic, not a real emerald. And it feels soft and somewhat squishy." she stated uncertainly. "Well, lets go search for the real emerald, then!" Rosie exclaimed, wandering deeper into the pile of emeralds that had fallen from the sky and was accumulating rapidly. She threw emeralds everywhere frantically, only to find more rubber emeralds. "Rosie!" Lilly shrieked, sounding scared, but excited at the same time.

Rosie whirled around, looking for her friend. When she located Lilly, she ran over, just as the real rain started falling and made Rosie run slowly because her sneakers were now wet. She felt like weights were pulling her down. When she finally arrived in front of Lilly, the first thing she noticed was the gaping portal that had appeared, colorful rays of lights screaming out from it. Lilly's eyes were wide with a mixture of emotions: fear, anticipation, exhilaration, worry, and hope. I probably look the same, Rosie thought to herself. A loud rumble erupted from the ground and a loud scream of rag and fury sounded from the sky. Like a flash of lightning, Lady N. appeared as a rain of glitter showered on everything. "We had a deal!" she screamed, louder than before, if that was possible. The girls didn't utter a word, in fear of Lady N. hurting them. "Don't you dare jump into that portal!!" Lady N. warned, her face twisting into a mask of terror. Rosie whimpered, clinging onto Lilly's arms for her life. Just then, a loud clap of thunder boomed into the dark sky, frightening the two girls so much, they jumped up two feet in the air. "If you do," Lady N. started, cackling. her face changed into the smooth, controlled and expressionless look again and the thunder resided, drawing back the ark curtain of clouds and revealing a sky of sunshine. "It won't be good for you." she finished dramatically, slowly fading, as her eyes turned a

bright red and then went blank as she disappeared. The girls felt like they were petrified and frozen, although Rosie was shaking. She squeezed her eyes shut and stayed like that for a moment, before she opened her eyes and saw that the emeralds were fading as well. She suddenly came back to her senses and let go of Lilly, before running towards a shimmering green object on the floor that caught her eye. She picked it up just as it was about to fade, and the others disappeared into thin air. The shimmering Emerald started shaking in her hand and her eyes widened while she held it away from her face. A bright light, burning her eyes, had emerged from the emerald, and something was coming out of it. When they burning bright light had resided, a piece of parchment had fallen out of it. Lilly, who had been watching, ran over, her eyes frantic, as she opened it up. "You have succeeded your first task, so you have one wish to ask. Yell it into the sky, and it it rains, your wish has been granted." Rosie snapped her head up when Lilly was done reading the message aloud, yelling up into the sky.

"You said we can't wish to go home specifically, but we wish for you to open up that portal that will take us home!" Lilly grinned and high-fived Rosie just as a loud clap of thunder deafened the sky and streak of lighting illuminated the dark sky.

"Oh no!" Lilly cried frantically. "She's angry!" they shrieked simultaneously.

To be continued in the next issue.

Vocabulary Writing Contest!
*Use the following 10 words in a story
of 500 to 800 words.*

Bellicose
accommodation
bewilder
Phenomenon
Superlative
Gregarious
Elusive
Irascible
Rancor
Bane

Ages: 11 to 14
Deadline: July 1

BONNIE AND THE APPLE MURDER

By Nandita Shyam

Trouble starts now!

"Aaaaand Action," the director said. Bonny knew that that was her cue.

"Give me your money, hand it all over!" she demanded.

"What will you do if I don't, huh?" Sam questioned. Bonnie stepped closer to the police officer. He took a bite of a red, delicious apple, savored the flavor and held it in his hand, and stayed frozen. Bonny lifted the knife and stabbed it in the apple. The juice oozed out of the apple and slid onto police officer Sam's hand. Then without hesitation, the prop knife was roughly placed into the chest of Sam. He laid on the floor choking.

"Cut! SAM! How many times do we have to tell you that you can not die like that?" the aggravated director yelled.

Aaaawkwaaaard Silence

"Sam. Sam! Dude, you okay?" the now worried director questioned. No Answer. Like a herd of elephants, everyone ran to Sam. The director rushed to First Aid and called the doctor. They came over to him. Bonnie got an awfully suspicious feeling from the doctor. The doctor neared Sam. He bent down. Then, he placed his thumb on Sam's wrist.

"Checking blood pressure," he said. Everyone listened to the director and vacated the place. The doctor had bad news according to his expression.

"I am sorry to tell you this, but he is no more," He sadly stated. But Bonnie still had an awfully bad suspicion about him. Now all the attention was turned to Bonnie.

Accusation

"Wait, you guys, think that I did this?" Bonnie questioned.

"That's ridiculous. You don't trust me?"

"What have I done in the past that could mean that I did this?" Bonnie was incredibly terrified now. In this movie set a lot of her closest friends worked to make the movie possible. She was emotionally hurt at the thought of them not trusting her. Bonnie's thoughts were interrupted by the sound of sirens wailing. Immediately the police walked in and grabbed Bonnie's hands. They took her out of the building straight to the police station.

"This is ridiculous; they have no proof that I could have done this on purpose, yet they arrest me? This is horrible!" thought Bonnie.

Some time later.

"Ms. Bonnie Clyde, your court session is 2 weeks

from now, so be ready!" an awfully odd looking police officer walked in and said.

"You will have a drug test/physical in 1 week. A doctor will come in and check you."

Bonnie was trying to get past the horrible breath that reeked like rotten fish.

"Oookay," She tried to say. She

thought, "OMG, I did absolutely nothing to have to come here and now I may have to suffer from the smell of this freak for the next 25 years."

1 Week later: Doctor Check.

"Hellooooooooooooo.... my...name....is.....Dr.Bageel.....I... will....check.....your....blood.....pressure first," came the narrow voice of Dr. Bagel as he introduced himself. He grabbed her hand and placed it on his lap. He took out his index and middle finger and made the shape of a gun. Huh, lifeless maniac. Bonnie thought. Finally, he placed his fingers on her wrist. Bonnie observed him closely, really closely. Then she realized something...

"Wait, is that how all doctors take blood pressure?" She questioned suspiciously.

"Of course, smart one," The, now rude, doctor clarified.

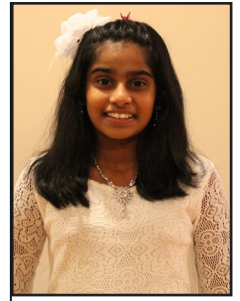
"Hey, you security guard," she called to the security. "Call someone here, I just figured something out that could possibly get me out of this toilet dungeon," Bonnie stated.

Free At Last

There was a lot of chattering in the courtroom. Everyone was anxious to hear what movie star Bonnie Clyde had to say. As the extremely plump judge took a seat the chattering came to a stop.

"I am Judge Courtney. Let us begin. Will Dr. McIntyre please take the stand? Bonnie Clyde has seemed to figure something out, so she will share her assumption."

"Hello, all my name is Bonnie Clyde, as you know. Now just yesterday I had a check up from the doctor. When he was checking my blood pressure, I noticed a BIG difference between the way Dr. Bagel checked my blood pressure, and the way Dr. McIntyre checked Sam's blood pressure. Dr. Bagel had used his pointer finger and his middle finger to check my pressure. But, on the day of the murder Dr. McIntyre had used his thumb. So I asked Dr. Bagel if doctors always use two fingers, and it turns out that they do. So



Nandita is an awesome writer.

con't on on page 28

con't from page 27 *Bonnie and the Apple Murder*

based on that I came up with the theory that, Dr. McIntyre isn't actually a doctor, and he killed Sam.

But, you may be thinking how? With the help of Officer Dan, I got a list of all of Sam's allergies. He was severely allergic to iodine. I figured that maybe, Dr. McIntyre, had injected iodine into the apple that Sam was eating while shooting. Therefore, when he had frozen and fell down he had not died, but had an allergic reaction and fainted. So, while Director was telling everyone to vacate the place, Dr. McIntyre pulled a knife out of his pocket and replaced the prop knife with the real knife.

Then he just checked his blood pressure and said he was dead. But, to do this, he had to have a motive. Then, I remembered Sam had talked about a Jacob McIntyre, from his college. Jacob was in love with a girl, but she did not

have feelings for him and she ran to Sam and became his girlfriend. But, the girl was going to meet Sam one day, but sadly she died in a car crash. So Jacob, was so fed up with him that he threatened him. But that didn't work, and so he became a fake doctor and killed him."

Bonnie said and took a deep sigh. Officer Dan stood up and grabbed Jacob's hands and roughly put handcuffs on them. "You are arrested for the murder of Sam Daniels," Officer Dan said.

Dr. McIntyre was speechless. He did not know how Bonnie figured it out. Dr. McIntyre took full responsibility for what he did and went to jail. Bonnie was back on the set with a new Police Officer actor. But, this time they made sure no one had allergies.

The Worst Day Ever!

By Nikhil Shyam

Hi my name is James. Let me tell you about my worst day in school! One day I was walking around in school with my lunch. In the hallway, lettuce fell out of my sandwich and on the floor. My principal came and slipped on it and fell down. I ran out of the school and a policeman saw me. He said, "You should be in School!" and I had to go in his police car. He asked, "Where is your school?" I said, "South Brunswick High School." The officer was in a hurry, so he dropped me off in my school parking lot.

When he dropped me, I started to run and hide. I was too close to my high school building. School ended and I missed the bus as I was still hiding. I snuck up on one of the teachers who I thought lived in my neighborhood. I hid behind his car so I could get to my home. Then I realized



Nikhil is a wonderful and creative writer!

that he didn't live in my neighborhood. The principal lived in his neighborhood.

So I decided to sneak up on a school nurse who lived way far from me. I showed myself to him and asked him, "Can I use your phone to call my mom?"

He said, "Yes."

Then my mom came to pick me up.

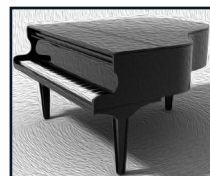
Magic Piano

By Manas Bommakanti

It was a peaceful day in Woodland Street. The Sain family was the most polite family in the neighborhood. They help people, they share with people, and they make friends. One day, the Sain family wanted to buy a piano for Macy. Macy always wanted to have a piano. She thought it was the best instrument in the whole wide world.

"Hey Macy! Do you want to have piano or not?" Dad asked. "I'm coming!" Macy answered, as she drank the water. She came running to the car and sat on the back seat. When she got into the car, she was shocked. This was the first piano she had.

"Joe, Honey! Coming?" Dad asked.



Manas is an awesome writer.

"No, thanks!" they answered. When Macy and her dad started to go to the music shop, Macy started singing her favorite rhyme to her dad.

She sang, "London Bridges." By time she had sung London Bridge five times, they had arrived at the music store. They looked at each piano in the piano section. As they looked in the piano section, they found a cool, gold piano. They looked at the price tag. It was only \$85.59. Also it said it was a "MAGIC PIANO."



Meet Matt Wong: A Brilliant, Young Jazz Musician

High School Student Writes Beautiful, Original Jazz Tunes

CENTRAL JERSEY - Matt Wong, 15, reserved, but confident, strummed his electric guitar to a full house at the South Brunswick Center on a cold, windy night in March. He is a young, musical sensation in the Central Jersey area.

Matt is an independent jazz musician who has already written and recorded multiple original pieces of music. They are featured on his CD, which he produced in a local studio a couple of years ago.

Although still in his early teens, Matt has been working at perfecting his craft for nearly 10 years.

"I started playing guitar when I was 6 years old because I saw 'The Wiggles' on TV, and became fascinated with the guitar," Matt said. He started taking lessons then.

Although he has been taking lessons, he has also been composing his own music.



Photo from <http://mattwong.webs.com/>

At the concert at the South Brunswick Senior Center, Matt played several pieces by other artists and also played his own. "I do try to mix it up so that people will become interested in the popular songs, but then I play my songs." Matt says that his contemporaries are not necessarily fans of jazz music,

but some of them have become more interested when they have heard him play.

He has the support of his parents, who take him to every performance and engagement. He has a younger sister who he said has recently picked up the guitar and impressed him with her own style of music.

"I think she is better than me," he said.

Matt plans to study music in college one day.



Photo by M.Edwards

Matt Wong

con't from page 28 *Magic Piano*

"Oh, that's just nonsense!" Dad chuckled. They both took the piano to the counter. The cashier looked like he was a teenager who didn't pass college.

"I would like chose this piano for my daughter," Dad said politely.

"That would be...\$85.59," the teenager told dad. Dad handed \$86 to the teenager. Then he received change from the teenager.

"Yes, I...I...I have a piano!" Macy yelled across the music shop. When they started walking back to the car, it started to rain. Macy was very shocked when she got into the car. She sat in the car and sat still. When Macy came home, Macy went straight in with the piano and piano book. After putting the piano down and book down, she heard a loud "BOOM!" She fell off the piano and almost broke her toes. She became afraid when she looked at the balcony window. The wind

power messed-up the basketball court, the playground, the power lines, and more.

"Nor E'ster!" Macy shouted. They had nothing to do because they didn't have flashlights, a generator, or a candle. Then, suddenly the power went out. They couldn't see so they hit each other, they hit the couch, they hit the exercise equipment, and they hit the TV. After 5 minutes, Macy hit her piano and all the music establishments in the world started playing. The piano played, "Hot Cross Buns, London Bridge and Mary had a Little Lamb" together. Each song the piano played made Nor E'ster a little bit down. When they got done, everything was perfect. The basketball court, the playground, the power lines, and the mess was fixed.

"Oh! That makes sense. It's a magic piano!" dad said. Everyone hugged Macy's piano because it saved everyone's lives.

THE DREAM WHICH SHOULD REALLY COME TRUE!

By Rithvik Ramaan

I bet you a \$100 that almost every teenager in the United States has a dream career, which they want when they grow up. Like everyone, I have a dream career too. The main influence for this career is my dad. My father is a hard worker. Whenever he had projects coming up, he used to stay in his office overnight to finish the project. My career dream is to become an Aeronautical Engineer. I chose this career because I am really fascinated about manufacturing in flying and I like flights a lot!

I began this dream on a Friday night. My father arrived home really happy that day. I wondered what the reason was. Finally, he revealed the secret. The reason he was happy was because the project he was working on was successfully done and his project was awarded "best project of the year."

That night I thought about my career. The words that were rotating in my head like a merry go round were "I can do it." I really had a strong feeling that if my own father could succeed in his career, why can't I? Thinking about this, I eventually entered my dream land.

In my dream land I really had an unusual dream. It was about my career. So, here was how it started; I was the boss of the flight department in my company. My department had successfully completed all their projects until now. There was a new project coming up. Delta airlines wanted to create a flight, which goes directly from one place to another without stopping. There should all be business class and no economy class.

We had about three months to finish this huge massive airplane. It was supposed to hold about 900 people! There were many problems creating this flight. One of the major

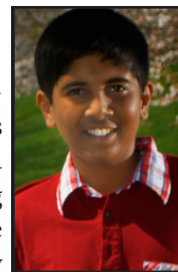
problems was the engine. My department researched about many engines, there were lots and lots of engines to create. Finally, we found one; it was model D568 used for jets and going combine it with engines used for rockets. We had come up with this plan because, we knew it had to run for 24hrs. straight and a normal flight engine runs for only about 9 to 10hrs. Whereas rockets and jets run for more than 24hrs., so this was the best plan to do.

Second main problem was the fuel.

This was a major problem because the average amount of fuel a flight needs for one trip that is about 1000 miles which is about 100 gallons per 100 miles. The flight we were about to build is going about 2000 miles without stopping. Even though we make a larger fuel container, eventually it is going to run out. So we had invent a new way in which after the flight runs out of fuel the pilot could control to refill the tank. Finally, because of my intelligent workers, we found out a way again! It was same like a car; it shows in radar when the flight is going to run out of fuel. We were going to place a fuel tank above the actual container and connected by a pipe so eventually the pilot could press a button and could refill it.

After working on the major project for three months, my team had finally completed our projects and because of this my company received a huge profit. The project had also boosted my level. I'm not just a regular boss. I am a director! It was also selected as the best flight of the year.

I want this dream to really happen, so that I can achieve my goals and live happily.



Ritvik is a writer developing great ideas.

Spring is in my Hands

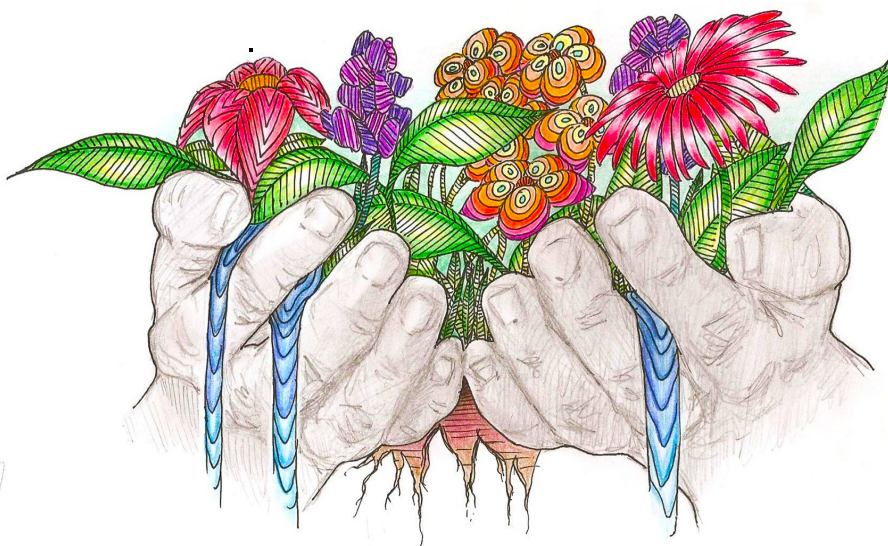
By Siya Gurugunti

Spring is here in my hands waiting to be summer. I look to see the apples growing on the trees. The bees are here giving us honey. The bunnies are here eating carrots. Spring is here in my hands. Flowers dance right to left saying hello and good bye. I see pollen

cowers in the air. The fallen leafs are gone, and the new ones are born. Spring is here in my hands.



Siya is one of the best 4th grade writers in Central Jersey.



The Royal Family

By Eshna Kamani

Once upon a time there was a royal city. There was a royal family who lived there. The royal family had a queen, a king, and two princesses. One day the two princesses wanted to play with their friends, but their friends were too busy because they were moving next to their other friend's house. They helped them pack their toys then they played at the park. When they went home they looked in the mailbox and found an invitation; they were invited to a birthday party! The birthday is next weekend. The princesses asked their mom and dad if they could go. They said the princesses could go. The birthday party was at a water park. When they were there, they went on a water slide and they went in the wave pool. It was so much fun because when they put the wave pool on we jumped over every wave. The princesses went on the deep side and the princesses jumped more, then the princesses went to a restaurant and the princesses ate cheese pizza. Then the princesses ordered cake. It was vanilla with pink frosting. It was Kaya's birthday. The princesses sang, "Happy Birthday" to Kaya. She was turning 7. She blew out the candles, she cut the cake, and the princesses all had so much fun. The princesses did not want to go home, but the princesses had to so they said the princesses could come back tomorrow because the water park was right across from their house. The



Eshna is a confident 1st grader who makes up great stories.



princesses went home and went to bed because the princesses were so tired. The next day, when the princesses woke up, the princesses got dressed and had breakfast. The princesses forgot about the water park. Instead the princesses watched T.V. The T.V. show was about fairies playing hide and seek. One fairy hid so well that they could not find her until she sneezed. The princesses played tug-of-war and the princesses played who has the most space. Then the princesses got ready for lunch. The princesses had pasta for lunch. After the princesses had lunch the princesses went to the park with our mom and dad. At the park the princesses played tag with our other friends. Then the princesses said bye to our friends and the princesses sat on the swings. Then the princesses went on the monkey bars. Then the princesses went home. After the princesses went home the princesses had dinner. For dinner the princesses had enchiladas and for dessert the princesses had ice cream. Then the princesses went to sleep.

By Shachi Chemburkar

Angie and the Lake

Angie was a perfectly normal 10-year-old girl who lived in the silent streets of New Jersey. She thought she would live a happy, safe life as a fourth grader and never ever have a life-threatening adventure that would change her universe. Boy, she was wrong. On a quiet Friday, Angie noticed something in her backyard. She stepped forward. She saw... a lake? She had never seen anything like it! But it was so crystal-clear and blue so Angie walked towards it. She looked in it and saw the evilest smile she had ever seen in her life. She was about to run, but... it was too late. "AHHHH!!!" went a bloodcurdling scream. Angie finally hit a surface. She gasped for breath, and looked to her sides. Her surroundings were simply gorgeous. But her eyes caught a face. It belonged to the smile. Angie's eyes were wide open. She started breathing fast. She opened her mouth to holler when the face snapped, "Quiet! I have been through this for two minutes and I won't tolerate this again!" So Angie became quiet and the face showed a horrible grin. "The name's Countess Rosetta, thank you very much," Rosetta said. Angie rolled her eyes and looked at the black cloak covering the countess. "And you have to obey me or..." The lady turned and cackled. "Something much, much worse will happen. "I need the mirror of my sister..." Rosetta shuddered.

Shachi is a gifted writer. She is working on developing into a wonderful storyteller.



"Linda," she shuddered. "So go. It's in one of these bushes." Angie finally found her voice. "B-But," she stammered. "How do I get home?" "One word: Finish," the countess replied. "Now go!" With that she shoved poor Angie in the bushes. Angie tumbled down on rose bushes. Everything was black. When she came to her senses, she noticed something shiny. It was the mirror! "Found it!" Angie triumphantly said. The Countess ordered, "Good. So go to the other side and break it." Angie rushed over. She was about to break it when there came a portal. It was white and sparkly. Suddenly a fabulous lady came in it. Slowly she whispered, "Come." "NOOOO!" screamed Rosetta. But it was too late. Angie panted. She was tired mostly because she had been on an adventure. But she wanted to do something first. "MOM!" she hollered.

The Great Tanki War

By Gopikrishna Rayini



Dear Family Members,

I, Gopikrishna Rayini, sent you this message regarding the Great Tanki War. This may also be the last letter you see until I return home. The Great Tanki War ended this month. I have been fighting for 15 years and I really miss you. I was promoted to a Marshall for leading the army to victory last month although I closely survived death.

As you know, I got my friends, Rithvik and Sasanth addicted to war games by telling them about Tanki. So, they ended up in the war just like me, but unfortunately, they didn't make it. The first one to pass in battle was Sasanth. In Silence, Pennsylvania, Sasanth traveled down a trap set by the opponent team and fell into a 12'6" hole in the ground. We struggled to pull him up and finally we succeeded. ZAP! A railgun drove right through Sasanth and released a cloud of smoke. After the smoke cleared out, we found Sasanth on the ground. Rithvik ran up to him to check his pulse soon he told me, "He is not with us anymore. At least I hope WE make this."

We then, together, dug a hole in the ground and lay Sasanth in there to take a long nap. The railgun that separated Sasanth from us is a dangerous weapon that has an incredible damage amount in one shot, but it takes a long time to reload. We had one too, but we were saving it for the last battle.

After fourteen and a half years of battle, Rithvik commented, "Ugh! I don't even remember how my father and mother used to look like. I just wanna end this war! That's it!" That was the last word he said to me before he... vanished. After he said that, he ran off into the woods at night from our

camp. I followed him to make sure he didn't sneak into the enemy's headquarters and ruin everything. I was fast, but Rithvik was way faster compared to me. In a second, he raced off out of my eyesight. I heard a Shaft, a sniping weapon, and then the release of ammo. After three seconds I heard a loud yelp. When I spotted Rithvik, he was hiding behind a bush while sniping the watch guards.

I went up to him and whispered, "Are you crazy? You are going to get us all caught here! I don't wanna' get caught after battling this long. I am your leader and you are listening to my orders!"

I waited for a response, but I felt something under me when I was stepping...

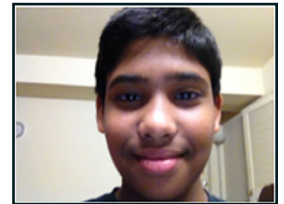
Although this is frightening for you to even read, it's more frightening to experience it like me. Sasanth's case was easier to deal with, but Rithvik's was painful. Even though everyone on my army is encouraging my bravery, I felt weak. I looked brave on the outside, but on the inside, I felt empty, depressed, and angry. I wanted to get revenge so that's what I did. With one blast, I destroyed the last standing General on the opposing side's army. We have him in custody and I am going to arrive home soon. I really miss you Mom, Dad, and Baby Sis.

Impatient to arrive home,

Yours Dear,

Gopikrishna Rayini

Gopi is a talented middle school writer.



Golf

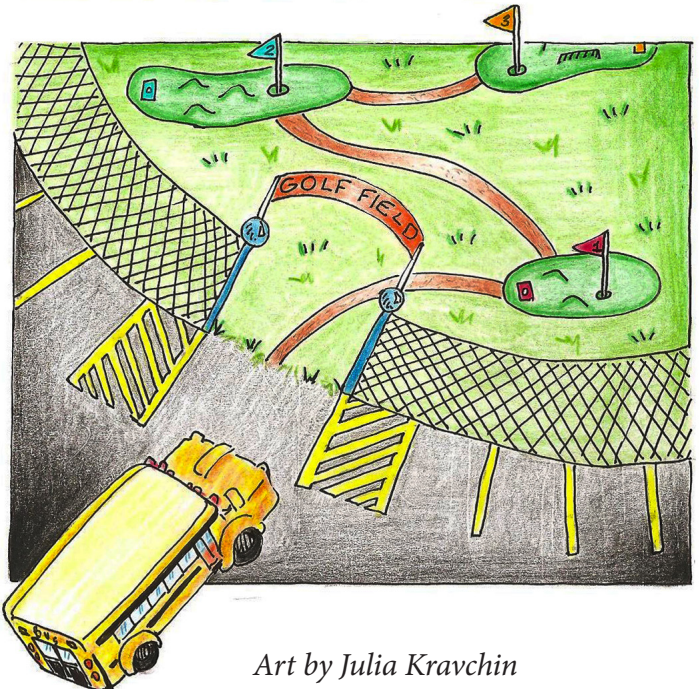
By Ellison Murray

Once upon a time, there was a school that was called Gipy. One day the school said there will be a fieldtrip. The fieldtrip was going to be at a golf field and the day came for the field trip to start. I got onto the bus. I was talking to my friends on the bus. When I got to the golf field a guy came and said, "Everyone, hello, my name is Bob."

And he said, "Do you want to play golf and everyday?" I said yes. So the first game I won and I won and I won and won, won, won, and won. Then it was time for us to go to the school so it took a while to get back to school.



Ellison loves to practice his writing. He has a great imagination.



Art by Julia Kravchin

Video Game Island

By Neesh Parikh

My mom told me to go to sleep. I went in my bed and put my pillow on my head. Then I heard a mysterious sound. I went on the roof. I saw Mario.

I asked him, "What are you doing here?"

Mario said, "I came from VIDEO GAME ISLAND. I asked him, can I come with you when you go back to Video Game Island?"

Then Mario said, "Okay. I said YAY!"

He called Yoshi so we could go to Video Game Island. Then Mario put me on Yoshi and we flew up. We went in this colorful cloud. We smashed into the cloud.

When we got in, there was a door and it said, "Code."

Mario said, "The code is 10-1-2."

Mario opened the door. When I looked in it was so cool. There was Call of Duty People and Video Game Spiderman. I also saw a videogame cop and even I saw a Robot, Batman and I saw the master of all of the video game people.

The next day the kings said go to your video game and play.

I asked Mario, "Can I come with you in the DS?" Mario said, "No sorry, but you are not a Video Game person. One hour later we were done. Hulk came up to me and punched me in the head. Iron Man helped me up. Iron Man asked me."

"Where are you from human?" I said, "Down there."

Iron Man asked me, "Do you want to wear my suit?"

Iron Man said, "It is in my room. Iron Man showed me his other suit."

The next day, I slept in Iron Man's room. Then I heard this ring. It was a phone. I picked it up. It was my mom. She asked me, "Where are you?" I said,

"I am at the... ahh...ahh the library."

My mom said, "Be here in ten minutes okay!"

I told Mario that I have to go leave. I jumped down from the cloud. I landed into the grass. I knocked on the door. My mom opened the door.

She told me, "Go to go eat my waffle," I said, "Okay."

I ate it as quickly as I could. My mom asked me, "Why did you go to the library?" I said,

"Because for school, I have to go to the library."

I called Mario on my phone.

Mario said, "Hello."

I said, "It is me."

Mario said, "What do you want?" I said, "Can you drop a jetpack?" Mario said, "I will."

So when I turned it on I blasted up. When I got there Mario said, "Stay here."

One hour later they were done. I was trying asking

Neesh is an extremely hard working 3rd grader who has mastered the essay this year!



Mario if he could turn me into a video game character. I went down to my house. I knocked on the door. My mom opened the door.

She said, "What is going on?"

"I am coming with you to the library!"

I said, "Okay."

So then the next day Mario wondered, "Where's that little boy?"

So he said to himself let me go knock on his door. So he jumped out of the cloud and knocked on my door. His mom opened the door and said, "Mario!"

Then I woke up and jumped downstairs.

I told my mom, "It is my friend he is wearing a costume."

So my mom said, "Guys you can go upstairs and play with your video games. I told him to come upstairs. When I got in my room, I told Mario that my mom and I have to go to the library because she wants to see what I am doing at the library. Mario asked, "Really you have to go?"

So then Mario told me to come to Video Game Island after you are done with the library. My mom said, "Let's go."

I said, "Coming mom!"

When I got there in the search bar on the computer at the library typed in, "Ben Franklin" and it told me it was on bookshelf number 1.2. I went to bookshelf number 1.2 took the book and pretended to read the Ben Franklin book. All of a sudden Hulk smashed into the library and smashed me in the face. Then Hulk throws me a walkie-talkie.

I said, "What do I do with it?"

Hulk said, "Call all the video game people?"

So I said get everyone in now! So one minute later. Boom! All the video game people crash into the library.

I told my mom, "GO NOW!"

Then there was a weirdo come in the library.

I asked Hulk, "Who is that?"

Hulk said, "It is Blood Man."

Hulk told me to call the king.

I said, "COME NOW KING!"

So then the king came with his weapons. Then Hulk came from behind and then jumped on Blood Man and throws him and...

To be continued in the next magazine...

FAIRY FRIENDS

By Nishi Kamani

The royal fairy and her friends went to play fairy tag at the park. After that, they went for a walk. Afterwards, they had lunch. After lunch, they walked some more. Her fairy godmother came back home too. After they returned, the fairies played. When the fairy princess got home she watched a video of fairies playing hide and go seek. One fairy hid so well that she could not be found until she sneezed. After she went home, she looked in the mailbox. She got an invitation for a birthday party. At the birthday party they played at Jerzy Jump. After they played, they had pizza for lunch. After a little while, they played then they had cake. It was a vanilla cake. Everyone could decorate theirs. I decorated mine with a flower made from Skittles and M&Ms. I wrote "Happy Birthday" with fruit snacks. After they sang "Happy Birthday" to Bella, her mom helped Bella cut the cake. After they played for a little bit, they all went home. After they ate their dinner, their mom said that all of the fairies could stay for the night because they had a meeting during the night.



Nishi is an extremely creative kindergarten. Her writing is exciting.



The fairies had a sleepover. Finally, one fairy told a joke. All of the fairies started laughing until they got tired. They fell asleep. In the morning, they woke up late. When they woke up, they went to sneak up on the mom and dad of the fairies. For breakfast they had pancakes. After they had their breakfast, they played outside. They played tug of war. When their mom and dad came back at night, the sisters slept just fine. In the morning, the sisters woke up at the right time. Their mom and dad had a surprise for their friends. "Your friends are coming to go with us to the water park," said their mom and dad. At the water park we went on a water slide, they also went into the wave pool. When their moms and dads came to pick them up they said "Goodbye," to them and went home for dinner. They had tacos and they went to sleep.

Imaginary World War IV

By Palash Shah

I was watching TV. I saw World War IV on the NEWS. India was on North America's side. South America could not participate because they were ruled by Spain. Somebody just yelled fight! North America was fighting with the other half of the world. They fought and a lot of people died. Then aliens came and started fighting. Aliens were also on North America side.

Aliens had alien-ships so they travelled through other half of the world and tried to defeat them. Then monsters came and they were fighting with the aliens. The monsters exploded

Palash is a talented 1st grader who is learning how to make up great stories.



some alien ships. North America helped the Aliens and the other half of the world helped the monsters. There was an explosion in the middle. There were tanks! They are on both sides and some arrow guys came. They were on North America's side. Some guy went through the fight in a car. Some bad guy shot a tire. He couldn't drive. Good guys helped him. When World War IV was over, North America won.

Brownie con't from page 34

because one day when Paula lost her tooth, the tooth fairy had accidentally sprinkled alive-in-the-night dust of him. "This doesn't look like Paula's room. I am going to look around," he thought to himself as he moped around.

When Paula woke up from her nap, she found a nasty surprise. Her favorite bear was gone!

"Brownie is gone?"

Paula got up from her seat and looked around.

"Passengers, please head back and buckle your seat belt," the man announced across the intercom. Paula walked back to her seat and buckled her seat belt.

"Where can Brownie be?" Paula thought. "I had him in my hands and now he's gone!"

Paula was so disappointed that her favorite bear was missing and it was all because of her! Meanwhile, when Paula was wondering, Brownie was on his way to the first class section...Now he opened a door and saw two men moving something with a lot of buttons and flashing lights.

"It's probably a video game that they are playing. I don't want them to lose," he thought as he walked back to first class section and found an empty seat. He climbed up and read, "Charlotte's Web for a little bit. Just then Brownie felt the plane dipping downward. He fell off the seat and slid down over to a whole different seat. When the plane came to a full stop, everyone got out of seats, collected their suitcases and walked out of the plane.

As Paula got out of her seat, she thought that she could re-

con't on page 37



Alien War I



Param is one of the best 5th grade writers in town.

By Param Shah

It was a humid Sunday morning. I was eating my breakfast. I was having waffles and some milk. I finished and went out to my lawn. I took my soccer ball and practiced some shots. I couldn't make any of them. Then I realized there was a shape on the lawn. At first I thought my older brother was playing a prank on me, but when I carefully looked at the ground, I noticed that the grass was burnt. I decided to go to my room because my room had a clear view to see what was on the lawn. When I saw what was on the lawn, I felt so confused, as if my brain would explode. The shapes on the lawn were all lines. That's when I thought that it could be a message to us human beings. I thought about it for awhile, then I thought I was insane. I called my parents. They were all doing work. I called my older brother. He looked at the lawn and he didn't care. He went back to writing a report on the book named "Gone with the Wind."

My parents came and looked at the lawn from my room. My parents looked like they were going to faint. My mom had started calling the FBI. My dad had started investigating the lawn. My older brother had just come back into my room saying why is dad looking scared? I shrugged my shoulders. My mom came into my room. She said, "Alex, Alpha did you know we were secret FBI agents? We were hiding this all along because we didn't want you to feel scared. We retired when your older brother, Alpha, was born."

My brother and I looked furious.

"You quit?" we said at the same time.

My mom said, "Anyways, these 'lines' you have seen on the ground, might be a secret language for Martians. Before we left, there was a top secret file. In it, it said that there was actual life on Mars. The Martians have their own language. The "lines" on your lawn are actually a Martian secret language."

My dad yelled, "I found something."

We all came down and found that the FBI had come at the exact same time. My dad had found a little red key. It looked like an alien or a fat door with arms, legs and a face with lots of highteck gadgets. The FBI examined it. They had no idea what that key was. They put the key in a safer place. My mom went to the FBI captain. (All the FBI men respected my mom.) She told all of them the incident that happened. The FBI gave my mom a file. She looked in it and said "to Alex's room. I said, "No way, you aren't going in my room." The FBI ignored me. The FBI went up to my room. I didn't have space in my own room. My mom had figured out the puzzle it said, "Every 4 words we give you solve. Will you solve it? Take your notebook and your pencils. Tell the world if you understand." I also took out my notebook and pencil and wrote the the riddle. After a while the FBI went downstairs to the lawn to find any proof of aliens. I went into my room and actually thought about what this message meant. I mumbled

the message to myself. Then I had just found out what it meant. I wrote my solution down. I showed it to my mom. She stared at me and said, "You might be right. She told the FBI. They said the message out loud. "Every 4 words we give you solve. Will you solve it? Take your notebook and your pencils. Tell the world if you understand." Some FBI agents were calling the military. Some were still investigating. Some were still reading the paper. I wrote my solution in and the rest were running around in circles. My mom said she would have to stay with the military for a little while (which meant a long time). My mom was taking a plane to the military base. Alpha and I asked if we could go. She was about to say no, but then Alpha said, "Can't we go? We are old enough and we could even learn some new information." Then my mom changed her mind. She said fine, only if you right a report about this journey. I stuck my tongue out at Alpha. He had to do a report and I didn't. I knew that he wouldn't do it. After a while we got on a private jet to the millitary. Soon we got there. There was so much to see. Then I saw the commander signaling us to come in a room. We went in. We took a seat. There was a screen up in the corner of the room. The commander said, "I have cameras secretly put to watch your house." He had a sense that something would go wrong, so he put a camera watching the house, so we would be safe. The commander was right. The commander turned the projector on. Soon an image started appearing. It was their house. It was about to become sunrise. Then all of a sudden a hovercrafter came. The picture was too blurry to see who was inside. A ray that was greenish came from the bottom of the hovercrafter. A mail man who was near our house started to run away. He smashed into our mailbox. He got up and ran across the street and almost got hit by a car. He started tumbling and his head was in sticky mud. The aliens inside the ship stood in confusion and then went back to what they were doing. It made the writings on the lawn, and then went off. The commander closed the screen and said, "Now we have proof of aliens." He started thinking how fast the spaceship was going. He was thinking how far the alien's planet would be. While he was blabbering about math, I and Alpha talked about how cool this place was. He was about to leave, when the commander said, "I got it, the spaceship might be heading out of this solar system and going to the other side of this galaxy. He contacted the other militaries around the world. The heads of each military were going to meet in a secret hide

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con't from page 35 *Alien War I*

out underground in a about a week. All the militaries were alerted. Me and Alpha and my mom went out of the room. It was getting dark. We got a room in the military. It was a 5 star room. We went into our rooms and went to sleep.

Six Days Later

In the morning, Alpha and I got up first. It was 6 a.m. Some workers were up, but the rest were asleep. Me and my brother left the room and decided to search the military for cool stuff. We first saw a door. It was locked. You needed a card and a pin #. Alpha was very good with craking code. He once saved his friend. His friend didn't know his password for his locker. Alpha used a paperclip and got the lock out. Alpha went back to work. Alpha opened the circuit and cut some wires. Soon the code was cracked. We went in and saw explosives. Alpha and I secretly took some dynamite sticks. We looked out the door. The coast was clear. We tiptoed into the hall. You were able to hear people snoring. We next found a door. It was wide open. We went in and saw lots of different guns. Then we saw an animal that looked just like the same kind of creature that was on the key that Dad had found in the lawn. It turned around and started staring at us. The creature started to realize we were the enemy. It started running around in circles and speaking an unusual language. It tripped over its own tail. It picked up a gun. The alien was trembling with fear. Me and my brother put our hands up. The creature thought we were going to attack when we put our hands up. It pulled the trigger. (The alien didn't know any thing about the gun. He was holding it backwards. He then shot). A "boom" came from the gun. My brother and I closed our eyes. When we opened it we saw the alien on the floor with steam coming out of its body. Alpha went close to the creature. He took out a gadget from the alien's pocket. He tossed it to me. I was really good with riddles, gadgets and math. While my brother was looking for other gadgets, I tried to figure out what was the gadget in my hand. I guessed it was a tracking device. The alien could see its home planet from here. The alien might have been on a solo mission. When I was about to tell Alpha what the gadget was, but then we heard our names being called. We stuffed the alien gadgets in the their pockets. We went to our room and looked inside it. Our mom was in bed. She had gotten up, but not fully awake. We rushed into our rooms. We hid the gadgets in our pillows. We took out a deck of cards and played war. The next second our moms came in our room.

"Nothing mysterious like going into a room full of guns and finding an alien is going on," I said smiling. My brother gave me an evil stare.

My mom said, "Okayyyyyyy," and she left the room. Me and my brother sighed in relief. I made sure no one was watching. I got all the gadgets out of the pillow. Me and Alpha looking at the gadgets the alien had. He had his own explosive.

"It was trying to explode the building," I said.

"Or maybe it was trying to explode the building," my brother said.

I looked at him and said, "That was exactly what I said."

My brother said, "No you didn't."

Then we started fighting. Our mom came in the room with us with the gadgets all on the floor.

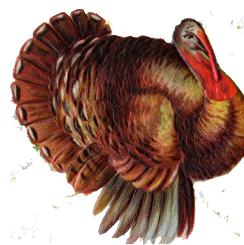
She said, "What is this !?!?!?!"

We confessed to her and went straight to the "principal's office." We told the commander what happened. The commander looked at all the gadgets and said, "Nice work, kids." My mom was a little angry. The next thing that happened was the sky started turning red and dots were staring to appear in the sky. It was the beginning of the invation. We went on the international radar. The aliens blew up the international radar signal. Soon the alien ships were visible. We brought our lasers. As soon as the first fire started the invation started. We shot first and knocked down 1 out of the 1,000,000 space ships. The spaceships came down and started firing at the military. My family went in the military. We went in our room and hid. After about 10 minutes we heard foot steps. We were hiding in our bedroom. Alpha remembered the explosives he had brought. He went to get it. He got the explosive, but an alien saw him. Alpha and I pretended to be a coat. It wasn't that easy, unlike in the movies. The alien opened the door and "bamm", our mom hit the alien directly in the face. It fainted. There were other aliens behind the alien my mom hit so we got captured. The aliens brought us outside. We saw the commander. My mom and the commander winced at each other and mouthed the words 3,2,1, go. They both broke free. Alpha and I followed our mom. Our mom said through your explosive. He set it on fire and threw it. The aliens couldn't see us because of the smoke and me and Alpha couldn't see the commander and our mom. After the smoke cleared, we were surrounded by aliens. I could hear my heart beat pounding in my face. The aliens loaded their guns. I went behind Alpha who wasn't scared at all his reaction was actually happy. The alien said, "Eerht, owt, eno. Then a Kaboom came. I held my breath. I felt a pain in my leg. I was off balance. My mind was blank. I fell to the floor and the next second my eyes were closed. I heard a, "NOOOOO--"

To be Continued in the next magazine...

TURKEY PROTEST

By Sreeram Nagappa
Dear Farmer,



Sreeram is a talented middle school writer.

Why settle for a meatless turkey like me, when you can have cows for a tasty and wonderful Thanksgiving dinner? Once you try these great cows, you'll never go back to cooking bland and dry turkeys for Thanksgiving. This is an opportunity for you to become a successful leader. The next thing you know, people will be greatly in love with cows. Everyone will start following you and this will make you proud for the rest of your life. One thing that your family doesn't want is getting ill and maybe even going to the hospital. I recently found out that I have turksaphoia. This is a rare disease that turkeys get. The symptoms for this disease are severe coughing, constant vomiting, desperate itching, and lastly the temptation of drinking water. You will have to owe it to your family for making them ill. In short, you've got nothing to lose and everything to gain. When every dollar counts, it's good to save money by cooking cows for dinner. With a cow's meat, you can cook about anything: a tasty sandwich, a beef burger, or even an organ special for you to devour. That's a very delicious meal. The cow's tasty fat might make tears of joy run down your dirty, rough face. You won't be disappointed if you chose the cows as an alternate Thanksgiving meal. The cow is an obvious choice to most people and maybe even you. Remember, time is running out, you must act now. You'll be glad you made this choice. A Thanksgiving feast awaits you and your family.

Your Mentor,
Turkery Gobblehead

From My Window

By Jeanique Hawks

*From my window I see everything
I see deep green forest and flowing rivers
The speeding trains and fluffy clouds
What I see feels beyond me
But the truth is not what I see*

*But Beyond my window is grime
A scene of crime
There is graffiti overdone
Miles of litter that run and run
No blue skies just ruined air
And the hovering cloud of filth*

*From my window I see a lot
From sweetest dreams to darkest marks
Not everything is nice to see but those are pleasures
Beyond me is crime to see
I marvel to see things out my window.*



Jeanique Hawks is a talented 6th grade ELA honors student at Central Jersey College Prep Charter School (CJCPCS). She loves to write short stories and poetry and recently received the Literacy Award by the school for her outstanding achievement in her honors English class.

Brownie con't from page 34

over to a whole different seat. When the plane came to a full stop, everyone got out of seats, collected their suitcases and walked out of the plane.

As Paula got out of her seat, she thought that she could resume looking for Brownie. She searched the whole plane and failed in finding her beloved bear. Brownie could not find Paula. He decided to go with plan, "B".

Brownie had overheard Paula's parents' conversation about the hotel. He scampered out of the plane and airport. After an hour of walking, Brownie had approached the Marriott Hotel. He took an elevator and realized he did not hear what floor and room that Paula's family would be. Then he crawled to the corner of the elevator and waited.

Paula's family had just reached the hotel. Paula raced to the elevator and opened it. When her family caught up with her, Paula walked in elevator. She saw something in the corner that was brown. Then she realized that it was her bear.

"I found Brownie!" Paula told her parents excitedly as she picked up her bear and gave it a big hug.

"I will never lose you ever again," Paula promised. And she never did!

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Reaching Your Goal

By Laya Venkatesan

*It might seem far away.
The wish that you dream.
But it is a lot closer
than it actually seems.
Just one little step
can take you there,
so take it slow
and off you go!
Sometimes speeding up
can slow you down.
Slow and steady
wins the race!
Your adventure
is the ocean.
Every stroke
gets you closer
and closer.
If something stops you,
you don't back away;
you face it.
And you swim right
through it.
You can't reach your goal
on your own.
You need a little nudge
to get you started.
But, when you finish,
it's all on you.
Crossing the finish line
is not all that matters.
The journey is what counts.
An inch, a mile, even a blow
can take you where you want to go!*



Laya has a beautiful writing style. Enjoy her poem.

The Royal Princess

By Krisha Patel

One day there was a princess. The princess has blue eyes and has black hair and her voice is pretty. Her skin is peach. She lived in a castle and she lived with a prince and the Bad Lady. The Bad Lady was always bad. She never gave them any water to drink. They did not like it and had to stop it, but they did not know how to. The Fairy God Mother came to help them with her magic wand. She used it to take the Bad Lady's powers. The Bad Lady looks like she has brown eyes and has peach skin. Her clothing is purple and her voice is high. Her hair is black. The Fairy God Mother poofed in with her magic wand and there was glitter. The glitter is golden. The Fairy God Mother's wand



Krisha is an awesome writer. This is the first time that she has written a story for City Kidz World.



is pink. The Fairy God Mother and the Bad Lady talked and talked. The Fairy God Mother said to the Bad Lady, "Stop being bad to the prince and princess!"

"No I don't want to," said the Bad Lady.

The Fairy God Mother made the bad lady disappear and said, "Abracadabra."

Then the princess was happy again and the prince too.



Should A Popular Book Be Banned At School?

By Aishwarya Mukudan

Your kindergartener comes home from school, crying about how The Three Little Pigs vanished from the shelves of her school. You find out it's because some parents believe that wolves going down chimneys and dying pigs are not a very good scene for children. What? That's ridiculous! This is an example of what happens when you ban books.

If they ban a popular book, such as The Three Little Pigs, because some people say it is not an appropriate story for children, you can find something not appropriate in every single book. In "Harry Potter", there is magic, killing, orphans, and boarding schools. In "Hansel And Gretel", there is cooking children, eating candy, and an evil mother. If all topics were off limits, where would you draw the line in book banning? You could end up banning every single book in the school library for something silly like, the book talking about eating candy! Forbidding books will raise an even bigger problem. If you find a book inappropriate for your children, you can just make sure they don't check it out at school. You shouldn't prohibit something if it is going to be a loss for many others! You may be thinking: If they have it at the school library, what if the teachers make my child read the book, as a guided reading assignment? Well, I've got an answer for that.

Usually, when teachers pick guided reading books for the class to read, they pick unpopular books. They pick books that students probably wouldn't have read, so they can have a heated discussion about it. But if they still forbid the book, other stu-

dents who don't have a problem with it, will not get a chance to read it. They may not have access to any library source for whatever reason and rely on the school library. But if all the good books are banned at the school library, those students who rely on it won't have much to read. Sooner or later, they will lose interest in reading. That's most definitely not the goal for many schools. The principal of a school in New Jersey said, "Most kids despise reading and don't understand how big a key it is for life. Our goal, as a school, is to make kids enjoy reading." To make that possible,

you need to offer good books that children will take on their own. Books that most kids like. Books that make children love to read. That includes popular books, as well.

Overall, popular books shouldn't be banned from schools just because one or two people think it's not appropriate. You need to have many good reasons and a lot of people on your side to actually prohibit a book. Your kindergartener comes back from the next day with a wide, toothy grin and shouts, "Mommy! Daddy! We have The "Three Little Pigs" back at school! I can read it now! YAY!" It will even make your children a lot happier!



Aishwarya is a great writer. Each issue she has submitted a fantastic, intelligent story!

OKAYKIDDO
PHOTOGRAPHY

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Contest Alert!

Short Film Contest!

Create a short video of 1 to 2 minutes depicting great summer fun in

New Jersey!

Ages: 12 to 18

Deadline: July 1

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com

Photography Contest!

Submit a photo depicting summer fun!

Deadline: July 1

Ages: 10 to 17

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com

Allegory Contest Winner!

The Fearless Trio



By Laya Venkatesan

The Princess

(Told in first person- perspective of the princess: Grace)

I paced back and forth through The Grand Room taking short breaths. My mind echoed with the thoughts of having the Royal Exam in 3 days.

“Click! Click! Click!” I heard footsteps quickly tapping their way toward the room.

It could only be one person; Mom.

The door swung open, “Princess Grace!” she yelled furiously. Her charming smile wiped away from her face. Her kind, happy tone was no longer there.

“Yes?” I reluctantly answered, as I tried forcing a smile.

“Your father, King Liam, told me that you were here studying for the Exam. But, it is clear that you aren’t taking this seriously,” Queen Angelina, (my mother), frowned.

I bit my lip, not sure of what to say. I am incredibly nervous for this Exam because everyone depends on me to pass. This Exam grants me legal rights to be the Queen when I get older. I am afraid that I will disappoint everyone if I don’t do well.

“Well...” my mom expected a reply from me. She tapped her high heels in anticipation.

“I just don’t think I’m going to be able to pass the Exam. I’m afraid that if I don’t pass, everyone will be disappointed in me,” I confessed. My head hung down with shame.

My mom tried her best to put on a sympathetic look, “Grace, I’m sure you will do fine. But, if you don’t believe in yourself, then there is no chance that you will do well. So, please, at least try and study,” Queen Angelina pleaded.

I sighed, rolling my eyes in disbelief. I knew I had no choice.

“Okay, I guess I’ll give it a try,” I acquiesced.

My mom grinned like a Cheshire Cat, “Grace, I am so proud of you!” she exclaimed.

I shrugged my shoulders casually as if it was no big deal, “Anyway, where is the book I have to study from?” I asked.

Queen Angelina dug through her bag. The bag was adorned with pearls and every bit of it sparkled. Finally, she pulled out a huge, wide-length book.

“So, which part do I have to study in the book?” I questioned.

Instantly, my mom started chortling as if I was being facetious. Then, the laughter slowly died down from her voice

when she saw my bewildered look. “You do know that everything in this book is going to be in the Exam, right?” she clarified.

“WHAT!” my jaw dropped, as my eyes blankly stared at the endless pages in the book.

The Troll

(Told in first person- perspective of troll: Quinn)

No one knows who I really am; neither do they want to know who I really am. I lie in a place below darker than the shadows; trying to hide myself. I am just a mistake; a huge mistake, that even if you try and erase it, it will be permanently there. Sometimes, I wish I could just disappear. The one and only friend I have is Owl; wise, old Owl. He is the only one who sees me for who I really am instead of an ugly, repulsive troll. However, I have made another friend too, but the friendship most likely won’t last long. We always talk to each other every afternoon. However, we can’t see each other because I live in a cave. Of course, I could get out of the cave, but I don’t want to ruin this friendship because my new friend saw who I really am. She comes outside the cave everyday and talks to me. I could hear her perfectly clear because her voice echoes through the cave. The sound of her sweet, honey-like voice soothes and calms me. One day, she asked me why I couldn’t come out of the cave. I told her that I couldn’t come out of the cave because I have a terrible sickness, and I’ll only get better in about 3 days. She actually took that into consideration, and said that we should meet on Happy St. in 3 days. Now, there lies no hope in this friendship. I knew there was only one person I could go to; wise Owl.

The Unicorn

(Told in first person- perspective of the unicorn: Lily)

The bright sun illuminated the day as it splashed sunlight everywhere. I smiled with delight, enjoying the pleasant day. But, I knew this wouldn’t last for long. In 3 days, the burden will finally be on me. I have to live up to the high expectations of the Flynn family. Soon, it will be Rainbow Magic Day. This is an annual festival where the rivalry between the Flynn family, (my



Laya is an award winning allegory writer.

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con't from page 40 *The Fearless Trio*

family) and the Quixote family plays out. These two families are the best Rainbow makers. My family has always won and made the best rainbow. Now, I am expected to do the same and raise the bar even a bit higher. I am afraid of messing up and failing. That's why I don't even want to try and make a rainbow. What is the point if I don't even know how to? I have tried to get some assistance from my dad, since he is a master with rainbows. But, only his words echo in my mind, "Feet apart, head down, body straight, and shoot." He makes it sound so easy, but I know I can't do it. My mom says I need encouragement, my dad says I need to practice, and my brother told me to relax and take a break. Maybe, I need all of these things combined together. Therefore, I first decided to take a break and to go where I always go; the Fields.

The Princess

(Told in first person- perspective of the princess: Grace)

"Whoa, whoa, whoa!" I took a deep breath as I let my mind recover from the information trying to be processed.

"So, you are saying I need to know all of this?" I questioned, gesturing to the entire book.

My mom nodded slowly, "Well, honey, if you think about it, it isn't that bad. I'm sure that you can easily study all of this in 3 days. You just have to put your mind to it," she tried to encourage me.

I first moaned, and then my mood immediately changed to irate. "No mom! You don't understand! I can't do any of this. You just think that I have to close my eyes and believe, and I'll pass. But, it isn't that easy!" I vented my bottled up frustration at once that has been brewing for a while.

My mom stood in astonishment, clueless of what to say. "Calm down, Grace," she slowly said. "Why don't you just go outside, and get some fresh air. Trust me on this one. You will pass for sure. But, don't go around searching for your triumph. Let the success come to you."

"Okay mom; I guess you're right. I just need to go out and take a little break." I conceded, as I walked to the door to go outside the Palace.

The Trio Meets

(Told in third person-limited: Princess Grace)

Princess Grace headed outside walking aimlessly into the woods. Suddenly, she bumped into Lily, (the unicorn).

"Whoa! I'm sorry!" Princess Grace apologized, just realizing that animals can't talk.

"Oh, it's okay," Lily replied, casually.

Princess Grace screamed, hiding behind a puffy bush. "You can talk?" she slowly peeked to the side of the bush.

"You are a person. How can you hear me?" Lily questioned.

"Wait a minute.

You're a girl and you could hear me...that could only be possible if you, if you...."

"If I, if I..." Princess Grace waited in anticipation.

"If you're one of us," Lily finally completed the sentence.

Princess Grace was baffled, as her face portrayed bewilderment. "Are you saying I'm a unicorn? No, no, no. This can't be," Princess Grace shook her head, releasing her terrible thoughts.

"Yes, if you can hear me, that means you are one of us. It has been like that for ages now. It is carved on every family stone. I wondered what that meant, but I'm sure that it means that you are part of the unicorn family," Lily assured.

"No, I don't believe you," Princess Grace disagreed.

"WELL YOU ARE A UNICORN WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!" Lily bickered.

While Quinn, (the troll), was on his way to meet Owl, he heard Lily and Grace's argument, and knew he had to stop the fight immediately.

He tentatively approached them. "I couldn't help overhear your fight, so what seems to be the problem?" he asked.

At first, Princess Grace seemed confused. But, then she started to explain what was going on. "Well, Lily," she pointed to the unicorn, "insists that just because I can hear her, I am one of them. But, I know it can't be. I never remember being a unicorn," Princess Grace assured.

Quinn raised his eyebrow, "Maybe I know someone who can help. Why don't you guys come with me to go see Owl; he is wisest of them all."

Princess Grace and Lily exchanged curious looks, and shrugged. They followed Quinn on their way through the Fields.

The Overcoming

(Told in third person-limited: Owl)

It was a calm, tranquil day, where you can only hear the quiet, sweet bird tweets every now and then. Owl finally had time to rest and relax. He set his foot position on the branch making himself comfortable. He loved sitting high above on his tree; he felt superior and powerful in his own way.

Owl quickly scanned his surroundings, and saw a unicorn, a girl, and his friend Quinn (a troll) approaching his way.

"I wonder what they are coming here for," Owl thought, suspiciously.

Grace skipped along, as Lily and Quinn trailed behind her. The flowers bloomed and were beautiful. The grass stood straight and not of them hunched down. It was a gorgeous day.

"Stop," Quinn ordered, "This is it," he pointed to Owl's tree.

"Ummm...but, where is Owl?" Princess Grace asked curiously.

"Right here," Owl hooted.

con't on page 42

con't from page 41 *The Fearless Trio*

"Oh my! Wait, if I can hear the owl, does that mean I am an owl too?" Princess Grace exclaimed with a concerned look.

Lily tilted her head, having a bewildered look. "I'm not sure," she admitted.

"Whoa! So, does that mean I'm a unicorn and an owl? No, how can this even be?" Princess Grace took deep breaths.

"Calm down, princess. Let Owl clear up everything for you. Tell him," Quinn nudged Princess Grace.

"Well, uh, I bumped into a unicorn named Lily, and I could actually hear her! She said that people can only hear animals if they are one of them, but I am positive that I am not a unicorn. Plus, I can hear you too. So, does that mean I'm an owl too? Anyway, I am just really confused," Princess Grace explained.

"Well, if you have the power to hear one animal, you have the capability to hear any animal. So, that is why you can hear me too. And as for how you can hear Lily, I think that you are misunderstanding the phrase "one of us." What that means is that you are just like Lily. You are going through the same problem as her and facing the same obstacle. In fact, I think all of you are going through the same road block," Owl gestured to Quinn, Lily, and Grace.

"What are you talking about?" Quinn questioned as his eyebrows furrowed.

Owl sighed; he looked as if he was about to talk, but he closed his mouth almost instantly, "Listen, before I say anything else, let me just ask you one thing. You guys all are going to have to do something sooner or later that could determine a lot, right?" he asked as if he already knew the answer.

Lily, Grace, and Quinn all nodded intuitively.

Owl smiled. "Well, what is stopping you from achieving what you want to do?" he inquisitively questioned.

Princess Grace glanced at the sky, trying to think of what was stopping her. Quinn stared at the ground, as if his mind was vibrating with only one thought, and Lily bit her lip like it was on the tip of her tongue.

At first, they hesitated. But, then they confidently spoke, "Fear," they said in unison.

Owl looked at all of them, indicating that his work was done.

"But wait, how can we exactly get rid of this fear?" Lily asked.

"Well, you are just afraid of failing and messing up. But, you never know until you try. So, just give it a little try and you'll be surprised with the results," Owl resolved Lily's problem.

"What about me?" Princess Grace asked Owl.

"You are clearly afraid of disappointing everyone. Don't be so pressurized. Once you calm down and actually believe in yourself, I'm sure you'll be fine," Owl reassured.

Quinn sighed, "I think that I need encouragement

from others maybe," he suggested.

"No Quinn. No one else can support you but yourself. You are too afraid of showing your true colors. All you need is a little push to gain a little confidence. And all of that courage comes from you. So, don't let yourself down," Owl guided.

Grace, Lily, and Quinn smiled at each other as if they have gained something that they thought they never had before. "Thanks Owl," they waved as they made their way back, ready to face their biggest fear of all; themselves.

Shadows

(Told in first person- perspective of troll: Quinn)

I kept on thinking of what Owl told me; that I was the only one who could encourage myself. Maybe I was misunderstanding everything the whole time. I decided to write something to express my thoughts...

Shadows

Shadows.

They aren't dark figures.

Neither are they reflections.

But, they are friends.

We have been seeing shadows as foes.

But, they are closer than you think.

They follow you around,

and will never leave you side;

no matter what.

They are a shoulder for you to cry on;

a push to get you started;

a laugh to cheer you up.

Shadows will never leave

and will always know what to do.

But best of all,

shadows will always be there for you.

In this case, I am my own shadow and I know that I can do anything because I will never leave my side. Therefore, I am ready to face my fear and show everybody who I really am. I don't need shadows or encouragement or anything. All I need is my secret weapon; myself.

Birds

(Told in first person- perspective of unicorn: Lily)

Though Owl gave resolutions for all of our problems, I still don't know how to overcome my fear. All I could do was look above me and stare blankly.

I saw an injured bird trying hard to lift its wings. It looked solemn, but persistent.

con't on page 43

con't from page 42 *The Fearless Trio*

It tried to flap its wings. As its wings sloppily waved up and down, the bird slowly started to fly, but came plummeting down to the ground. Again and again, it struggled and strived to fly. Finally, it looked to the sky, attempted to flap its wings, and gradually went up. At last, the bird was able to fly again!

I realized that the only way you can be successful is to try, but I'm afraid of trying. However, even if I'm not able to achieve my goal and mess up, I'll continue to get up and try again. So, the way to approach my problem is simple; try.

Horses

(Told in first person- perspective of princess: Grace)

Clueless. That is exactly how I feel right this instant. Owl did have a lot of encouraging advice, but I'm not sure what to make out of it. He told me not to be pressurized, but that isn't so easy considering everyone is counting on you. Maybe I just need to be a horse. I'm sure that they are under a lot of pressure and anxiety when they race. However, that isn't even close to stopping them. No matter what, they always gallop along their way. And in the end, it doesn't matter who won the race. It's the effort and determination that actually counts. Therefore, I don't care if I pass or not. I'll just try my best and never give up because that itself is enough. I quickly flipped through the pages in the book, and realized I already knew most of the information. I felt belief and commitment building up, as I felt confident in myself.

"Grace, it is time to take the Royal Exam. Come on downstairs; good luck!" my mom called.

I took a deep breath. This is it.

The Finale

(Told in third person)

Lily, Princess Grace, and Quinn knew it was time to face their fear. Nothing could stop them now.

(Told in first person- Princess Grace)

I slowly walked down the stairs, mustering up every bit of courage and confidence.

My mom grinned, "So, did the walk outside help you at all?" she asked.

"Oh, trust me. It helped me a LOT," I replied, knowingly.

"Okay then, take a seat right here. Your test will be delivered soon," my mom ensured.

Right at that moment, a guard with a uniform came inside, holding something in his hand. "Here you go. This is supposed to be for..." the guard took a look at the back of the cover, "Princess Grace."

I raised my hand indicating that I was Princess Grace.

"Okay, good luck Princess Grace," he made his way out the door and so did my mom. I was all alone in this room to take

the biggest test of all; the Royal Exam.

I cleared my mind and opened the exam.

(Told in first person- Lily: unicorn)

It was finally time for the family rivalry. I took one deep breath, and went to go stand next to my family. The Quixote family was standing on the other side.

"Lily, where were you?" my father whispered with an angry tone.

I tried to force a smile, "Well, I guess that I took a little break, but I think I'll do okay," I guaranteed.

My father shook his head in disbelief, "Lily, did you even practice?" he asked.

"Well...all I need to do is to try," I muttered to myself.

The Quixote family got up and Ryan was the one who was chosen to make the rainbow. He pointed his head down, so his unicorn horn was facing forward and he shot. He rotated his head in a circle to make the rainbow. The colors all splashed from his horn and made a semi-circle. Some parts were a little wobbly and dim, but it looked great.

"There's no way I could beat that," I thought to myself.

Finally, it was my turn. My father's words echoed in my mind, "Feet apart, head down, body straight, and shoot," I kept on replaying those words.

I positioned my feet and shifted my weight equally. My head slowly tilted down, and I strengthened my muscles, so my body was straight as well as strong. At last, with every bit of power, I did the most daring thing anyone could do; I shot.

(Told in first person- Quinn: troll)

I was completely ready. My friend would be meeting me in Happy St. in about 5 minutes. I paced back and forth not sure if I could do this. What if she is so startled and disgusted that I'm a troll, and wouldn't want to be my friend anymore? But, I've already come too far to stop now. I hid behind a tree, afraid of facing the truth. However, I can't hide forever.

I heard footsteps slowly getting closer and closer. My heart was beating faster than a cheetah. Finally, the footsteps stopped. I knew that I had to face my friend. I gathered up all my courage, and finally did it...

I turned around and faced my new friend. Simultaneously, we both gasped.

(Told in first person-Princess Grace) Continued...

The exam was so easy. I realized that I knew all these answers. I bubbled in each answer as I went through the test. Some questions, I wasn't so sure about. But, I knew that I just have to believe in myself. I continued to bubble in each answer. Finally, I was done with the Royal Exam.

con't to page 44

con't from page 43 *The Fearless Trio*

My mom entered the room, "Wow, that was quick," she remarked.

The people who were chosen to check the test walked in, and took the Royal Exam. They scrutinized every one of my answers and skimmed and scanned through the questions. They started to whisper to each other.

One of them gave me a warm smile, "Princess Grace, you passed," they announced.

I jumped up and down with joy and couldn't believe that I actually did it.

"Good job Grace; I knew you could do it," my mom congratulated, "And here is your prize...Liam, come in!" King Liam, my father, held a box and gave it to me.

I slowly opened it and found a crown! "Thank you so much!" I thanked my parents.

My mom put the sparkling tiara on my head, and I felt superior. I knew that I could do it if I believed in myself!

(Told in first person- Lily: unicorn) Continued...

Once I shot, I rotated my head in a semi-circle. The colors spilled out and made a beautiful rainbow. The rainbow I made was close to being flawless. The shape was perfect and the colors looked extremely bright.

I walked back to my family, as they congratulated me for making a wonderful rainbow. The judge was about to announce a winner.

"And this year, the winner of Rainbow Magic Day is... Lily from the Flynn family!" the judge announced.

My family was so proud and I was extremely happy; I knew I couldn't do it if I didn't try.

(Told in first person- Quinn: troll)

"Oh my!" I gasped as I got a glimpse of my friend.

My friend looked just like me except she had long hair.

We were both trolls.

"Hi! My name is Joanna! I didn't know you were also a troll," she stated.

"Me too," I agreed.

"Honestly, at first, I was a little scared of meeting you because I thought you wouldn't want to be my friend because I was a troll, but I guess that you felt exactly the same. Anyway, I realized that your physical appearance doesn't matter at all. It just matters about what is on the inside," she explained.

I nodded in agreement. I knew that this friendship was going to last long and all it took was a sprinkle of confidence.

Gifts

(Told in third person)

All three friends united again right near the rainbow.

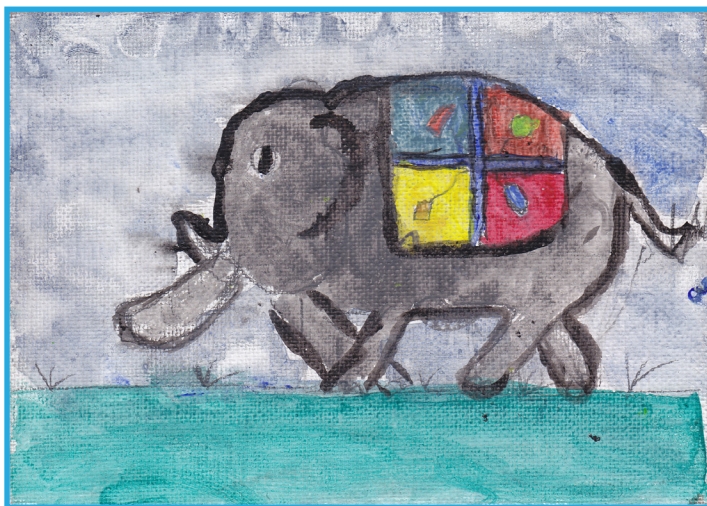
Quinn smiled with relief.

"I finally had enough courage to meet my friend and everything turned out perfectly," he shared.

Princess Grace was filled with joy, "I actually passed my Exam, and I even got a reward!" she exclaimed.

Lily had a proud expression, "At first, I thought I couldn't do it, but I just tried and I actually made a beautiful rainbow," she said with astonishment.

The fearless trio did overcome their fears and got gifts along with it. Quinn got a new friend, Princess Grace received a shiny tiara, and Lily had a gorgeous rainbow. But, they actually had the best gifts of all; each other.



Elephant

ART WORK: By Ellison Murray



Ellison Murray

Ellison is an awesome 1st grader who is trying to become an artist. He practices his art every-week.

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That Cat!



By Jay Limbachia

*It was dark and only raining.
Parents were out, just Jay and Ray-Ray.
Jay opened the door, anxious for the puddles.
Instead, he found a cat named Cuddles.*

*The cat was black and furry.
Jay wondered if the cat would scurry.
As Jay was about to touch it, it croaked,
"Watcha' doin'? Can't you see I'm soaked?"*

*Jay slammed the door shut
and ran toward the family mutt;
thinking the mutt would chase it away,
the mutt, instead, chased Ray-Ray.*

*While there was chaos in the house,
the cat stared at a mouse.
"When will parents be back?" Jay thought.
It was hard for Jay to think with Ray-Ray screaming a lot.*

*Jay lastly told the mutt to sit,
So Ray-Ray would finally zip it.
The cat walked in slowly,
looking around curiously.*

*"Nice house you got here,
maybe I could spend the night since I live near."
"The cat is talking!" Jay told Ray-Ray,
but Ray-Ray looked at Jay like he was cray cray.*

*Jay viciously dragged Ray-Ray to the door,
hoping, this time, he wouldn't ignore.
The black cat stared at Jay,
as if the cat didn't know what to say.*

*Finally, the cat said something,
"Your house is freezing. I'm shivering."
The house was completely quiet,
as if someone were about to start a riot.*

*Ray-Ray screamed and ran around the house 50 times,
Then started to throw 50 limes.
Finally, he got over it and passed out.
The cat walked up and said, "Well, he gave a loud shout."*

*Then, Jay ran around the house 50 times,
Went outside and gave the bell 50 chimes.
Then, Jay got over it and passed out.
The mutt leaned over Jay with his leaky snout.*

Then the cat woke up Ray-Ray and Jay,

Jay is a developing writer. His poetry is awesome.

*but it was only because the cat wanted to play.
"What, I'm busy!" Jay said.
The cat replied, "Uh, I'm going to put you to bed."*

*The cat dragged Jay upstairs,
hoping he wouldn't get nightmares.
Jay lumped onto his soft bed,
while, Ray-Ray was downstairs acting dead.*

*Ray-Ray was still on the floor,
looking like a lazy wild boar.
Jay went to get cold water from the sink,
but it wasn't for Ray-Ray to drink.*

*Jay threw the water at Ray-Ray's body.
Right then and there, he knew he did something naughty.
Jay pulled Ray-Ray to his feet,
but Ray-Ray wanted to take a seat.*

*Jay forced Ray-Ray up and told him this was no dream.
Jay told Ray-Ray they were going to have to work as a team
They dragged the cat against the wall.
He asked, "C'mon fellas, don't you have a yarn ball?"*

*Jay and Ray-Ray stared at the cat,
but the cat laughed at Ray-Ray's hat.
Jay knew the cat had to hide somewhere new,
But, the cat needed something to chew.*

*Jay's parents called and said they're 5 minutes away.
He was happy, considering they were gone most of the day.
Jay got scared and started to panic.
While Cuddles and Ray-Ray had an argument that was gigantic.*

*Right then and there, Jay had a thought.
It would be crazy, but Jay had to give it a shot.
He told them that the cat could hide under Ray-Ray's hat.
That way when Jay's parents got home, Cuddles could scat.*

*Jay's parents walked in through the door a little bit later;
Jay's fear was getting greater.
Jay gave the cat the hat so he could run,
while he was running, he thought about all of his fun,*

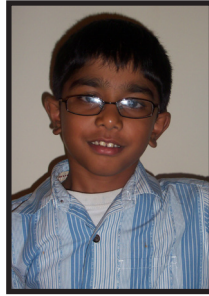
*Jay and Ray-Ray told their parents,
everything that happened during their absence.
Jay's parents didn't believe any of it,
but at least they had the courage to admit.*

Weather Outside Poems

By Manas Bommakanti

*The weather outside is cold-cold-cold.
The weather outside is cold-cold-cold.
The weather outside is cold-cold-cold.
The leaves are falling to the ground.
The trees are freezing.
Snow is falling.
Salt is on the ground.
There is so much snow that you might slip.
Be careful because it's Winter Time.*

*It's winter time-time-time.
It's winter time-time-time.
It's winter time-time-time.
Let it snow!
Let it snow on the ground-, then the trees-,
then oooooooooon... the... people-
(Clap, clap, blow a raspberry. Clap, clap,
blow a raspberry)
(Repeat Poem)*



Manas is becoming a better writer every day!



WINTER

By Sindhu A. Balamurugan

*W! The wind goes wild,
Ice hangs on the top of the ceiling,
Nice cold breezes passing by,
Tall mountains of snow,
Everything is covered with white,
Rain is coming soon.*

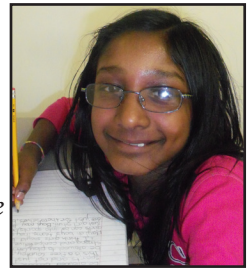


Sindhu is one of the most creative 3rd graders in town.

Rules of School

By Kritika Nagappa

*In the daytime I go to school
I cannot take it anymore; there are way
too many rules
When I blow a bubble
The teachers get angry so I get in trouble
I am stuck in icky rooms
I know right away that I might meet my
doom
I am here for the rest of the day
The teachers are in charge so I do as they
say
If I mess up in school, it will be a big
bummer
I have to say bye, bye to summer!*



Kritika has great writing, spelling and vocabulary!

Today's Weather

By Isheetta Bhasin

*The sun is shining brightly,
The trees are dancing in the air,
The breeze blowing lightly,
The sky filled with yellow, orange and pink,
High is 30F,
Low is 19 F,
Dew point is 7F,
Humidity is 43%,
Gust W is 25mph,
Wind is 7 mph going west,
Today is a long and a busy day in the sky,
For it is Monday Feb 4th, 2013.*



Isheetta is one of the hardest working 4th graders in all of New Jersey!

A Cinquian

By Shrey Jain

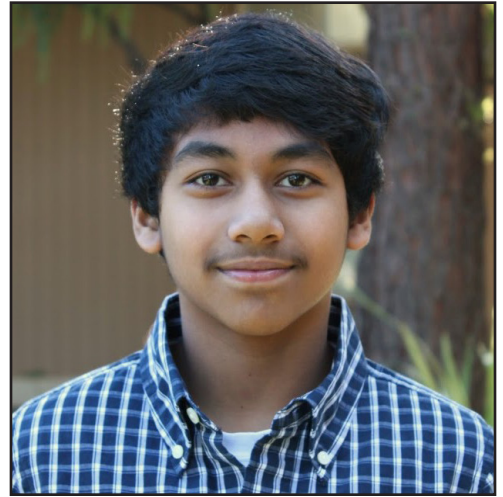
math
simple, fun
adding, subtraction, multiplication
a calm feeling
arithmetic



Shrey is a hard working poet who gets better each day.

By Sai Preetam Inampudi

Tiger



Sai Preetam Inampudi is an excellent, budding artist. This is his second time publishing art in City Kidz World.

Why Do We Write?

By Himaja Vendidandi

You might know that blue monkeys rhyme with red keys.

You might know that gold rhymes with bold.

You might know that flowers rhyme with powers.

You might want to know why you are reading this.

That is something only you shall know.

Out of all the things you might know,

Do you know why people write?

There are trillions of ways to reason why the Empire State is so high.

However, do you know why people write?

You might know why people read.

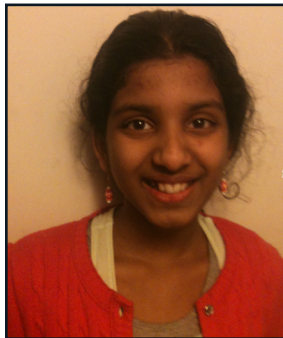
It may be to learn how to lead or even to plead.

Out of all things you might know,

Do you know why people write?

It shall be something that you and I talk about for many decades and years to come.

There is a long way till we find out why, we write.



Himaja is a wonderful poet. Enjoy her inspirational poem.

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