

CityKidzWorld



Back to School Issue: 2016, Volume 8: Issue 27

Beyond the Laces Writing Contest



Inside:
Short Stories
Essays
Retold Fables
Poetry
Photography

Krafts4Kindness
Writing Contest

**Editor's
Choice
Inside**

Kid President Writing Contest

City Kidz World literary magazine bringing children's literature to the community since 2008

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Submit stories, pictures and materials to
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Learn more at: www.citykidzworld.com



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Credits

College Interns



Feature Writing Intern:

Mikaela Renshaw is an English-Classics major going into her junior year of college. She has loved writing from a young age, and plans to go on to become an author and an English professor. She also enjoys Irish Dance, poi, sword-fighting, and archery.



Copy Editing Intern:

Erin French is a student from Austin, Texas. She will graduate in May 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. She hopes to continue gaining experience that will allow her to combine her knowledge of editing with her love of writing.



Illustration Intern:

Samantha Scardino is a college student who is working on her illustrations. She is extremely hardworking and hopes to continue drawing throughout her college career.



Copy Editing Intern:

Nikki A. Sambitsky is currently pursuing her MFA in creative writing, specifically focusing on creative nonfiction in the University of Southern Maine's StoneCoast MFA creative writing program. Mrs. Sambitsky holds a BA in journalism from Central Connecticut State University. She is currently working on her memoir, which centers on her family and her two autistic children. Mrs. Sambitsky enjoys writing essay and memoir that explore family, family issues, and autism. Her journalism work and creative nonfiction has appeared in many publications including The Helix, Gravel Magazine, and West Hartford Magazine. She lives with her husband, two children, and way too many animals in a peaceful, rural, area of Connecticut.

High School Volunteers



Editng and Helping to Encourage Students

Sahil is a high school volunteer who used to attend CKW writing studio when he was in elementary school and middle school. He helped coach some of the young writers who appear in the magazine and he also conducted many of the first edits of several of the stories in the magazine.



Editng and Helping Encourage Students

Aparna is a high school volunteer. She helped coach some of the young writers who appear in the magazine and she also conducted some of the first edits of several of the stories in the magazine.

Writing Coaches

Mr. Dan
Ms. Laurel
Mr. Martin
Ms. Amri
Ms. Lois
Mr. Andrew
Ms. Joan
Ms. Millicent
Ms. Paige
Mr. Rafael
Ms. Christine
Ms. Rebekah
Mr. Eric
Ms. Deena

We would like to thank all of the parents and teachers who encouraged students to submit work to City Kidz World literary magazine for the 2016 Back to School issue.

Keep up the great work!

Letter from the Editor:

The City Kidz World literary magazine was founded to help students develop a love of writing.



Many students may find that while preparing their work for the *City Kidz World* literary magazine, they develop a relationship with writing.

We accept essays, short stories, articles, artwork, photography, and poetry.

I hope you will participate in our next issue.

Cover Models



M. Gray, Rajesh, E. Murry, K. Krehel, A. Mallela, S. Kotta.

These 6 models are extremely talented!



Video Game Stories

By Gurjot Singh 2nd grade *The following stories are based on video game reporting play by play:*

Chapter 1 Mini games

Hi -- everyone down here from the Diamond Minecart! Welcome to another Minecraft video. Today I'm back on Mineplex, playing mini-games!

Oh...something just smelled my hair. Our first mini-game is death tag. 10. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1 Oh my God, someone just killed me when I entered the game! He's on mega-kill already. Oh yes, yes, oh yeah! I'm on mega-kill. I need to get that chest! Ah! Got it! Oh good! It's not looted. OH YEAH, I got an iron sword, diamond chest plate, and diamond leggings.

Oh, here comes Stampy. Slack! I killed him. Nice stuff. Yes! OOOOH, diamond helmet and boots! I have a full set now. Oh no, I'm in the last three. You're going down! Yes, I killed hero 1.3 I win! I killed the other guy too. Well, this has been

a very long video. So I'm going to end right here. Bye, everyone!

Chapter 2: Mod Showcase

Hi, everyone down here from the Diamond Minecart! We have a mod showcase today.

Also, we will be making a hover car! To create this, you will need two armory stands, four any colored stained clay, and a wither skull. When you dropped the items on the ground, they should turn into a spawn egg. Then spawn it and you'll get a hover car! The highest you can go on is five mph. It goes real slow on the road. It goes real fast above the ground. So I am going to wrap up this video right here so goodbyeeeeee! Author's note I hope you guys liked this story, and if you did, please tell me so I can write more things like this...bye!



Gurjot is a great storyteller.

Chocolate

By Sai Charan 2nd grade

Hello everyone. My name is Sai Charan. I am going to share my research about chocolate. I choose this topic because I love eating chocolate very much. Chocolate is very yummy candy. Most of the time it is brown. It is a very yummy treat that lots of people like to eat. Now I am going to tell you how to make chocolate. First, you harvest the cocoa pods. They are harvested twice a year. The harvest time is different from place to place, but the way of turning it into chocolate begins immediately. The cocoa pods are cut open with machinery, and the white pulp containing the cocoa beans is scooped out. The pods and pulp are placed into large wooden containers where the pulp is allowed to ferment for five to seven days.

After fermentation, the next step is drying. The next step after drying is to roast it. After roasting, you crack it. After cracking, you winnow it. After winnowing, you grind it. After grinding, you conch it. After conching, you temper it. After tempering,

you mold it. After molding, you wrap it. Chocolate was made 3,100 years ago by the Aztecs, but they were trying to make beer. In 1828, a Dutch chemist found a way to make the chocolate we eat today. Later, chocolate started changing in many ways. For example, it started to change in shape, size, color, design, and flavor too. There are so many flavors in chocolate that it is not possible to count the number. It has 35 to 2,000 calories. Chocolate is good and bad for health. If you eat the right quantity, then it's good for health.

Every year on July 7, the world celebrates International Chocolate Day. July 28 is International Milk Chocolate Day. July 7, 2016, will be 466 years since when chocolate was introduced to Europe. Kids like me love chocolate very much.



This is great research.

Fall is Great

By Karan Khandelwal 2nd grade

First, they are green,
Then they turn into colors.
With a rake, we clean,
Then on Black Friday we spend our dollars.



Illustrated by Samantha Scardino

Thanksgiving we roast turkey,
Halloween we get candy.
Werewolves come out lurking,
Fall is fun and dandy.



This is a descriptive fall story.



The Magical Bread and The Talking Seagull

By Misha Gajula 2nd grade

One cold Saturday morning, my dad and I were coming back from my swimming class in my black car. The weather outside was chilly. I looked outside the car window and I saw that the pond was frozen. Suddenly, I saw a few seagulls at the pond and they looked hungry.

I asked my dad if we could go to the bagel shop nearby and buy some bread so we could feed the seagulls. My dad agreed to buy bread. The lady at the counter gave us some hard bread. We took the bread and went straight to the pond. We threw some pieces of bread on the pond.

The seagulls were scared, but one seagull walked slowly and ate one piece. Suddenly, the seagull started talking.

It said, "This bread is yummy."

I told my dad that I think the bread is magical.



Illustration by Samantha Scardino



Misha writes fantastic, magical stories.

I said, "Let's bring bread here every Saturday."

Now onwards, every Saturday I have a chat with the seagull.

By Vaishnavi Dara 2nd grade

My dog Sparkle escaped and I found her at trick-or-treating.

I saw her going to the scariest witch house. I thought that dogs were not scared of witches, but actually, they are. Sparkle didn't know that house belonged to a witch. Nobody went in there, but I still went with Sparkle. It was amazing in there.

There were bowls filled with candies. The witch had tons of

strawberries with Nutella. The inside walls were covered with chocolates, but not the outside. I told all my friends, and they also came in. Everybody loved it inside.

That's why every single Halloween, everyone comes into the witch's house first.



This a spooky story with a happy ending.

Sparkle

By Laasya Guntamukkala 2nd grade

A dog named Henry is going trick or treating. He got lots of candy at the last house, but it was a spooky house. When Henry opened the door, someone said, "OOOOOOOOOOOO." Henry went upstairs and found a ghost behind him when he turned his head.

Dog

Dogs are a great fiction topic.



Henry tried to run away, but ghost ate him and Henry became a ghost now.



Submit your writing to editor@citykidzworld.com.
Deadline: November 23



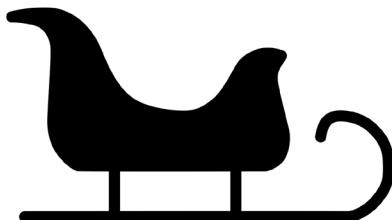
The True Story of Balto

By Esha Desai 2nd grade

In Nome, Alaska, there was a brave dog named Balto. One cold winter day, two children were sick with Diphtheria. The doctor in Nome did not have the right medicine. They had to get the medicine from Anchorage, Alaska, but the train coming from Alaska got stuck in heavy snow, and they needed the medicine soon, otherwise the disease would spread in town and lot of people would die.

The town decided to have a meeting to get the medicine. One person said, "We can have a relay race of dog sleds." Gunnar, Balto's owner, knew he had the fastest sled dog. When Gunnar heard the mayor's plea for help on the radio, he quickly joined the race.

On January 20, 1925, the race to Nome began. Gunnar and Balto picked up the medicine from Bluff. They raced half way and felt a little coldness. There was a blizzard coming, so it was hard for them to walk, and some dogs sank in the snow while walking, but Balto did not sink. Balto thought to dig in the deep snow to get the dogs out. The sled was ready, and they went as fast as a race car. They were going across the river in heavy snow, but suddenly Balto stopped. Gunnar said, "Mush," but Balto did not move. Gunnar went to Balto and saw the ice



*This is a great retelling
of a classic story.*

was cracking in the lake. If the dogs went in, they would drown.

Balto was a smart dog. He pulled the sled around the lake. Gunnar saw that Balto's feet were wet. If his feet froze, he would never walk again. Gunnar took Balto's paws in his hand and rubbed to make them dry. Balto was ready to lead the sled in the blizzard. They reached Point Safety, but all the lights were off. They didn't know if the next sled was ready, so they kept going toward Nome. Balto led the sled all night, and they reached Nome before it was dawn. Balto was too tired to bark. They were on the sled 20 hours without stopping. Gunnar took the medicine to the doctor. The town of Nome was saved, and all the people were happy. Balto's bravery was written about in the local newspaper. A statue of Balto is in Central Park, New York.

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- **New -- Rider University

Movie Review

**Write your opinion
about your favorite movie.**

200 to 400 words

**Submit to
editor@citykidzworld.com**

Deadline: November 23



www.citykidzworld.com

The Adventures At The Bermuda Triangle

By Shivansh Sharma 3rd grade

"Nice cruise, huh, Jocelyn?" asked Max.

"I really have to go to the restroom," replied Jocelyn. "I'll be back in a minute."

Jocelyn went to the restroom and came back.

Suddenly, they saw a shark rising up from of the sea, and then they felt a swish of wind.

They looked up.

"Aaahhhh!" they cried in unison. It was a gigantic tornado, bigger than the Bermuda Triangle! And speaking of the Bermuda Triangle, they were in the Bermuda Triangle!

Suddenly, they felt themselves spinning and getting lifted up. Then a boulder hit the ship and everything went black.

Suddenly, Max and Jocelyn opened their eyes. The saw water. Then they saw something amazing. They could breathe! While they were swimming, Jocelyn scraped her leg on a sharp rock. Her leg was bleeding really badly. Suddenly, they saw a luminous figure in front of them. It was a shark! But it wasn't just any shark. It was Megalodon, the biggest shark ever, exceeding the length of 58 feet! It opened its mouth to reveal a set of gleaming, white teeth.

"I never knew that sharks brush their teeth," muttered Max.

"Run!" cried Jocelyn.

The shark charged at them.

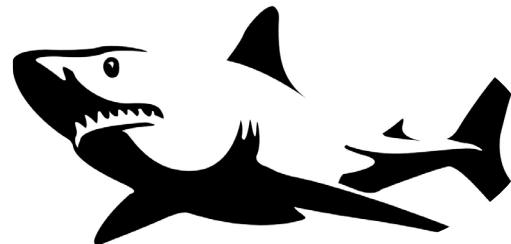
"I mean, swim!" cried Jocelyn again.

Max swam into the shark's throat. He punched it so hard that it killed the shark.

Then they both got slapped in the face. Then they looked

up. It was a kraken! Max took a sharp rock and jammed it in the kraken's eye. As the kraken was squealing with pain, they quickly swam away.

As they were swimming, they bumped into a large barracuda. It tried to eat them, but Max ripped out the barracuda's teeth so that it swam away.



"BOOM!"

"What was that?" asked Max.

Suddenly, a humongous lobster was in front of them. It tried to grab Max in its pincer, but Max swam onto its back and started to rip off its back scales. It hurt the lobster so much, that it swam away.

They went to a nearby beach and saw a cruise. They went on it and started talking like nothing had ever happened before.

By Sahir Chopra 4th grade

Once upon a time there were three boys named Jack, Max, and the chubby one, Bob. Bob was chubby, but he didn't know what to do about it. Jack and Max didn't know what to do to help him either. He was really mad. He told his mom and dad. They said all you have to do is eat vegetables and exercise. He first did jumping jacks, but he didn't like doing that at all; he was really tired.

He said, "I can't do this at all" but his mom and dad said keep going, and they encouraged him.

He asked if there was anything else he could do except exercises, but they couldn't think of anything.

Exercise

One day his mom and dad called his friends over to encourage Bob and help him. It was a surprise for Bob.

When his parents' friends came, he DID exercise because he didn't want to be embarrassed. Once he did start exercising, it was actually fun for him. He started to do it every day, and he loved it.

He lost 50 pounds. Now he is fit and healthy.



This story can teach a lesson!



Chocolate Crisis

By Shivansh Sharma 3rd grade

Hi, my name is Cronos. My family grows cocoa beans. Let me tell you a cocoa bean incident in my life:

The day started out all right. I had a bad attitude because I was bullied in school. I came home and I saw my parents depressed.

"What happened?" I asked my parents.

"We lost our cocoa beans," replied my father.

"And that was the only way to make money!" continued my mother.

"NO!" I howled with frustration. I was ready to kill whoever had stolen my cocoa beans! But no one had taken the cocoa beans. The mud wallows had somehow dried up and the mud-dwelling midge flies had flown away.

No midge flies means no cocoa beans, and no cocoa beans means no chocolate to sell!

No chocolate to sell, means no money and we will be poor



Shivansh did a great job of researching chocolate and turning it into a story.

forever (well, that's what I think). I had to find a way to wet those mud wallows before we went bankrupt!

I thought and thought and thought. And guess what I did after that? I thought some more!

Finally, a lightbulb flashed over my head. "That's it!" I cried.

"What's it?" asked my parents, sitting up with a start (I think I scared them a bit).

I'll go to the bathroom. I'll take the bucket, fill it with water, and I will dump it on the mud wallows. Then they'll get wet, and we'll get cocoa beans to sell.

The plan worked exactly as planned, and our family got rich again (We got over \$ 89,800!).

The Halloween Bully

By Amogh Shetty 3rd grade

One day I was in my school writing in my journal with my friends. The bell rang, "Ding dong, ding dong."

I knew it was time for lunch.

"Crunch, crunch, crunch," we were all happily eating our lunch.

The next day was going to be Halloween and I soon remembered that I forgot all about my costume, so at play time I was making a list of all the costumes I could make as quickly as possible. I soon decided on an easy costume to make, a ghost!

The next day came and it was Halloween. Our school had a parade and I saw that some kids were not wearing their costumes. Then, out of the corner of our eyes, my friend and I saw a big bully scaring everyone! People didn't actually forget their costumes. He had everybody's costumes! So, my friends and I decided to teach the bully a lesson.

We made a plan. We told everyone to fight against him by not



being scared of him. This is how we got him trapped! Then we saw the bully was upset that he was trapped, so we told the bully if only he had been nicer to us, everyone would be friends with him and help him.



This story is perfect for the fall.

He became happy and he said okay. He became nicer to everyone, and gave back everybody's costumes.

Everyone that had their costume stolen was happy again and had a good time at the Halloween party that was after the parade.

The next day the bully was nicer to everyone and he was happy because everyone was now friends with him. Everyone should be nice to everyone and not be mean or bully people!

Submit your story to editor@citykidzworld.com.

Deadline: November 23

Do you have a serious essay? We want it!



Chapter 1: Barack Obama Gets A Dog and weird Laws

PART ONE

By Kavya Chauhan 3rd grade

One morning Barack Obama said to his wife, Michelle Obama, "We are getting a dog."

Michelle said, "Sure why not!" and then they headed to the pet store. When they got to the pet store, they picked a black and white dog. Eventually, they named him Bo. He was the first dog of the White House.

One time Obama took Bo to the conference to show off the first dog. However, during the conference, Bo kept barking while Obama was giving a speech. Because Bo kept barking, Obama thought Bo had a problem so he took him to the doctor after the conference because he wanted to know immediately.

Obama asked the doctor, "Why does he keep on barking?"

The doctor said, "He is telling laws in dog language."

Then Obama asked, "What is he saying the laws should be?"

The doctor replied, "Dogs should stay with their owners, listen to their owners, and their owners should love them."

Obama took Bo home and told his family that Bo had been barking laws about dogs, but just three of them. Obama said that the next day he was going to take him to the next conference, not talk at all, and let Bo tell the new laws.

The next conference, Obama did as he said he would, and didn't talk at all. Bo announced the new laws and most of the dogs bowed and barked in agreement because they liked

the new laws. After the conference, Obama then took him back to the doctor and asked what he was saying this time.

The doctor said, "Well, he said a new law! All dog owners need to buy a tv that speaks dog language, and buy a ginormous dog house that is 20 feet high."

Obama agrees to the new law that Bo said and announces it at the next conference.

When they got home, Obama played fetch and ran around with Bo. They started building Bo's new house because of the new law.

Then, Michelle said, "It's time to have dinner."

After they had eaten dinner, they let the dog sleep with the kids.

The next day Obama said, "We are going on vacation! To the car!"

So they went to the car...

To be continued in the next issue!



Kavya must be a dog lover! Great story.



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stories to
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Dinosaurs, Dragons, Monsters and Humans

By Shivansh Sharma 3rd grade

Hi, my name is Albert. I have always wondered what it would be like if dinosaurs, dragons, and monsters coexisted with us humans, so I made a time machine that would take me back to that time.

We face many dangers, such as dinosaurs rampaging in our streets and fireballs landing on fellow human heads. Dragons fly high in the sky, shooting fire so intense that it can even destroy titanium. Piranhas, sharks, barracudas and snapping turtles live in every puddle and body of water here.

There are even T-rexes made out of rock, which bust out of the ground every five minutes and eat a person before going back underground. Titanium rocks as big as a castle can fall on you and crush you at any given moment. Evil wizards also live here, and they can cast very powerful spells on you.

We also have to handle meteor showers and tsunamis 85,000,000 miles high! There is always a danger at every turn, and we risk our dear lives every time we step out of our cave. However, perhaps worst of all is the huge menace here. He is called "The Destroyer". He is black and red, has six arms, is super fast, has gigantic, long teeth that are five feet long, and can swim and fly. He can turn into anything he wants to, even one of those T-rexes made out of rock!

Our leader's name is Bob. He has huge muscles and super-endurance. He was once bitten in the head by a huge, venomous snake, but he endured the pain and had the operation with-

out anesthesia! He even killed Superman! He also once punched the ground so hard that it caused a massive earthquake, which swallowed a few titanium rocks, four dragons, and 25 mountains.

However, whatever happens, we will always remain happy (even if we are dead)!

Then Albert was so scared after witnessing all this that he ran to the time traveler and came back to the present. "Whew, what a relief," sighed Albert.



Monster stories are awesome.



Nature

By Hritika Dora 3rd grade

Once there was a girl named Carole. She loved her family, and she also loved learning. She wanted to learn about the world. So she ran away without her parents knowing. She met other people. She had fun. She made friends, but suddenly she thought about her family. She wanted to go back to her family, so she packed up her things. She walked until she got lost on her way, then she found a beautiful piece of land. She went to that land. Next to that land were two waterfalls. They were sparkling. When she was on the land, she saw the letter N, but she saw a deer lying on the ground. She put the deer on her lap. She took care of it until the deer could walk. Then Carole saw the letter A.

Then she thought about the letter N. "Probably there will be more letters," said Carole. Then she saw a forest ranger. She hid from the forest ranger.

The forest ranger was catching people and bringing them back to their home and family. Then Carole saw the letter T. Then

Carole thought of the other letters she saw. When she took twenty steps, she saw another letter. It was U. Suddenly, all the letters started following her. Finally, she saw the letters R and E. The letters were making a word, NATURE. All the letters came in front of her. Then she realized she is going the correct way home. When she saw a hut, she knocked on the door.

"Knock knock!" A woman opened the door. It was Carole's mother.

"Mommy!" Carole screamed in delightfulness.

Her whole family came up to the door. Everyone hugged Carole. Carole told them about the deer, the forest ranger, the two waterfalls, and last, but not least, the letters that formed the word nature.



This is a beautiful and descriptive story.



THE ADVENTURES OF JACK MONOPOLY: ADVENTURE AT ASTRON

By Shivansh Sharma 3rd grade

"Okay, everyone, I'm leaving!" shouted Jack Monopoly from the Astrobot, a huge space rocket. Its name was the Astrobot because it could transform into a huge space robot that had jet packs and super-strength! Anyways, Jack was a brilliant inventor who invented a serum called "Intelligence." It was a mixture of dead leaves, a special goo called Oobleck and a bucket of stardust. It made him the smartest person in the whole universe!

The Astrobot will blast off in 5,4,3,2,1, Blast off!" announced the speaker. Kabam! The rocket made a sound that sounded like an explosion, and then it blasted into the sky at over 90 0,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 mps!

"See ya!" shouted Jack. The plan was to go to Mars, but an accident made Mars transform into a huge and mysterious planet no one had ever seen before.

"Landing now, on the planet called Astron," boomed Jack's space radio, who had some of the "Intelligence," too.

"Transform!" shouted Jack. Out of nowhere, a battlesuit, sword, and shield all came to him. He transformed the Astrobot into the robot and started to explore. The first thing that Jack saw was a huge alien with a laser gun. It shot a laser at Jack, but Jack deflected the laser with his shield, and the laser hit the alien in the heart. The alien fell to the ground, dead forever. As the alien was falling, fiery orbs shot through the sky at tremendous speed and started to rain down on Jack. Using all of his athletic abilities, he made the orbs clash into each other. He threw his shield to the ground and picked up two laser guns. These will do better, thought Jack to himself. He used his skills to get a jetpack from an alien and flew to the main dimension of Astron.

As Jack was flying to the main dimension, he encountered an alien army guarding the entrance to the main dimension. "Intruder," said a deep voice. Suddenly, all of the aliens started to attack Jack! Orbs came flying at Jack, lasers shot at him, and aliens began gnashing their teeth at him! Then Jack's Astrobot exploded from the ground. It took all the aliens in his hand and squeezed hard. He squeezed the aliens so hard that green alien blood squirted in every which direction! Then the Astrobot disappeared into thin air.

Jack entered the new dimension called Darmen X. There was a huge praying mantis, about 5 feet long, that asked Jack what he was doing there.

"Oh, just exploring," replied Jack. "Explorer, hmm," said the praying mantis. While the praying mantis was thinking, Jack zoomed past him, deeper into the dimension. As he was entering the dimension, he spotted a huge eye called the "Eye of the future." It could predict anyone's future. Jack decided to ask the huge eye to predict his future. When he asked the eye what his future was, it replied, "As long as you want to, you can achieve anything."

Jack was very motivated by this prediction, so he set out to make a discovery.

"You have entered the dimension called Joystar Y," said a deep voice. "Please proceed with caution." Jack spotted a faint blue light glowing in the distance. Then it came closer... and closer... until Jack could make out the shape of the mysterious figure. It was his Astrobot! The only difference was that the Astrobot had upgraded himself with blue laser cannons and electric slashes. "Buddy!" cried, Jack. He hugged his Astrobot and proceeded with his mission. Soon, Jack had found himself in danger. There was a huge dragon in the distance. It was just like a normal dragon, except it could breathe radioactive energy and it was WAY bigger than normal dragons. The real problem was, how could Jack get past the dragon before getting turned to dead meat? Jack had a plan. He would shoot the lasers at the dragon. The dragon would dodge them and see where the lasers came from. While the dragon was looking for the source of the lasers, Jack would activate his jetpack and zoom past the dragon. The plan worked exactly as planned, and Jack safely got past the dragon.

As Jack was continuing with his mission, he found a flying droid. It was unlike any other lame enemy droid Jack had ever seen, with laser shooters on both sides of its wings and a rotating head with eyes that could shoot ice blasts. The droid shot an icy blast at Jack, but Jack shot a laser at the ice blast, mak-



Shivansh is a gifted story teller!



Astron *con't on page 14*



The Big Argument

By Kavya Chauhan 3rd grade

A.J. is a big boy who is 8 years old kid. His favorite sport is soccer. He is going to 3rd grade. When it rains, he calls his friend. He wishes to be in the same class as his friend. He also plays on a soccer team.

His friend, Sam is an 8-year-old small, nice loving good kid. His favorite sport is basketball. His favorite song is "Furios 7". He loves playing video games. He has built a Lego castle as tall as his living room. He loves to exercise a lot.

One day Sam and A.J. were playing outside.

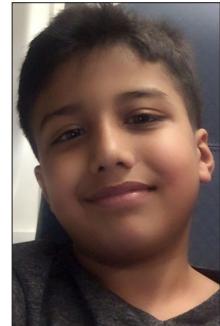
A.J. said, "Can we play something else?" Sam replied, "Sure." They started shouting tag soccer. They kept going back and

forth.

A.J. said, "I'm not talking to you. Me neither. They stomped home angrily." (Anger issues).

Ten years later A.J. saw Sam at the mall. A.J. ran to greet Sam.

A.J. said sorry for what happened. Sam told how alone it felt. They had to play with their nasty friends. I hope we don't have any more fights. When they were friends, they played video games together. They went on a soccer team together. They lived happily.



Great friendship story.

THE FAIRY DANCE

By Gurjot Singh 2nd grade

Once upon a time there was something called the fairy dance. It was when lovely fairies went dancing with friends and family. However, one day the fairies decided to invite pixies!

One night the pixies and fairies were at the fairy dance, dancing. Yet, on the other side, the evil fairies were planning something major. They were planned to put a curse on the dancing and food that the fairies and pixies were enjoying. This would turn them into nemeses.

That night, they dispersed the curse, and the fairies and pixies turned sad, but that was just the first stage. The evil fairies were dancing knowing that the curse was working.

At that moment, the evil queen set the curse-free with her evil laughter, "MO HA HA HA HA!" she cackled.

In addition to the evil laughter curse, the evil fairies were giving each other curse wands, as they were eating rat stew and gliding around for fun! They even started giving away talking wands!

Yet, the good queen had not been affected by the curse. She was very confused. As she was pouring water, she knew she had to go flying out to see what was going on.

The Queen's body started to shiver, including her wings, as she entered the underworld. The queen flew and flew and flew. It had been three years, and she was still flying through the underworld.

The underworld was very far. Finally, she found the horrific queen. The good queen said, "You put the curse on my fairies and pixies!"

"I did indeed," replied the queen.

"Well...have some trees and food?" the good queen threw a tree and some food to the evil queen's face.

She couldn't block it. The moon will bring beasts, thought the good queen.

"Oh now the beats must be trying to ruin the forest," said the good queen to the evil one.

"They are," replied the evil queen.

"You should really make the underworld bright with yellow," said the good one.

"We like it dark with green and white. Fairies make it solid, rocky and thick," said the evil queen.

"Why should we fight in this queen?"

"Because I like it."

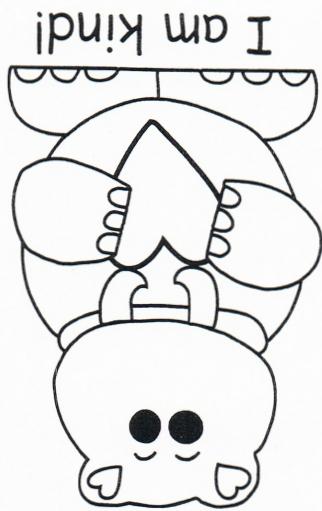
Then the two queens fought and finally the good queen had won and removed the curse. She transported back this time. When she had returned, all the fairies and pixies were having fun. That day onwards the evil queen never returned again.



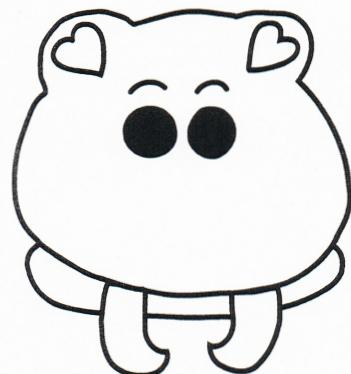
This is a great fantasy story.



Enjoy the Activity or Share it with a little Brother or Sister



I am Warm-Hearted



www.charactersofcharacter.org



RAINBOW MYSTERY

By Suday Singh Kukreja 3rd grade

One dark night, on a three layer island, six talking letters were sitting under a tree, as it was going to rain. After the rain, there was a rainbow. They were surprised because where they lived, rainbows never come. They saw their first rainbow. They had to tell their leader named Goat about the rainbow because he said, "Whoever finds a big rainbow will be the leader."

They took Goat to the site to see the rainbow, but it had disappeared. Goat was so MAD that he kicked the Letter R off the

island and into the ocean and off the waterfall!

For 100 years the letters never saw a rainbow. Then it came back one day. That day The Letter A saw a rainbow. Since Letter A found the rainbow, he became the leader. He said they all needed patience and faith.



This story is wonderful.

Kira's Point of View

By Lalith Krishna Ashok 5th grade

Every bookshelf in my room was overflowing. I love reading because my collection of books is enormous. Some books would not fit on the shelves, so I put some near the window, and I put some under my bed so that I could clear the way. When I wanted to find a book, it was impossible to find because I had quite a lot.

Just then, my mother, Mrs. Green, walked into my room and asked, "Where are you, Kira?"

"I'm right here," I said, popping my head out from behind a towering pile of magazines.

"We have a big problem here, Kira," my mother said, looking upset.

"I know. I know. I need to get more bookshelves and straighten out this mess!" I answered.

"There's no space in here for any more bookshelves," Mrs. Green said.

"In fact, I think it's time for you to get rid of some of these books. Maybe you could donate some."

"But mom I can't donate them to strangers!" I said.

"Well," said Mrs. Green, "Unfortunately all this stuff is becoming hazardous, so you'll need to figure out a different solution."

Then my mom said, "If you find out about another idea, then let me know."

I said, "I surely will tell you!"

The next day during lunch, I asked my friends to help me brainstorm ideas.

"Maybe you could sell your comic books and earn some money," Andrea suggested.

"What about adding another room to your apartment?" Paul asked.

"I don't want to sell my comics, and you can't just add a room to an apartment," I replied.

After a few moments of silence, Andrea suggested that they think about it separately and meet outside the library after school.

That's it! The library. That's my solution! I can give it for free to my classmates, and they can borrow it. I can also put it in the library bookshelves, and I can give others a chance to borrow the comics. I told my family and my friend, and they had decided to help me make this happen. Then at school every morning the teacher let me take up seven minutes to let others borrow my books.

"Hey, Kira!" called Jack.

"Do you have the latest issue of Adventure?" Jack cried.

I said, "I certainly do, and so I gave it to him!"

Finally, everything was on track, and I was happy!



This is a great point-of-view story.

Astron con't from page 11

ing a small explosion. The droid realized that it couldn't shoot ice blasts at Jack, as he would fry them with his lasers. Then the droid shot plain lasers at Jack, which Jack tried his best to dodge. Then Jack shot a shower of lasers at the droid. In about two and a half seconds, the enemy droid was no more, as Jack had shot it with so many lasers that it exploded.

As Jack was proceeding his mission, he saw a glowing blue orb. This was unlike any other orb Jack had ever seen; all the others were flaming orange, while this one was icy blue. There

was a sign on it that read "Put me in your suit and you'll be benefited. I am the Orb Of Power." Jack put it in his suit. At first, he felt like he was evaporating. Then he came back to his surroundings. He was concentrating on the ground. Suddenly, lasers shot from his eyes and hit the ground. Jack had gotten superpowers! Who knew, thought Jack. He tried to fly, turn invisible, use X-ray vision, and generate force fields. And it all worked! Jack was a superhero! He and the Astrobot all flew back to Earth. "How was the trip?" asked Commander Hank. "You have NO idea," chuckled Jack.



The Day Frisk got Fired!

By Etin Odia 4th grade

It was a normal day at Burger King until the creaky door viciously swung open, startling Frisk, a teenager on his first job. He threw up his cooking spatula in surprise, causing a hamburger to bash his boss in the face. His boss, Drew, staggered. "Are you ok?" Frisk asked, losing no time to run over to help him recover.

"Just another reason," his boss mumbled to himself.

"Frisk you have been fired," he said.

"Now get out, you lazy worker. I pay you. You're wasting my precious money."

Frisk practically collapsed, but stopped himself.

"But I have been your best employee."

Now Frisk raised an eyebrow at his boss.

"I have been Employee of the Month five times in a row," he said.

Mr. Drew waved him out and gave him his pink slip, which ended his employment.

Frisk read it.

"We regret to inform you, but you have been terminated from your position in the company. This is not a reflection on your work performance but a reflection of the market conditions because we are running out of money. We wish you the best in the future."

"Well fine, I was going to quit anyway," Frisk said, enraged.

He crumpled up the piece of paper ripping it like a predator ripping through meat, and then quickly stuffed it in his pocket.

"Okay if you wanted to quit then get out and don't come back. Not even as a customer," Mr. Drew replied in an ice cold, sullen voice.

Frisk walked out the door and threw his hat and apron on the ground bitterly stomping on it over and over again. It was left there in shreds. He stormed off to find a new position in another company that is not at all greedy for money and pays a determined worker. "I'll show him what my determination means." He took out a paper star from his pocket and held it to his heart. Determination, he thought. He biked over to a local Seafood restaurant. He went to the cashier, a tall and husky man. His name was Greg.

"Hello I would like to get a job here," Frisk said gleefully.

"Okay the boss will see you in the Kitchen," Greg said nodding as if he expected him. It was definitely a crowded day. Frisk had to sneakily and skillfully slip through everyone.

"Excuse me," Frisk said.

"Ow!" said a man.

"Sorry. I just need to...." Frisk said.

Multiple times he could hear people howling like wolves just because he stepped on their foot. He made it to the kitchen.

This quite a creative, realistic fiction story.

People were screaming for their food.

"Hurry up! Where's table number 23?" one lady said.

"Ahhh, you must be Frisk. I have heard many great things about you. Let me introduce myself. My name is Chara," the woman said, sticking out her hand.

"And I'm Frisk," he said shaking her soft hand. Being welcomed to a new family feels so warm, he thought.

Meanwhile, back at Frisk old job... "Drew, you bonehead; you fired frisk!" screamed the owner of Burger King in a way that was strong enough that it sounded like a sonic boom. He sighed. "You don't know how valuable something is until you lose it," Drew's boss, Dan, said cracking his knuckles.

"I'm sorry I fired him, and I'll bring him back, Dan," Drew said trembling in fear. "Then go get him. We don't have all day." He quickly ran, and eventually caught up with Frisk who was on his way home on his bike.

"Frisk come back to us!" Drew said rushed with adrenaline.

"Humph. Not anymore. I found a new job with new caring people," Frisk said, peddling fast toward and never to be seen by Drew again.

Drew went back to see Dan at Burger King.

"Did you get him?" asked Dan, wanting to knock Drew out cold.

"Nooooo..." Drew said, heart-stricken.

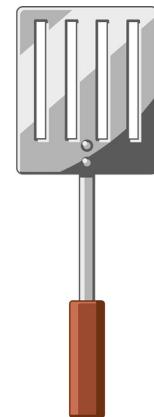
"You terrible man, firing someone so valuable. You must be fired yourself!" Dan roared.

"You must pay for your wrongdoing!"

"Please no sir, no...I want to keep my job, please. Drew trembled and begged on his knees.

"You shall not be forgiven Drew," Dan said, handing him a pink slip.

"Now get out of my office."



The Scary Night

By Arun Mallela 4th grade

One scary, deep day I was sleeping, when I heard a big bam, but it was a light voice, so I just fell back asleep. Then soon after, I heard a BAM WAM. I seriously woke up. I was about to get up until...there was no floor!

I started to look around for something to help. I found a short rope on the bed. I tied one end to the bed and the other end to me. I slowly jumped down. Soon, I was flying! I saw boxes stacked up, so I untied the rope and jumped onto one of the boxes. Then I came down and screamed, "Mom? Dad? Brother?" but there was no sign of family, but me. Then I continued. I wanted to see if everybody was ok, so I went to the door, but there was no door or steps. It was really high because we used to have thirty steps! I pulled the rope, and my bed went crashing down. Then, I slowly jumped down. When I made it, all the houses were destroyed and crashed and so was mine! Then one BAM WAM box came crashing down in my house. I went in and opened it. Nothing was there.

I turned back and went down again, untied the rope, and went down. There were so many BAM WAM boxes and one in the lawn. It read "Dear friends, your parents and friends are gone. You have to try to get the special golden BAM WAM box to

get to the future. There will be food at little stands and clues on the stand." And so, I grabbed the box, note, and a little evidence and went.

I was walking for a year and was not even half way through. Then I walked three years, and even three years was not half way through. Then after four years, I was half way. It was another four years, and I came to two trails. One was white and the other was black. I remembered the last clue was white. Therefore, I turned down the white trail.

Soon, I finally saw a big water slide that had a three hundred feet and five-inch drop. It took one year and two months to get here from the white trail, another one year to climb, and two years to drop. At the end of the waterslide, I saw a gold box. It read, BAM WAM along with a big sign that read CONGRATULATIONS!

Soon, my family appeared while everything else of these past few years started to disappear, and we lived happily ever after until it happened again.



[Read this scary story and enjoy.](#)

Robots

By Animesh Chauhan 4th grade

It was about to explode but...wait, wait, wait.

"Yes, thank God," excitedly said the scientist!

BOOOOOOMMM the 32nd attempt had failed for the 32nd time. Then he broke the robot. He decided to make another. After that, he let it free in a cage because it was working.

While the scientist was gone, the robot switched on and then the robot made five of his own robots.

He named them Chica, Freddy, Bonnie, Foxy, and Mangle.

He then switched them on and put them in a pizzeria on stage.

Every night at 10:00 the robots would subdue the night guard. In the meantime, the mad scientist's robot made more robots each night as well. He put them on two other stages in pizzerias.

The fourth place he put them was in a house and this time, he created teddy bears robots.

Soon, the robots took over the world. They were everywhere and had every job.

The only way this could be fixed was if the mad scientist destroyed the first robot he made. If he did that, all the robots would shut down. The mad scientist decided to do it so the

world could be happy, but when he got to the cage with the original robot, he didn't see anything but one robot. When he went in, the robot suddenly appeared and the robot shut the door in his face. He forgot the key was with him, so he took a hammer, and he said 'take this'. He threw the hammer at the robot. The robot fell, so that meant he was destroyed.

The robot faked it, got up, and ran. The scientist chased after the robot. Soon they were running into public and they were suddenly surrounded by robot police. Because these were robot police, the scientist ran to the nearest store. The scientist got armor and a weapon. He got up high and got into a sniper position so he could snipe at the robot police, and when he sniped one robot police, suddenly all the robot police started to shoot each other. There was one left, and the scientist shot it. Then he ran downstairs so he could chase the robot police.

When he got to the bottom, the robot police and the scientists saw each other and ran. When the scientist got close, he fired the weapon. He subdued the robot. When he subdued the robot, all the robot people shut down.



[This is a super adventure story.](#)



A Birthday Surprise

By Princess Williams 4th grade

Surprise! Surprise! Surprise! It was a great evening for us when my mom and dad told my sister and me that we would be celebrating my birthday at Crystal Spring Resort. That evening we went to the store to shop for that great celebration. My mom and dad bought us bathing suits, food, and drinks. Thank you mom and dad for the surprise. You are great indeed. That night I spent my time thinking about how it was going to look. It was a place we had heard about but had never visited. My mom and dad sent out invitations to my aunties and cousins for the birthday celebration at Crystal Spring. They were all happy about the surprise package.

We got up early in the morning to assist mom and dad to prepare for the trip, but to our surprise, again everything was ready. We rushed into the bathroom to take quick showers. We assisted taking the bags and the food stuff in the car, and we left.

It was long drive to Crystal Spring. We have a lot of fun on our way, driving on a smooth road, listening to soft sweet music of everyone's taste and watching the wind blowing the green leaves on the trees. We finally arrived at Crystal Spring after driving about an hour.

Great! Wonderful! We were finally there. The outside looked lovely. Some people were already in their bathing suits. How beautiful the scene was. I wondered how the inside would look. My aunties and cousins came and joined us, and we started talking, laughing, and sharing the fun on the road.

As we entered, I saw great pools, slides, and many other

springs. There were different pools and slides for different heights and weights of people. We found a sitting place and settled. We took out our clothes and put on our bathing suits. All the children went to the three feet pool and slide, and we also spent wonderful moments on the lazy river. There were a lot of people in the pool and around. It was so much fun, and we made a lot of friends.

It was lunch-time, said my sister. We got out of the pool and settled for lunch with my mom and dad and aunties. We ate, and everyone sang a birthday song for me. Another great surprise was when my mum took out my birthday cake. I then cut the cake and Mom served it to everyone. We went back to the pool for more fun. After spending some time having fun, we took our shower with clean water and dressed up. We took out all our bags and took them to the car.

It was a great day at Crystal Springs. We have a lot of fun and made friends. The surprise was worth spending at Crystal Spring Resort. We all hope we can have another surprise again.



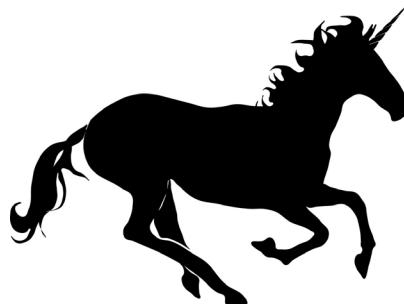
Princes had a great birthday.



Becoming Friends

By Krish Chopra 4th grade

Once upon a time, in an enchanted forest, lived two odd creatures who were best friends. One was a unicorn, and one was a fairy. The unicorn and fairy loved playing with each other because they were odd animals. Since they were such odd creatures, they didn't have much in common and therefore they loved sharing things with each other. The fairy could fly. The unicorn had magical powers and could teleport. One day all the magic stopped working, and they couldn't use their powers. They were frightened. They climbed a tree and made a house. The house was basic, but it worked. Soon the better. Soon their powers started working. They could even get any food they wanted. They were so happy. They liked that they became friends because then they wouldn't be able to build such a good house. They lived happily ever after.



This fantasy story is creative.

house got better and



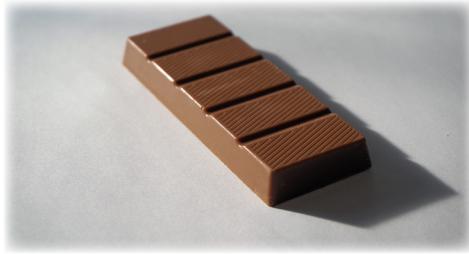
Chocolate Poem

By Rishi Somani 4th grade

Chocolate is so tasty
That it makes me eat it so hastily.
Chocolate is so soothing
It keeps my stomach brewing.
Chocolate is so sweet
It is always a nice treat.
Chocolate is so delectable
I consider it as a collectible.
If you give me a piece of chocolate,
I'll be sure to keep it in my pocket.
All the people who do not like chocolate.
You should know the flavors you like are toxic.



This poem makes you want to eat some chocolate.



Poetry Writing Challenge
Submit your poem
to
editor@citykidzworld.com

Deadline: November 23

Down Under The Waves

By Rishi Shah 4th grade

Deep down, below something, awaits.
The creature is so enormous,
and you are the bait.
When suddenly, the creature is at the tip top.
Your belly starts to flip flop.
You want to get out,
But something pops up that looks like a snout.
The creature towers over you,
But you take an object off your foot; a shoe.
You throw it with all your might.
Then begins the fight.
It expands its jaw at a speed of light.
You want your mom to squeeze her tight.
Then, snap!
You are in a throat.
The creature is like a lion,
And you are like a goat.
But the creature is a mammal.
You want some water,
You refer yourself to a camel.
Then your water comes.
You shoot up through the blowhole like a radio wave.
Then you think,
“I am saved.”
You swim for dear life,
You are going so fast,
like butter being chopped by a knife.
You swim back to shore,
And want to go in the water no more.
SNAP!



This is a calming poem.



The Family

By Sehaj Kaur Chadha 4th grade

There once lived a family. That family had quadruplets: two girls and two boys. They always fought every single day, every single night, every single hour, every single minute, every single second, every single millisecond, every single half millisecond, every single quart of a millisecond. Nothing could make them stop fighting. It was like a war in their house. Their parents were sick of it!

Their parents decided to take their children on a vacation to Cancun, Mexico. They needed some time without fighting, but with relaxation instead. They told their children about it, and the kids started fighting again. Lily and Natasha, the 15-year-old girls, said to the boys in unison, "We get to go to the pool first!" Max, the youngest one of them all, replied, "No, the boys get to go to the pool first!"

"You stay out of this, you're the youngest one here!" yelled nerdy Natasha.

"Yeah!" agreed Lilly, the fashionable girl.

"Hey! Even though I'm the youngest, I'm still 15 like you guy!" screamed Max madly.

"Stop making fun of Max," said John the oldest in the group.

"Enough!" yelled Amy, their mom.

"All of you guys are 15-years-old," said Tom, their dad who was tired.

Both the parents were exhausted from this fighting. After that, the children went to their rooms and the parents booked a cruise for the next day at 11:00 p.m., so the kids would not fight, but they would sleep instead.

The next day everybody started packing their belongings. Then, the kids started fighting again!

"Look at that disgusting dress!" exclaimed Max to Lily's pink flower dress.

"Nobody calls my dress..." Lily tried to explain.

"La La La La La La!" mocked Max cutting Lily off in the middle of her sentence.

"Hey, your shark T-shirt is ripped! Ha Ha Ha made you look!" laughed Natasha.

"Well your shirt is ugly!" yelled John.

"No it is not. Your shorts look horrible!" screamed Natasha.

"No more fighting!" yelled Amy and Tom.

The kids finally went back to their packing after their parents shouted. After packing, the kids headed down for breakfast.

John yelled, "You are smelly!" to Natasha while spitting out some cereal.

"No, you're smelly!" replied Natasha.

"No more!" yelled Tom.

After they were finished with breakfast, the family studied,

played, and did work. Lunch came quickly, and everybody was ready for lunch. Suddenly Lily shouted, "Max you're weird!"

"No, you are!" he replied.

"STOP!" yelled Amy sleepily.

They continued eating lunch silently. *This is a nice realistic fiction story.*

Soon, it was finally time that they start heading for the cruise to go to Cancun, Mexico. The family got in the car and started heading to the ship. It seemed like 25 years had passed, but it was only two hours. They had reached the ship. The parents got their own room on the cruise, and the children slept in their own room. Amy and Tom went on top of the ship and gazed at the stars. At least some peace and quiet was there. The parents went back to their room and slept too. The kids woke up first and met a cruise waiter. The cruise waiter said, "Hello."

"Hello," Max and Lily replied. While the waiter said hello, Natasha dropped her purse and did not notice. Somebody was about to step on it, but John saved it. Natasha said thank you, and told Max, Lily, and John, let's be kind to each other. Everyone agreed that their lives would be better like that.

When the kids went back to their beds, they did not fight. The kid's parents woke up and were surprised that their children were not fighting anymore. One more hour passed. The family reached Cancun, Mexico. The kids were so kind to each other in the hotel. Their parents were so happy and curious that they were not fighting anymore. Amy and Tom would walk to them at home about why they were not fighting anymore. The family went to the pool and went shopping. Weeks passed by.

It was the last day staying in Mexico. The family got as much done as they could. They saw all the statues, went on rides, and relaxed at the beach. They packed so they could go back on the cruise ship. When they got on the cruise, there was still no fighting. The kids played and gazed at the stars together at night. They enjoyed time with their family.

When they reached their home, they unpacked. Their parents were surprised because they were not fighting anymore. The kids told their parents the whole story. Amy and Tom were glad. The kids slept and the next day they were not fighting at all. Not before long, it was time to go to school. They missed their friends a lot. When they came back home, they did not fight because of their promise. At times, they had fights, but nothing they couldn't work out on their own. Their family lived happily ever after.



KID PRESIDENT

Writing Contest

Imagine how great it would be to have a kid president working in the White House on behalf of kids! The kid president could help the adult President of the United States of America. The Kid President would need to find out what kids want and need and then tell the adult president!



Write an essay describing what qualifications that the Kid President would need and what strategies the Kid President could use to serve all of kids in the United States of America.

Guidelines:

Word Count: 300 words

Grades: 2nd to 3rd, 4th to 5th, 6th to 8th

Deadline: Nov. 23



Veronica

By Rithikha Rajesh 4th grader

It was a bright, vibrant day. We had just gotten our science project assignment. We had to invent a new type of furniture. Even before I caught the bus to go home, I was brainstorming ideas. I couldn't wait to create my furniture.

As soon as I got home, I started jotting down my ideas. I had so many, and I didn't want to forget any of them. Finally, I came to the conclusion that I should make a piece of furniture that massages you. It looks like a normal picture frame with a picture in it. When you push a button, which is on the side of the picture frame, it turns into a chair with mechanical arms! It gives you a full body massage!

While the picture/massage chair, which I named Veronica is in her picture position, she looks like a flower painting. It has red and white flowers in a vase as the picture. The frame is a gold frame, with some flower impressions. She looks pretty normal. But once you press the button on the picture frame part of her, she is surely not.

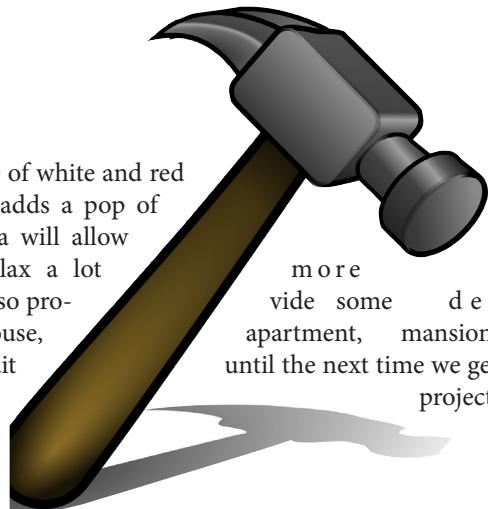
It took me about three weeks to create my project. I finished just in time. I presented my invention to my teacher. He stated, "I love the creativity of your project." He also said, "I love how it is very useful."

Like most teachers, he liked to relax.

I loved my science project. It is very useful to me, and many others. Everyone likes to relax once in awhile. I also like

that my choice of white and red flowers really adds a pop of color. Veronica will allow families to relax a lot often. It will also provide some design to their house, etc. I can't wait until the next time we get a science

more
vide some d e -
partment, mansion,
until the next time we get
project.



Rithikha is great at fiction and nonfiction.

Radios

By Rithikha Rajesh 4th grade

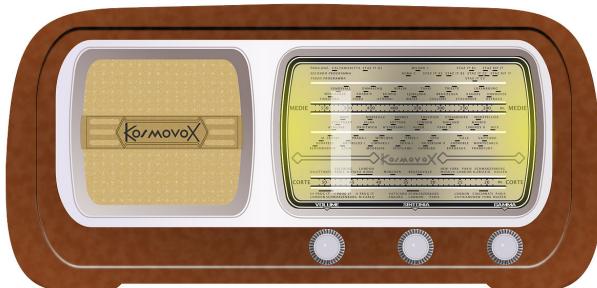
How long have radios been around? Radios have been around for more than a century! What if the world didn't have radios? Would this be bad? Well, I think it would be bad.

First, not much of the world has television, computers, or phones. They rely on the radio. If it is not there, many people wouldn't be able to get important information. They might not be able to learn or prepare, if there was a storm, hurricane, etc. This might cause them to get harmed, which is very terrible.

Another reason why it would be bad is that there would be one less resource from which to receive information. Sometimes laptops or phones run out of charge. It is good to have a couple of resources to get from which to get info. If one dies, you have a backup. You can still access information.

Lastly, they are in a variety of places. They are very easy to access. Radios are in all electronics stores. You probably even have one in your car. Plus, they are very cheap.

It would be very bad if there were no radios. People wouldn't be able to access information. Radios are a big part of today's lifestyle. People depend on radios a lot. Bad things would happen if there were no radios. Luckily, the world does have radios.



Abigail and the Ghostly Adventure

By Meenakshi Rama Subramanian
Keerthi Surisetty, & Mohana Sai Suman Ravi

"Look at the view!" April exclaimed as she sat in the backseat of the station wagon.

"Wow! It is so pretty!" Ashlyn and Steve agreed, admiring the view.

The three siblings were with their parents on their summer vacation, and their family had decided to go on a three-week trip to their massive house in Hawkeye Beach. When everyone exited the station wagon, Steve, April, and Ashlyn were anxious to explore. They looked around the sandy beach. Then, they saw a massive ocean surrounding the outer rim of the beach.

"Can we go and play in the water?" April begged her dad.

"Well, you can, but I will have to join you. Is that okay?" their dad joked in a funny mood.

"Sure you can dad," April wished he could join them so that they would have more fun.

They first unpacked and then walked out the door to have a dip in the water. As the twins, April and Ashlyn, splashed each other, they saw something peculiar. There were footsteps leading to a lighthouse from the shore.

Since Ashlyn liked solving mysteries, she was curious about the footsteps.

They decided that they had to do some research about the footsteps.

That night they all did some research on the porch of their cabin and found some information about a lady named Abigail. As the three kids sat outside with their tablets, April discovered that Abigail died in that lighthouse in 1990, and since then whoever went inside the lighthouse never came back alive.

"I'm scared, April," whispered their wimpy, little brother Steve.

"Don't worry it is just a myth," April comforted Steve.

Just then, a palm tree next to the cabin shook and fell to the ground just five feet away from the cabin.

"What is happening?" Steve screamed.

"Run inside the house!" April demanded.

Everyone followed April as they ran inside in shock.

Then that night they all formed a plan to get inside that lighthouse without their parents knowing. The plan was to wait until their parents dozed off. Then, they would jump through the open window in April's room. They would start searching for clues about Abigail's existence in the lighthouse.

They went through with the plan and saw the same footsteps leading to the lighthouse. They followed the footsteps and went inside the lighthouse. Inside the lighthouse, it looked dusty like an old attic. They saw some statues and armors.

"Let's go further. We can't just stay here," said April.

They all saw a door near a tall statue of a person.

"Come here," said Ashlyn.

When Steve opened the creaky door, a fragrance filled the room. Cough, cough! There was so much dust. It looked like they were in a dining room. They saw a long table like one in a castle with plates and spoons.

"Look there!" Steve pointed.

"Oh, my God! What's that?" Ashlyn gasped.

The three of them looked at each other when they suddenly saw a shadow pass behind them. Just then, they saw the moonlight shine onto a photo. As the three of them went closer to the photo, they saw some people who looked familiar.

"It's Mom and Dad with Abigail!" Gasped April.

Roar! Boom! Boom! The sound of thunder shook the room. They ran as fast as their feet could carry them. They all made it home with a sprinkle of water on them. They all had one question: why were their parents in the photo with Abigail? Ashlyn could not wait to get this mystery solved.

They fell fast asleep after their spooky and creepy adventure.

The next morning they woke up with an excited feeling.

"Hey, April why don't we ask Dad about the photo we saw yesterday," Ashlyn suggested, in April's bedroom.

"I know. I have been thinking this over, and I am going to bring it up at breakfast," April told Ashlyn.

"Hey, Kids, come down for breakfast," their mom hollered up the stairs into their bedrooms.

"We're coming Mom," April screamed back to her.

The three kids ran down the stairs.

"Hey, Mom and Dad. We as in Ashlyn, Steve and I have to ask you something," April told her parents strongly.

"Don't count me in!" Steve screamed into April's ear.

"Okay, do you know who Abigail is?" April ignored Steve and started.

"In fact, we do. You see Abigail was a friend of your Mom and me. When we had summer break we used to come down to this beach with our parents as a picnic," their dad started.

"Well, what happened to her?" Ashlyn interrupted.

Abigail con't on page 26



My Trip to Las Vegas

By Padma Sriram 4th grade

"Finally," I groaned after a 4-hour airplane ride. There was no television whatsoever. I was so bored, but it was worth it because we had reached a beautiful city known as Las Vegas! I think it means The Meadows. I was so excited! My dad got us a taxi, and we arrived at our hotel Marriot – The Grand Chateau. It was so Grand! Our room was on the 12th floor. There were two pools, one on the 5th floor and other on the roof. The only thing my sister and I wanted to do was go swimming. After all, it was BURNING hot! My dad and the rest of us unpacked, and he told us where the pool was. My mom took us to the pool. It was so fun. My sister and I met two girls, and we played Marco Polo. When we were done, we took nice hot showers. All of us were hungry so...My dad took us to PLANET HOLLYWOOD! What was special about Planet Hollywood was they had artifacts from movies. Did you ever watch the "Dark Night" movie? They had Jokers real gun! From the movie Anabelle, they had the Annabelle doll. When we were done, we checked out the Casino and went back to our hotel. We slept early because we had long day ahead of us.

"Wake up," I yelled.

What was I supposed to do? I was the only person ready. Today was the big day. We were going to see The Hoover Dam and GRAND CANYON. Yay! The bus took us to a brunch station, and we took off to Hoover Dam. Our tour guide told us stories about the Hoover Dam. It took us 1-hour. Finally, we got to see it. The Dam was really really big and the water was glistening in the sun. It was a 5-hour bus ride to Grand Canyon. In Grand Canyon, we took the pink jeep tours. We saw parts of the South Rim. Did you know the Colorado River created the Canyon? It never dries up. We saw eight different locations in South Rim. Did you know that? You can see over



This is a fantastic travel feature.

500 different visions in the Canyon? To name a couple, there is a Duck in the Stone and another one is Vishnu Temple! John Wesly explored the Canyon by boat and surviving off simple plants and very rarely found animals. Mountain Lions roam around the Canyons. The scientists are still trying to find the secrets of the canyon. We finally left the Canyon and got onto our bus. It was about a 5-hour trip back to the hotel, and we stopped at Subway for dinner.

I was so sad because this was our last full day in Las Vegas, but it was going to be the best day! We went to Adventure Dome in Circus Circus. We went on to two roller coasters. One was the Canyon Blaster, and the other was El Loco (The Crazy)! We also went on Chaos, where the seats flipped. I got a bag of cotton candy and won a prize too (foamed dice). In the evening, we saw the Variety Show and the host was Wally Eastwood. He played piano by juggling at them, and he was funny too! The most flexible man on earth, the Robot Boys and many more, came on the show. My favorite was the two acrobats.

"Do we have to leave?" I asked. It was our last day in Vegas. We went swimming for an hour. I did a combo of flips and handstands. I splashed and played tag with my sister and we sat in the hot tub for a while. Then we packed and had our breakfast and checked out. I was sad that we had to leave! When we reached the airport, we went to our terminal. "Goodbye Las Vegas."

Winter Holiday Essay Challenge

Write an essay describing the wonder of the winter holidays!

200 to 400 words

Send to editor@citykidzworld.com

Deadline: November 23



The Voyage

By Chinmayi Chittamuri 5th grade

Prompt

Question: Imagine that you both are 32 years old, and one of you is a botanist, and then another sibling is a zoologist. You have asked to go to Canada. Write down what you might bring back and study.

It all started in Alaska. I had a mission called "Twins 1". My brother and I are twins, and we were the ones who are on the mission. My manager abruptly told me to go to Alaska and study the plants there. It was about five years ago.

It has been five years since I have seen my manager. I am coming back on a ship to New Jersey, my home state. My brother and I are supposed to go on a voyage to Canada. My brother is a zoologist, and I am a botanist. We are supposed to explore. My brother is very dramatic. Suddenly, I heard a thump! I looked out, and we reached New Jersey. We walked out of the ship carefully. I took all of my research papers out with me so I can show them to my manager. We took a local bus back home. Before my brother and I went home, I stopped at my manager's office and gave all the samples and my research papers to him. He told my brother and me that he has a surprise for us. I love surprises. Usually, surprises to me mean a gift or present. I looked under the desk of the manager to see if there was a present. I could not find it. So I kept on looking in the room if I could find my present. I still could not find it. I looked at my manager in a "Where is It?" way. He stared at me. Then he sighed and said, "This is not a present, this is a voyage to Canada. Only the best botanists and the best zoologists get to go to Canada to explore." I stared at him in a weird way.

I felt really weird and sad. I will miss my family and others for another 4 to 6 years. I got back serious, and I told my manager what we have to do. He told me to find plants and trees. I asked him when do I leave? He told me that my brother and I have to leave tomorrow! I was so shocked. I quickly got on the bus. It was night time, and I did not have enough sleep. I kept on staring at the walls and did not sleep. My brother woke me up in the morning. I woke up, and we both got on the ship. The ship was huge. When the ship landed in Canada, we both got off the ship and got right on to our work. I saw this flower on the dirty ground near the ocean where we landed. It was changing color. It was four feet high. It was changing color every five minutes the routine of the rainbow. I was surprised. I named it the Rainbow Flower. I also found this tree that was taller than the redwood in California. It was purple. Its flowers were beautiful. Oops, I forgot to tell you something. Some workers came to Canada to help me take the tree and flower down so I can bring them back to New Jersey. To be true, the trip only took six months. After the whole trip, I came back home, and I got the best botanist award in the whole world. I was really proud of myself.



This is a great adventure story.

Summer

By Chinmayi Chittamuri 5th grade

Summer brings a nice, bright sun,
For swimming fishing and lots of fun.
For finding seashells in the sand.
For sunbathing to get a tan,
To do all these things and more.
At the beach and at the sunshore.



Interview: The 2016 South Asian Spelling Bee

Ms. Paige and Rishi Soman -- Q & A

Q: Was this your first spelling bee?

A: Yes, it was, and I was very nervous.

Q: What did you do to prepare for the spelling bee?

A: The South Asian Spelling Bee Foundation gave me words and I practiced them.

Q: What were you most nervous about?

A: I was most nervous that if I spelled an easy word wrong, fun of me.

Q: Where did you place in the spelling bee?

A: I placed 17th out of 88 in the spelling bee.

Q: Were there specific age groups that you competed against?

A: No, all grades competed against each other.

Q: What was the highest grade at the spelling bee?

A: I believe it was 9th grade.

Q: Being a 4th grader, were you intimidated by older students?

A: A little. I didn't expect to get first place because there were older students, and they had more experience than me.

Q: Where did the spelling bee take place?

A: New Jersey

Q: How long did you prepare for the spelling bee?

A: Four days

Q: Was there a prize for the winners?

A: First place received a trophy, \$500, and a certificate. The others received the same, but second place received \$300, and third received \$200.

Q: What was your favorite part about the spelling bee?

A: That you got free cookies! Also, getting 17th place.

Q: Would you participate in another South Asian Spelling Bee

A: Yes

Q: What advice would you give to someone who is looking to participate in a spelling bee?

A: The words are going to be easy at first, but once it gets to about the 4th round, the words start getting harder. They should also not be nervous. Their spelling bee is televised, so it's ok to be nervous, but once a few minutes pass they'll be okay.

Submit your story to editor@citykidzworld.com.

Deadline: November 23

Do you have a serious essay? We want it!



Ms. Paige is a great interviewer!

they would make

Rishi Soman



The Big Fish

By Ved Desai 4th grade

"Welcome to 2016 annual Chinese graduation ceremony," said the principle of Chinese school. The graduating students will be on the risers. Just then my Mom entered the graduation hall. It took me few seconds to realize that she was there. Then I remembered that we had to go fishing. I was excited because it was my third time fishing. I ran out of the auditorium and raced down the hall forgetting all about my graduation ceremony. My dad had a kit, which had bobs, hooks, fake worms and fake centipedes. My Mom and Dad dropped me off at Plainsboro Pond with one of our neighbors. We were fishing together. Our neighbors bought a kit, which had green worms, gulps, and trout nibbles. My parents came back with fishing rods and my dad tied a node between the string and the hook. I hooked a green worm on my hook and cast it in the pond. And surprisingly a fish ate it up. I couldn't believe it. Then I put a fake fish on my hook. The fish had smelly order and stringed my nose. It was also coated with a special gel, which made it slimy, but not as slimy as a worm. Then I cast again and again but didn't catch a fish. Instead, I caught seaweed. Just then I took a dark green worm and it pooped on my hand. I cannot believe it. Then I went to the other side of the pond to fish, and my bob got stuck in the bog. Now I had to fish without a bob. Finally, I came back to the side I started on and cast again and again but still I just caught seaweed, seaweed, seaweed! And even more seaweed. Just when I felt like giving up, I cast my rod, and it landed close to where the bob was. I thought that I wouldn't catch a fish, and I would have to go home without a fish. After that, I noticed a jerk on my rod. When I reeled it in, it was a fish. A fish! My Dad Questioned? Yes, it is a fish I said. It was silver and orange big fish, but I did not know what it was



This fishing story is fantastic and you can learn from it. It makes you want to go fishing!

called. Just then my dad took a picture of me holding the fish with wetted hands. When I saw the fish, it was wiggling with worn in his mouth. I took out the hook and released the fish in the pond. After some time I ran out of worms but not the green ones. I played with them and tied knots on them only because I was getting board. Just then we left to go home. I was extremely happy that I caught a fish.

Abigail con't from page 22

"As I was saying, she ran out to the shore while we were chasing her and never returned. People think she drowned," their dad finished off.

There was an awkward silence.

"Well, we searched online and found out that Abigail went into the lighthouse and never came back..." April said as she was interrupted.

"... It also said that whoever went back, never came back

alive," Ashlyn interrupted.

"Oh! Well, reporters you see just want to make small things a

very big scary thing," their mom came into the conversation.

"Oh! Finally, this is over with!" Steve said doing his happy dance.

"Can we play on the shore?" Steve asked again.

"Sure," everyone screamed in unison.

They ran out to the shore and never thought about the mystery again.

So watch out! Abigail could be out there anywhere.

Submit your writing to editor@citykidzworld.com.

Deadline: November 23



www.citykidzworld.com

Warrior Struck

Inspired by the movie “Thunderstruck”

By Rishi Somani 4th grade

Authors Note: In the movie, Thunderstruck, the same events took place. For the purpose of this story, the characters have been switched. The original characters are Kevin Durant and Brian Nual.



This is a great sports story!

When Steph Curry shot the three-pointer against Carmelo Anthony, he suddenly remembered a time when he could not make any three-pointers. This happened on May 30th, 2000. Let me tell you the whole story.

Steph Curry was the best basketball player in the world, at least most people thought. He was versing the San Antonio Spurs. The score was 57-71 by halftime. The Warriors were leading. Two boys named Rishi Shah, and Karan Shah were brothers. Rishi always wished to become like Curry. Rishi was chosen for the halftime contest to come onto the court. He tried the half court shot to receive \$20,000. Yet, he missed it. However, he did get a chance to meet Steph Curry. Rishi told Curry, “I wish I had your talent.”

Curry replied, “I wish I could give it to you, but hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard.”

Without anyone noticing, a flash suddenly appeared between Steph and Rishi’s hands. The next day Steph went to practice with his agent. He could not make any three-pointers. “Are you messing with me?” asked the agent.

“What do you mean?” replied Steph.

“Look, are you out of your contact? Is it the team? Is it the coach? I can’t help you if you don’t tell me what the problem is,” said the agent.

“It is none of that man. Just give me the ball.”

Steph was so irritated that day.

On the other hand, Rishi was like the old Steph Curry making every basket from his driveway hoop. When he went to the carnival that night, he was making every shot at the bas-

ketball shootout. People were crowding around just to watch him shoot. When he was shooting, he looked back to see everyone staring at him. “Was I that good?” he asked himself.

A few days later, it was a school day. While the high school team practiced basketball, Rishi told the coach that he wants to play for the team and that he has gotten better. The coach agreed. At 9:55 p.m., Rishi played his first game. Rishi was on fire! He scored 60 points, 17 rebounds, and 11 assists. He was declared the best player in the school district.

Curry’s agent went to spy on Rishi because of a video he saw on YouTube of Rishi making shots just like Curry had. Because of this, the agent realized that Rishi and Steph had switched basketball talent. The agent told Steph about the switch, and Steph believed it to be nonsense. The agent proved it to him right there. He called Rishi and had him come to Oracle Arena and show off the talent Curry once had. Curry finally believed the agent and wondered how they would switch the talents back.

The agent told Curry, “Walk over to Rishi and say what he said when he first met you and he will have to say what you said to him.”

Then, they tried it.

“I wish I had your talent,” said Steph.

“I wish I could give it to you, but hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard,” replied Rishi.

It worked! During the rest of Steph’s games, he blew the crowd away.

Write a Sports Story!

200 to 400 words

Send to editor@citykidzworld.com

Deadline: November 23



THE PLIGHT OF PERSEPHONE

By Anjali Harish 4th grade

Prologue

Althea ran for her life. "HURRY!" her father called. Her mother shed tears as she cast the spell. This was the last thing Althea would remember about her past. Soon she crashed on the hillside of Mt. Olympus, where she would live the next twelve years of her life.

"Ahhh, good morning Eos!" I greeted the dawn goddess. Like I do almost each and every day, I went to find some juicy fruit for breakfast. I was almost across the meadow when something caught my eye. That must be Hermes, I thought, noticing the winged sandals. I whistled to draw his attention to me. He instantly responded to my call.

"Wait, are you...ALTHEA?!" he asked after staring a good deal at me.

"Err, yes?" I replied stunned, "Why?"

"Well, we're cousins!" Hermes replied cheerfully.

"WHAT?" I screamed in reply.

Next thing I knew, I fainted.

"Althea? Hello! Althea, are you okay?" Hermes's voice stirred around in my head.

"Ugh...." I groaned.

"Hey Hermes, where are we?" I asked worriedly.

"We're in the Underworld. I don't like it here much," he replied with disgust.

"Welcome, my daughter," a voice north of a green pool called. "HADES!" we both screamed.

"Yes," Hades came from his throne to greet them.

"Althea, please don't scream or shout, but.... You are my daughter. You are also Persephone's daughter, but your mother had gone missing a few years back. Luckily, a prophecy said that if I found my lost child, they would rescue Persephone! Also, I really want to be with you too."

"Wait, so I've been living all my life thinking I was an orphan, and then I find out my parents are gods, and they've just abandoned me!" I shouted.

"No, it's just that when you were five, a serpent came and tried to kill you. You were only a kid, but that serpent knew that you would ruin his plans for chaos. So after you escaped, the serpent decided to capture your mother."

"FINE, I'll help, but we're going to talk about this later...Dad!" I scowled.

"Oh thank you, here are some gifts, a teleport ring for you and an invisibility crown for Hermes. Good luck!" Suddenly the

ring started rattling and pulled us in it.

"WHO A!"

Hermes ex-

c l a i m e d .

Whoa was

right. We

stood in

front of a huge palace of shells. A hooded serpent statue adorned the top. But the statue wriggled a bit. Suddenly it moved. And pounced that's

when I realized it wasn't a statue at all! It was the serpent! But wait...NINE HEADS! My Dad didn't tell me the snake was a HYDRA! My jaw dropped in awe, but darn my awesome admiration! The snake flicked its humongous tail at me, but Hermes didn't hesitate; he took his sharp bronze dagger from its sheath and put on the crown my father gave him. He turned invisible almost instantly and started lashing at the snake. I started to stand up when I thought, why don't I just leave this all to Hermes? I mean, he was already battling it, right? I sat on the ground watching and smiling all I really needed was some popcorn! One could actually hear him shouting "Take that! You vile serpent, you rude reptile!" and occasionally, "I will destroy you!" But the awful beast thrashed him around like he was nothing more than a lowly gnat. Unbelievably, he actually managed to behead the snake in the end! Once he did, we rushed into the palace, and as luck would have it, Persephone was trapped inside. She was strapped to the ceiling above a pool of lava!

"Althea? You're back! Please help me and really, you shouldn't have dealt with the snake. It's just a wind bag!" Hermes cut her bonds quickly with his dagger, I caught her, and we all were sucked back in the ring into the Underworld.

"Persephone, you're back!" Hades cried when we arrived.

"Yes, I am. And all thanks to our daughter!"

My mom beamed proudly. I snickered at Hermes.

"HEY! I beheaded the snake REMEMBER!" Hermes raged. Persephone smiled.

"Oh, Hermes! Don't you know not to interrupt during a family bonding?"

Then we all started laughing.



Greek mythology is an awesome subject.

Submit your stories to editor@citykidzworld.com - Deadline: November 23



www.citykidzworld.com

Editor's Choice

My Solo

By Julianna Wong 4th grade

I took in a gulp of fresh air. The sky was bright blue, with a few clouds, little robins and bluebirds flew all around me. Then, I looked ahead over the sidewalk, to the glistening white church, waiting for me to sing my solo. I gulped and took a few quick breaths. I could do it if I tried. I walked slowly into the church, every few steps reminding myself I would do fine. I went to my music teacher, and she instructed me to line up behind my best friend.

Lucy's scarlet red lips pulled up in a grin, her beautiful blonde hair in a bun, she looked so pretty! Then she said, "You'll do okay."

I breathed, slowly, steadily, until I relaxed and thought of the words in my solo.

Then, my music teacher came on the stage, her shiny, black heels clicking with every step. She boomed into the microphone, I dedicate this song, I am a Christian, to Pastor Bult, our pastor.

She gave me a small grin, looked at me with her big green eyes, winked and walked to the piano. Time seemed to go by so slowly! This was my time to shine!

I walked SLOWLY to the middle of the stage, my poofy blue dress poofing up, even more, every step. Even the lace shook like it was scared and the ribbons and pearls looked like they were about to fall off!

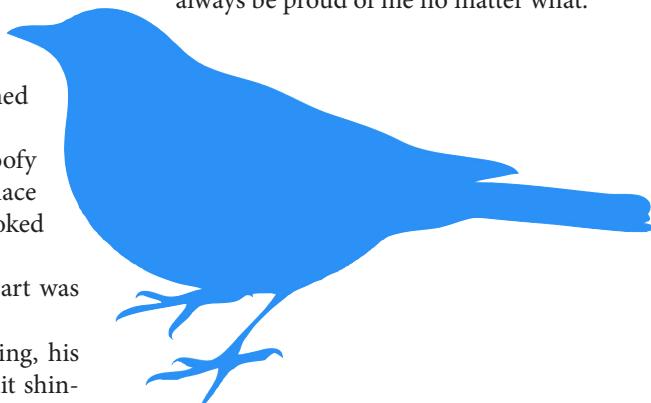
Focus. I told myself to focus. Surprisingly, the first part was pretty easy! I remembered it all but then...

I was in the middle of my solo, the Pastor was smiling, his eyes gleaming like diamonds, like stars. His bright suit shin-

ing. The audience was staring. They were waiting for me to sing, to do something! But all I could do was to choke and to cry. My eyes were tearing up, there was a lump in my throat, and worst of all, my mind was blank! I ran off the stage, so embarrassed! I

This is a lovely personal narrative.

I explained to my teachers, my parents and my friends, sobbing in between words. The curls that my mom made for me were replaced with tangled and messy hair, the dainty blue, glittery flats felt like it lost all its shine, and the pretty aqua bow on my dress was drooping. Everyone told me that whether or not I messed up, they would always be proud of me no matter what.



School

By Sehaj Chadha 4th grade

School has begun.
Summer is done.
Off to the store to buy supplies.
My new school year will be a surprise.
There are pencils, erasers, and pens.
The sun is still intense.
Off to the bus stop I go.
It is time to study like a pro.
My first day of school was great.
I can't wait!



Fall is here!

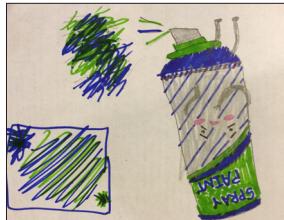


Art Gallery

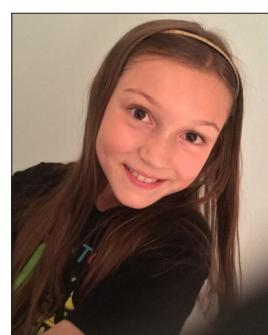
By Rashika



By Julianna Wong 4th grade



By Kate Krehel 6th grade



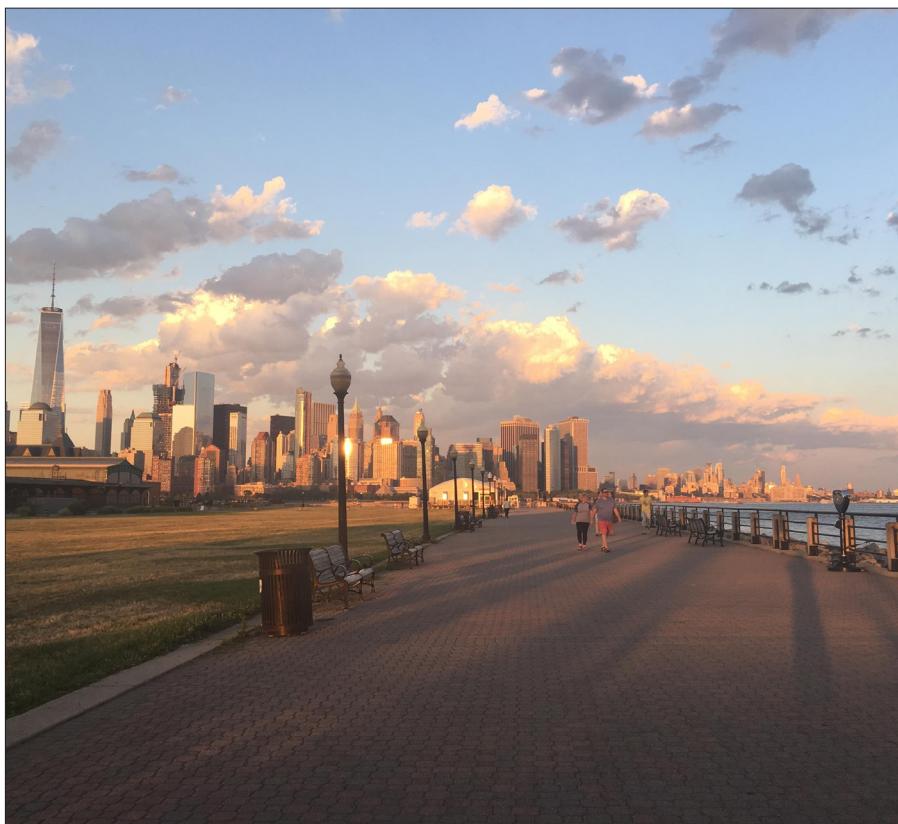
Do you have art for the gallery? Submit your artwork to editor@citykidzworld.com by November 23.



Art Gallery



Jay Joshi is an extremely talented 12th grader. He has many hobbies, including photography. Enjoy.



The Scary Night

By Arun Mallela 4th grade

One scary, deep day I was sleeping, when I heard a big bam, but it was a light voice, so I just fell back asleep. Then soon after, I heard a BAM WAM. I seriously woke up. I was about to get up until...there was no floor! I started to look around for something to help. I found a short rope on the bed. I tied one end to the bed and the other end to me. I slowly jumped down. Soon, I was flying! I saw boxes stacked up, so I untied the rope and jumped onto one of the boxes. Then I came down and screamed, "Mom? Dad? Brother?" but there was no sign of family, but me. Then I continued. I wanted to see if everybody was ok, so I went to the door, but there was no door or steps. It was really high because we used to have thirty steps! I pulled the rope, and my bed went crashing down. Then, I slowly jumped down. When I made it, all the houses were destroyed and crashed and so was mine! Then one BAM WAM box came crashing down in my house. I went in and opened it. Nothing was there.

I turned back and went down again, untied the rope, and went down. There were so many BAM WAM boxes and one in the lawn. It read "Dear friends, your parents and friends are gone. You have to try to get the special golden BAM WAM box to get

*Thanks for sharing this
scary story! Boo!*

to the future. There will be food at little stands and clues on the stand." And so, I grabbed the box, note, and a little evidence and went.

I was walking for a year and was not even half way through. Then I walked three years, and even three years was not half way through. Then after four years, I was half way. It was another four years, and I came to two trails. One was white and the other was black. I remembered the last clue was white. Therefore, I turned down the white trail.

Soon, I finally saw a big water slide that had a three hundred feet and five-inch drop. It took one year and two months to get here from the white trail, another one year to climb, and two years to drop. At the end of the waterslide, I saw a gold box. It read, BAM WAM along with a big sign that read CONGRATULATIONS!

Soon, my family appeared while everything else of these past few years started to disappear, and we lived happily ever after until it happened again.



The Tooth

By Iman Alinani 5th grade

Wiggle waggle, my tooth is loose, and there are only two days until picture day! At snack time I didn't eat my cookie. Well -- maybe I could take a soft bite.

Ouch! Everybody looked at me. My tooth was twisted, and two seconds later, it was on my desk. Picture day is tomorrow. I was sitting in the nurse office. She gave me a necklace with my tooth in it. When I got home, my mom gave me a present to cheer me up. It was a green t-shirt and a yellow skirt with purple stars.

"Thankyou!" I said.

The next day it was picture day. I had to practice another smile --maybe not showing my teeth? Yes! I would not be showing my teeth.

When I got to school, we took pictures.

I smiled without my teeth.

When it was over, we ate snacks and this time I ate my cookie.

*Iman has written a great,
relatable story.*



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Stage Fright

By Meenakshi Rama Subramanian 6th grade

It was the day before the speech contest, but it felt like every other evening. I was feeling all right.

At dinner, my mom told me to talk loud and clear when I was speaking.

I started feeling nervous. I finished my dinner quickly and went to my bedroom. It was just 8:30 and my usual sleeping time was 9:30, but I got in bed anyway.

I lay there, watching TV for a little bit, trying to get over my boredom.

I could not sleep at all that night. I kept tossing and turning in bed.

It felt like a sleepover when you just couldn't sleep until midnight.

I just lay there in my top bunk bed and stared at the ceiling full of fake, glow-in-the-dark stars. Then I finally fell asleep.

When I woke up the next morning, and I sat up on my bed. I remembered that it was the day of my speech contest. It was going to be a nightmare come true.

Right then, I fell back in bed and acted like I was sleeping, but my mom already heard me and shouted from her bedroom, "Get up and get ready for the speech contest!"

"All right mom," I groaned. I got ready and ate my breakfast. By that time, my parents and little sister got ready, and we left. By the time we got there, the contest had already started—I was late.

Thankfully, I had not missed my turn. I stood in line, and my parents took a seat with the rest of the audience.

Once the person in front of me finished his speech, it was my turn.

My mom got her camera ready. My dad was standing next to my sister, watching me. His smile calmed me down. I climbed the steps to the stage and stood right in front of the judges.

They were smiling at me. One of them said, "Okay." One of them said, "Begin, honey."

At that moment, I wished I was four years younger. I wished I was in first grade, and could play like my sister does now.

I felt very nervous.

I wished I that I could play with my dad after school, and that my mom could get me ice cream and popcorn for a family movie.

If I were younger, I would not be so nervous because I would not care about what people thought about me.

I stood on the stage for a few seconds, until I remembered that I was a 5th grader. I was in a speech contest, and I had to win it. I was not a little kid; I was in fifth grade. I kept reminding myself that.

Finally, I took a deep breath and started speaking.

I finished the speech quickly and ran to my mom. I started crying. My mom was there to comfort me, and I felt the way I should—like a young fifth grader on the outside, but a little kid inside.



This is a great personal narrative.

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volunteer hours?

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We can see if we have a place for
you.

See you soon!



Pencil

By Manya Kodi 6th grade

I was talking on the bus with my friends when I suddenly remembered that I had to finish my math homework. I took out my homework and rummaged through my backpack for a pencil. When I didn't have any luck, I turned to my friends who were sneakily gossiping about a really weird girl.

"Um... I need to finish my homework and I can't find a pencil, can I borrow one?" I asked with a nervous smile.

All of my friends frantically looked in their backpacks for a regular pencil.

"Sorry, I can't find a pencil," Marissa said

The others just put on sad faces, meaning that they also didn't find a pencil. Ugh, what was I going to do now? I guess I'll just have to have lunch detention with the teacher. After a while of misery, the creaky bus doors opened and the other children ran out smiling and laughing.

"I hate pencils! They are so annoying!" I told my friends as we walked out the door.

When I reached my classroom, I took a deep breath and slowly walked in.

"Everybody please hand in your homework," Miss Nettle said with a grin.

Ugh! I walked to my desk and started unpacking. Suddenly, a light bulb came on over my head. I could finish my homework right now! I immediately took out my homework and started to reach for a pencil from my desk when I saw there wasn't one. Why do pencils keep on vanishing? I had one just yesterday. Where did it go? When my teacher figured out that I didn't finish my homework, she looked directly at me. I slowly walked to her with pouty eyes.

"Why didn't you finish your homework?" asked Miss Nettle.

"I...I couldn't find a...pencil," I said.

"Are you kidding me, Sofia? We just started the school year. You should have pencils! You will have lunch detention," The teacher commanded.

Great, could this day get any worse?

When it was time for writing, I practically sprinted to my seat.

I love writing! I took out a pen and started writing rapidly. As I was writing, something hit me. Huh? There on my desk, was a purple pencil. Who's was it?

"Sarah, is this your pencil?" I asked.

"Nope! I think it's Abby's," Sarah said.

After I asked almost the entire class, I thought I would try to use it. When I started writing, I noticed that the pencil wasn't sharpened and it was squishy! When I tried to sharpen it, it didn't get sharp!

"What kind of pencil is this?" I asked myself.

I walked to the Lost & Found and put it in there. I don't know who would even write with that pencil.

As I was writing, I heard a rumble above me. When I looked up, a hundred of those squishy pencils were falling on top of me. I could hear my classmates laughing at me.

"Okay children get back to work," Miss Nettle said with a giggle.

When I was getting back to work, there was another rumble and more pencils were dropped on top of me. "Why is this happening?" I shouted.

Suddenly, I knew why so many pencils had dropped on me. While I was walking to class, I told my friends that pencils were really annoying. Maybe if I say that they are really good, they won't torture me anymore.

"Pencils are really good. They are amazing!" I said quietly.

I waited for a rumble, but there wasn't one. It worked! That was a pretty hectic morning!



This is an excellent story.



Submit your story to editor@citykidzworld.com.



Deadline: November 23

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No Cake for Sam

By Micah Walker 5th grade

One summer afternoon
a boy named Sam,
went to his friend's birthday party at the
pool.
Sam is very healthy,
but his mom tells him
"You can't have cake because you'll throw
up and drool."
He is banned from eating this dessert
because his friend Bill played a cruel joke
once in pre-school.

Bill squirted pitiful lemon in Sam's cake!
So Sam got sick because his immature
belly couldn't take the fake.

Sam feels depressed that he can't eat
delicious baked goods that people make.
He tries to explain that he's not allergic,
it was just a little tummy ache!



This is a clever poem.



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DREAMS

By Kate Krehel 6th grade

After a long hard day of work,
Of rules,
Of everything,
Now it's time to let go.
Not even your mom or your dad,
Can control,
Can pull the reigns on,
Your dreams.

Dreams,
Like a Horse, breaking out of his
stable,
Galloping free.

You choose your path,
You choose your way.
Dreams,

An adventure on its own.
You can do anything,

Be anything,
Save the day.

And when it's over,
When I open my eyes and find the next whole day ahead
of me,
I look forward to when this day ends.

And it will.

Stars will shine in harmony with the moon.
And that's when I know,
It's time to be,
free.



Enjoy this poem.



Are you a teenager who needs
volunteer hours?

Email info@citykidzworld.com.

We can see if we have a place
for you.

See you soon!



Freedom for Black Rhinos

By Karunya Chittamuri 5th grade

It all started in Northern Africa in my beautiful home. It was a hot and sunny day. All my friends were playing outside.

Sorry, I forgot to introduce myself.

My name is Tango, and I am a Rhino. My friends call me Tang. I love the big, green, large land that I call home. I have two horns, and I use them to protect my family and me. I have a gray body and big black eyes. By the way, did you know that I can jump rope? When I do it, the ground shakes so loud and sometimes the rope breaks too! My friends' names are Martin, Jake, Kevin, and Bob. They are very respectful and nice friends. Every morning I play with them for at least two hours. Now let me continue my story. Today, I wanted to play with my friends and enjoy the warm weather, so I ran outside to my friends and asked, "Can I play with you guys?" They said, "Sure." As I was playing with my friends, I saw some creatures with sharp pointed tools and brown clothes. They were coming towards my friends and me on a large green thing.

I ran home so fast my legs were aching. When I got home, I tensely told my mom about what my friends and I saw.

She said, "Sound the alarm! They are called HUNTERS! Hunters are evil and always trying to kill us. When they come, we need to do a hunter drill."

Once I alerted my friends, all the rhinos started running towards the hideout. We all got inside, but the hunters were coming closer and closer to us. They had fierce looking faces. Unfortunately, they saw me and shot an arrow right in my head. I couldn't bear the pain and fell down on the ground. I could only see black. I was only thinking about my family and friends, and then I couldn't see anything anymore.

After six months, I was in a large glass cage with all this fake grass and a fake background. I was confused. Everything looked like a great illusion. "Where am I? What am I doing here?" So many questions popped into my brain.

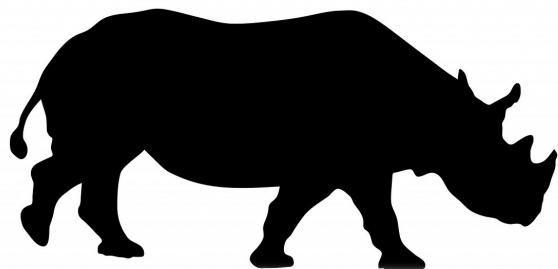
Very soon I noticed that those creatures who came to my land to hunt, were actually not hunters, but rather, explorers. They were from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Then I came to learn that they turned me into a specimen of a Black Rhino in one of the dioramas in the "Hall

of African Mammals." Now I feel like they made me freeze forever while I was playing 'freeze tag.'

Every day hundreds of people come to this famous museum to see other animals such as cheetahs, gorillas, penguins, and eagles. In this building, there are extinct animals like dinosaurs and many animals like rhinos that are not extinct.



Enjoy this animal story.



Suddenly, some kids started banging on the glass of the cage I was in. They were as small as groundhogs. They took pictures with me as if they were in front of The Statue of Liberty. These kids probably thought that I was standing there doing nothing. These days, my real job is to try to give these people a message that they should not make us get extinct.

I actually enjoy my job these days. The kids give me company during the day. At nights, I see many other animals that I have never seen before in my life, and I make friends with them. Please help us not be an endangered animal anymore. I always try my best to make them understand. This message goes out to you too. Please don't hurt my friends and my family of Black Rhinos. I want my rhinos to have freedom!

People like President Roosevelt did their part to save our species. All of you, please do your part as well.

Will there be a happily ever after for us?



Submit your story to editor@citykidzworld.com.

Deadline: November 23

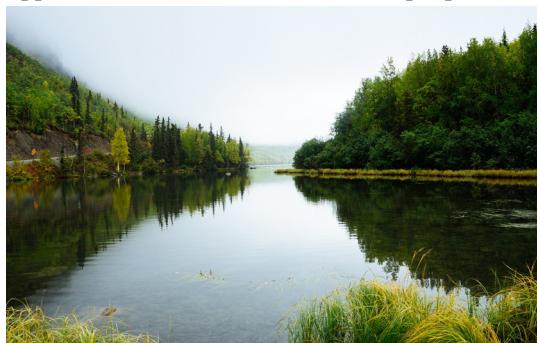
Do you have a serious essay? We want it!



Nativeman: The Native American Native History Allegory

By Ellison Edwards Murray 5th grade

One day there was a child called Nativeman. Nativeman was 13 years old, and he loved to play sports. His favorite sport to play was Lacross; I've forgotten to mention that Nativeman was a Native American. One day Nativeman was walking around the beach bordering the Pacific Ocean that is now New Jersey. All of a sudden, he saw a bunch of ships moving toward where he was. Then the ship stopped, and there appeared a man with a whole crew of people. The man who came out of the ship was Christopher Columbus.



Christopher Columbus was a nice friend toward Nativeman. As Nativeman got older, more Europeans started coming and settling in North America. When he was 39 years old, there was a war that took away his freedom, so that means he had to hide from the Europeans to survive. When Nativeman got to age 82 years old, the Europeans gave the Native Americans more rights. One of the rights was to be able to have reservations, but they were under the Europeans. When Nativeman got to age 94 years old, the Europeans allowed Native Americans to have more rights. The rights they got were they could have their own economy and not be under the Europeans. The bad part is they had to pay the Europeans money.



This is an interesting retelling of history.

Smelly Buttons

By Rithikha Rajesh 5th grade

"Uh, why won't the T.V. work?" shouted Jack.

It was a windy, Sunday morning. The family was gathered around the T.V. It was very stormy. They all wanted to know what was going on. "Oh," exclaimed Jack.

"The batteries in the remote are dead, which means that the T.V. won't work."

"Hey let's just turn on the radio," exclaimed Jack's dad. "Breaking news, breaking news! A storm is about to hit! Stay in your houses!" spoke the man on the radio.

That information was pretty obvious to Jack's family.

They decided to clean out the button drawer. It was so methodical. Everyone was about to explode. They all needed to fret. Plus, they were all very parched. Even though they were all very dissimilar, they had one thing in common. They didn't like work.

"Oops," Jack sputtered. He had just spilled all the buttons in the button drawer. Mom was steaming mad. To take a breath-

er, she went to the kitchen. Just as she did, the dog came into the button room. He pooped on all the buttons. The kids and dad had no time to freak out. They quickly cleaned up the buttons but had to throw them all away. They were way too smelly.

They quickly went to the supermarket and bought new buttons. They could never tell Mom. She loved those buttons. They were a gift from her Great Grandmother. Nobody could ever tell her that her buttons were replaced. Luckily, the buttons they purchased were almost identical to the other buttons. They just had to keep their mouths shut. Hope mom wouldn't notice the slight differences between the buttons, and pretend like nothing happened. The truth was nothing did ever happen, "Wink."



Quite entertaining!



Submit your story to editor@citykidzworld.com.

Deadline: November 23

Do you have a serious essay? We want it!



Stranded on the Red Planet

By Unnat Chhatwal 5th grade

It is 2018, and Samuel is going to be the first to land on Mars, and he doesn't even know it.

In a dark room stood a man named Samuel. He has light brown hair, black eyes, and dark skin. Samuel is supposed to land on Jupiter for at least two nights.

"Are you ready?" Samuel's best friend Joseph asked. Joseph was wearing a blue hat as blue as the blue whale.

"As ready as I can be!" replied Samuel. He stepped outside and gazed at the gorgeous spacecraft: the Mariner 20. He went inside. He got settled and tried to remember all the controls he was taught; it was as complicated as a Rubix cube. Suddenly, he heard the people shouting.

"5, 4, 3," Samuel quickly and swiftly attached his seatbelt, "2, 1, BLAST OFF!"

Then he shot up like a gun's bullet into the clear blue sky.

After about 15 minutes, he was in space. Samuel took off his seatbelt and went to the back of the spacecraft to see Earth. It was nothing like the pictures he had seen. Earth was remarkable, and the view was breathless.

He knew he could float in the air in space as there wasn't any gravity, but this felt marvelous! Samuel saw the Milky Way dazzling with stars. It was as beautiful as the sunset at dawn's light. Space was way more appealing than expected.

"Hello!" Samuel spoke into the radio. Joseph told him to contact him when he reached space. No one answered.

"Hello!" Samuel spoke again.

"Hi! We lost connection f, a-a, w-l."

He lost connection again.

Suddenly, Samuel's stomach grumbled. He was as hungry as a devouring flame. He ate some crackers, creamed spinach, with a cheddar cheese spread that was regular "space food." Samuel ate for about 20 minutes and let out a big burp. He checked the fuel. There was only a gallon left!

There was a space station nearby, where he could go and fill the ship with fuel. He filled the spacecraft with gas and went back to where he was and realized that he had little fuel again! There had to be a problem. He checked the back of the ship. The screen was glowing bright red. The gasoline pipe was leaking!

The closest planet to him was Mars. He knew he had to go to Mars, but that would be insane and extremely risky. What choice did he have? He also knew that he could do anything if you put your mind into it. He finally decided to go.

Mars: It was like a different universe. There were so many canyons and mountains. It was a dusty red color. It was as dusty as the Gobi desert. Samuel went to explore and find parts that may be helpful in fixing the pipe. He took his space rover and started driving. When he went, he couldn't find anything, but a dead, rusty body. The body was wearing a spacesuit that said NASA. This started creeping Samuel out. When he came back, he saw his space rover tires printed on something white. He got out of his rover and swept the hot, red dust with his hand. There he found an idea. To his amazement, he found a spaceship. That gave him an idea.

"Light Bulb!" Samuel said in his head. He got his drill, loosened the bolts, and took the parts to fix the leak. It took him time and effort to fix the leak, but he was successful. He celebrated his accomplishment for a couple of minutes and then went back in the spacecraft. Later, he decided to go back to his home planet. Going to Mars was a big enough mission. When he came home, reporters everywhere asked questions about his trip. He mostly said one thing.

"You can do anything as long as you put your mind into it."



This science fiction story is quite interesting.

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Flying in the Air with Nesley

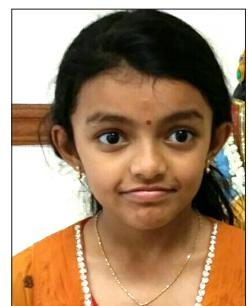
By Nandita Hareesh 5th grade

Hi, my name is Nandita. I have written a book about a girl named Nesley. If you have not read my first book, I will fill you in! In my first book, you meet Nesley Nack. She has three magical things, but she does not know what their names are. One fine day, Nesley goes on a rocket ship with her parents. She sees and jumps onto a star, and her parents think she is gone forever, but instead she meets two pirates named Senley and Ell, and ends up in Neverland! There she fights a monster, and wins the battle! She then ends up on her dad's rocketship once again and returns home. Now read to find out what she does in this adventure!

Nesley woke up on a simple Saturday morning. It was the first day of summer vacation, exactly ten weeks since the day she had turned fifteen-years-old. Nesley got dressed and ate her breakfast. She went to her room, fluffed out her canopy bed pillow and thought, when will I go to Neverland again? She jumped out of bed at the thought and looked outside. She saw hills and trees, with a few birds passing by. Minute after minute, she got worried that Neverland might never want her again. As she saw some cars on the far side of the hills, she

forgot her worries and thought about what to do to pass the time.

Nesley wiped her forehead. Cleaning a room is hard work, she thought. Nesley picked up her pink phone and looked to see if any new things were coming soon. Except for a sleepover that was four weeks from now, she did not have very much to do. She then sat on her soft, fluffy beanbag overlooking her desk that stood on the part of the pink carpet that was covering the entire room. Her room was pretty big; She had a large closet. A few inches from that was one large bathroom, and she had a closet that was beside her bathroom. No one knew this, but that closet opened to any world Nesley liked. Nesley snapped out looking at her rooms textures and noticed something in the corner of her eye. A shimmer of dust swirled from inside her desk. Nesley opened her drawer. She found a star, a watch and a note written in pink dust.



This is a really fantastic part II.

Dear Nesley,

Remember me? I am Senley Nack. I am in big trouble! My brother and I were going to Imagination Land, where everything you think of comes alive! While going there, we heard a strange gurgling sound. We realize now that it is a troll, and it has got three boys and one girl in captivity! I have given you a star, so you have a way to get to Imagination Land, and the watch is for you to return home. Please save the boys and the girl, and maybe even us! Although you would like to start on your mission now, there is one thing you have to do. Call your older sister. You will not be able to complete this mission without her.

Your dear friend,
Senley Nack
PS: Come as soon as possible.

Letter Writing Challenge

Write a letter to an important historical figure!

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com

Deadline: November 23



Hillary Clinton

By Akanksha Rajagopal 5th Grade

Hillary Rodham Clinton (Hillary Diane Rodham) was born on October 26, 1947, in Chicago, Illinois. Her father, Hugh Ellsworth and her mother, Dorothy Emma Howell also had two more children, Hillary's younger brothers are Tony and Hugh Jr.

Hillary wanted to be an astronaut when she was little. She sent a letter to NASA about why she wanted to be an astronaut when she grew up. When they wrote a letter back, she was shocked; the letter said that women couldn't be astronauts! Hillary was a good student. She was in the top 5% in her class. In high school, Hillary participated in student council and the school newspaper. She was also class vice president.

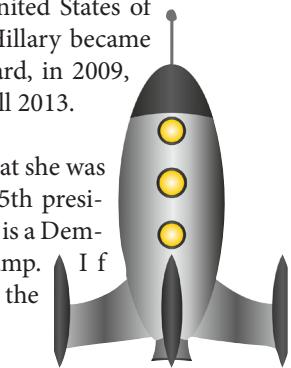
Hillary enrolled in Wesley College. One time, the state senator was going to speak in front of Hillary's class. Hillary was also going to speak in front of her class. The senator spoke about some things that were not at all relevant to the topic. When it was Hillary's turn, she didn't say her speech. Instead, She scolded the senator for being irrelevant and not sticking to his

topic. Then she said her speech. Afterward, she entered Yale Law School. She met Bill Clinton there. They got married on October 11, 1975, in Arkansas.

Great biography.

Chelsea Clinton was born February 27, 1980. Bill was the governor of Arkansas from 1983 to 1992. Bill ran for president in 1992. Hillary was first lady of the United States of America from 1993 to 2001! In 2001, Hillary became the state senator for New York. Afterward, in 2009, she became Barack Obama's Secretary, till 2013.

On April 12, 2015, Hillary announced that she was going to be a candidate for being the 45th president of the United States of America. She is a Democrat. She is running against Donald Trump. If Hillary wins the election, she will be the United States' first woman president!



CKW Writing Studio is having a nonfiction Fall reading contest!

After you read each book, you will write a book review and send it to editor@citykidzworld.com.

Make sure you proofread and we can publish your book review! Book reviews should be 300 to 400 words.

The person who reads the greatest number of books and writes some great reviews, will win a gift certificate and a participation certificate!

Submit as many reviews as you like!

Deadline November 23



The Last Day of School

By Siddanth Pabba 6th grade

It was a bright, sunny day and Jeff was walking to school with his friend Bob. They were both happy because it was the last day of school and to make the day even better; it was super nice outside and sunny. However, right then the sun disappeared. Out came the dark, gloomy clouds. Very soon, a giant bolt of thunder struck the ground. By the time Jeff and Bob got to school, they were completely drenched!

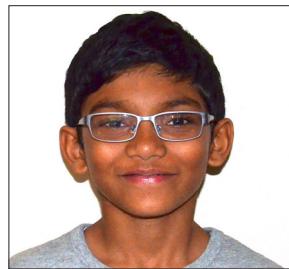
The first few periods of school were not that difficult because they barely did any work. The only bad thing was that it was hard to pay attention with soaking wet clothes. Then at lunch, trouble struck again. While Jeff and Bob were running out to the soccer field, Jeff tripped on a mysterious object. Jeff got up and rubbed the dust off his pants. He looked to see what had tripped him and was confused by what he saw. What he saw was the end of a railroad track.

Jeff wondered why the end of a railroad track was in a school playground. He was also thinking how no one had seen it till

now. Jeff was a very curious person, so he did what he thought was the right thing to do. He pulled on the railroad track. This turned out to be a huge mistake.

When Jeff pulled on the track, a robotic voice said "You have woken the Veti. You are in great danger." When Jeff looked back, a giant TV camera came out of the ground. It looked at him through the place it would usually film from. It began to chase him. Everyone around him began to flee. Jeff tried to run, but the camera, which used its enormous hands to pick him up. It was trying to crush him!

Suddenly Jeff woke up. He was drenched with sweat. "Phew," he said. It was just a dream. Jeff looked at his alarm clock. It was only 4:00 A.M. Jeff fell back asleep. He needed rest before his last day of school.



Siddanth has written two great stories.

Warm Noodles

By Siddharth Pabba 6th grade

"Finally! I am off the plane!" I exclaimed. My family and I had decided to fly to China for a well-deserved vacation.

"Wait a second," I thought looking around in confusion, "Where are my parents?"

I began to panic. Here I was in a completely different country, on a different continent, all by myself!

I decided to get my luggage, but it was not there! Now I was in a completely different country on a different continent by all myself and without any money!

I decided to get out of the airport and see if I could find loose change to buy myself some food. Just then, a bill flew through the air. I had studied Chinese currency in school—that bill was worth about \$20!

I ran after the bill as fast as I could. I almost got it. Right before I could, a police officer yelled, "Hey!" (in a Chinese).

I had no idea what he was saying. Soon, I saw that he was blocking my way. I tried to stop running but was not able to. Bang! I slammed into the officer and fell to the ground.

The officer began yelling words that I did not understand, but I was not looking at him. I was looking at the paper bill. It had fallen into the sewer, shattering my dreams of warm noodles as it fell.

I started walking back to the airport, hoping that the airport

would be warmer than the cold and windy outdoors.

Just then, a black SUV parked right next to me.

"Uh-oh," I thought, "Who was that?" Just then, the window opened.

I let out a huge sigh of relief. "Mom it is—" but I did not get to finish.

"We found you!" my mom yelled.

"Come in," my dad said.

"Yay!" said my brother Surya.

As soon as I got in the car, my stomach rumbled.

"Looks like someone did not eat," my mom said.

"What do you want to eat?" my dad asked.

"Noodles," I said, "Warm noodles."



Illustration by Samantha Scardino



SARAH SIMPSON WAS A VICTIM!

By Siddhi Kunduru 6th grade

Sarah Simpson was a regular 5th girl who was an only child. Sarah was known as someone named a victim. A victim is someone who is bullied a lot. Sarah had moved to Virginia from Georgia. Sarah had a lot of problems with her recent school. In one of her recent schools, she was bullied because everyone thought her family was a ghost family. They would put on masks and scare her. Some would often make mean signs, and they would also put them on Sarah's locker. She stayed strong and decided to bear it. When Sarah told her mom, they decided to move, and they made sure Sarah forgot about it. Sarah pretended to forget all about it, but she didn't. She still remembered this incident. All she hoped was that it wouldn't happen again. Sarah was lonely most the time. She always sat at the lunch table by herself. Sarah was sad that she had nobody at school. She thought even the teachers hated her.

In Virginia, Sarah was walking home from school one day, and she was stopped by two girls in her class and her neighborhood. They were both very rude to Sarah in front of everyone, but they were nice when they were alone. They started to talk to Sarah, and they were spotted by Sam one of the other kids who made fun of Sarah. Both girls once again started to be rude to Sarah. At one point they pushed her. Sarah fell to the ground crying. Sam came over to them and said, "You ok, little cry baby." The girls went away with Sam gossiping all about Sarah. Sarah knew she couldn't find friends. One day this new girl entered the room. Sarah knew that if she could talk to the girl, she would have a friend. Sarah walked up to the girl, and she asked what her name was.

"Hello, my name is Kristy," answered the girl. "Hi my name is Sarah," she replied. Soon Kristy and Sarah starting becoming close friends. As they hung out in school, the other kids started to notice. Their plan was to get Kristy to become like the others and bully Sarah. When Sarah got home, she checked her iphone, and she saw 40 text messages. When she opened them, they were rude messages. One even said, "Sarah u are so rude and ugly."

Another had said, "If I were you and I couldn't take being bullied I would hurt myself."

Sarah didn't listen.

Instead of hurting herself, she told her mother and showed her all the nasty and meant texts that people had been sending her. Sarah decided to call Kristy and ask if she could come over and sleepover. When Kristy picked up, she got a text message from Sam. It had asked it Kristy was Sarah's friend or not. When

Kristy said yes, Sam asked what she was doing. Kristy told him she was packing to go to a sleepover with Sarah. Sam had told her to do rude things like push Sarah, take pictures of her with pajamas, and send it to everyone.



This is a strong, social story!

When Kristy said no, Sam said he would have to make fun of her and make everyone be rude to Kristy. She couldn't take what he had said, and she agreed. When she got to Sarah's house, she took a picture of Sarah in her pajamas and sent them to everyone in the class. Then from there people posted it on the internet. When Sarah went to sleep Kristy stayed awake and took pictures of Sarah's house. She then sent it to the entire class once again. In the morning she made Sarah stick her face in the pancakes her mom had made and took a picture, and she once again sent it to everyone. On Monday when Sarah went to school, everyone asked what kind of 5th grader still sleeps with her teddy bear. Sarah ran out of the classroom. She later came back and sat down with red eyes because she cried. When Sarah asked the two girls how they had known, she replied that Sarah's best friend Kristi had posted pictures of her when she had a sleepover with Sarah. The same day they had a fire drill. The girls who had bullied Sarah, including Kristy, knew it was a good time to do something no one had ever done.

They walked all the way down to where Sarah was standing. Sarah was standing near a sewer. The girls then pushed Sarah into the sewer. She fell head first. When the teachers were counting to make sure that all the kids had made it out, Sarah's teacher put up the red sign so that the security knows that Sarah Simpson was not there. They went to check the whole school, and they didn't see her anywhere. Then they saw someone in the sewer. They called the police, the ambulance, and the fire station. In a flash, they all came. The firefighter went down the sewer and looked to see who it was. When they got to her, her face was all bloody. Sarah Simpson was really hurt by the time they took her out. The police investigated and asked everyone if they had claimed to see anything fishy or scary. The police asked every in her class. The girls, Kristy, Samantha, and Catherine all said they didn't see anything. They all were just lying.

To be continued in the next magazine.



David Cooper Magic Show

By Yash Singh 6th grade

Here we are at the resort MGM in Las Vegas. We are taking a vacation in Las Vegas for winter vacation. I am excited to see the top 10 magicians. His name is David Cooper. I have been waiting for this entire vacation to see his amazing magic show.

We are at the MGM resort and hotel to see David Cooper. We had to walk through the casino. I smelled smoke. I put my t-shirt over my nose to prevent the smell. We were finally at the theater. My dad went to the register to buy the tickets. When my dad was done, we entered the theater. I heard Hollywood music. We found seats at the top of the theater. I asked my dad if I could get some snacks. He gave me a \$20 bill. I went to the snack bar and got a bag of popcorn and ten chocolate bars. I brought it to my family. Then a drumroll started. David Cooper appeared on the stage on a dinosaur. Everyone clapped. Then he said, "Welcome to my magic show!" He pulled up a presentation. He says this is my favorite toy Speckle. He said, I still have it. Then he did a magic trick of cutting someone's hand off. I wanted to come, and he called on me! I walked toward the stage. I sat on a stool, and the magician put my hand in some kind of machine. He pressed some buttons. It seemed to the crowd that my hand was cut off. I took it out of the machine, and my hand was still there. I could hardly believe it. My hand was still attached to my body. Ev-



[Learn more about Las Vegas.](#)

eryone clapped. The next magic trick was Science. He had soda and chemicals.

When he poured soda inside the chemicals, a chicken popped out. When he poured the entire thing, Speckle burst out.

The next magic trick was The flying dragon. And then Speckle came out of the curtains and David Cooper hopped onto him, and he was flying in the theater! The fire came out of his mouth. Everyone stood up and clapped. I was amazed on how it flew around the room. Then a big drumroll started and, David Cooper said, "The Grand Finale". I was curious to know what it was. David Cooper sat on a stool with three balloons. It started floating, and he was floating on a stool. Everyone started clapping a lot. I was amazed. The show was over.

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Gods vs. Demons

By Mohana Sai Ravi 6th grade

Most people think that this world has had freedom since the beginning of time and that the world had always lived under the rule of gods and people of wealth because people always thought that the gods had a strategy and always won. People believed that once the gods fought their last battle against Apep, the world would have peace. These people did not live to be as old as me. I saw when the world had freedom, and it is not all glorious. There were two sides at that time. The gods were on one side, the Glorious respected people we had always known. On the other side were demons, who were vicious, evil and cruel monsters. The year was 1962, March 2nd. King Apollo, the god of the sun, was ready to crown the next king. Men had worn traditional European dresses. Then, the coronation began. Gates opened, and Apollo received flowers, necklaces, and a weapon. The weapon was given by Erebus Potter. Erebus was the ruler of the demons and the god of darkness. When Apollo touched it, he turned to ashes. Erebus had ambushed Apollo in his city, killed his wife and now killed him. Apollo's son, Hephaestus, god of fire, was devastated to find this out. Something bad happened. Hephaestus had no choice but to crown Erebus as king. Poseidon, god of water, Svarog, god of the sun, and Zeus, god of thunder, all stared in horror at their new King Erebus. Zeus walked up.

"Your Majesty, we cannot live like this," said Zeus.

Pluto, ruler of the underworld, disagreed.

"Erebus is the most respected and most evil person I know. He should be crowned so the underworld can have its glory," reasoned Pluto. Anemoi, the god of air, had no choice.

"Let us let Anemoi decide," said Artemis, god of light, after much deliberation with the hunters.

"Bow to King Erebus," Anemoi declared. Everyone stared at Erebus in horror as he walked up to the podium to give his speech.

"You are now under the command of Erebus, god of darkness, and my first order is to make seventy different traps and statues," he proclaimed. Pluto smirked and shouted "Amen!" Perseus, the god of destruction, also agreed to this amendment. However, those were the only two other than Hades, god of evil, who bowed under Erebus's control. Zeus, Plutus, god of wealth, Ares, god of war, Hermes, god of communication and Dionysus, god of agriculture, then formed a team.

"We must fight for what is right and what is right is a new king," Ares argued. Everyone got ready for battle. Erebus led the dark side while Ares led the light side. Ares battled Erebus. Zeus battled Pluto. Hermes battled Perseus and Dionysus battled Hades. Once injured, Ares called Lyssa, goddess of anger, to take his place. Lyssa then stabbed and killed Erebus. "Silence!" Ares yelled. Zeus stopped and stared at Ares.

"We are all fighting like children," Ares continued. "Evil and good should be friends. From now on, the Gods and the Demons will... Ow!" Ares fell to the ground. Blood dripping. He had been killed.

"I need to take care of something," Hermes said. I will never forget the battle against demons. Test against test... brother against brother.



This is a great historical essay.



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Poetry Collection

By Gowri Sanker Anish 6th grade

Fire

Crackling with orange light
Devouring its stiff sacrifice
Licking it with its burning tongue
For it to live and crackle and burn on.

Snowglobe

A little world of winter,
A blizzard of light snow.
Round is its outline,
At the bottom's where snow goes.
Turn it upside down,
And make it right again.
The flurry will start over,
Just like it began.

Changes

In the olden days, a mouse was a creature,
Now it is an electronic part.
In the olden days, google was a number,
Now it is a thing used to find websites.
In the olden days, a web was a thing
from spiders,
Now it holds up the internet.
In the olden days, those days were the present,
Now they are the past.

Music

I see notes on a paper,
Dancing up and down.
As beautiful as their song,
Yet they are so different.
Encrypted in an odd language
That only music can translate,
For that is what it is:
Music.

Low battery

Trying to finish,
Seeing the orange light,
Feel the adrenaline rushing,
Rushing to make the project right.
When you're almost done,
The screen goes blank.
A battery flashes on the black,
And you hope it's all a prank.

Fantasy

Imagine all you want,
The perfect place to live in.
Whatever you want,
Your every want and need at your hands.
You may wish,
hope,
and dream a lot.
But it's just a fantasy,
Real life exists.
But fantasy doesn't
If you want it,
Make it happen,
Yourself.



This is a fantastic poetry collection.

Leaky Faucet

Twas' yesterday night,
A Tuesday night,
When I was in my bed,

Lying down,
Getting ready to sleep,
Thinking thoughts in my head,

When I heard a plop,
And a drip-drop.
And the only thing I thought was,
"Come on!"

And I realized,
With a start,
That the leaky faucet was on.

A few seconds later,
Or maybe a minute,
I was still in my bed,

And all the plops
And drippity-drops
Were to me just thoughts in my head.

Revolution Reboot

One day,
I will
Make the world a better place.
Some day,
Nearby,
Or maybe far away.
I can't imagine what will happen if I
don't
Make the future a better place.
Don't forget to tie that shoelace,
It's time to make a stand.
Reboot all the land.
Stand up for the revolution.
Don't back up the pollution.
It's time to make a stand.
Reboot all the land.



I WILL NEVER LOSE HOPE



By Kate Krehel 6th grade

My allergies are like ominous clouds in the sky about to rain, but hope is my umbrella.

As my optimism dances with hope and parts those clouds, rays of sunlight caress my face, And I smile, All of the anger away and swept somewhere I don't know. When I'm frustrated, hope and optimism swirl around my heart in their harmonical dance, uplifting my spirit to the stars.

When my parents don't get along, it's like a frost in the spring with all the flowers dying. Hope is my warmth and optimism, my nutrients. They both Work together, And with the heat to melt the frost and the nutrients to boost the flower's strength, all of nature's beautiful wonders come back to life, and are thriving to this moment.



Kate is extremely creative! You will love her

HOPE,
A wonderful thing,
one in a million,
a needle in a haystack.
HOPE,
A bloom that proliferates
until it fills your body and the whole world.
But hope only takes root in those who are strong enough
to face a tough situation and rise above it.
OPTIMISM,
The first sign of spring after the cold wrath of winter,
Looking at the glass half full.
OPTIMISM,
Being grateful for what you have,
Like birds singing in the mornings and evenings,
a song full of thanks and happiness.
A butterfly, spreading out its wings for the first time,
and flying, flying high above everything,
just so peaceful,
thankful,
free.

And as my optimism asks hope out for a dance,
all of those cheerful memories come back to me,
troubles totally were forgotten.
When hope and optimism kiss and embrace,
I feel relaxed, content ...
Just so, so, peaceful.
I WILL NEVER LOSE HOPE.



Trapped in the Bermuda Triangle

By Kate Krehel 6th grade

Once, there was a family coming from Puerto Rico to Cuba on a long vacation. They were flying across the Bermuda Triangle when suddenly the electricity went out. The air was still until a roar echoed through the jet. Soon, everybody was out of their seats and screaming! There was a huge dragon-like creature, 25 feet long, hijacking the plane! He had long ears and glowing blue eyes. His fangs were sharp and vicious, as he gobbled someone up in one gulp. The family was screaming too, but to get out of the mess, they quickly put on parachutes and jumped out of the plane door that was blown out the second before.

The family dropped down to water and swam as fast as they could away from the airplane that was turning into shreds. Not one family member looked back. The oldest of the four kids, Ganymede, felt scales on his calves. Butterflies overcrowded his stomach, as he shouted and tried to swim faster. Should he try the breaststroke? No. How about the butterfly? He could. But then, the sea dragon erupted to the surface and started chasing the family with all his might. The sound of the water splashing was so overbearing as the formidable sea creature exhaled a mouthful of breath that reeked of sulfur. Adrenaline rushed through everybody. Saltwater filled their noses and ears. Finally, the youngest kid, Europa, saw a small spot in the distance. Land! Everyone swam toward it. Right when the sea dragon opened its mouth wide to get a bite, the family reached the island.

The family was in shock for a few minutes as they coughed up water. Then they took a look around. The island was abundant with life. Cute rabbits dashed under a bush, afraid. Deer galloped with their fawns and grazed in the grass. Trees were abundant, as there was a small forest here. Flocks of birds flew across the sky. There were many different fruits and berries here.

Everyone heard about the plane accident, and so now, everyone is afraid to go in the Bermuda Triangle. The family will never get rescued, nor will they want to, after about five years of living there.

The parents, Amelia and David, were astronomers, so they named their kids after the four Galilean



Enjoy this story, which is built on a myth.



moons. First, the oldest, Ganymede (a boy), next Callisto (a girl), then Io (a boy), then Europa (a girl). After about a week at the Island, Amelia and David realized how much they missed working at NASA.

Six years since the plane crash and a brave man was intrigued by the Bermuda Triangle and found the family. He asked if they wanted to be rescued, but by that time, they called the island home. But the family told the man their story, and he wrote a book about it. He asked me to tell the world about this story so everyone would know what happened to that amazing family before he ventured out again and got killed by the same sea dragon who tried to eat the family. For he was my father.



**Write about an unusual place!
Sent to editor@citykidzworld.com
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SAVED!

By Hansika Dorai 6th grade

"Aaaaaaaaaaaaaah!" I screamed. I am right now falling out of an airplane! I have no idea how I got into this scenario. First, I got my ticket for the plane ride. Then I cleared security. After that, I got onto the plane. I was tired -- so I slept. After a while, I see myself falling out of the plane. I tried to look up at the plane, but I see no one, I look down, and I see many people looking up and down and having worried faces. I look up again and see the plane falling in triple speed! It rushes past me. ZOOOOOOOM! Probably there is something wrong with the engine. Oh, by the way, I am Officer Sidh, a highly intelligent detective. I am pretty good at what I do if I say so myself. I decide that I should not panic. "Woah!" I'm headed for the water. I get into a diving position.

SPLASH! I hold my breath as my head bops up from the water. Then, I see a hundred other heads bopping up from the water.

"Whew," I see my suitcase falling. At least my suitcase made it, but not the plane. I can see the plane sinking. I open my suitcase and take out life jackets. I told you I was a detective so don't be alarmed.

I have many things in my case like fingerprint powder,

traps, and many other things I may need to do my job.

"Help, help!" I hear nearby. I swim there and give everyone all the life jackets I have and show them how to inflate them. I see land very nearby. We all help each other to get to the land. I try calling my friend that was supposed to pick me up at the airport. She said she would call help. Police cars came and helped us because that ocean water was freezing I mean freezing. We catch taxis, and they take us to the airport because we came from a foreign country. I gave the immigration officer my passport. I was so happy when I found out where I was because this was the exact airport I was supposed to land in. He said something I never imagined he would say before. "Officer Sidh, welcome to the great country of India."



This is a great adventure story.



Rule

By Sainthavi Sivakumar 6th grade

If I could make one rule, I would make it "NO HOMEWORK". The reason why kids shouldn't have homework is that kids don't get enough sleep if they spend a lot of time doing their homework. If kids learn things in class, then why do they need to do it for homework? Lastly, some people don't use homework wisely or the right way. Homework is not a great system for kids. There is no way kids can do homework, go to classes, and play outside. Getting 6-8 hours of sleep with homework is sometimes impossible.

The first reason there should be a rule of no homework is kids don't get enough sleep because there is a lot of homework. A child that is 11-12 will get started with his or her homework around 3 p.m. and finish it around 5 p.m. Now; that is fine, but a child that is 15-16 will start around three and finish around eight. That is not right because he or she spends his or her time on homework for five hours. This is just an estimate, but it also depends on how much homework they get too.

The second reason is that kids learn better when they have an actual person in front of them that knows the lesson. Giving

papers to kids to finish at home might be a problem because the kids might not know how to solve the problems. Kids will ask questions about the concept if they don't understand it, but there will be no one to help them. Plus, not all people use homework for learning.

The last reason is that some people don't use homework for learning purposes, even though that is the intention from the teachers. Some people do it just to get it over with, so they cheat because teachers aren't watching kids. They can get on an electronic device and search up the answers for questions. Teachers will never know they did that.

This is why kids shouldn't have homework. The reason why is kids won't get enough sleep. If kids learn things in class, then why do they need to do it for homework too? Lastly, some people don't use homework wisely or complete it the right way. This is the one rule I would like to make—No Homework.



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Kate is a talented artist and she believes in helping others.

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Our mission is to help those in need all the ways possible. Even though we're just four young fifth graders, we want to give food to the hungry, money to the poor, save endangered species, stop Global Warming, and donate to other humanitarian causes. Because of this mission, we make crafts from our hearts, so you'll enjoy them. When you buy one of our handmade projects, your money is helping the world you live in. Please consider purchasing one of our Krafts full of Kindness and making a donation to our organization today!

Thank you,
Kate Krehel
President and founder of Krafts4Kindness



The Bottomless Lake of Lava

By Keerthi Surisetty 6th grade

One sunny morning Hope and Steve (the twins) were racing down the stairs of their school to their big, blue brick house. They ran and ran. Soon, they were near the doorstep of their house. When they went into their house, their grandma was there waiting for them.

"Granny, when did you come?" Steve asked.

"Just an hour ago. On my way home, I got this cool book for you. I saw many people read it, and they were your age, so I thought you would want to read it too."

Grandma handed them the book.

"Sea Creature," Hope read, "Thank you, Grandma, for the wonderful gift!" Hope told her grandmother.

"Yeah, thank you Grandma!" Steve said, ready to start reading.

The twins didn't know what this book was going to be mainly about, but they had a feeling it was an adventurous book.

That night, Steve and Hope went to their reading room. It was half blue and half purple (purple for Hope and blue for Steve). They left the door half-way opened and curled under a blanket. Steve started reading Sea Creatures, while Hope started reading The Magic Thief.

When Steve was almost done reading, he felt a bump on the next page. There was a necklace. In the middle of the necklace, there was a green heart stone.

"Hey Hope, have any idea what this is?" Steve handed the necklace to Hope.

"No," Hope replied and went back to reading.

"It looks like an antique."

Steve rubbed the heart-shaped pendant and then pressed the green stone in the middle. Nothing happened.

"Kids, dinner is ready! Come down to eat!" Grandma called up the stairs.

"Coming!" Hope and Steve screamed in unison.

The kids ran down the stairs, one after another, and sat next to each other.

"Hey Grandma, we found a necklace in the book you gave us. Do you know what this is?" Steve asked.

"Ohh! Ummmmm...It is a passed-down necklace that our ancestors had," Grandma hesitated.

"But something looks different about this necklace," Hope told her grandma.

"I agree, like this slit and this button," Steve started to press the button.

"Don't press that button..." Grandma screamed, but it was too late. The entire kitchen shook, and their food fell to the ground. It felt like an avalanche, and then suddenly everything went

blank. The twins did not understand where they were, but their grandma knew exactly where they were.

"Grandma, where are we?" Hope looked around.

"I thought I left this necklace at home. It is time to tell you..." Grandma sighed.

"Tell us what?" Steve crossed his arms.

"This necklace is our family's secret. This leads to the magical world with princesses and villains. Also, people here want this necklace because they want to go to our world," Grandma stated.

"You mean like the Evil Queen..." Hope was interrupted by a loud voice from a cave.

"Did you find the necklace yet?" a voice screamed that echoed through the cave. No one knew who was screaming, but Grandma. Grandma said it was the Evil Queen.

Hope and Steve looked at their grandma.

"I will go and try my best tomorrow morning," a man wearing a brown hat with a red feather in it and ragged clothes answered the Evil Queen. He was the hunter of the Evil Queen. He left before the Evil Queen could scream again.

"Let's follow the hunter," Hope went after him. The twins and their grandma followed the hunter to his house. When the hunter went inside his house, the twins and their grandma listened to the hunter and his son's conversation as they talked in the living room.

"How was your day, Papa?" the little boy asked.

"Fine," the hunter replied. Then the hunter's older sister came out of her bedroom and entered the conversation.

"What does the Evil Queen want now?" asked the hunter's older sister looking into his eyes to find her answer.

"The necklace," the hunter replied.

"You mean this necklace," Hope opened the door before Steve had a chance to stop her. "Why do you want my necklace?"

The hunter stopped when he saw the necklace around Hope's neck.

"I cannot tell you that."

"Well, then you cannot have my necklace."

"Fine, the Evil Queen wants your necklace so she can take over the other world," the Hunter said.

"Owwwwwwwwwwwwww," Hope screamed. The hunter grabbed the necklace. The hunter ran as fast as possible to the



This creative story is unique.



How to Make Popsicles

By Mikaela Renshaw College Intern

Popsicles are quite a popular treat, especially when it's hot outside. I know that when there are popsicles in my house, I have to be quick if I want to get one, lest my siblings eat them all first. However, if you're craving popsicles, and there are none waiting in the freezer, there's no need to fear, you can make your own.

The first step in making popsicles is simple: get some popsicle sticks. These can be found in most grocery stores. I would recommend buying lots of popsicle sticks, more than the amount you plan on making so that you will have some for the next time you want to make popsicles.

The next step is to decide the flavor of your popsicles. To do this, you'll be picking a type of fruit juice. I personally love using lemonade to make lemon popsicles, but you can decide on your own which one to use. Store-bought juice works fine but feel free to make your own juice if you want it to be really fresh.

Next, you're going to find a mold. There are a couple of option for this step. You can go out and buy popsicle molds; there are plenty of stores selling popsicle making kits. However, if you don't want to buy a mold, you can use some household objects instead. An ice cube tray will work in a pinch, but your popsicles might be a little small. The best type of home-made mold is a dixie cup, since it's small and wax lined.

Once you've gotten your mold, pour the fruit juice into it. Make sure not to fill up the mold completely. As the juice

How-to Article



This is a great article that explains how to do something cool.

freezes, it will expand, so if the mold is completely full, your popsicles will overflow. You also want to be careful that you're not making your popsicles too big and heavy to stay on the sticks. If you're using a store-bought mold, it should say how far to fill it. For a dixie cup or ice cube tray, two-thirds full should be good.

Now since the juice is liquid, it will be hard to put the popsicle sticks in and have them stay upright. So instead, you're going to freeze the juice a little bit before putting them in. Stick your juice in the freezer for 30 to 40 minutes so that it will be partially solid. Then place the stick in, and place the popsicles back in the freezer to freeze completely.

Now all you have to do is wait until the popsicles are done. This can take some time, usually around three hours, so I recommend finding something to do while you wait. Once the popsicles are frozen solid, you can take them out.

The last step is just to enjoy eating your homemade popsicles!



Bottomless *con't from page 50*

Evil Queen's cave.

"I have the necklace," the hunter screamed to get the Evil Queen's attention.

The twins and Grandma followed the hunter to the cave, and Hope ran out to the Evil Queen. Hope jumped up to her hand as the Evil Queen held it back.

"Not so fast," the Evil Queen held the necklace tight.

Hope gestured to her grandma and Steve to sneak up behind her and steal the necklace. Luckily, Steve understood and did what Hope had wanted him to do.

Steve grabbed the necklace and ran out of the cave to the end of a cliff. Below the cliff was the Bottomless Lake of Lava. The Evil Queen, the hunter, Hope, and Grandma followed Steve to the edge of the cliff. Steve slowly handed the necklace to Hope. "To make this fair, we, as in... Grandma, Steve and I will jump

in the air above the Bottomless Lake of Lava and press the button so that we could go home. We'll drop the necklace into the lava so it could get destroyed," Hope told everyone, being careful with the necklace.

Steve added, "We are doing this because Grandma, Hope and I have to go home, and you (the Evil Queen and the hunter) want to take over our world. Hope is also destroying this necklace because no one should enter our world again."

As the twins and their grandma jumped above the Bottomless Lake of Lava, without thinking the Evil Queen jumped to get the necklace. Hope pressed the button, and they went home safely. Meanwhile... the Evil Queen fell into the Bottomless Lake of Lava. But... As the Evil Queen fell into the Bottomless Lake of Lava, she failed to grab the closest edge. She fell and slam-dunked herself into the Bottomless Lake of Lava.



The Princess of the Dead

By Siddhi Kunduru 6th grade

Once, there lived a pretty princess who grew up to be a Queen. She married King Peter and gave birth to one girl she named Amanda. Since the Queen gave birth at a very young age (18) and she had no family members, she did not know what to do to her baby. She let the baby do whatever she wanted to do in the kingdom (no wrong or right). As the princess and queen grew up, the queen realized that the princess became spoiled, but still it was not the queen's fault for being young.

A few days later, the queen decided that it was time to leave her daughter. After she had left, the young princess was to rule the kingdom. Ten days later, Amanda called her mom and told her she could not live like that without her mom. Her mom told her to come to the little cottage where she lived. The princess was not smart and challenged herself to go in her bare feet and without food or water.

Two days later, Amanda pricked her broken foot with a sharp knife (the knife was on the ground), and she perished. The princess was moved to the grave and became the Princess of the Dead and haunted her mother. She thought that her mother spoiled her, and that was the reason she perished. Five days after Amanda died, a handsome prince came and that moment Amanda genuinely fell in love with him. Amanda dressed herself up like a pretty girl and married him. They loved each other dearly. When Amanda told him the truth (that she was a ghost), he did not get scared, but he decided to join her to become a ghost as well. Both of them became the King and Queen of the Dead.



Awesome spooky story!

By Zohib Ahmed 6th grade

Antarctica



Jack was enjoying his day so far until he got a package from his friend Zack. Jack opened it to find the penguin Frosty. All sorts of marks and bruises were found on Frosty. Inside the package, Jack found a letter from Zack saying, "Your penguin is a complete a house wrecker. He nearly destroyed my house and I hope the same happens to you. Good luck because you are going to need it."

When Jack finished reading the letter, he went upstairs to get his penguin translator. He got this from the Arctic Elite Force (AEF), consisting of polar bears, penguins, seals, and many more arctic animals. Frosty was a respected council member in the AEF. Jack used the translator to ask Frosty why he wrecked Zack's house.

Frosty replied, "He showed me this commercial on TV where people were killing penguins. He also harmed me and yelled at me."

That was when the letter exploded. The impact sent Jack and Frosty into the wall. He cautiously went toward the wreckage to find a destroyed C4 bomb. Jack quickly went to his computer and emailed Zack asking why there was a bomb in the letter and why he had harmed Frosty. The email was also supposed to infect Zack's computer with a virus that transferred all of the data to Jack's computer. He clicked enter just as Zack arrived at his private island.

Zack's Private Island

Zack had just arrived on his private Island when he got the email from Jack. Zack replied, "So you know how it feels

to have your house wrecked. Zack had just found an ancient map that leads to a great treasure. He was coming to get some gear and his treasure finding crew. When he was ready to leave, he went on his private plane and got on his flight.

Zack's Plane

Leroy one of Zack's crew member suddenly got a phone call from an anonymous user. The user offered Leroy loads of money to betray Jack and sabotage his plane. Leroy couldn't resist saying no so he accepted the dangerous job.

Antarctica

Jack still hadn't heard from his spy on Zack's plane. The spy's job was to sabotage the plane and find out about the treasure and its location. Suddenly, his inbox refreshed and on the top was the Spy's reply saying that the treasure was located in the coordinates longitude 35 and Latitude 20. The spy also said that the explosives were armed onto the plane.

"Everything was going according to the plan," Jack said with a smug smile on his face.

To be Continued in the next magazine



By Tanish Jha 6th grade

Uninvited Guests

It was raining outside MY house on June 12, 2016. MY house. MY family's' house. Still Jack's house. Not their house. None of them are welcome to this house.

"George," My mom yelled, "Have your breakfast now!" I left my room with my blue and neon pajamas on. I went downstairs for breakfast. When I saw my mom, she was wearing a bright, yellow shirt and a pair of golden pants. It almost stung my eyes, but it was still better than those uninvited guests.

"Want do you want George," my mom asked, "Pancakes, or waffles?"

"Pancakes," I responded without looking at my mother.

"You know, George," my mother said, "You can't keep looking back into those times. It is time that you move on."

I didn't answer, I was too focused on the past, even now, to do anything.

It was June 12, 2015. I was 10 years old, not eleven yet. I was with my older brother, Jack.

He was older than me. 18 years old. We were in the basement, playing on the Wii. I accidentally let go of the remote, and it smacked against the wall. But the event that took place afterward was unexplainable. The wall seemed to open up, showing a small wooden door the size of medium sized dog. It was a mysterious door, but only my brother had walked up to the door.

"What is that thing?" Jack had asked.

"I don't know, but it sure is not supposed to be there," I said nervously.

"Well I am going to check it out," Jack said confidently.

I just stood there frozen like a huge block of ice. As my brother approached the door, the lights of the basement went out with a sudden pop. The room was as dark as the night sky --no, darker than the night sky. I tried to turn on the light, but it wouldn't turn on.

"It is not turning on," I said frantically.

"Calm down, I'm going to go check that weird door to see if it has anything to do with it," my brother said calmly.

I didn't answer, feeling as if I was in a horror movie. I stayed very close behind Jack, as Jack slowly and cautiously walked up to the weird door. Before even Jack touched the doorknob, the doorknob turned, and the door opened. It seemed as if nothing was there, and it was just pure darkness.

Then, Jack said, "See there's nothing ba--" A hand came out of the door and grasped Jack's foot. It was a hand of a human. But it was only a hand; nothing else was attached to it. There were strips of blood everywhere on the hand, and only half of its thumb was there. It started to pull on Jack's foot. With the grip so hard and the pull so violent, Jack's whole foot was soaked in

that horrible red liquid. Jack yelled and thrashed around trying to get free. I just stood there like a stone. I was an idiot for not helping him.

All I did was yell, "Jack, NO!"



This story is quite relatable!

Jack was taken away from the door, and all I could do was stand there as Jack got dragged into to the door, and the door shut. I could hear Jack's screams, and so could my parents, as they rushed downstairs to see what was happening, but they were too late. A pool of blood leaked from the door, as I sat there crying.

A year later and I am still weeping every day in my head. I can't stop thinking about that horrible day. But then, all of a sudden, I get weird feeling to go downstairs. I walk down the steps of the basement, with each step making those wooden steps creak. Once I reached the basement floor, I can see the wall in front of me. Then, I notice the Wii remote on the floor. Yes...I thought cleverly. I picked up the Wii remote and grasped it hard. I remembered that day when the uninvited guests took Jack away. My weird feeling leaked away, and rage started to bubble up inside of me, and I threw the Wii remote as hard as I could at the wall. There was a violent bang, and my mother rushed downstairs to see what was happening. She held me tight.

"George," my mother yelled, "I know it is tough, but you have to let that stuff go away! You can't keep wailing and thrashing, and sobbing."

I didn't listen to hear. Instead, I only focused on the wall, and as I had thought it opened up, showing the wooden door. The uninvited guest opened the door the same way it had one year ago. I was so wrapped up in my anger and the memories, I hadn't noticed that the hand was on my mother's ankle. This time, I didn't just stand there, I leaped forward, and grabbed my mother's feet and pulled as hard as I could.

"I am NOT letting you go too," I yelled as I pulled even harder. The same blood was pouring out of my mother's ankle, and my hands were all red with blood. But, I am not going to make that same mistake before, I had lost too much already, and I am not going to let that affect what happens to my mom.

Guest con't on page 54



Evilishly Good

By Ankitha Ungarala 6th grade

Ugh! Why do people keep calling me that!? I am not the Evil Queen. I was NEVER the Evil Queen! My real name is much softer than Evil. It is Elliot, Elliot Queenly.

I was the most successful person in Fairytale Land. My beautiful daughter Emma was about to turn one, a milestone, and I wanted to have a special party for her.

After weeks of planning, it was my daughter's birthday, and something terrible happened. Queen White had a baby—a baby that was as beautiful as snow falling on evergreens. The queen named her Snow, Snow White. I was secretly jealous of this so-called Snow. Then to make me more jealous, Queen White and King Richard had a party too. Oh, I was so mad! Everyone knew that the queen is on the top of the social line, so everyone went to her party. Only my cousin Maleficent showed up to Emma's party.

I never got over Snow's marvelous beauty or her parents ruining Emma's birthday party. Snow always looked so happy and giving, and my daughter looked selfish and devilish. It was finally my daughter's 16th birthday. It was also Snow's 15th birthday. Everyone, after all these years, knew that I did not like Snow. So, when Snow White was missing on her birthday, they thought it was me.

The king and queen marched up to my mansion shouting, "Elliot! Give us our daughter or we'll raise your taxes!"

"Or even worse, you will go to jail!" Queen White shouted.

"I didn't take Snow!" I yelled back behind the door.

"If you do not find my daughter in 24 hours, you will be sorry!" the King shouted sounding more serious.

Then finally the shouts started to quiet:24-hours to find a girl! I put my black cape on and put some cheese and a few apples in my basket.

"Mommy, where are you going?" Emma finally woke up.

"Umm...to get you a surprise. Stay here and I will be back in



about three hours! Or 12," I said biting my lip.

I ran out the door and went to the first place I knew Snow might be, Cinderella's Glass Slippers, the store Snow goes to talk to Cinderella. I ran down pass Gingerbread Man's house and got to the store. I opened the glass door. "Hello," a girl with blond hair, a tutu, and glasses said.

This is a good twist to a classic story.

"I'm Cinderella's daughter Cindy, my mom is feeling sick today so I took over the store for a day," Cindy said.

Cindy talks more than blabbering Cinderella.

"Ummmm...have you seen a girl, black hair, brown eyes? Her name is Snow White," I said.

"Aaaah! Snow!" Cindy said. "Haven't seen her today."

I ran out the store before Cindy could talk about her half-discount shoes! Then I thought...the Beast's house.

When I was walking down to his house, my stomach grumbled. I was starving so much I could eat one of the three little pigs! I sat down near the poisonous lake near the Dwarfs' house. I already ate five apples, so I had one more. I held it in my hand tightly, and then I saw Snow! I accidentally dropped the apple in the lake and quickly picked it up and stuffed it in my basket. I got up and got an apple to lure her to the castle. Everyone knows Snow liked apples. I stuffed the apple in my basket.

"Do you want an apple? These are fresh, and there are more near the castle," I said taking out one of the apples.

I gave her the apple, the wrong apple. Everyone knew what happens then! Prince, blah blah, spell, blah blah, evil. This is the true story; pass this on.

Guest con't from page 53

Even though I pulled as hard as I could, my mom couldn't break free. I started to think about what to do. Then, I noticed the Wii remote. It was just a few inches away from my right hand. I grasped it and threw it right at the door. The wall was closing, and my mom was breaking free from the hand.

"NOOOOO!" the uninvited guests said with double voices.

When the wall was closed, my mom and I were both breathing heavily.

"You did it," my mom said.

"No you did it," I answered, "You got me thinking about right

now, not the past.

My mother grinned and I smiled too. But, there was still one thing left to do before I called it good. I took one of our heaviest and biggest couches in the basement, and pushed it so that it covered the place where the door was.

"There," I said, "Now nobody can make the same mistake I did."

"Very smart," my mother said.

I may have lost my brother, and the uninvited guests are still out there, but what a better time to enjoy what I have right now.



The Dark Side vs. Marvel

By Jayan Doshi 6th grade

Once in the future, Darth Maul and Lucifer were battling on the ancient ruins of the Great Wall Of China.

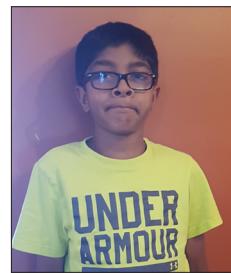
Darth Maul unleashed his battling cry, and so did Lucifer. Lucifer shot fire out of his hands, and he blasted Darth Maul off the wall. As Darth Maul plunged to his death, Lucifer shot another ball of fire, but Darth Maul had already used the dark side of the Force to make the ball go back up and blast Lucifer off the wall. Darth Maul used his double-bladed lightsaber to separate into two different lightsabers, and he slowed himself down. Suddenly, Maul felt red hot pain because Lucifer had jumped off the wall and landed on Maul's back with great speed. Quickly, the paint wore off because Lucifer had jumped off making Darth Maul plunge to his death even harder.

But then Emperor Palpatine got his voice into Darth Maul's horny head and said that use the Force to bring back Lucifer with the Force so that Lucifer can give you some support. So Darth Maul followed the Emperor's instructions. Instantly, Maul made Lucifer come back and fell to the ground. As soon as Maul hit the ground, he did a roll. Darth Maul raised his hand and electrocuted him. Lucifer's body shook but did no damage. Lucifer

"Did I ever tell you I can absorb any electrical charge and shoot

it back at you?" Lucifer said.

"No, but I never said that no one can avoid this."



This superhero take-off story is great.

Maul raised his hand Lucifer rose up and his hands trying to stop it. Then Maul put his hand down, and he plummeted to the ground as fast as a meteor. Then Lucifer flew up and came back down. Darth Maul was flabbergasted. A huge god named Kronos and crushed him with one hand. A ship came down with every single Sith in the galaxy. General Grievous quickly slashed his four lightsabers so fast at his legs that he fell. Next, Boba Fett came and shot several rays at him. The three most powerful sith in the galaxy came out of the ship. Kylo Ren, Darth Vader, and Emperor Palpatine all used their lightning ability to stun him. Kronos fell to the ground. Darth Maul and jumped spun his lightsaber in mid-air and stabbed him right in the eye. Lucifer used had used his super speed to punch everyone in the mouths and then he ran away because of his cowardliness.

"Victory is ours," said the Emperor.

Captain America Civil War

By Anish Mani 7th grade

Review

Captain America is arguably one of the most iconic characters in both the Marvel comic book and cinema universe. With the latest movie of Marvel Being "Captain America Civil War", it is bound to be criticized by both critics and DC fan. No one can for sure predict the path Marvel will take after this. All we know is that there is "Infinity Wars Part 1 and 2" are coming out in 2017 and 2018. These are only rumors that have been spread by several websites. We can't be sure about what Marvel is going to or will do; it's all rumors.

"Captain America Civil War" is mainly about both team Iron Man and team Captain America fighting. They both have equal amounts of people on each team, with different skills. I would say that this movie is more of an Avengers movie or a movie centered around The Winter Solider than a movie centered around Captain America. The movie included every Avenger except for Thor and Hulk because that would be competitive. It was a good thing that Hulk and Thor were not in the movie because even though Thor and Hulk have a rivalry, they

Fans of superheroes will love this review.



are mostly friends and fight well together. This would make it most likely for one team or the other to win because this can make both super powered heroes to join one team together.

There are a few new characters that were introduced. The Black Panther, and Spiderman. Spiderman might not be brand new, but the actor person who is playing him is. Tom Holland, Spiderman/Peter Parker, should have portrayed Spiderman during the amazing spider man. He was the best Spiderman in most people's opinions other than Toby McGuire. Black Panther and Spiderman were both my favorite characters from the film because the were pretty new and they were portrayed a lot better than anyone would have expected.



The Nightmare

By Shruthi Gunturu 6th grade

Every child on Mulberry Street was sleeping. Every child, that is, except for Jack. Jack was studying for his end-of-year ancient civilizations test. Mrs. Mullenwitch's class was the only class taking this test. Jack was in her class, and unfortunately, Jack did everything at the last minute. He was studying for his test the night before.

Just as Jack opened his textbook, his mom came into his room, "Jack, it is four minutes past your bedtime, what are you doing?"

"Oh nothing, mom. Just some last minute studying," Jack replied casually.

"Listen!" Jack's mom suddenly changed her tone, "I want you to get a hundred on this test, and I do not care what you do to get it!"

And with that, she shut the door.

Slowly and solemnly, Jack read through every page of the textbook. The more he read, the more he felt tired. Soon, he was fast asleep.

RRIIIIIIIINNNNNGGGG! RRIIIIIIIINNGGGGG!

"Ahh, I am late!" Jack cried as he ran out the house. He ran by so fast that he did not even notice where he had run to.

Jack looked around, "Huh? Where am I?"

"You are in Egypt," A passerby explained.

"Egypt?"

"Yes, the great Egypt ruled by Ramses the Great. The great Egypt that is bordered by the Kush to the south and the Nile to the east."

"What?" Jack screamed as he ran into the horizon of the desert. He ran so fast that he did not realize where he was running.

"Huh? Where am I?" This time, he was able to answer the question himself, "Wait, I am in India."

"Yes, you are in the most advanced and rich civilization of its time, India." A local explained, "It is surrounded by the river valley of the Ganges. Would you care to join our feast?"

"No thank you!" Jack exclaimed as he ran through the bustling market. Suddenly, the scenery changed.

"Huh? Where am I?" Once again, Jack was able to answer his own question, "Wait, I am in China."



Dreamscape stories are fantastic.

"Right you are, sir. However, I suggest you leave China right now," The local looked about nervously.

"Why?" Jack asked.

"Because the terrible and dreadful Shi HuangDi rules the Empire of China and he slays any newcomers!"

"Well, I am out of here!" Exclaimed Jack as he ran far away from China.

"Oh! Where am I now?" screamed Jack.

"You, sir, are in Mesoamerica, more like the time of the Aztecs," A local explained.

"Oh, that is nice," Jack smiled.

"As you are a stranger to this place, we will sacrifice you to our Gods; you will be one of ten thousand sacrifices a year."

"What?" Jack exclaimed. He let out a long, horrible scream.

"Jack! Are you okay?" Jack's mother asked, concerned, "You are going to be late for school."

Quickly, Jack realized that he had fallen asleep and dreamt about the whole thing.

Now, his only concerns were about the test.

He trembled as he walked into Mrs. Mullenwitch's classroom. He flipped over the test, to his surprise, the test had only four questions. The first question asked about the river that flowed east of Egypt. The second asked if India was a river valley. The third asked if Shi HaungDi was a dreaded ruler or not and the last one asked if the Aztecs performed human sacrifices.

The next day, Jack got his test results and found that he had successfully received a hundred.

Next time, hopefully, Jack will not wait until the last minute to do something important.

Submit your story to editor@citykidzworld.com.



Deadline: November 23

Do you have a serious essay? We want it!



Summer Camp

By Armaan Kazi 7th grade



Halfway through summer people probably run out of things to do.

When that happens are there are solutions to this going to a summer camp. There are a lot of types summer camps during the long break. Sports, Religion, Fitness, but I'm going to talk to you about my experience at a camping reservation.

The camp I went to was for Boy Scouts, but there are definitely camp reservations open for anyone. The camp was all the way in Maryland, so it was a long ride to get there. When we got there, we got a tour of the camp and our campground. We set our camp, and we started a campfire.

The next five days were really fun. We had to take merit badges, which were classes that taught you things about a topic and it's actually something that you need for Boy Scouts. I took nature and swimming. I got to learn and study animals like

the snake, turtle, frog, fish, and many more. I learned some strokes and ways of swimming without using too much energy. We also had some free time during the days to play GaGa ball, shoot guns, make movies or whatever we wanted really. But let me tell me about the food they served. It was so good. Each day they would prepare something like burgers, chicken, soup, etc.

On the last day, we had to leave our camp. It was a really fun experience. But don't let me tell you all about it, go there! The name of the place is Henson Scout Reservation. You'll have a blast there! There are many things to do there that I didn't mention. You will have a great story to tell all your friends when you go back to school. (I am not sponsored).



This story takes you back to the summer!

By Mohana Sai Ravi 6th grade

Dollar Bill

The light from the sun was shining on my face as I walked all the way to a pharmacy to get my dad some medicine for his sore throat. I saw it right in front of me. A shimmer of shiny gold and green started shining upon me. It was a five dollar bill. My family was in poverty, and I thought the money would make them really happy.

I bent over really slowly and picked it up. I felt as if I had shrunk. I looked up, and everybody was as huge as a giant. Then somebody came over, stared at me then walked away. Then I realized. I was the five dollar bill.

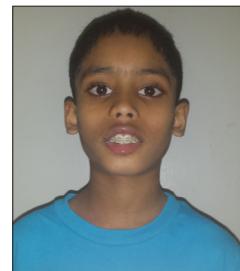
The rudeness of the giant humans filled me up with anger. People stepped on me, squished me and even crumpled me. People picked me up and put me in their purses and wallets. I went to Asia, Africa, Hawaii and many other fantastic places! "So this is the life of a dollar bill," I thought.

My thoughts started piling up. As I was thinking, a man in a white lab coat appeared. He stared at me for a while and pulled out his notebook. He jotted a few things down. Then, he took me to a place with big machinery.

I realized he must be a scientist. I took a long hard look at one of the machines. It had a warning label on it. It was as small as a needle.

"How could something so small have a warning label on it?" I wondered. The scientist returned from a phone call that he had been having. In his hand were two test tubes. I stared at the machine trying to answer my own question. I realized that the

laboratory was close to the pharmacy. I could get there in time to get my father's medicine.



The famous dollar bill adventure!

The scientist took the machine and aimed it at me. I tried protecting myself. The scientist fired the machine. I saw that he looked normal sized. I looked in a mirror and was glad to know that I was a human again. I ran to the pharmacy. I looked at my watch. It read nine o'clock p.m. I had 10 minutes to get the medicine. I ran through the streets and found the pharmacy and ran in with a shopping cart. There were a lot of slots with medicines on the shelves. I looked at the signs above the shelves. Each one of them had something written on them that would tell you what types of medicines are on the shelves. I found the sore throat section and found a type of medicine that claims that it can prevent a sore throat if you take it everyday. I ran to the checkout counter and paid with the money my dad had given me before I exited the house. The doors were wide open, so I ran out of the pharmacy as fast as a cheetah. My house was only two miles away.

I started calming down. When I reached home, my watch read

Dollar con't on page 58



The Three Wishes!

By Ankitha Radhakrishnan 7th grade

Once upon a time in a far away galaxy, there was a princess who longed for life-changing devices.

"Oh, why can't someone invent something wonderful? I hear on Earth they have Smartphones!" The princess cried out. Then suddenly out of the blue, a fairy godmother appeared. But of course, the princess didn't know that.

"Who are you and what do you want? Guard—" before the princess could finish her sentence, the godmother interrupted.

"Excuse me, Princess; I am your fairy godmother. I am here to grant you three wishes of your choice," the godmother said sweetly.

"Hmm... what is your name?" the princess replied hesitantly.

"My name is Fauna, my dear," Fauna replied without missing a beat. "And what is your first wish?" Fauna asked politely.

"Umm.. Ooh! A unicorn named Starlight!" the princess exclaimed happily.

"Of course! Your wish is my command!" And with a wave of her wand, a beautiful, white unicorn with a rainbow mane and tail appeared before the princess.

"She's beautiful!" the princess exclaimed, scrambling out of her throne to get a closer look.

"Do you have your second wish ready... what is your name?" Fauna questioned.

"Oh how silly of me! You've given me a unicorn, and I haven't even introduced myself yet! My name is Rose of Angeline Renae," Rose replied quickly.

"What a beautiful name, Rose! Your next wish?" Fauna asked.

"Oh right! Umm... I've heard Earth has smartphones. Can I have one?" Rose asked sheepishly.

"Why of course! Again, your wish is my command!" Fauna replied, waving her wand once more. A pink smartphone appeared in the hands of Rose.

"Ooh! It's pink! My favorite color! How did you know?" Rose replied in awe.

"Oh, I don't know, lucky guess?" Fauna replied knowing-

ly. "Do you like it?" Fauna asked.

"Yes! It's wonderful!" Rose replied, still in awe of the hot-pink smartphone in her hands.

"Your third wish, Rose?" Fauna asked a little too soft, but that was okay since Rose had excellent hearing.

"Of course Fauna! Is it okay if I call you that?" questioned Rose.

"What do you think? That's what names are for!" Fauna replied.

"Oh, then for my third and final wish, I wish for a ... ROCKET!!" yelled Rose.

"A rocket?! Never had anyone wished for that before, but okay! A rocket it is!" Then, with a final wave of her wand, a whooshing sound came from outside the castle.

"Could it be? Oh, thank you, Fauna!" Rose exclaimed and gave Fauna a great, big hug. Then, Rose rushed outside the castle and saw a big, glittery monster of pink! It was a pink rocket! "It's beautiful!" Rose cried out with tears in her eyes.

"Don't cry Rose!" Fauna exclaimed rushing over to Rose.

"These are tears of joy!" Rose exclaimed.

"Well, it was nice meeting you Rose, but I have to go grant other people's wishes," Fauna said this time with tears in her eyes. Rose and Fauna hugged each other and said good-bye, but then Fauna turned to leave.

"Good-bye, Fauna! I'll miss you! Come back and visit!" Rose called out.

"I will! Bye Rose! I'll miss you too!" And with that, Fauna picked up and flew away.

"Good-bye, Fauna," Rose whispered.

"Goodbye, Rose," Fauna whispered.

Dollar con't from page 57

10 o'clock p.m. My parents were waiting for me. I gave my dad the medicine and went to bed. I slept that night thinking about the different types of money. I turned off the light and noticed that the room took a few hours to darken. I took out a piece of paper and wrote down top ten adventures I have went on: #1: the adventure of the dollar bill.

Another great story by
Ankitha



Wizarding World of Harry Potter

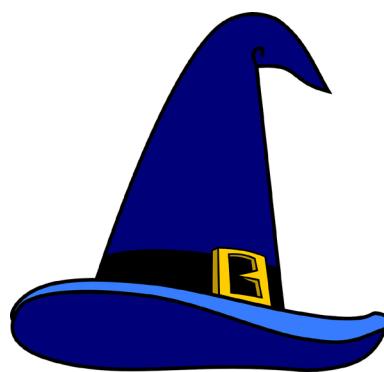
By Mikaela Renshaw College Intern

If you're looking to have a magical vacation, there's no better place than the Wizarding World of Harry Potter. Welcoming wizards and muggles alike, this unique theme park not only has amazing rides but also immerses you in a whole new world. There are technically two Wizarding Worlds. One is on the east coast, in Orlando, Florida, and for those on the west coast, you can visit Universal Studio's location in Los Angeles, California. There are a few differences between the two parks, as the one in Florida was recently expanded to include a Diagon Alley section, but either one is worth a visit.

If you take a trip there, one of your first stops should be the Forbidden Journey ride. This ride takes you on an incredible journey through Hogwarts while coming to face to face with some familiar faces from the books. With Harry, Ron, and Hermione as your guides, you'll soar throughout the air facing off against a dragon, some Dementors, and even crashing a Quidditch game. Just be sure to get there early, with so many people looking to ride it again and again, the line can get a bit long. Other awesome rides include the Flight of the Hippogriff, and if you're in Florida, there's also Dueling Dragons and the Harry Potter and the Escape from Gringotts ride.

Another sight worth the trip would be Ollivander's Wand Shop. What Harry Potter fan hasn't dreamed of being chosen for their wand, and now that dream can come true. Guests will enter the shop in groups, and once inside, one lucky customer will be going through the wand selection process. (Here's a hint, if you want to be chosen, make sure you're near the front, and look as excited as possible.)

And Ollivander's isn't the only shop worth visiting. At Madame Malkins you can buy your very own Hogwarts robes, which not only come in all the House colors but also have their very own wand pocket. Other shops such as Filch's Emporium, Quidditch Quality Supplies, and the Owl Post have other cool souvenirs, such as Hedwig backpacks, Harry Potter themed shirts and even broomsticks.



You might consider visiting this place.

Travel Feature

Of course, after walking around, you're bound to get hungry. The Three Broomsticks, in addition to having awesome decorations, also has plenty of delicious food. I would personally recommend their beef stew; it's my favorite. It even comes in a bread bowl. And once you've eaten your fill there, you can make your way down the street towards Honeydukes for dessert. This magical candy shop is filled with all sorts of treats from Harry Potter, chocolate frogs, peppermint toads, cauldron cakes and more. And while you're in there, you can also check out Dervish and Bangs, the Weasley twins' favorite prank shop and pick up a few gifts for friends.

There's still one more sweet treat you should be sure to try, though, and that's butter beer. A favorite drink for the Golden Trio now can become yours. It comes in a couple of different varieties; you can buy it hot, cold, or frozen. The drink itself is incredibly sweet, and the foam is delicious.

So even if you're just a casual fan, I would encourage you to make your way to one of the parks, and prepare to have a fantastical adventure. The sights, the sounds, the rides, all of it will leave you wanting more. You'll leave the park wishing more than ever that Harry Potter is real but still glad that you at least got to live that dream for the day.

Have you been anywhere interesting?

Write a Travel Article about a place you have visited!
Send your submission to editor@citykidzworld.com

Guidelines: 200 to 400 words
Deadline: November 23



Akira and the Necros

By Meghan Gajula 7th grade

The sails billowed in the raging wind, as waves crashed on the dark ship. Sheets of white cloth were waving ominously in the darkness. Water crashed on the wooden side, rocking the boat in a dangerous manner. Dark clouds formed a tunnel through the sky, swirling around the vessel, lightning streaking across its side. Rain thundered down on the deck, each drop pounding on the floor of the ship with a deafening crash, scaring even the most fearless pirates. The land on each side was filled with towering rocks, a never ending cliff, covered in jagged rocks and rough trees. And in the midst of all of that, the billowing black flag shook in the wind. The ship approached the shore at an alarming speed, standing out with its black wood and towering figure in the middle of the dark waters and even darker sky. It hit the rocky shore hard, the wood crumbling into the sea, the flag drifting aimlessly. And I watched it all from my bedroom window.

The Necros people used to live on the mainland of Europe, spread out, and living happily. We were a very social clan who lived without problems for decades. Our name, Necros, came from our magical control over nature. We lived in peace, sharing the land equally. However, one person in our clan was bent on world domination. His name was Pyros. Pyros joined with some other rebels and unleashed a wicked force upon the rest of us. The elders, the wisest people in our clan, used all of their magic to oppress him and his army. However, they were only delayed. As a safety measure, our clan used most of our magic to build boats and sail them to the edge of the world, where we found an island. Once we had all safely arrived, we used the rest of our magic to make it unreachable. From then on, we lived happily on our private island, but we lost the ability to use magic.

So the night when the ship crashed on our shore, we were surprised and nervous. Every person from town climbed down the jagged rocks to the rough shore. Pieces of wood washed up on shore, and the only signs of life were the fish flopping on the sand. A long white sheet lay in a lump, probably a sail. And a few feet further, lay a flag, black with a pearl white skull in the middle. The last elder came forward, studying the flag. She gasped, her eyes wide with horror.

"Pyros has found us!" We are all doomed!" The people were terrified. Panic took over everyone, and everyone began to plan their escape. Our clan was overrun in chaos. Women gathered the children while men ran around getting food. The kids cried and ran, scared of the danger ahead.

Suddenly a piercing whistle was heard. Everyone stopped in

their tracks and looked around, searching for the source of the sound. A woman stepped onto a tall rock, instantly gaining the crowd's attention.

"We have run from Pyros for long enough. We have hidden ourselves from the world. But we will not do this anymore. We will fight back. This time, we will be ready for him, and this time, we will succeed," she shouted.

"But last time, we had magic," someone from the crowd shouted.

"Magic or no magic, we will fight. I for one am not going to run away and hide like we did the first war. We are strong, and we are brave. Pyros is nothing against us."

"Who are you?"

"I am Akira." Akira got down from the rock and began separating the town into groups. She assigned each group a task. I was assigned to the collector's group. We got all the materials the other groups needed. From then on, it "Fetch me some wood," and, "I need some more string," but we didn't mind. Only two weeks later, we had positioned trip wires buried in sand along the shore, dozens of catapults hidden in the bushes, and watchtowers camouflaged with the trees. The people were confident in themselves and determined to win. We all believed we were ready. Everyone except for Akira.

"It's not enough. We need more," she muttered day in and day out. By the third week, we had all become seasoned fighters, an unstoppable force. Even the kids knew how to kick and punch. Yet it was still not enough. Akira sat in her house for three days straight before emerging with an answer.

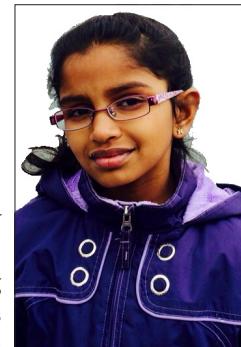
"We need to learn magic," she announced. The people stopped in their tracks.

"How can we learn magic?" one asked.

"Yeah, we lost our magic in the first war" another added.

"We must learn it. It is the only way we can defeat Pyros," Akira said stubbornly. Grumbling, the people agreed and learned to do magic. It seemed impossible. After one week, we could only summon enough clouds to block the sun, and grow sprouts from the ground. But after intense training, we were able to call storms beyond measure, and move tree branches with a swipe of our hand. Just then, the alarm bells rang.

"Everyone, to your positions!" Akira shouted. We all called a storm twice as strong as the first one and aimed the catapults to the ship coming towards the shore. I watched from a



Greek mythology is always interesting.



The Benefits of Competitive Sports

By Abhaysai Vemula 8th grade

Competitive sports and its risks, is all people think about nowadays. There is a risk to playing these sports, I agree, for example, playing football and the disease Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE) have a direct correlation, but one must try to think about the benefits these sports provide children, especially in a world plagued with obesity. Because of harsh weather and other circumstances, kids in today's society may burn their boredom through video games or sports. Sitting on the couch and playing video games is not healthy for someone, but sports are. These sports help kids stay fit, teach kids useful life lessons, and helps them improve their academic standing. So why would someone want to limit something that is helpful? People are not limiting tests like PARCC or SAT. Why are people limiting sports? That is why competitive sports should be viewed as beneficial for children.

The presence of competitive sports in a child's life means that they are likely to be fit. In the article, Sports Promote Healthy Weight in Teenagers it states, "Active commuting, the study found, lowered the risk of obesity 33 percent" (O'Connor, 2012). This fact shows that competitive sports will be of great use for kids who are overweight or obese. Keith M. Drake, an author of the study and postdoctoral research fellow at the Hood Center for Children and Families, states, "I think being part of some kind of team gives kids the opportunity to have moderate to vigorous exercise consistently." (O'Connor, 2012). This is important, as many Americans are spending more time at home, resulting in them being out of shape. With competitive sports, they may become fit and healthy. In addition to this study, I have seen first-hand what sports can do for children. My friend used to be lazy, and all he did was read books and play video games. Then he was enrolled in sports. The next thing I knew is that he went from a fat lazy kid to a fit active child. This is explaining how competitive sports have a positive impact on children. Also, in the video, Child Development Through Youth Sports, it explains how people are spending more time at home lying around watching TV. Because of this, obesity rates have skyrocketed. Competitive sports help overweight and obese children remain healthier. This will help their overall health. So when competitive sports have many benefits why would anyone want to take them away?

Competitive Sports teach kids many life lessons, such as discipline, time management, and how to stay calm under pressure. In the video, Child Development through Youth Sports it states, "Through youth sports children have the ability to better develop physically as well as physiologically. Playing these

sports help them develop a good set of attributes and forces them to use it." (Child Development Through Youth Sports, 2011). This means that whenever someone says that sports promote kids to cheat, and use drugs, their information is false. In a sports game, if a child cheats or uses drugs, they are immediately kicked off of the team, for example, when I was playing soccer, one of my teammates cheated by tripping the other player. The referee immediately gave my teammate a yellow card, indicating if he did it again he would be kicked off of the field. This example shows how sports teach discipline and doesn't enforce kids to cheat. Also, in the article, Get off the Couch and Play! It states, "The challenges young people encounter when participating in competitive sports mirror those they will encounter in their lives." This is saying that competitive sports help prepare a child for his or her life for example, when a kid is playing competitive sports, he or she is under a lot of pressure. This same circumstance is visible at a job interview. Since the child has already experienced this pressure before, he or she will know what to do. Like Natalie Hawkins, a mother of four and a manager, said, "Those lessons could only be learnt in the arena of sports." (Hawkins, 2014). Finally, competitive sports help children do better academically. Some may think that sports would bring a child's grades down, as it takes up a lot of time, but this is not true. Indeed, it does the exact opposite. Michal Lorrec, a sports coach, states, "Those that have an overwhelming schedule when they're playing multiple sports tend to have better grades, They tend to do better than those who aren't playing sports." (KCRA News 2011). This is basically saying that kids who play multiple sports also spend more time on school work helping improve their grades. In school, to be on a sports team, the child has to do well academically. The student must get good grades, or they will not be able to stay on the team. Also, in the video, Competitive Sports at a Young Age, against it states, "...studies show physical activities stimulates the brain and leads to development of intellectual abilities." (University of Ottawa sociology of Health, 2003). This means that through competitive sports children will become much smarter and do better



*This is a serious essay.
Read it and learn.*

Sports con't on page 62



Retold Fable

By Akul Mallela 8th grade

There was a very poor village in a small town. In this town, there was only one job in this village, and that job was cutting wood and selling and trading them at the market. In this village, there were two best friends, Bill and Jack that also went together to get wood every day. One day Bill was sick, so Jack had to go into the woods himself. This was Jack's first time going into the woods himself. Jack and his friend Bill had chopped a lot of wood over the time, and they were one-fourth done with the forest. When Jack found a spot to cut some wood, he started cutting some wood. This was when he started to hear something. As Jack kept walking, he had no idea what it was. After about a twenty minute walk he found a river. He had never seen this river before in his life. Jack was so fascinated with the river that he found. He stared at the river for a couple of more minutes and then went back to work. At about two o'clock, it started to get really hot. Jack finished cutting his last piece of wood and then started to slowly approach the river. He sat at the river and started to splash water on his face. When he went to reach the towel that was next to him he accidentally knocked his ax into the water. Jack sat there in shock. Then a magical talking chicken came and said: "Did you lose your ax?"

"Yes," Jack said

"Is this your diamond ax?" said the chicken.

"No," said Jack.

"Is this your gold ax?" said the chicken.

"No," said Jack.

"Is this your silver ax?" said the chicken

"No," said Jack.

"Is this your wooden ax?" said the chicken.

"Yes," said Jack.

"For being so honest I will give you all the axes that I have," said the chicken.

"Ok," said Jack as he took all of the axes.

Jacks walks back into the village happy. He goes to the market and sells all of his axes and becomes very rich. Bill sees this and asks Jacks how he became so rich. Jack told him what happened, and Bill knew what he had to do tomorrow. Bill set out to the forest and sooner or later he found the river. Bill threw his ax in the water. Then a magical talking chicken came and said, "Did you lose your ax?"

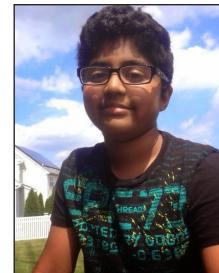
"Yes," said Bill with a smirk on his face.

"Is this your diamond ax?" said the chicken

"Yes," said Bill

"For lying, you will not get the diamond ax or your wooden ax," said the chicken.

Bill walked home sad and realized his mistake. You always have to be truthful no matter what you want.

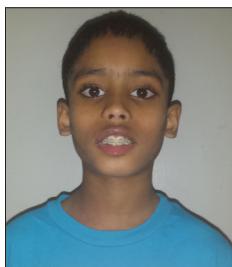


A retold fable is
always interesting.

Parent Poem

By Mohana Sai Ravi 6th grade

Passion
Aggravation
Risky
Enthusiastic
Never gives up
Thoughtful
Special



He is a poet too!

Sports con't from 61

in school. In the end, it is obvious that competitive sports have a positive impact on children academically.

In the end, competitive sports have a major effect on children. I am not denying the fact that competitive sports may be harmful, and sometimes very dangerous for children, but these incidents are rare. Just because once in awhile someone walks away with a concussion does not mean it can or will occur all the time. Competitive sports help children stay in fit, it teaches important life lessons and helps them academically. This is why competitive sports are beneficial for children.

Create Your Own Fable!

Send your submission to editor@citykidzworld.com
Deadline: November 23



The Lost Secret

By Uzair Ahmed 9th grade

There are many secrets in this world. The world's biggest secret; no one knows. Well, perhaps one person knows. That one person is Dr. Nieve. His father told him the hints to figuring out the biggest secret in the world. The secret is on parchment, which is locked in a chest. Here is his story.

It was a gloomy day when Dr. Nieve's father died! Dr. Nieve's father had used his men and tracked down the location of the secret using their satellites. Dr. Nieve's father couldn't fulfill the mission, so it was up to Dr. Nieve. The problem was that it was nearly impossible to get there- Antarctica. Dr. Nieve was next in line to fulfill his family's wish of attaining this glorious secret.

Dr. Nieve and his men would have to all go together if they wanted to go to Antarctica. They would also have to face many obstacles such as the great polar bears. One thing that would help Dr. Nieve is if he could create an alliance with the glorified Kingdom of the Penguins as they could help defeat the voracious polar bears.

It was now liftoff day. Dr. Nieve and his men were now finally ready to go to Antarctica. The trip would take at least five hours. Dr. Nieve thought that five hours was worth it to get the secret.

5,4,3,2,1! The plane took off on the runway, and the plane was in flight. Dr. Nieve immediately fell asleep as the plane took off. The men, however, were awake. They were the most loyal crew anyone could expect. They had no intention of quitting their jobs.

"Finally Antarctica!" Dr. Nieve exclaimed.

"Yes!" The crew exclaimed.

Anyway, everyone was excited about their journey to Ant-

arctica. According to Dr. Nieve's calculations, the exact position of the secret was at -80 degrees North and 21 degrees east: right smack in the middle of Antarctica. That was going to be a hard journey.

But Nieve had already thought of *This is an intriguing story.* The first step was to go to the Kingdom of the Penguins and befriend the king. Then he would have to use the penguins to create an underground tunnel, and they had to fight off the polar bears. In exchange, the penguins would get to know what the secret was. But first things first: Nieve had to go to the kingdom of the penguins. The Kingdom of Penguins wasn't that far away. It was only a 15-minute walk in the freezing cold weather.

There was a big, red door, which was visible from many miles away in front of the empire. The empire was gigantic. King Nieve wished he had a palace like that. Anyway, the penguins were known to be nice. Dr. Nieve was hopeful that they would agree to his offer. Nieve knocked on the door. No one answered. Nieve knocked again. Again, no answered. Nieve knocked one more time, and then finally someone opened the door.

"Where is the emperor?" Nieve asked.

"The emperor is dead." The little penguin said.

Nieve will need to take on the polar bears on his own.

Right when he opened the door to go out, the polar bears were waiting for Nieve. Nieve's crew ditched him, and that left Nieve alone. The polar bears all charged at once, and Nieve's life was taken away. His mission was a failure.



Akira con't from page 60

bush as the ship not only stayed afloat, but it didn't shake or wobble off the path. The catapults fired, only to make dents on the side of the ship. Again and again, we fired, trying to find weak spots. Again and again, we only made dents, swaying the ship slightly. The ship reached the shore, and out poured the army, charging with full speed at our villages. Some managed to get caught in the trip wires, flinging them away, and others set off the blazing fire, which wiped out rows of them, but still more streamed out of the ship until the entire beach was a battlefield. In one mere hour, half of our army was wounded and couldn't fight anymore, and only a handful of their's was down. Akira raged into battle, striking enemy after enemy,

going so fast she was only a streak, but she would tire soon, and when she did, we would be helpless. At the very end of the battle, only five of us were left standing, facing off a dozen of them. The odds were not in our favor and were exhausted from fighting. Akira led the other four into battle, calling trees to tangle the enemies together, and fighting the others bravely. I called up my last bit of strength to call up one last tree and tangled the remaining three together and flung them into the water. We had won. Against all the odds, we had defeated the enemies. Everyone collapsed on the sand, exhausted after the fight. From then onwards, we became the magical people that we were meant to be, and were never bothered again.



Dog Tags

By Vaishnav Srivaths 9th grade

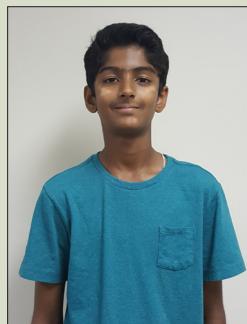
They fight for the country;
They risk their lives.
They don't care
If they don't survive.

Every day they train
In sunshine or rain,
Endure all the pain;
Respect is what they gain.

Heroes in the deserts,
Heroes at sea,
Heroes in the air,
Heroes for you and me.

They shoot the guns,
They fly the jets,
They sail the ships,
They train cadets.

Think about this
The next time you pledge to the flag:
Real heroes don't wear capes,
They wear DOG TAGS.



This is a profound and honorable poem.



Patriotic Writing Contest

Write an essay that focuses on the best qualities of America.

Guidelines: 300 words

Grades: 5th - 12th

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com

Deadline: November 23



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Chapter 2 and 3: Minecraft Story

By Anirudh Jasti 6th grade

Chapter 2

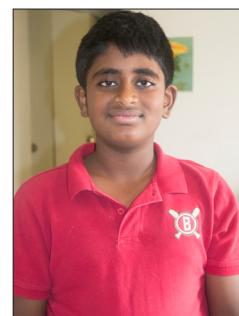
EVERYTHING could go wrong. I couldn't have a SINGLE chance when it came to what happened. Practically a chain of five things happened to me. I was bullied by the 5th grade bully, Ryan Sleeden, and that was one of the worst things that happened to me that day. He has this thing with getting muscles JUST to bully people. He was almost as tall as his teacher, Mrs. Zandria, and he got in trouble a countless amount of times because of his behavior. He hangs around nearly every hallway near each locker. He was known as "The Lion" because of his toughness and strength. I was like a worm to that beast. Oh, and if you were wondering how the rest of my day went, it was just about worse than that specific moment. I got my lowest grade ever, an F, from my art teacher, Mrs. Maltts, and I was kicked out of the room JUST for telling someone to go get a tissue because there was a giant booger hanging out of it. During recess, I was called out because I went into a game that I really wanted to play. In the end, something very unusual happened at dismissal. I tripped down because Ryan



See the Serial online!

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was acting like a jerk to everyone again (notice I did not call him "The Lion" since at least I'm not the one who wastes time giving random people stupid nicknames). I pretty much just go home and play video games without talking to anybody on the way. "Why don't you go outside and spend more of your time getting fit?" scolded my father. He was very into brawn, while I wasn't into that. I was into "games". Good thing that I don't have a sister OR a brother, because I feel like I'm in paradise alone.



Another wonderful story from Ani!

Chapter 3

When you're told to get out in the sun and be happy, you just say that you're very busy on some stupid project for school, and you act like you've been working for hours. That way, you can get a proper excuse from simply tiring yourself for no good reason. I mean, exercise may be fun for some people, but I don't think so. What are they going to do, make a video game out of exercising moves? I can't possibly believe that will ever work. In the meantime, I am playing "Psycho Warriors", and I'm already at the last level. Just that final thing --and DONE! I finished the game! I beat the Ultimate Dragon and got the Medal of Honor! Just at that moment, Dad knocks at the door, begging for me to go outside. He says the wind is "brisk" and that it would feel like an AC. When I ever hear that, I just lock my room door and wait until Dad stops begging. Trust me; it always works when you have a dad like mine. I guess my goal is to spend the whole rest of the afternoon simply playing video games since I got a 50-inch plasma TV and a perfectly decent and affordable PS4.

Do you have a story about videogames?

Write story about videogames

200 to 40 words

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com

Deadline: November 23



Interesting Hobby: Feature

By Mikaela Renshaw College Intern

For the most part, Holly is a typical thirteen-year-old girl, going to school, and spending time with friends.

However, she's also a competitive Irish dancer. Irish dance, or Irish step-dancing, started as a small cultural phenomenon in Ireland but has since spread all over the world, thanks to the popularity of shows such as Riverdance and Lord of the Dance. In the sport, the dances are split into two categories, soft-shoe and hard-shoe. In soft-shoe, dancers try to move without making any noise as they dance in laced leather slippers. Hard-shoe is the exact opposite, with dancers trying to make as much noise as possible with their fiberglass tips and heels.

When I asked Holly what her favorite dance was, she told me it was the hornpipe, one of the hard-shoe dances, because it was rhythmic and off-beat, which she enjoys, and because she loves the loud sounds she gets to make in hard-shoe. Holly has been dancing for nine years, starting just a few months before her fifth birthday. She told me that she started Irish dance after seeing her older sister dance when Holly came with her mom to pick her sister up from the dance studio. Holly thought that her sister always looked like she was having fun, and decided that she wanted to do that too.

Of course, she's come a long way since then, moving up the ranks to become a Preliminary Champion, the second-highest level an Irish dancer can achieve. She first reached that level right before she turned twelve, and has recently won first place in competition for the first time since reaching that level. Her steady rise up the ranks isn't due to luck though, as Holly has worked hard for her achievements. She practices fifteen hours a week, with ten of those hours being at her dance studio. The other five are the hours she practices at home, where she's either doing stretches and core work in her room or going over her steps on the dance floor laid out in her garage.

This schedule isn't easy, with Holly needing to balance both dance and school. Still, Holly seems to have found the right balance since, in addition to being a trophy-winning dancer, she's also a straight A student. She admitted that it doesn't leave her much free time, though, but she was also quick to add that it was worth it. When asked what her favorite part of the dance was, she talked about the people, and how great it was to walk into the studio and spend time with friends who understood her passion. She was also eager to encourage others to dance, wanting them to experience the same joy she does.



This is a great feature story highlighting a talented young person.



The Village of Shorewood

Enjoy a small, descriptive passage about a midwestern, suburban street.

By June D. Ellington Artist-in-Residence



The Village of Shorewood, Illinois, was a landscaped, sunny street; young twiggy trees were stalwart planted by the owners of new houses. Each house boasted a landscape border that extended across the front of each house, around the sides of each house, and across the back – only interrupted by patios, screened in porches, decks, or sunrooms. These conspicuously purchased shrubs, roses, and rocks screamed time and money. Ironically the land had only recently been scalped of robust trees, foliage, and wildflowers to accommodate the growth of the affluent neighborhood. All of the houses on Windsor Drive were new English Tudors: two stories, custom-designed, 3 and a half baths, dry basements, and fenced-in yards. There were miles and miles of these stylized homes in The Village. The Village was a suburb warehouse, with the exception of the one trailer park community on the perimeter of the town and there was also the river front neighborhood with houses built close to a vein of the Mississippi, engulfed in the aroma of urine, with low built, dilapidated homes.

On the corner of Windsor Drive, lived Missy and her mother. Missy was a small, blonde, blue-eyed and delightful toddler with a mushroom haircut and curls. Her mother was a round, blonde, blue-eyed, jolly woman who usually came outside to watch Missy run and play up and down the sidewalk – and



that was all. Next to Missy, lived the people who had tin foil on all of their windows, whom we had never seen. Across from our home lived Nosybody and John, who had two children who went to a private school, in spite of the fact that Troy ISD was one of the best in Illinois.

John could not bring himself to speak to us or look at us, though I once babysat for their two-year-old. He only sneered and maybe that was his smile. His wife, Nosybody would not stop talking to us.

"If Nosybody asks you a question, don't tell her anything," Mother said.

Apparently, Mother thought that Nosybody was one of those adults who would stoop to asking children questions to learn information not forthcoming from their parents.

There was an empty lot on the street right next to our home and on the other side of the lot, eventually, a new family built a house. The only problem with the house, as far as my parents were concerned, was that it was prefab – an affront to the gloriously contracted, constructed, street of middle-class mini-castles.

Jennifer Stahl was in my grade, 5th, when she moved in. She was a tall, skinny brown-haired girl whose house was across and down from my house. Cathy Strand, one grade below me, lived at the end of the street. Jennifer Stahl's mother was unrecognizable in the morning when she drove to work, with a made-up face that looked entirely different from when she opened the door to let me in for a playdate. Jennifer and I had been fast friends, I thought, until Cathy had stolen her away from me. Aaron and Wyatt Neiswonger, who lived next to Jenny Stahl, were an interesting pair of adopted brothers; One, the high school boy, was rumored to have problems and to be spending time in hospital wards from time to time and the other one, only in middle school, was looked upon as delinquent: allegedly burning things, stealing things, and running away, according to Nosybody.

This was our street for five years -- from the time I was nine until I turned 14.

Submit your stories to editor@citykidzworld.com - Deadline: November 23



Pet Column

By Mikaela Renshaw College Intern

Having a pet can be a lot of fun, but there are certain obligations that come with getting one. It isn't all petting and playing. That's why you should always look into the kind of care a pet needs before buying it. Different types of animals have different needs, some more complicated than others. For example, I wouldn't recommend getting a monitor lizard as a first time reptile-owner, as they need quite a bit of work.

And even if you do your research and get an animal that is considered easy to care for, you still have some basic responsibilities to your pet. Food is one of the more obvious ones, but even that's not necessarily straight-forward. Take my dog, Mithril, for example. Mithril would be happy to eat just about anything we give him. My family has often joked that we accidentally brought home a goat instead, given his lack of pickiness. That doesn't mean we should allow him to eat anything and everything, though.

After all, Mithril would love it if we let him gnaw at our chicken bones once we were done with them. In fact, we're often treated to his soulful, begging eyes just staring at the chicken as we eat. However, while Mithril would be happy at first, actually giving him the chicken bones could put him in serious danger. Seems odd, right? After all, everyone knows that dogs chew bones.

However chicken bones are just too fragile for dogs to eat, they're likely to splinter into sharp shards and hurt the dog. So don't just feed your pet anything and hope for the best,



instead make sure to learn which foods will hurt them, which foods are good for their health, and which ones they'll like best as treats.

Cleaning up after your pet is also an important responsibility. If your pet lives in a cage or tank, that cage or tank must be cleaned regularly. If you have dog or cat, in addition to cleaning up the messes they make while they're still potty-trained, you also have to be sure pick up their poop and clean out their letterboxes. This part may not seem very glamorous, but it's important for your pet's health. So is, for that matter, making sure they stay clean, which may mean letting them clean themselves or giving them a bath. Be sure to check what's best and safest for them, for example, animals like small rodents don't do well in water, so no baths for them.

However, while these responsibilities may feel like a lot of work, taking care of your pet can also be fun. For example, Mithril isn't just any dog, he's a Siberian Husky, which means he has a lot of energy. He gets walked twice a day and has plenty of playtime. He's particularly fond of soccer. Yes, playtime is also an important part of owning a pet. Animals such as dogs, often need it to release their energy. Other animals, such as rodents or reptiles need to be handled often to ensure that they're comfortable around humans.

So before you buy a pet, make sure you're prepared to take care of all their needs, the fun ones, and the not so fun ones. That being said, owning a pet can be an incredible experience, so don't feel discouraged. My dog is one of the best parts of my life. So if you're thinking about buying a pet, go out there and find the right pet for you, just make sure you do your research first.



If you have a pet, you have to read this!

Pet Writing Challenge

Write an essay about your pet!

Guidelines: 200 to 400 words

Deadline: November 23

Submit to editor@citykidzworld.com



The School for Good and Evil

Review

By Mikaela Renshaw College Intern

Hidden deep within the woods is the School of Good and Evil where children go to learn how to be fairytale villains or heroes. Or at least that's what the people of Gavaldon say. They also say that two children are stolen from them and taken there every four years. Agatha, a girl everyone has pegged as a villain, thinks it's all nonsense. Sophie, the very image of a fairytale princess, has been waiting her whole life to go.

However, in Soman Chainani's book, *The School for Good and Evil*, things aren't as simple as they seem. The two girls are taken to the school, but once they get there things go topsy-turvy and upside-down, when it's Agatha who's sent to the School for Good, and Sophie finds herself among the villains. Both of them, and their fellow students think that this has to be a mistake, and Sophie, at least, is out to prove it. But despite being a school for fairytales, things aren't always black and white, and the difference between Good and Evil isn't quite as clear cut as the storybooks say it is.

Chainani has taken classic childhood stories and given them new depth. The world he creates is the backdrop for every fairytale explaining how and why these stories exist, while simultaneously making you view them with new eyes. He populates this world with a compelling cast of characters, the most interesting being his two main characters, Agatha and Sophie. Although like any good fairytale, true love does play a role, it's not the focus of this book. Rather it is the friendship of the two girls that takes center stage, a friendship that becomes tested and tried over the course of the novel, not just by the labels they've been assigned, but also by their beliefs about what they should do with them.

So if you're looking for a book that will grab your interest and refuse to let go, *The School for Good and Evil* is exactly what you're looking for. Wishes, knights, witches, and princesses, this book has it all. But it's far from predictable, full of twists and turns that will leave you eagerly awaiting what comes next. And once you reach the end, there's no need to despair, since the book is only the first in the series, which means there's more fantastic fun to be had. So go and pick up a copy, and dive into *The School for Good and Evil*, the fairytale you never knew you wanted.



*This is a must-read book!
Read all about it.*

Are you a teenager who needs
volunteer hours?
Email info@citykidzworld.com.
We can see if we have a place for you.
See you soon!



The Lightning Thief

Summer Reading Contest Winner

By Palak Mehta 8th grade

I believe this book is very intriguing and makes you want to read more. I will definitely recommend this book to my fellow peers. It demonstrates all the writing techniques a good writer should show in their books. It draws the attention every word of the book. The title of the books are extremely attracting, and the ending just makes you want to read the whole series. Additionally, drama and mysteries are incorporated throughout the book. The biggest question was who stole the lightning bolt, and the helm of the two major gods. It is very exciting and keeps the reader engaged in the book.

Rick Riordan knows exactly what a reader is looking for in a book. He uses metaphors, similes, and other good writing techniques. I feel that this book has many mixed emotions and several mysterious events. Even though this book is fictional, and most of the events will never occur in real life, Rick Riordan makes each event come to life. He describes each scene in such detail that it creates a really vivid picture.

The theme in this book is that you should not trust everyone, but only people whom you know very closely. This theme is demonstrated throughout this book several times. For starters, Ares back-stabbed all the gods, even though he is a god himself. They all believed that Ares was a friend, but he turned on them. He had dreams sent by Kronos and was lured into

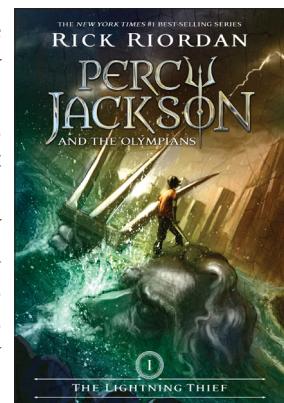
Review

helping him. He set Percy and his friends in a trap and planned to have them killed by Hades. He even fought with a demigod.

Additionally, Luke did the same. He was also brainwashed by Kronos. He turned on them just like Ares. He set up Percy and stole the lightning bolt from Zeus and the helm from Hades. He continuously blamed Percy. Many people trusted Luke, such as the gods, Chiron, and Camp Half-Blood. He did not care about anything, except getting revenge on his dad. He threw everyone else under the bus and switched sides. They trusted him, but he turned out to be a traitor, just like Ares. These are just a few examples of how this theme is portrayed throughout this book. A splendid book to read!



You now need to get a copy of this book!



"The Lightning Thief" by Rick Riordan

CKW Writing Studio is having a fiction Fall reading contest!

After you read each book, you will write a book review and send it to
editor@citykidzworld.com.

Make sure you proofread and we can publish your book review! Book reviews should be 300 to 400 words.

The person who reads the greatest number of books and writes some great reviews will win a gift certificate and a participation certificate!

Submit as many reviews as you like!

Deadline November 23

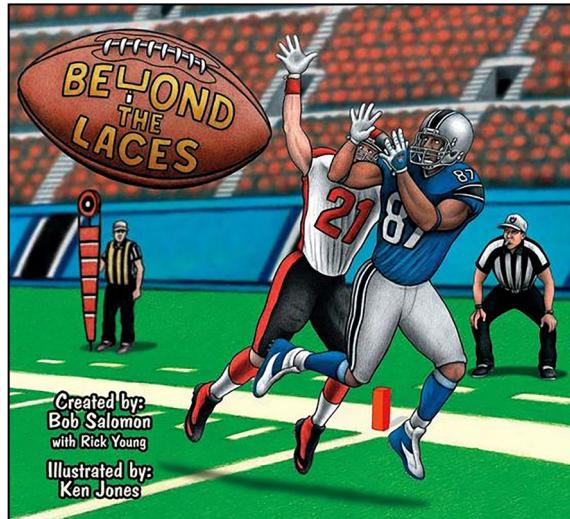


www.citykidzworld.com

Beyond the Laces

Writing Contest

*Write about a time
when you needed to
show compassion to
another person.*



Beyond the Laces by Bob Salomon

Word Count: 200 words

Grades: 2nd - 5th

Deadline: Nov. 23



Rick Young



Bob Salomon

1st prize: The first place winner receives an author visit to their school. (in New Jersey only)

Mission of *Beyond the Laces*

Beyond the story line of our book is a deeper meaning.

The Beyond The Laces Team's mission is to inspire children and families through kindness. We have built relationships with professional athletes from all sports who share our mission to make a positive impact and show that people do care.

Our team organizes book readings and signings, charitable events and fund raisers. We visit schools, hospitals, non-profits, businesses and youth programs across the country bringing the story's message of kindness and to encourage to Never Give Up!



Congratulations Writers and Artists

