

# CityKidzWorld

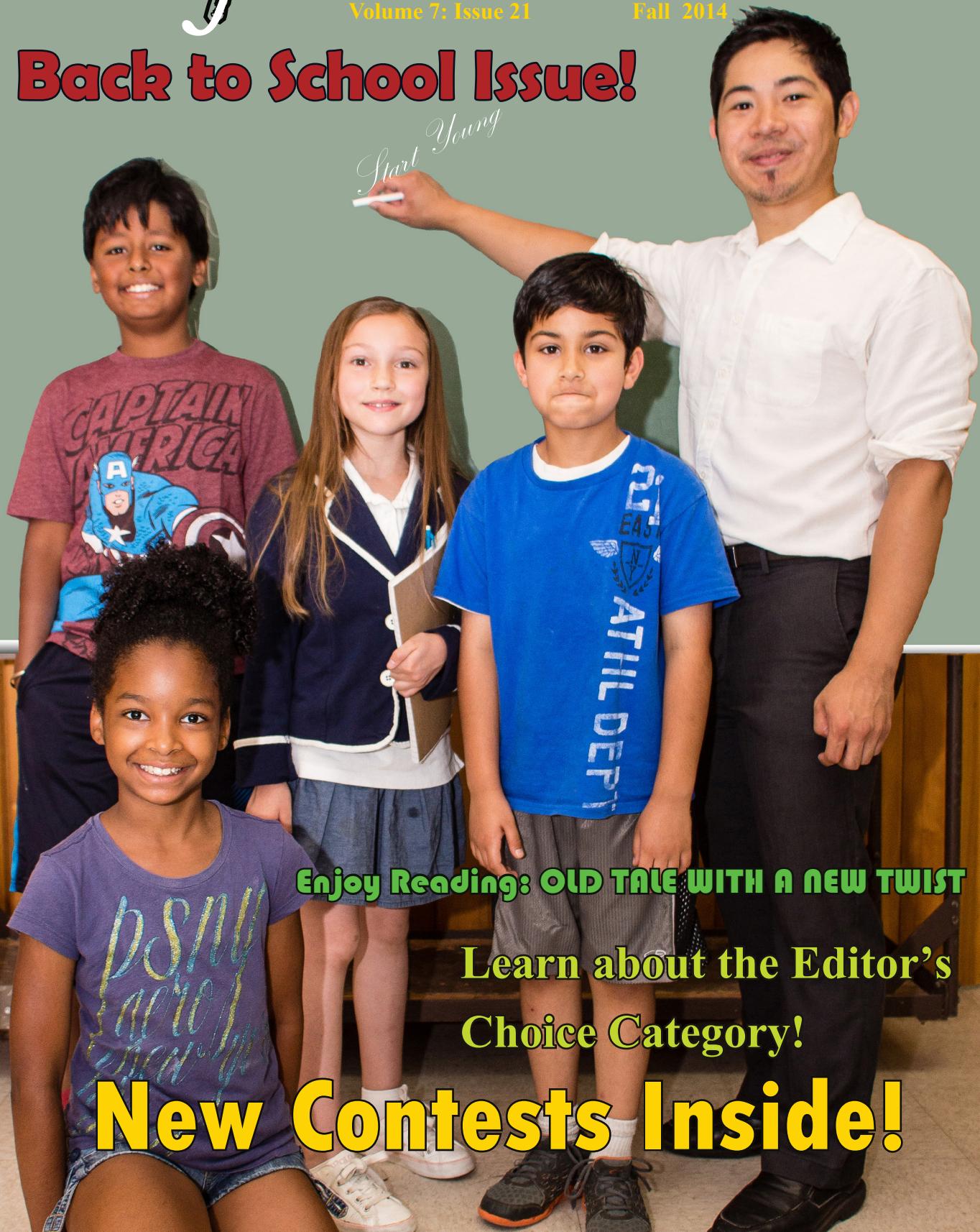
Volume 7: Issue 21

Fall 2014



## Back to School Issue!

*Start Young*



Enjoy Reading: OLD TALE WITH A NEW TWIST

Learn about the Editor's  
Choice Category!

**New Contests Inside!**

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www.citykidzworld.com

Submit stories , pictures and materials to City Kidz World magazine @ editor@citykidzworld.com.



Dear Readers,

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

Thank you,  
The Editor, City Kidz World magazine

**Publisher:** E2Services

**CFO:** Dean Murray

**Editor-in-chief :** Dr. Melissa Edwards Ed. D

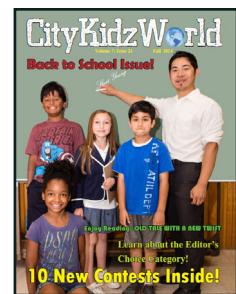
**Copy Editor:** Amri Clowers

**Cover Photographer:** Martin Alonso

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## Cover Models



**Daniel, Ava, Zarann, Varun, and Kate are great models.**

# The Best Writing Coaches in New Jersey

Site Director  
Math and English Teacher



Daniel Dominguez is a veteran CKW teacher. He can persuade even the most reluctant writers to get their thoughts out. He has a degree in English. Daniel is also the Site Director for CKW.

Administrative and Technology manager  
Language Arts/All Levels



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.

Senior Teacher/Language Arts/All Levels



Laurel White 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. She loves teaching our youngest students.

Language Arts/All Levels



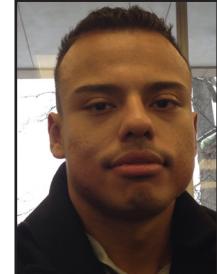
Rafael Manzanares is a brilliant academician with fantastic ideas. He is an expert at teaching critical thinking. He is working on his master's degree in education.

Language Arts Teacher



Regina is a two time graduate of The College of New Jersey with a Bachelor of Arts in English Secondary Education and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Her past teaching experiences have been on both the middle school and high school levels.

Language Arts/All Levels

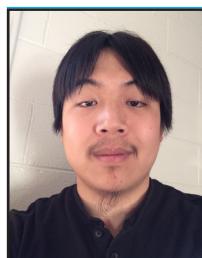


Martin Alonso is a distinguished teacher who finds creative ways to engage his students. He is an honors student at a local college, studying for his degree in English and writing. He is also a skilled photographer and videographer.

Math/Science/Language Arts -All Levels



Krizia Dominguez specializes in math and science. She is currently studying Biology at Rutgers University and hopes to study veterinary medicine in the future.



Andrew Wang is a talented student at Rutgers University. He does a great job of keeping students serious. He also creates beautiful illustrations. Some of them are in this magazine.



Emily was the awesome summer intern. She goes to college in Pennsylvania and studies creative writing. She taught in our studio and led a great home class. We are so proud of her. She will be back this winter.

Language Arts/All Levels



Lois Mandell is a teacher at City Kidz World Writing Studio, a home instructor and a student in the Teacher of Students with Disabilities graduate program at Rider University. Currently teaching for nine years, she loves watching her students grasp a new idea and excel in their learning.



Amri is a talented college student who specializes in helping children write the perfect sentence. Her major is journalism and she hopes to be a professional editor one day.



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# Words from the Founder and Editor-in-Chief

## The Reason we Do It...

At City Kidz World we believe that weekly or bi-weekly opportunities to write and receive expert feedback will help students master writing, help them develop vocabulary, and help them conquer grammar!

We work on helping students develop focus, concentration, and imagination on a daily basis!

**And that Is not All...**

I once read a book in which the main character identified three key reasons why any person does anything. Those reasons are either for power, for money or merely for the glory. It is glorious to work with children on their reading and writing during the most formative reading and writing years of their lives. My personal reward as the founder and head of the Writing Studio and the magazine is to help children build a solid foundation and to give them a voice through their own magazine. As I now tell all of the writing coaches at City Kidz World before they teach their first lesson, "Here at City Kidz World, we do it for the Glory!"

I hope you enjoy our magazine. Every page represents the hard work and creativity of a young writer! We are so proud of all of them!

**One More Thing!**

Introducing the new Editor's Choice Award. This distinction goes to extra special stories. A panel of professional writers determines the Editor's Choice for each issue. We hope all of the young writers who participate in this literary magazine, will strive to be selected as the Editor's Choice for each issue!



**Dr. Melissa Edwards, Ed.D**

# CITY KIDZ WORLD



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Kendall Park, NJ

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[www.citykidzworld.com](http://www.citykidzworld.com)

"We're in this to make writers!"

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3530 Rt. 27, room 205  
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Satellite Location:  
4500 New Brunswick Ave.  
Piscataway, NJ

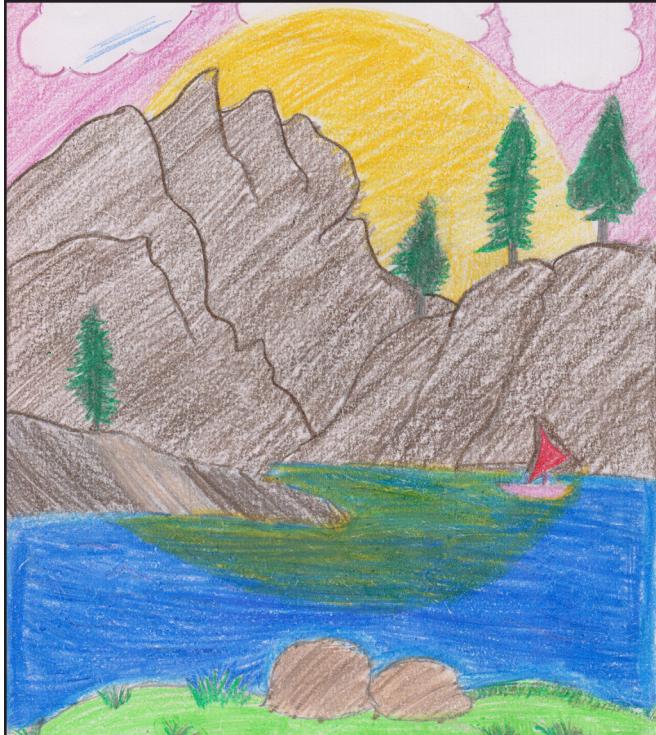
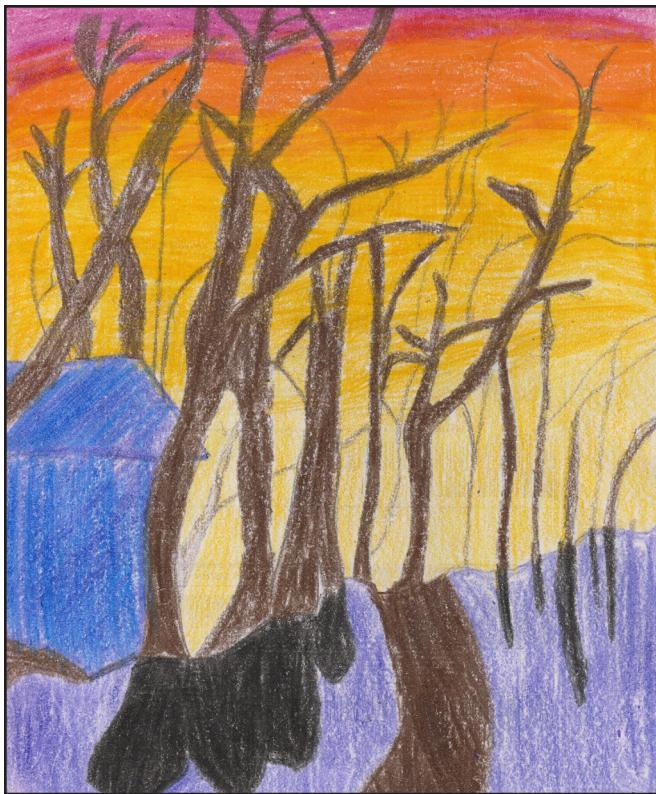
Dear Editor,  
I am in second grade. I am good at small moments and poetry. I need help writing details. I am not very good at descriptive words. I also need help with my handwriting.  
Signed,  
A second grader

Dear Second Grader,  
It sounds as if you have a great start! You are good at writing about an event. In order to improve your ability to write details, you should pay careful attention to the way other authors include details. This will help you for now! Good luck.  
Sincerely,  
The Editor

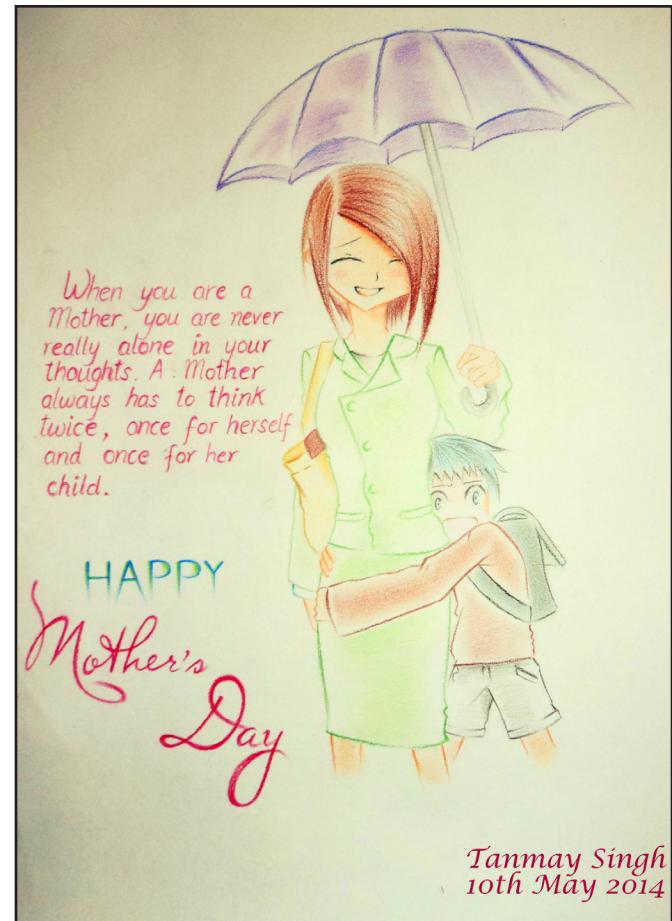
Have something to ask the Editor?  
Send in Questions for the Editor. We will help you with all of your writing questions and problems!

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## Artwork by Amitha



## New Artwork by Tanmay



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# 1st Place Photo Contest Winner



By Jiya Joshi

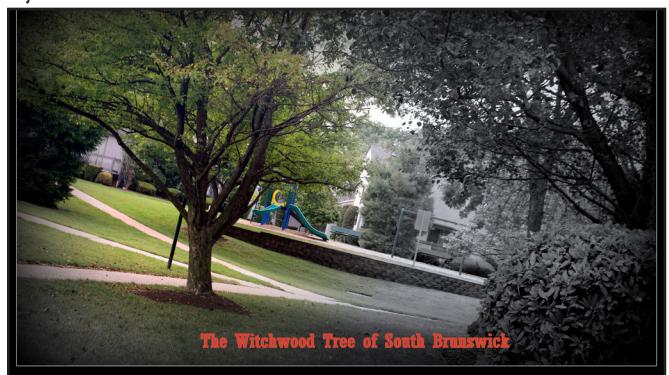
*Jiya is a talented photographer. This picture is beautiful and should be framed! Congratulations Jiya and keep up the great photography.*



**Photography Contest!**  
Submit your best artistic photo!  
All ages!  
Submit to [editor@citykidzworld.com](mailto:editor@citykidzworld.com)  
**Deadline: Nov.10, 2014**

## 2nd Place: Photo Contest Winner

By Hitesh



**The Witchwood Tree of South Brunswick**

### Words from Hitesh:

The picture is suppose to be a strange tree that people call witch wood in my community. I edited the focal view of my picture and changed the fill light and the saturation of the photo.

# Small Stories

## Fairy Tale

By Kavya Kondragunta

Once upon a time, far, far away, lived a king, queen, princess, knight and a prince in a castle. They always woke up, brushed their teeth, ate a healthy breakfast, and got their cannon ready because a giant and his pet dragon loved their castle. It was mostly because they thought their castle was the prettiest. The giant was destroying the other castles so that his castle was the only castle shining in the sun. One day, instead of destroying castles, he sent a note to the king and queen.

**It said:**

*Dear king and queen, please meet me at the soccer*

Fantasy Story

## The Magic Flower

By Kavya Kondragunta



Once upon a time there was a princess, teacher, queen, wizard and a normal girl. The princess had powers, but she didn't learn how to use her powers. The wizard also had powers and knew how to use them. She decided to use the power of technology. Her brain said that a magical flower knew all the powers the princess had. The magic flower was in a farm, so they all drove to the farm. When they got to the farm, the wizard took the flower. She threw the flower at princess. Just then, the princess knew all her powers. After that, everyone lived happily ever after.

## The Girl Who Had Powers

By Katya Kondragunta

Once upon a time there was a princess. Her wand did not have any powers. She made magic water to help, but she needed flour. It was a long way to get to the store, but she still went. She made it! She was not there in time, but there was another store she could go to. She was not on time again. Then, she remembered she knew a trick to get flour. She went home and did the trick. She was able to get flour.



*Katya is an enthusiastic writer! She loves penning a fantastic story!*

*field. I want to play you. If you win, I will let you tell me something that I should do forever. If I win, I will destroy you, your castle, and the rest of your family.*

*Love,*

*Giant.*

*P.S.*

*Today is my birthday.*

The king and queen knew that the soccer field was 10 miles away. So, the king and queen took their van that only drove 20 miles. Then, they told the knight that he should guard the castle. After that, they got in their van and drove off. When they arrived, the princess, queen, king and prince got out. The princess and the prince sat on the bench. The game started. The giant won the first round! The king and queen won the last two rounds! The king and queen told the giant to be nice forever. So forever and on, the giant got used to being nice. He learned manners and good habits. From that day on, he celebrated his birthday.

*They all lived happily ever after.*



*Kavya has become a prolific writer this year! This is her second time being published in City Kidz World magazine!*

## NEMO

By Aashna D.Patel

One day I got a colorful fish named Nemo.



If I were a fish, I would be a colorful and pretty fish. I would be swimming in the water all day and night because I love to swim. I would be a good fish like Nemo. I would eat all the food that people fed me. I would be the best fish ever.

I would make lots of bubbles every day being a happy fish. I wouldn't be scared of anybody and I would have lots of fun being a fish.

*Aashna has written a fantastic first story! She is an awesome writer!*



Letter Writing

## Letter to my Friend

Dear Friend,  
This morning I woke up and brushed my teeth, ate breakfast and then got to work. I was working on English and math. In English, I was doing puzzles and finding the missing words in sentences. I was coloring the words and puzzles. In math, I was doing addition and subtraction. Then I had a 15 minutes break. I played Legos™ and made a birthday card for my mother.

Love,

Spoorthi Kandukuri

By Spoorthi Kandukuri



Spoorthi is a great emerging writer! She is a kindergarten graduate ready to move on to a great writing career in 1st grade.

## I Love Summer

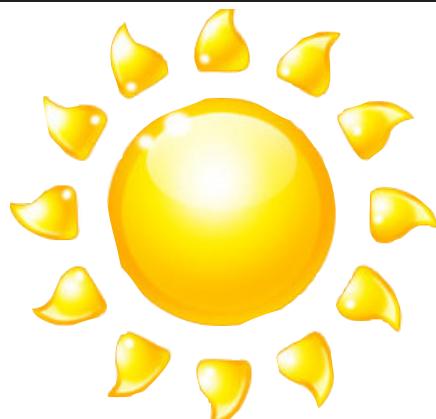
By Hasini Pottunuru

I love summer. Do you know why? I love it because it is hot outside and I get to play outside. I like to play outside because the sprinklers pop up and I get to run through them.

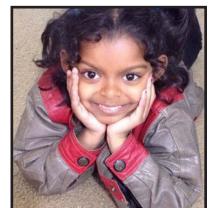
I just love summer because it is hot and I don't care if it is hot. Can I tell you something? One day in the summer, when I was helping my mom cook, I heard the sprinklers. I asked my mom if I could play outside and she said, "Yes."

I said, "Yahoo."

My sister came, too. Did you like that story? I hope you did. See you later. Okay, good bye.



Hasini is a promising writer! Read these great details. She is on her way to greatness!



Calling All 1st and 2nd graders!  
We want your small moment!  
Send in your great stories to

[editor@citykidzworld.com](mailto:editor@citykidzworld.com)

**Winter issue deadline: Nov.10, 2014**



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[www.citykidzworld.com](http://www.citykidzworld.com)

# Mother's Day

By Anjali Harish

Yipee! Hooray! I love Mother's day! It was the day before Mother's day; I was prepared for a perfect day until my mom told me that I would be having a sleep over at my auntie's house. Then I got the "uh-oh" feeling. Would I get up early enough?

It was an awfully long drive. When we got there, I was the boss and I had lots of fun! Soon, it was bedtime. In the morning, when we left, we said goodbye to all our friends and came back home. Then, I gave my mom a



Illustration by Julia Kravchin



Anjali writes for almost every issue of City Kidz World magazine! She is getting better and better!

card and a paper teapot with a tea bag inside! Our family went on a bike ride. It was a great Mother's day!

## MY GOAL



1st Runner-up: Lesson Story

By Ishika Agarwal

One day my mom told me about goals. I asked her what goals were. She told me that goals were the things that you would like to do or get in the future. I wrote my goals for the next five years. My mom wrote her goals, too. I can't wait for my goals to come true. I was really happy. I love my goals and my family.

**Lesson:** Everyone should set goals.



Ishika has submitted a great story! She is first runner up in the lesson story contest!



## Pizza



### Describing a meal using the five senses

By Karunya Chittamuri

One day our dad ordered pizza from Papa John's and I could hear what he was ordering.

Then, we waited a half an hour for the pizza guy to deliver. We opened the pizza boxes excitedly and saw two large pizzas with lots of toppings.

Next, we smelled the pizza to see if it was good or not. It certainly smelled good.

My mom asked me to give one slice of pizza to each

Karunya is great at talking about pizza. Don't you want some pizza now?



person in our family. As I was giving out the slices, I felt how soft they were.

Finally, we ate the pizza and it tasted so cheesy and little bit salty because of the banana peppers.

My family liked it a lot!



## Do you have a story or a description?

Send it to

[editor@citykidzworld.com](mailto:editor@citykidzworld.com)

## Winter issue deadline: Nov.10, 2014

# MOM'S BIRTHDAY PRESENT

By Hasini Pottununuru

Once upon a time there was a girl. Her name was Gia. It was almost her mom's birthday and Gia had not even found a present for her mom. She had to find something. She was worried. She had to find it fast.

She asked her mom, "Can we go to the park?" She knew she would find something there. Gia's mom said, "We can go to the park."

When they were at the park, Gia dug under the swings with her hands, but she couldn't find anything. Next, she dug under the monkey bars. Again, she couldn't find anything. She dug under the slide next. She dug deeper and deeper. Suddenly, she saw something blue. She picked it up. It was a blue marble. She knew that she would find something and she did. She found something just in time because her mom said, "It's time to go home."

At home, she wrapped the marble in a small box. She couldn't wait until tomorrow and she couldn't sleep be-



*Hasini has to solve the birthday present problem. Read her story to find out what happens!*

cause she was thinking about how much her mom would like the gift. In the morning, she woke up really early. She got out of bed and walked out of the room. Gia was going to show it to her mom. She put it in a safe place. She took it out and went into her mom's room and woke her up. Then, she showed her mom the present. Her mom loved it so much and she hugged Gia.

## WAFFLES

By Chinmayi Chittamuri

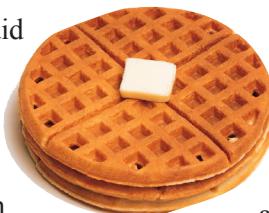
### *Describing a meal using the five senses*

One day, when we woke up, my mom said she was going to make waffles for breakfast. While I was brushing my teeth upstairs, I heard my mom mixing the flour in the kitchen.

Then, my brother and I could hear my mom shouting, "Breakfast is ready!"

When I went downstairs, I saw the waffles. We both ran and smelled the waffles! I could smell cinnamon and the waffles looked yummy!

I touched them and they were soft and crunchy. I put



a waffle in my mouth and it tasted yummy and delicious.

After we were done, we told my mom to make it again another day.

My mom replied, "We can have it on your birthday. That's coming up in a few weeks."

Our whole family loved the waffles!



*Chinmayi is great at describing what she likes! Don't you want some waffles now too?*

**Submit stories and pictures to**

**City Kidz World magazine @**  
**editor@citykidzworld.com**



**10**

[www.citykidzworld.com](http://www.citykidzworld.com)



# The Flying Car

By Ellison Edwards Murray

Once upon a time there was a town called Hollycond. Everybody there was late for everything. There was a scientist living in the town named Mason.

He was wondering why everybody was late for everything. He knew that there were such things as cars. He thought he could make a flying car and it would make it easier to go places.

The next day, he parked his car by his lake and took two wings from a plane and screwed them on to his car. After that, he took a back wing from a plane and screwed it on.



*Ellison has a great imagination when it comes to science. Read about the flying car!*



*The flying car*

*Illustration by Ellison Murray*

The next day, he started to make the runway. He got a big pile of dirt and started to make a tall ramp. When he was done, he brought his flying car to the ramp. He went 180 mph. He pressed the brake and then went 180 mph again. He started to fly.

He told the government that he made a flying car and he even sent a picture to them. The government told the people that it was a flying car.

The next day, a person asked him if he could sell it to them. The scientist was very excited to hear that. People wanted his flying car.

A month later, he decided to start selling his flying cars. He found a car dealership that was for sale.

He bought the dealership and he put his flying cars there instead of the other, regular cars.

Then he opened up his dealership. When it was about noon, he had 50 customers and he made \$5,000 that day. He eventually hired 25 people. It was a good thing he could still be a scientist, too. After that, nobody was ever late for anything again.

## Quote Contest!

Write a story based on the quote below!

Being cool is being your own self, not doing something that someone else is telling you to do.

-Vanessa Hudgens

All ages!:!

300 to 700 words

Deadline: Nov. 10 2014

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com

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## ABOUT HER DRAWINGS

By Sathvika Konkimalla

In my drawing class, I made seven cool paintings. One was a flower. In that picture, there were three flowers with lots of leaves and stems. The second one was an octopus. Instead of the real water, I drew bubbles that were light blue.

I drew the sky in purple, light blue and, dark blue. The third one was a landscape with mountains on the top and hills that were two different colors on each one, and four long grass fields. The fourth one was a giant sun. On the night side, there were different colors than the sunny side.

The fifth one was a bowl with two large apples, two large pears and, one bundle of grapes. The sixth one was a spray painting. I took some leaves and kept a flower design and sprayed different colors on it. After it dried, we removed the leaves quickly. The last one, seventh, is a DIWALI BOWL! On the corner there was a feather. Next to the bowl there was a decoration. Those were all my awesome and nice drawings.



*Sathvika has been working on her art! It is beautiful. Read what she has to say about her work. Enjoy.*



## Johna's Adventures

By Saanvi Challuri

Hi, I'm Johna. I live in a castle, but I'm not as popular as my other sisters. I'm more of an explorer. I love to go to different places. Anyway, I want to show you my traveling album.

### Johna's first trip: Sahara desert

I saw amazing things. It was so hot. There weren't many animals, so the desert was very quiet. I even saw a desert snake shedding its skin, and I brought some of the skin home. When I showed my sisters, Amber and Cleo, they were grossed out. The most exciting part was I painted an elephant's toes. That was very exciting!

### Johna's second trip: Tropical Rainforest

Can you believe I went to a rainforest. I saw monkeys playing tag. I asked them if I could play in monkey language. Oh, I forgot to tell you I know how to speak animal language. I played with them for about 15 minutes. I saw other animals like elephants, snakes, tigers, lions, lizards, chameleons, and more. These were some of my adventures. I have a lot more and I'll share them with you next time. I hope you enjoyed.



Adventure Story!



*Saanvi has wonderful ideas. We love stories about traveling!*

*Illustration by Ellison Murray*



# Skateboarding

By Drew O'Rourke

Skateboarding is a lot of fun. You can either buy a skateboard or you can build a skateboard. It is very easy to skateboard as long as you are safe.

I love to skateboard. My dad doesn't like when I skateboard, but I make sure I'm safe. I don't have a skateboard at home. I learned how to skateboard at Oak Crest Day Camp. It's really easy once you get the hang of it.

I've learned how to use the half-pipe and drop down. A half-pipe is used in extreme sports such as BMX, snowboarding and skateboarding. It's usually made out of metal, wood or concrete.

I learned how to drop down. It is very hard, but I took lessons at camp. The trainer Luke still has to help me a little with this trick.

For my 10th birthday, I am hoping to get a new skateboard. The bottom of a skateboard comes in many colors. I hope to get one that's blue and green.

According to the Nationwide Children's Hospital, the most common injuries are to the wrist, ankle and face. Boys are usually injured more than girls in this sport. Children between 5-10 years old should use skateboards with adults watching. If you are under 5 years old you should not use skateboards.

The most important part of skateboarding is you need to wear two elbow pads and two knee pads. Also, its important to wear a helmet. My lesson is "safety first". Always wear your pads and your helmet or you can end up in the hospital.

Skateboarding is fun as long as you do it the correct way and the safe way.



*Drew can tell you everything about skateboards. Read his story and learn some great facts!*

## Hero Adventure

By Arnav Satish

The Earth was a nice place until something dreadful happened.

An ordinary, smart teenage boy named Kal, who also had glasses, found he was often bullied (like all nerds). However, he had something special that could save the world.

One day, an ordinary day, Kal was hanging out with his two friends, Harry and Katie.

Then ground was shaking they and saw a huge monster! "WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?" screamed Kal.

Harry, was thinking he was going to die, but then something grew on Kal's skin and a force field came and saved the teenagers.

"WHAT GOING ON WITH ME!" exclaimed Kal.

Then, at short notice, he got teleported in a blast!

"Weird," he said.

He was now in a dojo with advanced technology. He then saw a guy who looked like a samurai.

"My son," he cried.

"Who are you?" asked Kal.

"I am your father. You have a special potential to protect the Earth from the end."

"The end?"

"Now you must save the world with your strength, and become a hero," said Kal's father.

He then vanished. Kal was wearing a hero costume and said he would be known as Soulious. He then flew and saw the humans in fear.

Soulious used his wind energy power to create a clear land. Then Soulious saw a giant...Klawer. He roared like a baby making a pain out of something.

"ENOUGH!" HE YELLED.

I WON'T LET YOU HURT ANYBODY! YOU HAVE GOT TO THE COUNT OF FIVE TO GET OUT OR YOU'LL BE SORRY!"

Klawer was not scared and stayed there and Soulious used his ultimate combat: the deadly death punch! He had fire on his fist and punched Klawer. He neutralized Klawer.

Kal (otherwise known as Soulious) saved the Earth and was a famous hero.



*Arnav has written a zany action-packed story.*

# Tantrum Taunter

By Hithu Oleti

Gabby Henderson was like everyone else in her school. She had a bike, she had lip gloss, all the normal stuff. There was something inside of her that she could never put away. Whenever something terrible happened, she would have a temper tantrum, and she is 11 years old! She has been getting letters from the school counselor because of her temper tantrums. Yes, she is in the sixth grade, but she just can't stop.

"Mom!" yelled Gabby, when she came home from school. "What is it dear?" asked her mom in a regular tone. Her mom was in a good mood. "I, um, have something you need to read," stammered Gabby, trudging up the stairs where her mom was.

"Oh no Gabby. Please don't let it be what I think it is," groaned her mother, holding up the vacuum. Well here goes nothing. Gabby showed her mom the letter about her temper tantrum. Of course, she was grounded for four weeks.

At school, it was the same routine, just walking from class to class fast, while kids whispered mean comments. "Hey is that the tantrum girl?" they would say.

The entire school knew her for her tantrums. At free period, Gabby went outside to hang out with her really good friend (who understands her) named Gracie. Gracie always calmed Gabby down when she was in the middle of temper tantrum.

When they both started talking, a ball hit Gracie right on the head. Even worse, it was a heavy basketball!

"Gracie!" sobbed Gabby, but it was too late. Gracie was already on the ground. Gabby couldn't tell if she was dead or not. She stopped crying and her face turned fire engine red.

"WHO THREW THAT BALL AT GRACIE'S HEAD!"

IF YOU DID COME  
RIGHT HERE!"  
screamed Gabby. When  
no one came, the tan-  
trum started.

It was a crazy sight. Everyone knew it was the usual though. Gabby started pounding her fists on the blacktop, not caring how much it hurt. She started screaming and spitting out bad words to people. Someone rushed into the school and returned a minute later with the school nurse, who had gasped in horror and lifted Gracie to her office.

"Gabby Henderson I cannot believe you had another tan-  
trum!" said an exasperated Principal Anderson.

"But I was only trying to help Gracie!" protested Gabby.  
Gracie had a concussion and had to go to the hospital.

"I am sending the person who hurt Gracie to my office  
later. But let's deal with this first," said Principal Ander-  
son, straightening his glasses. Wanting to be off the hook,  
Gabby quickly said, "I am sorry I had a tantrum, and I  
will always think before I do."

The principal smiled.

"I am glad to hear that. Henderson you are excused," he  
said, waving her away. Gabby got off the chair and walked  
out of the office. Gabby just thought of a new motto: Last  
stop terrible, next stop good. Her next stop was to see  
Gracie, too.



*Hithu is a hard working  
writer. Her stories get better  
and better each time she  
submits.*



# Summer

By Tanisha Bhatia and Nupur Malhotra

*It's Summer!  
"Hooray!"*

*Eating ice cream,  
It's a lovely day.  
Going to the pool,  
How good is that?*



*Make sure to put on a  
summer hat!*

*Do you wanna go to the park?  
You'll never see a shark.  
You can go on a slide.  
Come on, let's hide.  
Come on, come on, it's summer outside!*



*Illustration by Ellison Murray*



*Tanisha and Nupur spent the summer writing as a team. They have several "team" stories completed for this issue. Enjoy them!*

By Isabel Milley



Once upon a time, there was a girl named Dove, and she was the King's daughter. One night, Dove saw a glowing light and so she went to see where it was coming from. Dove got a cloak and went to see what it was.

When she got to the forest, the light was bright and bigger and she saw a lock on the ground with a note. It said, "Take this locket. It will keep you safe." Dove wanted to go back to the castle, but she couldn't find it!

The next morning a young lady found Dove and brought her to the orphanage so she could live there.

After 4 years of scrubbing floors, while the others played games, Dove wanted to escape. When the other girls came in, they left the door open and Dove got out. The others noticed and chased Dove. She slipped into a carriage that was heading to the castle.

When the carriage reached the castle, Dove hopped out and ran into the castle's bakery to hide. Soon enough, the other girls from the orphanage came and found her. Then, the baker came in and told the girls to leave. Dove hid while the others ran away and when they were gone,

## Dove

Dove went into the castle and sat down behind a chair.

When the king walked by he saw Dove and asked why she was hiding? He said to the baker, "Bring hot soup for the little girl. The King asked Dove for a favor and that was to go see Saint Nick. He wanted to ask him to tell him where his daughter was and to transport her to him. She did as he asked.

She took a horse to Saint Nick. When she finally arrived, she asked where she could find Saint Nick? The elf took her there and said to St. Nick that he had a visitor and left them.

Dove asked, "Who is the King's daughter?" Saint Nick replied, "You are the King's daughter; Here is a letter for the King."



*Isabel spent some time creating this great tale. You will enjoy it.*

When Dove got back, she handed the King a letter and he was shocked when he read it. He looked at Dove and smiled. He had found his daughter, and there was a big celebration.

# A Dog House for Jipsy

By Sai Aneesh

It was a steaming, hot July day. My dog, Jipsy, was roaming around the house. My friend and I thought of building a small doghouse for Jipsy.

My friend Omar said, "First we need some planks and STRONG tape."

"Not so fast Omar. We have to ask my mom first, okay."

We went to my mom.

"Mom, could we build a doghouse for Jipsy, please?"

She looked at the calendar and said, "Well not now because we are too busy this week. Do it next week, okay."

Omar went home.

**New Week** - Hurray time to build the doghouse. "KABAM!" The sturdy hammer hit the surface of the hard and big nail.

"Mom, could I try to hit the nail?" I asked.

"Okay, but be careful," my mom replied to me. I swung the heavy hammer back but... it flew away! My eyes filled with terror. The good thing is that it landed on a red and tidy blanket.

"Could I try?" Omar asked. The second Omar



*Sai has written an intriguing story about a dog named Jipsy! We loved it.*

lifted the hammer, he realized it was very heavy and that he could not hit the nail. Suddenly, we heard a loud howl from Jipsy!

We ran to Jipsy fast and when we looked at him, we saw that he was stuck under the gate. My mom also ran to Jipsy and rescued him.

"Let's just buy a doghouse instead of building one on our own because he needs a doghouse badly."

"No, we already started and we have to finish it," I said.

"Otherwise, we have to pay a lot of money to buy one." I was wrong. We should have bought one. It would take so many days for us to build one doghouse. This made me realize that you should never bite off more than you can chew.

## Artwork by Nupur Malhotra



*Nupur has tremendous talent!*



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# The Adventures of Sam & Max

By Sahir Chopra

Once upon a time there was a dog named Sam. He was brave and strong, but he had a problem; He always wanted to play outside all the time with his friend named Max. Max was a dog who had just turned 8 years old. He had white fur and every time they went inside, he was thirsty.

One day Sam made up a really fun game. It's called The Throwing Monkeys: This is how you play: First you need a bucket. Then, you throw the monkeys in the bucket. After Sam and Max were done playing, they went inside. They got lots of paper and crayons and two pencils. They made a map of the game. Then, they went all over the community and showed people.

Most of the people loved the game. There were 100 houses they visited. When Max and Sam got back, Max drank all his water, but when people saw the instructions they said they didn't have monkeys. Then Sam and Max showed where to get stuffed animals. The store was called monkeys. There were all different kinds of monkeys. The monkeys they got cost only \$4.26. They got the buckets from a mall. It was a big, blue bucket. It was the perfect size for a monkey to go in it.

When they got home, they went right to sleep. They slept for an hour. When they woke up outside of their door, they saw a parcel. It was their new Legos™. It is called Legos™ Atlantis. It had 60,000 pieces. They were blown away so much that they almost fell down on a hard floor. The Legos™ would shoot you if you flicked it. It had something that looked like a drill. Inside of it, it had a secret jail. It had blue, red, and white jewels on top of it. They thought it would take them four weeks. It had 28 parts. They thought each day that they would finish one part.

After they built one part, they had lunch. For lunch, they ate a sandwich. After lunch, they had cookies. They were



really big. One cookie was the size of a head. The chocolate chips were the size of your eyes. When they were done, they got a piece of paper and started drawing. They were drawing a soccer ball with a soccer player and a goal. They put the soccer ball in the goal and drew the soccer player running fast. After they were done, they colored all of it. It looked so beautiful. Soon, it was dinner time. For dinner they had pepperoni pizza. They said it was the best pizza ever.

In the morning, they went right outside to play the Throwing Monkeys. First Sam was winning 4 to 3. Then, Max was in the lead with 6 points over 5 points. In the end Max won. Then they played again and they tied. The score at the end was 6 to 6. Then, they saw their neighbor was playing it too. Since it got so popular, the whole community's friends heard about it. They thought it was a great game. It was so fun they started playing it too.

Sam and Max were so happy that the game was popular. Then they went outside, took stuffed monkeys and a bucket to play the Throwing Monkeys! When they were playing they saw half the whole community was playing (about 50 people). Soon they got too tired. They went in, and Max drank half of his water bowl. When he was done with half of his water bowl, there were drops falling off of his chin. It looked like he had took a shower. Then they started building one part of the Legos™ Atlantis. When they were done, they had brunch. For brunch they had waffles with chocolate syrup. They had three waffles each. Then they went upstairs and started reading a book. Then they read four pages. The book was called Unicorn and Milo. When they were done reading they started drawing.

They were tracing the cover of the book called Unicorn and Milo. Then they went outside to play the Throwing



*Sahir has written a wonderful, detailed story. He is talented. He is a writing Rock Star!*

# Video Game Commotion

By Aadi Katyal

"Uncle Ben, can you come outside and help me?" asked Uncle Ben's 19-year-old nephew Peter. Peter is a senior in college, and his final term project is to make a video game. He has been working on it for almost a month.

Uncle Ben, on the other hand, has no education and never went to school or college. He has no idea about engineering, but he was still eager to help.

"Peter, what is this camera for?" Uncle Ben asked, not even knowing if it was a camera or not.

"Oh, that. It just sucks insects. But watch out- it has sucked up a few humans!" Peter explained.

Uncle Ben wasn't paying attention to Peter. He started tapping the insect sucker. The sucker activated and before you knew it, he was being transferred into the video game!

Apparently, Uncle Ben is really fat, so it took him a while to go through the tubes.

"Peter, you're grounded for the rest of - " Uncle Ben didn't even get to finish his sentence. Before you knew it, he fell into the video game.

When Uncle Ben got up, he was all dirty. He got up to see the sign that said: Welcome to Doom 3 2 1.

Uncle Ben entered, and found many people stored in a room. Uncle Ben didn't know why they were there. Then he realized that they were the people who got sucked up. Uncle Ben decided to get everyone out. But first, he didn't

know the way out. Uncle Ben started hearing echos.

"Uncle Ben, can you hear me?"  
It was Peter.

"Sorry I got you stuck in here, but there is one way out. You have to beat missions and move up levels until you get at least 10,000 points. Then you will be transferred back out," Peter explained.

Uncle Ben walked to the first level. He had to take everyone everywhere because he wanted to save them. The first level was Pac-man. The game looked so real because he was inside the game "OK, here's the plan. Everyone stay near a corner, and I'll be in the middle. Press the corner button when I tell you to."

"Ready, set, go!" Uncle Ben yelled. The ghost started coming out, and Uncle Ben started running into the tiny pellets.

"Go, press the button!" he yelled.  
At the end of the game, they each won 1,000. Nine thousand points  
to go. The gang did eight more levels, and took a break. They found an empty lair to sleep in. The final level was left, and they were going to do it the next morning. Peter forgot to mention that they had to get the 10,000 points all in one day!



## Video con't on page 22

## Sam con't from 17

Monkeys. They played four rounds. First, Max won 10-4. In the second round, Sam and Max tied. In the third round, Sam won 6-5. In the fourth and final round, Max won 12- 10. Then they did a bonus round. They moved the bucket even further away. But at the end, somebody had to win. The winner was Max. he had won 2-0.

They went inside and cooled off. Max drank half of his water bowl. Then both of them slept for one and a half hours. "ZZZZZZZZ..."

Soon they woke up. When they woke up, they grabbed a couple of things: monkeys and a bucket. Then they headed outside. They started playing the Throwing Monkeys. Later, they came inside. For dinner, they had pasta. Then they were so tired that they crashed on the bed and fell asleep,

In the morning around 7, they got right to work. They started making their Legos™. It took almost an hour to finish half of their Legos™. They were so tired, but they were still building Legos™ Atlantis. They thought they would only do one part but they didn't. They tried to finish the whole thing. They ended up finishing Legos™ Atlantis! It looked so cool. It wasn't missing any pieces. They were blown away. They never knew they could build a 60,000 piece Legos™. Then they noticed a piece was in the wrong spot. They had to take one whole part of. Then, they had to look at the instructions. That took a long time, but soon they found it. Then it was fixed. They put it on. Then they decided to sleep for 2 hours. Their dream was about Legos™. Legos™ Atlantis! They dreamed all about it. Then they woke up. It still looks like they're tired because they were yawning for such a long

# The Evil Wizard and Fairies

By Nehal Bajaj

## 2nd Place Lesson Story

In a far, far away village, there lived a gang of fairies named Isabella, Gracia and Mancelope. They all lived on the top of the hill and shared a tiny house. They didn't know that not far from where they lived was an evil wizard.

He was mean, evil and never ever got along with anyone. He lived in a cave that was very beautiful. He never let anyone in. So, one day the evil wizard decided to imprison the fairies and never let them out. "Ha, Ha, Ha those pesky fairies will never get to see the bright sunshine ever again," he said with an evil grin.

While Isabella, Gracia and Mancelope were fetching water, the evil wizard tiptoe-tiptoe-tiptoe and, "SNAP!" The three fairies were imprisoned. They cried and wept because they never got to see the bright sunshine or feel

the cool breeze.

One hundred years passed and no one could ever rescue the three fairies. Then one day a brave knight went near the cave, but the evil wizard didn't notice him. He tiptoe-tiptoe-tiptoe and carefully, "SNIP" in the cave. He freed the fairies and imprisoned the evil wizard. The evil wizard had learned a big lesson—NEVER TREAT PEOPLE THE WAY YOU DON'T WANT TO BE TREATED.



*Nehal has a terrific imagination. This fantasy story is quite entertaining.*

## Lemonade Stand With My Friends

By Shambhavi Dhange

My friends and I were planning to put up a lemonade stand for 50 cents. I came up with the name "Summertastic Lemonade." My friend Ananya had a box for the stand. My other friend Jyothika brought the paper. Ananya wrote down the sign and gave us reminder slips on what we had to bring. I was supposed to bring some lemons and glasses. The next day, I came outside in the early morning and yawned. I got ready and hurried outside. I called my friends out. We taped up the signs on the box and drew pictures of our lemonade. Then one of my friends had to leave, but my other friends and I were still working. We found a flag and Ananya got out her markers. We wrote, "50 cent lemonade" on both sides. Then everyone left. After going home, I played with my sister. At 4 o'clock, I got my lemons and brought out glasses. My friends brought water, ice, salt and, sugar. We put everything together in a pitcher and



had our lemonade ready. Our lemonade stand was ready to rock! After an hour, everybody gathered around our stand and had our refreshing lemonade. In a blink of an eye, all the lemonade was finished. It was good teamwork. We collected all the money and decided to give our collection to a charity for people who need it more than us. I am now exhausted from writing a long, sweet story and I need a huge glass of lemonade to write another terrific story for you.



*Shambhari wrote such a great story, that now I want a cold drink of lemonade!*

## A Great Trip to Yellowstone!

By Devo Boley

I saw a bear.  
We stayed in the cabin that was really fun.  
It had a hot tub, ping pong table and foosball table. And it had bunk beds.  
We saw four bears. We went to Yellowstone. I saw Old Faithful.



*Devo makes seeing a bear seem like fun.*

# THE BIG, BAD BALLET PRACTICE

By Meghana Kakaraparthi

"Come on! My rose tutu is wilting!" Merrisa whined. She needed to get to her most important rehearsal of the year! "Did you practice?" Mom asked. "No!" Merrisa exclaimed with a proud smile on her face.

"You didn't practice?" Mom asked.

"I didn't," Merrisa said, as her smile faded away.

"You are in trouble," Blossom, Merrisa's younger sister said.

They went to the dress rehearsal. First, they went into the check-in line. Next, they went backstage.

"Did you all practice?" Madam Ole, their teacher asked. All heads nodded except Merrisa's. Madam Ole noticed that Merrisa shook her head instead. "Merrisa, please



*Meghana has submitted an excellent story to City Kidz World! I love the description and the compositional risk.*

stay backstage after rehearsal," Madam Ole said.

Merrisa did as she was told. She joined Madam Ole backstage. Madam Ole said, "Merrisa, why didn't you practice?" Merrisa hesitated. "I...I wanted to watch TV!"

Madam Ole replied, "Merrisa, you have to practice whether you want to or not. Otherwise, you won't know the steps and you can't be in the recital." Merrisa walked home sadly.

When Merrisa got home, she started to practice. First, she tried doing everything at once, but she fell down. Next, she tried doing everything one at a time and realized that that way would help her do her best at the recital. First pirouettes, then tippy toes and a grand jete for a finish.

The next day backstage, Merrisa had butterflies flapping wildly in her stomach, but she knew she had to go out there and after practicing so much, she deserved a treat. Her class performed and Merrisa got a gold medal! She truly danced like a professional ballerina!

Now, Merrisa knows PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.

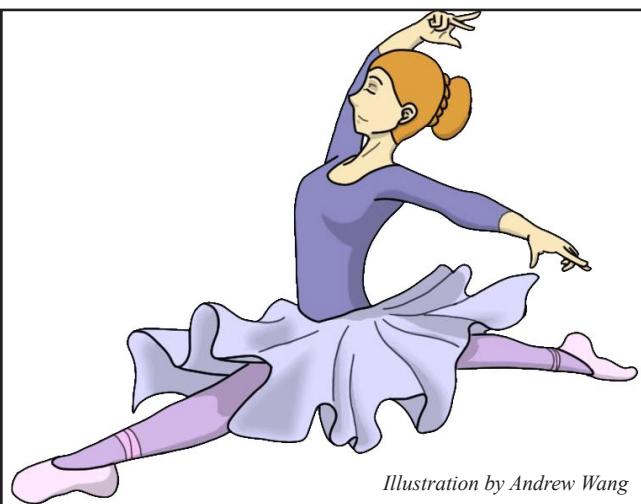


Illustration by Andrew Wang

## Birthday Party! Birthday Party!

By Shreya Sri Veeravalli

"Dring , dring, dring," the phone rang. My mom picked it up. She spoke for a few minutes and I looked at her eagerly. When she put the phone down, she told me that one of my classmates invited me to her birthday party at Sweet and Sassy. I said, "Yay!"

The next Saturday afternoon, I got ready and we drove to the location. The drive felt like hours, but we finally arrived. My mom and I got out of the car and walked inside. I walked up to my friend and gave her a big hug. I wished her a happy birthday and gave her a gift. First, we had a relaxing pedicure and they gave us toe rings for our feet. Finally, the fun began. We got to pick our dresses, and I picked a gorgeous pink glittery dress with white feathers on it. Then, we changed our dresses and got our

*Shreya has written a lovely story. I couldn't wait to read about the great birthday party.*



hair done. They put our hair into buns, which I have never done to my hair before. Next came the fashion show. I was really nervous. I saw my friends walking down the red carpet as if they were celebrities and that gave me a confidence boost. It was my turn. I walked down when they announced my name. I realized that I had finally done it, and all the moms clapped for me. After that, we ate pizza and cake and enjoyed the rest of the party.

Before we knew it, it was time to leave. I received my goody bag and wished my friend a happy birthday once again. I had the best time ever!



Short Story

# THE Bag



By Sarayu Kodali

“See you after school,” said a kid. All of the people on the bus were getting off to go to school. My friend (Josh) and I had the same backpacks! Well, that was a coincidence! As I went into the school, I smelled something like rotten cheese. I just thought that somebody barfed. As soon as I went into class, I reached into my backpack to get my books out and as I went closer to it, the stinky smell got stronger and stronger. I didn’t care. I looked inside my bag and it was a mess! I had race cars and crumpled up homework, as well as baloney and meat. For lunch, there was just a sandwich. I knew this was not my bag! I thought maybe Josh and I accidentally switched backpacks on the bus. I had to give Josh his backpack back as quick as I could. There was a problem. My teacher checks our backpacks while we are eating lunch and if she sees my backpack, she is going to send me to the principal to confess. When our teacher was checking our backpacks, she saw mine and immediately said, “Go to the principal!” So I went. When the principal was talking to me, he said, “You are normally a good student and you are not that messy. But why?” I tried to speak but then immediately he said, “You will have three days of detention starting today. Now tell me what you have.” “The truth is, my friend and I have the same backpack and I think we accidentally switched them.” “Are you

telling the truth?” asked the principal. “ Yes. Yes I am,” I said. “ Ok then now you are not in detention anymore.” “ Where is this Josh?” “ He is in Ms. Mabelkin-kle’s class.” Then the principal called Josh. Josh got into detention and into trouble. Even though I felt really badly for him, I had to tell the truth. We switched backpacks. The principal told Josh and I not to sit together in case this happens again. So, we never sat beside each other again and we were happy after all.



*Sarayu has become a great writer this year. She has great ideas. Enjoy this story.*

## Sam con't from page 18

They put it on. Then they decided to sleep for 2 hours. Their dream was about Legos™. Legos™ Atlantis! They dreamed all about it. Then they woke up. It still looks like they’re tired because they were yawning for such a long time . Soon they weren’t sleepy. They kept staring at the Legos™ for almost 10 minutes. They were just looking if pieces were in the wrong spot. Then they didn’t know what to do. Soon they came up with an idea. The idea was that they would put Legos™ Atlantis in the water to see if it could float. Then they tried it out. IT WORKED! YAY! They made it go around the sink three times. Then they went back to their room. Inside their room on the bed, they found a box. Inside the box was a Legos™. The Legos™ was called The Shark Attack. So then they built it. Then they came up with a really cool idea. The idea was to put the Legos™s on top of each other. Then they would put this in the sink. It looked so cool. They lived happily ever after...

Middle School Short Story Contest!  
Nov. 10, 2014  
500 Words  
Send to editor@citykidzworld.com



# THE FLYING SIKH

By Simar Kamboj

Milkha Singh was born on November 20, 1929, in Govindpura, Punjab (which is now Pakistan). As a kid, he had many difficulties in his life. When Milkha Singh was 11 years old, there was partition between India and Pakistan. During the partition, riots broke out between the Sikhs and the Muslims. His parents were killed during the riots.

## Army Life

As Singh grew up, he joined the Indian Army. He had one task to do. He had to run across country in a race. He ran very fast. He finished in sixth place. He got selected for the track team. That day, he realized his talent: Running.

## Olympic Life

Singh practiced a lot before the games. Singh's first competitive track game began in the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne. He placed fourth. In 1958, he played in the Asian Games and won gold. In the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome, something terrifying happened. He looked back while running. While he was running in first position, his coach screamed, "Bhagg Milkha Bhagg!" That meant "Run Milkha Run!" He recalled the time his father's head was chopped off. His father screamed the same way. He placed fourth in that race. He didn't give up because of that experience. In the 1962 Asian Games, he also won a gold medal. Singh

Biography



achieved the Padma Shri Award. This award recognizes civilians and their achievements in sports. Then, there was the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. He was also going to run in a 200 meter race. He was going against Pakistan's Abdul Khaliq. He was also a very fast runner. Singh won against him by a time of 48.6 seconds. He broke the world record. Pakistan held a track event and invited India.

## Singh vs. Khaliq

Singh refused to go. He couldn't go because his dad died there. He had overcome his fear, so he went. Before the race started, General Ayub Khan wished the runners good luck. The race started. Khaliq was winning. After some time, Singh was getting ahead. Khaliq and Singh were tied. A few seconds later, Singh got ahead. Singh won the race!

As General Ayub Khan was giving out the medals, he said this to Milkha Singh.

"You didn't run, you flew. From this day on, you will be known as The Flying Sikh."

Overall, he participated in 80 events. Out of 80 events, he won 77 of them.



## Video con't from page 18

One hour into Uncle Ben resting, he felt a sharp tap on his shoulder. Uncle Ben just ignored the tap. When it started happening constantly, he got up to see a fierce looking Bowser! The final mission was to defeat Bowser. Behind the fierce monster, he saw a transparent glass door, and saw Peter.

"Everyone, there's the exit. Try to outrun Bowser while I try to distract him! Go, go, quick!" Uncle Ben kicked Bowser's leg, and Uncle Ben escaped with the group. "We're out!"

Bowser, at that moment, fell down, and broke the video game!

"Oh, no, it's broken!" Peter cried out loud. Everyone decided to help fix it. When Peter was about to put the insect sucker on, Uncle Ben and the group all said together:

"DON'T ATTACH THE INSECT SUCKER!"



# Should Schools have A Debate Class ?

Opinion Essay

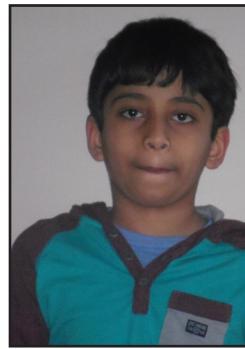
By Harshi Oleti

I think the usual classes are enough for a kid in school, but since the school wants us to choose a new class, I think I would like a debate class. It is like writing an essay. It'll help you feel what it is like to be in court, and it'll help you argue more.

One reason I would like debate class is because it is like writing an essay. Think of it this way. When you debate, you're using examples and evidence. While writing an essay, you use examples and evidences.

Another reason why I would like debate class is because it will help you feel what it is like to be in court. When you are in court, you debate so you won't get put in jail, and in debate class you debate. That is how debate class can help you to know what it feels like to be in court.

The final reason why I think debate class is a good idea is because it'll help you argue better. If you took debate class, you would be so good that you could beat your siblings at arguing since debating is like arguing.



*Harshi has written an excellent argument. We see his point! What do you think?*

In conclusion, I think the classes I have are good enough, but the school district wants the children to choose another class. I chose debating class. I chose debate class because it is like writing an essay, it'll help you to feel what it is like to be in court, and it'll help you get better at arguing. Now, what do you think of debate class?

## Meet Miss Next Level New Jersey!

### Zoe Skinner

#### She's a winner!

*"I was extremely proud the judges crowned  
Zoe my 2014 Miss Next Level Pageant  
... As the winner, she won sponsored entry  
into many other pageants. Because of her  
spark, intelligence and beauty, it was no sur-  
prise she won the very first one!"*

- Next Level Youth Pageant Founder Director, Evelyn McCleod

<http://www.nextlevelyouth.us/>



©OKAYIDD0 Photography

# My Handsome Fish

By Karunya Chittamuri

*My Fish's name is 'Bubbles',  
He's a male and he never rumbles!  
He blows bubbles,  
They usually come in doubles!  
He eats flakes,  
But he never bakes!  
He will never cry,  
And he will never lie!  
I don't mind,  
Having him as my best friend!*



*Karunya loves his  
gold fish. Read  
about it!*

By Jashn Gulati

**O**ne Sunday morning me and my dad were watching TV show about fishes and I said to my dad I wish I can have fishes as a pet. Guess what? As soon as we finished the show me, my dad, mom and my younger brother went to "Petco". First we called the lady to help us she asked us if we would like a normal fish tank or a glow in a dark fish tank? My brother and I liked glow fishes so we decided to buy a glow in a dark fish tank. After deciding on the tank, we bought pebbles, hide outs for the fishes and oxygen bubbles for them. The lady at Petco said before you get fishes, you have to neutralize the water in the tank for fishes safety. When we got home we set up the tank, filled it up with the water, and added drops of neutralizer. Waited for a week. Now after a week, we got two fishes, orange and green in color. Everyday I feed them food before I go to school and after my dinner. Fishes are good pets. I love my fishes.



*Jashn Gulati is  
a great writer.  
This fish story  
is pretty good!*

# First Day With Goldy

By Chinmayi Chittamuri

*My beauty's name is 'Goldy'  
She tries to be a boldy  
Goldy is a lot lazy  
She's tired and looks hazy  
Sometimes she eats food  
She calls Sairam, his brother, 'Hey Dude!'  
She doesn't pay attention to stars  
But she has imaginary wars  
She is beautiful like God  
Having her as my own pet feels odd  
She is my Goldy!*



*Chinmayi has given  
an excellent descrip-  
tion of her fish.*



# SUMMER VACATION

Short Story

By Likhitha Kandukuri

It was 8 a.m. on Monday and the sun was shining. Kim was waiting for her dad and her two friends to get in the car. They were all going to Florida to spend their summer vacation there. Gerome and Crystal arrived with a peanut butter and jelly sandwich in their hands. Then they arrived at the airport.

"Which plane are we going on?" Crystal asked Kim.

"We are going on D7," Kim replied. Then they sighted the plane D7 and sat down. They were waiting for the person to takes their tickets.

"Everyone who's going to D7, please make a line at the door. I repeat, everyone who is going to D7, please make a line behind the door," the speaker said. Kim, Crystal, Dr. Evan and Georme were jumping up and down laughing. They were very excited. But, they never noticed that they went on the wrong plane! The plane they were suppose to get on was U7! Kim enjoyed the music. Crystal took lots of pictures outside and inside of the plane. Gerome crunched and crunched on his snacks. He watched the daily news on the plane.

"Guys we are here! Welcome to Florida!" Dr. Evans said. Everyone said bye to the pilot. Once they



*Likhitha writes sophisticated stories. This one is quite lovely. Enjoy.*



enter the airport, Kim's dad checked the time. "This can't be right, it can't be 2 p.m. We were supposed to arrive at 7p.m. sharp," he said to his children. "Dr. Evan, where are we?" Crystal asked.

"We are actually in Louisiana!" he replied. We went on the wrong plane! Come on! We are going back to Florida! He asked the speaker of J7 and went back to the correct plane. "This plane looks cool!" Gerome said, just as they entered. The seats were blue and the plane was clean white. They even put on red seat belts!

When they arrived, they went to a big hotel. That was the best hotel in Florida. There were red curtains, a giant bed, a hot tub, a giant swimming pool, a silver shower and a car!

"It's vacation time!" we all said.

## My Summer Vacation

By Evan Carter



I went to soccer camp with the Dallas Sidekicks.

I like doing scrimmages against them. I also went to Turner Falls Oklahoma with my Cub Scout friends. I went down a slide into the water. The water was freezing. We went hiking too.

I went to Hawaiian falls this summer.

My favorite slides went straight down. I am going on a road trip to **mer!** NY.

I am going to build a tree fort at my grandmother's house.

I can't wait.

*Evan has told an interesting story about his summer vacation.*



## Love Sports Camp

By Utsav Gulati



Last week I went to baseball camp. It was so much fun. Coach told my parents that I is the best player on the team.

I love playing baseball and scoring home runs. When I score a home run, I get stickers from the coach. We played fun games at camp too. At the end of camp (soccer, basketball, or baseball), everybody gets a trophy. I have six trophies in our prayer room. I love sports.



*Utsav tells a great story about his camp. We want to go!*



# THE LIFE OF A LEGENDARY TREE

By Dhiren Vazirani

The autumn wind rocks my branches back and forth, forcing my leaves to collapse onto the ground. Yet another season has begun in my time at this park. All the other trees are struggling with the wind, but they do not have as thick branches as I have. My developing into an enormous, ancient tree has been completed for many years, but all the others are not done yet.

It brings me tears of joy over all these years of seeing generation after generation of children growing up and visiting my park. There was one girl who always climbed on me during her childhood, and now her own children climb on me too.

"This tree was a big chunk of my childhood, and I would never forget it," she said to her children.

Whatever makes the residents of the community happy makes me happy, too. All my life, I have been willing to provide any assistance for the people of New York City. Watching them relish their time, feels like I accomplished the purpose of my place in this park.

Standing tall in the community park for 99 years has helped me observe what is going on in the world around me. When World War II occurred, barely anyone around came to the park, even less for who came to me. The days were lonely, especially since I was the only tree there. I just waited and waited until there was a celebration at the park for the victory against Germany. There was also a lonely time when the attack on the Twin Towers took place. People were devastated, making me feel unappreciated. Eventually, the people of New York City got over it. These horrible times in history are evil, but standing tall and getting through them really helped me become a role model for the other trees in my park.

Despite all of the lonely times, the people of New York City are always friends with me. One day, a company wanted to chop me down to build a store right where I stood. This outraged the people of the city, so they all came and fought for my rights as a "legendary" tree. From that point, I always respected anyone who visited my park. No matter how many times children want to climb me, or how much first kisses kids want under me, I always allow it and I always will.

It warms my heart to see others having a good time in my park. Especially when they all come back years later with their kids. I feel like I have done my job for the people in New York City. Now I like seeing my fellow trees go through what I did as a child. Having their first visitors to climb them, having people start picnics under their shade, and so on. Being the oldest tree in my park, I have experience of being lonely, making others feel happy, noticing the conflicts going on in the world, and how to deal with them.

Today, as I turn 100 years old, communities come together and celebrate with me. My presence brought the whole city together, and that's what I enjoyed about my birthday the most. This city has been more kind to me than any other tree, and I feel lucky to have their appreciation. All I hope for in the community park of New York City is that I do anything possible to make all the visitors contented.



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# THE JOURNEY TO THE GOLDEN BALL

By Tanisha Bhatia and Nupur Malhotra

Once upon a time there was a little dragon boy named Sumo. Sumo wanted to travel around the world, but he never did. He only traveled in his city called Atlantis. He loved digging holes and gracefully gliding through the clouds. Sumo had a lot of friends. His best friend was named Phoenix. Sumo and his best friend Phoenix loved climbing mountains together. One day when it was night time, Sumo's mother told him a legend about the Golden Ball. The tale started out by saying that the Golden Ball is presented to only one dragon, but nobody knows who it is, not even the dragon it is presented to. When the dragon is near the special Golden Ball, he or she will get special powers. The dragon's special powers are super strength, super speed and the dragon can also breathe fire up to 600 miles. Sumo told Phoenix the story his mother told him. Sumo and Phoenix wanted to go find the Golden Ball. They started looking in the forest. The two friends looked and looked, but there was no sign of the Golden Ball. Then they went on the high mountains, but still could not find it. Phoenix saw Sumo digging holes. Phoenix asked, "What are you doing?"

"Digging holes," Sumo replied. Phoenix joined him and started digging holes, too. The two dragons dug together and found a cave. The cave was dark as night. It was very cold. Phoenix and Sumo were shivering. After a while, Sumo stopped shivering, but Phoenix almost froze. Phoenix heard something and looked back to see what it was. When he turned to tell Sumo what it was, Sumo raced off. Phoenix was confused because Sumo wasn't shivering and he raced off. Sumo raced back to Phoenix and grabbed him by his shirt and he brought him to the place he found. It was a miracle. They found the Golden Ball! It was on top of a rocky hill in the cave. Sumo climbed the rocky hill. Phoenix was scared to climb it. It took a long time for Sumo to reach the top. When Sumo took the Golden Ball out of its place, the cave started shaking and rumbling and rocks started to fall. The rocks fell on Phoenix. The mountain even fell on him. Sumo fell all the way down. He started to remember racing. What if he was the dragon presented by the Golden Ball? He also remembered the three things that happen when the Golden Ball is near. Super



*Another great "Team Tanisha and Nupur" story. This is a fantastic dragon story! Everyone loves a dragon story. Read and enjoy.*



speed, super strength, and you can also breathe fire up to 600 miles. Sumo thought he could dig Phoenix out of the rocks with his super strength. He flew down and dug as fast as he could. He saw Phoenix at the bottom of the pile. He was badly injured. Sumo pulled him out and the Golden Ball flew out of Sumo's hand. He was confused. He saw the Golden Ball in the middle of the room. They both looked up and the ball spoke to Sumo.

"Sumo, there was always one power inside you, courage. It led you all the way here."

"Well, I don't need the powers anyways," Sumo said. "Well then I might banish myself," said the Golden Ball. "Goodbye Sumo and Phoenix."

The ball disappeared into the mist.

Sumo and Phoenix were happy. They lived happily ever after.

# The Great Gretzky

Biography

By Harveer Kamboj

## Gretzky's childhood

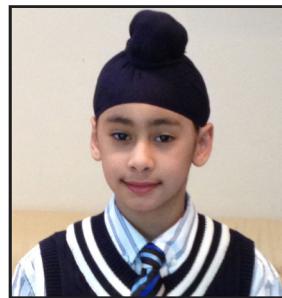
Wayne Gretzky was born on January 26, 1961, in Brantford, Ontario. His home country is Canada. Gretzky played two sports when he was a child: baseball and ice hockey. He liked both sports, but he was more talented in ice hockey, so he started only playing ice hockey. Gretzky has been playing ice hockey since he was 7 years old.

## Gretzky's adulthood

Gretzky started playing ice hockey in the Ice Hockey League in college. The college he went to was the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada.

## Gretzky's an NHL player

Wayne became an NHL player. His first team was the Edmonton Oilers. He was the captain of the team. It was



*Harveer did a fantastic job researching this story! We learned something new.*

the final game, where the Stanley Cup would be raised. Gretzky wanted to win the cup. The game took place at the Rexall Place. Gretzky won his first cup. Later on, he won five more Stanley Cups. He retired in 1999. He's in the Hall Of Fame because of his points, his goals, and his games. He got 2,856 points. He played in 1,456 games and he made 894 goals in 20 seasons. Wayne is 53 years old right now, but still practices hockey at his house. He also coaches.

## Editor's Choice Award The Peace Tree

By Kritika Nagappa

Legend has it that deep down in Falcon Forest, there lies a tree that leads a life to peace. Sixteen-year-old Jessica Faulter hated the stupid orphanage and wished for more happiness. She also wanted to prove that there is something called the peace tree and then she set out reading about that particular tree.

"Julia, you know how I always wanted to be happy and have peace," Jessica murmured quietly to her closest friend Julia Savage. "Uh, huh," Julia whispered back as if she was spilling a secret." What do you have in mind?" Julia continued nervously.

"I heard about something called the Peace Tree that lies in the Falcon Forest, and since you got your driver's license, I was wondering if you could, uh, take me there?" Jessica muttered under her breath.

"And could you also record me while I become happy and peaceful?" Jessica pleaded softly. "You really want to do it?" Julia asked as she thought about all the good times she shared with her best friend.

"Yes, I have told you before and I am telling you again, I



have the worst life ever," Jessica mumbled as if she was talking with food in her mouth.

"Okay, fine we leave at the crack of dawn," Julia told her friend hoping she would change her mind the next day. "Thanks. See you tomorrow!" Jessica exclaimed excitedly and hung up.

"Hey Jess, you ready? The camera is ready to go," Julia said.

"Yup, just give me a second!" Jessica replied as she got

*Kritika never lets City Kidz World readers down. She has submitted yet another wonderful story with a redemptive message. Read and learn.*

**Peace** con't on page 29



# *Friendship*

By Hithu Oleti

"Aaaaaaaaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhh," I screamed. I was going to the Caribbean and was flying with Emirates airlines and well, let's just say I was out of the plane while it was moving. Or to make it simple, I was falling out of the plane! Note to self: if I live, go visit the doctor. I can not believe no one realized I fell out of the plane! Sheesh! "Helpppppppppppppp," I screamed.

Finally, someone noticed me. She gasped in horror and went to find a flight attendant. In a blink of an eye, the plane dove toward my direction, and dropped a rope. With great strength, I climbed the rope. When I reached the plane, I searched with great haste for the person that saved my life. Then I saw her. She had chocolate brown and black hair. Her skin was a tan color, and she was dressed in a red summer dress.

"Hey there!" I said. She looked up from her book, smiled, and ran up to me.

"Hi," she said in a sweet, tinkling voice.

"Oh my gosh. I am so glad you're okay!" she shrieked, as she pushed her long hair behind her ear.

"Yeah! Thank you sooooo much for saving me. I you owe my life!" I gushed.

She laughed. "You're welcome and if I was falling out of a plane, you would have done the same for me too! Right?" she asked.

I nodded in agreement.

"So, what's your name?" I asked.

"Sabrina Hill," she replied. Wait. I know that name.

"Wait. Did you go to Southernest High?" I asked. She nodded.

"OMG Sabrina! It is me Kirsten Gold!" I squealed. She looked at me with recognition.

"Kirsty! Oh my gosh! It has been such a long time!" She gave me a humongous bear hug.

"How are Bryan, Sarah, Andrew, Brianna, Rachel, Isabella, Marcus, Mark, Georgia, Alan, Rebecca, Kristen, and baby Bailey?" I asked.

Sabrina rolled her eyes.

"Making a mess in the house that's for sure," she replied. "So how is your job at the salon?" we asked each other. We laughed. In order to make some extra money, Sabrina and I worked at different salons and we still work there.

"So what brings you to the Caribbean?" I ask. "Well I seriously need a vacation and my beauty sleep, so I saved money from work and college to get this vacation," she replied.

"Same deal with you, too?" she asked. I nodded.

The plane landed and Sabrina and I checked into the hotel.

"Yes my room is right next next yours!" Sabrina squealed. We did our secret hand slap from memory. During those six weeks, we caught up. Sabrina really understands my feelings. Sometimes we would have sleepovers. Life with Sabrina has been amazing. I guess the saying is true, friendship is the most beautiful thing in the world.



*Hithu submitted a great short story. We enjoyed every word.*

## **Peace** con't from page 28

into the passenger seat of Julia's jeep. After a long drive to the mysterious Falcon Forest, the girls stopped with a screech in front of the Peace Tree.

"Okay, this is my dream. I'll do it to have my name left in history," Jessica thought aloud. Jessica gasped a mouth full of air and waddled like a nervous penguin toward the beautiful peace tree.

"One second, let me turn on the camera on," Julia said eyeing the camera. "Okay you ready?" Julia asked as she motioned her hand at the tree.

It wasn't like any other tree. It had wings and it was white as a cloud.

"Owner of the tree please open this to me," Jessica said spiritually three times. After she recited the same exact line thrice, a long path of stairs opened in front of her and Julia.

Jessica took her first step up the steps that looked endless. While she walked up, she heard soft, melodious voices inside her head. Jessica immediately smiled. Julia followed her and got her pretty smile on camera. Even Julia felt happy as she walked. Jessica dreamed of a good life back in the orphanage and she didn't doubt it. The peace tree had worked for Jessica, she didn't know when, but now she felt that someone would adopt her soon.

## 2ND PLACE! MYSTERY STORY WINNER!

# Mystery

By Atharv Shelar

"Ok honey, time to go to swimming class! Oh and on the way out of the house, could you grab the car keys?" my mom asked.

"Sure mom," I replied. I went to the cabinet and looked for the car keys and couldn't find them. Where could they be? I checked beside the cabinet and under the cabinet, but I couldn't find them.

"Hurry up!" said my mom.

"I'm trying to find them, but I can't," I answered.

Then I searched for them in the kitchen, under and on the table, in the family room, in the living room, in my mom's room, in my dad's room, and my room. I looked everywhere.

"Did you find them yet?" my mother questioned.

"No," I said.

"Keep searching," my mom said in a demanding voice. I kept on looking, but they didn't show up. Where could the car keys be?

"They couldn't have move by themselves," I thought. I was running late for my swimming class. I had already

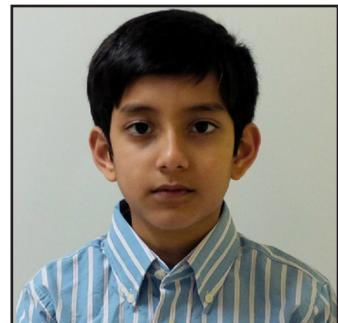
been late once. I didn't want to be late again. This was really bad.

I told my mom to retrace her steps just as I did. I thought, "Before I was searching for the car keys I was packing my swimming bag."

Then, I ruffled through my swimming bag, but found no car keys. Before I packed my swimming bag I was studying in the family room. I went back to the family room and searched. I double checked to see if the car keys were there. Before I studied, I was looking through my mom's purse for her check book because she asked me to get it for her. Then I asked my mom, "Look through your purse. Maybe it's in there."

Mom looked through her purse and you won't believe what she found. It was her car keys!

Well, I made it on time for swimming due to my fast thinking of retracing my steps. I had solved the mystery of the missing car keys.



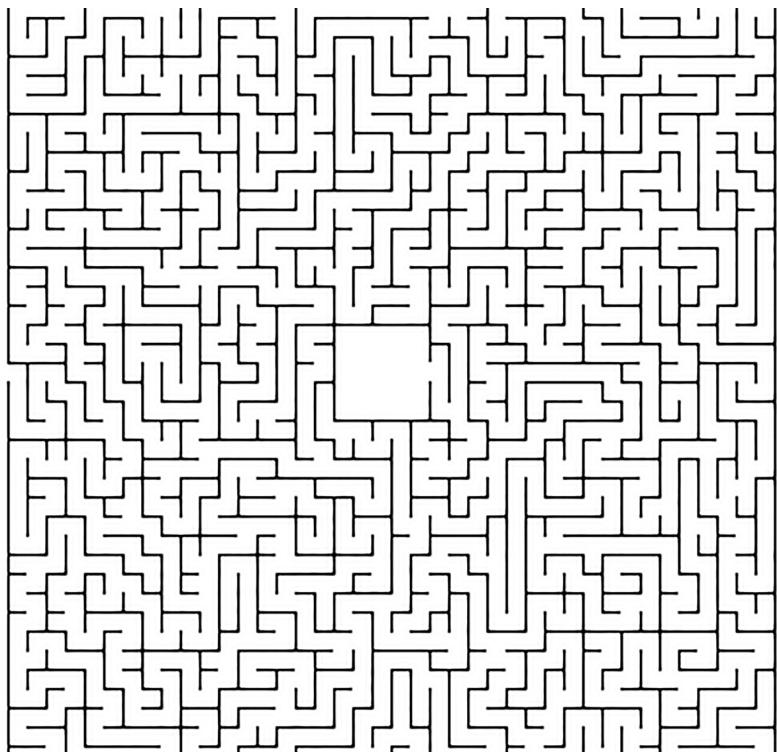
*Atharv has written a great mystery. This could happen to anyone. We love this story.*

# Maze

**Fun  
&**

**Games!**

30



[www.citykidzworld.com](http://www.citykidzworld.com)

# Town Tennis Finals

By Sai Veeravalli

To get here, I had to play three matches each for one set, and now I'm finally at the finals, all pumped up. I ran over to the net for the coin toss. I was heads and he was tails. The umpire flipped the coin and it landed on tails.

"It's okay," I thought. "I like my rival serving."

Before the match even started, I knew that it was going to be hard because he looked so fierce and he was a grade older than me.

I was moving my legs right outside the ace box. He served the ball and hit the net, "Serve one!" yelled the umpire.

Next, he served and hit the ace box. I returned the shot, and the rally kept on going. Ten minutes later, the umpire yelled, "30-40."

He served it, and I returned it with a drop-shot that he was not expecting. The umpire announced, "1-0." Then, we switched sides and now it was my serve. I served and we rallied for the next three points.

"I'm doing well so far," I thought to myself. I was now

leading 40-15. I served, and he tried to drop-shot it, but it hit the net instead. We switched sides and it was another ten minutes of rough rallying. Then it was match point again, 30-40. I was leading. I did a drop-shot on his serve, he sprang forward to get it, but his racket hit the ground instead. I won the game.

Now, the score was

3-0 my serve. I served the ball and we rallied for some time. Then, on my serve, it was 40-40. I served it and he did a drop-shot on me to win the game. Now the score was 1-3 (him-me). After fighting for the fourth game, we tied 4-4, 40-40 his serve. I looked at my coach and he gestured for me to use...the move. He served it and I sliced it as if I was a chef cutting onions. The ball slid off my strings and bounced low on the other side. He was simply too slow and he ended up hitting the net. I dropped my racquet... I won my first town tennis title.



*This is a nice story. We learned about tennis after reading this story. You will too. Enjoy.*

## My Summer Vacation

By Andrew Carter

First my friends and I went to soccer camp. I learned a lot of new skills. I also went to Hawaiian Falls this summer. There was this slide called the Torpedo. It goes straight down and is pitch black. It was super scary. I went roller skating and saw Earth to Echo with my friends. I am also going on a road trip across the country. We are going to places in Kansas, Indiana, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania. We will be spending the time in NY with my grandparents and cousins. I think my summer was a super fun vacation.



*Andrew had a great vacation.*

## Yellowstone Trip

By Hayden Boley

I went to the lake when I was at Yellowstone. We rented a kid's kayak that I could use. At first it was hard and the current kept pulling me back. My second time on the kid's kayak, I got better and I was really good.



*Haley tells the readers all about Yellowstone.*

It was cloudy and it was going to rain. I was with my cousins. After I kayaked, I went to the cabin and then, while it was raining, we sat in the hot tub and played. The hot tub was 95 degrees. It was sort of warm. It got funner because we played. When I went to Yellowstone, it was really fun. I mostly played with my cousin, Eli.



# 1ST PLACE! MYSTERY STORY WINNER!

## SHARANGLA HOTEL

By Jiya Joshi

It was a dark and stormy night. I had just put my little sister to bed and was pulling the curtains down when I saw two shadowy figures moving. I went to another window for a closer look. One of the figures was wearing a dark, black mask so I was sure it was a person, but what was it doing in the middle of a thunderstorm with a suitcase darker than the midnight sky. I was certain it wasn't anything good. I decided to investigate the next morning.

I woke up just in time to go to the library. I had a plan to go to the library and read all the newspapers of the week. Apparently, the Sharangla Hotel is having bad business because of a so-called, "ghost" in the hotel. Inside the hotel, on the fifth floor at midnight, the ghost comes out but doesn't hurt any people. It only hurt people on the first night it all happened, which was May 13, 1992. Ever since then nobody ever books any rooms on the fifth floor, even if they do, they never stay till midnight even if they want to...

I decided to call my friend so I could tell them everything and share this mystery with them. So, I went back home and called them up.

First my friend Tina came. She loves to eat. She can eat 32 sandwiches in a minute, but she is an awesome friend (she is also really funny). Then came Sanjana. Sanjana is great at finding clues. Head-to-toe, she would wear the same color. Oh, I forgot to introduce myself. My name is Tania. I am terrific at connecting clues. My friends say I am really smart and pretty, but I forgive people really easily.

As soon as my friends reached my house, I gave them milk and cookies. Then I told them everything. When I finished, Sanjana said, "I think we should call Cammy (the owner of Sharangla Hotel) and book a room on the fifth floor. What do you think?"

"I'm fine with tomorrow," I said.

I looked at Tina, who was busy eating, and then Tina looked up at me and said, "Do you have any more cookies?" I got up and put more cookies on the plate.

When I sat down I almost handed Tina the plate of cookies, but quickly pulled the plate back and said, "You, me, and Sanjana will be in the hotel, 8:00 p.m."

With those last words our meeting ended.

The next afternoon, I called Sanjana over to discuss the plan about the ghost.

"Hey Sanjana, I think we should make replicas for you, me and Tina. What do you think?" "Maybe we should but we

will need Tina's help. I'll call Tina over. Okay?" I nodded and handed Sanjana the phone. When Sanjana finished the call, Tina was in front of my house. We told her the plan and got to work.

After a half an hour our replicas were ready. It was almost time for us to go to the hotel. We grabbed our replicas and dragged them to our room in the Sharangla Hotel. Then, we put on the recording we made at my house and activated the motion sensor. After that, we ran out of our beautiful room and hid inside a closet in the hall of the fifth floor.

I ran back inside the room with the fake me in it and grabbed the remote I had designed personally for this mission. Then, I ran back inside the closet just in time for the ghost to appear. I pressed the pink shiny button and told Tina, "This button will turn the motion sensor on. It will also turn on the camera I installed. When someone enters the room or moves in our room the motion sensor will tell the camera where to the moving figure is and we will be able to see everything the ghost will do."

"Do we have a camera on the ghost," Tina curiously asked. "That is a silly question and of course not," Sanjana blurted out.

"For your info there is a camera on the ghost because when the ghost opens the door the camera will fall down in its shirt so we will know where the ghost is at that moment."

Suddenly, our phones turned on and we could see a person putting on a white long cloth on his body. He had carved holes for his head and when he looked at Tina's replica we saw his face. I almost fainted, but thankfully Sanjana caught me and shook me hard. We quickly passed through the hallways and ran down the stairs onto the fourth floor where we had booked another room for us to sleep in.

The next morning, we called the sheriff and told him to meet us at the ice-cream shop at 1:00, since it was 12:50. We gathered up the evidence and I called Cammy to the ice-cream shop, too. The sheriff reached early so we waited for a little while and showed him the evidence as soon as Cammy reached.

When Sanjana finished showing the evidence Cammy asked, "Why did you call me here in the ice cream shop?"



*Jiya loves writing and you will enjoy this mystery story. Can you solve the mystery?*



# Cow Break Out

By Harveer Kamboj

"Moooooo," mooed the cow. The cow was so bored living in a dusty, old farm. He wanted to see the world and go on an adventure. Suddenly, he got an idea. His idea was to break out of the farm and run away somewhere. The cow took a deep breath. He went back as far as he could go so he could charge more powerful. He charged with all his might...

The cow was running on the highway saying, "I am free, I am free." He said it multiple times in cow language. He was so happy he thought this was the best moment of his life. There was one problem; he didn't know where he was going. He thought if he kept on running straight, he would be in a better place. Just then, he saw a sign that said "New York City" with an arrow pointing north. The cow was in New York City. He saw so many build-



*This cow adventure will have you laughing out loud (LOL)! Enjoy Harveer's awesome writing.*

ings and people. Everybody was staring at him while the cow was saying, "Moooooooo..." The cow started to like New York City. He saw so many statues. He walked around New York City. He really wanted to live in New York City. The cow walked to a place where nobody was looking and he decided to live in New York City.

## Hotel con't from page 32

"Here," I said.

Then I clapped my hands for the waiter who brought ice cream. "Are you matching faces, sheriff?"

"Yes, sadly I am. Waiter why did you act as a ghost at Sharangla Hotel?" The sheriff asked. By that time we had tied the waiter up.

"The only reason is because I asked Cammy if I could open my restaurant in his hotel's new café, but he said no," I thought for a while and then said, "Then what were you doing in front of my house at midnight with a bag?"

"I was meeting up with Cammy to bribe him but he said my restaurant's food was gross. Then I got the idea and costume."

"How did you get access into my hotel?" Cammy asked.

"I would always book a room on different floors for clashing times with dissimilar names. Then I would wear my costume and you know the rest."

"Sorry to hear about your restaurant, but you could open it inside another place," Sheriff said.

"Really, where?" The waiter asked.

"Inside JAIL!" The sheriff yelled. Sanjana, Tina and I all ate ice cream and it was all on Cammy. Life is good!

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# A DIFFERENT FLOWER

By Nupur Malhotra

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Mary. Mary loved to grow white flowers in her garden. Mary was only 4 years old, but she was a princess. The Queen told her to grow tall plants, but she never did. She only grew small white flowers.

Mary even owned a unicorn. She would ride on her unicorn everyday. She even played in the flowers, and wished on white dandelions.

One day Mary saw a yellow flower. The flower was lonely and different. The yellow flower's name was Yanda. Yanda would wish for a yellow friend everyday. Yanda told Mary her sad tale. Mary tried painting Yanda white, so she would be like the rest of the flowers in the garden.



*Nupur has written a beautiful story about flowers. It is quite intriguing.*

The next day it rained and all the white paint washed away. Mary painted her again, but the paint dripped off. Yellow Yanda was sad. There was nothing Mary or Yanda could do. Mary wished on a dandelion for more yellow flowers. The next day, when Mary and Yanda woke up, they saw that half of the field was yellow. It was a miracle. Yanda had many new friends. She was happy. The unicorn neighed and rolled up against Yanda. It was a dream come true.

## Freedom from Evil

By Kashvi Khandelwal

On Fight Planet everyone was happy and they lived peacefully. They lived in harmony and helped each other, until the aliens came. The aliens had been ruling them for a century. One day they finally made an army of robot turkeys. They felt brave after that.

Fight Planet was a humid planet. It was always hot. The atmosphere was always blue. It never changed. The village was located in the middle of the mountain. One day in the village, a robot turkey yelled, "Let's make guns so we can finally defeat the aliens."

Everyone agreed. They all gathered whatever they had and came where the robot turkey chief lived. The robot turkey men made the outside of the gun, while the robot turkey women made the inside parts. It combined rock with poison. They had 1000 guns ready the next day.

The alien guard noticed the turkey robot firing. They sent out their army out. The alien chief was furious. The aliens started to attack. The robot turkeys took their guns and started firing. A thousand alien were dead. All the robot turkey kept firing. They destroyed the alien army. Then the alien chief was infuriated. He came out and attacked the hardest. All the guns were fired at the same time. Someone yelled, "The chief is

dead."

Everyone jumped up and down. Then they had a celebration for their victory. Finally, they weren't ruled by the aliens. They lived happily ever after.



Illustration by Julie Kravchik



*Kashvi has submitted an adventure story for your reading delight. Alien invasions are always interesting.*

# SOCCKER

By Atharv Shelar

My favorite sport is soccer. I like soccer for the following reasons:

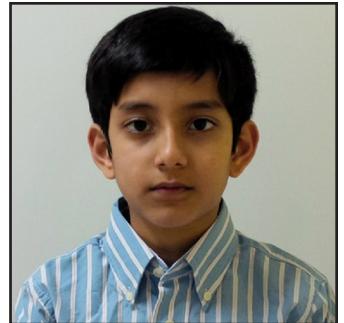
First, it is the world's most favorite sport. Did you see the 2014 FIFA World Cup finals?

People all around the world were watching it. All of my friends like playing soccer and are very competitive about it. You might think we are playing a friendly match, but we are really playing hard core soccer. The main reason I like soccer is because of all the famous players. Did you hear of Messi, Pele, Ronaldinho, and Maradona? I want to be just like them. I want to be famous!

I even pretend to be one of my favorite players, Neuor, Germany's goalkeeper.

Did you know that he won the Golden Glove at the World Cup? The Golden Glove is an award that goes to the best goalkeeper in the league. I am inspired by these soccer players.

*Atharv has written three great stories for the Back to School issue of City Kidz World! These are awesome stories. You will love them.*



Best of all, I am getting pretty good at soccer. I take the ball from the adults and score. If I continue to practice and get better at soccer, who knows, I might be the next Pele. In order for that to happen, I have to make sure that I practice and don't take a big break. If I take a big break, I might not have a soccer career.

The last reason I like soccer is because it is a very organized sport, which is fun and easy to play. It encourages people to work together toward achieving a common goal, unlike football, which is very complicated to understand in my opinion. Now you know why soccer is my favorite sport. I hope it becomes yours, too!

## 1st Place Lesson Story Old Tale With A New Twist

By Atharv Shelar

You have probably heard of the story "The Turtle and the Hare". It is about a tortoise who challenges a rabbit to a race. When they start, the bunny races up ahead and thinks that the turtle is far behind, so he takes a nap under the tree. After a short time, the bunny falls into a deep sleep. The turtle catches up and then finishes first. After the bunny wakes up, he realizes that he has lost the race. The moral of the story that we all know is, "Slow and steady wins the race."

Well, my story doesn't end there! After losing the race, the bunny thought a little and saw that he lost because he took a nap. The nap took away time. So, the hare challenged the turtle to another race and the turtle accepted the challenge.

This time, the hare ran all the way without stopping and won the race. The moral of the story is, "Fast and focused wins the race."

My story still doesn't end there!! The turtle realized that he lost because he wasn't fast on land.

## Editor's Choice Award

So, the turtle had another race with the rabbit and the race had a pond in the middle. The turtle crossed the pond, but the hare couldn't. Since the rabbit could not move, the turtle went to the finish line and won the race. The moral of the story is, "Make the environment around you work to your advantage."

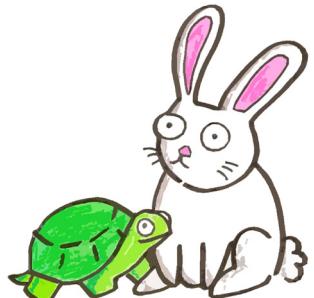


Illustration by Julie Kravchin

There is more to my story!!! The turtle and the hare decided to put their differences aside and work together. They used the same track the turtle used for his race. First, for the dry land, the rabbit carried the turtle to the pond and then the turtle carried the hare on his back and swam to dry land. Then, the rabbit again carried the turtle on his back and raced to the finish line. The moral of the story is, "By working together, we achieve common goals, foster team spirit and morale."

# Brave Sam!

By Tejas Jadar

Once upon a time there lived King Joseph and Queen Mary. Together, they ruled a happy country called Peaceville.

One day Queen Mary gave birth to a baby. As soon as King Joseph and Queen Mary saw their baby, they knew exactly what they were going to name him: Charmel! King Joseph and Queen Mary took good care of Charmel until his fifth birthday.

Queen Mary was a nice queen and she wanted to pick vegetables by herself. Her servants only cooked and served food. Queen Mary left Charmel unattended so she could get some potatoes. Swiftly, a witch named Rasgapper took Charmel to her lair.

When Queen Mary came back, she screamed so loud that the king ran to Queen Mary and asked, "What seems to be the matter?"

The Queen replied, "The Witch took Charmel! See!" Lying on the floor sat a note that read "WITCH!" As soon as the king heard this, he called his best soldier named Sam and his heroic dragon for help. When Sam

Action, Adventure, Fantasy

and his dragon reached Rasgapper's lair, Sam's dragon hid behind some bushes. Then, when Rasgapper came out with Charmel, Sam drew his sword. A battle began between Sam and Rasgapper.

"You will never defeat my spells!" said Rasgapper.

Sam had a strategy to defeat her spells. When Rasgapper shot a lightning bolt at Sam, Sam deflected it by using his sword and shot it back to her, deactivating her powers. Sam captured Rasgapper and brought Charmel back safe and sound to the king and queen.

They lived happily ever after.



*Tejas wrote a great action-adventure, fantasy story. We were on the edges of our seats.*

## First Swim Meet

By Travis Gulledge

This summer I was very excited about my first swim practice. I wanted to swim against other competitive kids. On my first practice I was a little nervous that a lot of other kids would be faster than me. During my first swim meet I met my relay partner, Jake. When I swam against him in the 25 freestyle and the 25 backstroke, he was really fast, but I still beat him. The meets went on and I kept winning first place. Then I finally found someone who liked to do the Individual Medley just like

me. His name was Jay. We swam the IM together every meet. I had fun racing against my two favorite racers and they liked racing me too. We were great friends. My favorite stroke is the IM and I will be swimming it at the State meet in 2 weeks. Hopefully I will swim it in Nationals too.



*Travis has a great swimming experience.*

## Ranch with Family

By Rhett Gulledge

My favorite thing I did this summer was go to the ranch with my family. At the ranch we play with machetes and loppers. My brother and I play a game called Machete Man and Lopper Dude. We also planted a garden and watered it. We planted jalapenos, cucumbers, bell

peppers, corn, and cantaloupe. I also helped my dad make a burn pile and set it on fire. I cut down some weeds and threw them in there.



*Rhett had a great time at the ranch.*



# THE DRAGON

By Kate Lindsey Krehel

**O**nce upon a time there was a knight named Max. Max lived in a palace and worked for the king and queen to destroy evil spirits. Max always wore a silver, pointy helmet, and the rest of his body was covered with silver and was very sharp. He was the best man in the land.

But then, three years later, Max was called to the king and queen for a special emergency. He rushed off with all his weapons, thinking, "Oh, there are just more evil spirits than ever." He was wrong.

When Max arrived at the king and queen's room, it looked gloomy. White curtains hung on the walls. There weren't any red leather carpets on the floors or any gold designs on the royal chairs or ceilings. Instead, they were brown and gray. The king and queen looked sad. The queen had a tear coming out of her eye. "Max, we need your help," said the king. "A huge fire dragon is destroying the land! You need to destroy the dragon. Take this sword, go north three miles, and then the dragon will

appear. Slay it." The king handed Max the sword. The handle was 24 carat gold, the blade was razor sharp, and was made out of solid silver. Max took it. When he got to the dragon, he was very frightened. The dragon was 1,000 miles high. It was orange, with huge fangs. It had huge claws and gleaming yellow evil eyes. Max tried to get closer to it, but the dragon blew fire and he had to duck. Then Max thought, "Should I throw the sword at the dragon?" So, he did and it hit him in the chest! The dragon roared in pain, and it fell to the ground and passed away. Max looked at the villagers as they clapped and jumped for joy. Max was a hero. They lived happily ever after.



*Kate spent the summer writing beautiful stories. You will love this page full of Kate's writing.*

# A Leaf



By Kate Lindsey Krehel

Once upon a time there was a girl named Emily. She loved to be outdoors in nature. One day Emily was collecting leaves in a forest. One of the leafs she picked up was shiny. She put it in the palm of her hand and when she did, she turned into a leaf!

For a few minutes she was happy, lying on the ground and basking in the sun, but after those few minutes, she wasn't. She wanted to be back home with her family. She knew that dinner would be ready soon.

Then a nice witch came walking by. Emily asked her if she could turn her back into a human. She tried, but

couldn't. Then, a six foot tall orange and red faced dragon came along. Emily asked him if he could turn her into a human. He tried, but couldn't. Now, Emily was getting desperate. Then a unicorn trotted by. Emily asked her if she could turn her back into a human. She tried, and succeeded!

"I can't thank you enough," said Emily.

"No problem," said the unicorn.

"I want you to be my pet," Emily said.

Emily named the unicorn Rainbow and they lived happily ever after.

# WATERMELON



By Kate Lindsey Krehel

*As sweet as ten trillion lollipops together,  
As big as Mount Everest,  
I lick my lips ten thousand times because of how  
good it is.  
As cold as antarctica, nice and refreshing for a  
summer day,  
With enough seeds to cover the sun, and as much  
water as an ocean.*

# WHITE

By Kate Lindsey Krehel

*White is calm  
Like a still crystal lightly dangling on the top of a  
cave,  
Like the moon, weightlessly circling the earth,  
Like a cloud, delicately moving slowly.*



# The Space Disaster

By Sarvesh

It was a typical day in outer space. Robert, Kevin, and Eric were roaming around in their jet. Eric's job in the jet was to take care of the weapons, Robert's job was to navigate the jet, and Kevin's job was to keep the food good. They were all best friends and professionals at their jobs on the jet. The jet's luxury was incomparable to even the highest class jet on earth.

"I'll be back in the weapons room," Eric said, trotting to the cabin.

"Sure thing," Robert answered.

"Dinner is ready," Kevin screamed across the jet. Robert put the jet into autopilot and went to the dining room. Suddenly, Eric bursts out of the weapons room and yelled, "EMERGENCY!"

Robert zipped out of the kitchen and asked, "What's happening?"

"Must...leave...jet," Eric replied, out of breath.

"Why?" Robert asked.

"The jet's exhaust is overheating and it is unable to cool down! She's gonna blow in 40 seconds."

Sure enough, the jet started to heat up, ready for an explosion. Kevin ran out of the kitchen as fast as he could with three fancy plates and three t-bone steaks.

"Jump," Kevin screamed at the evacuation room. They leaped into outer space and landed on a blue asteroid. The jet shook and erupted into flames with a sound rattling "BOOM."

The boys' lives' were coming to a departure in space.

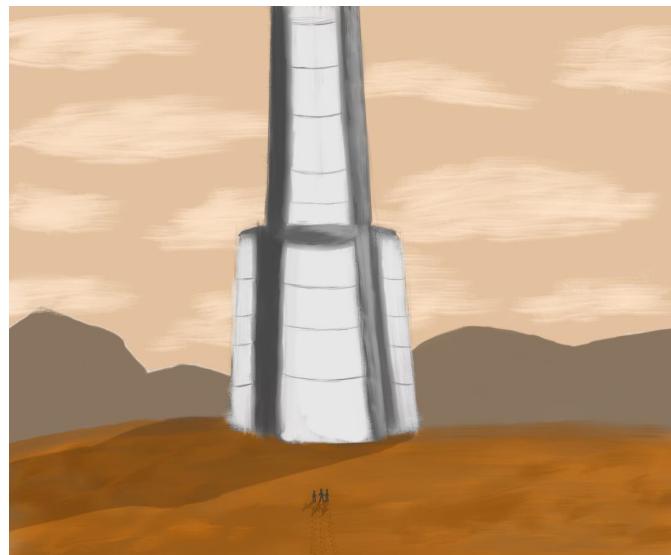
The asteroid continued to spin crazily, but two things were wrong as Kevin, Robert, and Eric waited for the chance to gasp for air. One is that the asteroid was spinning faster and two was that Kevin thought t-bone steaks were more important than oxygen tanks. Kevin's head turned around, and so did his friends' heads'. An Orange planet was three yards away from them. They all flew off the asteroid and landed with a "THUD" on the planet. Right next to them, the asteroid created a crater on the smooth, craterless planet. All of them immediately gasped for air. Unbelievably, there was an atmosphere and an air to breath.

Robert and Eric immediately turned around and screamed at Kevin. "You were lucky we didn't need oxygen tanks!"

"Lets eat. I'm starving here," Kevin said, acting like



*Sarvesh put together  
a funfilled adventure.  
Enjoy.*



*Illustrated by Andrew Wang*

nothing happened the last one minute and 47 seconds ago. Not a single word was spoken during dinner time. Unfortunately, Kevin's dinner fell before he took a bite! He did not know if the five second rule applied, so he did not eat it. After dinner, they went to explore the planet. They each kept themselves on walkie-talkies for communication. Kevin walked east, Robert ran west and Eric went south. They put their dinner plates where they all had eaten dinner, so they could come back together. Eric found nothing, neither did Kevin. Robert, found a flag though. Luckily, Robert brought the flag back and they brought out his flag scanner, an item they used when they investigated planets. It couldn't identify the flag. However, it did say that this place had the tallest tower in the universe! They met back at the meat plates, and sprinted north, absolutely ready for the tallest building in the universe.

The building had 777 floors and was worth \$3 billion. Kevin ran inside and stumbled. Eric tripped over Kevin. "You guys are clumsy heads," Robert said while Kevin

**Space** con't on page 43

# CLASSIC CARTOON REVIEW

## “Pinky and The Brain”, Awesome or not?

By Anshika Virani

**H**ave you ever heard of the classic cartoon, “Pinky and the Brain”? This show is about a pair of bizarre rats who have worked in labs and are extremely desperate to take over the entire world. Pinky is always the funny one who comes up with the silliest ideas ever. His ideas pretty much have no probability of succeeding, but the funny part is they do. The Brain is the real genius, but without Pinky’s peculiar ideas, he would never get a step closer to taking over the world.

### History

“Pinky and the Brain” is obviously a classic cartoon because it has been on for a long time. There has been 65 episodes about lab rats who are trying to take over the entire the world. It started in 1995 and it ended (the entire series) in 1998. So it is quite an old cartoon.

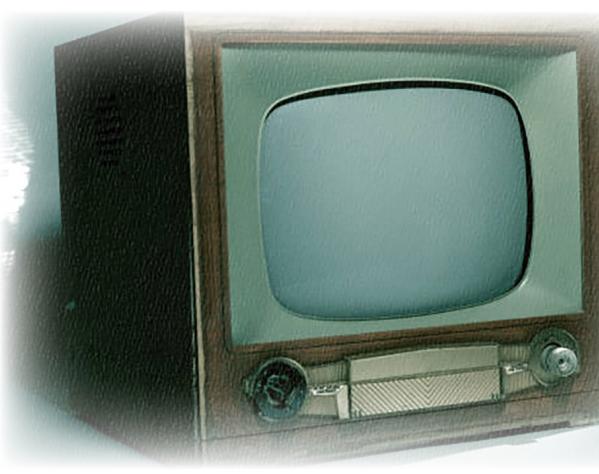
### Like it or Not?

“Pinky and the Brain” is a great cartoon. I especially love the alien episode because it has scary and creepy parts, but it also has funny and extremely hilarious parts. The alien episode is all about how they try to get the magnetic technology from the alien and then fail because the alien makes an effort to run away. Elmyra thinks that he’s a bunny, so she plays “Elmyra says” with him.

### Funny Parts

One of the funny parts was when Elmyra played “Elmyra Says” with them, which was super humorous. The game was basically following the flashlight’s beam, which Elmyra somehow got her hands on. She would literally torture them with her beam!

She would make the beam go up and then the alien would go up to the ceiling and when she put the beam down, she would drop the alien flat on the floor. It was hilarious! Another funny part was when The Brain told Pinky



*Anshika has an opinion about the classic cartoon, “Pinky and the Brain”. Do you agree with her?*

to get something really good to trade and Pinky got a button. The Brain told the alien that it was a seed that grew bunnies off trees. The alien was not at all interested. The second time Pinky brought something, he brought a pair of socks and deviled ham, which was totally a ridiculous idea. The alien’s reaction was totally unsuspected. He looked so involved in the deal. He asked Pinky if they were extra stretchable socks and if the deviled ham was absolutely deviled. So, the alien agreed and the funny part that I didn’t mention was that the alien requested (more like demanded) The Brain to say that “I am an earth dummy!” After the entire thing was over, he told Pinky and The Brain that, “You earth dummies have got a deal!”

### Favorite/Funny Character

One of my favorite characters was Elmyra. She was a silent hero, and she was the one who was the funniest (she was so boisterous.) For instance, when she forced the alien to play “Elmyra Says!” I was so flabbergasted on that part. Also, she was so ridiculous to think that the alien was a bunny and that bunnies grew on of trees. She could probably make a rock laugh.

### Conclusion

Overall, I think that “Pinky and the Brain” is a great cartoon and that it is one of the best classic cartoon of all time.

# The Big Monster

By Sarayu Kodali

"Charles and Katie!" called their mom.

"What?" shouted Charles.

"I signed you two up for a fair," said his mom. "What type of fair?" questioned Katie.

"It is the type of fair where you need to make something creative and adventurous," said mom.

"Ok," said Charles.

"And you have to work together," said mom.

"WHAT!" shouted Charles and Katie.

"Yup," said mom.

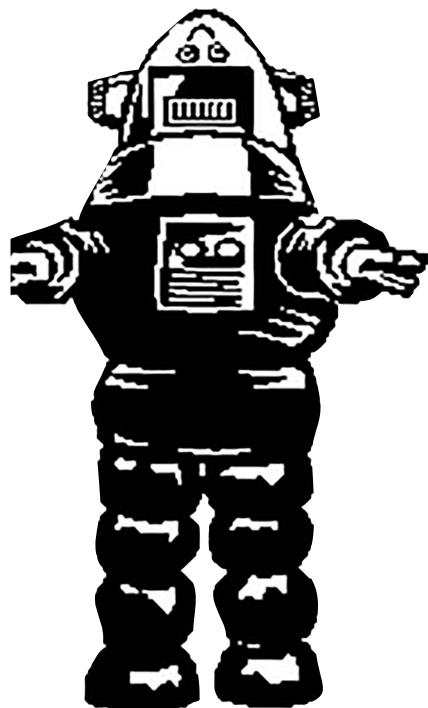
"Ok," said both of them. Charles and Katie hated working together because every time they worked together, they always got in to a fight and this fair project was due in one week. The first day they worked together was not so good. First Katie said, "We should build a monster who runs around town."

Then Charles said, "We should do something with rainbows."

"Rainbows are too girly," said Katie.

"Well a monster is too boyish," said Charles.

Since they couldn't agree on what to make, they both went to their parents and said, "Katie is not agreeing on what we should do" and "Charles is not agreeing on what we should do."



*Great high-tech story!*

Then their mom said, "Why don't you both combine your ideas then you will get your project."

"Sure," said Katie.

"Ok," said Charles.

When they both were thinking, Katie said, "We can make a monster, which has rainbows and girly things on it."

"Ok," said Charles. They started making it. Every day they worked on it. When the day of the project had to be finished, they finished it! Now they had to get it to the library, which was two miles away. But their project would not fit in the car so they had to get their project to the library by walking. When Charles was leaning on the monster, he accidentally switched on to the evil mode so it started running to the library. Charles and Katie started running after it so they could switch off the evil mode. When they reached the library, just when the judges came to their presentation, the monster crashed through the wall, stopped and won first prize!

One of the judges said, "That was a great opening!"

Then Charles and Katie went home. When they went home, Charles asked, "Why did we even build an evil mode?"

# MEET THE GARDEN STATE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The Garden State Community Kitchen is a NJ non-profit organization operating in Central New Jersey, delivering programming to children and families on Gardening, Fitness, Nutrition, and Natural Cooking techniques. Through countless partnerships with businesses, individuals, school boards, and the township of South Brunswick, the GSCK's four component program has been able to thrive.

<http://www.thegardenstatecommunitykitchen.org/>



"The Garden State Community Kitchen - Providing hands-on food, fitness, and nutrition education for children in The Garden State."

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# World Story

**Write a short story about a day in the life of a student who lives outside of the United States.**

**Ages: 11 to 17**

**Deadline: Nov. 10, 2014**

**Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com**

**Word Count: 400 to 500**

# A.N.T.

By Meghan Gajula

“Wake up! Wake up!” Rima shouted, “It’s the first day of school! It’s Monday!”

“Ugh. Go away Rima!” I grumbled, “It’s only 6:30 a.m. -OH MY GOD! It’s 6:30 a.m.! My alarm should have woke me up an hour ago!”

I stuffed Rima into her pants and shirt and then I put on mine. Luckily I packed my bag yesterday, or else I would be late for sure.

I entered Samson G. Smith with Rima, and dropped her off at room 101. Then I walked quickly to room 453, my home room, where Mr. M was drowning on about all the rules to a barely awake classroom. Just as I walked in, the bell rung and everybody rose for the pledge of allegiance.

“Sit down everyone. I am going to make a few announcements before the pledge of allegiance.”

That’s M. F. He’s our principal, and, “First of all I would like to introduce our new teacher, Mr. Lactose. He will be teaching fifth grade science. Second of all, would Nishaly please report to the principal’s office please?”

Then Mr. F. started to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Anyway, I bet you are all wondering who this Nishaly is. I am Nishaly, so today none of my classmates recited the Pledge of Allegiance. In fact, neither did Mr. M. Today they just stared at the girl who just walked into the

*Meghan has written some great stories this year. This story is no exception! Enjoy this great story!*



classroom and hadn’t even taken a seat yet, me.

I put my bag by my seat when Mr. M. looked at me

“Don’t worry Nishaly. You couldn’t have got into too much trouble. You’ve only just came in, and it’s only the first day of school,” he said. At this, the whole class started laughing. It was really embarrassing at that time. As I walked into the principal’s office, I got a big surprise. Instead of looking stern, Mr. F. looked worried.

“Nishaly, I need you to keep an eye on Sanaya, and as of now you are an Advanced Natural Talents (A.N.T.). I walked to second period with pride. Everything was going nicely. Sanaya, my arch enemy, needed to be watched, and I was watching her, and I became an A.N.T! After that, the whole day passed by like minutes. Before I knew it, I was home in my bed with Rima snoring besides me.

“Wake up! Wake up!” Rima shouted.” It’s the first day of school! It’s Monday!”

Oh well, it was only a dream, or was it?

## Space con't from page 38

and Eric were still groaning after the fall. The one billion kilometer tower was filled with water bottles. The building was filled with shelves that were filled with water bottles. The company was called “Mountain Ice.”

“This is great,” Robert said.

“We come all the way to this building ready for something exciting and find the place filled with stupid water bottles? What the heck!”

Eric responded, “Calm down, maybe the place is a warehouse.”

“I kind of agree with Robert,” Kevin budded in.

“Who in the world would put such a ridiculous thing in the biggest building in the universe? I mean...”

“Hey, an elevator,” Robert cut him off. They all rushed to the elevator and opened it, finding a little boy inside. He was probably four and a half inches.

“Hi,” They all welcomed him. The boy pressed a button and took off right past the boys.

“Here we go again,” Eric said and they went with the boy and heard an explosion behind them.

Legend!

# The Legend Risen

By Pranav Olety

"Please reprove all flagrant actions committed at all platforms," the railway speaker droned. It was a normal day at the Sigma City Train Station. Everyone rushed to get in to the old, rusty maglevs. Between platforms, screens showed the overplayed educational videos about how maglevs are trains that are kept afloat by magnetism and never touch the grounds, as well as how it is better than the trains used in the 2010s. It was an ordinary bland day until a young scientist sprinted to Platform 9. The young pimple-studded, scrawny, short scientist rushed to the maglev and dropped his vials of chemicals as he tripped on the uneven platform. Platform 9 would become legendary in time. As the effervescent chemicals of all colors mixed, huge bubbles rose up in the air. It would be hilarious to see him in a few hours. However, that's for later.

"Oh no! Tillard is going to fire me," he cried. Suddenly, he fainted.

A few hours later, he woke up in the hospital. It was a stark, white, clean facility. It had the feeling of sterility.

"Where am I?" he asked

"You're at the hospital. Don't worry Chem Control brought your stuff with your suitcase," said a kind pretty nurse who had a big smile.

"Thank you, thank you," The scientist realized something wasn't right.

"No girl, a pretty girl for that matter, would smile at me," he thought. He knew he was unattractive. No one genuinely liked him.

"May I have a mirror?"

"Yes, you may," she replied. She handed him a mirror. He grasped at the mirror and his jaw dropped. He saw his new face. His face was long and tan. He had pearly white teeth and sharp nose. His old, pale and anemic complexion was replaced by light, tan skin.

"That's unbelievable!"

"What? You've never seen yourself in a mirror?"

"Never," he joked sarcastically.

"When do I get out of here!"

"Now, actually!"

"By the way, what's your name?"

"Lisa. I already know yours-Max."

"Thanks for taking care of me," he said, then off he went. He casually paced out of the hospital.

"Wow, I didn't realize I grew a foot," he thought.

It was true. Max was now 6' 3.

Outside, the disparity between the rich and the poor was evident. He saw the starving homeless trying to hunt for food in the urban might that was Sigma City. The rich ignored the poor and went into their flashy Ferraris and Lamborghinis. Out of charity, he walked to the poor and homeless children and gave

them a fistful of dull, gray coins. He quickly walked away and was then confronted by a sleek, sable car. Two intimidating, android bodyguards, carrying automatic guns grabbed him into the car. Max sat down and saw a middle-aged man smile at him in a disturbing manner.

"Welcome. We know what you are, even if you don't know who are," said the man.

"Wait, are you guys rebels, radicals, or -?" Max blurted.

"Quite the opposite. I am here to guide you. You have gifts," he interrupted.

"Will you really help me?" he asked.

"Of course! I will tell you about our kind: The Gifted. Remember to use it wisely."

"Like help those in need?"

"Precisely!"

"However, it seems you're trying to coerce me into joining The Gifted. What does it pay? How can I trust you guys?"

"Well, money isn't our goal. We are guided by righteousness."

"Suppose I join you guys? I'd want to know if I would get more gifts soon."

"Only time will tell. Don't do anything stupid. We have eyes and ears everywhere. Here's my business card. Contact me when you've got all your gifts."

"Got it," Max replied.

"We've stopped at your workplace and restocked your vials with the chemicals that changed you, Max Shard."

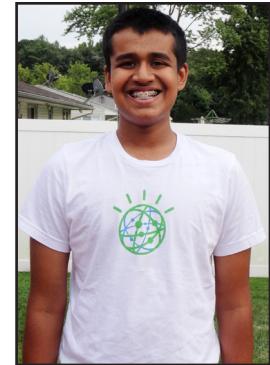
Max was speechless.

"I believe the word is thank you."

"Of course," Max replied. Max walked out of the car and went into an extremely tall skyscraper. At the top of the building, it had the name Tillard in all capital letters in gold with blue trim.

"Oh no, he's going to fire me!" Max reached the elevator and he violently poked at the keys. Then, the elevator made a high pitched beep and opened at a speed slower than a car moving during rush hour traffic. Max ran into the elevator and pressed the illuminated 321 button. The doors shut and the elevator glided swiftly up hundreds of floors. Again, the elevator doors opened up. Max then jumped out of the elevator and went straight to Tillard's office. Suddenly, a heavy metallic noise resonated throughout the floor. It came from Tillard's office. Max ran to toward the sound of Tillard's voice.

"Help me," Tillard mumbled. He was slouched on his leather



*Pranav is a great writer. Sci-fi is his thing! We enjoyed this story. You will too.*

By Neeharika Gorti

During the summer of 2013, I moved to three different places. I moved to India, North Dakota, and New Jersey. My summer started in India. I lived in an apartment there. The first day I moved in, I noticed the apartment was big and spacious. We had a swing made of cane in the balcony, and since the beach was in walking distance from our apartment, a nice cool breeze used to be there. Lots of kids between the ages of three and twelve year olds were playing in the play area. We all used to play in the playground or the middle section of the apartment complex. We often played dodge ball or a different version of hide and seek called "hide and seek dabba." We visited lots of temples with all our relatives and had fun.

Usually, I played in the sand on the beach. People found sea creatures in the sand. In the early morning, if we went to the beach, we would usually see fisherman spreading their nets in search of fish and other marine creatures. They would search for crabs, lobsters etc. The beach had a warm touch when you dipped your toes into the water. When we would return from the beach, we would stop for a cool drink of coconut water. They sold heaps of coconuts on a big cart. The ubiquitous ice apple (taati munjalu) was the flavor of the season. Passersby pausing to gorge on the soft jelly-like pulp extracted from their shells was a common sight. The pulp is a refreshing sugary fluid and its fleshy body tasted like tender coconut. We met lots of relatives in India, and went shopping a lot. We brought nice, colorful clothes like Ghagras, Churidars etc. We had a great time in India. We lived like that for six weeks in India.

### Risen con't from page 44

chair. The air had a sharp smell—one of blood and gunpowder. Max dropped his stuff to save his usually vitriolic boss. Max lifted Tillard off his chair with ease. Blood gushed out his chest. "Max, you look different. Your height. Your face. Both different."

"Don't talk. I need you to calm down so I can take the bullet out of your chest," Max said. Max was confident he could save Tillard, as he was a biomedical doctor with years of experience. Max instinctively put his hand over Tillard's chest. Suddenly, the bullet levitated out of Tillard's chest.

"What?" Tillard gasped.

"Wow, I'm telekinetic. I can move things with my mind. Boss,

Then we moved to North Dakota. When we arrived in North Dakota, the temperature was cold. It was almost 50 degrees. We lived in a second floor apartment. We had a big playground next to our apartment, with a basketball court. Every evening we used to go to the playground. One day we met an old lady named Judy with a dog named Geo in the playground. She came to the park for a walk. We started petting the dog with Judy's permission. We got to know each other; luckily, she lived just above our apartment. She introduced her friend Joyce to us. Joyce was 86 years old. She was a very nice lady. Joyce used to live on the ground floor. She gave us lots and lots of bracelets, scarves, jewelry etc. She introduced us to another friend named Serena. She was good at gardening. We made great memories in North Dakota. Before we left North Dakota, we went to Minneapolis, which had the Great Mall of America. We also went to South Dakota to see the Reptile Garden, Mount Rushmore and Badlands National Park. We had a memorable experience when we had our first ride in a helicopter. With lots of good memories, we had to say goodbye to North Dakota.

Finally, we settled back into New Jersey. I had been there before, so I already knew the place completely. I was so happy to see all of my friends. Right now I am teaching my friends the new games I learned in India. My summer lasts until school starts in September. I'm still having fun. Hooray!

now, I'm going to sterilize the wound with your vodka." Tillard's inclination for vodka would now save his life. Max gently poured the transparent alcohol into the bullet wound.

"Ah!" Tillard screamed.

"Boss, the pain will go away."

Max again put his hand over Tillard's chest. Then, Tillard's chest started to glow brightly. Rapidly, his chest began to heal. "Even though you were late, I'm not firing you. You saved my life."

"Yes, I think this has to do with the Hercules serum and the Wonder 5 Compound being mixed together. It must give people Gifts. We've got to hide our knowledge so it can't be misused."

**Risen con't on page 46**



*Neeharika has written a lovely travel story. You will love the details.*



# News Column: MIDDLE SCHOOL

By Ananya Gulati

Do you know much about middle school? If you don't, this article can be very helpful. There are a lot of things kids don't know about middle school, until they enter the sixth grade.

Middle school can be very surprising. The first thing that comes into a kid's mind before coming into middle school is that there will be tons of homework. That might not be true! There isn't always a lot of homework assigned. Some days can really be work-free for students.

Lockers are a major part of middle school. Everyone worries about being able to open their locker. Actually, it can be really easy to open a locker...unless it gets jammed.

Putting too much stuff in your locker can lead to jammed lockers. Jammed lockers can lead to being late for class, especially when it's a long way from your locker to your next class.

Many people think that teachers are mean in middle school. They're actually really kind. They help you, they encourage you, and they are just like other teachers.



*Ananya has written a newspaper column. It is quite interesting.*

Another thing that about-to-be middle school kids think is that they will have plenty of time between classes to talk with their friends. That is totally wrong! Students don't have much time between classes. Sometimes, they don't even have time to go to their locker. So how will they have time to talk with their friends?

Overall, some aspects of middle school can be very shocking. In addition, middle school can be hard and can be a big change for some people. Although the journey through middle school is exasperating, it can be enjoyable at the same time!

## Risen con't from page 45

"That's probably why the guy who shot me did it in the first place. He probably worked for a foreign company. They play dirty all the time."

Max then walked out of Tillard's office a changed man, one with powers. Max's head was still bursting with an infinite amount of questions.

"A few days later, Max called the man from the black car.

"Hi, this is Max Shard. I discovered some more gifts or powers!"

"Come to Beta York within three standard days. I will teach you everything I know."

Max may have not known it, but a great legend and hero was born that day. Max then quickly packed up his clothes, hi tech gear, and laptop into a black leather suitcase. Max walked out of his big, warm Tudor home and set out for the airport in his Ferrari. He raced at 170 mph to get to the airport and was there in half an hour. Suddenly, as he was parking his car in the airport security parking lot, the once iconic and flashy airport was in red flames.

"It's time to test my Gifts," Alex thought. He hopped out his car and ran faster than ever before, but he wasn't out of breath like most times. As he approached the burning wreckage, a man with a gas mask came out of the burning wreckage. Max suddenly became whiter than the snow and gulped. Max knew him. That

man was the Phoenix, a notorious interplanetary terrorist gifted with the power to burn things down with hydrogen gas. Max was engulfed in a wave of pure fear.

"I can't chicken out now, can I?" he thought. The Phoenix was walking towards him.

"Well, hello there. You've been deceived by all. You aren't a child so small. Come with me. I know of your awesome gifts," The Phoenix said in a smooth voice. The Phoenix was as tall as Max, but looked stronger and more muscular.

"But you're the Phoenix."

"Yes, I know my name."

"You aren't ev-v-vil?" Max stammered.

"Isn't it obvious? I'm the last true good guy around here. I was blowing up an arsenal of weapons and all the people survived because I teleported them to a safer place miles from here."

"The mentor wa-"

"A liar! His name is the Leader and he's harmed thousands of people like us and spread lies about our kind so he can remain in power. I'll take you to Earth where you could learn to control your powers. You could save thousands of lives."

"Yes, I'll come to Earth with you."

"Okay, we leave now," Max didn't even realize that he'd become a true hero one day destined for great things. They ran towards the only spaceship that wasn't swallowed up by the hungry flames and they flew off into the now starry sky.



# Lawrenceville School District Motivates Writers!



Laasyasri Vaddepalli, Sumanth Chiluvuri, and Vishal Madisetti, were honored by their district spring 2014, for their submissions to City Kidz World magazine during the 2013-2014 school year.

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# Algebra Adventure

By Abhaysai Vemula

It was 11:20 a.m. In 10 minutes I would be at lunch, but for now I'm stuck in class learning algebra. Just then, an idea came into my head. I should go to the bathroom!

"Mrs.Salt, may I go to the bathroom?"

"Sure Tony. Just make sure you come back fast so you can do this problem."

That was my cue; I jumped out of my seat and sprinted to the bathroom. When I got there, I realized something strange. There wasn't anyone in the bathroom at all!

"Oh well," I said to myself.

When I finished up in the bathroom, I noticed something else was strange. All the classrooms were quiet. Usually, at this time, they are like a zoo!

Suddenly, someone whispered in my ear.

"You missed the algebra problem! You can't run from the problem it will come get you."

As soon as the voice was gone, I bolted out of the bathroom and to my class. When I got there, no one was there! I went to every classroom and no one was in sight! Then, right at that moment, I realized I was the only kid in school!

"Help! Anybody!" I screamed like a baby.

Whatever was happening was creepy. The words I screamed echoed back to me, but when they did, they sounded like someone saying, "Missed the problem. Will come back and get you!"

Right there and then, the ground started shaking. The ceiling fell apart and I was thrown into the air high above my school. I got it now. My school was trapped... in a circle of numbers?

Gravity eventually won. I went tumbling back to my school and I hit the ground with a THUD!

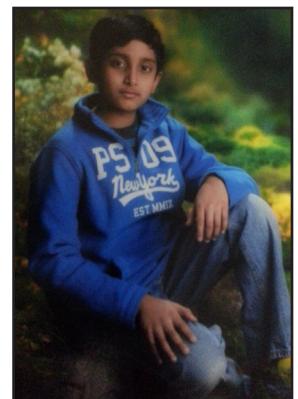
When I woke up I was in a cart. The cart took me to an arena made of bricks carved into numbers. In front of me was a kid who looked a lot like my friend Marshall (who also hates algebra.)

I tapped him and asked, "Is that you Marshall?"

He turned around and gave a painful nod.

The knight who was driving the cart grabbed us both by the neck and threw us into a room with the word algebra carved on the walls. In that room, there was a woman who looked like Mrs. Salt and a knight.

## Contest Winner!



*Abhaysai is an online contest winner. This is an awesome story. You can enter an online contest too.*

Then, the women spoke. "I've got a task for you. You both got away without doing this problem, but the problem comes back to haunt you."

She threw two pencils and two pieces of paper at us.

The paper read: In an input-output machine, if you put the number seven you get the number 43. If you put the number 10, you get 40. If you put the number 23 you get the number 27. So, if you put the number 49, what number will you get? I looked up at the woman and shook my head. In response, she moved back and clapped her hands. The knight moved forward and came charging at us. We both side-stepped him. Suddenly, I felt as if Marshall and I were one, and in unison we both said, "United we stand." Right at that second the knight vanished into dust.

Then the women spoke.

"Why don't you use that statement and answer the problem."

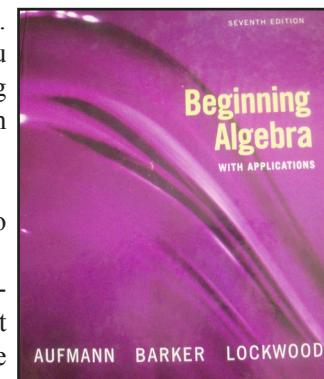
That second I understood the problem. If you add each input and output, you would get 50. So, if you input 49 you would get one as the output. Plus the word unite is similar to the word add in a weird way!

"The answer is one!" I shouted.

Then I heard a voice behind me say, "You have impressed me Tony. Me... Mrs. Salt."

I turned around and saw a blank screen. The ground started shaking and I was back in the bathroom and this time all the classes were a zoo.

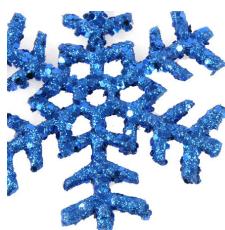
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## Editor's Choice Award

# WINTER HAS BEAUTY

By Anoohya Arkala



Have you ever wondered about the beauty of a snowy day? I know that most of you think that there is no beauty to a snowy day. I don't know about you, but snowy days are dignified days. Some reasons why snowy days are great, are that you can play outside, let the snow cool and calm you down, and lastly (my favorite), you can look for footprints.

Playing outside in the snow is always a good pastime. You can do many exciting activities in the snow that you can't do in the summer, such as sledding, skiing, building a snowman, having a snowball fight, making snow angels, and lastly making footprints. Snowy days make a perfect day to play outside!

Snowy days always cool me down the way others don't. Don't you think that it is so peaceful to just sit by the window and watch the peaceful snow just fall and lay there? You can look at the snow gracefully fall to the ground. The snow falling on the trees smoothly wave around. One thing I love to watch is the snow falling on the wavy trees. I also enjoy looking outside at the snow on the ground, which makes everything pure white.

Every snowy day, footprints appear on the pure white snow. I always wonder what those footprints are do-



*Anoohya is an accomplished writer! She has written many wonderful stories. Enjoy this descriptive essay.*

ing there. Another important part of snowy days is following all kinds of footprints - especially deer, to see where they lead. Following footprints is very interesting. Where these footprints lead, is an interesting and a natural place.

There are many ways to enjoy the beauty of a snowy day. Snowy days are not just sitting inside and doing nothing. On a snowy day, you can play outside in the clear white snow. You can calm yourself down by looking at the snow outside. You can even examine footprints. Snowy days have beauty no matter how plain they look!

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**49**

# THE VOIDS ATTACK

By Hitesh

Will we survive the attack; Can the three species survive the crisis?  
We shall find out...

## Chapter One: The Jumper

Star date 3849, September 6, "Hey where were those pesky pirates," grunted Maxwell. Maxwell's ship, the A-384 phantom, equipped the entire A-series of raccoon blasters. Maxwell's ship hovered in mid space. "Where are you come out cowards," murmured Maxwell. Maxwell started to grow impatient. "ON my count, 3...2...1," whispered the pirate captain. Three random pirate ships jump out and blocked Maxwell's path.

"Well you think you can beat me," snickered Maxwell. BAM! A violent blast hit all of the pirate ships. The pirate ships hovered away to the asteroid field.

"Well, time to collect my reward from Captain Parka," said Maxwell.

"Electromagnetic hyper drive activating, setting course to planet Eon," the computer beeped and automatically turned the ship with no human controlling it.

"ALERT, ALERT hyper drives malfunction, energy malfunction, and system overload!" The computer started to break off while Maxwell was sitting there in fear.

"Come on you useless piece of junk. Why can't you fix yourself, URG?" screamed Maxwell. The crazy worm-hole opened right in front of his eyes. BOOM! He disappeared into thin air.

"NO the carbon dioxide activators!" screamed Maxwell.

### Star date: 4836 November 12 4:46 p.m.

"Hey look at that beautiful ship. Let us take it home for examination. Hey a life signal - another good reason to take it home," Grunt told his computer.

He reeled in the big metallic ship not knowing Maxwell was inside.

### 4:56 p.m.

"Hey, what happened? Where am I?" Maxwell struggled to say his words.

"Hey kid, it's fine. I am here," Grunt said. Maxwell looked at him and could not tell where he was, how he got here, and why he was there...

"Hey, Jimmy you see me, that ship of yours is great, but it is beyond repair," Grunt said professionally.

Maxwell stared at his ship. Oil spilled out. The fuel cells were heavily damaged. The ship had dark black dents everywhere, not even smog came out.

"Just before we get into the ship stuff, tell me where I am," said Maxwell.

"Well we are in the eight sectors so that means you are in the midorin system or mido for short," said Grunt. "Mido system!" screamed Maxwell. Maxwell went and grabbed him by the neck and screamed in his face.

"I need to get a ship!" panicked Maxwell.

Maxwell grabbed a screwdriver and crammed it into a ship keyhole and made it fly.

"We'll see you weirdo," laugh Maxwell. The ship fell and hit the Titanium flooring.

"Ha-ha, wow you can't do that because everything is lock protected," grunt informed Maxwell.

"I hate this station. Why can't I go somewhere else?" Maxwell muttered under his breath.

"Anyway I will allow you to have only this ship for yourself," professionally said Grunt.

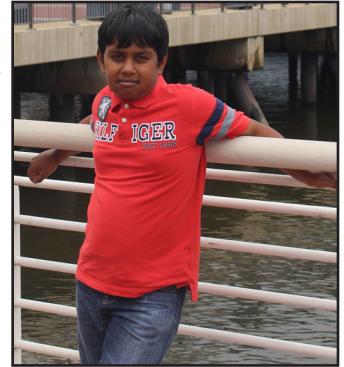
The ship went gracefully through the empty space and intercepted a terran fleet and almost got shot down.

"Hey stop...," BOOM! Maxwell's fell down and rammed itself into the massive terran battle ship. While going down looking at the battle ship's big scatter torrents and its shield that is covered with blue holographic hexagons. The ship had extraordinary thrusters that outrage the small ships around it. He saw the two mini fighters heading towards him and does not know why they are coming. Time got slower and slower at every moment passing. He felt shaky and could not move, but something was there. Something unknown, something that no species have ever encountered. Can it be, can it be them?

"AAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHH!" screamed Maxwell and tried his best to escape.

"It's them. It's them," screamed Maxwell.

All the terran fleets ran and hyper drive away. Maxwell looked behind him and could not dare look forward. A massive wormhole appeared from nowhere and Maxwell stared at it in amazement and could not compute



*Hitesh has written a fascinating story! Please enjoy this great tale.*



## **Void** con't from page 50

everything. Then staring at this wormhole, his memories flowed back in. He thought that his head was going to blow. At that moment the wormhole's intense gravity reeled the ship in. Maxwell was astonished and remembered every piece of thing that included from his birth and until now. Not realizing that he is being reeled into the mass destruction and black hole wormhole. BOOM! "What happened? Where, am I?" Maxwell fainted and the ship started to shake. The ship flew threw an orange space. It was like his home system, but it felt so different. It was the same, but different.

"What is happening? Where am I!" Maxwell struggled to say his words, then instantly the he felt to vomit. He felt unconscious due to the incredible gravity. Tudd! Maxwell fainted; he fell down and could not even open his eyes.

**Star date: 8283, September 1, in the Orion universe.**

"Anybody there, anybody please save me," Maxwell slumped toward the airlock and broke it open. The planet was deserted and Maxwell walk toward the random structure.

"What the heck is this thing? It's so big and massive. Is it their base or just a useless building that they left behind?" Maxwell questioned himself. Too him it looked very functional and yes it was functional. BAM! The voids raced toward him to kill Maxwell and his ship, but luckily a wormhole opened and he fell through it.

"How many times do I get transported out of this galaxy?" This time Maxwell got transported to a terran planet. He closely admired it. He went and landed at the amazing station. Inside the station he went to the digital shop and looked to buy some things."

Man there are millions of things to buy here. How can anybody buy anything at this flipping station? "Maxwell asked no one. He felt some weird rumble in his stomach. "Time to go to the bar," Maxwell stubble to the bar to eat, "ALL TERRAN OFFICIALS PLEASE REPORT TO YOUR BATTLE STATIONS." Maxwell ran and jumped into his ship and boomed the engines. The engines locked on the area and the thrusters' brusted and the hanger rumpled and shook because of the power thrust. He busted out of the station and rammed into a ship and shoot down some other ones.

"Hey there's a vossak battleship destroying that wermire freighter!" Maxwell looked at the massive battleship and was amazed what technology that the vossaks had. Maxwell was blinded by the amazing technology that he did not realize that his ship started too exploded.

**Star date: unknown, Planet: unknown, Coordinates: (23),(283),(237).** Maxwell's ship floated out into mid

space, Maxwell tired and stressed himself to get out of the scraped ship.

"Damm, this ship is just a lot of useless junk," he smashed the door and saw himself scampering on ground.

"What is this place? Is this not space? Why is there ground with three coordinates aerials."

Maxwell scampered even more, but he just felt nothing no ground just space. The world around him changed every second and he had no sight. Is the world disappearing or is he becoming blind? What does the place he is in want? Is the universe collapsing on him is the world fading away because of him. Intense gravity pulls him away. Bad memories flow into him. He cannot bare the things that flow back in his head. His head told him to remember, but then he heard fake and other voices in his head. He could not see anything. The universe faded as he got farther and farther.

"NO, You cannot do this to me. I have as much right as the gods and them above!" pleaded Maxwell.

"You can't do this to me, you can't!" Maxwell boiled and pleaded at the same time. The world was not the only ones who were in trouble. Meanwhile on the trouble base XV Alpha. Everyone panicked and ran around and sounded the emergency alarm. "Tech code: 59056909056990373 82\_9459990549888686734838\_399054054054054238 &%^\$&&\*&(\*^%&, alert, alert system malfunction/ overload!" Beeped the Malfunctioning computer, ships flew out into space and launched themselves at incredible speeds.

"The shields are temporarily down because of the magnum drive interstellar explosives!" screamed the technician. The fight was raging on fast and wild, ships tried to escape blaster fire and the dangerous bolts of energy. The sounds of the intense back fire explosives boom across the galaxies and solar systems. The worlds watched as the great battle of the unknown was fought hard and intensely fast. The universe rumbled at every second a fire was shot. Maxwell looking around felt and heard this intense beating. Then at that second in front of him unexpected a gazing large, black hole appeared the life was lost the universe has died or has it not. Has all been lost because of Maxwell? Does anyone realized this horrible tragedy. The World has been destroyed and the remains stand still. Where is Maxwell? Has he gone away? The energy of the universe pulled and pushed against the solid core of the universe. The core ignited and exploded with tremendous power and energy exploded across the universe

**Void** con't on page 52



## **Void** con't from page 51

large scale. The surviving ships stood there in a coma and could not move, shoot and anything else. The men inside wished that the universe can come back just once at least. Their wish came true. The amazing bolt of energy struck the Lighting Tower of Trouble Base XV. The station and everything worked. The jump gate opened and a mysterious broken ship funneled into the hanger of the base.

"What is that ship there?" he slowly approached the ship and opened the gray dented airlock. Then he looked and saw his friend Maxwell. He dragged him out of the starship. And put him on a red medical bed and Maxwell after an hour he opened his eyes slowly. "Friend, you ok," said the man. Maxwell looked at him and stiffened up and exclaimed. "Ralph how are you doing? How did you find me and where are we?" exclaimed Maxwell. "I found you by your ship entering the jump gate and this is trouble base alpha or XV," seriously said Ralph. Maxwell looked everywhere and thought of an alliance and knew the universe is struggling because of this threat and if Maxwell and Ralph do anything to help they might just be able to destroy the threat. Maxwell stood there and his face turns to seriousness.

"We need to form an alliance. The resistors we shall call ourselves," said Maxwell. "OK," approved Ralph. The two friends are now ready to build their own resistance to fight against the danger ahead.

**3-5 days later...**

"Reactors are online and producing 3.473 kilowatts of energy and electrical energy," beeped the me-

chanical computer. The whole orange and yellow painted room beeped with the other blue painted computers. The mechanical computers splattered out programmed code that was made by Ralph.

"The worlds in trouble and you're chilling out!" screamed Ralph. "Cool down we are not getting attacked are we or we found no ship, enemy or bandit, but..." said lazy Maxwell.

"But what?" said Ralph? Maxwell looked and nodded and looked once more. Maxwell went to his bed and memories flowed in of the enemy that he was hiding from Ralph. Should he tell or do they control him? Can he save at least himself or can he not? The day goes so fast Maxwell couldn't count the minutes and eventually he became suspicious about his friend Ralph because he has been in his room too much. Can Ralph be under the control of my enemies and did he actually fix this because it looks like too much work for one man thought Maxwell. Maxwell walked into Ralph's extraordinary room that glowed in deep blue. "Ralph?" asked Maxwell. "Dam!" screamed Ralph.

"Where is everybody? It's like we are the only ones who survived any other place. Where am I? Are we stuck here forever?" yelled Ralph. "Calm down. We don't know that we are the only ones in this world and even if we are, we can reproduce," softly said to the raging Ralph. Who knows if there are survivors, but it is the end for now.

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# A PAPER'S JOURNAL

By Vedant Iyer

## 7.00 a.m.

It's 7 a.m. and I'm just waking up. Some men are coming into the woods and they are chopping down my friends. A man came up to me and chopped me clean, right off my roots! Then I realized that I was wood, and wood was used to make things for humans.

I wondered what I was going to be made into, when a man grumbled, "How long is it going to take to get to the paper mill?"

Paper mill, huh? That sounds familiar! I then remembered what my mother once said when I was a tiny sapling. "You were planted here so you could be made into paper."

Suddenly, a few men came, cut my branches off and my uneven bottom to make me into a big log. Huge cranes loaded me onto a truck and I went off!

## 8.00 a.m.

Wow! That was a long trip. I almost fell asleep. Something is lifting me! Oh! It's just a big crane. Phew! It finally put me down. I'm now in a big yard and every log here is wet. It isn't raining so how are they all wet? Ksssshhhhh!!! Ow, ow. Why is the man spraying me with water? Another man came up and shouted at the man spraying me.

He said, "Stop spraying so hard! You're supposed to keep them from drying up. Not make them soggy!"

## 8.30 a.m.

They're now putting me through a machine. I wonder what it'll do to me. Wow, that was quick! Huh? Where's my bark? They took off my protection, now I'll be cold. They're now lifting me towards a moving saw! I think it's a power saw and it looks really scary.

A man ahead of me is saying, "Ready, Set, Throw!!"

"Aaahhh! Zzzzzz!" Oh No! I'm in tiny pieces! What do I do now? Hey! A man is putting me in water. Why is he washing me? "Gurgle! Gurgle! Gurgle!" Now I'm all white. There are tiny pieces next to me that are still brown. I think I'm going to be writing paper and that one is going to be cardboard. I think these are one of the first steps in making paper. I wonder what's next, but I hope it's quick!

## 9.00 a.m.

'CHOMP! CHOMP! CHOMP!' Whoa! What's that? Uh Oh! They're putting some other wood chips in a machine

and....it's becoming a liquid! That looks scary! Someone help me! "Zzzzzz! Ewww," I'm a sticky orange liquid. This is the last thing I wanted to be! I heard someone saying this liquid is called pulp. Another liquid is coming toward me at a high speed. Uuuuuu, phew that was close! When

the liquid came closer, I realized it looked kind of old. It might have had waste paper in it, which may have been recycled. Currently, I'm travelling in a pipe somewhere.

## 9.10 a.m.

Whoa! The pipe has stopped. I'm now going into a big machine. Aaahhhh! I'm falling!! Help me! SPLAT! Ow-ww, that hurt! I'm on a big moving wire screen. It feels like an earthquake down here! Oh! The screen is just moving from side to side. This shaking is making me dizzy. The water on me is slowly dripping out. When will it stop dripping?

## 9.30 a.m.

Those twenty minutes of shaking almost made me puke! I'm now getting close to drying up. It seems like there are tiny things in my body. I heard a man say they are called fibers. I think these things make me up. I now look like a flat rectangle. I think I'm almost done. I'm still wet, so how am I going to get dry? I know the answer now! A heavy roller is coming and it's flattening the paper to squeeze the water out. Uuugh, I can't get away! I guess I just have to stay here then. Wow! That's good, now I don't feel that wet anymore. Another one is coming to dry me because it's heated. It feels warm and cozy.

## 9.55 a.m.

Uggh! Something is painting me! It got all over me and it's very sticky. I heard a woman say they do this so that words, pictures and other things are printed nicely on me. Even though I don't like this, I guess it has to be done. Computers are checking me now. I can hear what the men outside are saying. They're saying that they have to check my thickness and whether or not I'm dry. They check this so I'm fit for how I'm going to be used.

## 10.10 a.m.

**Paper con't on page 55**



*Vedant has written  
an award winning  
story. Enjoy.*

## 3RD PLACE! MYSTERY STORY WINNER!

# The Mystery of the Flags

By Meghan Gajula

The Batman roller coaster went soaring through the sky, up, down, left, right. Trisha S., Akanksha, Taylor, Hershika, Mr. A, and Mrs.K were screaming. Last, they went straight up, and I got a tingly feeling, like when I feel a mystery coming up, probably because all the passengers instantly became still and soundless. Oh, hi. I didn't notice you there. I'm Willow. Do you know what is going on right now, because I don't? Let's start from the beginning, and maybe we'll be able to crack this case together.

It was a quiet morning when I woke. It was Monday, 6/16/14. Since I was a safety patrol in TEECS, (Thomas Edison Energysmart Charter School, a charter school that opened in Somerset last year) I get to go to Six Flags with all the other Safety Patrols that day! (True fact. I actually did).

As we all arrived at school, we were separated into four or five groups, but two main groups.

"Moderate, go with Mrs. K., Mr.A., and Mrs.S., Dare Devils, come with me," Mr. Tart had said.

Esha, my only friend in class going on the trip, along with Ashley, Gianna, and a few fifth graders, were in Dare Devils with Mr. Tart. The other fourth grade safety patrols, Taylor, Anjali, and me along with most of the fifth grade girls, were in moderate, with Tejaswini's dad, Hershika's mom, And Anjali's mom. (Mr. A., Mrs. S., and Mrs.K.).

We went on a rafting ride (where I got soaked); a swing that goes 240 feet in the air, and spins 40 miles per hour; and a roller coaster called Skull Mountain. Finally every one besides Mrs. S., and me insisted on riding Batman. The Batman roller coaster went soaring through the sky, up, down, left, right. Trisha, Anjali, Akanksha, Taylor, Hershika, Mr. A., and Mrs. K. were screaming. Last they went straight up, and I got a tingly feeling, like when I feel a mystery coming up. This was probably because all the passengers instantly became still and soundless, and that's all I know.

The roller coaster car zoomed into the clouds. I waited a 10 minutes, but it didn't come down." Mrs. S.!" I shouted frantically. "Mrs. S, the car isn't coming down. It isn't coming down!" I turned to look at a frozen, open mouthed Sahitha. (Mrs. S.) Everyone started staring at me, then I

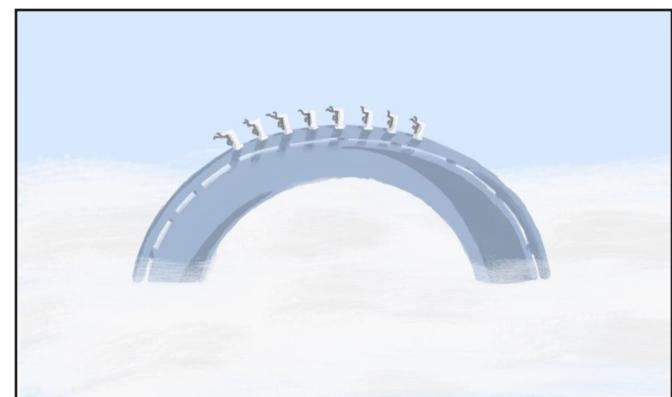


Illustration by Andrew Wang

realized it. To everyone but me, Mrs. S. was invisible.

I asked the conductor, "Is there another car?"

"Yes, there is," she replied. "I want to ride it."

It turns out I was just tall enough to ride it. It was less scary than I thought. Sure, it made my stomach go twisted, but I liked it. As it went on the final turn, I braced myself.

Whoosh, I plunged up, into the clouds. All my fifth grade, and fourth grade friends, were ok, along with Mrs. K., and Mr. A. I figured out what happened to everyone, but I got another mystery up my sleeve. The clouds lifted us, and not the tracks, so we were stuck.

"Willow! Wake up sleepy head," Millie shouted. (Millie is my annoying older sister.) It was just another one of my crazy dreams. When I went to school at 8:00 a.m. sharp, I was just in time to board the bus to Six Flags. As we all arrived at school, we were separated into four or five groups, but two main groups.

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Uh, oh. I really hope I am still dreaming!



# Lake George

Travel Feature

## Editor's Choice Award

By Amulya Chowdary Koritala

Most people refer to New York as noisy and busy, but a look at Lake George will change their mind. Lake George is one of the rare places in New York that is peaceful and beautiful. Every part of nature is breath-taking. Although I'm not an expert on Lake George, the few days I've been there gave me the feeling that it is a great place. Some parts of the vacation that gave me a judgmental feeling are when I went on the Tubby Tubes or when I went parasailing. Even my hotel was memorable.

To begin with, my Tubby Tube experience was beyond imagination. I was left in my own floatie, all alone in the Hudson River. I closed my eyes and relaxed my abdomen into the floatie. I matched my heartbeat with the sound of the soothing waves. Every now and then, I would hear birds tweeting to one another in high pitches. When I opened my eyes, I saw trees: not just regular trees. There were trees in shades of green. I could almost promise that every single leaf was green and healthy. With the trees comes a suitable reflection over the clear crystal water. This experience was pleasant and it helped me get my mind to not think about my upcoming tests and finals. As one can tell. This is one major part of my vacation that made Lake George a great place.

Another fun experience in Lake George was when I went parasailing. Parasailing is when you get attached to a parachute and a speedboat. You go where the speedboat goes. This thrilling experience started off when my friend's mom and I slowly floated up to the dollops of cumulous clouds surrounded by water vapor. At first, I was a little

scared to be so high up over the ocean, but soon I realized that there was really nothing scary about it. My friend's mom helped me by telling me to look at the view. I slowly opened my eyes and found myself staring at a spectacular scenery. Luckily, the sun is a terrible at hide and seek because I saw luscious streaks of yellow and orange in the sky coming from behind a couple of trees. Below me was blue water with fish hopping up every now and then. A feeling of being on top of the world filled my heart for the entire ride. I don't know why, but after that event, I felt so nonchalant like I could do anything that I pleased. Clearly, this part of my vacation was very inspiring.

I gained even more appreciation for Lake George because of the wonderful service and equipment that was available in my hotel. There was an outdoor pool and an indoor pool with an included hot tub. What else could anyone ask for? I hung out at the pool for a few hours and when I was tired, I ran into the hot tub and everything worked out all right. As for the food, the breakfast was a delicacy. Everything was cooked on the spot and it tasted delightful. I didn't regret a single penny that my parents paid.

Sadly, my wonderful vacation came to an end. After such a fantastic time in Lake George, I could officially say that it was my best vacation in the United States. Now that you've heard about my vacation, I'm pretty sure that you will give New York another chance. In all, Lake George is a peaceful place in New York that everyone should get to visit!

## Paper con't from page 53

Now that they're done checking me, they have started rolling me. This is starting to make me more and more dizzy. Uuuuuuuuhhhh! Phew, it's stopped! Now, I look like a big toilet paper roll. Something is started to lift me up. I wonder what it is. I can kind of see the ceiling, and there are cranes attached to it. They might be overhead cranes. The trip looks long, but I'm going fast!! "Zzzzzz!" Whoa! What's that noise? Oh , no, it's a big razor! A roll of paper is going in there and "Zzzzzzz!" That looks scary! I hope it doesn't cut me in half! Aaaaahhhh! I'm going down.

### 10.30 a.m.

Wow! I didn't know there were more razors down here! First, it cut me in half, then in fourths. They just taped me

down; I think they do this so I don't unwind. The men are now carrying me toward a machine. They'll put me in it and "ssssssh!" It's wrapping me in brown paper!! They're now putting me into a storehouse. There are other pieces of paper that were once trees. I've got a lot of catching up to do....

### A month later...

I felt so old, but finally someone chose me! I don't know who it is, but the people are excited that the person bought me. Now I know who the person is! It's world renowned J.K.Rowling! She's making her seventh book, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows"! This is what I wanted to be used for. This is life!

# Writing Rock Stars & Role Models!

Fall 2014/Back to School

