

Paw Prints

Literary Magazine
Bullis Lower School
2016-2017



Dedicated to the wonderful parents of our lower school students, one of whom planted the seed idea for this magazine!



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Second Grade Class of 2027

First Graduation

By Toan Nguyen

One morning when I was in first grade, my mom woke me up and she was holding my Vietnamese shirt. She said, "You are graduating today." I did not know I was graduating and I was scared.

It was my first graduation. I put my shirt on and I went downstairs with my sister and ate breakfast. After we finished breakfast we went to play. My sister and I both wanted to play different things so we started to fight. I got a pillow and attacked her. We fought for 10 minutes and I won.

When it was time to go to Vietnamese school my sister and dad wanted to come with mom and me in the car. Vietnamese school is where I learn Vietnamese. When we were in the car my sister said she was bored and it took two minutes to get there. When we got there we went inside.

When we were inside we went upstairs. There were a lot of stairs. We went to the second floor and I walked to my classroom. When I got there I saw my friends playing tag and I asked, "Can I join?" They said, "Yes," and we played. I got tagged two times.

As we were playing tag our Vietnamese teacher came in the classroom. She let us play for five more minutes. When five minutes had passed she told us to line up. My sister came running in the classroom to me



and held my hand. I was scared and embarrassed because my sister came running in. Then our teacher said to line up in order from shortest to tallest.

When we got to the gym my dad, my mom, and my sister went to the risers. I went with my class and sat down. The gym was not decorated but there were a lot of people and a lot of children graduating. When I was sitting, teachers were talking in Vietnamese and I was listening. They gave everybody the same prize, a pencil holder, and they went on talking.

They were talking for a long time and I was bored because I was doing nothing. Finally they were going to give an extra prize to the top three students. I wanted to be one of the top three students, and I was! My dad, my mom, and my sister were screaming and they don't usually scream in the school. I was happy that I was in the top three.

Party All Night!

By Sydney Tucker

I gave my mom a huge hug and reminded her that tonight was our party till midnight. We had planned the night out a month before. She said, "I know. Isn't it exciting?" "Yes, it is so exciting. I get to stay up till midnight! We get to play outside all night long."

We went downstairs for breakfast. I had an egg and bacon sandwich. It was so crunchy. My mom had a piece of toast. I bit off the edge of it. "Wow, was that plain and a little buttery?" I took the last bite of my sandwich.

After breakfast my mom and I got dressed and headed out the door. We headed to Chipotle to pick up some food for the party. We ended up with everything that they serve at Chipotle. My mom tried to fit all of it in the trunk, but it wouldn't fit so we smushed it in the back. "Why me," I thought. You do not want to be smushed in the back with food on top of you.

"Finally we're home." I was so happy. I wasn't smushed



anymore. "I'm free." I pushed the bags aside and ran to the door. I did the password. I was so happy we were home. "I'm going to go upstairs and play."

I played with my Barbies, these little things called Shopkins, and My Little Pony. When everyone got to my house at 5:30 pm we got right to playing. There were 11 kids and 18 grownups. My friends who came over were Jordon, Page, Colin, Cassie, Riley, Simone, Jonah, Tommy, Emma, and Claire. We played Manhunt. Manhunt is a game where one team counts and another team hides, and when the team that counts finds the team that hides, the team that hid runs. If they get tagged, they are out. If one of the runners touches their team's home base they win. During Manhunt people started getting into fights about who was on which team, so I quit the game and played on my scooter.

After they finished the last two rounds of Manhunt we ate. Everybody said they would play Tail Tag. "Really? I love Tail Tag!" I ran upstairs and got 11 shirts and rushed outside. We



Julia Hausfeld

decided no teams but my friend Colin and I joined a secret team anyway and there was no fighting. When we finished Tail Tag it was time for everybody to leave. We gave hugs and had a huge mess to clean up, but it was bedtime. We will clean it up in the morning.

Target Acquired

By Nathan Schwartz

Last summer was my third year in camp at Bullis and my second year of being a Bulldog, an older camper. One day



during camp I was playing dodge ball when I heard that we were going to have a water fight during break. We do random stuff at camp during break, like playing soccer. I was really excited. I knew it was going to be fun!

I wanted to make a team so I did. I asked my only friends Juani and Nico if they wanted to join. They did. There was a tub of water with weapons for a water fight. We wanted to be the most cunning fighters so we got lots of water guns and water balloons.

Lots of people could not shoot at us because we took almost everything from the tub but unfortunately the people who did not have guns or water balloons used their fists. It was turning into a fistfight and I got punched in the face. People were getting angry with my team because we were hitting them in the face with the water guns and in places you would not want to be hit. They made a team that had more people than ours so now it was like four people against ten people. I was getting a little worried so I used my fists too.

My team's weapons storage was raided and people stopped using their fists. Big kids shoved us aside and took our supplies. I felt badly for being wrecked so easily. I found a huge water balloon and threw it at a group of people so they joined the other team. Now we were really outnumbered. Then some of the other team wanted to do something else and some people from the other team joined my team and the sides were more even. I felt better.

Now more people got angry with us and some people left our team and joined the enemy. I got really worried, but luckily the counselors joined my team. Lots of people feared the



Second graders



counselors in battle so lots of people joined my team again. I knew I was going to win.

Yippie, Yi, Yay: Kings Dominion

By Karina Hunter

I was just waking up from a long sleep and my mom was already up. She was cooking and watching TV in the kitchen. I said, "Good morning, Mommy." She said, "Good morning, little one." I asked, "What are you cooking for breakfast?" She said, "Eggs and toast." I said, "Mmm, yummy," and it tasted so good.

Before I could eat my breakfast my dad came back from work. The first thing I did was jump on my dad and ask, "Can we go to Kings Dominion?" Kings Dominion is an amusement park. He said, "Ask your mom," so I ran as fast as I could upstairs and asked, "Mommy, can we go to Kings Dominion?" She said, "Yes." "Hooray!" I yelled. I asked her again just to make sure. I asked, "Can we go to Kings Dominion?" She said yes again so we got dressed and went to the car.

It took an hour to get there but we raced there. When we got to Kings Dominion there were a lot of cars! After ten minutes we could go in and have some fun.

The first roller coaster I went on was The Wildcat. The Wildcat is a ride that goes very fast and around. I thought the ride was very fun. My mom rode the ride with my dad and me. Afterwards we got cotton candy and went on other rides. After we went on a ride called The Bulldogs.

We took pictures on an instant camera. The pictures came out fine but when I touched the paper I got a paper cut. It hurt. I did not cry but I did say "Owww." After I said, "Owww." the person in charge of the roller coaster put a Band-Aid on me. I was getting sick and I felt very, very bad from spinning around too much. I had a glass of water and I was okay.



Then I went on the most fun ride ever. It was called The Fun Wheel. The Fun Wheel is a ride that looks like the wheel of a car. We went round, and round, and round, and round a lot. We stopped and went backwards and forwards over and over again. Then we went to our real car and drove to my grandparents' house to tell them the story of our day.

Jingle Ball

By Kailey Zuckerman

I went to the Jingle Ball. The Jingle Ball is a concert. Some of our friends gave us tickets so we invited some of my best friends. I went with my friends Jacqueline, Madeline, Ava, Ciara, and my sister, Shara. My mom and Madeline's mom came too. It took us an hour to drive there. When we got there, all of us went inside the building, up an elevator, and to a room called a box. Outside the room was a red carpet.



Jackson Eberstein

All of us went inside. It was a big box and there was a refrigerator, but it was locked and we could not open it. There was a sink so I got some water. The show had not started and I was wondering when it would start. I sat down in a chair. All the front seats were taken so I had to sit in a back seat. The audience was very big; probably around two thousand people came to watch. The show started.

My friends and I went out to get some t-shirts. It took a long time but then we got them. The t-shirts had a list of all the songs on them. While I was getting my t-shirt I was disappointed because my favorite singer, Ariana Grande, came up on stage. I saw her on a TV set. I wanted to go back so badly. We went



back to the box wearing our t-shirts. I was excited. I got to see the end of my favorite singer. Good songs like the “Mannequin Challenge” also came up.

My mom went out to get some food. We stayed in the box. She came back with Oreo ice cream. I ate some ice cream. What I really wanted was cotton candy so my mom went out again to look for it. She could not find it. Then I went out with Ciara's dad. We found it so we bought it. We got three cotton candies. I got one for my sister. I got one for Ciara, and I got one for myself. I gave some cotton candy to my mom. We ate the cotton candy. I also gave some to Jacqueline because she asked for some. Madeline got some ice cream. It was green apple flavored.

This guy came on stage with a guitar. He sang and asked everyone to take a video. Ciara's dad, Jack, gave me his phone. I was so worn out and I almost fell asleep. I tried not to. My eyes were barely open but I stayed awake. The last song came on.

As we left the box we saw a newsperson coming in the elevator. I was shocked that I would see a newsperson at the Jingle Ball, and there she was. The Jingle Ball this year was way better than when I went last year. Last year there were barely any singers. This year there were so many singers and new songs.

Disney World

By Julia Hausfeld

I woke up. My mom woke me up. She told me that we were going to **Disney World!** I jumped right out of bed. I love Disney World. I got dressed, went downstairs, and got in the car. We drove to the airport and got on our plane. We had snacks on the plane.

We got off the plane with my uncle who we call Uncle D. and mom's stepmom who we call Mei Mei and mom's dad



who we call Pop Pop and my mom and my dad and my little sister. Then we rented a car. When we were in the car, my sister and me were playing on our iPads. It was a long ride to Disney, but then we were there.

When we got to Disney World we parked our car. Then we went into the hotel. We went to pay. I don't know how much. We went to the room that we were staying in at Disney. Our room was nice but it was small. When we went into our hotel room everybody unpacked. It was boring. My little sister Gabby, my Uncle D., and I played on the bed.

After we unpacked my mom, my dad, my Uncle D., my sister Gabby, and I went into the park to play games and go on rides. In the park we saw an uh, uh, uh, ... "It's a roller coaster." It had curvy edges. It looked scary. When I first saw it, I was scared and I didn't want to go on it. Gabby said, "Mommy, can we go on that roller coaster?" "Yes, we can," said mom.

"Yay," said Gabby. Gabby was excited, but I was not as excited. My mom asked me, "Do you want to go on the roller coaster?" I thought and thought – "Well, I've never been on a roller coaster before and Gabby is only 4 years old, and I'm 6 ½ years old." "I guess," I said to myself.

"Can we go now?" asked Gabby.

"Okay," said Mom. "Do you want to go?" she asked me again.

"Okay," I said. It was so much fun.

Another thing that we did in the park was a ride that I loved. It was called "Small World." We got on a boat and saw countries from all around the world. Then we went back to the hotel. At the hotel, Gabby and I had nothing to do so we played on the bed. Then we played tag for a long time until we went back into the park to the castle. When we got to the castle it lit up. It was magic. It was my favorite. I loved everything about Disney World – the rides, our hotel, and the castle. It was awesome being there.





Sydney Tucker

Will I Get It?

By Jackson Eberstein

My dad and I were going to a Caps game. The Caps is the nickname for the Washington Capitals hockey team. I was excited. I had been to two other hockey

games before. We had just gotten off the subway when we saw someone selling hats. My dad got me a hat for \$2.00. I picked the hat that I did because I love red.

We walked into the Verizon Center, the building where they play basketball and hockey games. We ran to the spot where the players come out and give out hockey pucks. I saw the Caps players coming out to practice before their game. I said, "Hey!" A guy said, "What?" I asked, "Can I have a puck." He said, "Sure, when the hockey players are done practicing." I waited for about five or ten minutes. I was soooo excited. He said, "Hey, kid. Here is your puck." I ran to my dad. I said, "Daddy, look, I got a puck from Alex Ovechkin." Alex Ovechkin is a famous hockey player. He said, "So cool."

My dad and I went to our seats. The Caps were playing against the All-Stars. The second we got to our seats the game started. Then I asked my dad for a pretzel. He said in two minutes. A little while later my dad went to get me a pretzel while I watched the game. I started to clap. When my dad got back I ate the pretzel. He got back in time for the second period. In the last second of the game the Caps won. When we left my dad asked, "How did it feel getting your puck?" I said, "It felt good and exciting."



The Blizzard

By Stavros Jackson

My sister woke me and told me it was snowing. I said, “Wow.” I looked out the window. I saw snow. I got dressed. I did not have breakfast. I just went outside. I wasn’t hungry and I was so excited.

It was super cold. There was so much snow. I built a snow fort. I had to build it two times. It kept falling over. I made it stable. The sides and the top of my fort looked smooth. My sister was making something. Then I threw a snowball at her. Then I threw more. I threw so many.

She said “Hey!” My sister made a fort and then we had a snowball fight. It was fun. She never hit me. I always hit her.

When our snowball fight was over my dad came outside. I had two snowballs left. I thought he was my sister. I threw snowballs at him. He just went inside. I made a snowman that I could not lift up. I tried to push it over on my sister. Then I ran away.

My dad said, “Kids, come inside.” I went inside and had hot chocolate. We had fun during the snowball fight even though it was so cold. I like blizzards.



Arthur Zhou

Roller Skating

By Emmanuel Bailey

Two years and five months ago when I was at my house my mom asked, “Where do you want to go?” I said that I wanted to go roller-skating because I thought that it would be fun. I had never been roller-skating before. My mom called for an Uber.



The Uber arrived and we got in. We drove to the roller skating rink. It was big on the outside. We got out of the Uber and went in.

First we had to pay. We went to get my skates. I had to try lots of different skates because some of them hurt. I finally found the right pair. I waited for a little bit by the side of the rink and then I went in.

When I got in the rink I felt weird. I felt like I was going to fall. People were playing a game. I joined in the game at the last second. I went to a spot, and I apparently won. My mom was shocked. Someone gave me a piece of paper. He told me I could use it to get a bag of candy. I didn't get the candy right away. I waited a little bit and rollerskated while I waited. After a while I got hot. I told my mom that I wanted to take my sweater off. She said "Okay." I took it off and kept skating.

I asked my mom to get the candy I won and a drink. While she was gone I was having a little trouble skating. I could not move fast and I kept falling. Someone told me to hold on to the rail. Then I looked at other people's skates and saw how they moved. I saw people moving their feet like a "V" shape. I copied what they were doing. It worked! My mom came back. I got out of the rink and drank the drink and ate the M&M's that she got me. I stopped taking a break.

I got back in the rink. I still fell a little bit. Someone made an announcement. It said that the rink will be closing in five minutes. I said "Mom, let's leave before the skating rink closes." I got out of the rink. I took off the skates and we left. My day roller-skating was amazing.

Dog Day

By Diyar Nasehi

One Saturday morning my mom called my name. I came running. I asked, "What?" My father said, "We are going to get our dog." We had visited a breeder once before and had



already picked out our dog. A breeder is a person who has a dog that gives birth to puppies. My brother said to get in the car. Then he said that he didn't want to come. We said, "Okay."

I got in the car with my mom and dad. I asked how long the drive would take. My mom said, "Four hours." I said, "Mom, but I'm so excited." She said, "Play some games on your iPad to pass the time." I said, "Okay," but I wanted to play Clash Royal. That meant I needed the internet so I told my mother, "Let's talk about my dog instead." We talked about her name, which was Khloe, and we talked about the people who owned her before and how she is used to being called Khloe. Before we knew it we were there.

We walked in. I was curious why the breeder's house was tiny on the outside and so big on the inside. I asked my dad, "Where is Khloe?" He said he did not know. Then I went to say hello to the breeder. After I said hello I asked, "Where is Khloe?" She said, "Upstairs." I asked if we could go see her. The breeder said, "Okay." When I was walking up the clean, wood stairs I felt worried and excited. I was worried that Khloe might be hurt. I was excited because I was getting my dog. Then I arrived at the room.

There were two dogs in the room. I knew which one was Khloe because we saw her when we visited before. Khloe is a golden retriever and poodle mix. She is medium sized and has golden fur. She used to be called Pink Collar because she had a pink collar on. I caught my little Khloe trying to escape. She was jumping. Her paws were falling onto the other dog. The breeder brought Khloe downstairs. We followed.

The breeder asked, "Should I let Khloe out?" We said, "Okay," so the breeder let Khloe outside. My dad went to pay the second breeder who was a boy. He was nice. He gave us a blanket to keep Khloe warm. After a while Khloe came back. The breeder brought her to us. Then we got in the car. My mom took a picture of Khloe and me.

We drove to a pet store nearby. We skipped and jumped as we walked from the car to the store. My dad was holding



Khloe. Khloe was sleepy. Her eyes were half shut and she was in a weird position. In the store, we split up. I went with my mom. She said she would text my brother Aria the picture of Khloe and me, and she did. Then we went to the fish aisle. Almost all the fish were in the same tank but the Beta fish. A fish that I saw looked like my fish Twinkle. Then we went to the dog aisle. We saw my dad and Khloe. Khloe was asleep. Her eyes were shut. In the dog aisle my mom got shampoo and some food. I picked out some toys for Khloe. We saw some cats on our way to pay. We paid and left.

I lay with Khloe in the car. Then Khloe woke up and after a while she woke me up, so we played. I tried to train her. When we arrived home I took Khloe straight to my brother. He played with us for a little bit. Then Khloe and I went to meet the other dogs, Poochie and Cookie. Poochie is our other dog and we were babysitting Cookie. We fought and punched and kicked and had a good time.



Toan Nguyen

Freaked Out At The Great Wall

By Arthur Zhou

Finally it was summer break. My friend Walter from school invited me to go camping with my other school friends at the Great Wall, but not just the Great Wall, the broken part of the Great Wall. My friends' names were Anthony, Walter, Mars, Hannah, Sophie, and Erik. I asked my mom if I could go. My mom said, "Yes" and that she would come with me. When we got on the bus to drive to the Great Wall, the bus driver said it would take us about six hours to get there. On the way, I played on my iPad and with my friends.

When we got to the broken part of the Great Wall it felt like we were in the mountains. The air was like in the mountains.



It was hot and rainy in the forest. The group captain, the person leading the trip, led us to a path. I saw spiders and heard wolves howling. I was scared, very scared.

We climbed mountains. I was sweating, but not thirsty. The walk was scary because wolves, tigers, and lions live in the mountains. When we got to the camping area we made a campfire and played tag. We had a gate to protect us at the camping area.

My friends and I said, "Let's play tag." Just as I was opening the gate I saw a tiger! I quickly closed the gate so the tiger couldn't hurt us. The captain told us that there were a lot of wolves in the mountains, and after 15 minutes I looked through the glass in the gate and saw about 30 wolves. They were chasing the tiger. Soon the tiger and the wolves disappeared into the mountains.

I went back to the camping area and my friends said, "Let's play tag here." We played tag for an hour. When we finished playing tag my mom said it was time to eat dinner. We had fresh beef, drinks, and other things. After dinner we wanted to find the wolves, but our parents said it is too dangerous.

Next we said we wanted to play with fire. The captain said it was actually something that was on our schedule. We all said, "yes" at the same time. Then we collected as many sticks as we could. The captain dug a hole in the ground and after we had collected enough sticks he made a fire. We played with the burning sticks. We raised them in the air and waved them around like a wheel rolling. After a while my stick burned out and I said, "Me out." When all of our sticks had burned out we went to our own tents.

I drank a cup of water and went to bed. When I woke up it was raining really hard. We had to change in out tents. When I put my raincoat on and ran outside, I saw everybody outside waiting for the bus. When we got on the bus we ate hot dogs for breakfast. When we got home we were so tired that my mom and I could not WALK!



Third Grade

Class
of
2026

Yellow

By Anna Rubenstein

Yellow is a ray of sunshine,
Yellow is a perfect banana,
Yellow is a great big pineapple,
Yellow is a golden retriever ready to chase
balls and dig holes,
Yellow smells like a perfect summer day,
Yellow tastes like a glass of refreshing
lemonade,
Yellow sounds like a baby getting a kiss on its
forehead,
Yellow looks like a teddy bear curled up in
your arms,
Yellow feels like a big red sunburn on your
pale white face,
Yellow makes me feel hope at the bottom
of my heart,
Yellow is my personality.

Old Gray Shoe

(Inspired by Walter Dean Myers)

By Matthew Halle

So much depends upon
an old gray shoe
lost in a car
that can't be found.



Danny and the Titanic

By Daniel Horan

Once upon a time, there was a poor kid named Danny who lived in Ireland. He was 21 years old. He really wanted to go on the Titanic so he could live in America. He didn't have any money so he got a job as a bricklayer. Danny worked for three years and saved up enough money to buy a third class ticket on the Titanic. He was so happy! He couldn't wait to go!

The day came on May 31, 1912. He cried saying goodbye to his family. He wouldn't see them until they came over to America. He was very excited when he saw the huge ship. The bad thing about the Titanic was Danny was still poor so he had to sleep in a third class cabin. Nevertheless, Danny loved the food and the beds. He slept so well!!!

One night Danny ran into a boy named Corey who was also a third class passenger. They talked for about twenty minutes and became great friends. Corey wanted to sleep in Danny's room so he took the extra bed. Corey and Danny stayed up late reading. Then they heard a weird sound. Boom!

They went out to see what was going on. Corey and Danny saw a hole in the big ship! They thought it was unsinkable! They had made plans to live with each other in America but they did not think they would even survive getting there. Part of the ship went all the way under. They could not get on a lifeboat. Suddenly, they were pulled into the water with the sinking ship. They thought they were going to freeze to death.

Then Corey and Danny saw a rescue boat. They swam to it and climbed on board. The rescue boat brought them to New York and they lived together for the rest of their lives.



Kids

By Nixon Lomax

Imagination,
soaring as a bird.
exploring new things,
making up words.
Playing around until the sun sets,
winning a game and
being the best!
There's no better way to
spend the day,
to just sit and watch,
the children
at play!



Matthew Halle

Forgive Me

(Inspired by William Carlos Williams)

By Cassie Sattin

Forgive me
I have crushed
your dreams of becoming
a unicorn
and which you were probably
planning
on completing
forgive me
it was cute
so satisfying
and so fun.

Limerick

By Jinho Yoon

There once was a batter named
Lake,
Who thought he was a cake.
He fell in the dirt,
He thought that hurt,
But then he got smushed by a
boy named Flake.



The Bombing of Pearl Harbor

By Jack Newman

Hi. My name is Cole. I'm a ten year-old boy who lives on a naval base in Oahu, Hawaii. My dad is a captain in the US Navy. I also have an older brother named Kaie. It's 1941 and World War II is going on. I love living on the base because I love ships, planes, and submarines.

One day when I was in my bedroom listening to music, I decided to go fishing off one of the docks on the naval base. I had just caught my first fish when Capt. Scott, the boss of the base, came up to me and said, "Keep watch in case the Japanese attack. I woke up with a bad feeling this morning."

I said, "Yes, sir!"

I ran back home to put my fishing rod away. Then I ran back to the base to keep watch before I got in trouble. I looked through my binoculars. I saw Japanese planes flying in, right towards our base. I yelled, "Capt. Scott! We're under attack!"

My dad appeared out of nowhere and shouted, "Run back home to safety! Hide in the basement!" I took off running as fast as a cheetah. I heard bombs going off behind me. Boom! Boom! Boom! I made it home safe and sound. I ran down to the basement and was relieved to see my brother was already down there. Our house was shaking because of the bombs going off.

The bombs finally stopped. Kaie and I went out to see if the Japanese had retreated. The coast was clear. We ran to the base and found our mom, who was a nurse, in the first aid building. We both worked alongside our mom to see if everybody was okay. What I saw was horrible. There were injured people begging for help. There were fires and most of the ships and planes were in horrible condition. We were wrecked out there! I asked mom, "Where has Dad gone?" She said, "He ran to the safe house." I did a sigh of relief. At the end of the day, all the wounded were taken care of. We went to



the safe house to get Dad, who was waiting for us to come. Dad said he had asked the president to rebuild the naval base.

I'm In Trouble

By Blake Dates

I'm alone
I'm tired
Scared and frightened
Shivering in the cold
Shiver, shiver
While the police
knock
on my door
Bang, bang
I hide in the closet
I hear it again
Bang
Bang
They're coming for me once and
for all.



Georgia Jackson

Sad

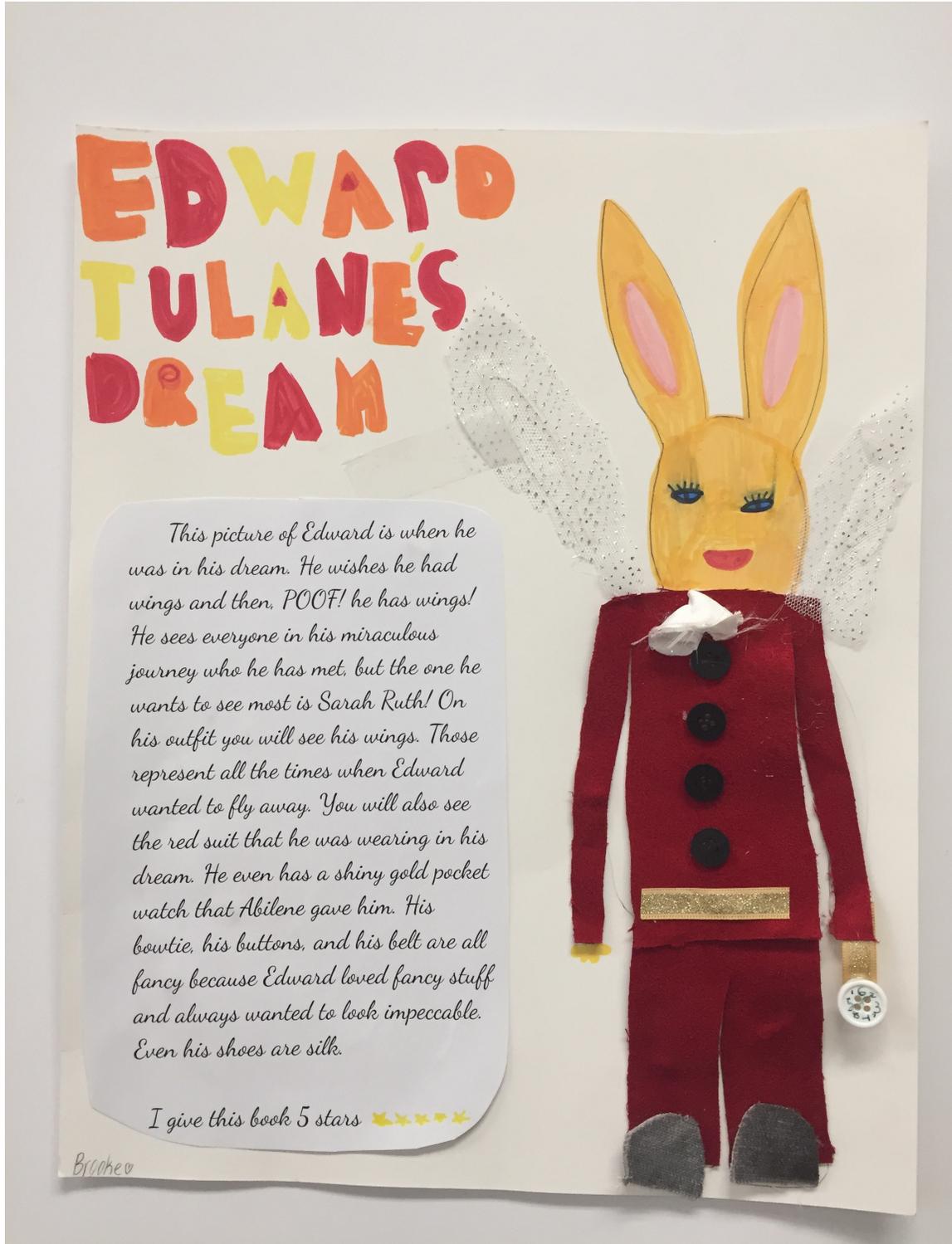
By Georgia Jackson

Sad is a
blue flower drooping to
the ground.
Sad tastes like a
blueberry with its juice
squeezed
O
U
T.
Sad sounds like a
little kid crying from
dropping
their mint chocolate chip
ice cream.
Sad smells like a
burnt down house
torn to shreds.
Sad feels like a
sore throat
on a horrible cold day.



Edward Tulane's Dream

By Brooke Katz



This picture of Edward is when he was in his dream. He wishes he had wings and then, POOF! he has wings! He sees everyone in his miraculous journey who he has met, but the one he wants to see most is Sarah Ruth! On his outfit you will see his wings. Those represent all the times when Edward wanted to fly away. You will also see the red suit that he was wearing in his dream. He even has a shiny gold pocket watch that Abilene gave him. His bowtie, his buttons, and his belt are all fancy because Edward loved fancy stuff and always wanted to look impeccable. Even his shoes are silk.

I give this book 5 stars ★★★★★

Brooke



A Mystery

By Simon Rubenstein

One morning John woke up and got dressed. John was thirty-six years old. He owned a store called Shopmart. John sold everything; food, toys, weapons and books. Shopmart opened at 9:30 am. His employees always arrived before John. That morning, when the owner opened the door, he realized that the expensive, silver sword was missing! He asked his employee Owen, "What happened?" Owen stated, "It was missing when I got there." John and Owen looked around Shopmart to see if anybody was there. They found no one.

That day they didn't have a lot of customers. People were scared to go in because there were rumors about a stolen sword. That night after Shopmart closed, John and Owen rushed to the police. They told the chief about the stolen sword. The police thought about who would want one. "Hunter Bob would want a sword to kill animals. The Dooby-Dooby gang would want a sword because they were a bad gang.

The following morning the police were at Shopmart looking on the floor for clues. They questioned John, "Did you look for fingerprints?" "I totally forgot about them." So the police searched for prints near where they sell the swords. Unfortunately the powder didn't work. No clues were found. "This is a professional job," said the police chief.

The next day, a man named Billy came by and shouted, "I saw the crime happen. The Dooby-Dooby gang snuck in disguised as customers. That night they stole the sword and hid it." John told the police what Billy said.

The next morning the police continued searching. They grabbed a magnifying glass and walked around the store. Suddenly, John told Owen, "I found a clue- a phone." He turned it on and there was an enormous text. It said, "Have you stolen the sword yet Billy?" The police drove to Billy's house and found the sword. Adam put Billy in jail for one year. Case closed.



Scarlet's Story

By Abigail Lombardo

Scarlet is a 24 year-old woman married to a man named Steve. They have three kids, Isabel, Lizzy, and Star. Scarlet has blonde hair and blue eyes. She is very smart and graduated from Harvard Medical School. Her favorite subject in school was always math. Her favorite outfit is a red-checkered shirt and blue jeans. She lives on a farm in Maryland with her family.

Scarlet was having a good life until one day she wanted to get a job. However, it was very difficult for women to get jobs in the 1950's. Women were supposed to stay home and raise children. This made Scarlet sad. Scarlet really wanted to get a job. Scarlet knew she had to fix this, but she didn't know how. Scarlet had to do something. She was



Drake Arnold

thinking and thinking until she thought of something. What if she tried to get a job? She knew that it would be risky but she did it even though she didn't know what was going to happen.

The next day Scarlet went to get a job. She decided to go to a doctor's office and see if they would hire her. The manager said, "Go away!"

Scarlet said, "No. I'm really smart. I know I can help you." So the manager decided to give her one chance and hired her as a doctor. She was very busy that first day. She saw so many patients!

Scarlet went home to see her kids. They were all over her asking if she got the job. Scarlet said, "Yes!" Her kids were so excited that they led Scarlet into a room that they had made into a party room. Before they uncovered Scarlet's eyes, they



turned on some music. When Scarlet opened her eyes and saw what they did she hugged all of her kids. Then while Scarlet rested, her kids brought in the cake. Scarlet was so surprised! They cut the cake and each had a piece.

After that Scarlet said, "It's time to go to bed." Scarlet tucked them in and then went to bed herself. When it was morning, Scarlet went to her job. When her kids woke up, they went to see their dad. They asked, "Where is mom?"

Dad said, "She already went to her job." But he lied. Right then Scarlet jumped out of a closet and told the kids they could come to her job. The kids were so excited that they ran upstairs to get dressed. Finally they were able to get in the car. The kids were whining about how long it would take to get to Scarlet's office. They saw a plane flying overhead. Isabel loved planes. She told Scarlet that she had a dream to be a pilot one day. Finally they were there. The kids were so excited that they ran out of the car and jumped up and down. Scarlet said, "Calm down!"

When they got inside Isabel was amazed. Scarlet said that they could have a seat while she signed in. When she was done she led her kids into her office. They all asked how people got a job as a doctor. Scarlet told them stories about how she had to work hard and stay focused to be the best doctor. All the kids loved the stories. Then they got lunch. They had a great day!

When they got home, the children put away their backpacks. They got dressed in pajamas and went to bed. Scarlet smiled and then went to bed herself.



Daniel Horan



The Missing Hot Dog Mystery

By Drake Arnold

It was a warm summer day. Simon and I had a sleepover at my house. Then we went to play video games. We played Star Wars Battle Front for an hour. Then we went to the Brooklyn Deli and I ordered a hot dog. Then the food came, but I went to the bathroom and I saw my hot dog was gone. There were some crumbs. I asked Simon about my missing hot dog and he said, "No. I was at the wishing fountain at the front." Then he asked if he could help me solve the crime. We became a crime solving team.

First I questioned Xander if he did it. He said, "No, I was here eating my bagel and I don't even like hot dogs." Next I asked my dad. I knew he liked hot dogs. He said, "I went to the bathroom. See, my hands are still wet from washing them." I thought about my mom who doesn't want me to eat hot dogs because they are not healthy. She was at Starbucks getting coffee because she gets grumpy if she doesn't have it. That was her alibi.

"Then who could have done it?" I looked around and I thought, "There's no wishing fountain in front of Brooklyn Deli. Then I figured out who it was and it was Simon because he was not telling the truth. I was kind of annoyed, but I decided to ask the waiter if I could have another hot dog because I was hungry! Case closed!"



Jack Newman



Water

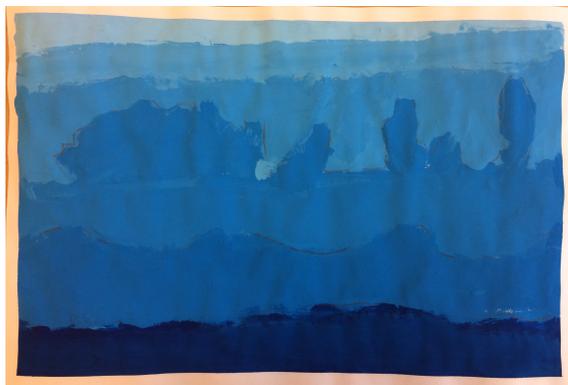
By Theo Schwarz

Water slithers and slips
eroding everything in its path
smashing and crashing
hitting the walls
as it crackles with laughter.

Light as a Feather

By Clay Narcisenfeld

Light as a feather,
going through the air,
coming down slowly,
with despair,
a transparent cloth,
into an infinity drop.



Connor Gawronski

Hope

By Cassie Sattin

The world is dark, sad,
gloomy and angry
but there is a place where
happiness, laughter and
most of all,
hope
thrive and in that place
darkness, sadness and
anger die
and everything good is
born.

Dog Sled

By Connor Gawronski

It was early one spring
morning
when Pa and I went dog
sled racing,
there was tons of wind.
The tree branches swayed
side to side like ballet
dancers,
the sun was as bright as
Venus,
it seemed to light up the
day.



Freedom Path

By Rhys DMello

One day in Mississippi, there were three friends Rhy, Jon, and Jay. They had been slaves since they were born. Now they were all nine. While they worked, Rhy said, "You know what? I think we should make a run for it."

"Good idea!" said Jon and Jay.

Rhy said, "Good. Here's the plan. We wake up at midnight tomorrow and we gear up. Then the next night at midnight, we'll leave."

"Uhh, what do you mean by gear up?" asked Jon.

"I mean get water and food and stuff like that. Okay?" Rhy said.

"Okay, deal!" his two friends responded.

"Oh, also pack knives," said Rhy.

At midnight that night the three boys packed their stuff.

"Did you get your stuff?" asked Rhy.

"Yes, of course," said Jon and Jay.

"Good. Now we need to hide our stuff. Do not let it be found! We run tomorrow at midnight, okay?"

"Okay!" said Jon and Jay.

The three friends started their run.

"Okay, let's go!" Rhy said. They took off. "Run faster!" Rhy said. "We have to get as far as we can."

Hours later, Rhy said "Wait. Stop. It's daytime. We should vote on what to do. Keep running or hide? What should we do?"

"I think we should keep going," said Jon.

"Me, too," said Jay.

"Okay, let's get going!" The three runaways kept going. In the distance, they saw a house with a lantern lit. They knew it was a safe house. Suddenly, a slave catcher came onto the path and grabbed Jay. "Let me go!" yelled Jay. "I'm too young to get whipped!"



He turned to his friends, "Rhy, Jon, go to the safe house! I'll be okay!" So Rhy and Jon ran.

Once at the house, a kind widow greeted them.

"Thank you for the food," said Rhy.

"Yeah, thanks," said Jon.

"No need to thank me. I'm a Quaker and I think slavery is wrong. I'm surprised that you kids made it this far. I'm glad you have extra food. It will be very hard to come by."

After a good night's rest, the two runaways took off again. After a week, the two friends finally made it to OHIO. Yay!!!!!!

"Ok we made it to Ohio but we need to make our way to Canada," said Rhy. "But first we have to go to a safe house, rest up, eat up, and get some help. All of the houses should be safe since we're in a free state." The two friends found another safe house run by Quakers.

Meanwhile, Jay was being taken by horse by the slave catcher. Jay was smart so he thought of a plan. He jumped off the horse, and threw his knife at the slave catcher. The slave catcher fell off the horse when he dodged the knife. Jay ran. The slave catcher gave up as soon as he fell off his horse because Jay was so fast.

Meanwhile, Rhy and Jon were being carried in a wagon. They were hiding in the back under hay. When the wagon stopped, they got off and ran right into a slave catcher. Jon was caught. "Go, Rhy! I'll escape!"

"Ok!" Rhy ran for his life.

Jon was riding in the back of the wagon that the slave catcher was driving. He managed to make holes in the side of the wagon until he made one big enough to fit through. He snuck out and ran off quietly and the slave catcher didn't even notice.

Slave catchers found Rhy! He ran for his life toward a safe house. The slave catchers did not see the house. He got his fill, and rest, and kept going. "It's a good thing I know my stars," Rhy thought to himself.

When Rhy came to an empty cave he found two other runaways... . "WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?" Rhy said.



“Rhy!” The runaways were Jon and Jay. The three friends were reunited!

“I’m so happy to see you! Did you know that I escaped slave catchers?” asked Rhy. The three friends were so happy to see each other. They made it to Canada!

“Finally! Canada! Now we set up a new life for ourselves. Together,” said Rhy. From then on, the three friends lived in freedom. The tale of these runaways ends here.

I Am

By Sam Carle

I am a kid who loves cars,
I wonder how fast I can run,
I hear cars racing in my sleep,
I see cars racing on the track,
I want to race the cars on the track,
I am a kid who loves cars.

I pretend I am racing the fastest car in the world,
I feel so fast when I pretend I am racing the fastest car in the
world,

I touch the side of my car,
I worry that I will not win,
I cry, “I won the race”,
I am a kid who loves cars.

I understand that racing is dangerous,
I say, “Who cares”,
I dream I am the best racer ever,
I try to make my dream come true,
I hope I do,
I am a kid who loves cars.



Fourth
Grade
Class
of
2025

New House
By Maddie Fulmer

“Ready to go to your new house?”
still in my bed
not paying attention
Mom asked again.
Once I heard,
so excited.
Dressed quickly
hopped downstairs
“Dad! Let’s go!”
“One second,” he replied.
One second is over!
Raced to the car
Driving
Driving
Driving
Finally!
Then I saw my dream house,
So tall my eyes started to hurt ,
I ran in.
I could not wait!
I have been waiting for this moment for
so long!



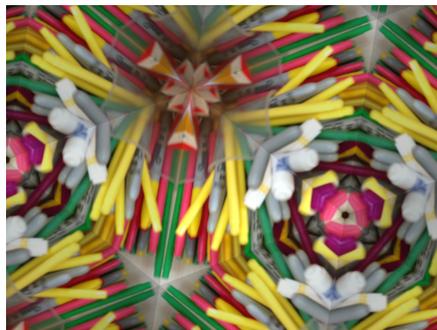
Two o'Clock

By Serena Bostic

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK!
My mom got up and left the room
She leaves the room and talks
In that moment I was tired.
I hear it, I hear them
The conversation that would change a lot of things for us.
I woke up looked at my phone, bright in my eyes
2:00
In that moment I was confused
"You have to go."
"NOW, we have to leave now?"
"Yes."
The words burned like fire against my skin.
In that moment I was scared
Me, my sister, my mom, my aunt, my cousin
In one room
I get off the bed not waking anyone.
Still scared,
the words played over and over in my head like a broken
record
"You have to leave, You have to leave, You have to leave..."
I asked my mom,
"Do we have to leave?"
"Yes." I saw the tears in her eyes, she didn't cry, I knew she was
scared
But she was strong too.
Everyone woke up, we explained the situation
And soon we were packing
Nobody talked, just packed
One thing after the other.
30 minutes later the car was packed and we were gone
We drove around looking for somewhere
Anywhere to stay.



Hotel, Motel
Either one worked
Soon we did come to a hotel.
Small but we had no choice.
Now it was
3:00
What luck was there to get a room.
My cousin, my sister, me
In that moment I was scared holding back tears.
My mom, and aunts went to the front desk
I kept thinking we were going to live in a hotel.
Why?
I thought we were going to sleep in the car.
They said we got a room
I was relieved but still scared
We had nowhere to go,
Nowhere to stay
Except a small room.
I just kept wishing we had a house, an apartment.
Fear, anxiousness,
Running through my body faster than a cheetah.
I walked in the room
2 beds, 1 bathroom, 1 TV
Everyone went to sleep except me
Crying, scared, confused, sad, tired.
My mom saying, "It's OK."
"We found somewhere to stay."
But not our Somewhere.



William Lombardo



The Gone Edward

By Edward Stewart

I was five
my two hamsters were scrambling
around their cage
I was just watching
then my hamster went in a purple tube
it was walking
then
it froze
my hamster
could not move
I didn't know what was going on.
Then I called my mom
she came downstairs
then I told her to look at the hamster
she gasped
I was like funny right
she called my dad
he came downstairs
he gasped
I was like funny right
but when I was laughing my hamster was not moving
my dad called my brother
he yelled Edward's hamster is dead
then I started crying
I was so miserable.
My poor pet Edward III
forever
gone.



Alexa

By Alexa Greenstein

My name is Alexa. My parents thought of my name by talking about it. They decided that it was beautiful so then at that time they knew that was the right name. And that's how I got my name Alexa. Some of my nicknames are Lex and Lexi Lou. Lex is short for Alexa. I don't really mind my nicknames unless my brothers aren't being nice about them but when they are being mean about them that's when they will start to tease me. And that's when I will start to care. Usually only my brothers start to call me Lex and my close friends and my mom call me it, not so much my dad. Another nickname is Lexi Lou. None of my friends call me it, not even my best friends. My family only calls me that. It came from when my parents just started calling me this but sometimes I get annoyed if they don't stop calling me it.

My family comes from Yugoslavia and Germany. They are Jewish. The meaning of my last name, Greenstein, means dweller or near the village green. The name was changed from German. Also my family went by boat to Ellis Island. My great-

great-grandfather moved around the year 1922. They wanted a better life for their family.

I like my first name and I wouldn't want to change it. And that's all the information that I possibly know. Thank you for reading this!



Gabby Samit



My Dog

By Jessie Gates

Sun blazing down
Grass glistening
Today was the day
My dog was on his way
Wearing my best dress
I waited
And waited, and waited
Tick Tock, tick tock
Tick tock
The clock ticks slower than ever
I had never seen
My soon-to-be dog
But my brother and mother had
The breeder lives miles away
He was coming
With my dog
Did I mention that I couldn't
wait?
It was just me and my mom
No one else was home
My dog was coming at twelve
I knew he was Fenway
Named after Fenway Park
And he is a Golden Doodle
But that was it
Five minutes till twelve
My face pressed
Against the glass door
I could feel the warmth
Of the transparent glass
Four minutes till twelve
Three, two, one
He's not here

"Mom, he's not here.
When will he be?"
I say with worry
"Soon" is all she replies
Thirty minutes later
No car
Now I'm getting mad
I shouldn't have
I wanted to meet my dog
Then just as fast
As the blinking of the eye
I see something
Coming down our street
"It's him! It's him!" I yell
With excitement
"He's coming"
The car pulls up
And a man gets out
Heart thumping
Butterflies flying
In my stomach
He opens the car door
I have a dog now
At first the backseat
appears to be empty
But as I look down
I see a little golden dog
I smile
"He is tired from the ride,"
the man says.
I have a dog!



Cups

By Alexis Ewing

I saw the plants in the garden and the tiny insects on the stone fence. I could smell all the yummy food coming out of the kitchen. I could hear all the soothing beats of Jamaican music and feel the sticky red cup in my hand. My cousins closed their eyes so I could hide the cup. As I was looking for a hiding spot for the cup I could hear friends and family talking, happily drinking wine and juice. My aunt called, "It's time to eat dinner."

I called back, "We'll come when we finish the game."

She called back, "Okay, have a good time."

There was excitement running through me as I thought where to hide the cup. As I leaned over to hide the cup, I could feel the smooth surface of the stone fence. I dropped the cup into the bushes. I hollered to my cousins, "You can find the cup now!" I silently walked behind them as they looked for the cup and I wondered when they would find it. As we kept walking I could feel the breeze through my hair and the sun shining on my skin.

I looked up and saw my parents and little brother coming up the driveway. My brother ran towards me with a smile. I smiled back and picked him up, kissed him on the cheek, and put him down so I could get back to the game. We all went back to walking around for the cup. As we walked down the sidewalk my cousins asked for a hint. I said, "Sure." I told the hint and we kept on walking.

Once my cousins found the cup we started to walk up the stairs. As we walked into the kitchen I could smell the plantains, fresh fish, oxtail and shrimp.



Linus Mekhaya



The Curve Ball

By Benjamin Brazier

I was eight
Our ball on a corner kick
If you were facing the goal it would be on the left.
Since I was the strongest kicker
I had to take the kick.
I marched up to the ball
I was sweaty from running so much.
I place the ball on a mound of grass
Turned around and started to walk away from the ball.
Breathing hard I stopped
Turned to face the ball again then
I noticed my friend Arjun right in the center of the goal.
I was going to pass to him
The goalie was at the front post
Everyone else surrounding.
I ran up to the ball swung my leg back.
Then BOOM!
Pain shot through my leg but it felt intense.
The ball was extremely high up with lots of intensity.
I felt nervous
Chills going up my body
What is going to happen I thought.
I noticed the ball starting to curve.
It went further towards the goal
I ran to chase after the ball.
Then GOAL!
My teammates shouted.
The ball must have curved into the goal
I was so ecstatic when I scored.
My coach's mouth was to the ground
Same with my father's.
My teammates ran up to me
And I yelled, "Yeah! Woohoo!"



One Peppa, Two Peppa, Three Pepperoni

By Ethan Robinson

I was at my grandma's house, and boy did it smell good! I could smell all sorts of food. I could smell pepperoni, sausage, cheese, bread, dew from the grass, and animal crackers, my favorite! I saw the TV running, some blankets, wind chimes and big counters. I heard birds (woodpeckers) singing, TVs and talking... wait that last one was me! I felt so good, warm and welcomed. Wow, my grandmama's house is awesome!

"Ethan, come down here, please! We're making pizza!" yelled my grandma.

"Coming!" I responded. I came down the comfortable carpet steps. I love when we have pizza night. It's even better when we make the pizza! My grandma and sister gathered the ingredients. We had pepperoni, sausage, cheese and sauce. We had options of basil, too.

"Okay Ethan, time to start" my grandma announced in an excited voice. "First we will flatten the dough, then put on our ingredients then, into the oven it goes!"

I helped flatten the dough by putting the dough in my hands and squeezing, then on the cool marble table, then I picked it back up again. It felt really squishy... It was mostly my sister and grandma, but I helped a little too. Then came the ingredients.

My grandma questioned, "Now, would you like to make a white pizza or regular pizza?"



Sepanta Ahanj-Elias



White Pizza?! I'd never ever heard of white pizza, so I asked grandma what it was. She responded, "It's pizza without tomato sauce. It's really good!"

I chose to try white, as did my sister. We put our ingredients on. I put on cheese and pepperoni. My grandma and sister said, "You should try basil, it's the best part!" So I tried it.

We were putting on the ingredients and I turned away to get more cheese, but when I turned back I exclaimed, "I could have sworn there was more pepperoni!" My sister gave me a real sly smile. I was not happy, pepperoni is my favorite. I took the last, and I didn't want her taking (and eating) all of it! I obviously knew she was taking it so I pretended to turn away and bam! I yelled, "Aha! I caught you red-handed!" a little bit too loud for my grandma.

She was the one yelling now, "Ethan Robinson... we do not yell in this house!!" I wanted to say, "Then why are you yelling?" but it's never smart to talk back to a grown-up.

My grandma said, "No dessert for you!"

"Noooooooooooooooooooo!" I yelled again. But... my grandpa saved the day, with eavesdropping (yeah, strange). But it worked! He walked in and said, "Now LaVaurn, there's no reason to take away dessert. Geez, I scream, you scream, we are having ice cream!" And that was all that needed to be said! Dessert was Oreo ice cream. It tasted like paradise and I felt like a king.

Charlie

By Charlie Buckles

There is a lot of history and meaning behind my name, Charles David Korn Buckles. To begin with, my parents chose Charles David Korn because it is all named after my maternal and paternal family members.

In 2007, the year I was born, Charlie was ranked # 334 in



the US for boys' names. I honestly like my name the way it is because in Old English, the name Charles means manly, heroic, courageous and bold. If I could choose my name--mostly kids would like to have another name--but for me I like my name the way it is. In Hebrew, my name is Kalman Divid which means Charles David. The reason it is important that I should know my name in Hebrew is because my maternal side is Jewish and because I go to Hebrew school.

My middle name, David means beloved. Korn means nothing but my mom's maiden name was Korn so my family is sort of keeping the Korn family going.

Lastly Buckles comes from the belt buckle that people wear on their pants. I think that it's super crazy that there's a book called Buckles by David Gilbert. I think that it's really exciting that my maternal side came from Poland to America for a better life because of the Holocaust. I think that it's also interesting that my paternal side came from Ireland because they just wanted a better life and wanted to move to America. That's the story of my name!

Linus

By Linus Mekhaya

Together my mom and dad chose the name Linus. They wanted a unique, smart but not weird name. They named me after a few people. One of those people is Linus Larabee. Linus Larabee is played by Humphrey Bogart in the movie *Sabrina*. Linus Pauling won a Nobel Prize and was one of the top and most famous scientists. Linus Torvalds, he revolutionized computing by creating Linux. Finally the most famous Linus was Linus van Pelt, he was Charlie Brown's most trusted and best friend. I think I am very lucky with this name because I've never met another Linus in my life.

My Chinese name is my dad's side of the family's name. It means universe. I have three characters in my name, and the



first two characters I share with my sister and brother. The third character the parents choose. Finally, is my personal name, it means wisdom or wise person. It was a long process between my parents and my mom's parents coming up with this name. I feel like I have the best name between me and my siblings.

In Greek Mythology Linus was one of Apollo's sons. Herakles (in Greek Mythology he had super strength and was considered a hero) was a music pupil of Linus. One time when Linus was kindly correcting him he got very frustrated and angry. When he couldn't control himself anymore he grabbed his lyra (a Greek instrument) and smashed it on Linus' head, then Linus died. I don't like this part in Greek Mythology that I die because my brother always makes fun of me. Though I do like the part that I am the son of Apollo because he is one of my favorite gods.

My dad calls me Deeds because in Chinese dee dee is smaller brother. I guess I like it but I really only like when my dad calls me it. Additionally my younger sister calls me Dee Dee but I don't like it because I'm not her dee dee, I am her gu gu (older brother in Chinese). I always tell my sister to not call me Dee Dee but she always ignores me.



Edward Stewart



First Football Game

By William Lombardo

Redskins vs Eagles
Walking slowly down the sidelines
Hearing the cheering
Feeling the energy
Seeing the light green turf
And the bright burgundy and gold peopled seats
Kickoff
Smell the fried chicken
The smell of my popcorn
Touchdown after touchdown
The game was close
The game was long
Feel a cold coke in my hands
Taste the salad
Feeling the gloves
Moving in my hands
We left early
Game still close
Leaving me wondering
Who will win

Sunny

By Gabby Samit

Bright sunny beautiful day.
leaves and trees swaying side to side,
feeling the birds moving through the wind
reminded me of my sixth birthday,
parents came outside with a surprise.
me, my two brothers and sister hopped in the car
drove up to a gas station.



Voices of my own saying this is the surprise getting gas.
parents saying no we're getting gas.
Twenty minutes later we arrived at a dog farm.
I thought to myself we're petting dogs.
Dad picked up the cutest goldendoodle,
brought it in the car
finally new it was our dog,
happiness filled my body
I picked up the dog and hugged her
we finally knew what to name her
SUNNY
so happy that surprise happened
or I wouldn't have Sunny this day.

The Winner Is...

By Sadie Ravitch

I first heard the waves of the lake, the smooth water pushing onto the sand. People were splashing in the lake. You could also hear my purple teammates cheering so loud, saying, "Purple, purple, purple, purple, purple!" The lake smelled fresh. I felt the smooth sand on my feet. My heart was pounding. I was thinking, *Are we going to win?* My body felt the weird plastic cups, the slimy water from the lake water splashing onto me. I saw people in purple on one side and people in pink on the other side. I saw the sand that was beige and the chairs, and a lake and a water trampoline.

After two days of color war competitions, my friends and I were waiting for an answer from Chad from waterskiing, wearing his usual hat, about who was going to win color war. My friends and I were talking. One of my friends said, "Do you think we're going to win color war?"

I said, "I hope so." I was thinking in my mind that if we won that I would just run in the lake and hug my friends. I was so eager to figure out who was going to win that I even said, "WE



ARE GOING TO WIN!"

Chad wore a shirt with a fish on it and plaid shorts. Then he said "The 2016 Winners Of Color War Are...Purple!" After he announced that purple won, we all ran into the lake and all hugged each other. It was my favorite part and it left memories. Then we all said congratulations to each other even if other teams lost. One of my friends said, "I'm really glad you're on my team and in my bunk." I said, "I'm also glad you're on my team and in my bunk. I am also happy that we're friends." Then my friend said, "Thank you, Sadie" and I said, "Thanks too." It was an awesome year of Color War!



Jack Sandi

Lost and Gone

By Reese Narcisenfeld

Let's go to a fair
A fair, a fair, yes, a fair
Balloons on our heads, face paint on our faces
In Jamaica, in a country
Tense, thrilled, breathtaking, troubled all at the same time
Tense about our parents knowing where we are
They turned their backs and we were gone
Thrilled
We saw a show with flames in the air doing magic tricks
Breathtaking
To see what will happen next
Troubled
Are we ever going to see are parents again?



Gone

By Sepanta Ahanj-Elias

This happened a
Long, long time ago, in a place
Far, far away (Star Wars theme song).
This happened when I was 8. I was at Black Hills Park. *What a nice day* I thought. You can go play, but make sure your brother doesn't get lost warned my mom, but I wasn't listening. I smelled that nice morning breeze, enjoying

Every
Last
Moment.

But it never lasted.

Nothing for me ever lasted back in those days. I was minding my own business with my brother. I looked behind myself expecting to see my brother but he wasn't there. At first I just kept walking, until I noticed what I truly saw. My brother was

gone.
Gone.

Gone like the morning wind.
Gone like a breeze that never came.
I tasted something salty in my mouth.

It wasn't rain.

Suddenly I noticed that this might be the last time I was going to see my only brother.

I noticed that maybe he was kidnapped.
Maybe he was just playing hide and seek.

But I knew the truth

*He was **lost**.*

After that, I only knew one thing,

I'm going to die, I thought,

*I'm
Going
To
Die.*



The Journey Back to My Parents

By Jack Sandi

It was a nice day in the Bahamas at Atlantis. My dad had just said, "I'll meet you back here in an hour."

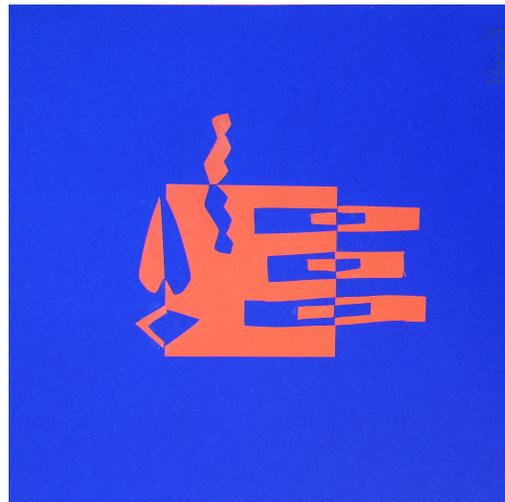
"Okay." I happily responded. And I started to drift away, but I had no idea what was coming. I felt the nearly cold but also hot water curl over my whole body and the inner tube. The sun was as hot as ever and I felt I like was melting. I was getting pretty worried and scared because I hadn't seen my dad in an hour but it was still a little ok because I had my friend with me so that still kept me happy. Yet I had that strange thought and feeling that I would not see my parents again.

But still I was at Atlantis and today was a good day. Hearing the people scream and seeing people get tipped over both made me laugh. While I was still in an okay mood my friend and I were talking about Mine Craft. I was thinking about my parents. I missed them a lot and thought I might lose them in this huge resort. Inside me I still knew that if we found my friend's parents we could contact my parents.

I thought we could change the subject and I asked, "What is your favorite part about being at Atlantis." After our conversation, when we got to the place where people got on, we looked at each other with startled eyes. I was thinking *I have no idea what's going on but it's not good.* Then I had a feeling that it had to do with me.

Security had lifeguard vests on and walkie-talkies, paper in their hands. Then we both heard a lifeguard yell, "Everyone stop! We are looking for a lost child."

Then my friend and I looked at each other again and this time he said, "Jack I think this is you."



Reese Narcisenfeld



I told him with shock, "Yeah, they are looking for me."

We went farther down the lazy river to get a better perspective of things. I had a feeling that something was slowly climbing up my back. I thought to myself, *It's okay Jack. We'll see your parents again. They know I'm missing, so they can't leave without me. Right?*

Then the lifeguard pulled out a paper and shouted, "Is there a young boy named Jack Sandi? He is nine years old. If he is here we would like him to raise his hand." After that I stopped paying attention and started thinking, *How could this have happened?* I saw they had a piece of paper with my name on it. I raised my hand and they told me to wait and they would get me. By that time my friend was standing on the shore. I just looked at him helplessly, but I was still hoping to get a chance to say bye. I was thinking, *I hope he at least notices that I tried.*

When they took me out of the water, I tried to say goodbye to my friend but I just zoomed past him. I looked back at him for one last time with sadness filling my heart. When they took me farther, I started crying. They said, "Don't cry, it's okay."

I have to admit now that I was crying because I missed my parents, but I was also crying because I never said goodbye to my friend.

Bahamas Paradise

By Linus Mekhaya

My feet aching
Finally, finally
stepped into the water
Sand,
exploding underneath my feet
while I slowly walked forward
climbing into a double "tube"
figure 8,



then, slipped into the hole
My tube drifts away, and floats,
with the current slowly, slowly drifts away,
into the ride
And then
a huge wave pushes me,
Kaden and me,
We look, and look for floating eggs
Kaden, young, 12 years old,
His family, friends with ours for quite a while,
Me, excited, scared, tense,
Shivering, and then,
like floating in the air
we were carried
on top of the smooth, smooth wave
Then, we spotted one
Kaden, slipped through the hole
the motion, so oddly elegant
Then swims and grabs it
The water
Moves from the motion,
Then Kaden swims back
Then slips back and through the hole
Currents, currents
Our hands, gliding over the crystal water,
Sweeping up the floating eggs
Currents pick up,
My heart thumping
Grinning on the outside
And the water elegantly sweeping every tube away,
Rushing, and rushing,
We near the end and I knew,
I just had the time of my life.



Elephants

By Taylor Rosoff

It all started in kindergarten.....my fear of elephants.
Giraffes, elephants, lions so much to explore
can't wait to keep going and explore some more
we drove to the elephant grey as night
one of its tusk was really bright
we stopped the car looking at the sight
it was angry and started giving me a fright
Stomp, stomp
his feet hit the ground now I'm scared what he'll do now
We stayed still, still as a rock
we waited for this to stop
its trunk was rubbing against my sister and I
and then we kinda started to cry
we decided we were too scared to stay so we were gonna
take a risk and drive the car away
100 miles per hour fast like lightning
it was chasing us and it was frightening
The ground rumbled boom boom like heavy rocks hitting the
ground.

My Trip to Puerto Rico

By Mariam El-Taguri

I saw the clear blue water and the bright sun shining on me. I saw the gold sand and the white chairs in the sand. My sisters, my brother and I were about to be in a sandcastle contest and we were building the biggest and coolest sand castle in the world. We put shells on the sand castle. I could feel the sand



Tameem Alassar



touching my feet. I could hear the sound of the waves moving. I felt as happy as a bee making honey. I wondered if our sand castle was going to turn out good or not.

I got tired of building the sandcastle so I went for a swim with my sister. We walked into the water. I was just standing in the water when a wave picked me up. The water came up to my waist. I was facing towards the ocean. I could hear the waves crashing and the birds chirping. I did not even jump as the wave picked me up. I said to my sister, "This feels so great!"

I felt as joyful as a dolphin jumping in the water. I liked it so much I kept on swimming over the waves again and again. Then a big wave splashed over me. I liked it because the water felt refreshing. I was glad that I was wearing goggles so the salt water did not get in my eyes. But then I was not paying attention and a wave crashed over me!

"Aaaah!" I yelled. The salt water went up my nose! It felt cold. I was thinking that I was going to die! After that, I was always ready if a wave was going to splash over me. I decided to go back to the chairs and I saw my family was relaxing by the sand castle. I exclaimed, "Our sand castle looks perfect!" It had a river that went around the castle. The castle had windows and a beautiful door. We dug a hole and made a square pool. We had fun going to the beach in Puerto Rico.



Serena Bostic



Jellyfish

Tameem Alassar

Swish, swish the sound of the beautiful ocean
The big beautiful sea how could it hurt you
Hot, scratchy, light yellow sand, people scrambling through it
All of them filled with joy jumping into the water
Then I started to race for the sea
I smashed into the water
And then
ZAP the whole ocean flashed
It was a jellyfish
The pain filled my body
A scream escaped my throat
My uncle took me and ran me to the house
From then I forgot what happened
I do remember one thing though
The pain.



Trenton Royall



Fourth Grade Through the Generations

By Trenton Royall

Mrs. Bowser's fourth grade class in 1952
Made me feel like I wasn't blue (Grandpa Steve)
In fourth grade I talked a lot
My teacher got real mad
She taped my mouth up with scotch tape
Because I was so bad (Grandma Dotti)
In fourth grade we went on a trip
To Ellis Island we did go
I was happy we got out of school
The trip was really cool!

A Poem in Three Voices

By Zoe Anderson

Cat Women

I am a villain.

I move though the night and I have nine lives.

I wear a black suit and I have a long tail.

I steal stuff and help myself.

Robin

I am a hero.

I move though the woods and I help my poor friends

My cape follows me with an arrow in hand.

I steal stuff and help the poor.

Harley Quinn

I am a villain.

I move though the evening and I smile wide.

My hair flows through the wind with my hammer in hand.

I steal stuff and help the joker



My Face is So Red

By Faris Al-Hinai

My footsteps were booming as I walked on the boat.
The boat buzzed and I wiggled
The boat driver stepped on the pedal
My brother stepped into the straps of the wakeboard
And he was let go into the open sea
The boat started moving at a slow pace
Then it started going faster and faster
My brother stood up and he screamed "I'm doing it!"
He fell flat on his face
I started laughing then stopped
I realized this was soon to be me.
As I stepped onto the wakeboard
the butterflies in my stomach were swirling
I felt like there was a roundabout in my tummy
I got sent into the open sea just like my brother
I stood up like my brother
I fell flat on my face like my brother.
Maybe I should stick to knee boarding.

Three Voices

By Dilan Mendiratta

On a lake looking for some fish to bake
That sounds great, I'll bring some worms for bait
For fishing and fishing will be great
I threw my line into the deep, waiting for a bite I fell asleep
I saw the frogs start to leap, as I took the flip-flops off my feet
I fell right in the creek
The sun went down and it got dark,
the lights came on in the park
And finally I caught a shark.



Never Give Up

By Eric Zhou

My first day at Bullis, in third grade
I got an iPad
Mrs. Strickler, our homeroom teacher, showed me AR
If we read above 250,000 words, we get a bill with the number
So I set my goal to get 1,000,000 words

In the end of the school year I had 1,000,000 words
I achieved my goal
I decided to double my word goal when I am in 4th grade

Summer came and went

I am in 4th grade
First month I got off to a really slow start
I was disappointed
But I kept on reading
Then in the second month I read 19 books
I was eager
Quickly, I was approaching my goal
I got 1,000,000 words in the third month
Then in a blink of an eye,
I got 4 million words in April
I achieved my goal and also went way past it.
Now, I am setting my goal to
5 million before the end of the year.



Fifth Grade Class of 2024

Playing Football at the Beach

By Alisha Schruefer

It was 7:00 pm. I was finishing up dinner at the beach dinner parlor. There was no crumb or streak of food left on my plate by the time I finished. I was 9 years old, and we were heading out on the lawn to play football as a family. We made a quick trip to our room to grab the ball, and then we were off.

As we headed out onto the lawn [of sand] to play, our feet left subtle marks into the sand, shoe and all. Finally, we were on the beach. I could feel the night coldness & breeze going down my shirt and coming out again. There were sprays of cool ocean mist, seldom fiercely landing on my face and going down like tears.

A shout departed me from my imagination. "Let's PLAY!" Dad shouted. "Go long!" Mom said. With an expert flick of the wrist, Dad spiraled the ball in the direction of me. The ball went swirling, swirling, through the air, and had its laces transfixed on me, like little eyes. Swoosh! Swoosh! The ball was very high. I wasn't sure that I'd catch it. Now the ball was whirling faster. Whoosh! Whoosh! Now there was a certain doubt that I would catch it. Or was there? Suddenly, I leaped up. Everything was still. I reached and reached and reached and I caught the ball!



Unfortunately, I tumbled above the ground, still holding the ball, and thought, *Oh no! I'm gonna barf!*

I was falling from the sky. It took less than a second for gravity to start working. The sea was rushing closer, the night mist and breeze decreasing, and then, I fell into the sand, the mix of crushed and weathered shells and rocks flooding my face and mouth and making my eyes feel gritty. I jerked my face up [out of the sand] and shook it like a rabid dog getting out of a pool.

I spit and smelled and shook all night long, during the football game, and I suddenly stopped acting like that when there was a big boom. "Uh-oh!" I said.

"Lightning?" Dad replied.

"Fireworks?" Mom continued.

"Huh!?" Lila screamed, ending the conversation.

Then I saw fireworks (Mom was right!) light up the night sky. Beautiful loud, but bright spectrums of light reflected the buildings and us. We stayed to watch for 10 more minutes, then headed inside. Before I hit the hay on my fold-out couch, I said to the whole family, "It was a football-fantastic day!"

Ode to Snapchat

By Owen Rudman

When you get a streak with a friend it gives you a sense of accomplishment,

I want to be like you, lot of friends, cool filters and random weirdos that you can block, in the day it's used by rulebreakers taking pictures in class in night, there's pics of sports, food and photos of $\frac{1}{8}$ of your face. In the evening there's photos of homework, midnight snacks and random people snoring, And finally in the end of the day the story closes and you rest waiting for the next day, Thank you, Snapchat, even with all the weird stuff you still somehow make photos worth taking.



Ghetto

By Samantha Pepper

Never life, never hope
No colors here
In ghettos nothing
No food
No wonder everyone hates ghettos
We never get to play, run, laugh
We have to stay inside
After the rest were taken away
The kids no longer live in here
I'm the kid of the Ghetto.

Ice Cream

Elizabeth Martin

Ice cream
smooth, cold
eating, biting, licking
toppings, cones, bowls, spoons
slurping, spooning, tasting
creamy, delicious
flavors.

Slime

By Sedona Cohen

Slime
Glittery, glossy
Squishing, stretching, playing
Foam, butter, fluffy, clear
Touching, dying, sticking
Sticky, soft
Fun.



Sedona Cohen



Oliver

By Bennett Richman

Oliver
caring, black
pouncing, running, caring
food, deer, bird, claw
barking, eating, sitting
tiny, kind
little .

Tomatoes

By Troy Wisnosky

Tomatoes
gross, bad
spitting, gagging, coughing
seeds, stems, skin, leaves,
ugly little
devils.

The Pool

By Hudson Brown

I'm jumping
into the cool water
my legs back
my goggles on tight
I might fail
my dive
and do a belly flop
I really hope not.

S'mores

By Summer Bernstein

This is a great place for a fire
nearby a brown log
gooey sweet and many
treats to eat.
Let us have a campfire.

Trees

By Prim Sripoom

Fun, caring
swaying, standing,
nothing
leaves, branch, roots,
green
boring, touching,
loving
happy, sad
trees.

Grilled

Cheese

By Alana Gordon

Bread, cheese, bread
lost in the world
on a plate all alone
was once my friend
grilled cheese.



Minecraft

By Logan Fruehwirth

Blocky, fun
mining, destroying the other
team's bed,
killing each other in duels,
sword, axe, pickaxe, hoe.
I love crafting, playing egg wars,
playing hypixel
floating, booming
hypixel.

Ancient Palace

By Gianna Nixon

The ancient palace behold
as you watch the land grow old
the forest beyond you is cold
the old design collides
you watch the water flow
within the castle walls of the art on
show
the clouds come over to the
crowd
as they walk over to the ground
they watch the day turn dull
as the sun goes down over the
ancient palace.

Baseball

By Will Gawronski

I started playing when I was
two,
I've always been there loving
you,
you've always been right by
my side,
it will stay that way till I die,
You've given me hits,
you've gave me k's,
it will always stay that way,
on the mound or up at bat,
you've always given me,
Thwack!



Samantha Pepper



If I Were in Charge of the World

(Inspiration from Judith Viorst)

By Nathan Chen

If I were in charge of the world,
I'd cancel vegetables,
Monday mornings,
dog haters, and also
cookie monsters.

If I were in charge of the world
there'd be no sleeping,
dogs for everyone, and
better school lunch.

If I were in charge of the world
you wouldn't be mad,
you wouldn't be sad,
you wouldn't have dead fish,
or "Do the chores,"

you wouldn't even have chores.

If I were in charge of the world
all fishes would be healthy,
and R-rated movies would be
PG-13,

and a person who did not go to
college

would still be allowed to be
In charge of the world.

Boomer

By Luke Bookoff

Comes up
every morning,
hyper and excited for the
new day to come,
sitting by the sun
in the fresh morning,
waiting, waiting
for the trash man
to come
he comes
Boomer barks
I wake up
munching and munching
till his lunch is done
we play fetch for fun
I pat the bed
he comes up
to rest
for the new day
to come.



Ashley Hays



Ode to Hot Chocolate

By Darryn McLinton

I can get you from Starbucks, or from a packet
Your taste warm when it's snowing and I'm really cold
You sit in a mug with cookies at your side
Right by the fireplace
And making me happy
with whipped cream and chocolate sauce
All over my face.

Life

By Evan Price

Good, hard
Talking, laughing, crying
Always want a lot
Person.

Llama

By Anthony Caine

Llama
Loving, soft
Spitting, running,
stretching
Always spitting at
people
Amazing.

Ode to Pizza

By Lance Hersh

You rise like the heavens.
Your slices go like sevens.
Your sauce was as hot as
lava.
As red as blood.
The cheese is great.
You're like my mate.
I don't like toppings so it
will end.
Good-bye friend.



Brianna Zigah



Sammi

By Ashley Hays

Jumping,
Running, playing,
All grown up
Like a flower,
Blossoming
Before our eyes.
Puppy dog eyes
Yearning for attention
Runs on love
Slowly,
Getting weak
As I watch her
Fade away
Jumping,
Running,
Playing,
Without me,
In
Heaven.

My Family

By Ava O'Neil

My family is like a swing,
we always stick together,
we have our ups and downs,
we have our twists and turns,
and we have our highs and lows,
we will always hold on tight
and never let go.



Anneke Lewis

Highlighters

By Noor Manesh

Pink,
Pink is like my water bottle,
Red is like my nails,
Orange is my favorite pen color,
Yellow is like the sun,
Green is the color of the green
grass,
Blue is the color of the ocean,
Purple is the color of my rug.



Snowball

By Ally Riesner

Snowball
Rambunctious, loving
Chewing, barking, laying
Jumping, licking, pouncing,
catching
Beg for food, eat my food, lay on
your head
Crazy positive
Friend.



Darryn McLinton

Poom is Equal to Prim

By Poom Sripoom

I'm just a boy, she's just a girl
We are twins
I'm younger, she's older
The difference between us
Is not that much
I'm taller, she's shorter
I'm slower, she's faster
We always have things
That are equal
Example
We are from the same
Family.

Lacrosse

By Will Simpson

Lacrosse
Fast is how the middies run
Down the field and back
as one
The attackmen yell for a
pass
My coach yells step on
the gas
I shoot the winning shot
All my friends applaud me
on the spot
Everybody yells at me
As I yell back yippee.



Charlene

By Brianna Zigah

Charlene
Mommy
Always glad to help me
Taught me to not let people boss me around
Helped me to not care what people think of me
Showed me to always be myself
Special to me because she helps me through tough times.

Purple

By Shara Zuckerman

Purple is magical
It can help you go to bed
Purple is royal
The blood of Kings and
Queens
Purple is the color of
lavender flowers
that come in the spring.

Ode To Atticus

By Hayden Chaffin

You scurry near the floor
looking for food
You look up at us while we eat
I say, "Eat your food!"
But you beg and beg
Until finally I give you chicken
but you keep on begging
And begging.

Ode To My House

By Hayden Chaffin

You keep me warm
When it snows and rains
You give me shelter and keep me
Safe.



Ode To The RC Car

By Xander Arnold

Slick and fast zooming up and down the street
Faster faster faaster scrrrrrrrt
You land a sick jump and do donuts to celebrate
Vmmmmm vmmmmm scrrrrrrrt
With his worn tires he drifts from left to right
45.....46.....47.....48.....49.....50
And The Battery DIES.

PB&J

By McKenzie Suggs

PB&J
Bread, toaster
Toasting, burning, hardening
Peanut butter plate, jam bread
Melting, smushing, spilling
Eating, chewing
Done.

Ode to My Messy Desk

By Anneke Lewis

Each day I try to clean you
To no avail
You quickly get messy again
Some way
You are filled with stuff
that I need Every day
I can never find the stuff that I
need
But this ode is
To you anyway

Ode to Music

By Zoe Ferguson

Thank you for the sounds that fill my ears,
And thank for the voices that I always love to hear.
Thank you for always making me smile,
And thank you for motivating me if I'm running a mile.
Thank you for giving me something to sing
And thank you for showing me something positive in everything.



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