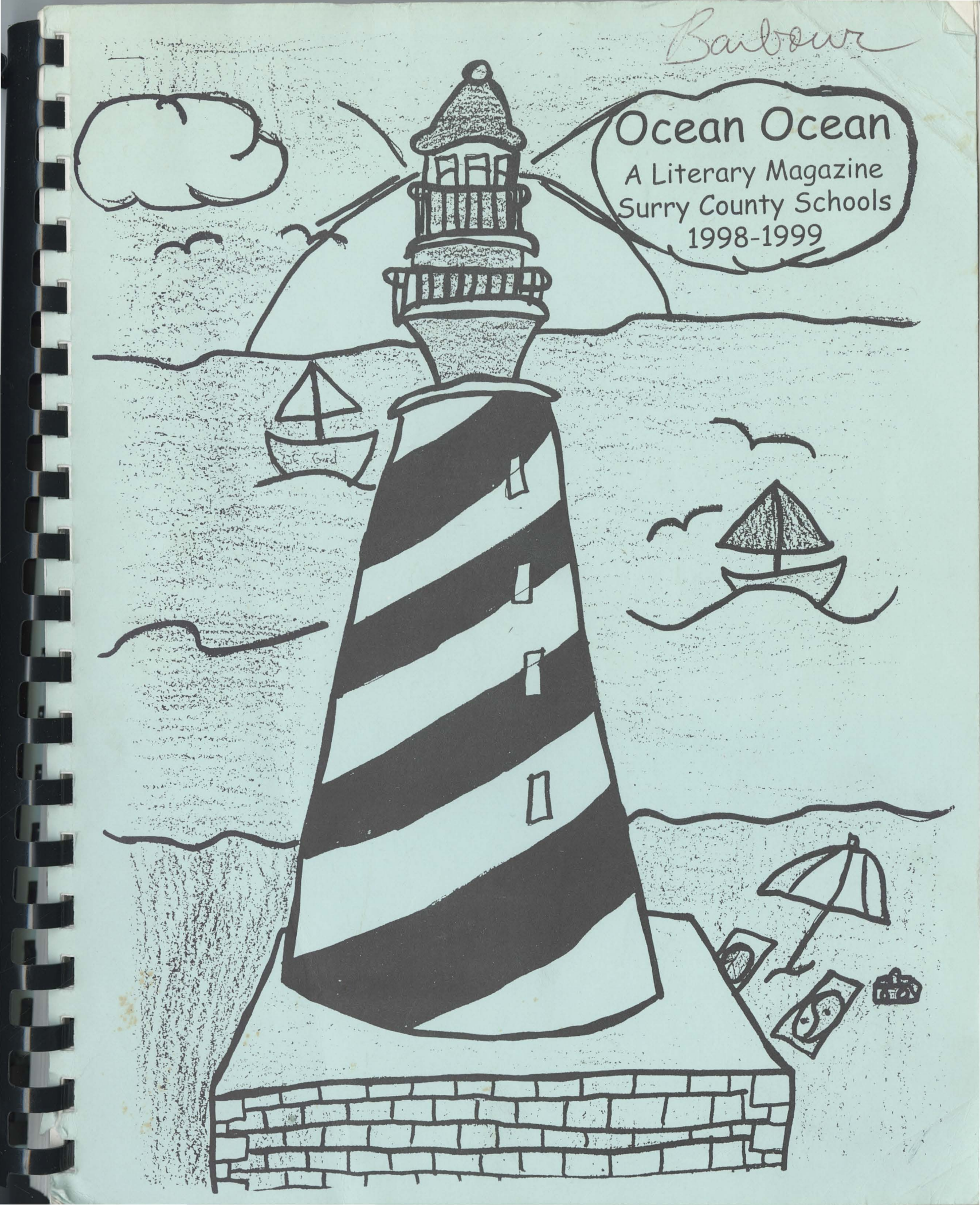
Babour


Ocean Ocean
A Literary Magazine
Surry County Schools
1998-1999

Ocean, Ocean

Students need to learn how to use writing processes in all environments. They need to learn how to write purposefully and strategically. They should provide a sense of organization, movement, and closure in their writing.

North Carolina Standard Course of Study
Revised 1999

The literary magazine, Ocean, Ocean, contains a collection of teacher selected pieces of student work from grades kindergarten through twelve. The entries reflect the skills and talents of students as they have written purposefully and strategically to produce final products.

Special Recognition

We salute students, educators, and family members who give extra time and effort to support the ultimate goal of helping our students use language effectively.

Lead Story:

Student: Natasha Bandy
School: Cedar Ridge Elementary
Teacher: Mrs. Rebecca Austin

Cover Illustration:

Student: Asia Goins
School: Flat Rock Elementary
Teacher: Melissa Hiatt

Word Processing, Copying, Collating:

All students and teachers who submitted entries
Edith Owen, Jackie Hostetter

Ocean, Ocean

Ocean, ocean how do you do?
You are so lovely, you're so sky blue,
Sailors sail on you, fishers fish in you,
And I swim;
You are beautiful!
The blue whales swim in you,
And other beautiful creatures live down below you.
Your waves are magnificent as they crash with a roar.
They run after me as I sit on the shore.

Natasha Bandy
Cedar Ridge Elementary School
Grade 6
Mrs. Rebecca Austin



I love you
School loves me.

Jan Boyd
Mrs. Hemmings' Kindergarten
Copeland



The Cat that was Fat

There was a cat
that was so fat
that he could not sit on a mat
He saw a rat
but he was so fat
he could not chase the rat.

Kayla Beck
4th grade
Mrs. Bowman's class
Copeland Elementary

Clerihew Poetry

George Washington chopped down a cherry tree
His father was mad as could be
His words were, "I can not tell a lie
I chopped it down and don't know why."



Mikey Goins
Franklin
Grade 5
S.McMillian,teacher

The Bad Luck Seashell

"Crash, Crash!!" went the waves on the beach one bright and sunny day. My friend Caroline and I were walking down the beach and we found a black seashell. We picked it up and looked at it for a long time. We decided to take it home and wash the sand off of it. Then it started.... the bad luck. I thought it was only going to last for a day or two but it lasted for a whole week. I decided to go to Caroline's house and tell her all about it. On Monday I broke three plates. On Tuesday I fell off my bike. On Wednesday I was sick and throwing up. On Thursday I didn't pass the spelling test. On Friday I got in trouble because I didn't feed my dog. On Saturday I got my brand new shorts dirty and today I lost the shell.

"You need to help me find it before something bad happens to you," I told Caroline. We tried to find it but the day seemed to go by very fast. The next morning, when I went to her house she wasn't there. Nobody was! It appeared to me that they had moved. My bad luck seems to continue! I started crying and crying. I went home and looked for the seashell under the couch and table. I couldn't find it. All of a sudden I thought of a place that I had never thought of looking before--my closet. I looked there and found it!!!! I decided to throw it away and then it came to me. I would take it back to where it came--the water. So I did. I haven't had bad luck since. The End

Marina Rodriguez
Age 9
Copeland Elementary
Mrs. Jones

My Dog

My Dog is funny,
When he acts like a bunny.
He knocked my brother down,
Because he weighs a hundred Pounds!

by

Rebekah McLaughlin
Second Grade
Copeland Elementary School

Birdy, birdy in the air ,

Why are you never in the Fair?

Birdy, birdy in the air,

You are everywhere.

But, why are you never in the Fair?

The Red-tailed Hawk has such sight,

It makes animals scamper in fright!

Now here's a thing to say,

The Bald Eagle can fly so high,

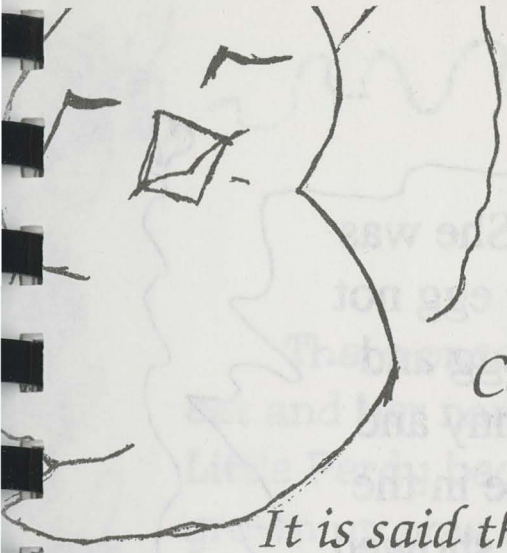
I bet it can touch the sky!

Written by : Nathaniel Cole Lowe
Second grade
Mrs. McKeaver's Class
Dobson Elementary

Eagles

If I were a bird I would be an eagle. I would be an eagle because I could go fishing for my food. I like eagles because they are very big and have lots of feathers. Eagles are my favorite kind of bird.

Michael Phillips
Mrs. McKeaver - Second Grade
Dobson Elementary



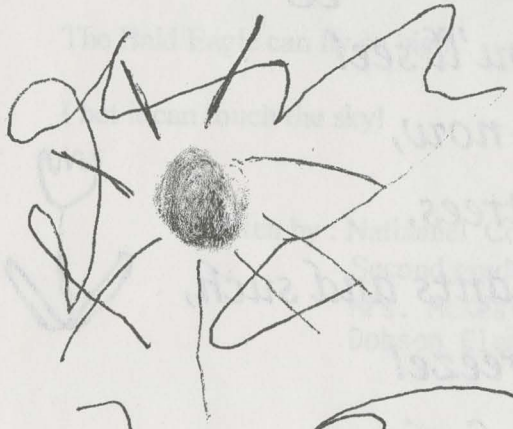
Spring

Come fly with me into Spring,
What will April bring?
It is said that April Showers bring May flowers,
But is it really true?
If you look a little harder,
Why, yes! There's flowers , red and blue!
If you swoop down a little lower to the ground,
You'll see the grass, the Easter eggs!
Oh, What a sight you'll see!
Fly a little higher now,
Past the tops of trees.
You'll see the weeds and plants and such,
Swaying in the Breeze!
Come fly with me in Spring.
What will next month bring?
You'll just have to wait and see!

Lucas Fowler
4th Grade / Mrs. Sharon Jessup's Class
Shoals Elementary School

One day I saw the Easter bunny at the mall. She was sitting in rocking chair. She gave me a Easter egg not just any ordinary Easter egg it was a magic egg and when I brought it home it changed into a bunny and **pow** it turnd back into a egg .I told every one in the neighbor hood. Nobody believed me. When I showed it to them they just laughed and said there's no such thing and they walk away. One day I was sitting on my couch when all a sudden it turnd into a bunny and it stayed a bunny forever and it never stopped being a bunny. The End

Casey Thomas
First Grade
Franklin Elementary
Mrs. Gause





My Pets

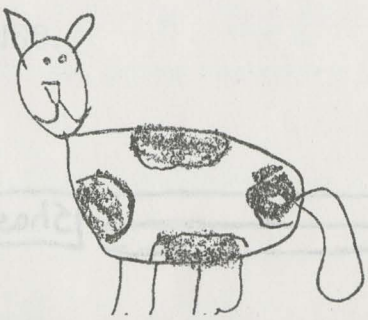
There once was a cat who had six kittens. She is my cat and her name is Perdy. I have another cat and I call her Little Perdy because she looks like her mother. She is all grown up now and has kittens of her own. Both Perdy and Little Perdy are white with black spots. They sort of look like a cow. When I go downstairs they follow me and get into the dog's food. They love any kind of food!

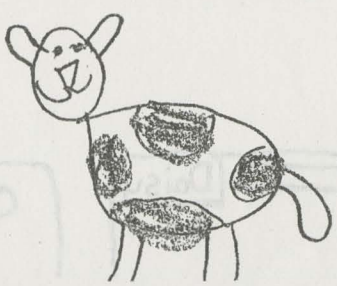
I also have a dog, named Kelly, she is deaf. The reason I know Kelly is deaf is because we took her to the Vet and he said there was nothing he could do. Kelly had three puppies but one died and the other two ran away and never came back.

I have a goldfish that I named Goldie. She lives downstairs in a tank. Sometimes I go downstairs to feed her but my daddy usually does it.

Elizabeth Marshall
First Grade/ Mrs. Venable's Class
Shoals Elementary School





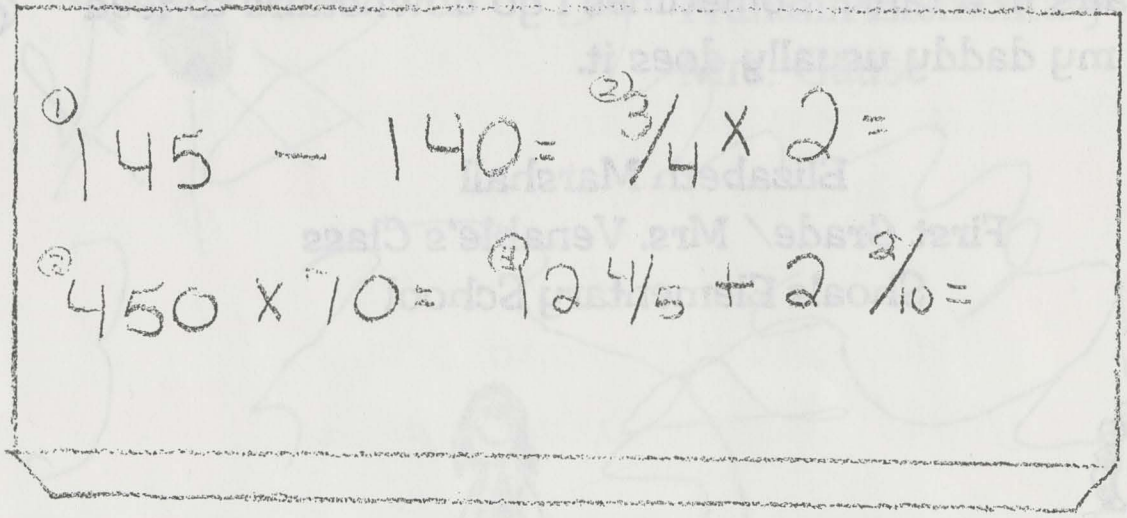


School

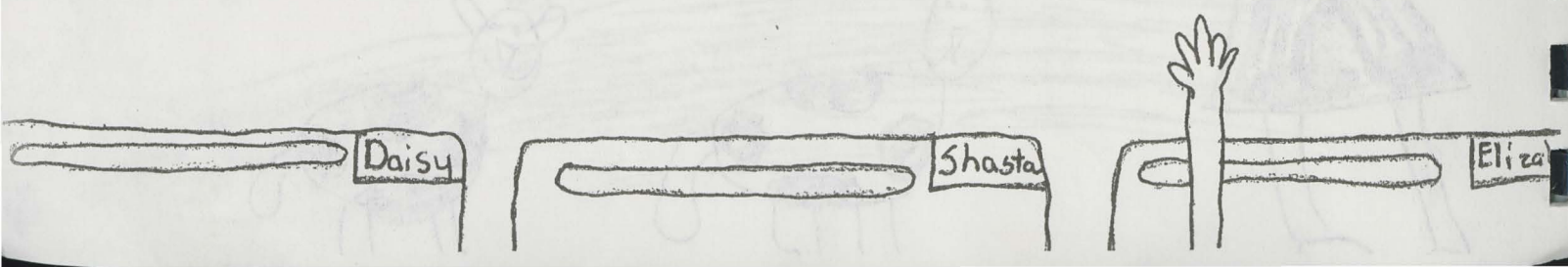
School is a place of learning where everybody
gets tired. Even the teachers get tired.
To many letters, too much of everything.
But sometimes it is a place
where teachers make fun out of learning,
like our teacher Mrs. Howard.
She speaks out in power.
She is our tower.
Our tower of
learning.

Dedicated to: My fifth grade teacher Mrs. C. Howard.

Written by: Elizabeth Marin
Illustrated by: Shasta Heath
5th Grade
Mrs. C. Howard
Shoals Elementary







Backward's Day

On a bright, cool day in October I woke up at 7:00 to get ready for school. Eveything looked fine and nothing was out of place, but believe me, it wasn't a normal day!

As I was getting dressed, I seemed to notice that all my clothes were turned inside out. I began to walk into the kitchen. But wait a minute! There was something wrong with the way I walked. I was walking backwards! I tried to walk the right way but it was no use. It was like I was trapped in Sabrina Spellman's house or something. I ran to the kitchen (backwards of course) and said "Pinch me mom this must be a dream!" "Och!" "I'm taking this is real, huh?" "Yup." she said. "Didn't you hear on the news?" "Hear what?" "That today's Backward's Day." "Oh! I thought that was just for little kids!" "No. That's for everybody. The whole world is backwards!" "Oh no!" I screamed.

After I put on all my backward clothes and got to school, I had to walk all the way to class...backwards.

When I got to class everyone (including teachers) were wearing their clothes backwards and walking backwards. I even had to eat lunch backwards! Every book had all the words written backwards.

When the weirdest school day of my life was over (thank goodness) I went home on the backwards bus and walked backwards to my house.

That night when I went to bed everything was still backwards. But when I woke up the next morning everything was normal. All the books were fine and all the clothes were too.

No one remembered anything about the day before but me. I'll never forget that day for as long as I live. If you were me you wouldn't either.



Lesli Driskill
Franklin
Grade 5
McMillian, teacher

My Horse

Once in my old barn a mother horse had a baby. A girl pony was born and we named her Sugar Bowl. We named her that because I was feeding her brother and sister sugar cubes and she came right over and ate their sugar cubes. She was chubby, tall, brown, and had white spots. Her coat was very shiny.

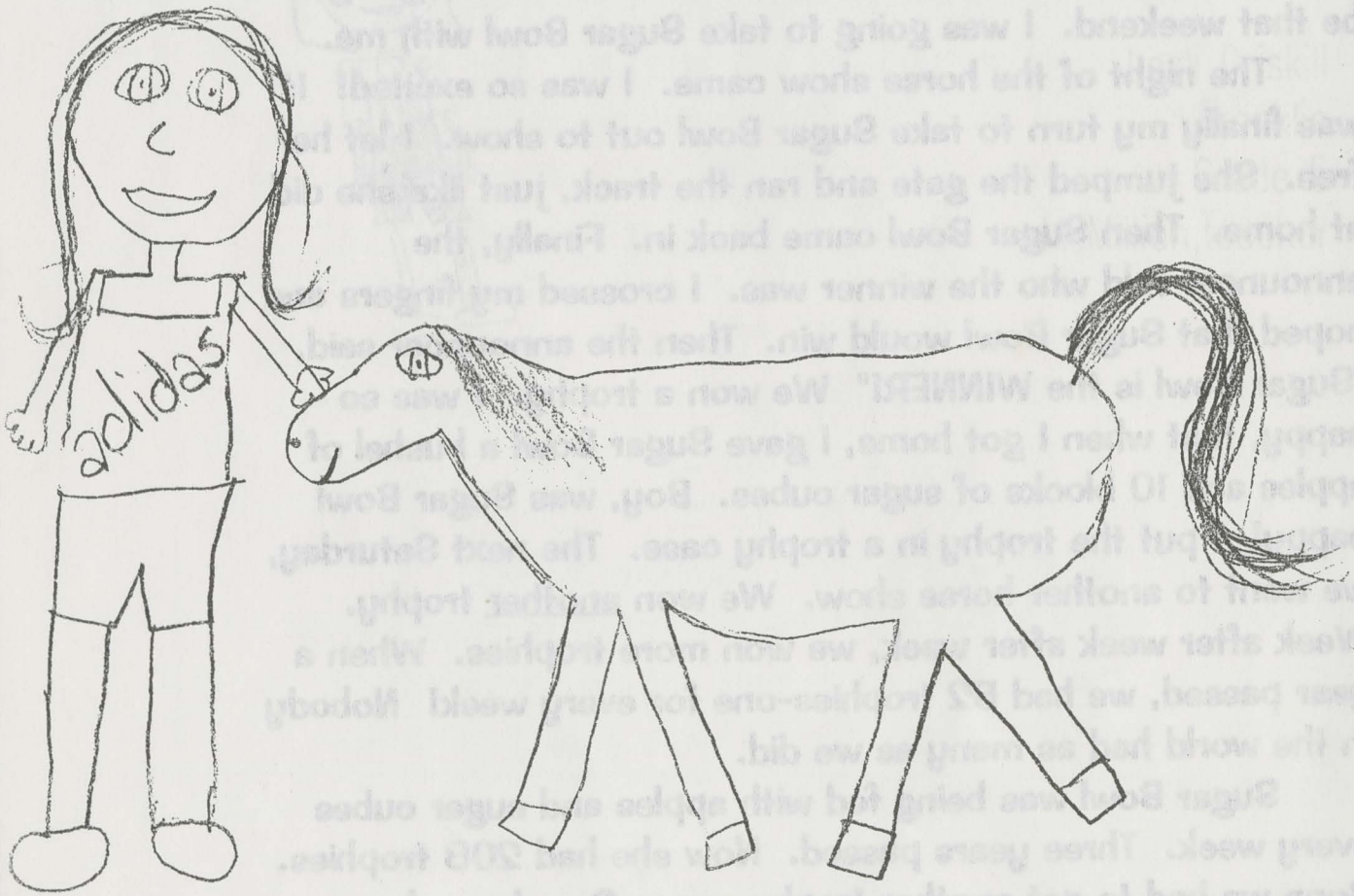
One day I took her outside. She ran on the course for the horses, jumped the gate and kept running the track. She was the fastest horse I ever saw. A horse show was going to be that weekend. I was going to take Sugar Bowl with me.

The night of the horse show came. I was so excited! It was finally my turn to take Sugar Bowl out to show. I let her free. She jumped the gate and ran the track, just like she did at home. Then Sugar Bowl came back in. Finally, the announcer told who the winner was. I crossed my fingers and hoped that Sugar Bowl would win. Then the announcer said, "Sugar Bowl is the WINNER!" We won a trophy. I was so happy, that when I got home, I gave Sugar Bowl a bushel of apples and 10 blocks of sugar cubes. Boy, was Sugar Bowl happy! I put the trophy in a trophy case. The next Saturday, we went to another horse show. We won another trophy. Week after week after week, we won more trophies. When a year passed, we had 52 trophies-one for every week! Nobody in the world had as many as we did.

Sugar Bowl was being fed with apples and sugar cubes every week. Three years passed. Now she had 208 trophies. Soon we had to get another trophy case. One day, when we had 10 trophy cases, we had to stop going to horse shows and let some other people win some trophies.

Soon Sugar Bowl got too old. One day she died. I was so sad. I cried for two days straight. But I'll never forget her. When I hold a sugar cube, tears come to my eyes.

By: Jenny Benge
White Plains
Third Grade
Mrs. Goettel

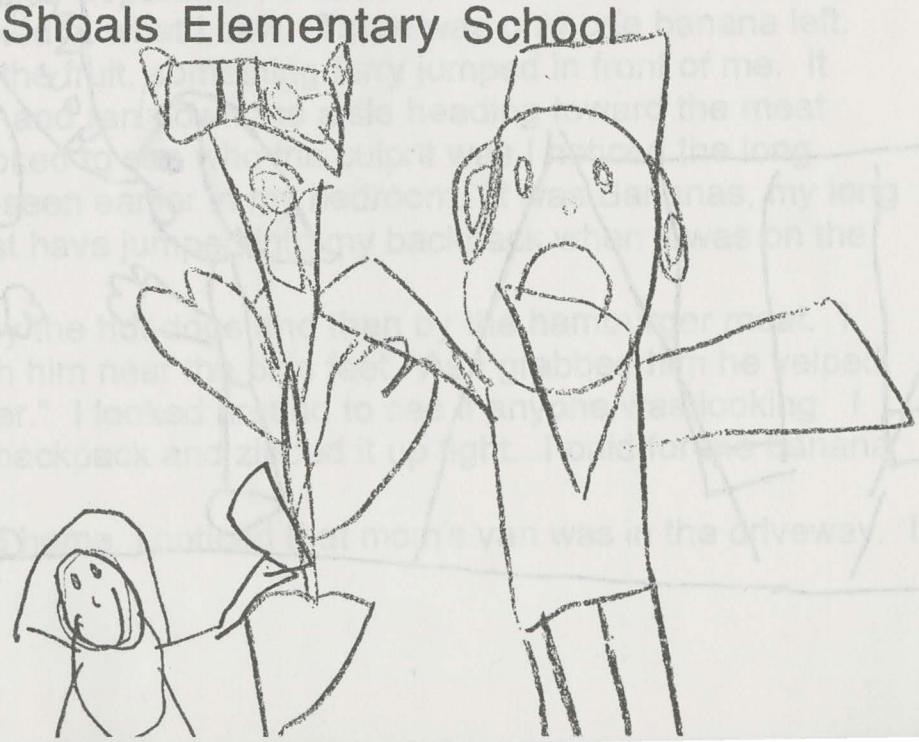


Ericka and the Big Red Strawberry

There once was a girl named Ericka and her mother told her to go get some fish but instead she got some magic strawberry seeds. She planted them and the strawberry seeds grew and grew and grew so big that she went up the vine. At the top she saw a giant door. She knocked on the door and a nice boy came out. He said, "Leave! Leave because a giant lives here!" "But let me come in," said Ericka. The boy said, "Well I guess I could let you come in, but be very careful." "Oh, I will be careful,"said Ericka. Ericka found some golden eggs but then the giant came and he said, "Fe Fi Fo Fum. I smell the blood of an Englishman!" Ericka ran through the door and down the vine and her mother cut down that vine.

The End

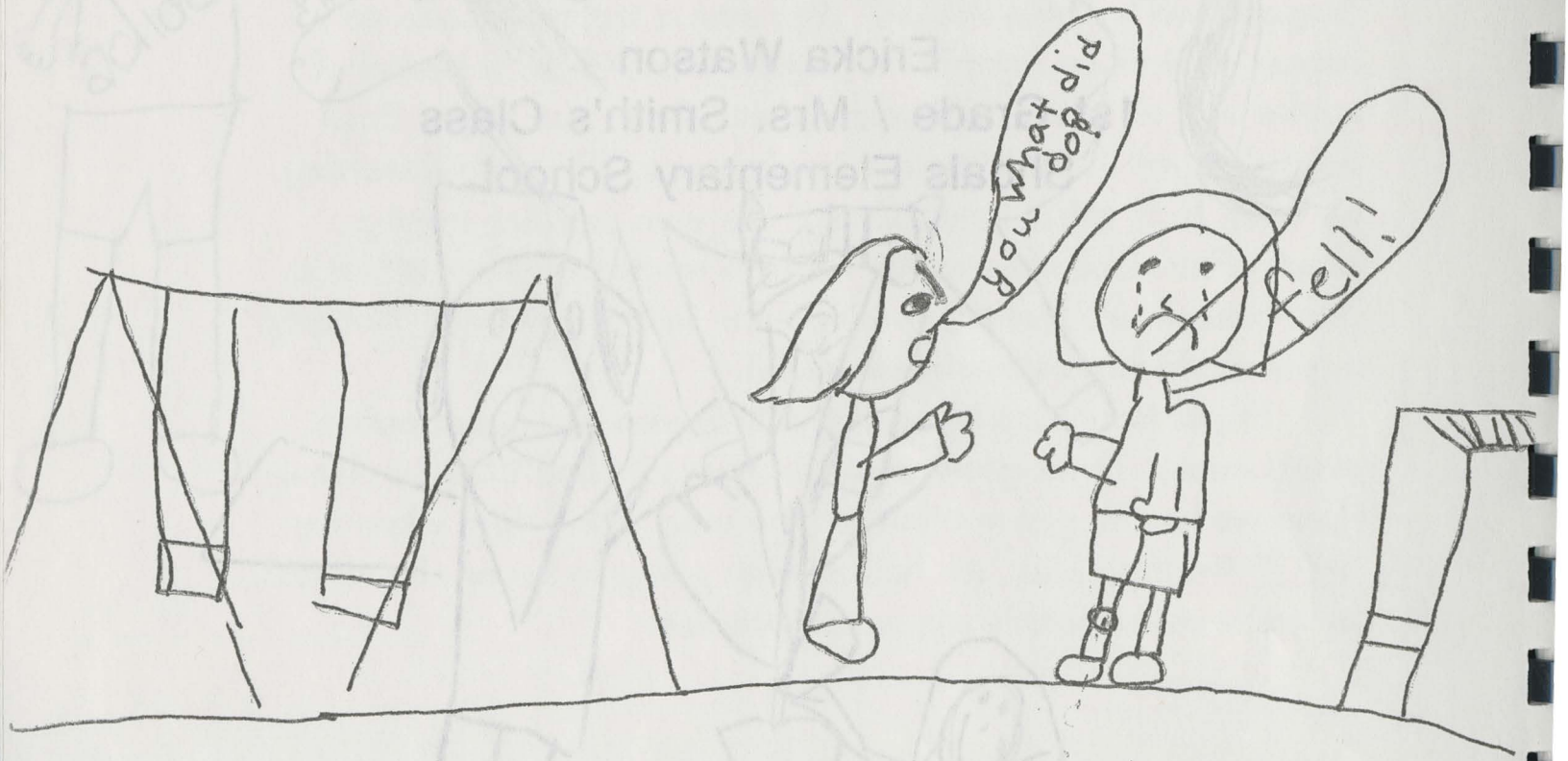
Ericka Watson
1st Grade / Mrs. Smith's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Courtney Simmons

Courtney is nice!
Courtney is my friend!
Courtney is the funniest girl in the world!
Courtney does not bite me, or at least she does not yet.
Courtney is my best friend in the world!
If I am hurt, she will say, "What did you do?"
Courtney is my best friend!

Courtnie Long
Second Grade/ Mrs. Scott's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Help, Monkey!!

"Help," I yelled as a brown fuzzy long-tailed creature slowly crawled across my bed. It was Saturday morning after Christmas and I couldn't believe my eyes! The next thing I knew, I woke up lying on the floor, I had fainted. As I awakened I knew that I hadn't been dreaming because there standing in front of me was the same long-tailed creature. The light from my window revealed that the creature was in fact my stuffed monkey Bananas. He had come to life.

I noticed that the monkey had a glass of water in his hands. He was about to throw it on my face when I yelled, "stop, what do you think you're doing?" The poor monkey must have thought that I was being mean to him because he left the room sobbing. I ran out of my room looking for my new friend everywhere. He wasn't upstairs so I jetted down the steps. To my surprise he was plopped down on our couch watching cartoons. I ran over to him and apologized for yelling and sounding so mean. I asked him if we could still be friends but he quickly turned his back on me. I knew he had not accepted my apology. I tried again to apologize telling him that I'd do anything to win his friendship back. He slowly faced me and said, "monkey want nanner."

I swiftly picked up my friend and we went into the kitchen. Unfortunately we were out of bananas. "Monkey want nanner," my little friend whined. I knew I had to do something. I quickly grabbed my backpack and placed it on the counter. I grabbed two dollars out of my mom's purse and headed to the corner store.

When I arrived at the store I dashed in the front door. I headed straight for the produce department and as I turned the corner near the bananas I was shocked at what I saw. There was only one banana left. As I dashed to grab the fruit, something furry jumped in front of me. It grabbed the banana and ran down the aisle heading toward the meat department. As I looked to see who the culprit was I noticed the long brown tail that I had seen earlier in my bedroom. It was Bananas, my long tailed friend. He must have jumped into my backpack when it was on the kitchen counter.

I chased him by the hot dogs and then by the hamburger meat. I finally caught up with him near the pigs feet. As I grabbed him he yelped, "monkey want nanner." I looked around to see if anyone was looking. I tossed him into my backpack and zipped it up tight. I paid for the banana and hurried home.

When I arrived home, I noticed that mom's van was in the driveway. I

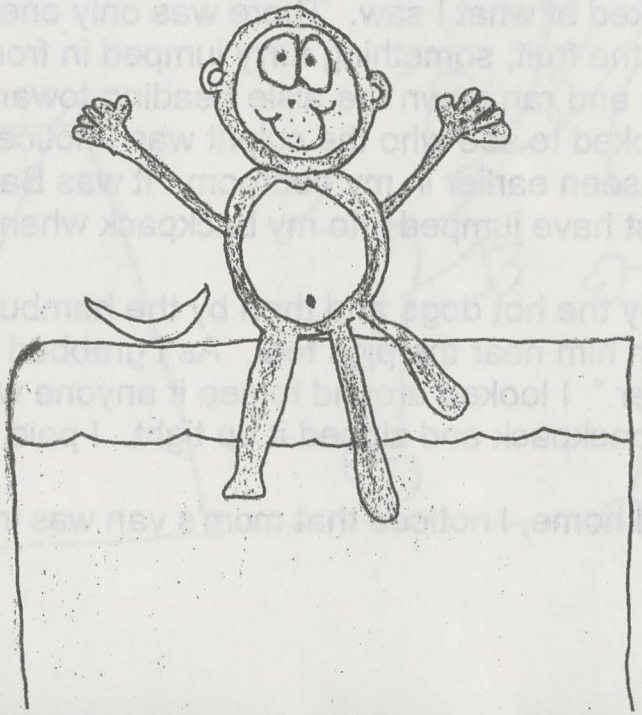
panicked and scurried through the back door. I ran by my mom and she turned to me and said, "can't I even get a hello kiss?" I gave mom a quick kiss hello and headed for my room.

I carefully took my friend out of my bookbag and placed him on my dresser. I gave him the banana and he chomped down hard. When he had finished the banana, he smiled from ear to ear. We had a great time the rest of the day playing in my room. We listened to music and danced. We had tons of fun although we didn't talk much. The only thing my little furry friend could say was, "monkey want nanner."

As the sun set we realized that it was time for bed. My little friend laid down and closed his eyes. I reached for him but his body was lifeless. I shook him and tried to get him to talk to me but he wouldn't. He had returned to the land of stuffed animals and left me behind, all alone.

I tossed and turned for hours. It took forever to go to sleep. As I slept I dreamt about my friend Bananas. I dreamt of all the fun we had together. Finally, it was morning and I slowly opened my eyes. As I awakened, I felt something cool on my hand. As I rose up and looked down, I saw a banana peel resting on my wrist. Under the corner of my covers, I saw a brown furry tail. Could it be?

Marli Bennett
4th Grade
Mrs. Cook / Mrs. Bullington
Shoals Elementary School



Christmas

Care
Heart
Reindeer
Icicles
Santa Claus
Tinsel
Mistletoe
Angels
Stockings

Written by,
Kelsey Smith
3rd Grade
Mrs. Lovelace
Shoals Elementary

Raining Cats and Dogs

In the year 2,358, I was sitting under a Urotism tree, watching the purple sky move back and forth with the wind. The soft breeze inclined me to sleep, and just as I was dozing off, something hit me. No, not an idea, but something like a.... a... a Sefress bird? No! It was a gray squirrel! But how? I wondered. Gray squirrels haven't been around since, let's see, 1999!!! I sat up, and jumped on the squirrel. I noticed one thing about it: it's eyes seemed dazed and red, orange, and yellow...the eyes were changing color !! I released the squirrel, jumped back, and watched him scamper under my Space Runner. "Peculiar" I said. "Very Peculiar!"

At Cyper school the next day, as I was talking to my best friend Mica about the incident, I thought I noticed a small, distinct figure with a tail, pointy ears, a short mouth and nose, and noticeable, dazed, colored eyes, just like the squirrel. "Oh no." I mumbled as Mica and I watched 3 more ...Juiner rats?...no, cats from the 19th century float/fall from the silver sky. We looked at each other and Mica said, "I hope this isn't where they get 'raining cats and dogs.'"

The next day wasn't much different. Instead of baseball, my friends and I played turtle ball! The space-market had a big sale on live beef, chicken, and turkey, and had plenty of, what are they? Oh yeah, dairy products to go around! The Electro-horse races now had muscle powered entertainment, and all the pet stores had plenty of sales on kittens, pups, colts, parakeets, hamsters, butterflies, and an occasional wolf or two! The navy and Space-force had new recruit bombers and spies, and Planet Jazzer and Wiry Space had huge, heavy rockin' mascots like baby deer and/or baby elephants! N.A.S.A.Z. (the "Z" stands for zoo!) just, well, just didn't have enough cages and pens for all the

animals that had been herded there, so by now the planet Ofraniurquis was completely overrun by animals.

About a week later, Mica, a skunk, and I were sitting on what was left of her Space Runner, just watching the sky spit out more zebras and chickens. The skunk left (thankfully), and we sat in silence, also watching, pirhana bite at each other in an echoit (a birdbath). All of a sudden, Mica threw a fit. "I CAN'T STAND IT!" she screamed. "What do these...animals! Expect us to do with them?!? You stupid birds!!" she cried out, staring at the flocks overhead. "You stupid llamas! You stupid porcupines! You stupid deer! And buffalo! And zebras! And cows! And wolves! And...and...and..." She panted, then heaving, plopped down beside me. "Now Mica. There has to be some way to get these things back to where they came from. Please don't get upset. You make me sick!" I said, but I was furious too. "What? Hey, it's not like we could capture their leader and the biggest flier and time warp them back to 1999! We'd have to hypnotize...Uh oh." Mica had yelled all this, but when she noticed that "Oh-man-I've-got-an-idea" look in my eyes, she backed away, saying, "Oh no. No, I- I was just kidding! Now..." "That is perfect!" I shouted. "All we have to do, is turn the ...hmmm...Bald Eagle and Lions around, because the eagle flies, and can lead them back, and the lion is the "king," so he makes them follow! Yes! Just lasso them down, and stare into their eyes, and say, "Go back home to 1999!" "Yes! You're brilliant, Mica!" With that, I hopped off the Runner, and grabbed some rope from under it. Making a lasso, I jumped onto a giraffe grazing on some Urotisam leaves. Climbing (and huffing) up to the neck of the animal, I spotted an eagle, low soaring, above our heads. Looking excitedly at Mica, she gave me a shaky thumbs up, while she crept up behind a lion. I smiled, and stepped on the head, the giraffe

watching me cross-eyed. The eagle was huge, and I wavered a little. But I threw the lasso as hard as I could into it's path, and YANKED! The bird fell on top of me, and I caught it's beak. It struggled to scream, but I had my eyes already caught on his. The eyes swirled and swiveled as I spoke those words. When I released him, Mica, below, dashed away from the lion. The eagle shook his head, spread his wings out, and charged into the sky! He swooped down, calling to the other animals. The lion joined in and "herded" the smaller ones first into the clouds with the eagle. The beast returned, and took each and every race and kind of animal to the eagle's side. Animals filled the sky. I tumbled off the giraffe, landing beside a sullen, sad Mica.

We watched as the lion and eagle looked back at us, as if to say, "Thank you," then both turned, and vanished into the clouds, the others just a light year behind them. Mica and I fell to the ground, exhausted, then fell asleep. We woke up an hour later, on the floor of my sci-cell. Was it a dream? I wondered. Sitting up and rubbing my eyes, I glanced at mica, still asleep, with a little, shrill snore mixed in. That's funny. She never snores! I thought. I crawled around her, and I laughed so hard, tears fell down my face. Mica woke up then. "What's so funny?" she asked. I pointed behind her, still laughing. She looked once, then burst with chuckles, then the laughter! For what she saw, was that same gray squirrel that I saw on the first day of that storm! He's my pet now, and every time he looks at a purple sky, he jumps up and down, grinning!

Lydia Stickel
5th Grade
Teacher: Mrs. Simpson
Dobson Elementary

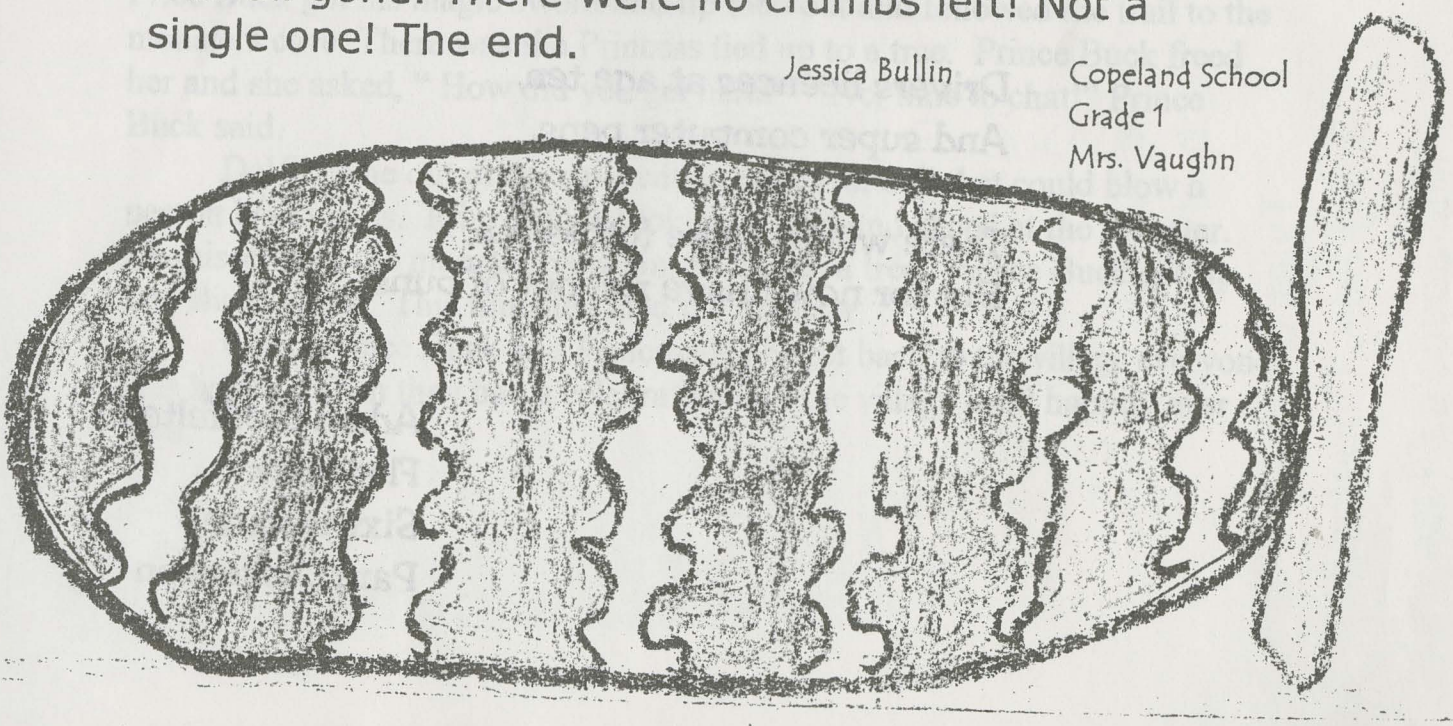
The Enormous Watermelon

I am going to tell this story again in my own words. I liked this story because it had characters from other books. I really liked this story and I hope you will too!

There once was a lady and her name was Old Mother Hubbard. She found a seed in her cupboard. She planted the seed and looked at it everyday.It grew and grew and grew until it was big and ready to pick. She tried to pull the watermelon out of the ground but she couldn't. She called Humpty Dumpty and they couldn't pull it out of the ground. Humpty Dumpty called Little Miss Muffet to help. They couldn't pull the watermelon out of the ground. Little Miss Muffet called Jack and Jill. They still couldn't pull the watermelon out of the ground. It was too big. Jack and Jill called Wee Willy Winky. And guess what? The watermelon came out of the ground. I guess they had enough people!

Old Mother Hubbard, Humpty Dumpty, Little Miss Muffet, Jack and Jill, and Wee Willy Winky all decided to eat the enormous watermelon. They ate until it was all gone. There were no crumbs left! Not a single one! The end.

Jessica Bullin
Copeland School
Grade 1
Mrs. Vaughn



FUTURE FUN!

I'm going to tell you about future fun,
Be prepared, I'm going to talk a ton.

Monster trucks drive us to school,
During P.E. we swim in pools.

We have teacher supermodels,
And flame resistant bottles.

There will be no crime,
My teacher's age will be prime.

You won't have to cook,
We'll leave that to a book.

Homework will be very easy,
The weather will always be breezy.

Every day we'll change our heights,
And rabid dogs will not bite.

Drivers licences at age ten,
And super computer pens.

There will be more future fun,
But for now I have run out of puns...

Adam Clodfelter
Flat Rock
Sixth Grade
Pam Dickenson

The Magic Sword
by
Buck Blevins

Second Grade
Copeland Elementary School

Once upon at time there was a small happy village in China. In the village there lived a prince named Buck and a princess named Kelly. They were the best of friends. Prince Buck owned a magic sword. It could throw lightening at bad people or monsters.

One day DeVil a green monster with bumpy skin, red eyes and hair that stuck in the air came and set the village on fire with a big torch so he could get the sword. Prince Buck hid the sword in a treasure box in the castle.

Princess Kelly was very brave and so she went into the woods where DeVil lived to fight him.

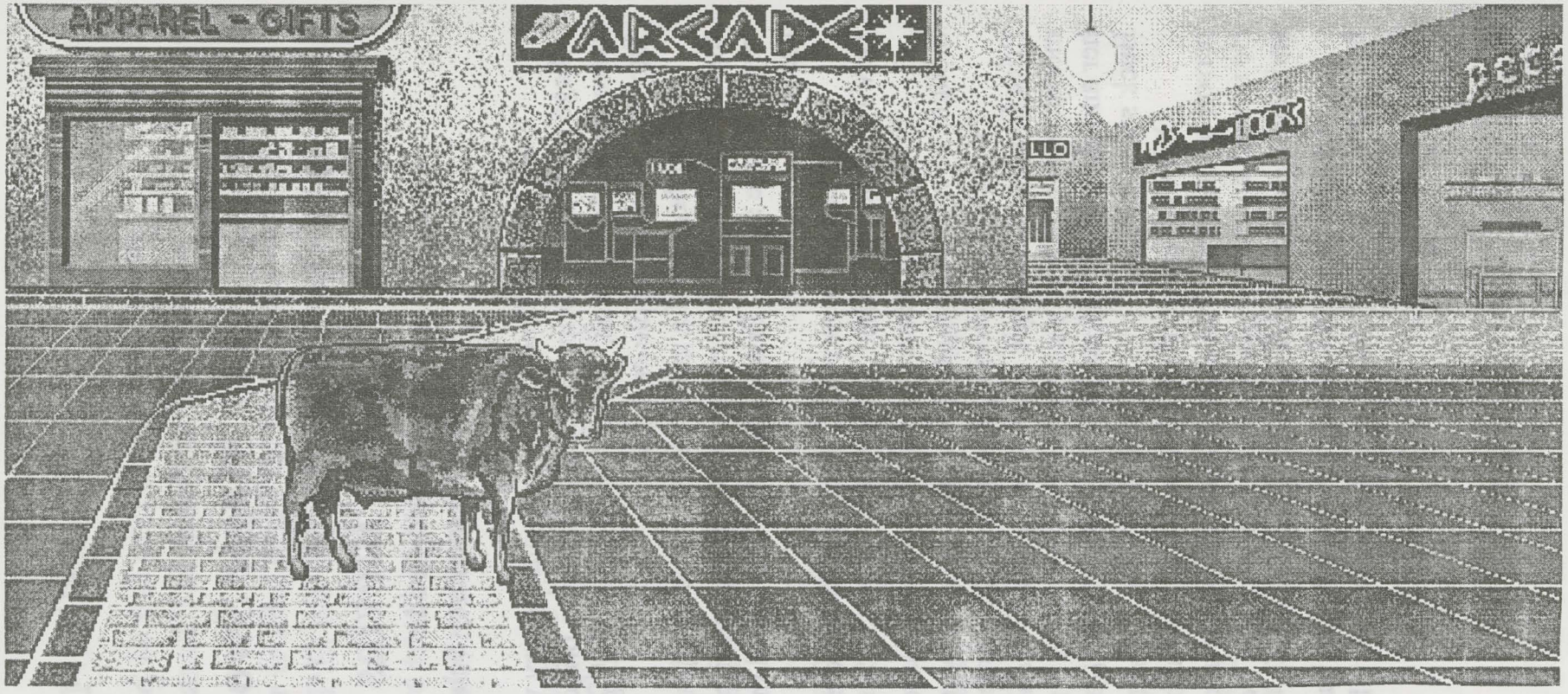
Prince Buck wanted to save her but the guards held him back. They thought he would get hurt. They didn't know about the magic sword.

Princess Kelly didn't come back to the castle. So when it was night Price Buck got his magic sword and tip toed out and followed the trail to the monsters cave. There was the Princess tied up to a tree. Prince Buck freed her and she asked, " How did you get here?" "No, time to chat!" Prince Buck said.

DeVil came out of the cave with a powerful ball that could blow a person backwards. Prince Buck took his sword and sliced at the monster. He missed and the monster blew him back into a tree. Prince Buck got up and sliced again. This time he killed the monster.

When Prince Buck and Princess Kelly got back to the village everyone was happy. Then they had a celebration and the village lived happily ever after.

The Fat Cow



One day there was a cow and he decided to go out for dinner. So at 12:00 the cow went to eat at Pizza Hut. When he got there no one was there. SO, he he ate 10 pizzas and 1,000 bread sticks. When he was done eating he had a stomach ache. He did not ever eat 10 pizzas and 1,000 bread sticks again. moral: Too much of anything often leaves one with a feeling of regret.

Tyler Simpson
3rd grade, Copeland
Ms. Joyce's Class

How Easter Almost Wasn't

Written By Ian Huels
3rd Grade
Shoals School
Ms. Fowler's Class

It was a steamy, hot April morning. Peter woke up early. "Oh, no," he shouted, "tomorrow is Easter Sunday. I better hurry off to the factory to see how my workers are doing!" Peter dressed quickly, and set off for his factory.

When he arrived at the factory, he found all of his bunnies busily working. Freddie and Mike were dying Easter eggs, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. Matt and Seth were counting out the jelly beans, twenty-five to each child. Mary and Sadie were filling each basket with handfuls of soft, Easter grass. And, Alex and Petunia, Peter's sister, were busy mixing the gooey chocolate candy. They were making chocolate eggs, chocolate bunnies, chocolate ducks, and big chocolate crosses, filled with caramel.

All of a sudden, Peter heard a scream from the Easter basket department. Sadie had fainted from the heat. Next thing he knew, Petunia was yelling that her eggs were all melting.! Peter looked at the thermometer. Oh, no ! It was 110 degrees Fahrenheit. Alex ran over with melted chocolate and caramel stuck to his soft, brown fur.

Peter said, "Oh, no. What are we going to do ? It's already 2 P.M. I have to begin my deliveries by midnight."

"Easter will be ruined," said Matt.

"This will be the worst Easter ever," said Seth.

"The children will be so disappointed," said Mary.

Freddie said, "I wonder what Santa Claus would do in this situation?"

"He'd bring in the snow," replied Mike.

Petunia exclaimed, "That's a wonderful idea! Let's get some ice, and maybe some fans. We can cool this place off!"

So all the bunnies got busy carrying buckets of ice to the factory. Peter called all of the neighbors, and asked them to bring every fan they could find.

At 2:30 P.M., Peter checked the temperature. It had dropped to 98 degrees Fahrenheit. The caramel was getting harder, and Sadie was back on her feet. But, the chocolate was still melted. They moved the fans closer to the chocolate machines. The chocolate had started to harden, but then they had another problem. The caramel that was in the chocolate machine got too hard, and jammed the gears. The chocolate machine was ruined.

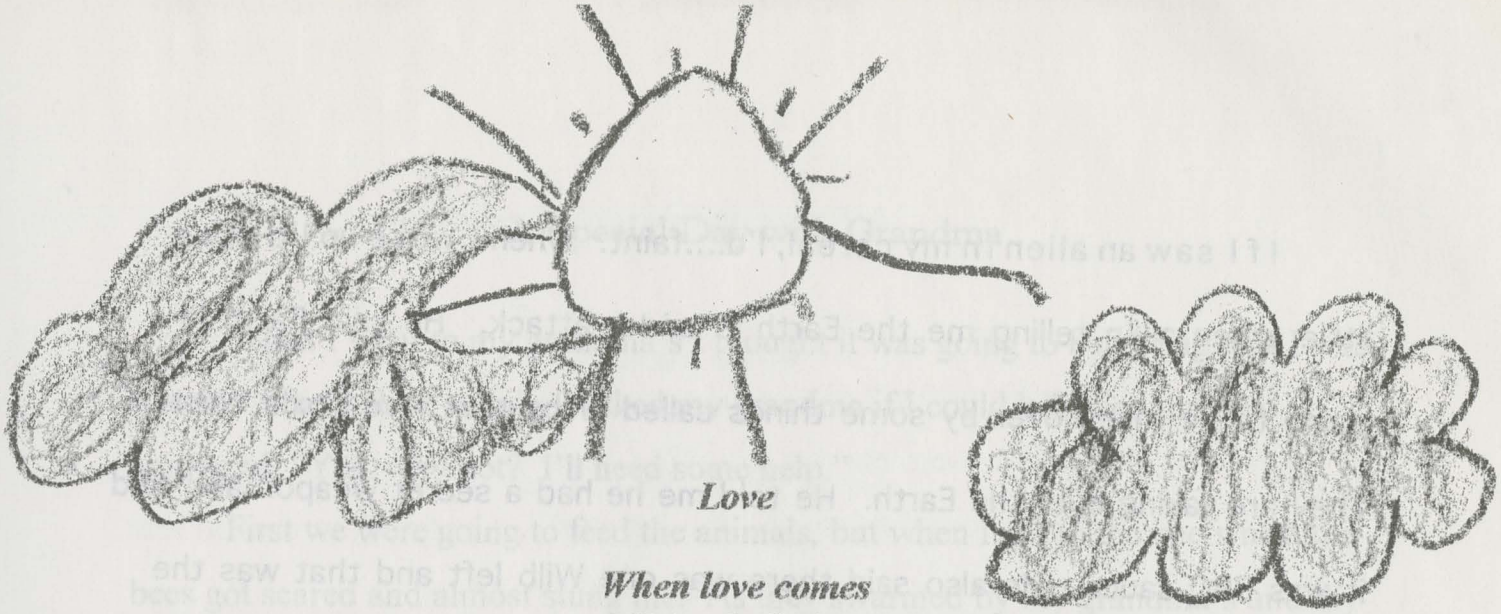
A miracle happened at 4:45 P. M. - a thunderstorm came. By 5:15, the temperature had dropped to 82 degrees Fahrenheit. The chocolate would be fine, but what would they do about the machine ?

"If we all work together," said Peter, "we can get it fixed." Matt, Alex, Freddie, Seth, and Mike cleaned the caramel off the gears. Sadie, Mary, and Petunia hosed down the machine. By 5:49, everything was up and running smoothly.

"Hooray!" they all yelled, "Easter has been saved!"

"I'll never forget this Easter,' Peter sighed with relief, and I never want to do it again!"

Moral : Always be prepared.



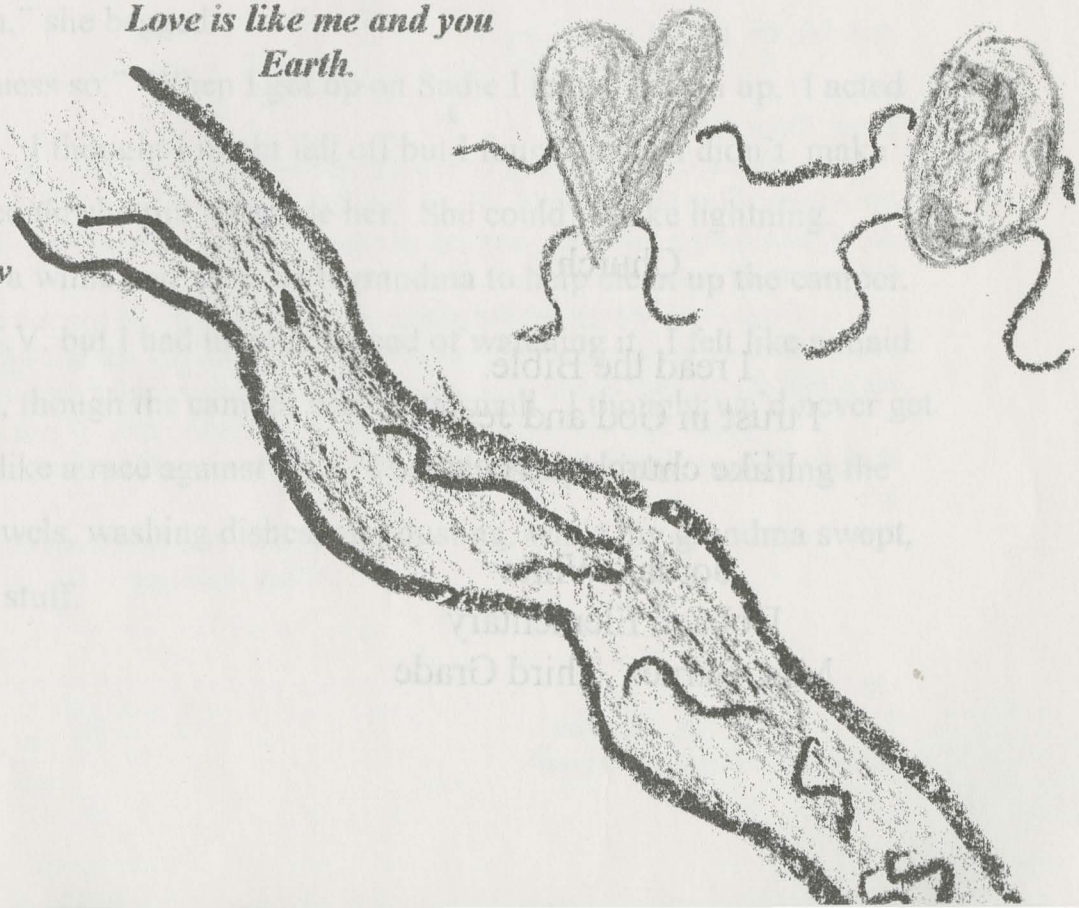
Love

When love comes
Friends fly by
But nobody can be as pretty as you Earth.

Love can be pretty
Just like Earth
Love makes me feel
happy.

Sometimes love can make me feel
Sad on rainy days.
On sunny days it makes love look
Like a dove.
Love is like me and you
Earth.

By: Billy Nelson
Age 9 Third Grade
Copeland Elementary
Mrs. Wetter



If I saw an alien in my cereal, I'd....faint. When I woke up I'd see a little green alien telling me the Earth is under attack. He said Earth is going to be taken over by some things called Wilbs that love Toxic Waste. They are taking over the Earth. He told me he had a secret weapon and said it was BBQ sauce. He also said there was one Wilb left and that was the new kid at school, Richard. So I told him to meet me after school. After school I did what I told Richard to do. When Richard got here I gave him the BBQ sauce. After he had eaten it he began to dissolve. I was glad that Earth was saved. Eric went home. I was glad I saved Earth.

Thomas Keith
2nd Grade
Westfield

Susan Shelton

Church

I read the Bible.
I trust in God and Jesus.
I like church the best.

Jordan White
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Barnes' Third Grade

A Special Day with Grandma

When I went to my grandma's I thought it was going to be boring, but I was wrong. After I slept awhile, I asked my grandma if I could help her and she answered, "Yes, why not? I'll need some help."

First we were going to feed the animals, but when I got to the bee's nest the bees got scared and almost stung me. As they swarmed by my grandma's and my faces I felt my heart pound. I thought we were going to get stung by one of them but suddenly it stopped. Then when I opened my eyes they raced by and I felt shocked. I cried, "Help!"

But Grandma said, "It's alright, they're gone."

"They went back to their nest, didn't they?" I asked.

We went to feed the horse next and when we did Grandma asked, "Do you want to ride Old Sadie?"

I stuttered, "I-I-I d-d-don't know."

"Oh, come on," she begged.

I sighed, "I guess so." When I got up on Sadie I felt so grown up. I acted like I was a cowboy. I thought I might fall off but I found faith. I didn't make Sadie run, but boy could she run if I made her. She could fly like lightning.

I got off after a while and went with grandma to help clean up the camper. The camper had a T.V. but I had to help instead of watching it. I felt like a maid fixing up a mansion, though the camper was quite small. I thought we'd never get finished, but it was like a race against time. I had the simple jobs: washing the windows, folding towels, washing dishes, and dusting, while my grandma swept, and did all the hard stuff.

A Special Day with Grandma

When we came back all the kids asked me where we had been. I told them and they said, "We were playing Nintendo while you were gone."

I picked, "Shoot, I missed all the fun stuff!" Everyone laughed at that.

That was a very special day I spent with Grandma.

By Cory Thomas

Flat Rock Elementary

4th Grade

Mrs P. Gross

Advice to Third Graders

Dear Third Grade Class,

You might think being in third grade is going to be easy. Well, it isn't always the easiest thing in the world. But if you listen to the teacher, she'll tell you what to do. If you have a question, just ask the teacher. She isn't going to bite you! I asked her plenty of questions and hey, I made it through the year.

Keep your energy for the playground because if you use too much while you're supposed to be working, you're going to be sitting in Mr. Davis's office. And don't back talk the teacher either because you'll be in more trouble than ever.

Oh yeah, listen to your teacher about economics too. If you get messed up on that you'll never live it down because you have to do stuff with money the rest of your life.

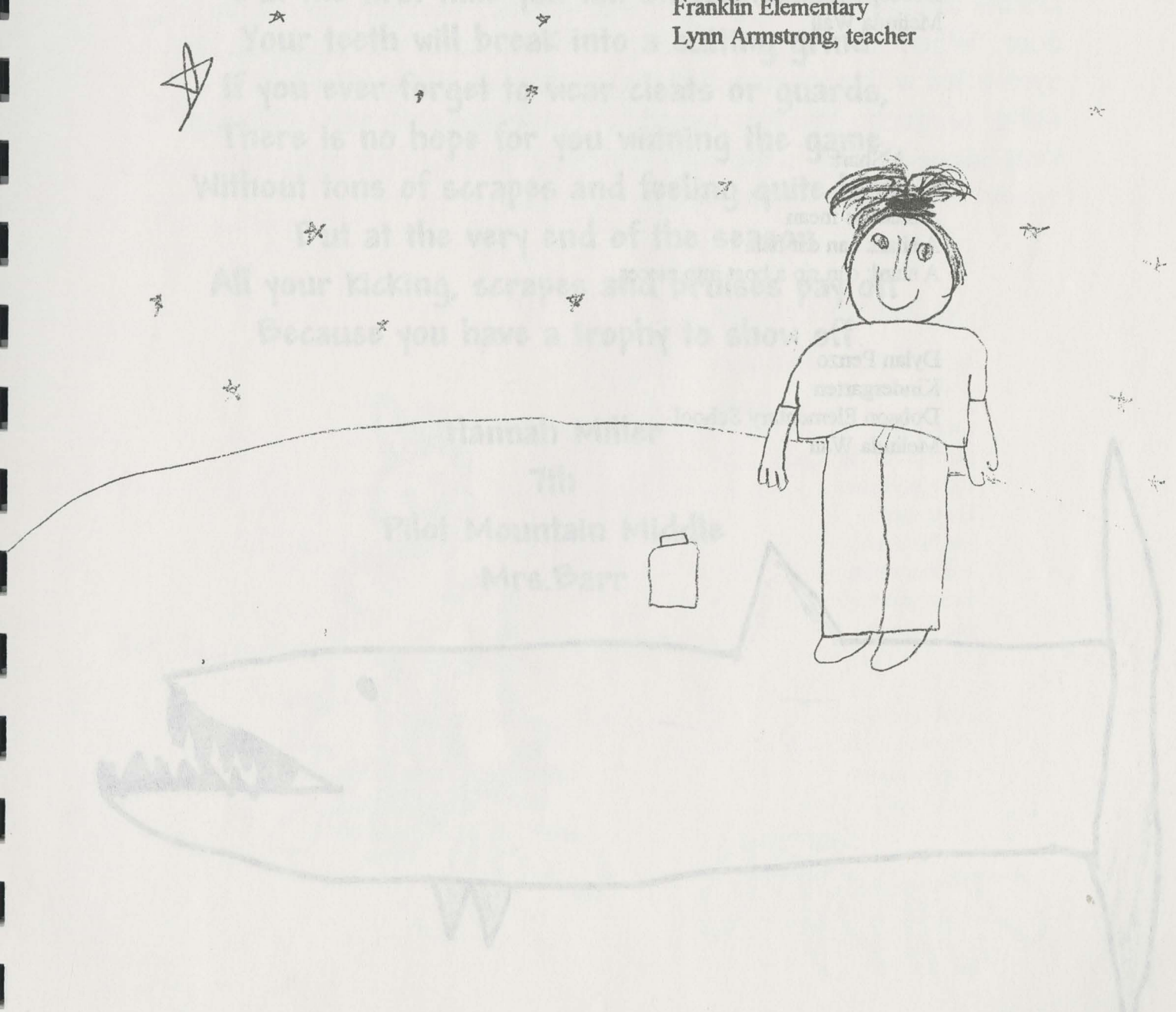
One of last year's students,
Cody Williams

Cody Williams
Third Grade - D. Johnson
Dobson Elementary School

A Star

There once was a star
Way,way up far
You couldn't drive there in a car
Because it's way,way too far
I want to catch it in a jar
But, I remember it's way too far.

Jamie Lawson
Grade 4
Franklin Elementary
Lynn Armstrong, teacher



My Mom

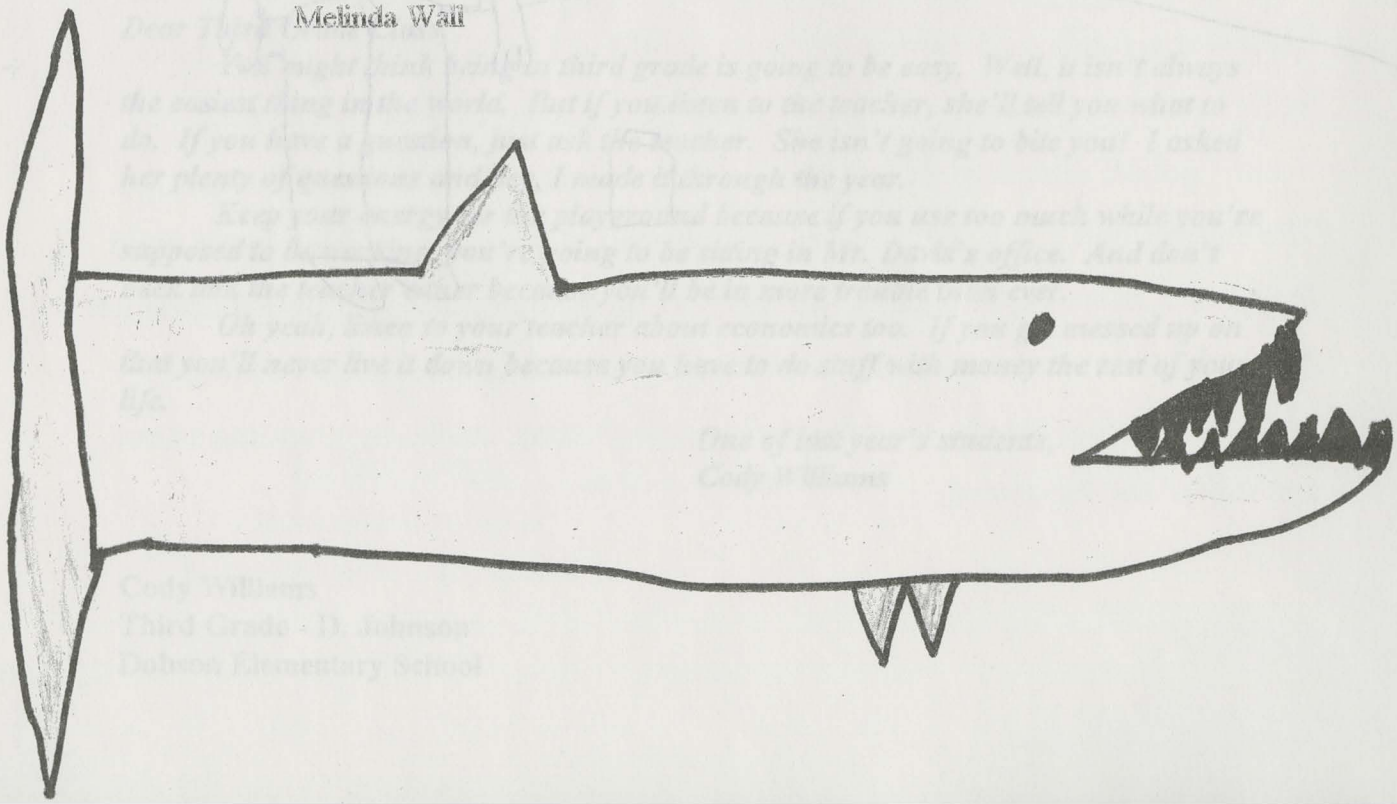
She helps me make my bed.
She is good.
Who is it?
It is Mom.
I like my mom.
She is great!

Jacob Fulk
Kindergarten
Dobson Elementary School
Melinda Wall

A Shark

A shark is mean.
A shark can eat fish.
A shark can rip a boat into pieces.

Dylan Penzo
Kindergarten
Dobson Elementary School
Melinda Wall



Soccer

In soccer you need a ball and good foot
If you don't have a these things, you'll never win
Although you'll get hit a lot in the shin
When the game is done you'll feel like hot soot
It's so hard to run through the whole game
Though when you score goals, there will be no shame
But the first time you fall on your behind,
Your teeth will break into a cutting grind
If you ever forget to wear cleats or guards,
There is no hope for you winning the game,
Without tons of scrapes and feeling quite lame.
But at the very end of the season
All your kicking, scrapes and bruises pay off
Because you have a trophy to show off

Hannah Miller
7th
Pilot Mountain Middle
Mrs.Barr

Meagan and the Big White Horse

by Amanda Lowe

2nd Grade- Dobson Elementary- Mrs. Wilmoth

One day Meagan was lonely. Her birthday was in two weeks. Her father knew that Meagan loved horses. So one day her father went to Virginia to buy Meagan a horse. Meagan's father was gone for a week and a half. When Meagan's birthday party started, her father got the tall, white horse out of the big, tall, red wagon. He tied it to a tree and went back inside. When Meagan's father went back inside, Meagan was opening her presents. Meagan asked her mother if she had a present from her and father. Her mother told her that her present was outside. Meagan ran out the door. When she reached the tree where the horse was standing, her eyes filled with excitement! Meagan thanked her mother and father so much. Meagan named her horse Snow- Beauty. Meagan kept Snow- Beauty in the barn beside her house. Lots of people visited them. They lived happily ever after.

I see a frog.
He lives in the water.
I like my frog.
He is nice.
He likes me.
He can swim.
Frogs eat bugs.
He is green.

Joel Gonzalez
Dobson Elementary School
Kindergarten
Mrs. Heidt's Class



Fishing

CLICK hold down the button
FLIP the rod back with my wrist
HISS the line comes forward
POP I release the button
the line WHIRRS through the air,
suspended,
then,
POP!
the line settles into the water,
and now, I wait . . .

By: Jamie Edwards
Gentry Middle School
Grade 7
Mrs. Creed

Dog Cat
I like that.

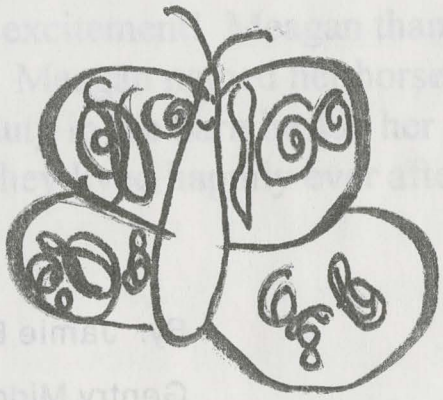
Lauren Bruner
Mrs. Hemmings' Kindergarten
Copeland





The Butterfly

If I were a butterfly, I could fly in the air. I would have six legs and four wings. I would have two antennas, and I would have a black body. I would have scales on my wings. I could sip nectar from the flowers. I could land in a tree. I could land on a leaf. I could drink water. I could land on grass, but I might get squashed by a person if I were green. I would rather not do that, if I were a green butterfly. But I am not a green butterfly. I am a yellow one.



Carla Woodring
First Grade
Dobson Elementary
Melanie Hudspeth

Bugs

Ladybugs are my favorite bugs. They have six legs. Ladybugs' backs are red with black spots. Ladybugs are helpful. I caught a ladybug in my hand. It tickled.

by: Morgan Tolley
Dobson Elementary
Kindergarten- Mrs. Wilmoth



The Legend of Tristina's Wish

One cold winter day Tristina held her mother's hand. It was cold and crisp. It felt dry like an alligator's skin. Her mother had caught a cold, not just an ordinary cold. It was so bad that she was dying. Tristina wanted so badly to help her mother , but what was she to do? That night Tristina stayed awake wondering what to do. When Tristina gave up all hope, she blew out her candles.

"Wait!" she said. "I remember ! I can go to the wise woman's house. If I do what she says right, she will grant me one wish." She slipped on her brown suit, got a lantern, and walked out the door. She headed for the woods. She only knew part of the way, but with her faith she made it through the woods, in the meadow, and between the two rocks. When she got there it was almost daylight. She lightly tapped on the door.

"Come in," said a soft voice. She opened the door and stepped in.

"Hello young one and why are you here?" asked the wise woman.

"My mother is ill, and I was wondering if you would test me and make my mother well."

"Where did you come from, young one?"

"Through the woods, in the meadow, and between the rocks," said the girl.

"Well me! You came all that way?" asked the woman.

"Yes," said Tristina.

"Well, you have already been tested. You have shown how strong your love is. Now I grant you one wish," the lady said. She said some very odd words and stopped. "Now you go home child, your mother is healed," stated the woman.

"Thank you so much," said Tristina. The lady took some powder and poured it on Tristina. She told Tristina that she did not have to walk home. In a flash Tristina was back home. She ran into her mother's room. Her mother ran to her and hugged her. "I love you, Mama!" exclaimed Tristina.

Christy Snow
5th Grade
Cedar Ridge
CORNETT

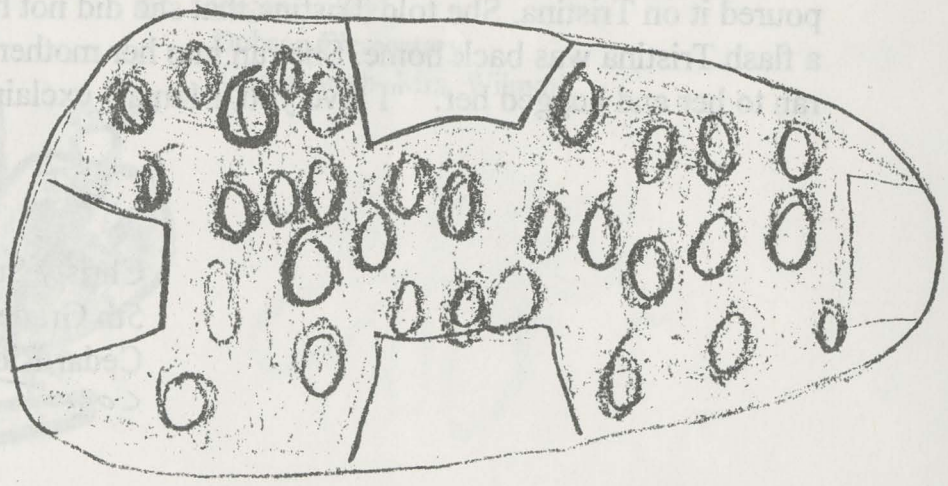
The Day at the YMCA

My parents say that I am too little to jump off the diving board unless they are helping me, but I think that I can jump off the diving board. They say I can't go into water over my head. I am going to prove that I am big enough to do it all by myself and without any help at all. They will probably find out like they did last time. Maybe I can sneak when they are not watching and do it.

The YMCA has a hot tub that I would like to get in. The life guard said, only 14 year olds and up could get in the hot tub. I thought that it was not fair at all. I did not want to get in trouble so I went over to the other pool.

I can't wait until I can do it by myself!

Kristina Benton
2nd Grade/Mrs. Sawyers' Class
Shoals Elementary School



Guardian Angel

The most important person in my life was my Grandpa Norman. The only reason I picked him is because he was a very, very honest and loving person in my life. Now he is in a better place. I will always remember him and don't want to ever forget him. He believed in God and I hope he is my Guardian Angel.



Maggie Lowe
3rd Grade
Mrs. Tina Edwards
Cedar Ridge Elem.

What Makes Me Happy

I am happiest when ...
the sun is shining.
Especially on Sunday -
It is my favorite day
because we go to church
And I get to see my teacher &
go to my class.

After church...
I love to go outside
... if it's sunny
I love it when
the sun is shining...

Allison Lowe
3rd Grade
Mrs. Tina Edwards
Cedar Ridge Elem.

My D.A.R.E. Essay

This year in D.A.R.E. I learned how to say "no" to drugs and how to resist them. Drugs can hurt your health and ruin your life. some people think that drugs make them feel cool and do away with their problems, but it's just making their lives worse than it was before. Some people get help with their problems. These people have to have some self-control and faith that they can have straight lives.

Sometimes when you smell something like burning rope and you see people that aren't good citizens, walk in an opposite direction or find another way to get where you are going. This prevents you from contact with people that it is not a good idea to associate with.

Some ways that help you say "no" to drugs are these: just say "No, thanks!" keep saying "no," walk away, ignore the person, give a reason or an excuse, and change the subject. It is best to just avoid the situation to start with.

D.A.R.E. can really help you to prepare for a good life ahead. Please help each other to say "no" to drugs.

Kayla Martin
Fifth Grade
Mrs. B. Nelson
Dobson Elementary

TWAS THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS VACATION

'Twas the day before Christmas vacation and all through the school
All the students were working and trying to be cool.

We looked outside and we couldn't believe
It was pouring snow, and it was getting deep.

We started to pack and get on the buses,
But to our surprise we heard a lot of fusses.

The principal said, "Oh no we can't go"
We're stranded at school and freezing cold."

We couldn't believe what he was saying.
We went I the school and started playing.

The teacher said, "Class, please calm down.
We'll get out of school before the snow loads us down."

It wasn't long till my aunt came to pick me up,
But she couldn't get through the snow in her pickup truck.

She got stranded too.
I didn't know what to do.

So we couldn't do anything but sit and stare
And wait for the snow to stop snowing there.

After a day or two the snow melted, and we got out school.
The thought of Christmas dinner made us all drool.

By Samantha France
Cedar Ridge Elementary School
4th Grade
Ms. Dillman

Katie and Oct the Creepy Creature

Once there was a creepy creature and its name was Oct. It had sharp teeth and claws. It was green with feathers. It had red eyes and a pink nose. It only came out at night. It would sometimes try to crawl on you and sting you. It would eat fish and bugs. Sometimes you'd have to walk him like a dog or cat. If I were to sell him I would sale him for 50 cents. If he died I would give him to the museum. He was famous even though he was dead. He woke up from the dead and broke out of the glass and came to see me. We went everywhere together. I would be famous everywhere I went.

Katie Knights
2nd Grade
Miss Joyce
Cedar Ridge Elementary School

My First Snow Skiing or Snow sledding Adventure

I went snow sledding two years ago for the first time. It was Christmas night. My brother and I got into the sled. My grandpa or dad would push us and we ended up in my neighbors' yard. The next day we did the same thing until we had to eat breakfast. When we got to the restaurant, I started throwing snowballs and I got everyone. When we were going home, we almost got in a wreck but we made it home. When we got home I got to go sledding again.

Courtney Kiger
Mrs. Hull and Mrs. Bowman
2nd Grade
Flat Rock Elementary School

The Day I Was A Silly Scarecrow

By John Caveny

Grade 3

Jerry Ann Brown

Today I was trapped in a scarecrow's body. I'm Alex and I was running around my Uncle Homer's farm and I was playing in his cornfield. Uncle Homer told me that if I started knocking down his crops a curse would fall upon me and I would be a scarecrow for a day. I didn't believe him so I just started playing in his cornfield again. But then it happened I turned into a scarecrow. Then I said to myself that I wished I'd listened to Uncle Homer. Then Uncle Homer said, "Alex you should have listen to me." So he hung me up in the cornfield to scare off crows. Uncle Homer said, "Alex are you all right in there." "Sure I'm okay Uncle Homer," I said. "Now you scare them crows out of my cornfield okay," Uncle Homer said. "Sure whatever Uncle Homer," I said. So Uncle Homer went back to the house and a California Condor flew into the field. I called Uncle Homer and told him to bring his 22 rifle outside and shoot it. He did and was dead as a doorbell. The he said, "I'm going back to the house for a nap." I jumped down off my pole because it was killing my back. When I got off that big long pole I ran into the pumpkin patch. I saw something that if Uncle Homer had seen would have died. His pumpkin patch had five round holes in the ground. It must have been Uncle Homer's dog Butch. It was his dog Butch. "Butch, you dumb mutt," I shouted. He must have seen a mole, I thought. I hope Uncle Homer doesn't come out here soon. I suddenly saw what Butch was after. It was a big brown rabbit. I got down on my hands and knees and stayed as still as I had ever been. I waited for a minute and caught the big brown rabbit. I got up walked over to the edge of the woods and let the big brown rabbit go. Then I put Butch back in his lot. After Butch was up I checked all the fields. In the carrot patch I saw something that I had never seen before it was well, I didn't know what it was. So I got Butch out of his lot. I took Butch to the carrot patch. When we got there the thing wasn't there. I got into the patch and I saw a little round hole, then the carrots going into the ground. I got hold of the last carrot and pulled it up and there was a little animal on the end of the carrot. It was the smallest animal I had ever saw. Then the curse ended. I woke up in my very own bed.

A Great Surprise

One day in the little town of Dobson, there lived a small family. There was a mom, a dad, 5 year old Ashley, 6 year old Mallory, and 1 year old Kirstin. One day the girls' parents had a surprise for them.

"What's the surprise?" said Ashley anxiously.

"Well, we are moving to London, England," said Mom.

"Wow!" spoke Ashley.

"Great!" answered Kirstin.

"Shucks," said Mallory, not to happy about the surprise.

"I'm sure it will be fun," said Mom.

"If you ask me, London is a big place with lots of people." "I prefer living on a small country farm," Mallory said, not at all excited.

"We will leave in three days," Dad said.

When three days had passed, the family headed toward the airport. When they arrived, they took a taxi to their house.

"I hope we live in a big house," Ashley and Kirstin said.

"I hope we go home," Mallory responded.

They got to a big house and stopped.

"This is it," Mom spoke.

For the first time Mallory was happy. "It's perfect," she said.

Everyone was shocked. From that day on, everyone was pleased with London and their home, even Mallory.

Hannah Dockery
Third Grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Donna Johnson

School Memories

What was one of your school memories? I still remember one from first grade.

It was a breezy and cloudy March day as the first graders were loading the buses to go to the circus for our field trip. Everybody was so excited and anxious to go that we couldn't wait. Finally the buses pulled off. When we reached High Meadow Road, something awful happened. We were driving along so peacefully and quietly until all of a sudden the bus came to a complete stop. All of the children on the bus started screaming, "Are we there yet?" After Mrs. Bullington had calmed everybody down she explained to us that the bus had broken down and we would probably be late for the circus. All of our little first grade hearts were broken. Luckily, however, we would not miss all of the circus. As our bus sat on the side of the road, an old man in a big, huge car pulled up beside of us. He asked us if we needed some help. He said that he would be glad to take us, ten at a time, to the circus. All of the teachers quickly squeezed into the back-seat of his car and off we went. When we finally arrived at the circus it had already begun. "Just my luck," I thought to myself as I was trying to find a seat. But to my disappointment all of the seats were already taken except for the very top row. I was very scared of heights and didn't know what to do but I decided I would have to sit on the top row anyway. So I stiffly walked up to the top row and sat down in one of the big, red chairs. The circus was great! After a while I got used to sitting up so high, but it still gave me the creeps. My favorite part of the circus was when a girl dressed in blue sequins got into a cannon and two other girls blasted her out of it. She went soaring through the air until she landed in a heart-shaped net that you couldn't see unless you squinted your eyes and looked very close.

When the circus was over our bus was still broken down, and there was not enough room for all of us to ride in the other bus. "Oh brother," I thought to myself, "here we go again!" Another memory!

Heather Bedsaul
4th Grade/ Mrs. King
Shoals Elementary School

The Test

Oh my gosh, our whole class was shaking and I was biting my fingernails. Suddenly the door opened, it was Mr. Sumner with the **TESTS**. I almost screamed with fright. Mrs. Ayers was ready to pass out paper and pencils. Gosh, you should have seen her. She had water in her eyes and man was she shaking!

It was time for Mrs. Haymore to pass out the tests. She had a grin on her face, man that grin was scary. Then Mrs. Haymore said, "Sample question one a, b, or c. If you didn't put the correct answer erase it and put the correct answer, please! Now you may turn the page and you may continue on with the test." Oh my gosh, I thought I was going to pass out! I hope I passed the **TEST**!

April Newman
Third Grade
White Plains
Mrs. Haymore

The Field Trip

I got up that morning happily, ate breakfast right up in a flash, and got my black pants on and a pink striped shirt, and my shoes. Then I rushed out before my mom could say bye. I scrambled to school, and I raced to my classroom. I got to school at 8:00 am. My teacher Mrs. Amburn called our names, and when she called our names, we had to go up to get our name tags on. I was in third grade and eight years old going to the zoo.

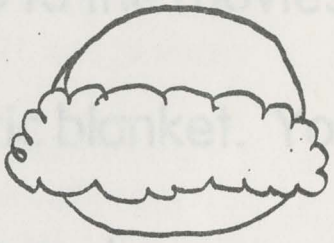
But when we got to the zoo. we were in groups of five counting the teachers. I was paired with Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Draughn, Jennifer Norman and Candy Robertson. We finally traveled to the bus and journeyed to the zoo. Wen we got to the zoo, I was so surprised and impressed and excited and jumping up and down for joy. then we got inside, and we saw polar bears swimming in deep blue water. One polar bear was trying throw a barrel in the water. He finally threw it in, and the water got in it. It was funny. We went to see something different. We saw huge ugly bats hanging down asleep. They were brown and creepy and ugly little things to me. One of them flew down to the bottom of the cage and it scared me. Then we saw big huge ugly snakes curling up to sleep. I guess I didn't know what they were doing, and a kid pecked on the glass, but not from our class. the snake stuck out his little skinny tongue and the boy got scared and scurried back to his group with his class. I didn't see him any more that day. Then at 12:00 we ate lunch. I had a hot dog and fries and a coke. For dessert we had a sweet juicy apple and cookies. When lunch was over we went to see the wart hog, but he was hiding, I think in his little place fixed for him or in the bushes. Then we saw monkeys. They were scratching their arms and then they would scratch their tummy. then we went to ride on the little train like thing. When we got to the toy place I got a key chain, a pencil, and another key chain. Then we strolled back to the buses and went to school. When I got to my room I said to Mrs. Amburn "That was the best field trip ever." I also said that she was the best teacher in the whole world.

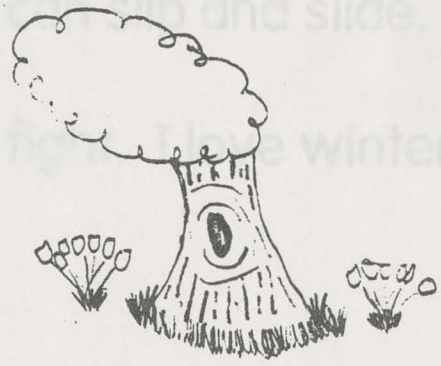
Heather Meredith
Cedar Ridge Elementary
4 th grade
Ms. Dillman's Class

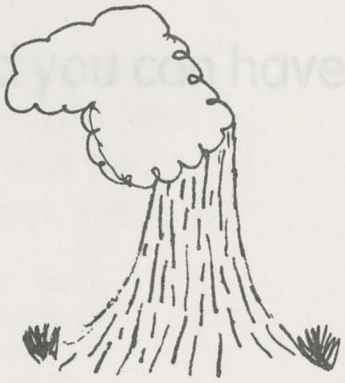
Miss You

Clouds roll by,
Sweeping over the moonlit night sky
Darkness comes again,
as the moon fades behind the bluish marshmallows.
Suddenly,
a gust of wind comes by, and leaves brush over the ground.
The wind howls,
making trees sway back and forth.
I'll miss it
but one day I'll get out of this town.

Ashley Edwards
Cedar Ridge Elementary School
Grade 6
Mrs. Rebecca Austin

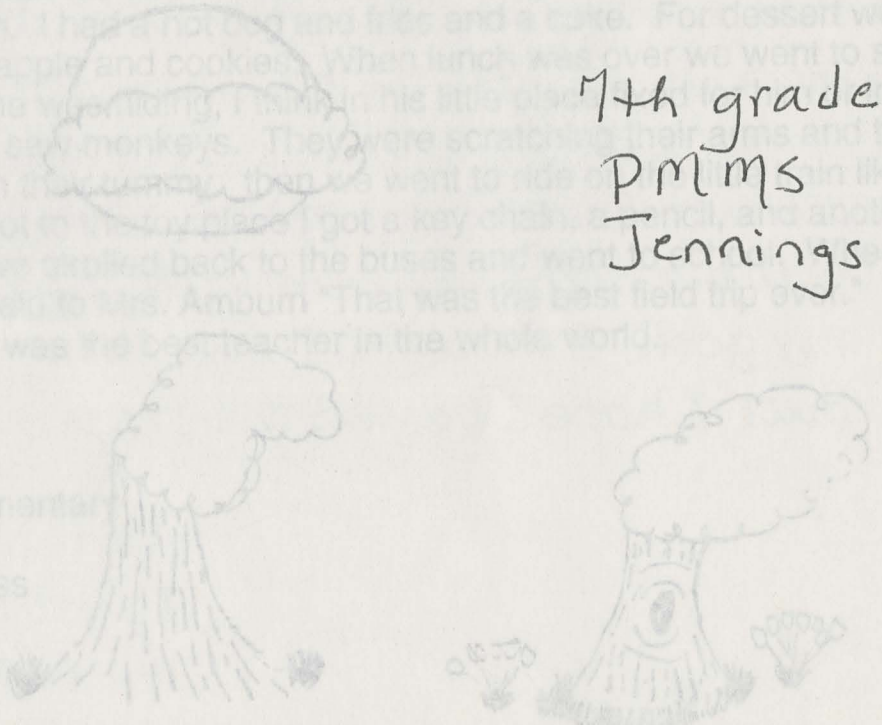






THE SNOW
BY DUSTIN EVANS

It's snowing, it's snowing, it's snowing snowflakes
In the snow you can eat candy, sweets, or even cakes
The snow loves to float down from the sky
The snow comes from way up high
The snow comes in different shapes and sizes
The snow always rises
The snow is cold, white, and fresh
After a long hard run, you can sit down and rest
You could even roll up a big fat snowman
Then you could do it again and again
The snow is always cold and wet
It is almost impossible to have one drop of sweat
The snow is fun and entertaining
Especially when there's lots remaining
The snow is very magical and tricky
You could write your name like Dan or Ricky
The snow is always white, never red
It comes up from your feet to your head.



7th grade
PMMS
Jennings

Winter Fun

by Holly Massie
2nd Grade - Cedar Ridge Elem.
Mrs. Dana H. Collins room

These are things that we can do in the winter.

You can drink hot chocolate. You can eat soup. You can go snow sledding in the snow. You can sit by the fire. You can go skating. You can work a puzzle and go to the movies. You can sleep under an electric blanket. You can go snow skiing. You can make snow cream. You can slip and slide. And you can have a snowball fight. I love winter!

T - REX

There once was a dinosaur, his name was T-Rex
He was a pretty big animal because he was a meat-eater.
He looked like a dragon, he was named Gex
When he ate the food he looked like a weed-eater.

He did not fear anything because he was so big,
He looked like a bear when he walked on two legs.
We still don't know if he really could dig,
I don't know if T-Rexes could really lay eggs.

He was probably one of the most popular ones,
He had the biggest and largest teeth.
If he was in a contest he'd already won,
His teeth were big on top and be-neath.

Now they are all dead, they probably wish they could have said,
"Why did I have to leave this place for those humans?"
Maybe if they had stayed in bed,
We could see them today, romping and playing in the sun.

Andrew Sawyers
Grade 3
Mrs. Stockton
Cedar Ridge Elementary School

Dreams

Dreams are what life is made of,
They happen everyday.
You always think of them in the future,
But actually they come as they may.

Always wanting more
Out of life you say.
Set your dreams in heaven,
And they will shine like rays.

They will shine in your heart,
And into your eye.
Place them so carefully,
And don't let them die.

Place them up high,
And carefully I say.
Keep reaching, don't stop,
Don't let them go away.

If you lose them,
Remember to pray.
That they will come back,
And never go astray.

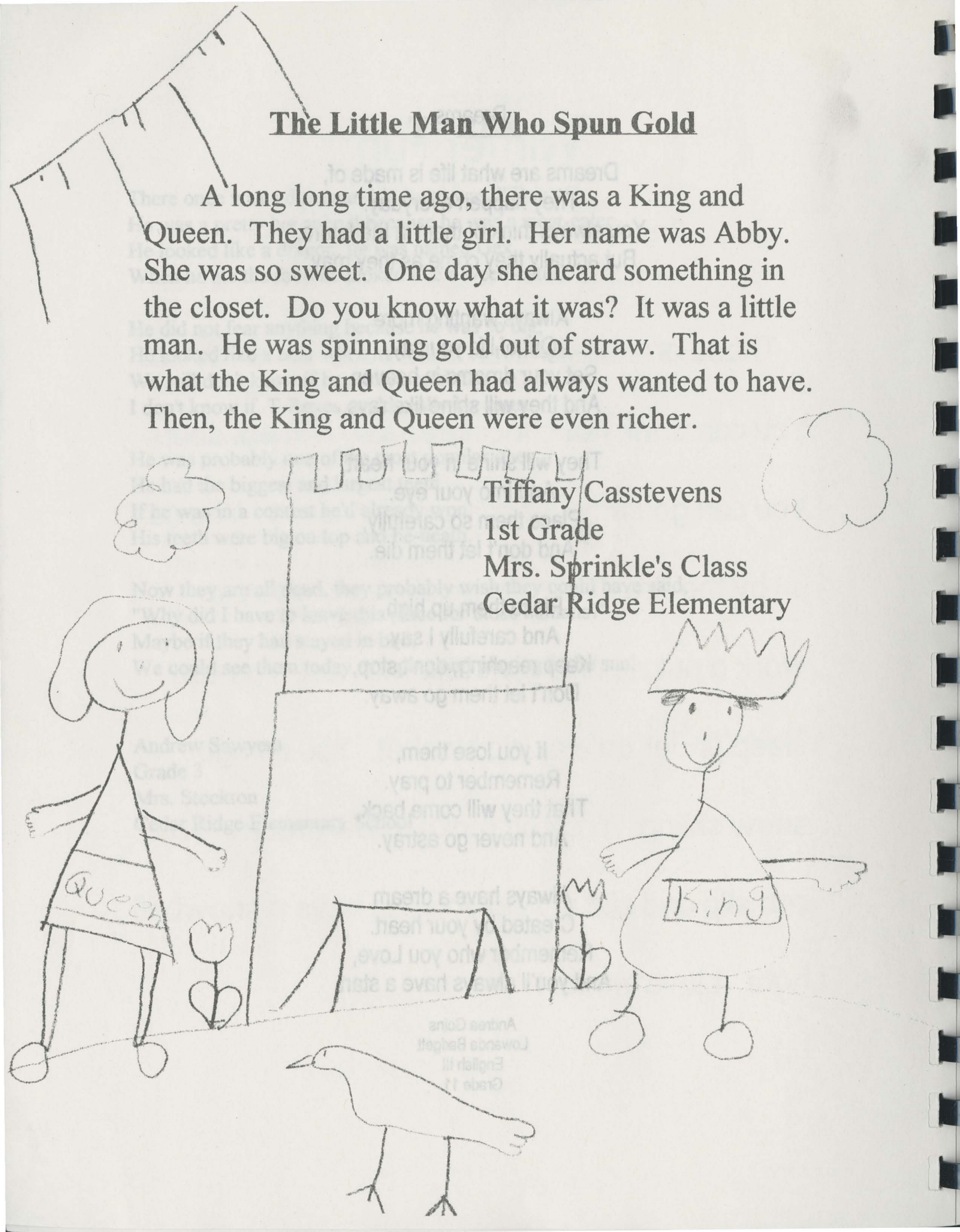
Always have a dream
Created by your heart.
Remember who you Love,
And you'll always have a start.

Andrea Goins
Lowanda Badgett
English III
Grade 11

The Little Man Who Spun Gold

A long long time ago, there was a King and Queen. They had a little girl. Her name was Abby. She was so sweet. One day she heard something in the closet. Do you know what it was? It was a little man. He was spinning gold out of straw. That is what the King and Queen had always wanted to have. Then, the King and Queen were even richer.

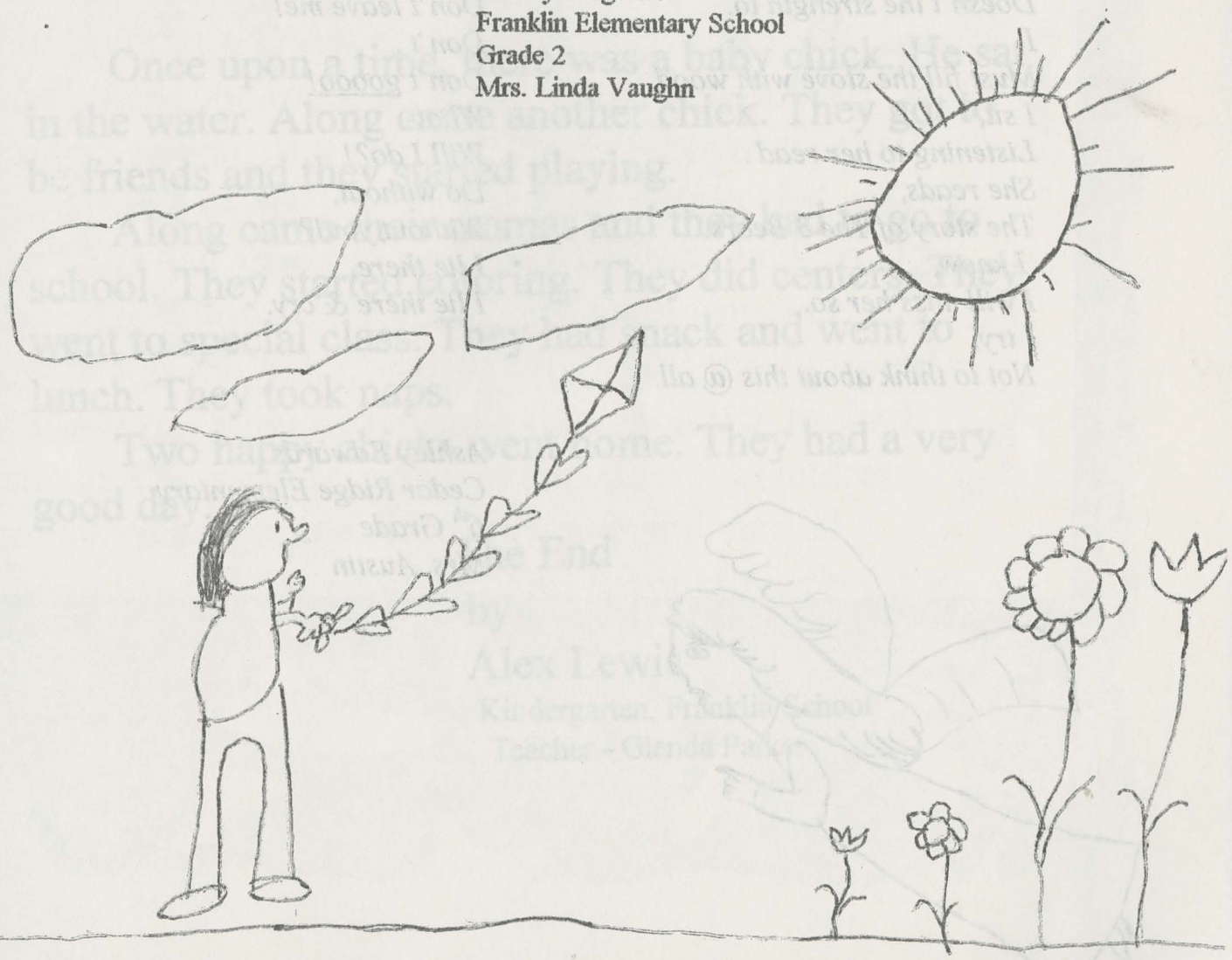
Tiffany Casstevens
1st Grade
Mrs. Sprinkle's Class
Cedar Ridge Elementary



My Kite Tale

Yesterday I was flying my kite . Suddenly a strong gust of wind came along and lifted me into the air, and then I went so far into the air that I landed on the clouds. The clouds were soft, bumpy, and bouncy. Then one day I died on the clouds and went to Heaven.

Christy Wagoner
Franklin Elementary School
Grade 2
Mrs. Linda Vaughn



Don't

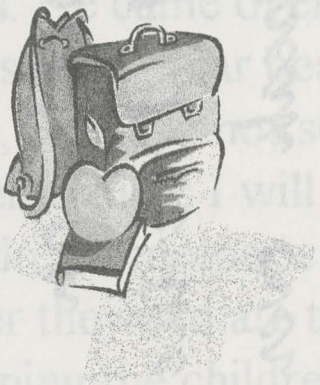
Look into her eyes,
Remembering this moment forever.
Never forgetting,
the sweet sound of her weary voice.
Grandpa's time,
has already come.
Grandmother's time,
Will be here soon enough.
It won't be long,
'til the angels come.
It won't be long,
'til she enters the pearly gates of Heaven.
Grandmother,
Doesn't the strength to.
I,
Must fill the stove with wood.
I sit,
Listening to her read .
She reads,
The story of The 3 Bears.
I know,
I will miss her so.
I try,
Not to think about this @ all.

This <u>is</u>,
my worst fear.
For if she leaves,
I will have to live somewhere different.
My father,
Is who I will <u>not</u> go with.
He is,
The one who beats & treats me awful.
He left,
<u>Left</u> me when I was little.
He-
What grandmother?!
Don't,
Don't leave me!
Don't ,
Don't <u>goooo!</u>
What-
Will I do?!
Do without,
Without you!?
I lie there,
I lie there & cry.

Ashley Edwards
Cedar Ridge Elementary
6th Grade
Mrs. Austin



A Baby Chick





Once upon a time, there was a baby chick. He sat in the water. Along came another chick. They got to be friends and they started playing.

Along came their mamas and they had to go to school. They started coloring. They did centers. They went to special class. They had snack and went to lunch. They took naps.

Two happy chicks went home. They had a very good day.

The End

by

Alex Lewis

Kindergarten, Franklin School

Teacher - Glenda Parker

I love the hills that
roll on the courtryside.
I love the mountains that
peak over the city.

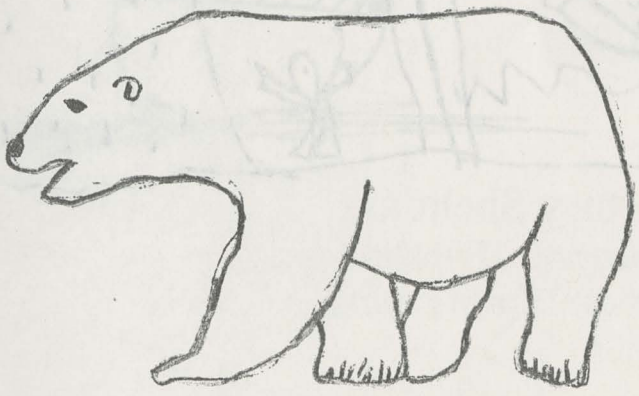
By: Kristi Penley
School: Cedar Ridge
Elementary
Grade: 6th
Teacher: Mrs. Austin

The Polar Bear Saves the Children

In Alaska on December 23rd. There lived two children and their parents. The children's names were Amber and Jason. One day they were playing in the snow. All of a sudden they saw a man with lots of guns. He came over to them and asked them if they had seen a polar bear lately. The two children said, "No, we have not seen a polar bear." The man said, "Well I guess I will go now." As the man left the children's mother called for them to come and eat. After they had ate they had to go to bed. That morning the children ate their breakfast. Then they went outside and began to play in the snow. The children did not know that the poacher was right behind them. He grabbed them. The children were trying to scream, but the poacher was covering their mouths. The poacher had kept the children tied up. A polar bear had seen the poacher take the children. The polar bear followed the poacher's footprints in the snow. After the polar bear had followed the footprints for about ten minutes he came to a cave. He looked inside and he saw the poacher and the two children. The polar bear jumped into the cave and started running toward the poacher. The poacher reached for one of his guns. He shot a tranquilizer at the polar bear, but it did not work. The polar bear was still

running toward the poacher. The polar bear had his mouth wide open. His eyes turned red. The poacher was so scared he ran right past the polar bear as fast as he could. The polar bear stopped running and untied the children with his sharp teeth. The children were so happy that they jumped up and hugged the polar bear around the neck. Then they jumped on the polar bear's back. The polar bear headed out of the cave. It was getting dark so the polar bear found a place to sleep. The children were getting cold so they snuggled up to the polar bear. That morning when they woke up, they did not see the polar bear anywhere. They got up and started to look around. Then all of a sudden the children saw the polar bear. He had something in his mouth. When he got closer to the children they could make out what was in his mouth. It was a seal. He had killed it for them to eat. After they had eaten their breakfast they were on their journey again. The children asked the polar bear if they could see his family. The polar bear shook his head yes. So they headed toward the polar bear's home. On the way there the children asked the polar bear if he could ask his family to come and celebrate Christmas with them. He said "Okay." So when they got there the polar bear asked his family if they would like to celebrate Christmas with the children. They all said

yes. So they began on their journey toward the children's home. When they got there, the children went into the house. Their parents were so happy to see them. They hugged and kissed them for about five minutes. Then the children told their parents to come and look outside. Their parents were frightened by what they saw. It was the polar bears. The children told the polar bears to come in. Then the children sat down beside their parents and told them the whole story. Then they finally asked their parents if the polar bears could celebrate Christmas with them. Their parents said, "Yes." So they all began to eat and the children opened their presents. They never saw that poacher again and they lived happily ever after.



By Tabitha Beverly
5th Grade
Teacher: Mrs. Mitchell
Dobson Elementary

Seasons

Spring is nice.

Summer is twice as nice.

Fall is cold.

Winter is too.

All of the seasons are true.

Justin George
Franklin Elementary School
Grade 2
Mrs. Linda Vaughn



Ice Cream

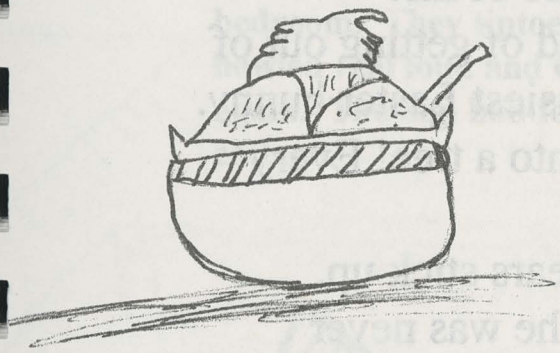


I like ice cream a whole lot,
Even in a bath so hot!
Cherries, Carmel, nuts and cream
I'd even eat it on a moonbeam.

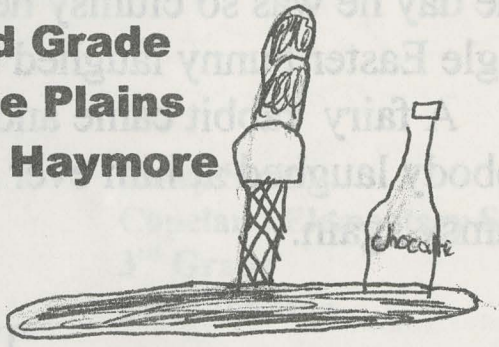
Triple, double, single scoop,
I'll even eat it with a bit of goop.
When I'm sad or happy all I have to do,
Is eat a little bit of you!

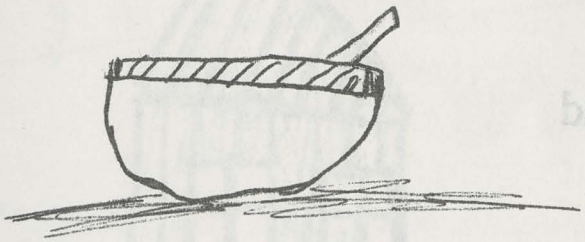


After all what are you for?



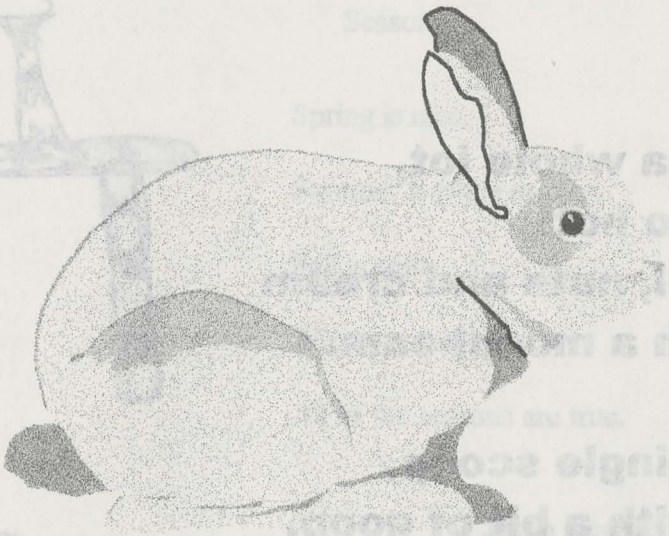
By:
Felicia Tickle
Third Grade
White Plains
Mrs. Haymore







The Clumsy Easter Bunny



Once upon a time there was a clumsy Easter bunny. He had very very long ears. He was always tripping over them. He was very clumsy with those ears of his.

One day, being very clumsy, instead of getting out of bed, he fell out of bed! He was the clumsiest Easter bunny. One day he was so clumsy he bumped into a tree! Every single Easter bunny laughed at him.

A fairy rabbit came and made his ears stick up. Nobody laughed at him ever again, and he was never clumsy again.

The End

by

Courtney Shelton
Kindergarten, Franklin School
Teacher - Glenda Parker

Goldilocks and the Three Big, Bad Foxes

One day Goldilocks was walking deep in the forest. She saw a cottage and noticed that three big, bad foxes lived in the cottage. When they left in their car, Goldilocks kicked the door open and saw that they had not eaten their chicken stew.

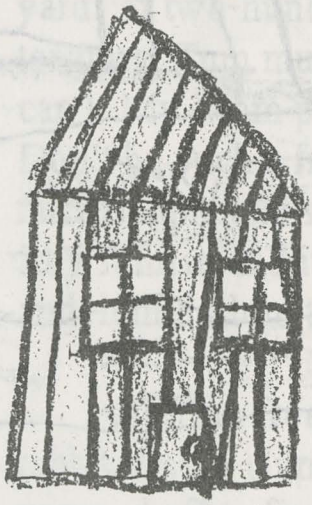
She sat down at the table and took a bite of Baby Fox's stew. It was too cold. She took a bite of Mama Fox's stew. It was too hot. She took a bite of Daddy Fox's stew and it was just right! She ate it all up!

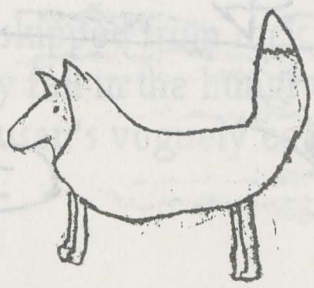
Next, she went to the living room. She touched Baby Fox's TV and the knobs fell off. She touched Mama's TV and the fuse blew. Then she went to Dad's TV and she watched it for an hour. When she got up to go upstairs, she left it on the wrong channel.

When she walked in the bedroom, Goldilocks laid down on baby Fox's bed. It was too sharp. She laid down in Mama Fox's bed, but it was too lumpy. She went to Daddy Fox's bed and it was just right! She fell fast asleep.

Mama, Daddy, and Baby Fox drove up in the driveway. As Mama Fox was getting her suitcase out of the car, she heard a noise in the bedroom. They tiptoed upstairs and saw Goldilocks sleeping. They howled real loud and Goldilocks ran out the door and never came back again. The big, bad foxes lived happily ever after in their cozy little cottage.

Haley Smith
Copeland Elementary School
3rd Grade
Mrs. Johnson







Fish

I wonder Fish, do you ever wish you weren't a fish?
Fish, do you like the water?
Is it hot or cold to you?
What would you do if you could walk?
Would you take a walk in the park?
And what would you do if you could talk?
Would you say, "*Please* don't fish!"?
Because if you did, we would have a lot in common!

Tyler Johnston
Copeland Elementary School
3rd Grade
Mrs. Johnson



TIGER TERROR

It is morning in the tropical jungle. Steam rises from the scorching lake. The jungle plants sparkle with dew as the temperatures flirt in the hundreds. The dwarf, amazingly stripped baby tiger, Susan, roars and strenuously stretches her body while popping her thick ,healthy bones .Swiftly, Susan stalks her way over to the astronomical lake that was so placid it mirrored a shabby palm tree.

"Ugh, Mama, can I go play with my marvelous friend Tom the tiger?" questioned Susan with an enormous smile planted on her beautifully stripped face. "Of course you can. Just don't play down in the corner of the spectacular jungle because that is where Horra Swamp is ,and if you fall in the always hungry Horra Swamp you will be crocodile meat!"replied Susan's mother as sharp as a new knife. "OK, Mom. Bye!" boomed Susan as she bolted toward Tom's territory like a crazy rhino that just received an invitation to the world's most fashionably decorated rhino pageant.

After Susan had hooked up with Tom and were about ninty yards or two-hundred and seventy feet away from their wonderful territory, Tom mumbled to Susan, "Let's go to Horra Swamp." "I can't. My Mom personally told me not to," hissed Susan ."Awe. Don't be such a frady cat. Besided, the ice crystals are so microscopic and so light that they float like mist and shimmer in a July sunrise and it is now sunrise in July," howled Tom, as Susan and him dashed to Horra Swamp.

As Tom freely skipped from rock to rock like a velvety jack rabbit, Susan clumsily fell in the hungry swamp. Swiftly, Tom zoomed off to find Susan's voguely coated mother.

"Mrs. Mable! Mrs. Mable! Susan fell in Horra Swamp!" boomed Tom like he just saw a terrifying ghost.Then Tom and Mrs. Mable zoomed to Horra Swamp.

"Helggaa-p, He-gga-lp!" gurgled Susan. Mrs. Mable firmly snatched Susan up, hugged her, and then spanked her while yelling, "youngun, why did you run off? Look at your fur coat. It's more shriveled than a dried prune!"

Then they all galloped home and ate fresh, sweet corn and tender baby green lima beans, drenched in creamy butter, along with sweet-potato souffle with miniature marshmellows and wrinkeld raisans while Susan thought,
"why in the world did I go to that swamp on such a radiate day in the
tropical jungle?"

By Blake Bowman
Franklin
Mrs. Dillard
5th Grade

What it Means to be an American

I still remember the times my dad use to tell me the story about way in Thailand. this was how it went...

Long ago, way in Thailand, the Hmong people helped the Americans fight the Vietnamese. After the war, when the Americans came back, they promised the Hmong people that they would come back for them and for the Hmong people to get ready.

The Hmong people hurried back home and packed their belongings and went to the airport to wait. They waited and waited and waited, but the Americans never did show up.

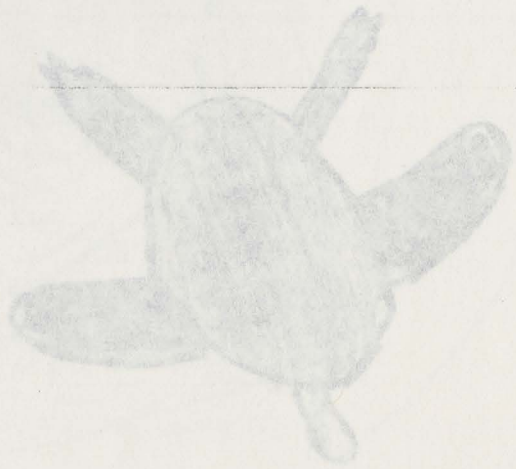
Finally, some of the Hmong people chose to come to America. My family was one of them. When we got there, the Americans got the house set up and everything ready to go. But guess what? We knew nothing. We didn't even know what or how the salt was like. We knew nothing at all. My mom use to think that we were stupid or probably the most stupid on earth, until my uncle that had lived here long enough lent a hand and showed us to the world.

I then began preschool. I learned my ABC's and 123's one at a time.

Plus, until then my parents and cousins knew what it means to be an American. It takes hard work just to earn money, and years just to get a good education for workers, doctors, teachers. That's what it takes to be an American.

Now that I'm here going on to reach my education and my parents working for my living, I think this is the place for me, my family, my education, and my generation to have a happy life--no more life suffering for food. Thinking about the past and of the way we came here always makes me cry, but not thinking about it, I also wonder what my future is going to be like. I just hope my children will get a good life and not the life of the past. I will always remember how much it takes me, my family, my cousins and my whole generation just to be an American.

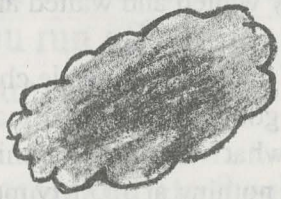
Dee Lor
Copeland Elementary School
Grade 5
Lynette Cave's Class



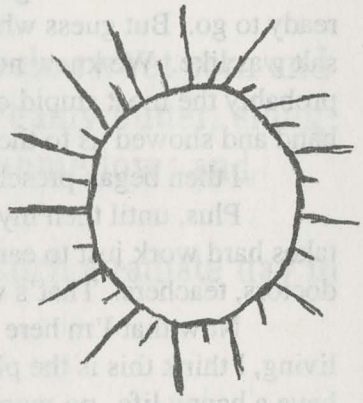
The Giant Sea Turtle

By Amber Johnson

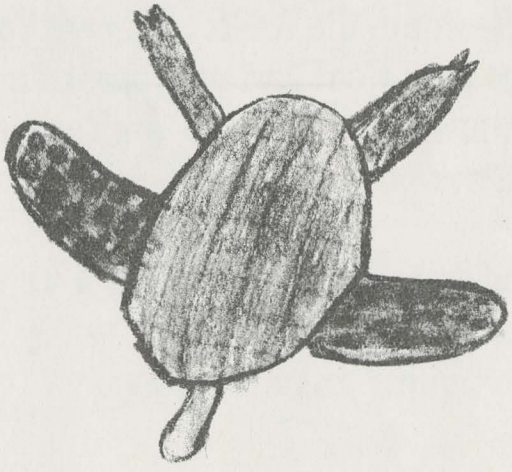
When I first met Myrtle,
she was stuck on the sand.
She was a giant sea turtle
and she needed a hand
To complete the last hurdle
and get off of the land.



To get back to the sea,
back to her ocean,
she needed me,
We had no magic potion.
She wanted to be free
and have her body in motion.



So we pulled with our hands.
We used all of our might
to get her off of the land,
it took almost all night.
Finally, we got her off of the sand
and she swam out of sight.





Hope Reagan/
Karen Barnes
Third Grade
Westfield Elem.

The Best Things About Spring

The best things about spring
are when the Easter Flowers come
out to play.

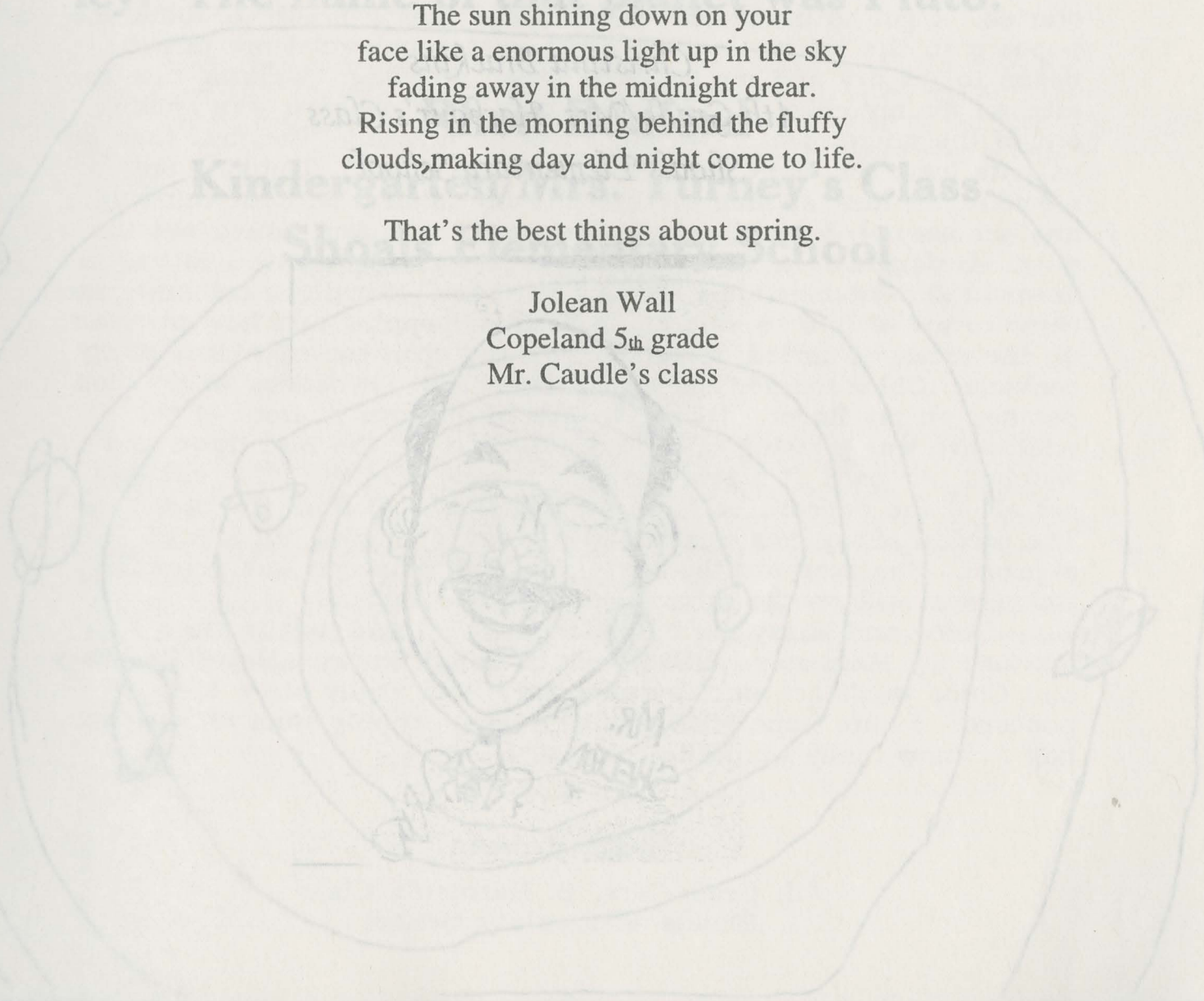
The best things about spring is
when the trees whistle, when the
breeze blows.

The sound of chicks breaking
through the
hard shell and chirping for their mother;
looking on the ground for food
just as sweet as sugar melting in
your mouth.

The sun shining down on your
face like a enormous light up in the sky
fading away in the midnight drear.
Rising in the morning behind the fluffy
clouds, making day and night come to life.

That's the best things about spring.

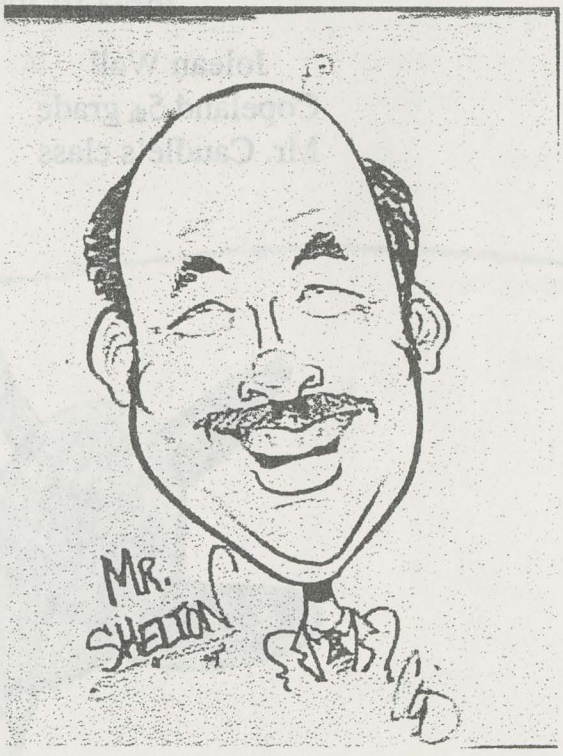
Jolean Wall
Copeland 5th grade
Mr. Caudle's class



A Special Person

I have met a man I'd like you to know
His friendly smile and kind acts have helped me to grow.
Each day he freely gives his time to read away our fear.
Especially when those big scary test days appear.
This wonderful person you will always find
Leading us to our next incline.
Relax, enjoy your days at Shoals
Mr. Shelton, our principal, is there to help you reach your goals.

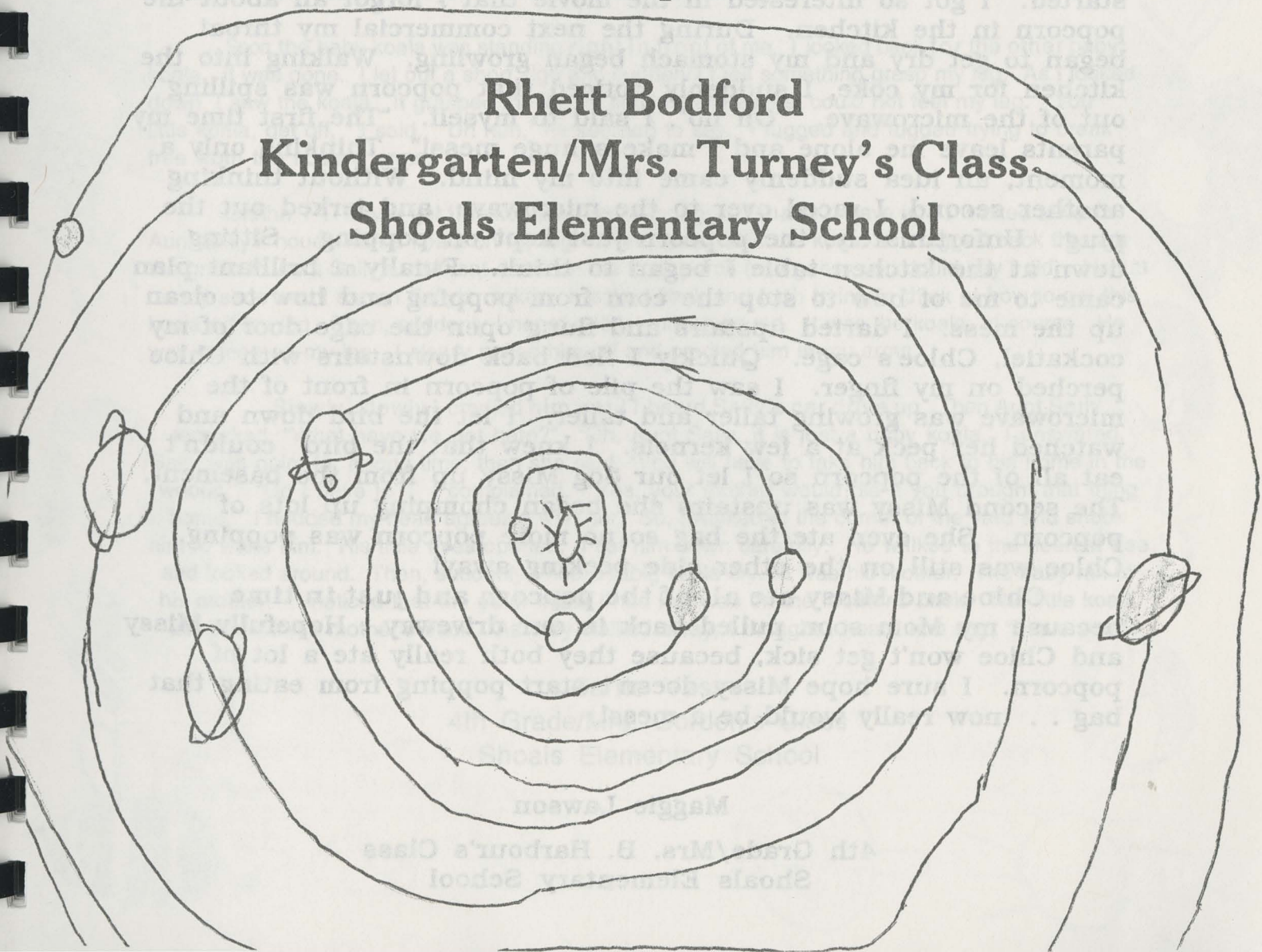
Christina Brackins
4th Grade/Mrs. Harbour's Class
Shoals Elementary School



The Solar System

A long long time ago there was a big swarm of dust. It got together and made the sun. Then the parts of dust that were left made the planets. One of the planets was earth and it was made of life. The farthest planet from the sun was cold and icy. The name of that planet was Pluto.

Rhett Bodford
Kindergarten/Mrs. Turney's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Popcorn Story

On most Friday nights, my parents and I go out to see a movie, but tonight my mom and dad had abandoned me at home with frozen TV dinners for supper--yuck! My mom had an important meeting concerning her job and she wasn't going to be home for three more hours. My dad was working the night shift at the hospital. Little did I know a mutant popcorn bag was going to give me more trouble than I would have expected.

As our Volvo station wagon pulled out of our driveway, I began to surf through the TV channels. Something caught my eye on HBO. *Step Mom* was coming on in 15 minutes. Great, I thought to myself, I'll just go and get some coke and popcorn. I found the big box in a corner of the cabinet. Reaching down into the box I quickly gripped one of the plastic wrapped bags. Pulling a popcorn bag out of the box I turned to the microwave, laid the bag inside and set the timer for three minutes and fifteen seconds. I hurried back into the den and discovered that *Step Mom* had already started. I got so interested in the movie that I forgot all about the popcorn in the kitchen. During the next commercial my throat began to get dry and my stomach began growling. Walking into the kitchen for my coke, I suddenly noticed that popcorn was spilling out of the microwave. "Oh no", I said to myself. "The first time my parents leave me alone and I make a huge mess!" Thinking only a moment, an idea suddenly came into my mind. Without thinking another second, I raced over to the microwave, and jerked out the plug. Unfortunately, the popcorn just kept on popping. Sitting down at the kitchen table I began to think. Finally a brilliant plan came to me of how to stop the corn from popping and how to clean up the mess. I darted upstairs and flung open the cage door of my cockatiel, Chloe's cage. Quickly I fled back downstairs with Chloe perched on my finger. I saw the pile of popcorn in front of the microwave was growing taller and taller. I let the bird down and watched her peck at a few kernels. I knew that the bird couldn't eat all of the popcorn so I let our dog Missy up from the basement. The second Missy was upstairs she began chomping up lots of popcorn. She even ate the bag so no more popcorn was popping. Chloe was still on the other side pecking away!

Chloe and Missy ate all of the popcorn and just in time because my Mom soon pulled back in our driveway. Hopefully Missy and Chloe won't get sick, because they both really ate a lot of popcorn. I sure hope Missy doesn't start popping from eating that bag . . now really would be a mess!

Maggie Lawson

4th Grade/Mrs. B. Harbour's Class
Shoals Elementary School

What Came Out of an Egg!!

"Cluck cluck" went the sound of the chickens outside. I was eating my breakfast at my Aunt Sally's farm. Aunt Sally always needs help on her big 'ole farm. She always gets lonely without Uncle Fred around anymore. "Carrie, I am going to church. You stay here and watch the chickens, " she said. I nodded as she walked out of the door. After I heard her car drive off, I started eating my breakfast. As I was finishing my last drop of my golden scrambled eggs, I heard one of the chickens squawk. The squawk was terribly loud. I jumped up and ran out the door. I feared Aunt Sally would get on to me if I lost one of her chickens. As I approached the chickens, I wiped my head because all the chickens were safe! As I was examining them, I noticed a gray egg. It started to wiggle and then crack open.

My eyes were as big as my mouth (which was hanging open). There were two baby koala bears snuggled up together. The chickens ran off squawking. I paid no attention. I was too interested in the baby koalas. One of the babies came close to me, leaving the other one in the cracked egg shell. As it came closer to me, I could see its furry gray ears sticking out. I could see its newborn baby blue eyes and its white stomach poking out.

Soon the baby koala was standing right in front of me. I looked back for the other baby koala. It was gone. I let out a short sigh and suddenly I felt something grasp my leg. As I looked down, I saw the koala. It grasped my leg so tightly that I almost could not feel my leg. "You little koala, get off, " I said. "Uh huh," he seemed to say. I tugged and tugged trying to break free from the koala's arms.

Ohhhh, I'll never get this koala off me, I thought. Finally, I gave up. I walked towards Aunt Sally's house with a koala on my leg. "Wee, wee," said the koala as I tugged back through the grass to Aunt Sally's. We sat down on the front porch (or I guess you could say I did). He sat on my shoe and I sat on Sally's rocker. I rocked back and forth trying to think of how to get this koala off my leg. Then, suddenly I heard a little sniffing sound. It was the koala, of course. He was asleep on my leg. I slowly pulled him off and cradled him in my arms.

Slowly, slowly I cradled him until I heard Sally's car drive up. Then Aunt Sally remarked, "What have we got here?" "Oh, Aunt Sally, it is just a baby koala," I answered. Sally was quiet for a long time, then she said, "You will have to take him back to his home in the woods." "Do I have to?" I complained. "Yes, your mother would die if you brought that thing home." I nodded my head agreeing with her. So, I walked to the corner of the yard and shook him to wake him. His little eyes opened. I sat him down carefully. He walked to the nearest tree and looked around. Then, suddenly I heard a big koala cry. It was his mother. The baby ran to his mother. I noticed that the other koala I had lost was on the mother's back. The little koala climbed on his mother's back. As they walked away, I thought I heard him say, "I love you."

Carrie Vass
4th Grade/Mrs. Gordon's Class
Shoals Elementary School

I Love My Mom and Dad

I love you Mom,
By the touch of the earth
The Flowers are pink
Sing to the hot sun
But Mom, I love you!

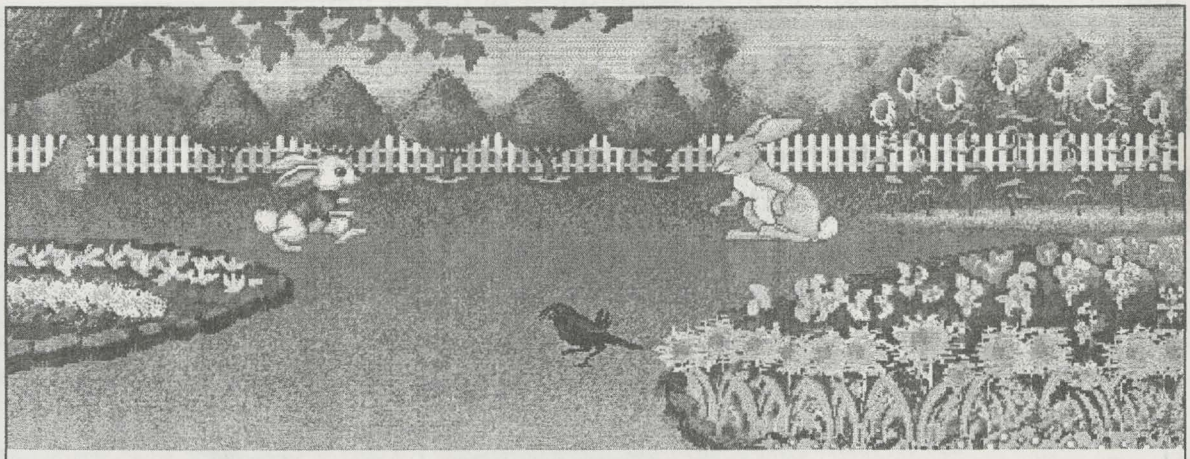
I love you Dad,
By the touch of the earth
Sing to the flowers
The sun is very hot
But Dad, I love you!

Taylor Mills
First Grade/Mrs. Poole's Class
Shoals Elementary School

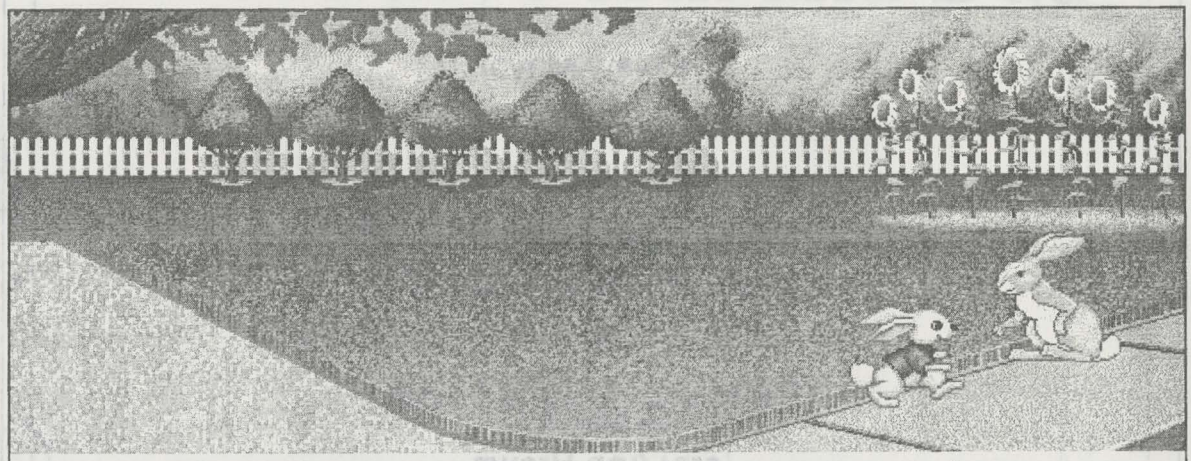
The New Mayor

by Tiffany Griffin
Mountain Park Elementary

Grade 3
Jerry Ann Brown



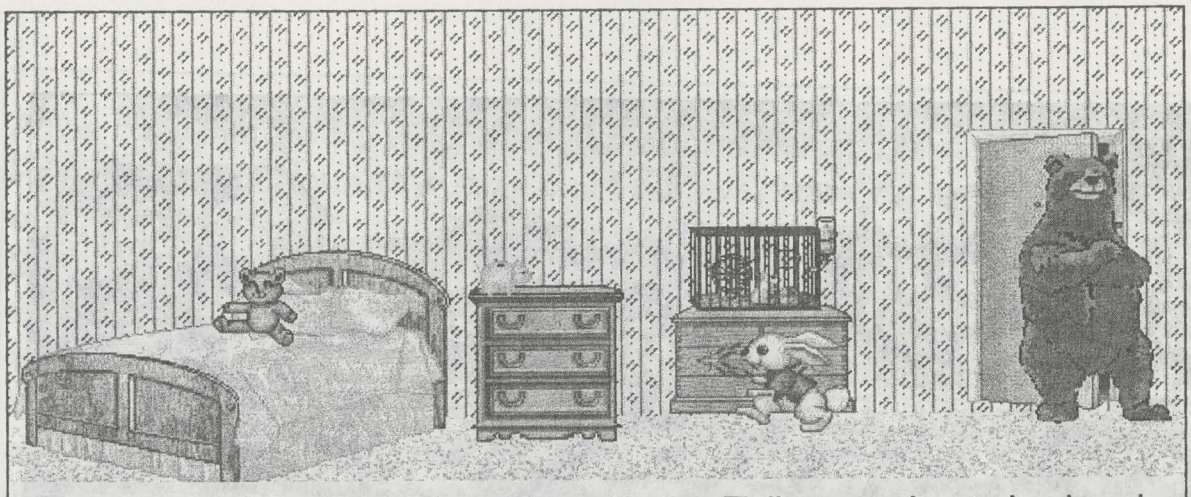
One day a bunny named Peter-Cotton-Tail was rushing home from school to dye Easter eggs; for Easter was only four days away. When he got to the sunflowers right in front of his home he met Irontail the mischievious bunny. He said,"And where do you think you're going?" "I'm going home to dye Easter eggs." "Well, what if Idon't want you to dye Easter eggs?" "I will anyway," said Peter-Cotton-Tail racing by Irontail like a flash of lightining.



The next day coming home from school Irontail saw Peter-Cotton-Tail and caught up with him. "Hey, Pete. Whatcha do'in?" "Going home," said Peter-Cotton-Tail. "Hey, I bet that I can find more eggs on Easter morning than you can," said Irontail proudly. "I bet you can't," said Peter-Cotton-Tail. "Ok we'll see on Easter morning." "What do I get if I win?" "You get to be ruler of Bunnaville." "Ok, you've got yourself a deal."

That evening Peter-Cotton-Tail and Irontail went to see the ruler of Bunnaville to ask him about the bet. "The bet is that who ever finds the most eggs on Easter morning will be the ruler of Bunnaville," said Irontail. "And we wanted to ask you if you would give up your job to one of us." "Well, I have been ruler for an oftly long time." "But Mayor Foxly, if we don't get to do this then we will never know who is the fastest egg finder," said Petter-Cotton-Tail. Well, yes, but I still know that I'm the fastest egg finder that there has ever been." "Oh yeah," said Peter-Cotton-Tail, " How do you know?" "Because I've won five times at egg finding." "First place?" asked Peter-Cotton-Tail. "First place." "Take me to your house and show me your first place trophies." "Uh,uh,well, I didn't win trophies." "That's just your way of an excuse from not taking me to your house and from preventing me from asking your mom if you really won five times at egg finding." "Boys, I'll make you a deal." "If you stop fighting then I will let one of you be ruler of Bunnaville." The rabbits immediately stopped fighting.

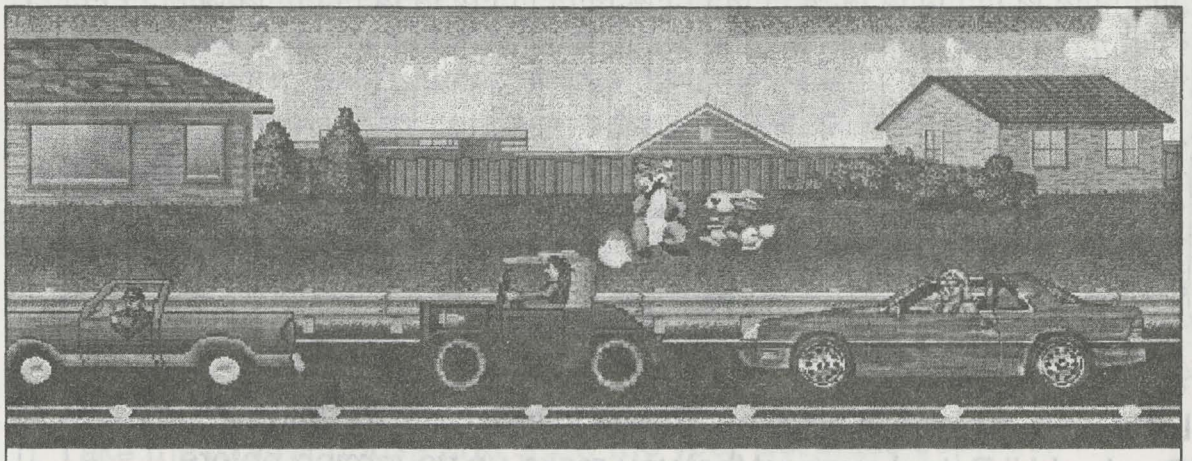
Both boys thanked the ruler and then they went on their way heading to their homes. When Peter-Cotton-Tail got home his telephone rang. He ran and picked up the reciever. It was his friend Todd. Todd didn't often call only when he was having a party or it was an emergency. "Hello." "Hey Peter." "Todd is that you?" "How could you remember me voice." "I don't know." "Well anyway, long time no see." " Yeah," said Peter-Cotton-Tail. "Why are you calling all of a sudden?" "I just wanted to call and tell you that I'm going to have an Easter party at 7:00 on the night before Easter." "Oh boy, I'll be there." "Ok," said Todd, and he hung up. After a few minutes of thinking about the party a thought came into Peter-Cotton-Tail's mind "The race," he said, "I forgot about the race!" "What race?" asked Wendy his sister. I made a bet with Irontail that I could deliver more Eggs on Easter morning than he could." "Oh my, you do have a problem," said Carol, Peter-Cotton-Tail's mother. "I know I do," said Peter-Cotton-Tail.



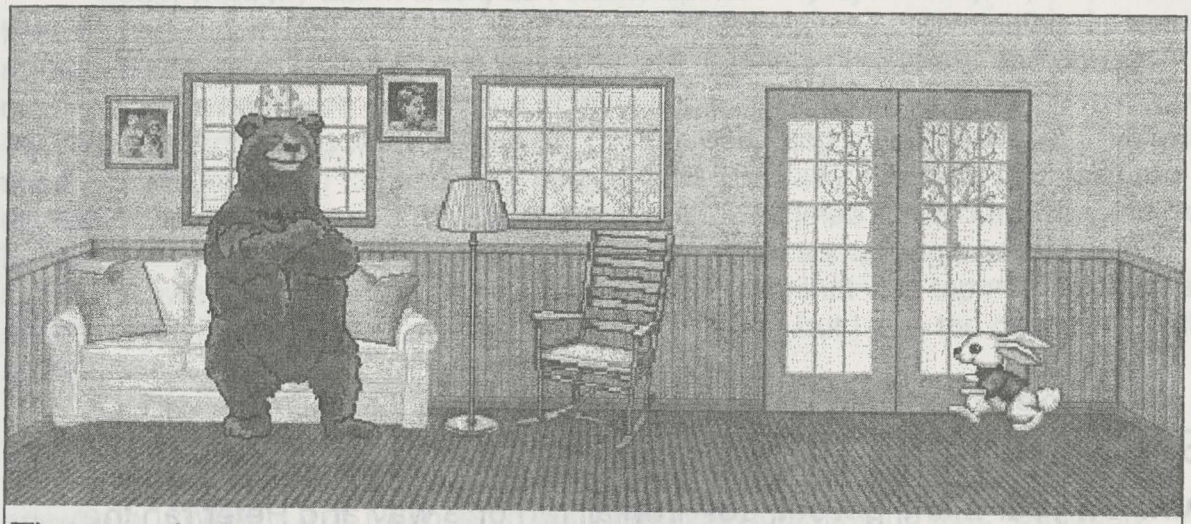
Later on that night, at bedtime, Peter-Cotton-Tail was going to bed and Carol said," Peter I suggest that you make up your mind before tomorrow if you are going to get sleep for the big race or are you not going to get sleep and go to the party and lose the race." "Ok,what ever you say ,Mom."



The next morning at breakfast Peter-Cotton-Tail had made up his mind that he was going to go to the party and then come home before the party was over and the next morning he would be at the Grand Church at 7 o' clock. "Darling, what did you decide to do?" "I decided to go to the party and come home before the party is over and get in the bed, that way I can be at the Grand Church at 7:00." "What ever you say, Peter."



That same morning on the way to school Peter-Cotton- Tail met Todd and he said,"Hey buddy, you com'in to my party?" "Yeah man, ya coming to see me win the big race against Irontail?" "You race'in aganist Irontail?" " Yeah, you don't think I can win?" "Yeah, but I've heard that Irontail's nickname is Speedy Gonzalis." "Well my nickname is Speedy Gonzolis tripple time." That was all that was said that morning.



That evening when it was fifteen minutes till 7:00 Peter-Cotton-Tail was getting ready to go to Todd's party. On the way out the door his mother stopped him and said,"Be sure that you are home before 9:00." "Ok mom, I'll be sure."And Peter ran out the door.

At the party there were all kinds of games and delicious treats. Peter-Cotton-Tail found the table that Todd was standing at and he ran over to that table and said,"Todd you gett'in any cake for us to eat?" " Sure, what's a party without cake?" "Well, nothing I guess." "Exactly right. The cake wil be here in a few minutes." Later on that evening, about 11:00 Peter- Cotton-Tail realized that he needed to go home, but he was having so much fun that he didn't go home right then. At 2:00 a.m. Peter-Cotton-Tail was getting in the bed and that night he slept like a rock. The next morning at 7:00 Peter-Cotton-Tail got out of bed. "I overslept!" said Petter-Cotton-Tail He jumped out of bed and jerked on his clothes, ran out of his bedroom, down the hall and out the front door. At the end of his block he looked both ways and turned the corner, as he saw a glimpse of the church, he saw Irontail getting ready to find the Easter eggs that everyone in Bunnaville had hid. "Wait!" yelled Peter-Cotton-Tail. "I'm in the race, too."

Peter-Cotton-Tail ran over and picked up a basket and got ready to run."On your mark, get set, go!" Irontail ran one way and Peter ran the other way. In about five minutes Peter had 10 eggs and Irontail had 11, but Peter caught up with Irontail when he found one in the newly planted oak tree. Finally, the race was over, Irontail had 23 eggs and Peter-Cotton-Tail had 25. Everyone was cheering because Peter-Cotton-Tail was the new mayor. Peter went to the place where Mayor Foxly was sitting to recieve his scroll for new mayor. Todd ran over and said,"I can't believe that my best friend is the Mayor of Bunnaville."

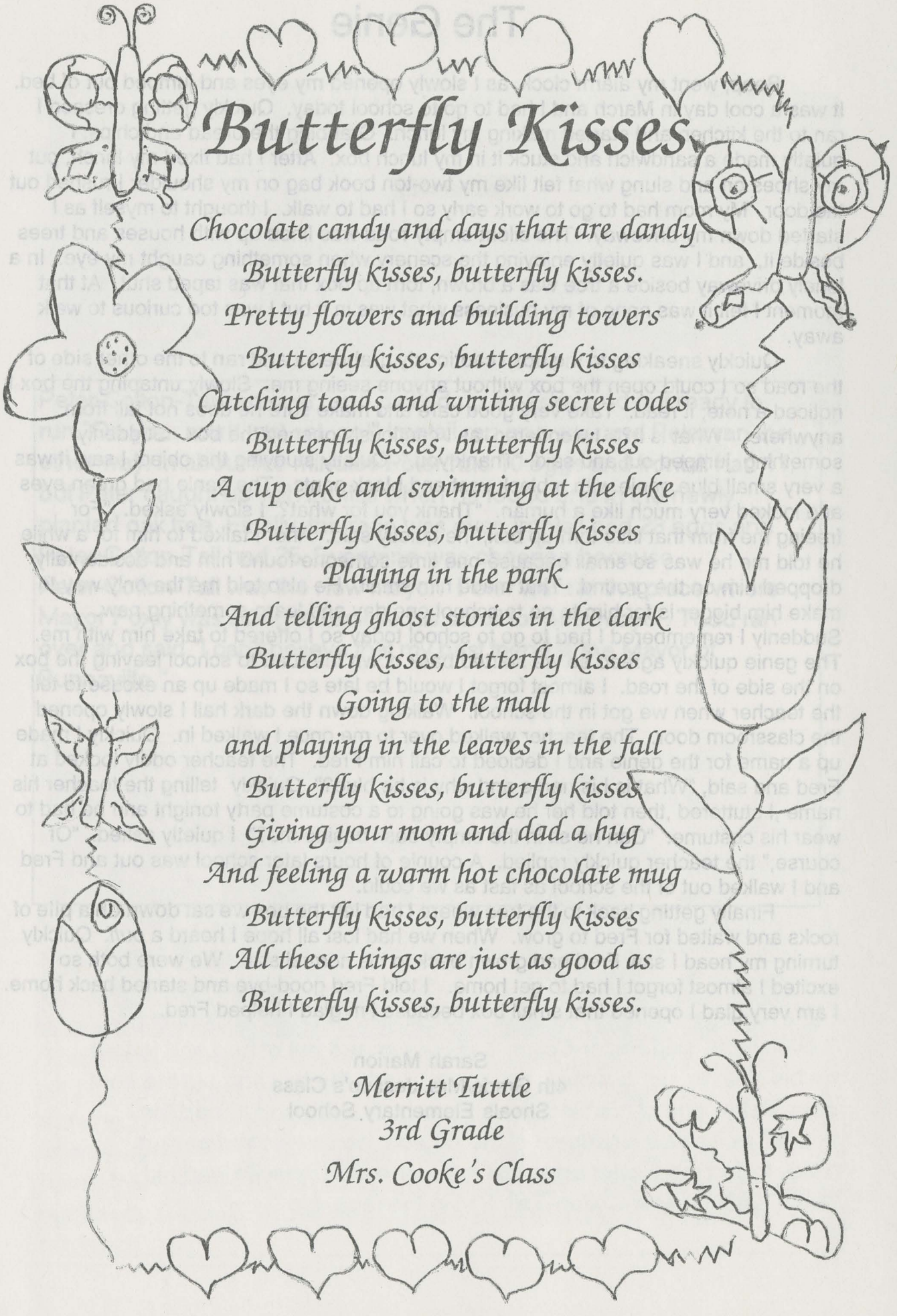
The Genie

Beep, went my alarm clock, as I slowly opened my eyes and jumped out of bed. It was a cool day in March and I had to go to school today. Quickly getting dressed I ran to the kitchen and started making my lunch. Grabbing the bread and chips, I quietly made a sandwich and stuck it in my lunch box. After I had fixed my lunch, put my shoes on and slung what felt like my two-ton book bag on my shoulder I rushed out the door. My mom had to go to work early so I had to walk. I thought to myself as I started down my driveway. The silent empty road was lined up with houses and trees beside it, and I was quietly enjoying the scenery when something caught my eye. In a lonely driveway beside a tree was a brown, torn up box that was taped shut. At that moment I felt it was none of my business what was in it but I was too curious to walk away.

Quickly sneaking to the box I cautiously grabbed it and ran to the other side of the road so I could open the box without anyone seeing me. Slowly untaping the box I noticed a note, it read: Take very good care and make sure he does not fall from anywhere. "What is it?" I wondered, as I cautiously opened the box. Suddenly something jumped out and said, "Thank you." Quietly studying the object I saw it was a very small blue genie with a black vest and black pants. The genie had green eyes and looked very much like a human. "Thank you for what?" I slowly asked. "For freeing me from that little torn-up box," he quietly said. After I talked to him for a while he told me he was so small because one time someone found him and accidentally dropped him on the ground. That made him small. He also told me the only way to make him bigger is for him to go to school one day and learn something new. Suddenly I remembered I had to go to school today so I offered to take him with me. The genie quickly agreed so we started back down the road to school leaving the box on the side of the road. I almost forgot I would be late so I made up an excuse to tell the teacher when we got in the school. Walking down the dark hall I slowly opened the classroom door. The teacher walked over to me once I walked in. Quickly I made up a name for the genie and I decided to call him Fred. The teacher oddly looked at Fred and said, "What is his name and why is he blue?" Quickly telling the teacher his name ,I stuttered ,then told her he was going to a costume party tonight and he had to wear his costume. "Can he sit in the empty desk beside me?" I quietly asked. "Of course," the teacher quickly replied. A couple of hours later school was out and Fred and I walked out of the school as fast as we could.

Finally getting back to the tree where I had left the box we sat down on a pile of rocks and waited for Fred to grow. When we had lost all hope I heard a *puff*. Quickly turning my head I saw Fred had grown back to his normal size. We were both so excited I almost forgot I had to get home. I told Fred good-bye and started back home. I am very glad I opened that small box because I'm glad I helped Fred.

Sarah Marion
4th Grade/Mrs. Jessup's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Butterfly Kisses

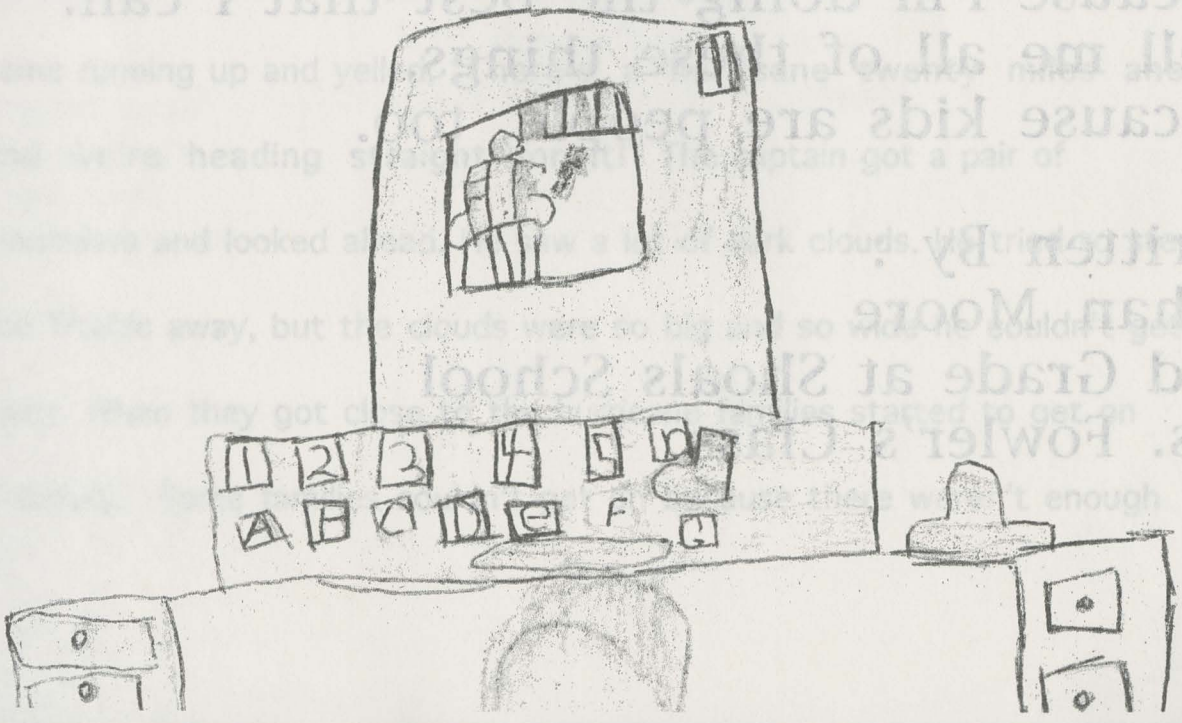
Chocolate candy and days that are dandy
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses.
Pretty flowers and building towers
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses
Catching toads and writing secret codes
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses
A cup cake and swimming at the lake
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses
Playing in the park
And telling ghost stories in the dark
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses
Going to the mall
and playing in the leaves in the fall
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses
Giving your mom and dad a hug
And feeling a warm hot chocolate mug
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses
All these things are just as good as
Butterfly kisses, butterfly kisses.

Merritt Tuttle
3rd Grade
Mrs. Cooke's Class

I Like the Computer Lab

It has lots of fun games! My favorite one is "Bailey's Book House," I especially like the part where the dog goes over, under, in and behind the doghouse. But, I like all the other parts of it too. I like all the different CD's and I like to be able to turn the sound up and down. I like to wear the headphones because they plug in so you can hear. I especially like the new ones that can be turned up and down on the headphone. I love to use the mouse because it can help to take you to different places on the computer. Mrs. Simmons has given us each a computer to use and I like knowing which one is mine. The name of my computer is O.

Tyler McKinney
Kindergarten / Ms. Martin's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Tell Me

Tell me I'm kind.
Tell me I'm nice.
Tell me I'm good to others.
Tell me I'm a farmer.

Tell me I'm a basketball player.
Tell me I'm a fine person.
Tell me I believe in God.
Tell me I behave well.

Tell me I'm not dumb.
Tell me I'm not a jerk.
Tell me I'm an A+ person in math.
Tell me I'm a good reader.

Tell me all of these things,
Because I'm doing the best that I can.
Tell me all of these things,
Because kids are people, too.

Written By :
Ethan Moore
3rd Grade at Shoals School
Ms. Fowler's Class

Polar The Titanic Bear
By Justin Simmons

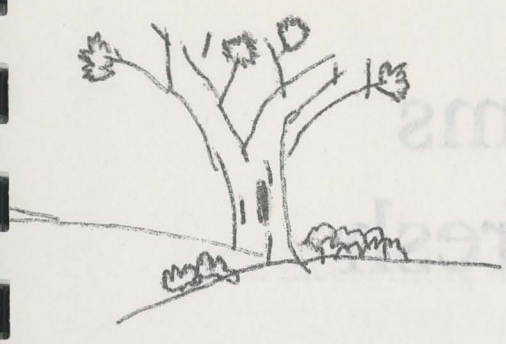
Once there was a very rich family. They lived in Australia. The boy's name was Jack, his dad's name was Patrick, his mom's name was Ashley. They went wherever they could whenever they could. It was the day before they were going to get on the Titanic to go to New York. One day Jack's grandma was at the toy store looking for something to give to Jack. She found a little white bear. When she got to the ship they were getting ready to leave. When grandma gave him the bear he was flabbergasted. Finally, he said, "Thank you." Jack named him Polar. Then, they got on the ship and everyone was waving and yelling. It was 7:30, and everybody went back to bed except Jack. He was busy playing with Polar. It was 8:25. Jack was playing in their room. His mom and dad wished he would stop and sleep because they wanted to get to rest. Finally, they all got to sleep. Jack laid down with Polar in his hand. At noon they had ham, corn, tomato soup, and for desert everyone had peanut butter delight. It was 3:15 when someone came running up and yelled, "There's a hurricane twenty miles ahead and we're heading straight for it!" The captain got a pair of binoculars and looked ahead. He saw a lot of dark clouds. He tried to steer the Titanic away, but the clouds were so big and so wide he couldn't get away. When they got close to the hurricane families started to get on lifeboats. Some families couldn't get on because there weren't enough

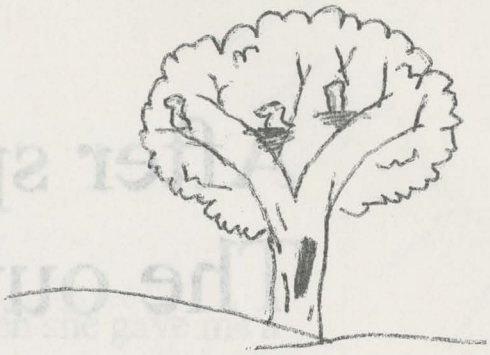
Polar The Titanic Bear
By Justin Simmons

lifeboats for everybody. When the Titanic tipped over, Jack lost Polar. Most of the passengers got off, but some drowned or froze to death. The ones who got off were on the lifeboat for three hours. Then a ship called the "Carpathia" came and let them on their ship. When the Jack's family got home, Jack was very unhappy because he lost Polar. Many years later someone found Polar and pieces of the Titanic at the bottom of the ocean. They put them in a museum. Then Jack went and saw Polar. He ran and asked the curator where he had gotten Polar. The curator said, "They found him at the bottom of the ocean inside the Titanic." Jack asked, "Can I have Polar?" "Yes, " said the curator. Jack got Polar and took him home. He put him in a safe and locked him in the closet. When he had children he gave Polar to them and they gave him to their children.

The End

Hope Reagan/
Karen Barnes
Third Grade
Westfield Elem.





TREES

by Phil denny

First there is winter when the trees are bare,
It looks like they are only in their underwear.

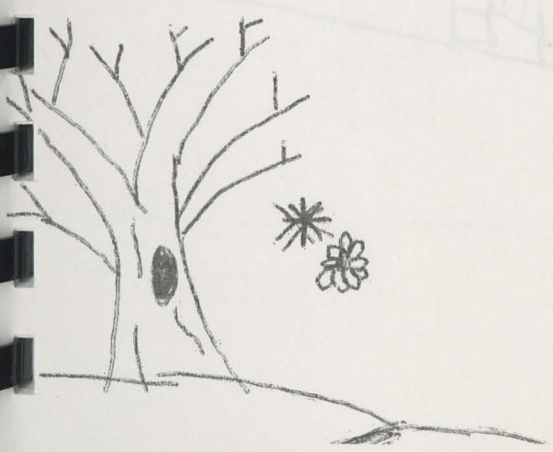
Then there is spring when the trees are in bloom,
Then the buds sprout out like big red balloons.

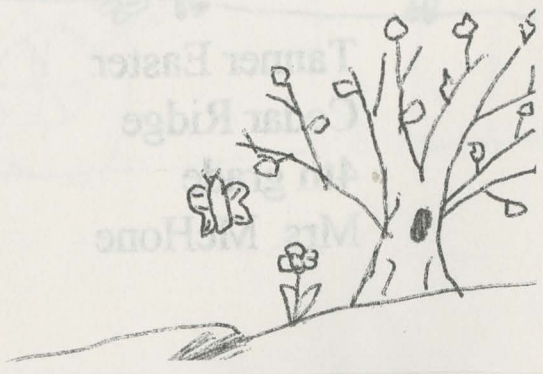
The summer comes with the bursting leaves,
their branches are filled with chickadees.

Then comes autumn when the leaves start to fall,
turning to colors we love them all.

Then the process starts again that's while my story
will, never end.

5th Grade
Mr. Armstrong Class
Shoals Elementary School





After spring rainstorms
The outside is very fresh
And makes the plants
grow.

Michelle Williams
Cedar Ridge
4th Grade
Mrs. McHone

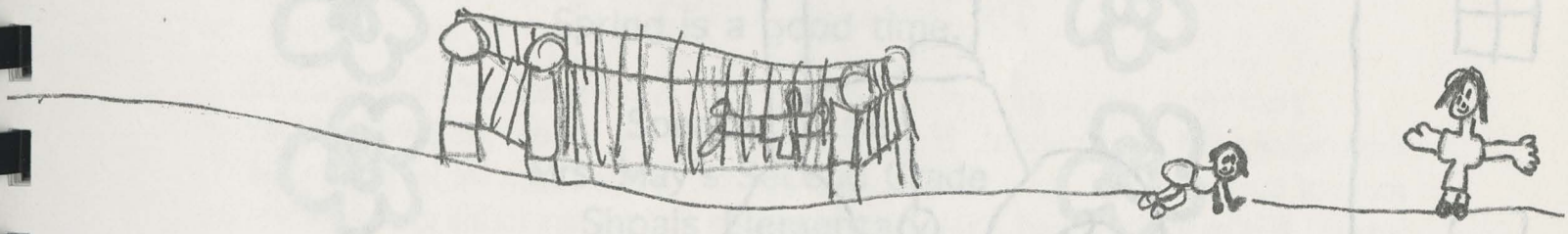
Clouds are so pretty
Making pictures in the sky
The clouds look so soft.

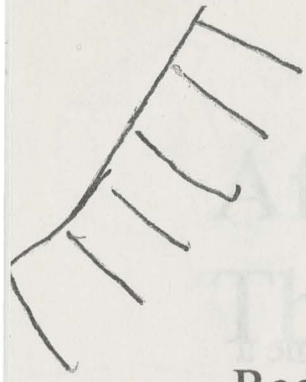
Tanner Easter
Cedar Ridge
4th grade
Mrs. McHone

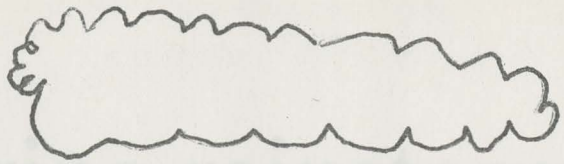
The Nicest Gift

The nicest thing that my mom ever did for me is when she gave me a home. I am very glad she takes care of me. If no one had a mom, I don't know what they would do. Like when your dad has to go to work, who would you have to take care of you? Your mom. My mom is the best mom in the world. No one could take her place. That's why I love my mom.

Cory Craddock
Second Grade
Flat Rock Elementary
Mrs. Iroler & Mrs. Thomas



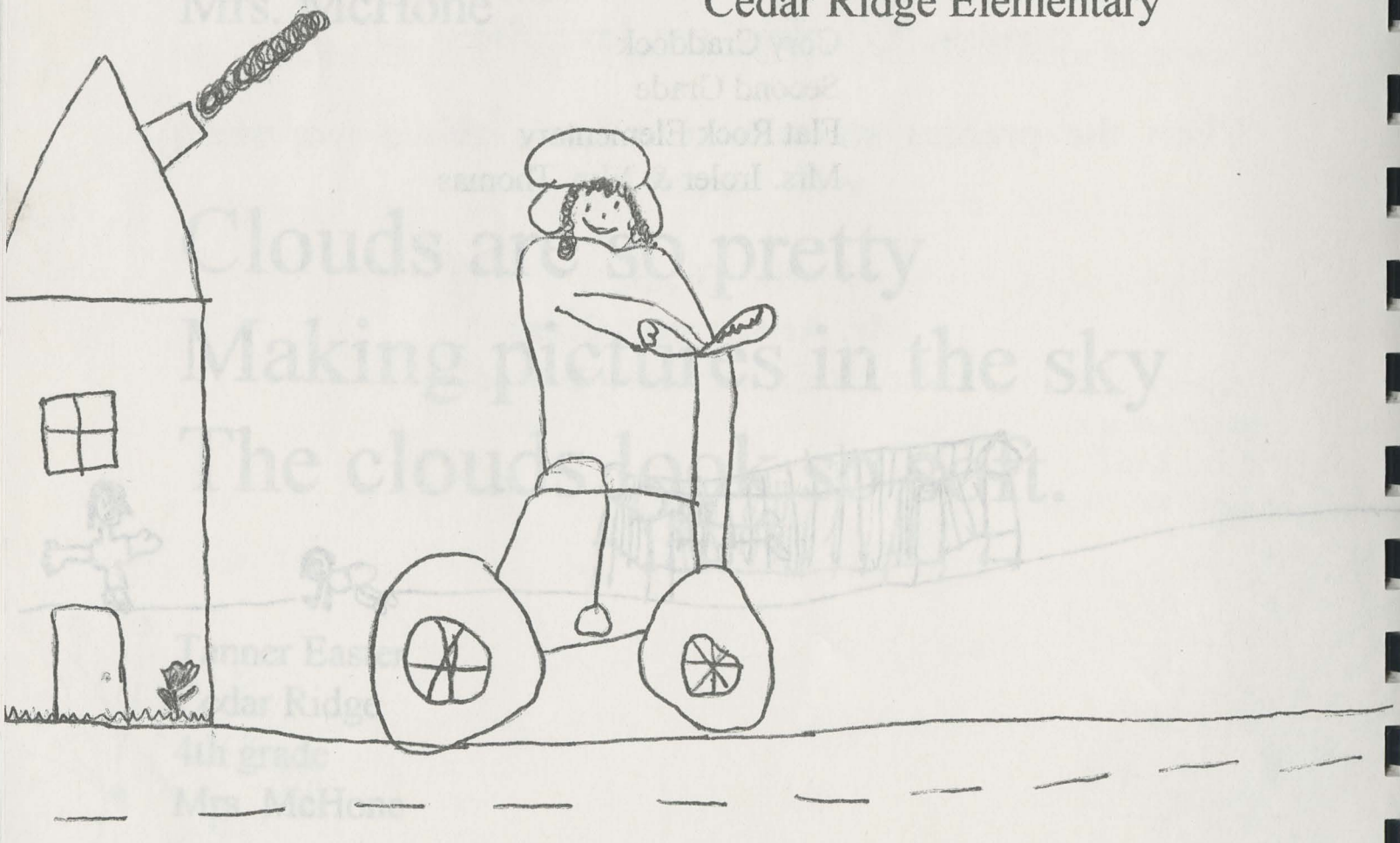




Little Red Running Shorts

There once was a little girl. Her name was Little Red Running Shorts. Her mom told her to go to the hill to pick some berries. On her way, she met a wolf. The wolf jumped out in front of her and asked her where she was going, but she just drove over him. Then, she went to the hill to pick some berries. She drove back to her house.

Abby Poore
1st Grade
Mrs. Sprinkle's Class
Cedar Ridge Elementary



New Volkswagons

I like new volkswagons.
They are cool.
You can spin a wheel too.
I bought it for 10,000 dollars
and you can get one too.

Cody Bullins
Mrs. Hull and Mrs. Bowman's 2nd Grade Class
Flat Rock Elementary



Spring
(Haiku Poem)

Spring is in the air.
Baby animals are born.
Spring is a good time.

Spence Tuttle
Mrs. May's Second Grade
Shoals Elementary



Dandelions Dandelions,

Dandelions come out to play
Dandelions come out today
During the spring colors do change
Yellow and white in all different ways,
Dandelions don't go away
Dandelions stay out and play,
And guard our grass everyday,
Play with us,
And stand proud and tall.
When the wind blows please don't fall

Tiffany Medley
7th Grade
Mrs. Barr

The Time I Got A New Puppy

Yesterday I got a puppy. It's black with a white neck. It's a husky. It is three weeks old. It is playful. He likes to chew on my shoes. He loves Frisbees most of the time. He's nice. His name is Rocky. Some times we let him in the house. His mom is named Ashley. He has tags and papers to his grandparents.

Michael Smith
Mrs. Hull and Mrs. Bowman's 2nd Grade Class
Flat Rock Elementary

A Beach of Death

Some were praying, some thinking of their loved ones they might never see again. Some, including me, just stared out into the gray morning sky. Fear abode in every single one of our hearts. Nobody knew what to expect. My head was filled with confused thoughts about my mother, my childhood, and questions of how in the world did I end up here?

We were about ten yards from the beach when the worst possible thing happened. Little pieces of metal came whizzing past my ears. Some bullets missed, but someone's rifle had true aim. I remember hearing the thud of the bullet hitting its target. One after another, people were falling down to their sandy graves. I saw my best friend's helmet fail to protect his head from a bullet. The back part of his head was completely open. Blood spilled from the gaping wound. He fell to his knees and died. Thirty-five years of friendship was but a memory now. He was but a memory.

I was surrounded by a beach of death. Men had died in the worst possible way someone could imagine. I tripped over a body when I was running for safety. I turned his limp body over only to discover that his face had been blown away. The battle raged on for hours. Finally we gained entrance into the villages of Germany. Debris was every where. Buildings that once stood proud and tall were now crumpled to the ground. It was raining that morning, a harsh rain that made you feel lower than the ground itself. I saw families walking among the rubble searching for stuff that had been lost in the fight. I saw a little girl no older that six walking with a rag doll in her right hand crying because she was lost. Her entire family had been violently snatched away by the ugly face of war.

It stopped raining about an hour later. My platoon had been preparing for this one. In the distance tanks gave their clanky roar of a battle cry. In complete and utter silence we waited. All of us were scared, but none quite so scared as the boy next to me. His green G.I. suit seemed to devour his tiny body. The fear in his eyes was none like I'd ever seen before. As the tanks moved closer and closer my stomach became wound in a knot so big it would have taken days to untie. Our side struck first. A grenade exploded with a deafening blast. The lead tank could no longer move. It uttered a sound of final defeat. As bullets were exchanged from either side I noticed a sniper aiming for me. I closed my eyes tightly waiting for my death. A blast went off, only it wasn't me who died. I saw the enemy fall over dead. Looking to my right I saw the young man who had saved my life. I didn't say thank you to him. My only reply was a sigh relief.

I left the next day. I went home to the place where I had grown up as a boy. My home never looked better! Sometimes when I close my eyes, I can smell the salty mist of the sea. I see the gray, hateful clouds. I see my comrades dead on the beach of Normandy. I remember that little girl who at the tender age of five had seen war. A war, which claimed the lives of her parents

and family. I see that young man lying on the ground with his rifle in hand. He was killed moments later by German fire. On days that are days that only God could create, I feel that young man's presence, and I know that he is still watching for snipers.

World War II
Normandy
July 16th and 17th, 1942

Sam Marshall
Central Middle School
Grade 7
Brenda Lloyd

CAT CHEER

I love cats, yes I do.
I love cats, how 'bout you?

I love cats, yes I do.
I love cats, how 'bout you?

I love cats, yes I do.
I love cats, how 'bout you?

We love cats, yes we do.
We love cats, so do you.

By: Kayla Paige Norman
Grade 3 Mrs. Stockton
Cedar Ridge Elementary

I Am Thankful

by Tyler Davis
2nd Grade - Cedar Ridge Elem.
Mrs. Dana H. Collins room

There are many things to be thankful for. Here are a few of them. I am thankful for my church because I can learn about God. I am thankful for the food we eat so we don't die. I am thankful for my parents because they can love us. I am thankful for our health so we don't get sick. I am thankful for our school so we can learn. I am thankful for brothers and sisters so they can play with us. I am thankful for our teachers because they can help us with our work at school. I am thankful for many things.

Cocoa

I have had fun today and yesterday. I like to play catch with her. She is a good girl. I play with her when I come home from school. I love Cocoa.

Hannah Hambrick
Miss Gordon's First Grade
Cedar Ridge Elementary School

DEATH

Why are people always dying?
Why are we always crying?
Would it be because we are sad and sorrowful
or maybe have many wonders upon our hearts.
Sometimes it hurts
Sometimes it leaves a big hole in our hearts
But why are people always dying?
We will never know
But if we guide our hearts
To and fro there we will find a man who knows.

Josh Hawks
North Surry High School
Mrs. Lowanda Badgett

Spring is.....

.....baseball

.....playing outside more

.....flying kites

.....going swimming

.....I love Spring!

Dillon Hawks

Miss Gordon's First Grade

Cedar Ridge Elementary

The Spring Storm

It was a foggy morning on the first day of spring. Later, the sun set and the twinkling glittery stars came out over the clear black sky. Before the sun had come out over the east horizon, I woke from a long peaceful dreamless sleep. Rubbing my eyes and crawling out of bed, my left foot backed up after touching the cool hardwood floor. After putting on my wooly snuggly purple house slippers, I stood up out of bed facing the window. I pulled up the blinds and opening the clear see through glass, a burst of cold chill bumps popped out like bursting popcorn. The fresh aroma of spring dew tickled my cold nose. Looking outside my window, I could see nothing at all through the foggy cloud that hung over the freshly cut land. In the valleys and over the mountains the fog stretched as far as the naked eyes could see.

That morning I put on my clean clothes as the sun had just popped over the mountain and was bright as ever. You could see all sorts of colors of the rainbow such as pink, yellow, purple, blue, orange and a touch of green. It was like the first sunrise that was ever made. It was too gorgeous to explain. After reading a book, I stopped briefly and the house smelled of homemade muffins that my mom would make if she had a good night's rest. I jumped up out of my chair and as fast as lightning ran to make sure I got some. I was at the table ready to say our blessings and eat. As mom was putting freshly baked strawberry, blueberry, and banana nut muffins on the table. Everybody rushed to sit down, reaching for the muffins. Mama smacked out hand and we backed off. We said our blessings. "Dear Lord, thank you for the food you supplied for us and bless it to the nourishment of our body." Amen! Than everybody with their grubby hands was reaching for a good homemade muffin. Everybody enjoyed tasting and chewing and even savoring one of Mama's muffins. After a long one-hour breakfast, everybody's stomachs were so full they felt like they would explode. After I let my stomach settle, I put on my old shoes and rushed to mom smiling from ear to ear. Mama let us play outside. I opened the door and my smile disappeared and in front of my eyes on the other side of the screen door was not a little, but enormous, watery, wet, ugly raindrops. It was not a pretty site. Oh no! What has happened? It went to a nice morning to a yucky afternoon. Later that day the rain had come down faster and harder than

before. I thought it would never get clear. I sat there for a couple of hours and still no sign of the sun. By this time, the water was about knee high and the winds had picked up. There were papers flying around and the branches were breaking off the trees. Everything you could imagine that was lightweight was airborne. Twenty-one days had passed or three weeks and still no sign of the pretty, warm bright sun.

All of a sudden out passed the valleys you could see dark black clouds. Out of no where there was a 180 mph, spinning, swirling tornado. Hail started coming down and rain flooding about waist high. That tornado is heading right towards us. Oh no! What are we going to do? All of a sudden the tornado picked u the house and moved it 5 yards from where it was and then a couple of trees fell. The sky cleared and the bright sunshine popped out and it warmed up. A couple of days later we played all day long.

Whew! What a long wait to play outside, no thanks to the spring storm.

Rachael Brooks
5th Grade
Mr. Caudle's Class
Copeland

COLORADO

Colorado seems so far away,
But we were all there that day.
I was sad and scared about what happened.
Could it happen here?
What would I do?
Where would I hide if a masked gunman came inside?

Would he kill me because of my skin?
or because I wore braces?
or because I was there?

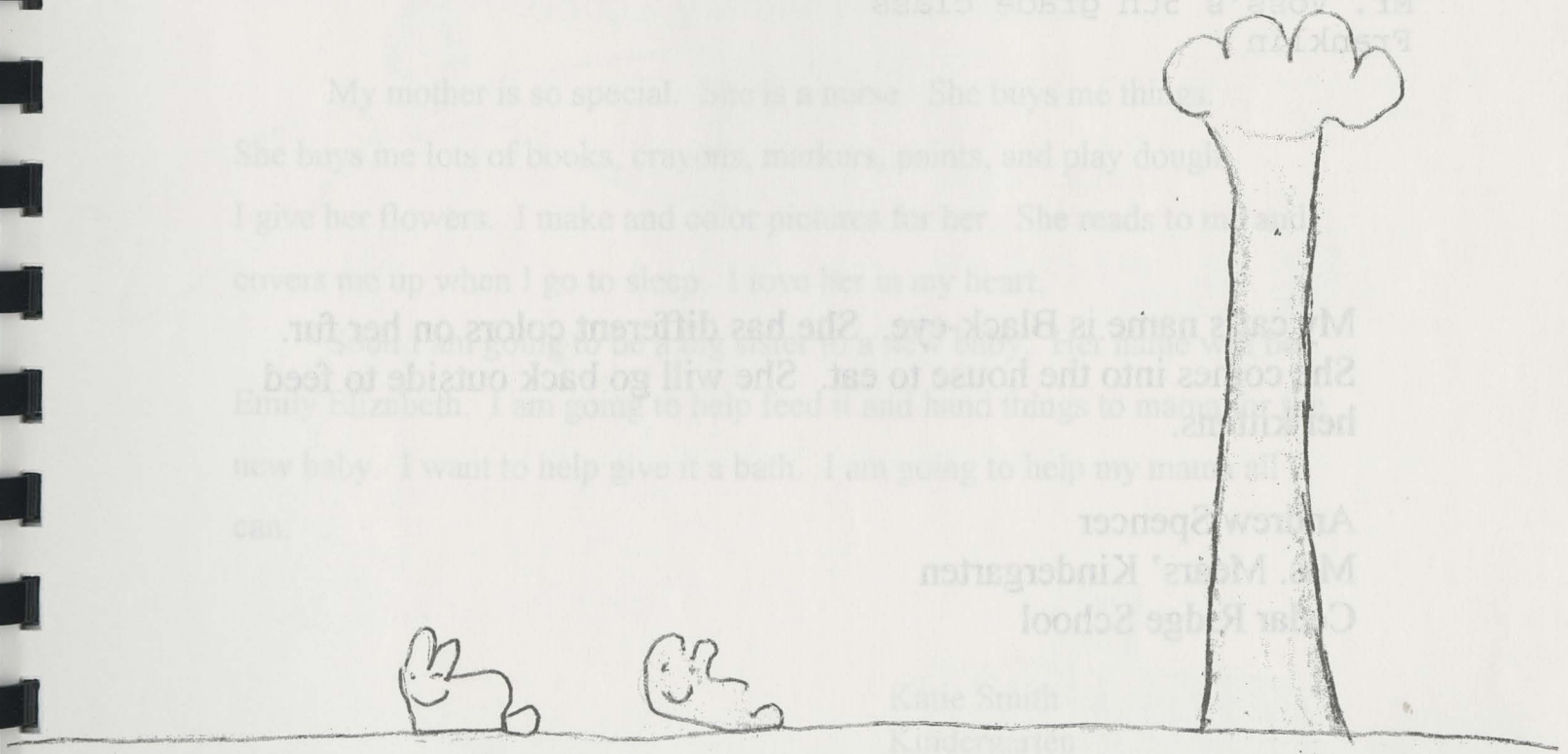
Colorado seems so far away,
Don't let it happen to me.
Don't ever let it happen any other day!

Jessi Sutphin
Cedar Ridge
5th
Young

Two Rabbits

There once was a rabbit that was white,
She hopped and hopped all night.
Her brother was brown,
And they played around.
Together they hopped out of sight!!

Written by,
Samantha Page
Mrs. Hamilton's Class
3rd Grade
Shoals Elementary School



Franklinstein

One day I missed my bus stop, so I was a car rider. I got to school when only Mr. Voss was there. I went to my class and there stood a monster. It was not Mr. Voss. It said on his shirt, "Franklinstein."

I bolted over to him and said to him, "What are you doing here?"

He said back to me, "I am your substitute today because Mr. Voss is sick."

Then the bell rang and the kids came rolling into the classroom. He started taking roll, and while he was, everybody was shocked. They had never seen him before.

I stood up and told the class, that this is a sub.

He told us a story. He told us why Mr. Voss was out. He said that his sister, which was a witch, put a spell on him. "I really Mr. Voss, but she put a spell on me and now I am a monster."

That night he went home with Mitchell and the next morning he came to school, and he was back to himself. It was a 24 hour spell, like a 24 hour virus.

Kari Beth Marsh
Mr. Voss's 5th grade class
Franklin

My cat's name is Black-eye. She has different colors on her fur. She comes into the house to eat. She will go back outside to feed her kittens.

Andrew Spencer
Mrs. Mears' Kindergarten
Cedar Ridge School

To The Colorado Families

I'm sorry for your loss,
Cause of a thoughtless act
That will change your lives forever.
I wish that the clock could turn back

Now they're gone
But they will never be forgotten
They're in heaven up above
You will see them again in heaven
Where there is kindness and love.

Homeroom : Mr. Carl Hayes
School : Cedar Ridge Elementary
Grade 5
By: Daniel Secrest

My mother is so special. She is a nurse. She buys me things. She buys me lots of books, crayons, markers, paints, and play dough. I give her flowers. I make and color pictures for her. She reads to me and covers me up when I go to sleep. I love her in my heart.

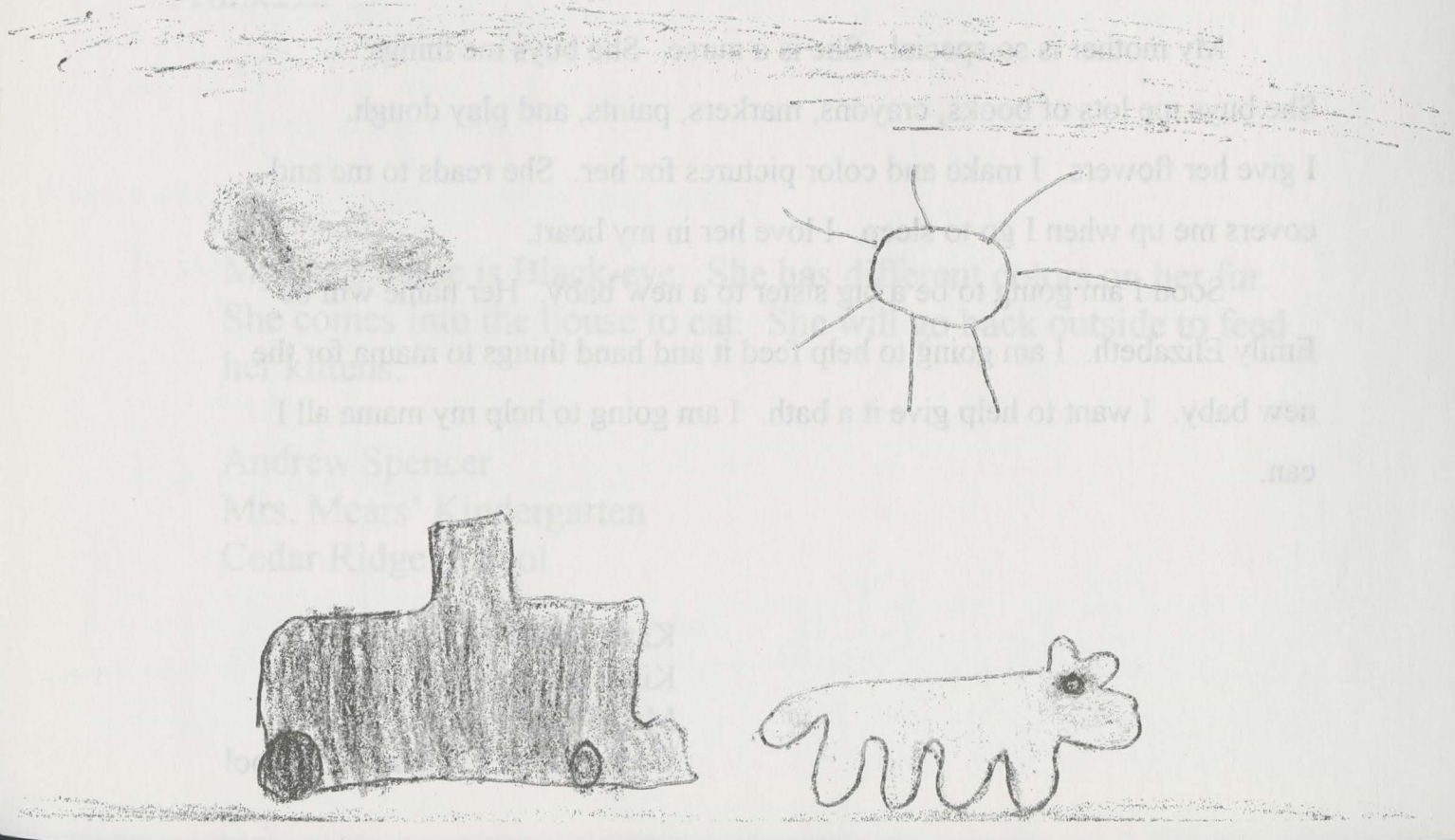
Soon I am going to be a big sister to a new baby. Her name will be Emily Elizabeth. I am going to help feed it and hand things to mama for the new baby. I want to help give it a bath. I am going to help my mama all I can.

Katie Smith
Kindergarten
Mrs. Wiles
Cedar Ridge Elementary School

My Dog

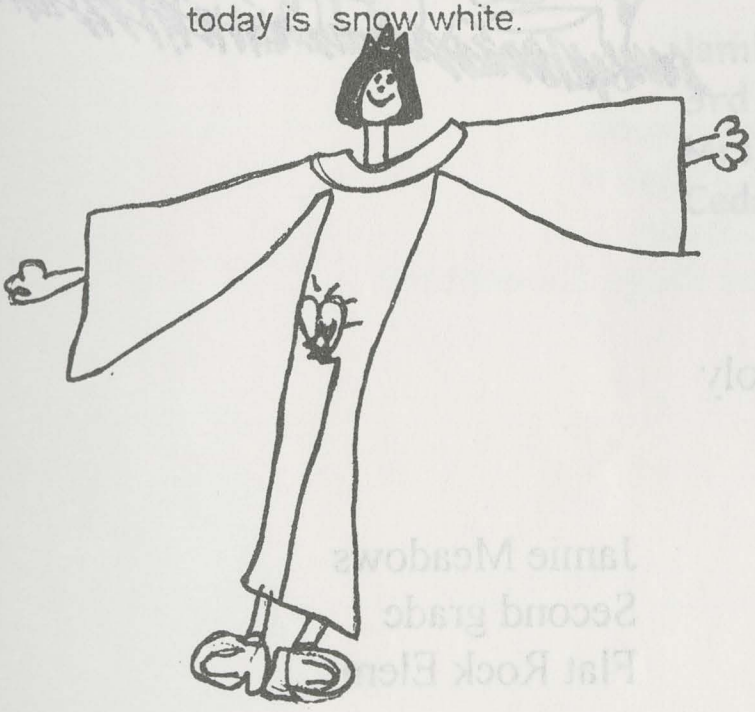
My dog loves me and I love her. Her name is Missy. She is brownish-yellow and she is a golden retriever mixed with cocker spaniel. She fetches balls when I throw them. She doesn't bring them back very good. She also jumps and bites. Sometimes it hurts and sometimes it doesn't but mostly it does. She grabs everything I have in my hand and she loves to eat cookies. She likes to eat crackers too. She can run fast. She has races with me and my mommy and the car.

Kyle Shinault
Kindergarten / Mrs. Angel's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Snow Queen's Wand

Long, long ago there lived a Snow Queen in the clouds. She had a beautiful dress with a pocket where she kept her snow wand. One day she got the dress muddy. She washed it in bleach to get the mud out. She forgot that her wand was in the pocket. When she got the dress out to wear again, she found the wand. When she used it, the wand made the snow very white instead of rainbow colors. That is why the snow we see today is snow white.



Megan Chrisley
Second Grade
Flat Rock Elem.

Fishing

Riding bikes

Imagining friends

Exploring the playground

New toys

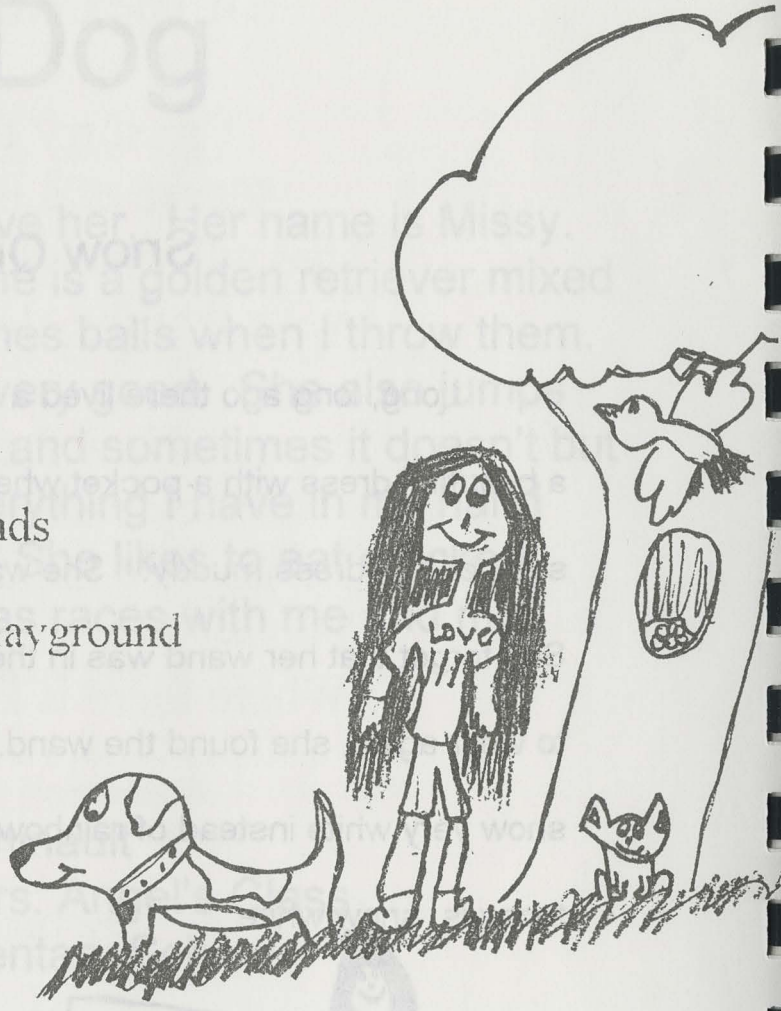
Dress-up

Swimming

Hide-n-go seek

Ice skating

Playing Monopoly



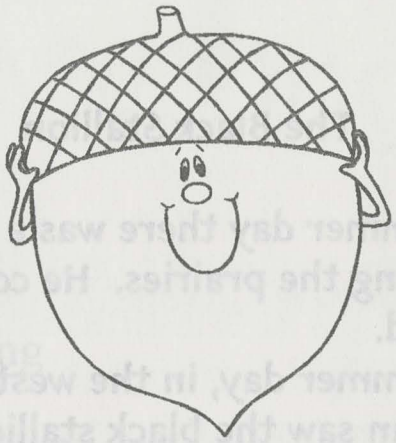
Jamie Meadows
Second grade
Flat Rock Elem.

The Black Stallion

Once upon a summer day there was a beautiful black stallion roaming the prairies. He could run faster than the wind.

One very hot summer day, in the west, a girl named Harmony Jean saw the black stallion and wanted him for her own, so she tried to catch him. When she saw the stallion drinking water from a pond she build a fence around the pond and the wild mustang started to drink. Then she gave a whoop because it trusted her and she was very, very nice. She sold her other horse because she didn't want the other one to be jealous. After she tamed the stallion, it became famous and won every show it went to. She named it...Black Beauty! That's how Black Beauty became famous in all of the books about Black Beauty. That's him!

Jamie Davis
3rd Grade
Mrs. Patsy Amburn
Cedar Ridge Elementary



Autumn and Winter

Green, brown, tan and gold. Wonderful autumn! So long vacation! Back to school. Night comes earlier. It's the season for canning. It's autumn.

Winter, burr....it's cold! It's really cold. It's the season for snow! Season for playing in the snow and sitting close to the fire. It's the season for Christmas. Homes are filled with toys, it's winter.

Kelsey Crook
Mrs. Amburn
3rd Grade
Cedar Ridge Elementary

Little Lost Wolf

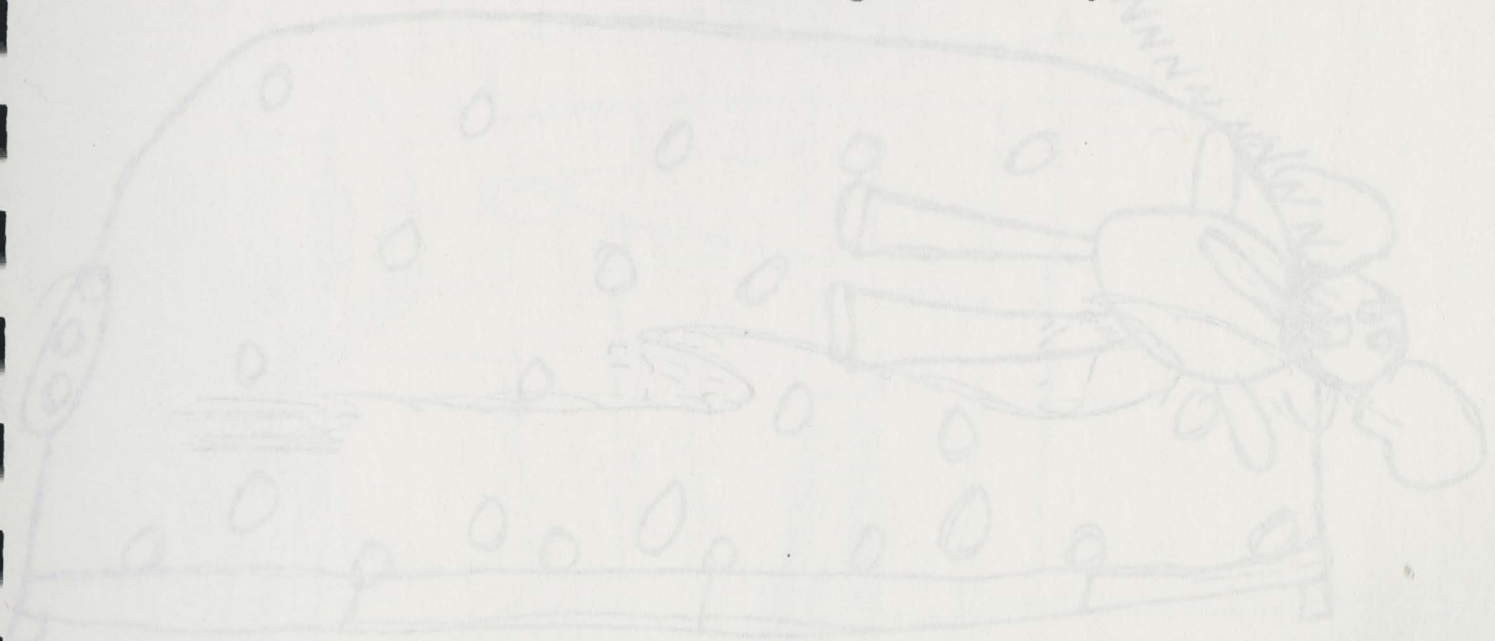
One cold snowy night Little Wolf heard a sound outside his den. He went outside to see what it was. He could hardly see because a blizzard was starting.

After walking for awhile he headed back toward his den, but he was heading towards Danger Forest! He had no idea where he was. Finally he realized that he was lost. He tried to find his way back but every step was leading him farther and farther into Danger Forest.

The blizzard began calming down and Little Wolf finally found his way back to the den. By the time he got back he saw that the door covering the den was open. The wind was banging it open and shut. "So that was the noise," said Little Wolf.

So he went inside, snuggled up to his mom and went to sleep.

Alicia Wallace
Mrs. Patsy Amburn
3rd Grade
Cedar Ridge Elementary



Ocean, Ocean

Ocean, ocean how do you do?
You are so lovely, you're so sky blue,
Sailors sail on you, fishers fish in you,
And I swim;
You are beautiful!
The blue whales swim in you,
And other beautiful creatures live down below you.
Your waves are magnificent as they crash with a roar.
They run after me as I sit on the shore.

Natasha Bandy
Cedar Ridge Elementary School
Grade 6
Mrs. Rebecca Austin



Lazy Quelephant

I went to the store to buy an Elephant.

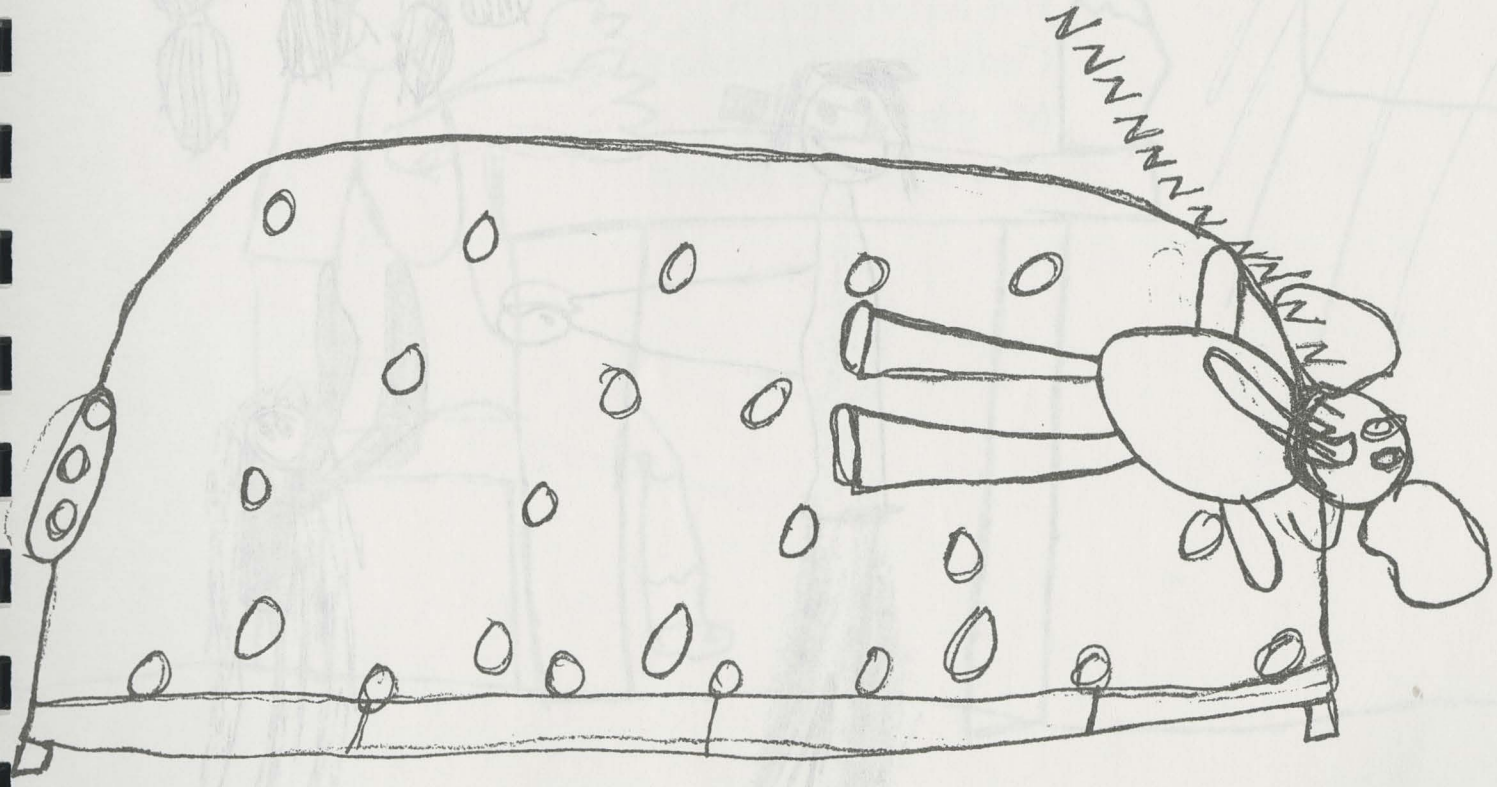
I named it Quelephant.

That Quelephant was so lazy

and it was so crazy.

It smelled everything, so I called him Smellephant.

Maria Romero
Second Grade
Flat Rock Elementary
Mrs. Iroler & Mrs. Thomas



The Beach

I picked up some seashells.
I gave them to my sister. She
threw them back into the water.
I built a sand castle.

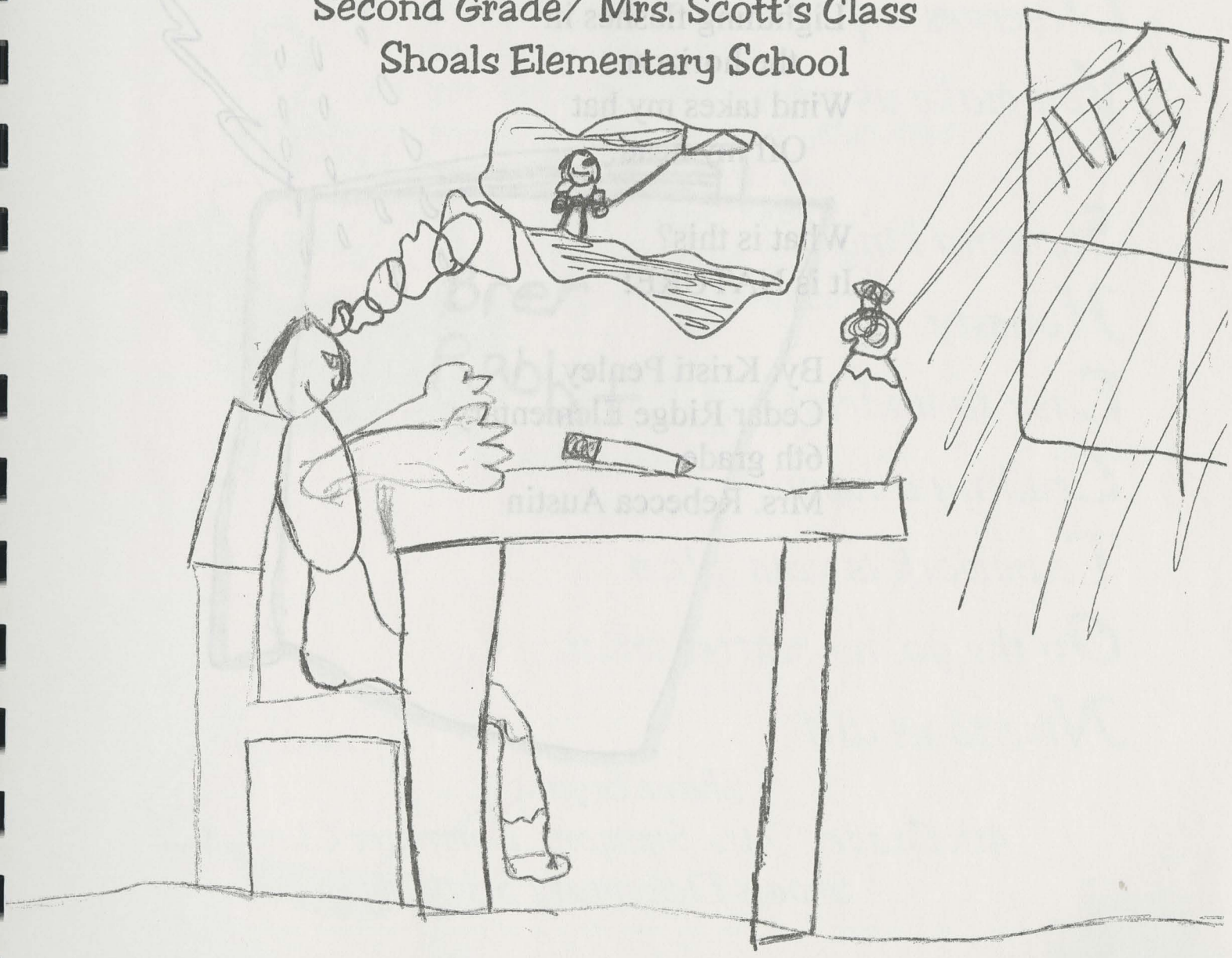
Daniel Taylor
Cedar Ridge
Kindergarten
Mrs. Callaway



Nothing Much to Do

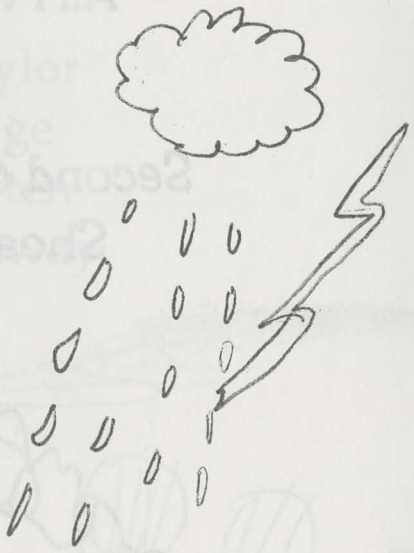
There is nothing much to do today.
All I want to do is play.
As the sun shines bright,
All I want to do is fly my kite.

Robert Legg
Second Grade/ Mrs. Scott's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Nature

Seagulls fly overhead
Waves rush on to the
beach.
Clean clear water
Gently trips over rocks.
Birds chirp in the trees.
Rain hits my head and
Travels down my face.
Thunder rolls in the sky.
Lightning flashes in
the horizon.
Wind takes my hat
Off my head.



What is this?
It is NATURE!

By: Kristi Penley
Cedar Ridge Elementary
6th grade
Mrs. Rebecca Austin

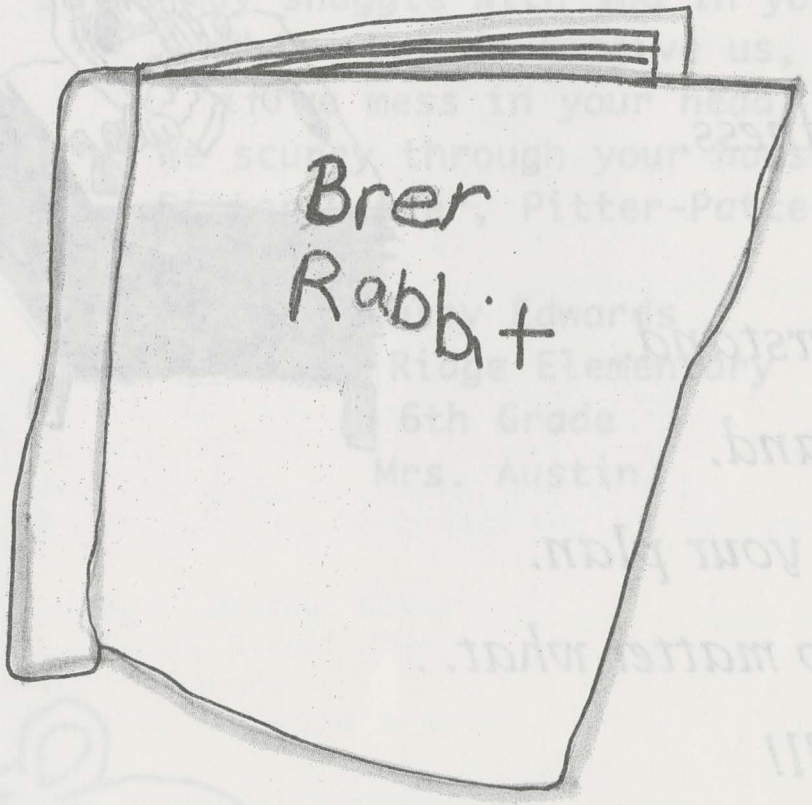
Brown cover

Open pages

One adventure

Kids love

Written by, Nicole Wright
Mrs. Hamilton's Class
3rd Grade
Shoals Elementary School



My Principal

The man with a plan,
Eager to help our school,
Doing his best,
Deserves a pat on the back. .
You make us proud!



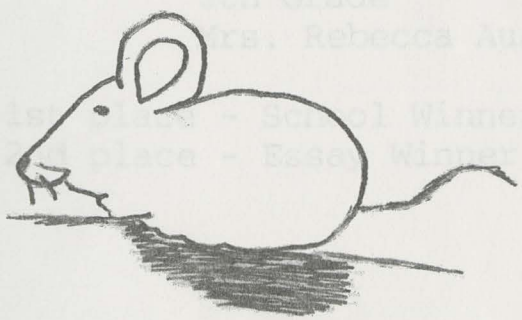
Showing kindness,
Honesty,
Easy to understand,
Lending a hand,
Teamwork is your plan,
On the go, no matter what. .
Nice to us all!

Shane Bryant
4th Grade / Mrs. Simmons' Computer Class
Shoals Elementary School

Meece

We borrow your things,
yes we do.
Although we are sorry
to take them from you.
We scurry through your house,
Pitter-Patter, Pitter-Patter.
We steal your cheese
and eat it up.
We crawl in your cabinets,
and into your cups.
We get cold at night too,
so we may snuggle with you in your bed,
Oh!! but do forgive us,
if we mess in your head!
We scurry through your house,
Pitter-Patter, Pitter-Patter.

Ashley Edwards
Cedar Ridge Elementary
6th Grade
Mrs. Austin

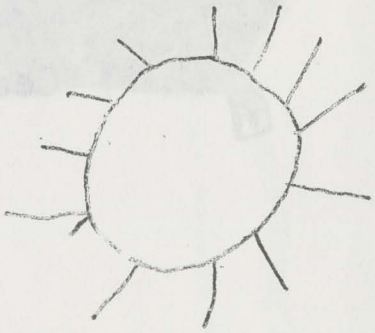


Friends

Friends are people who play together.
Friends are people who care about each other.
Friends are people who are friends forever.
Friends are people who are nice.

Friends are people who help each other.
Friends are poeple who work together.
Friends are people who go places together.
Friends are people who share.

Written by,
Colby Scott
3rd Grade
Mrs. Lovelace
Shoals Elementary School





"Wanted Tried and True Young'uns Strong enough To Say No!
Say "No" to Drunk Driving"

Drinking and driving is a very bad thing to do. Drinking while driving can cause all kinds of bad things to happen to you including some of the following: it could cause you to have a wreck and kill yourself or someone else. I don't think stores should sell alcohol, because all alcohol does is hurt or kill people. I hope I can encourage some people out there to stop committing this crime. If you don't drink and drive today please don't start now.

I'm firmly against alcohol, PERIOD! I have first-hand experience on this subject. My cousin, who was eighteen years old, was killed in a collision caused by this. He had a carload of friends with him, and there were going around a curve. Suddenly a car pulled out in front of him; he was speeding, of course! My cousin tried to stop, but couldn't; he was going to fast! He ran through a field, and he was thrown through the windshield of the car. This is a tragic example of what can happen to you if you drink and drive.

It's been said that, if you meet ten cars on the highway, there's a possibility that at least five out of ten are "under the influence."

I think drunk drivers need serious help. At least fifty percent of the people in the world drive drunk today. If you care about yourself or anyone else, you shouldn't drink and drive. "All the people out there who are drinking and driving today, listen carefully. Please stop now, because, not only are you putting your own life at risk, but you're also putting us in danger!!"

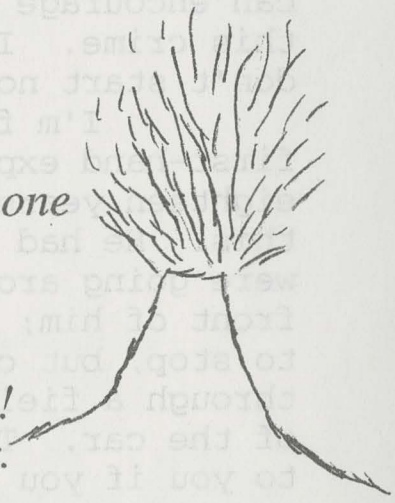
By: Brandy Ramey
Cedar Ridge Elem.
6th Grade
Mrs. Rebecca Austin



1st place - School Winner
2nd place - Essay Winner in county M.A.D.D. competition

Roar! ROar! ROAr! ROAR!

The ground is
shaking & quaking. I
am the lost kid
if Pompeii. I am not
able. able to
hear, but-however, I can
feel & see. the rumbling
gets weaker, & I,
the lost kid of Pompeii, am the only one
who really knows
the lava is surging
inside.
A blast comes from behind!!!!!!!!!
People run from their fear.
when I arrived at the
ocean shore the ship was totaled!
Someone grabbed me from the back.....!
My cousin! What a relief! he takes me
to a ship. A ship that was near by.
We piled on,
but the lava was faster than we were.....



Ashley Edwards
Cedar Ridge Elementary School
Grade 6
Mrs. Rebecca Austin

A New Beginning

Tomorrow comes and
yesterday's gone.
And I don't know how
to deal with it all.

I felt so safe with
my simplicity.
In your loving arms
was my security.

Now that you're gone
and I'm on my own,
I find that I'm
not so alone.

I still have my friends
and my family, too.
Through it all I've learned
that I don't need you.

Lyn Hall
East Surry High
10th grade
Gordon Jones

Free Bird

Love Me Without Fear
Trust Me Without Question
Need Me Without Demanding
Want Me Without Restrictions
Accept Me Without Change
Desire Me Without Inhibitions

For A Love So Free
Will Never Fly Away

Tony Shelar
East Surry High
10th grade
Gordon Jones

The Kill

by Joseph Boyles
Copeland Elementary Fifth Grade
Mrs. Pendry's Class

I spied out of the corner of my eye
the cougar stalking me, hunting me for prey.
Every breath I took was like a century of running away.

The wild evil cat jumped from a rock up above like a professional diver.
He landed on my back with his claws stabbing into my flesh.

Right then, he pierced his jaws around my neck, then he grabbed my ear and tore it off.
I knew I was finished!

Today

Today, terrible headache like a drum beating
Feelings hurt, what? I can not say
Work troubling me, why? I do not know
Teacher working her heart out to try to teach something, some kids do not even listen
School is over, thank the Lord

Cody Simpson
Copeland Elementary School
Grade 5
Lynette Cave's Class

ME-STEW

I HAVE NOTHING TO PUT IN MY STEW, YOU SEE,
NOT A BONE, OR A BEAN, OR A BLACK-EYE PEA,
SO, I'LL JUST CLIMB IN THE POT TO SEE,
IT I CAN MAKE A STEW OUT OF ME.
I'LL PUT IN SOME PEPPER AND SALT, AND I'LL SIT
IN THE BUBBLING WATER. I WON'T SCREAM A BIT.
I" SING WHILE I SIMMER, I'LL SMILE WHILE I'M STEWING,
I'LL TASTE MYSELF OFTEN TO SEE HOW I'M DOING.
I'LL STIR ME AROUND WITH THIS BIG WOODEN SPOON,
AND SERVE MYSELF UP AT QUARTER TO NOON.
SO BRING OUT YOUR STEW BOWLS,
YOU GOBBLERS AND SNACKERS.
FAREWELL AND I HOPE YOU ENJOY ME WITH CRACKERS.

MANDY VERNON
MR. VOSS'S 5TH GRADE CLASS
FRANKLIN

What It Means to Be American
by Bertin Gonzalez
Copeland Elementary Fifth Grade
Mrs. Pendry's Class

To be American I think is an honor. You have rights and freedom to be who you are yourself.

You can be an American even if you are from a different race. That is why America is called "the melting pot of nations."

If you are being harmed, Americans will help you get the justice you deserve. Being American, you have rights and freedom.

You can become an American if you move here as I did. I have lived here a long time. I believe America is one of the best places in the world.

I believe I'm lucky to be an American because I have freedom unlike other people in other countries like Kosovo, Yugoslavia, and Iraq.

I feel I have great dreams that are possible because I', American.

I believe America came out the way our founding fathers wanted it. I am proud to be American!!

God Bless Us!!

LOVE

Put love in your heart,
so there won't be violence.
No more killing!
NO more assaults!

The love of Jesus.
He can change your heart
Put joy in and love in
Making us live peacefully

Kim McCarty
Cedar Ridge
5th Grade
HAYES

Kelly and the Beanstalk

If I climbed the beanstalk there would be a giant. The giant would be very mean. He snores very loud. The giant was trying to get me. I was running as fast as I could. I ran all the way down the beanstalk.

The giant stayed up on the beanstalk. He was chicken. I was very happy because nobody liked the giant. The giant was scared of me.

My mother thought I was a good man, but the giant was not good. She loved me and I loved her. My mother cooked me supper. We would eat dinner together. I said it was good. We ate while the giant was sleeping.

Kelly Secrest
2nd grade
Miss Joyce
Cedar Ridge

School

On a very rainy day
I wanted to go outside and play.
But while the rain was pouring down
I listened to it pounding on the roof.
I knew I had to do my morning work.
But while my teacher was teaching me
I looked outside and all around
And all I could see was the rain still pouring down.
I didn't know what else to do
But try to think about my work
And be the best I could be!

Kerri Sexton
Grade 4
Cedar Ridge Elem.
Mrs. Luffman

Swimming, slapping, splashing,

The beaver is feeding the babies.

The beaver is splashing in the water.

The beaver is flipping her tail.

Wake up pond. It's a new day.

Ashley Gammons
Miss Gordon's First Grade
Cedar Ridge Elementary School

School

School is great
This is what I like best
Math, social studies, health and a test!

I love school
Because you learn
At 2:45 we all adjourn!

Cedar Ridge has the best work
Great teachers through and through
I can't wait until next year too!

Shelia Harris
Grade 4
Cedar Ridge Elem.
Mrs. Luffman

A Special Person in My Life

This person tucks me in at night.
She fills my life with joy.
I have two sisters that I love too,
But I'm my Mama's only boy.

Lee Martin
3rd Grade
Mrs. Nixon
Cedar Ridge

The Visitor

Once I met a monster. He was brownish green. He had yellow eyes and six toes on each foot and four fingers on his hands. He looked really funny. I took him in my room. He started jumping on my bed after I had already made it up. I told him to get down off of the bed, but he got mad and he hit the ceiling with his head. I got mad then and pulled him off the bed. When he got off he started going through my toybox. He threw everything out of it. Then my room was a big mess! I got so mad. I said "Bad Monster." Then he started crying. I took him down to the basement so mama and dad could not hear him crying. There was canned food in the basement. He started eating it. I went upstairs to my room. After five minutes I heard a CRASH!! I ran to the basement and there was canned food everywhere. I decided to get rid of the monster so I brought him upstairs and pushed him out of the door. I went to the basement and I cleaned up his mess. He never came back again!

Emily Richardson
2nd Grade
Mrs. Brintle's Class
Cedar Ridge

I have a dog. He is black and brown. He is small and fat. He likes to ride in my car and stick his head out the window. I love my dog Sam.

Taylor Inman
Mrs. Mears' Kindergarten
Cedar Ridge School

FAITH

When all seems dark and gray,
Look forward to a better day,
when things are not going very smooth,
Have faith that everything will improve.

Faith is a very special friend,
There are many problems that it can mend,
so the next time that you're in doubt,
Ask your friend Faith to help you out.

Ryan Jarrell
Cedar Ridge
5th
Young

Whales

Whales are mammals. They live in the ocean. Whales are gentle and playful. The blue whale is bigger than the largest dinosaur. Some whales do not have teeth, they have baleen. There are 90 different types of whales.

Jared Goings

2nd Grade

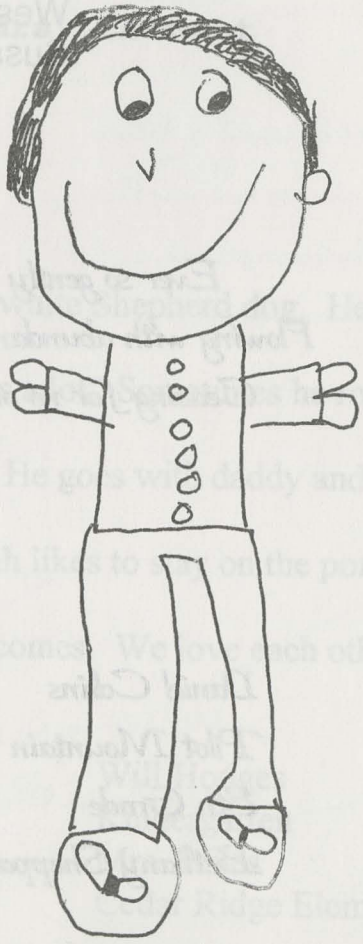
Mrs. Brintle

Cedar Ridge

Baby

When my sister was a baby she was cute. I asked if I could hold her, but mama said no. I was sad because mama would not let me hold her. Mama said, "maybe tomorrow." "Why not today?" "Because she is asleep." "Okay," mama. So I went to my room to play. But playing with Barbies was boring so I colored. I colored a little cat tied up in string. I colored the string blue and I colored the cat brown. When it was time for bed my sister had to sleep with mama.

Lacy Marsh
Kindergarten
Kristi Branch
Dobson Elementary



I looked up into the sky and I saw a rocket. It was red, white, blue and black. It was going as fast as it could toward the grass. When it landed, I went up to the rocket and opened the door. I saw two friendly aliens!! I asked them what their names were. They said that their names were Holly and Jolly. They were from the planet Venus!! They wanted to have me as their friend and I wanted to be their friend. We became very best friends. From that day on, we played and had fun. Later, in about two years Holly and Jolly decided that they missed their planet and wanted to go home. Now, when I look up into the sky and see Venus shining brightly, I think of my two nice alien friends that I once met.

Hannah Widdowson
Second Grade
Westfield School
Susan Shelton

Ever so gently
Flowing with abundant life
Ceasing for no one

Daniel Collins
Pilot Mountain Middle School
8th Grade
Bethany Sheppard (Science)

SUPPORT FOR COLUMBINE

I KNOW I CAN'T BRING YOUR
LOVED ONES BACK,
BUT I GIVE MY SUPPORT.
THEY'RE GONE NOW,
BUT NOT FOREVER.

YOU CAN REMEMBER THE GOOD TIMES,
REMEMBER THEY ARE HAPPY,
WITH NO PAIN,
NO SORROW,
NO VIOLENCE,
NO GUNS,
NO HATE,
GOD IS NOW THEIR COMFORT AND YOURS.

ADAM LOWE
5TH GRADE
CEDAR RIDGE
Mrs. Cornett

I have a black and white Shepherd dog. He is ten years old and his name is Cheetah. He runs a lot. Sometimes he rounds up the cows.

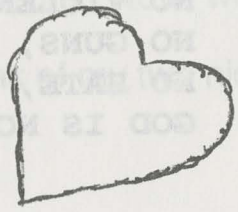
He really likes us. He goes with daddy and me everywhere on the back of the truck. Cheetah likes to stay on the porch mat. If he is not there, I call him and he always comes. We love each other!

Will Hodges
Kindergarten
Mrs. Wiles
Cedar Ridge Elementary School

The Only One For Me

As I feel a feeling of something overcoming me,
I sit and think about the love of my life.
I suddenly feel weaker that before, than ever.
When I realize what's going on,
Darkness fills every aspect of what was once my life.
I am gone in a flash,
Wishing on a dead star for the love that never came.

Ashley Edwards
Cedar Ridge Elementary School
Grade 6
Mrs. Rebecca Austin



Love is hard & cruel & bitter
Broken hearts for one another,
Love is fun but sometimes awful,
Love is all I need in this lifetime.

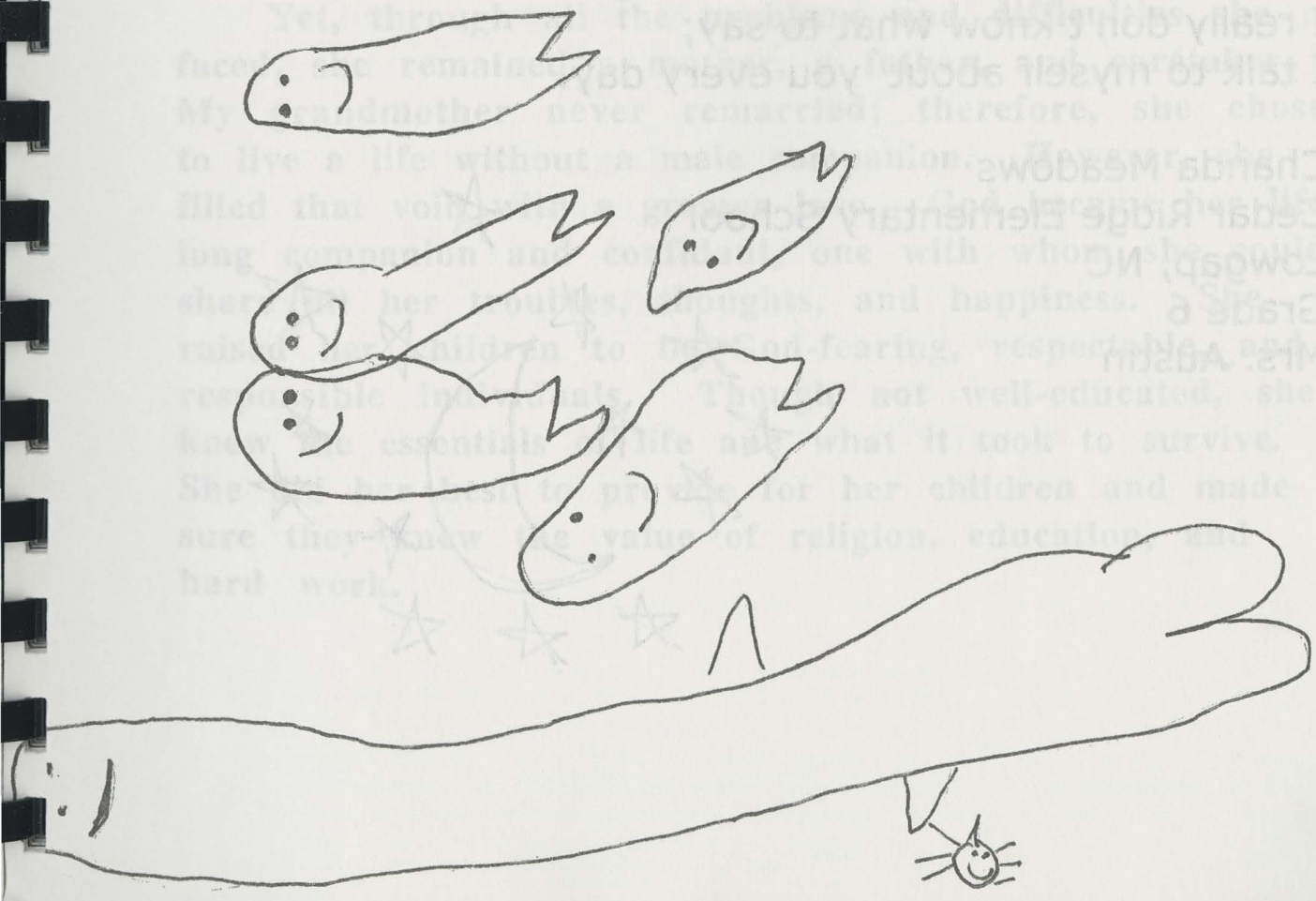


BY: Kristi Penly
Cedar Ridge Elementary
6th Grade
Mrs. Austin

Once upon a time, there were a school of fish swimming in the ocean. One of them said, " SHHHH! I hear something." Soon a big, blue whale swam to them and said, "You'd better watch out because I'm going to get you!" When the whale left, the fish said, "He's just trying to scare us."

The next day the whale came back with some more whales with him. The whale said, "We're going to get you!" "Just try!", said the fish. The whale tried, but he was too slow and he didn't get them after all!!!

Morgan Lambert
Cedar Ridge School
First Grade- 1998-1999
Mrs. Bunting & Mrs. Jenkins



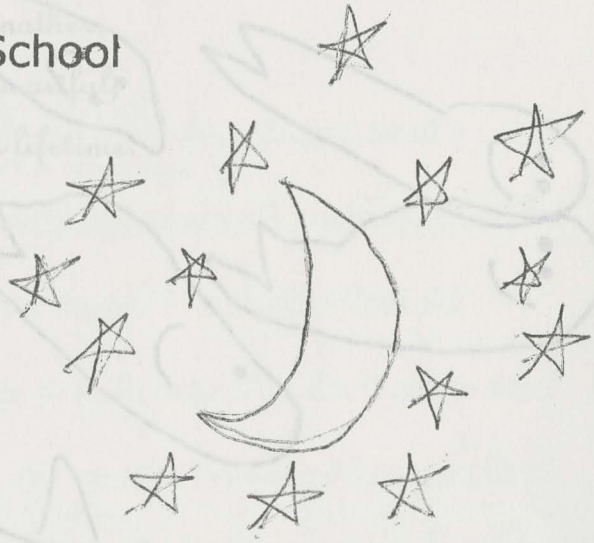
My Cousin
When stars are bright,
And the moon is quiet,
I lay in my bed,

Listening to the crickets sing.
I think of somewhere out there,
And I wonder what it would be like to be you.

I wonder if I will ever see you again!
I hope I do! I think about you every day,
And I think and I think till I can't think anymore!

I even cry about you at night,
Until I get so mad I just want to fight.
I really don't know what to say;
I talk to myself about you every day.

Chanda Meadows
Cedar Ridge Elementary School
Lowgap, NC
Grade 6
Mrs. Austin



JUST LIKE HER

(Ma Thelma)

There are very few times in a person's life when they can be inspired by one of God's greatest creations. "Seek and you shall find" are the words found in Matthew. By an ever so blessed chance was my inspiration waiting for me before I ever entered the world.

A woman of perseverance, faith, and virtue, were the traits my grandmother possessed. She was truly one of God's greatest blessings. When she became a widow in her early 40's, she had to realize and face the responsibilities she was left to take on alone. She had already given birth to seven children and was pregnant when she became a widow. My mother was that child.

Yet, through all the problems and difficulties she faced, she remained a mother, a father, and caretaker. My grandmother never remarried; therefore, she chose to live a life without a male companion. However, she filled that void with a greater love. God became her life-long companion and confidant, one with whom she could share all her troubles, thoughts, and happiness. She raised her children to be God-fearing, respectable, and responsible individuals. Though not well-educated, she knew the essentials of life and what it took to survive. She did her best to provide for her children and made sure they knew the value of religion, education, and hard work.

Ma Thelma is what the grandchildren called her. And she was just that--our second mother. We loved her cooking, staying at her house, and being around her. She was my baby-sitter for a long time and my caretaker after school. Who else would do something of such great magnitude? Who would, after eight children of their own, be willing to cook and take care of 2nd and 3rd generation children? Only Ma Thelma could be anything and do everything that no one else could.

Now my inspiration is no longer with me. It was her time to rest. I wasn't ready for it, though it was a reality I knew would soon come to be. I guess it's really selfish of me to be that way, but you can't help wanting something back that means so much to you. So, my grandmother was, and is, my inspiration. I hope I can learn to possess the things she did and learn to love and accept life as it is, and keep my sanity, sanctity, and composure as she did. Yes, when I grow up, I want to be just like her.

Jessica Paige Searcy
East Surry High
9th Grade
Tony Carter

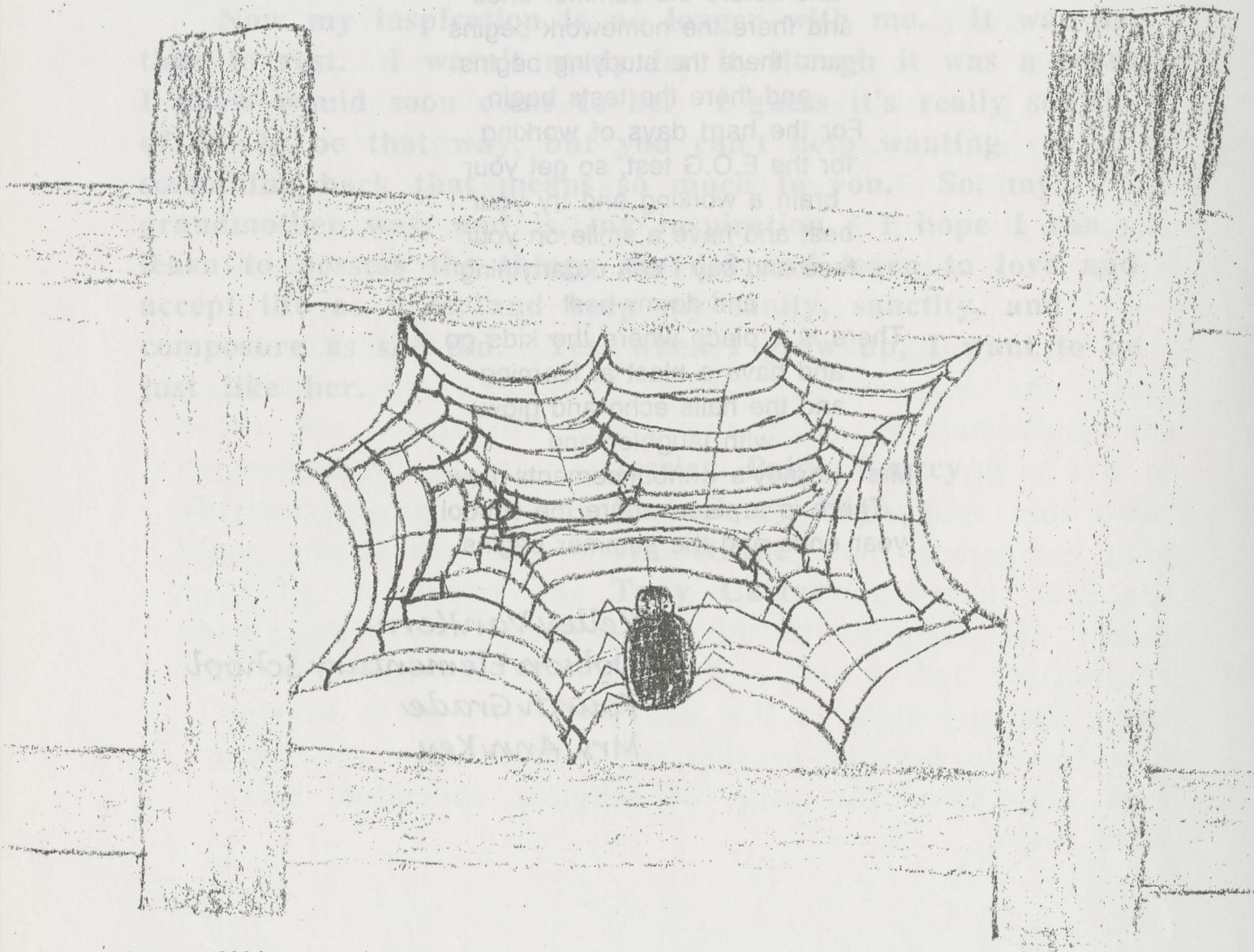
There is a Place Where the School Year Begins

There is a place where the
school year begins
and before the summer ends
and there the homework begins
and there the studying begins
and there the tests begin
For the hard days of working
for the E.O.G test, so get your
brain a working and try your
best and have a smile on your
face and say I can do anything
and do my best
There is a place where the kids go
and have a blast at learning
and the halls echo and glow
with laughter and
Mrs. Varney's announcements flow
There is a place where the school
year ends and the summer begins.

Kelley VanHorn
Dobson Elementary School
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Ann Key

My Haiku

Nets of silk and thread
A spider's highway system
It glistens with dew.



Brett Willis
Fifth Grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. B. Nelson

The Farm

Tractors start their engines;
cows bellow, horses neigh,
chicks peep,the rooster crows,
it's time to start a new day.
From plowing to feeding,
there's lots of work to be done.
The pigs and sheep are in their pens;
the tractors's motor starts to run.
The farmer feeds the animals
and gets into his pick-up truck.
Today's so beautiful who wouldn't
think they wouldn't have a lot of luck?
The cows get out; the farmer calls
his dog to put them back in place.
While children walk along country roads
they might see holly or Queen Ann's lace.
But now it's evening ;time to stop,
the farmer goes into the house,
to get some supper and some pop.
They get into their beds and sleep
and dream away.
Always ready for tomorrow;
a brand new day.

Hannah Haynes
4th Grade
Ann Lowry
Copeland Elementary School

The Race

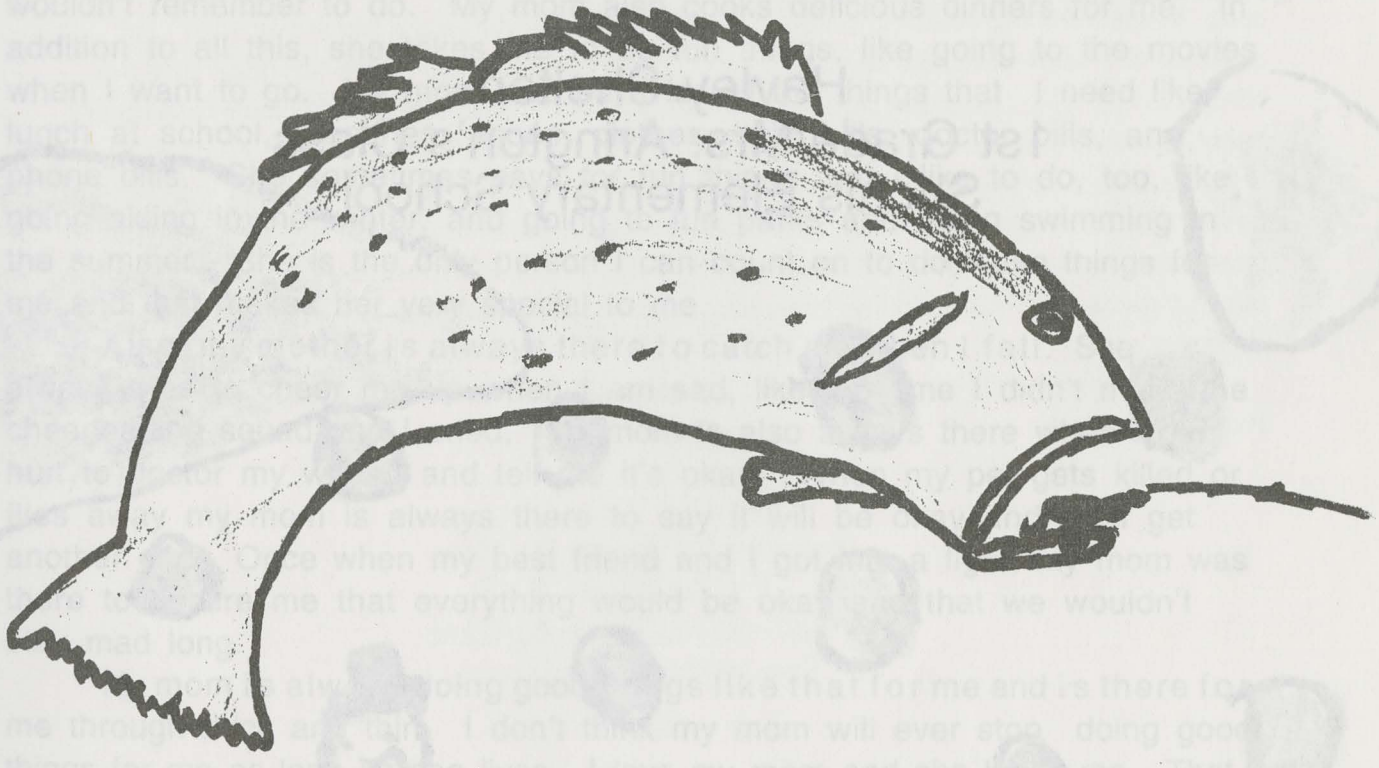
The Cars lined up
before the race.
The voice on
the loud speaker
said "Gentleman
start your engines!"
The drivers hit their
starter switch (rrrr.)
The engines roared
to life (R-O-A-R R-O-A-R
R-O-A-R.) The cars
accelerated spinning
their tires (E-E-E-E.)
The crowd cheered for
their favorite driver
(HOORAY.)As the cars raced
around the track!



By Kristin Eaton
5th Grade
Teacher: Mrs. Mitchell
Dobson Elementary

My Haiku

Fishing can be fun
My favorite fish is bass
They have a large mouth.

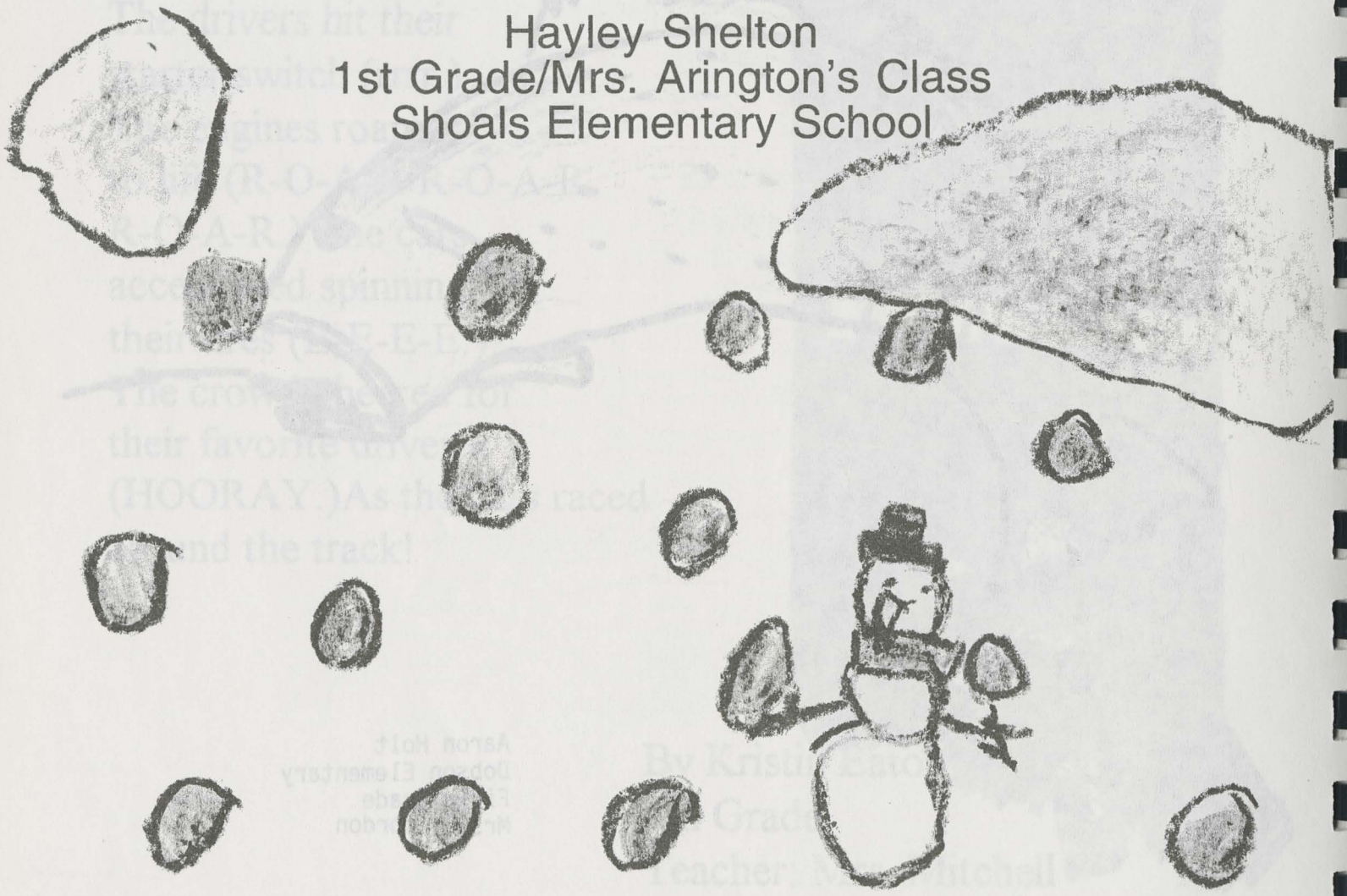


Aaron Holt
Dobson Elementary
Fifth Grade
Mrs.C. Gordon

Snow

I like snow because snow is fun to play in! Snow falls from the sky because the clouds make the snow! Snow is fun to play in because you get to build a snowman! Snow looks white , it sounds like rain, taste like ice, it feels soft, and it smells like winter.

Hayley Shelton
1st Grade/Mrs. Arington's Class
Shoals Elementary School



A Special Person

The one person who has touched my life and is very special to me is my Mom. My mom always does good things for me. My mom is also always there when I need her.

My mom always does good things for me. She takes me to the doctor when I am sick, and when we get to the doctor she waits on me to get done, no matter how long it takes. Once it took an hour to get done, but when I came out there she was waiting for me. My mom takes me to my friend's house, too. She brings me to school and she picks me up from school. She washes my clothes and reminds me to do things that I wouldn't remember to do. My mom also cooks delicious dinners for me. In addition to all this, she takes me to do fun things, like going to the movies when I want to go. My mom also pays for all the things that I need like lunch at school, groceries, shoes, clothes, light bills, doctor bills, and phone bills. She sometimes pays for fun things that I like to do, too, like going skiing in the winter, and going to fun parks and going swimming in the summer. She is the only person I can count on to do these things for me and that makes her very special to me.

Also, my mother is always there to catch me when I fall. She always tries to cheer me up when I am sad, like the time I didn't make the cheerleading squad and I cried. My mom is also always there when I get hurt, to doctor my wound and tell me it's okay. When my pet gets killed or flies away my mom is always there to say it will be okay and we'll get another one. Once when my best friend and I got into a fight, my mom was there to assure me that everything would be okay and that we wouldn't stay mad long.

My mom is always doing good things like that for me and is there for me through thick and thin. I don't think my mom will ever stop doing good things for me as long as she lives. I love my mom and she loves me. That is why she has touched my life and is so special to me.

By: Sara Angel
Gentry Middle School
Grade 7
Mrs. Creed

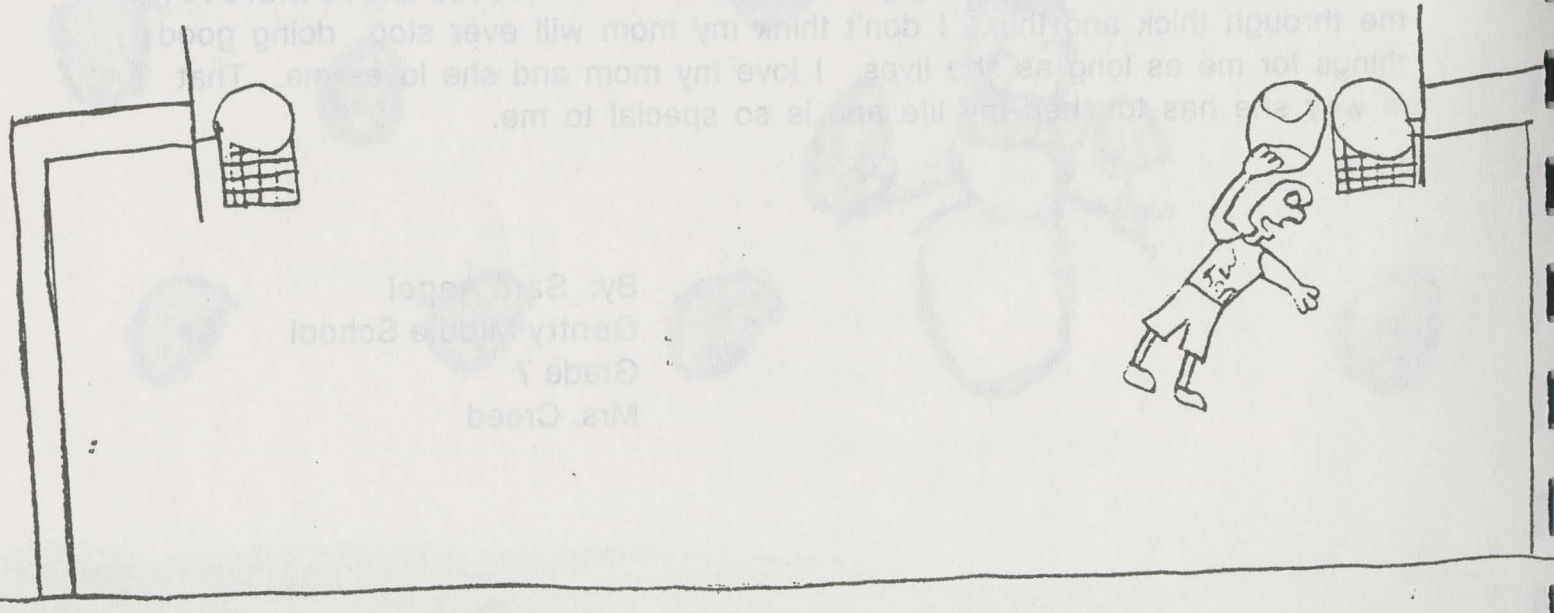
When Muggsy Bogues Came to Town

One day during basketball season, I was watching a Charlotte Hornets basketball game. During the second quarter they held a contest. If you won Muggsy Bogues would be your butler for the day. The second I heard that I took down a sheet of paper and wrote a letter. I slammed the letter in the mail box. Two weeks later, they sent back a card that said, "Congratulation, you are the winner!" Quickly I walked into the house and ordered my family to clean up the house. Muggsy Bogues is coming to town and I want everything to be perfect!

When bed time came, I had basketballs floating in my dreams. The next morning there was a stretch lemo parked in the driveway. Out stepped a big executive and then Muggsy Bogues! I fluttered away on the hammock at the sight of him. My big sister, Lauren said, "What's the big deal!" Quickly I jumped up and said, "He's a big super star!" He dribbled the basketball into the living room. He tossed a video game cartridge into my Nintendo 64. Then he said, "Do you want to face me one on one in this game that hasn't been let out to the public yet?" After a while I started to get thirsty, since Muggsy Bogues was my butler for the day I told him to get me a drink. Of course, he sent his executive to get the drinks. Instead of coming back with soda, he came back with expensive drinks, because as you know, the best deserves the best! After an entire day of watching movies, playing games and riding in the lemo Mugsy gave me his bill and left in the lemo, giggling as he drove away.

The next time I enter a contest I'll make sure its guaranteed to be, "All Expenses Paid!"

Written by: Devin Whan
Illustrated by: Hunter Davidson
4th Grade
Mrs. Simmons/Computer Class
Shoals Elementary School



Rabbits

I like Rabbits.
They have habits.
Hop! Hop! Hop!
Stop! Stop! Stop!
Give them a carrot.
They'll give you a parrot.

Allie Snow
Copeland
Kindergarten
Mrs. Edmonds

My Dog Bubby

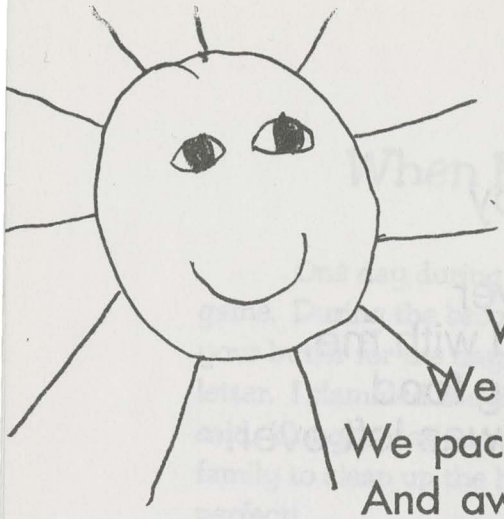
He got run over.
Bubby played with me.
He ate his dog food
Until nothing was left over.
I miss him so
Because he love me.

Mara Tilley
Copeland
Kindergarten
Mrs. Edmonds

Dogs

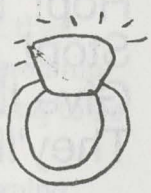
Dogs chase frogs
that sit on logs.
Dogs chase cats
that sit on mats.
Dogs chase boys
that sit on toys.
Dogs chase bees
that sit on trees.
Dogs chase me
up a tree.

Bradley Lewis
Copeland
Kindergarten
Mrs. Edmonds

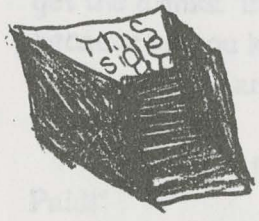


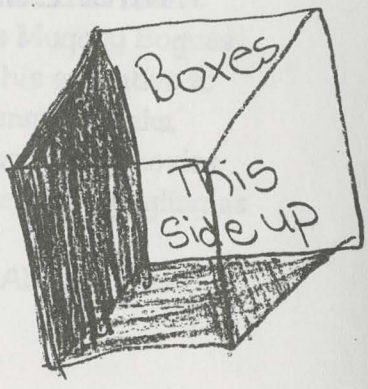
Moving Day

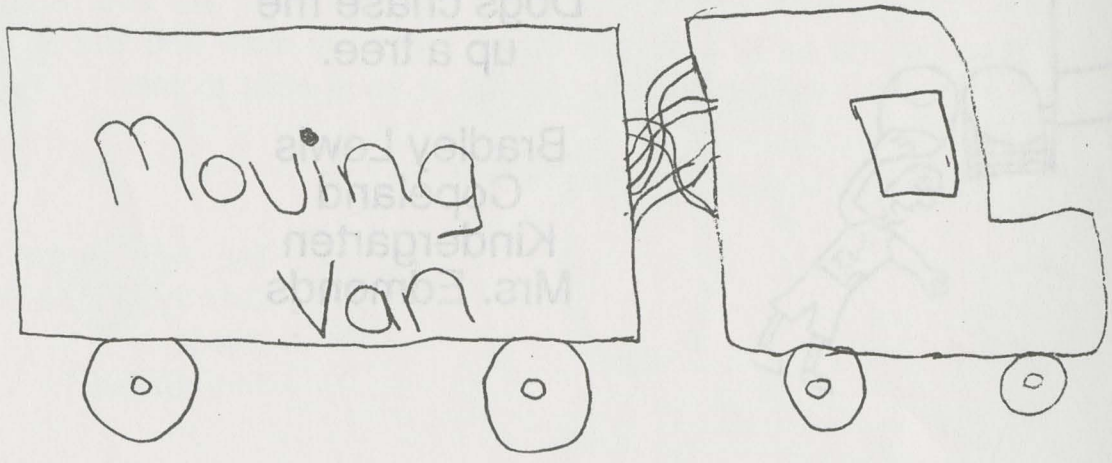
When we moved so far away,
We picked the month of sunny May.
We packed up my toys in boxes and things,
And away went mom's bracelets and rings.
The big truck came to take it away,
And I didn't see it for another four days.
They took everything except that gray mouse;
They took everything but my big tall house!



Lacy Green
4th Grade / Mrs. Gordon's Class
Shoals Elementary School







Raindrops

Rain is falling on my mom.
Drip, drip, drop.

Esmeralda Quintana
Cedar Ridge Elementary
Kindergarten
Mrs. Wall



Clown

Clown, Oh Clown
I love you Clown,
Your special, nice, and just right
for me

You smile,
You talk,
You frown,
You play.

Clown, Oh Clown
I love you Clown.

Elizabeth Reavis
Mrs. Dorothy Dillard's
5th grade
Franklin

Myla Harris Jeremiah Johnson Derrick Miller Logan Snow Joseph

Joshua Bittner Chase Chandler Christy Spencer Amber Spencer Colby Bowman

Taylor Hull Amber Young Nathan Williams Laura Park Robert Jenk

Steven Torres Kristin Smith Luke Hawks Alisha Thomas Matthew Powell

C- Cool Children

E- Excellent Teachers

D- Dynamite Drawers

A- Awesome Writers

R- Really Good Readers

R- Reading is really fun!

I- Independent people

D- Different ways of learning

G- Good-bye Mr. Goins! We love you!

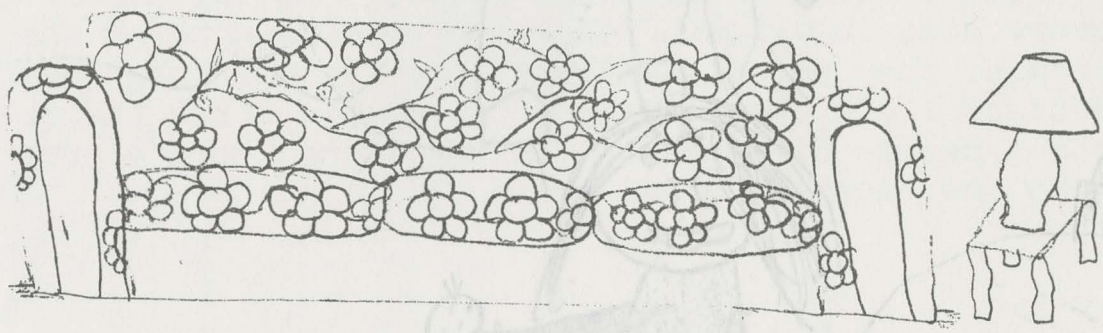
E- Extraordinary School

Cedar Ridge School
Mrs. Bunting's and Mrs. Jenkins's
1st Grade Class
1998- 1999

Green

Deep green is soft,
Like thick, plush, carpeting;
Light green sprays a fresh scent,
Like air after a spring rain.
Faded green tastes sour
Like deli pickles.
And on my aunt's couch,
Large green flowers race
Across the cushions
Like a scream in the morning.

By: Kristi Penley
Cedar Ridge Elementary
6th grade
Mrs. Rebecca Austin



My Brother Jacob

Once upon a time there was a boy named Jacob. He had a nice big sister named Jessica. She baby-sits him anytime her mama wanted her to. She made him laugh a lot and he giggled a lot. She loves him very much and she never stops. That is the story of my brother.

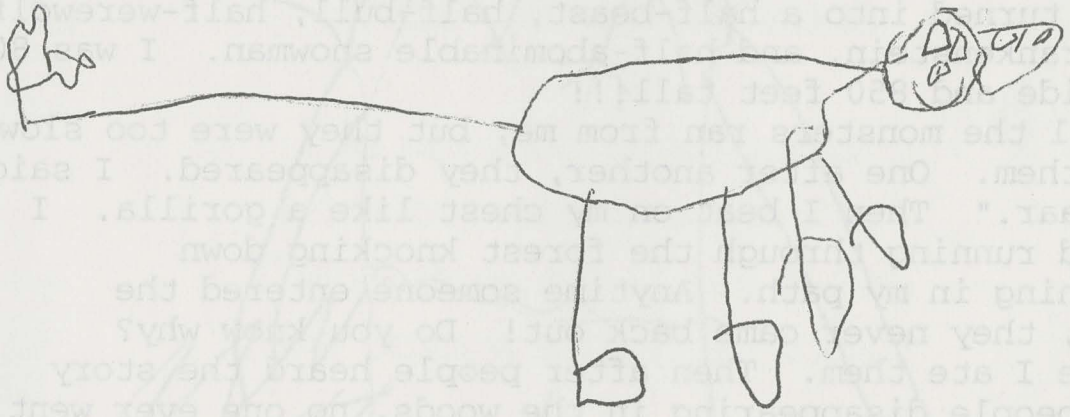
Jessica Flucher
First Grade
Mrs. Poole's Class
Shoals Elementary School



Kindergarten

The best thing about Kindergarten was reading a book on the computer. I liked the book Swing, Swing, Swing. I typed that my horse can swing with me.

Summer Young
Cedar Ridge Elementary
Kindergarten
Mrs. Wall



Franklin Elementary
Second Grade
Miss Thomas' Room

The *Scariest* Halloween Ever

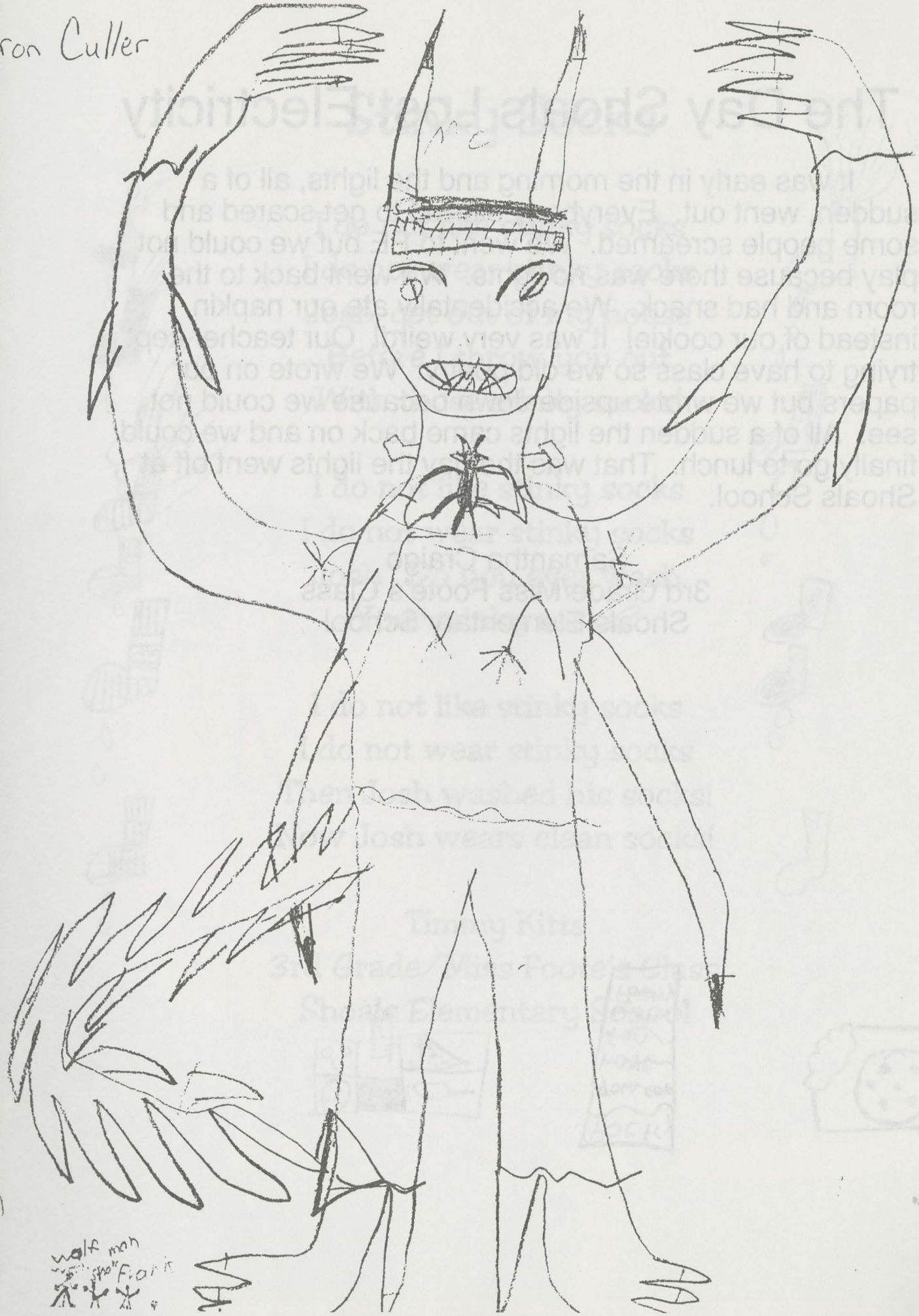
By: Aaron Culler

It was a dark, spooky Halloween night. I was on my way to a Halloween party. As I walked down the street, I got so scared my bones nearly fell apart! When I got to the party, I didn't see anyone. I said, "Well. maybe I'm the first one here." Boy, was I wrong. Others were there already. They were not people, but they were **Monsters!!!**

Their leader was a huge werewolf that was bigger than any of them. That's hard to believe because they were all pretty big. Their second leader was an abominable snowman. Their last leader was Frankenstein. I ran for the creepy woods. I wasn't fast enough. They caught me. Then I turned into a half-beast, half-bull, half-werewolf, half-Frankenstein, and half-abominable snowman. I was 80 feet wide and 850 feet tall!!!

All the monsters ran from me, but they were too slow. I ate them. One after another, they disappeared. I said, "Raraaaar." Then I beat on my chest like a gorilla. I started running through the forest knocking down everything in my path. Anytime someone entered the forest, they never came back out! Do you know why? Because I ate them. Then after people heard the story about people disappearing in the woods, no one ever went into the haunted forest again.

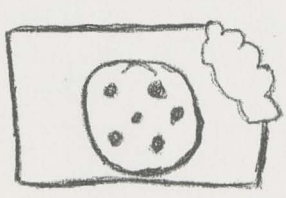
Aaron Culler

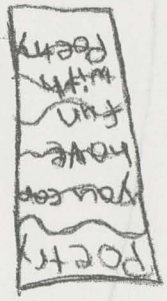


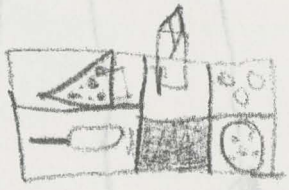
The Day Shoals Lost Electricity

It was early in the morning and the lights, all of a sudden, went out. Everybody started to get scared and some people screamed. We went to PE but we could not play because there was no lights. We went back to the room and had snack. We accidentally ate our napkin instead of our cookie! It was very weird! Our teacher kept trying to have class so we did poetry. We wrote on our papers but we wrote upside down because we could not see. All of a sudden the lights came back on and we could finally go to lunch. That was the day the lights went off at Shoals School.

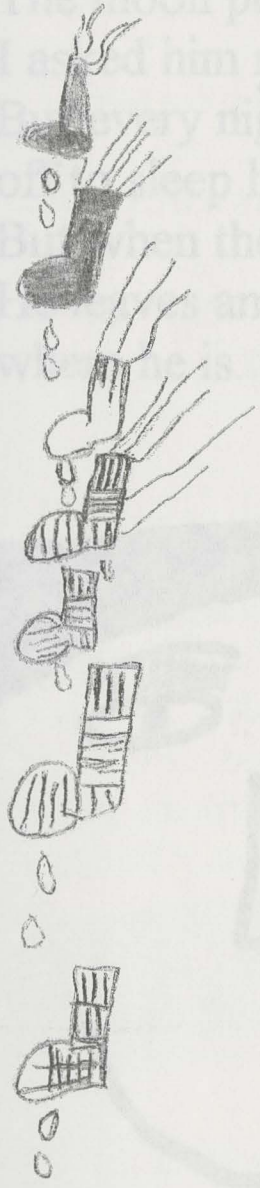
Samantha Craigo
3rd Grade/Miss Foote's Class
Shoals Elementary School







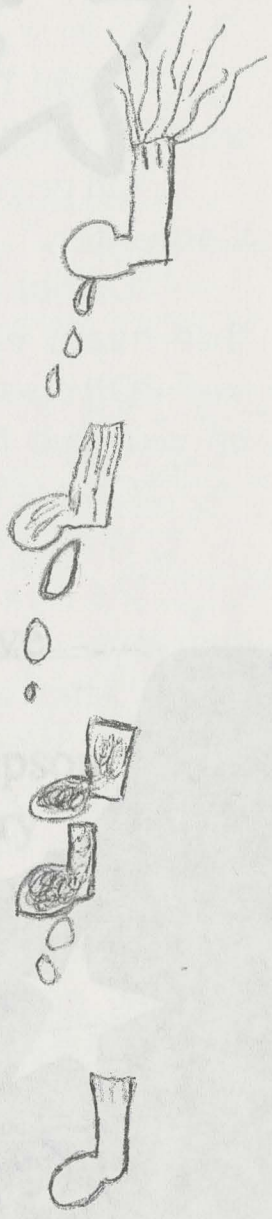
Stinky Socks



I do not like stinky socks
I do not wear stinky socks
Josh, get out of my house
Before I throw you out
With those stinky socks!

I do not like stinky socks
I do not wear stinky socks
Josh , Do you ever wash
Your stinky socks?

I do not like stinky socks
I do not wear stinky socks
Then Josh washed his socks!
Now Josh wears clean socks!

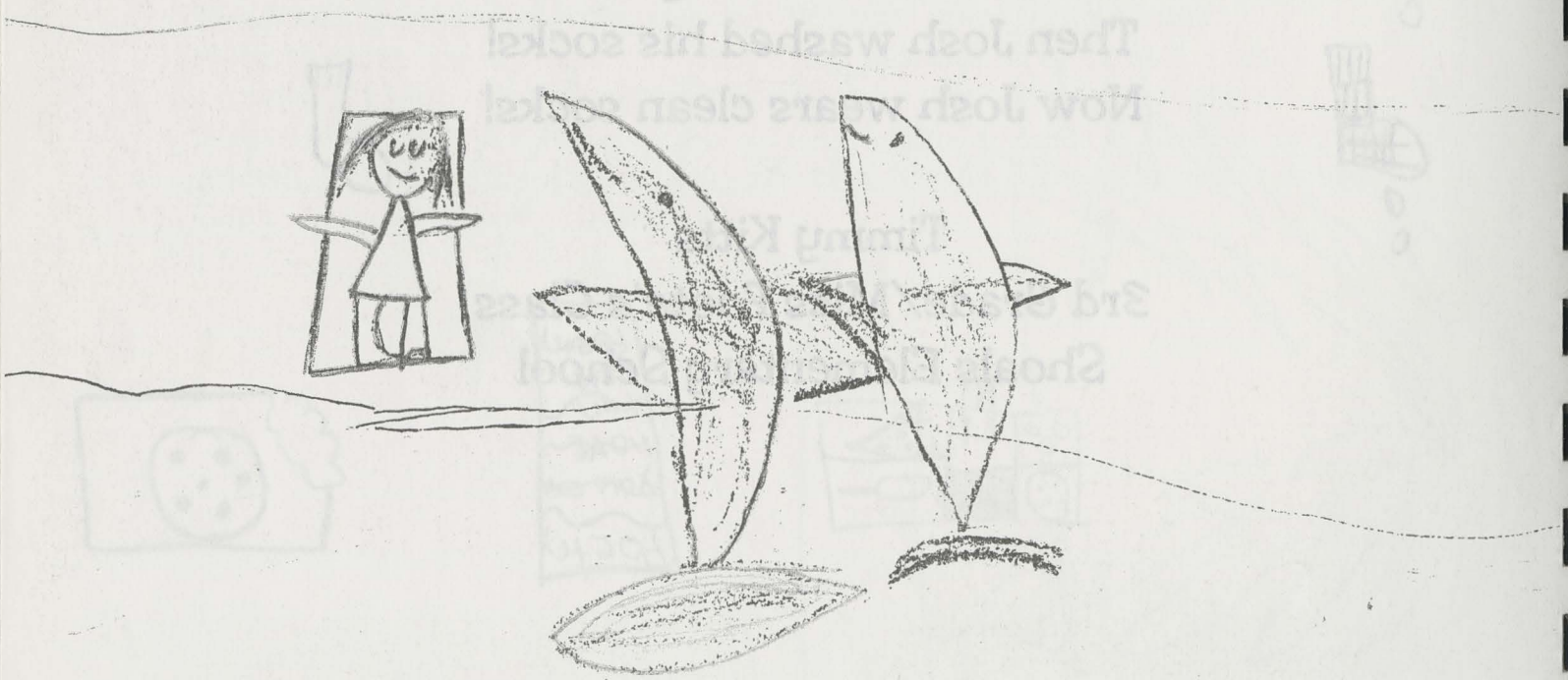


Timmy Kitts
3rd Grade/Miss Foote's Class
Shoals Elementary School

The Beach

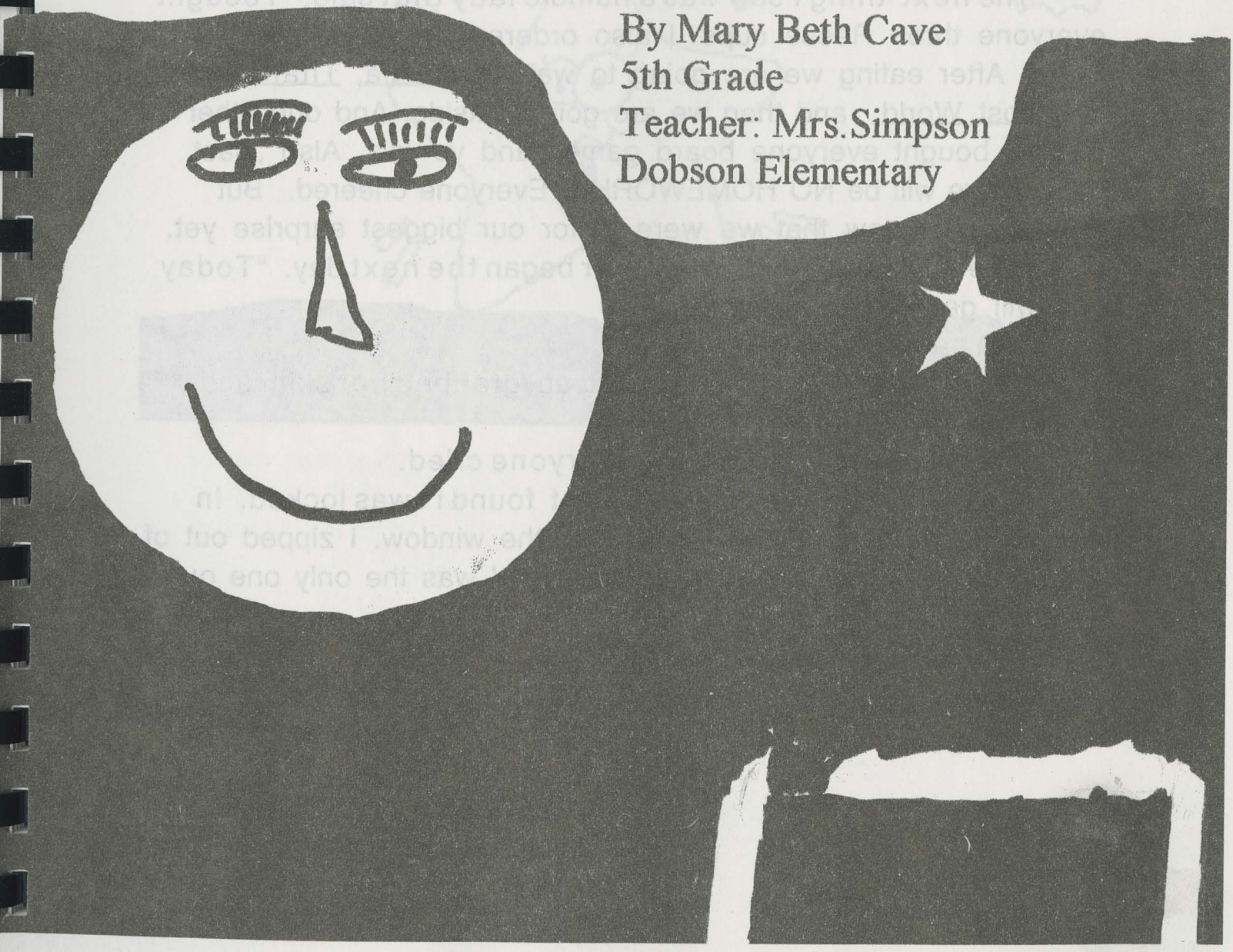
I like to go to the beach. The dolphins there are pretty because I like them and because they are my favorite ocean animal.

Maggie Craddock
Cedar Ridge
Kindergarten
Mrs. Callaway



The moon peeks in on me at night
I asked him not to nicely.
But every night when I drift
off to sleep he peeks in on me.
But when the sun rises.
He leaves and I wonder
where he is.

By Mary Beth Cave
5th Grade
Teacher: Mrs. Simpson
Dobson Elementary



The Surprise

"Yeah! This is the life. Mrs. Jones lets us do anything. Hey, watch it, Justin. I don't want any spitballs on me!"

"Oh guys! I don't feel so good. My sub is going to be Miss Carpenter."

"Oh no! Not that...that...that lady," everyone cried out loud. "I've heard bad things about her."

"Oh class! I forgot to tell you. Miss Carpenter is going to be your sub for two months. I'm going to have a baby."

"Oh no!" the class yelled.

"Well, I have to go," said Mrs. Jones.

The next thing I saw was a humble lady that said, " I bought everyone three Reese cups. I also ordered everybody Papa's Pizza. After eating we are going to watch Godzilla, Titanic, and The Lost World, and then we are going outside. And one other thing, I bought everyone board games and yo-yo's. Also , last thing, there will be NO HOMEWORK!" Everyone cheered. But little did we know that we were in for our biggest surprise yet.

"Well , class," Miss Carpenter began the next day. "Today you will get a big surprise".

"Oh baby!," the class yelled.

"O.K. Here it is." She reached up, grabbed her skin, and pulled off her face.

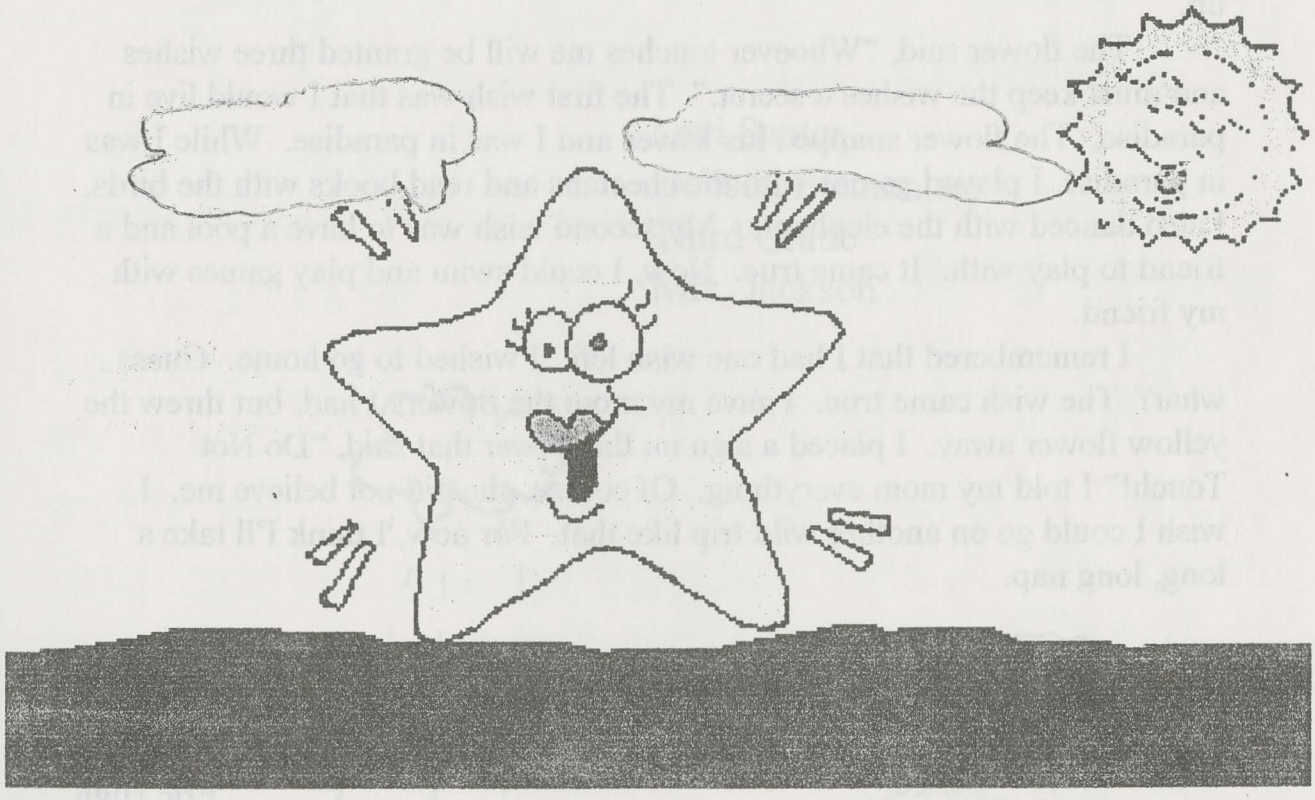
"Oh gosh, she is an alien!" everyone cried.

I ran to the door to escape but found it was locked. In one burst of energy I jumped through the window. I zipped out of there and ran away. I'm sorry to say that I was the only one out. The dream classroom turned into a nightmare.

Dan Wilmoth
Dobson Elementary School
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Ann Key

Ocean

Beautiful ocean
What beautiful waves you have
You shine like a star.



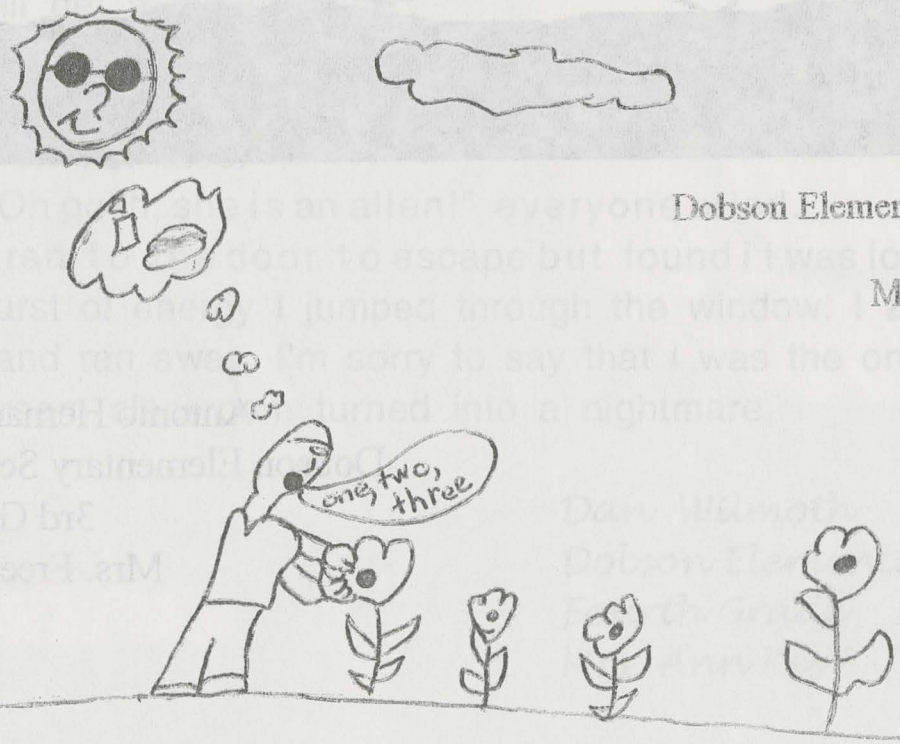
Antonio Hernandez
Dobson Elementary School
3rd Grade
Mrs. Freeman

The Magic Flower

One colorful, spring afternoon, I was in my backyard picking flowers for my mom and all of a sudden a beautiful, yellow flower caught my attention. I tried to pick it, but it just wouldn't budge. I counted one, two, three... pull! The beautiful flower still would not budge. That night when I was fast asleep, the beautiful, yellow flower emerged from the ground and walked to my room. The yellow flower tapped me on the head and I woke up.

The flower said, "Whoever touches me will be granted three wishes and must keep the wishes a secret." The first wish was that I would live in paradise. The flower snapped his leaves and I was in paradise. While I was in paradise, I played games with the cheetahs and read books with the birds. I also danced with the elephants. My second wish was to have a pool and a friend to play with. It came true. Now, I could swim and play games with my friend.

I remembered that I had one wish left. I wished to go home. Guess what? The wish came true. I gave my mom the flowers I had, but threw the yellow flower away. I placed a sign on the flower that said, "Do Not Touch!" I told my mom everything. Of course, she did not believe me. I wish I could go on another wild trip like that. For now, I think I'll take a long, long nap.



Eric High
Dobson Elementary School
3rd Grade
Mrs. Freeman

A Little Leprechaun

There's a little leprechaun all dressed in green. He looks like an elf ! He wears bright, shiny shoes with a gold buckle on top. He is only one foot tall.

Sometimes he has bad luck. When he doesn't tell the truth or does something wrong, a cloud appears over his head and rain falls on him. So he always tries to be as sweet as he can be !

Levi Senter
Dobson Elementary
Third Grade
Mrs. Jackson



Baseball

Baseball is my favorite sport.

It sounds like the fans yelling.

It smells like hotdogs and french fries.

It looks like players standing in the outfield ready to catch a ball.

And it makes me feel happy and excited!

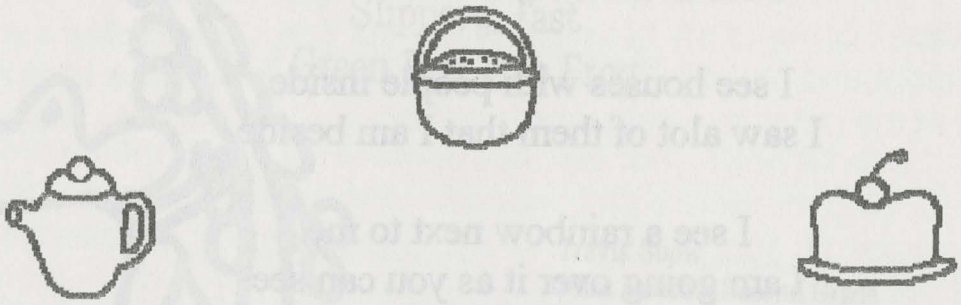
Kirk Johnson
Dobson Elementary
Third Grade
Mrs. Jackson





Savannah Toney
The Animal Picnic

September 25, 1998



I like picnics because they are lots of fun. I went to the zoo on my picnic. My whole family went with me. We ate apples, apple pie, and apple jelly sandwiches. We ate by the elephants. It made me feel happy.

Savannah
Toney
Mrs. Edmonds
Third Grade
Dobson

If I Had Wings

I see flowers, beautiful ones.
I see dead ones, there are tons.

I see houses with people inside.
I saw alot of them that I am beside.

I see a rainbow next to me.
I am going over it as you can see.

I see oceans in the sky.
Oops! I hit the sun with my thigh.

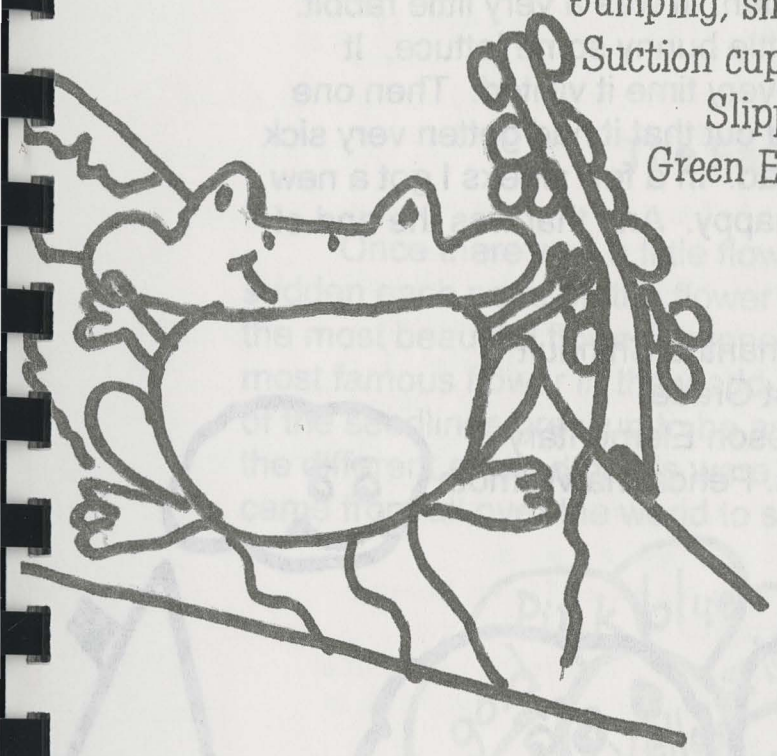
I see Mexico under my cloud.
I also hear an usual sound.

I am over California, the Golden State.
I see fish getting caught by fake bait.

I see birds flying fast.
So far, I am having a blast!!!

CHAD BOLES
THIRD GRADE
MRS. EDMONDS
DOBSON

Green Eye Tree Frog
Jumping, snapping, watching
Suction cups, legs, web feet
Slippery, fast
Green Eye Tree Frog



Travis Snow
Miss Couch's Second Grade
Dobson Elementary

Cat-Eyed Tree Frog
Green, orange
Jumping, swimming, hopping
Eyes, legs
Snapping, catching, leaping
Wet, slimy
Cat-Eyed Tree Frog

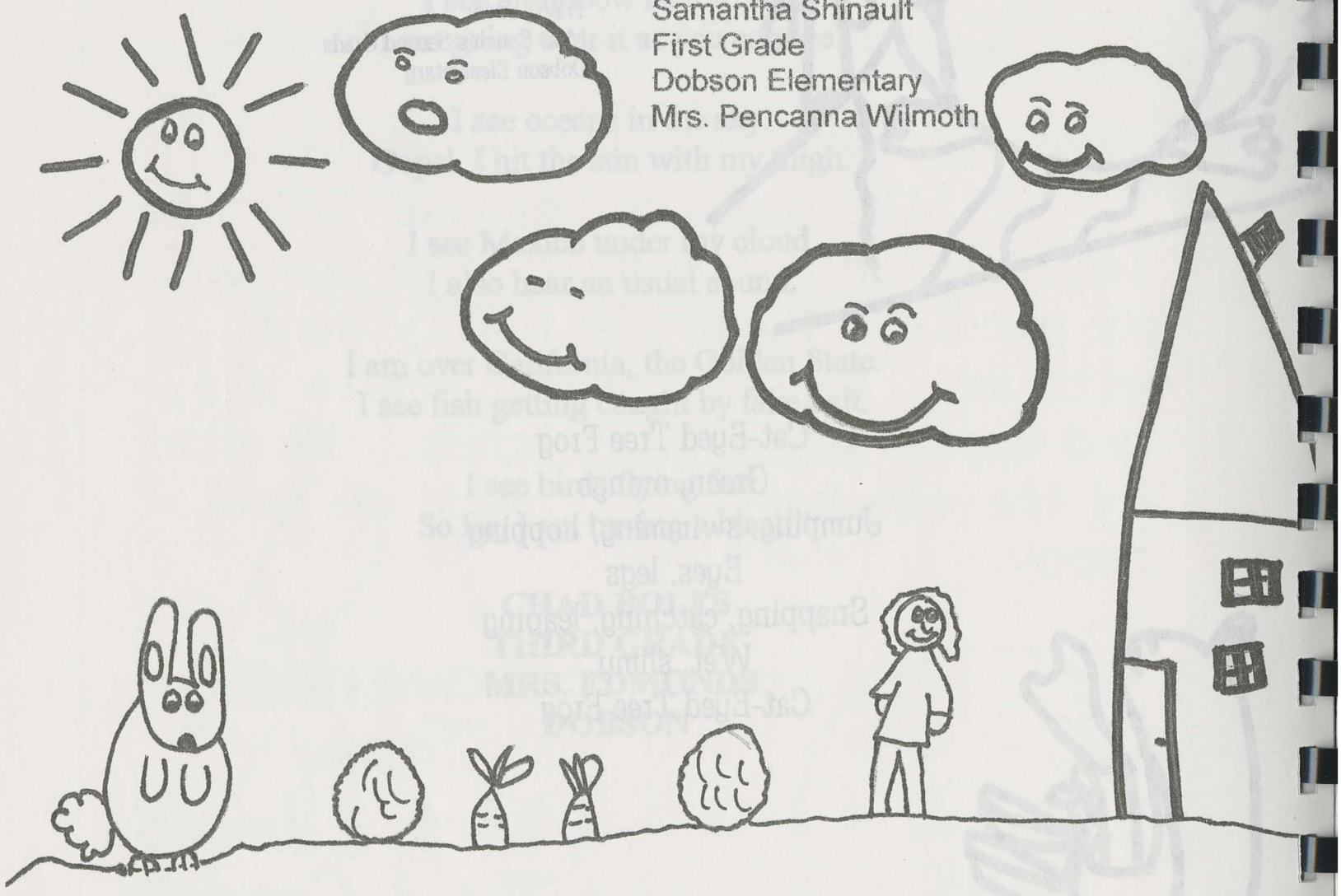


Dylon Cain
Miss Couch's Second Grade
Dobson Elementary

The Rabbit

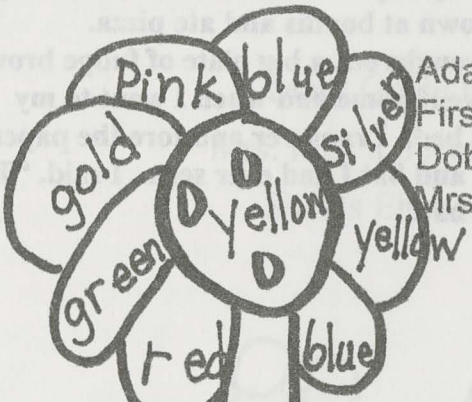
One day I saw a rabbit in my garden. It was a very little rabbit. In fact, it was a bunny. So I gave the little bunny some lettuce. It came to my house every day. I fed it every time it visited. Then one day it didn't come to my house. I found out that it had gotten very sick in the night and had died. I was very sad. In a few weeks I got a new bunny at the pet store and I was very happy. And that was the end of that.

Samantha Shinault
First Grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Pencanna Wilmoth

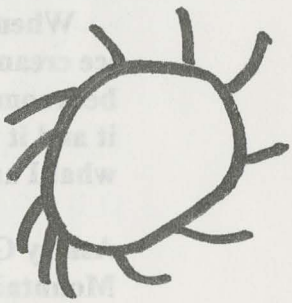


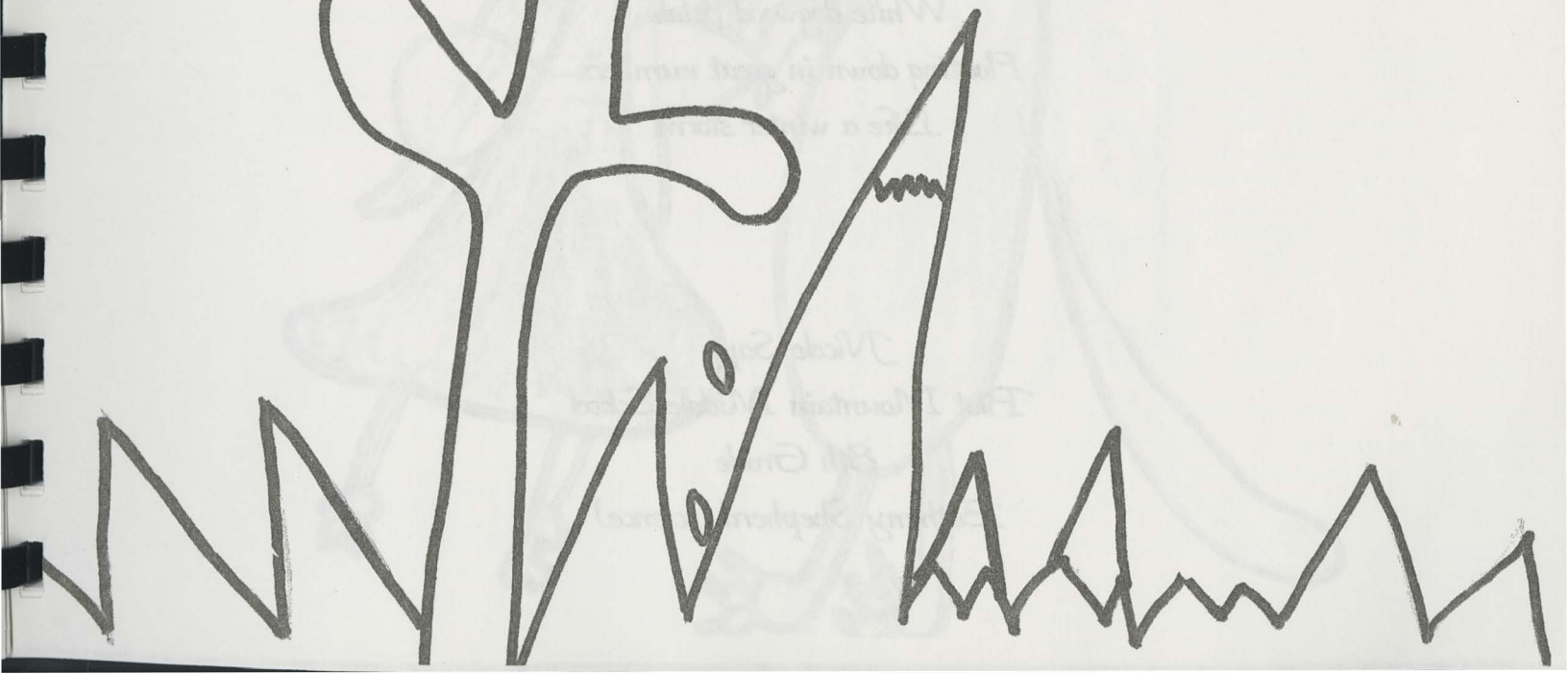
The Famous Flower

Once there was a little flower that was red. Then all of a sudden each petal on the flower changed into a different color. It was the most beautiful flower anyone had ever seen. Soon it became the most famous flower in the world. Then the flower had seedlings. All of the seedlings grew up to be as tall as a house and the flowers with the different colored petals were as high as a mountain. People came from all over the world to see the famous flower of many colors.



Adam Buie
First Grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Pencanna Wilmoth





"I am finally in the game," I said to my parents. I walked down and sat down on the bench and watched the players play baseball. My father walked down and sat beside me and remarked, "Keep your eye on the ball" and mentioned "Hold the bat an inch away from your shoulder." I replied, "I know what to do." On the microphone it mentioned my name to bat. I stood up and walked down to pick up my bat in the dugout and walked over to the batter's box. I held up my bat and inch away from my shoulder and turned to my dad and he winked his eye at me.

It was like I was going to lose. I looked at the ball and commented, "I can do it." I saw the ball coming. I hit it and watched and I ran to first base then second and third and made a home run. I shouted, "Hurray, Hurray, I did it, I did it!" I ran to my father and he picked me up and put me on his shoulders. My mom came over and kissed me on the cheek and it left a lipstick print. I wiped it off and said, "Yuck!" The whole crowd was cheering for me. They started shouting, "Ashley, Ashley, Ashley!" My coach came over and said, "You have done excellent and you have won the game and shouted to all the students that we would have a pizza and ice cream party." We all shouted, "Hurray!" Then we all went to Pizza Hut and sat down at booths and ate pizza.

When we were all done, the waiter brought out a big plate of fudge brownie ice cream. When we were all done, we went home and when I went to my bedroom, there was a big present on my bed. I ran over and tore the paper off of it and it was the most beautiful baseball and bat I had ever seen. I said, "This is what I am talking about, a baseball and bat."

Ashley Gaines
Mountain Park Elementary School
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Corliss B. Wilmoth

White dogwood petals
Floating down in great numbers
Like a winter storm

Nicole Sapp
Pilot Mountain Middle School
8th Grade
Bethany Shepherd (science)

Cloudy with a Chance of Dolls and Dinosaurs

Once upon a time in North Carolina, lived me and Nathan and my mom and dad. Our town was like any other town, except there weren't any toy stores in North Carolina. We didn't need any. The sky supplied all the toys we could possibly want.

One day it rained Madame Alexander Dolls and toy dinosaurs. We got two or three toys a day. Everybody was happy.

Until... the weather took a change for the worst. It rained too many dolls and dinosaurs. So, we picked out our favorite dolls and dinosaurs, and we gave the rest to the poor people. Everybody was happy again.

Mary Grace Beets
Mrs. May's Second Grade
Shoals Elementary

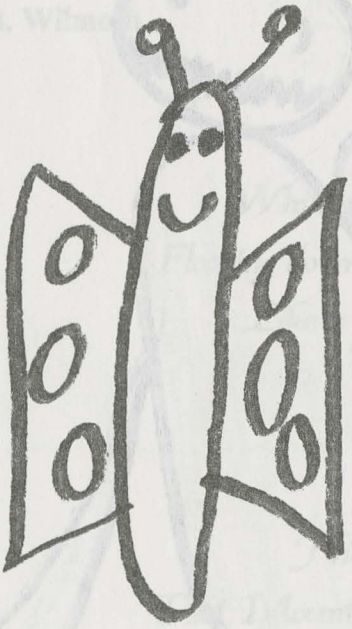


The Butterfly Versus the Bird

If I were a butterfly, I would fly high in the sky. I would fly to New York City. If I did, I would have to watch out for birds. Birds will eat worms, caterpillars, butterflies, and moths. If I got eaten, I would not get to New York and my family would be sad if they heard about it. My cousin, Little Silver, would be sad too. He would miss me.

One day a bird was looking for lunch. Well, he found it. It was me for his lunch! The bird swooped down and grabbed me. Then when the bird was sixteen units from his bird house, I slipped out of his beak and hit him with my wings and knocked him out. He fell down. He did not die. He was still alive. After that, I flew to New York City and played with my cousin.

Christian Mayes
First Grade
Dobson Elementary
Melanie Hudspeth



SUMMER

Summer is here.
It's a nice day.
Let's go outside and play!
The pool is open!
We'll play all day.
We'll have fun in the sun,
When we play today.

Courtney Langley
Third Grade
Ms. York
White Plains

THE TWO DOGS THAT WENT TO THE MOON

One day there was a dog . The dog was brown. He was a stray dog. One day he saw another dog and they played with each other.

The two dogs said to one another, "I wonder what the moon is made of?"

The medium sized dog said, "It's made out of cheese."

The small brown dog said, "I do not think so."

So, the medium sized dog said, "Let's go to the moon."

"That's a good idea," said the small brown dog.

Each of them worked hard to build a rocketship.

Soon their journey started for outerspace. They saw tons of astroids. They saw how big the sun was. Then they saw the moon.

The dogs finally had arrived at the moon. They saw aliens that tried to eat them. The dogs escaped.

The dogs finally found out the moon was made of rock.

They went back to the rocketship to find that it had been destroyed.

They found a cavern and lived in it for five years.

You can still hear them barking on the moon today.

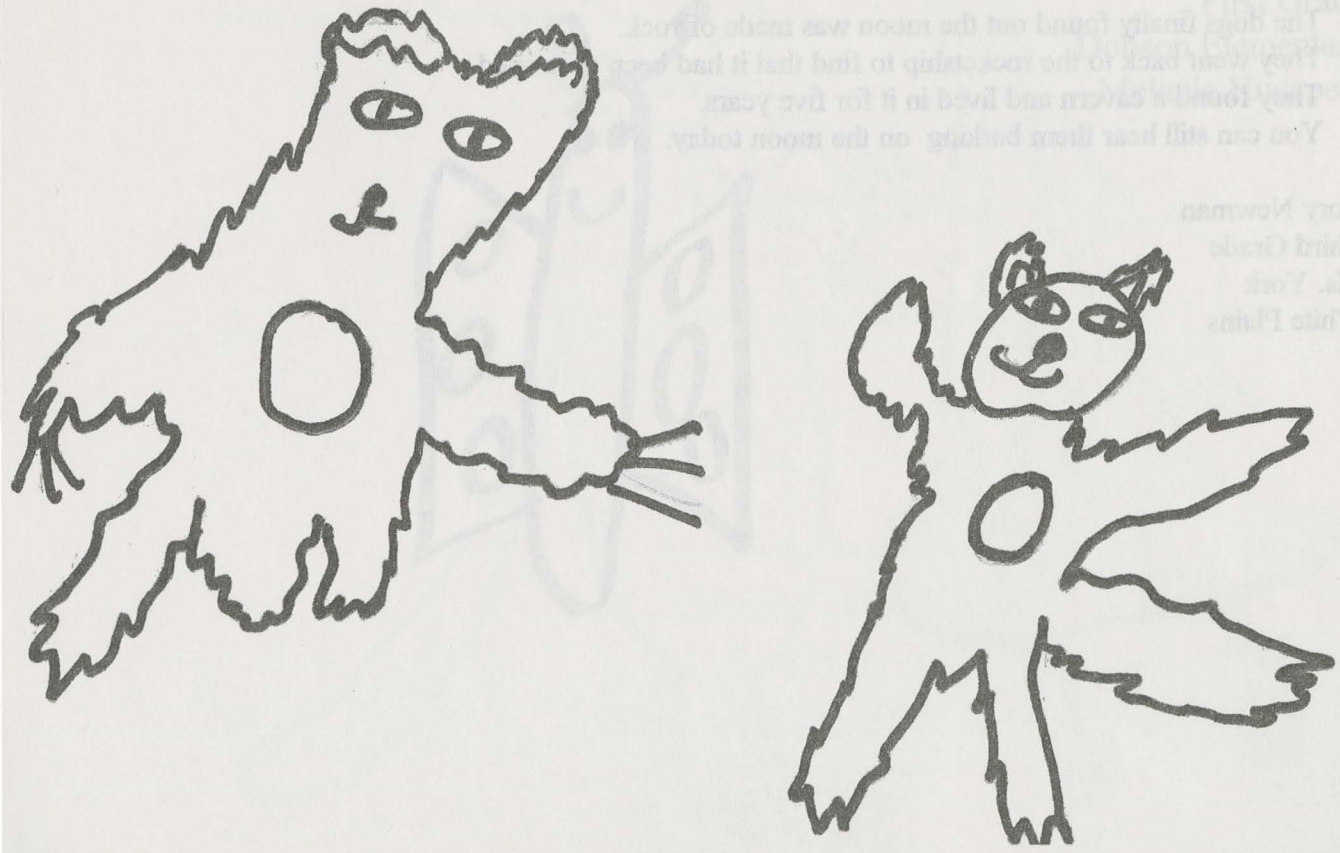
Cory Newman
Third Grade
Ms. York
White Plains

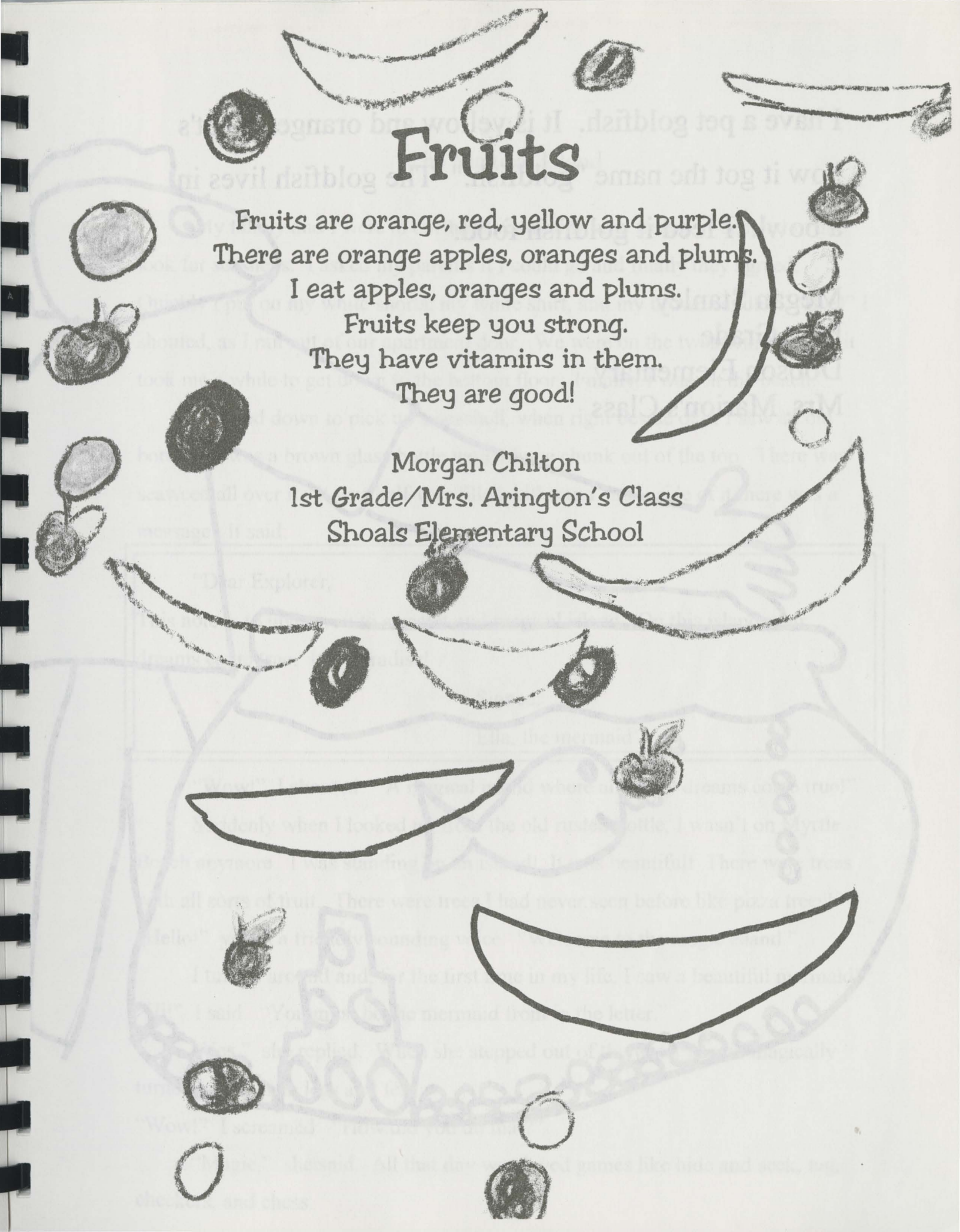
Muffs for Gluffs

My name is Doctor Suess. I wrote a new book called Muffs for Gluffs. The characters are the Gluffs and the Muffs. They are very silly. They are very playful. Sometimes they get mad and sometimes they are glad. Once in a while they will eat a flip flop leaf or a weed wid waffle. They will eat almost anything. They drink almost anything too. I think you will like the Gluffs and the Muffs.

by Savannah Sprinkle

DOBSON ELEMENTARY
FIRST GRADE
MRS. JUDY BARHAM'S CLASS





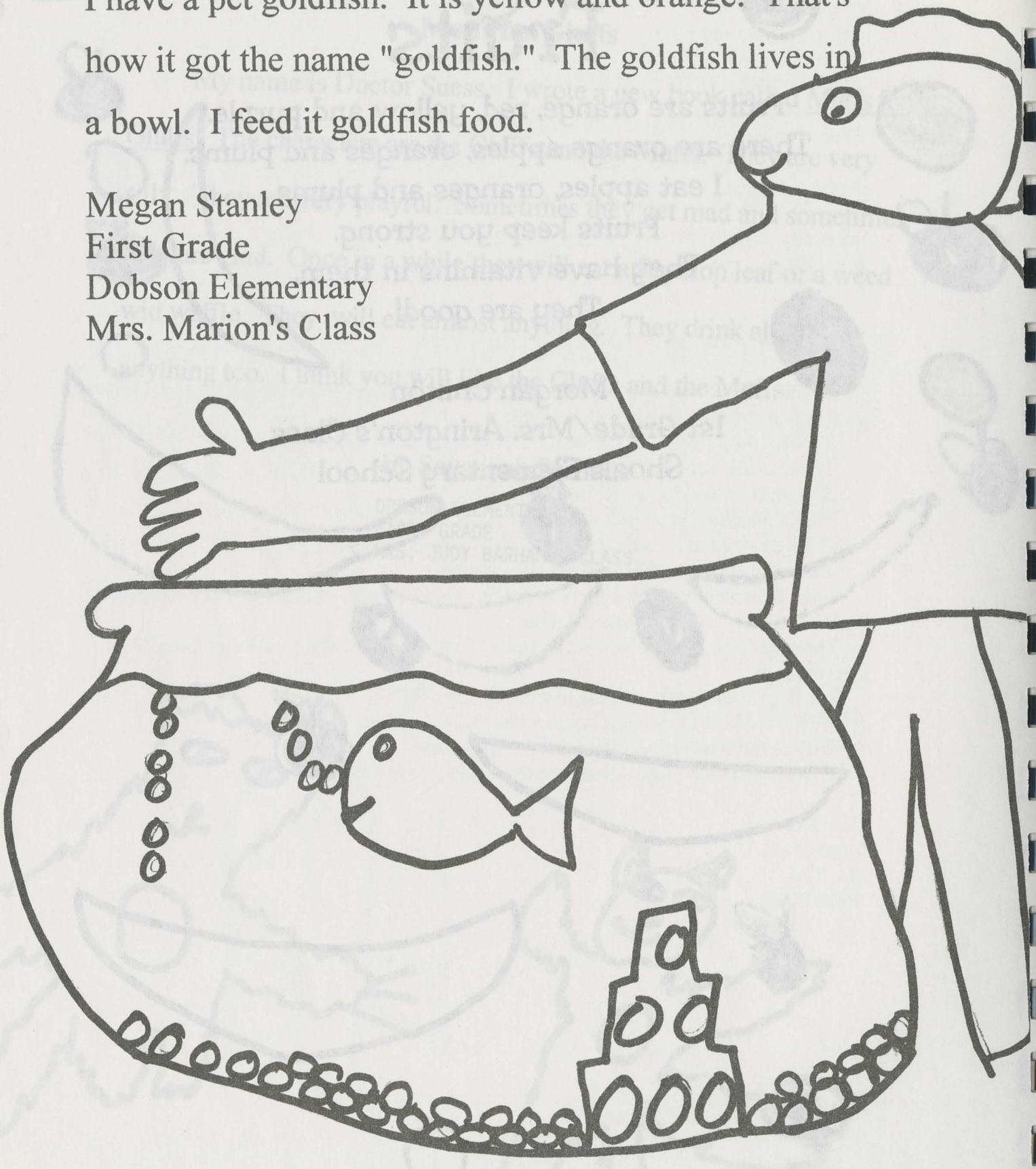
Fruits

Fruits are orange, red, yellow and purple.
There are orange apples, oranges and plums.
I eat apples, oranges and plums.
Fruits keep you strong.
They have vitamins in them.
They are good!

Morgan Chilton
1st Grade/Mrs. Arington's Class
Shoals Elementary School

I have a pet goldfish. It is yellow and orange. That's how it got the name "goldfish." The goldfish lives in a bowl. I feed it goldfish food.

Megan Stanley
First Grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Marion's Class



The Magical Island

My family and I were in our hotel room at Myrtle Beach. I decided to go look for seashells. I asked my parents if I could go and finally they agreed. Quickly I put on my white shorts, my white shirt, and my brown sandles. "Bye!" I shouted, as I ran out of our apartment door. We were on the twentieth floor, so it took me a while to get down to the bottom floor. Finally, I was on the beach.

I looked down to pick up a seashell, when right beside of it, I saw an old bottle. It was a brown glass bottle with a huge chunk out of the top. There was seaweed all over it. It was half-way filled with sand and inside of it there was a message. It said:

"Dear Explorer,

This note is to invite you to a secret and magical island. On this island your dreams come true. It is paradise!

Signed,

Ella, the mermaid"

"Wow!" I shouted. "A magical island where all of my dreams come true!"

Suddenly when I looked up from the old rusted bottle, I wasn't on Myrtle Beach anymore. I was standing on an island! It was beautiful! There were trees with all sorts of fruit. There were trees I had never seen before like pizza trees!"

"Hello!" yelled a friendly sounding voice. "Welcome to the magic island."

I turned around and, for the first time in my life, I saw a beautiful mermaid!

"Hi!" I said. "You must be the mermaid from in the letter."

"Yes," she replied. When she stepped out of the water her fin magically turned into human legs and feet.

"Wow!" I screamed. "How did you do that?"

"Magic," she said. All that day we played games like hide and seek, tag, checkers, and chess.

The Magical Island

While we were right in the middle of the game, out of nowhere jumped a pirate! He had a filthy black beard, and a nasty looking face. "Aye!" he said. "I'm going to kill you!" He pulled out a sword and started to cut my head off! The mermaid quickly pointed her finger and the pirate disappeared!

"Thank you so much!" I shouted.

"You're welcome," she replied. " It is time for you to go home now," she sadly said.

"Why?" I asked.

"Well, you have to leave sometime."

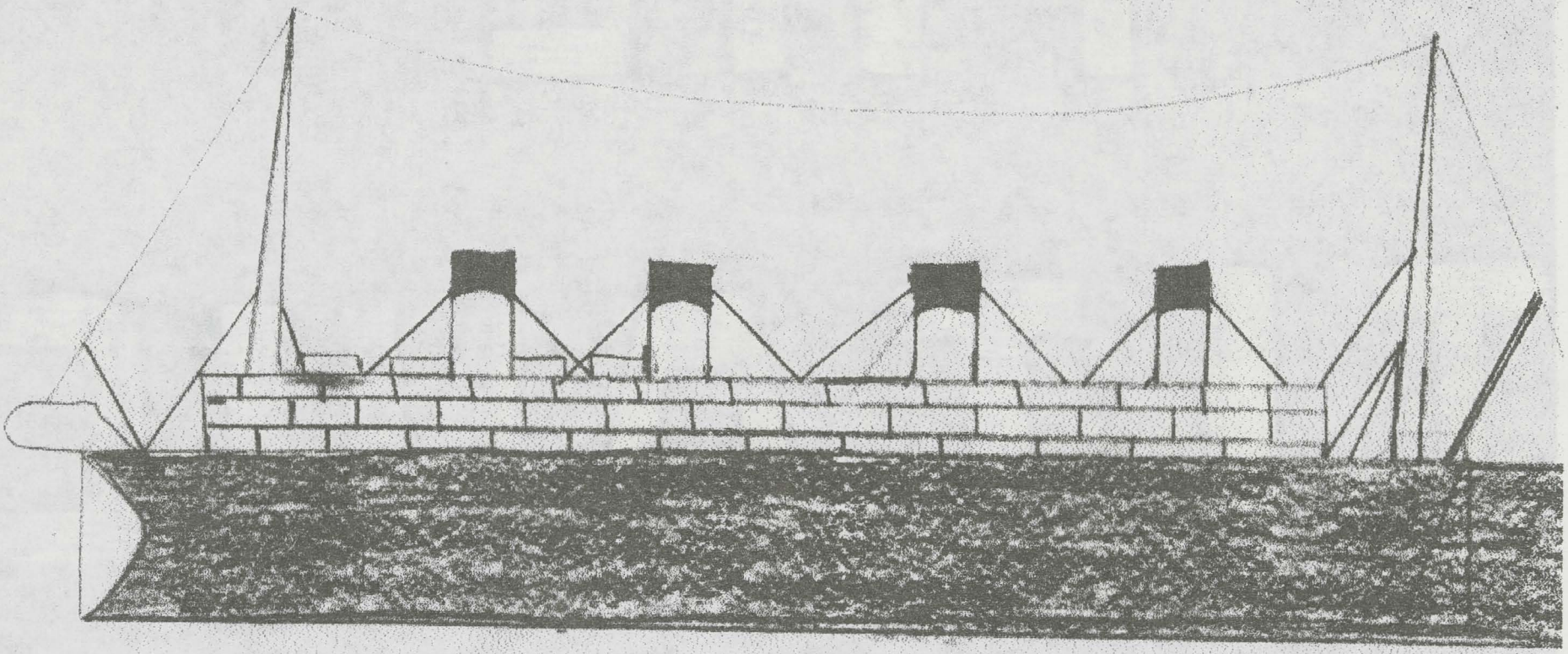
"I guess you are right," I said. I closed my eyes for ten seconds like the mermaid had said to. After ten seconds, I opened my eyes and I was in my hotel room.

Later that day, we were out on the beach admiring the ocean. Out in the distance, I saw an island, and I knew that the mermaid was watching me.

by Jamie Dowell
Flat Rock Elementary
Mrs. K. Fowler
4th grade



Joshua Willard
Third Grade
Westfield Elementary
Lisa Dean
Regina Barbour

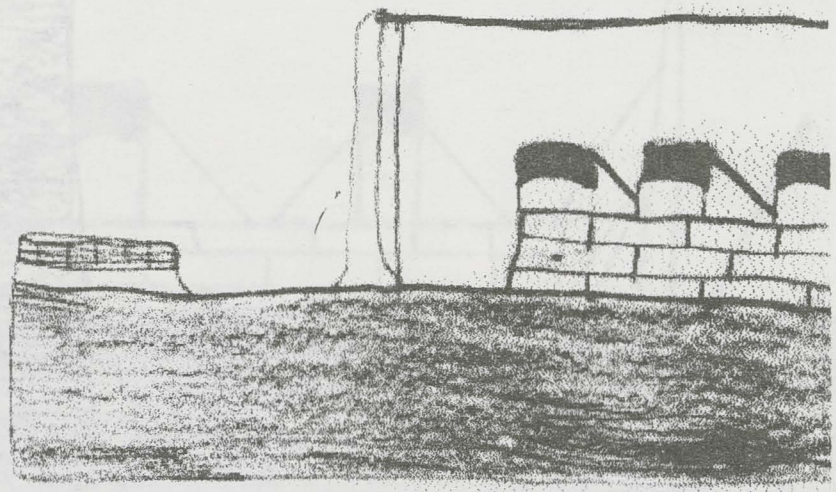


In 1912, a ship called Titantic was built. Titanic was the biggest steamer ever built.



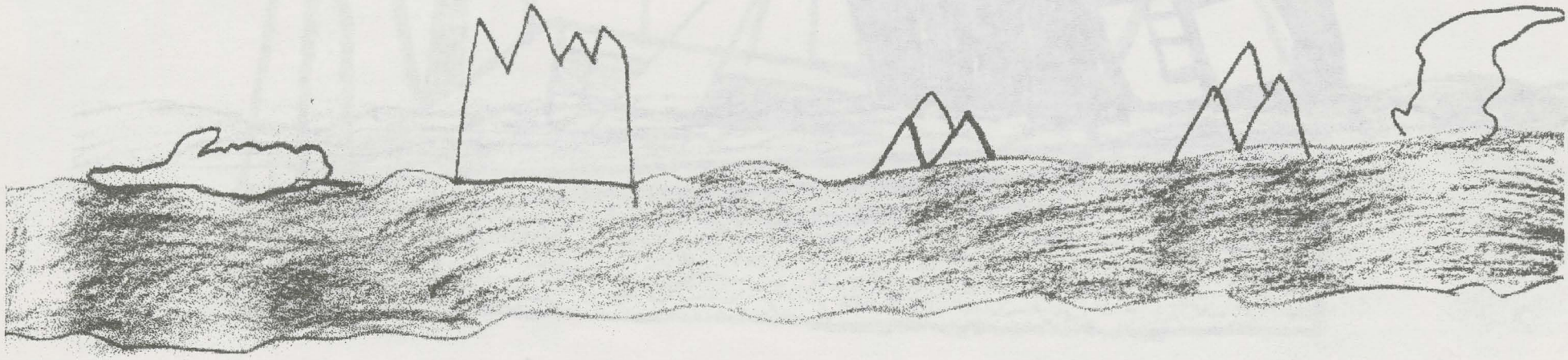
The captain of the ship was E. J. Smith.



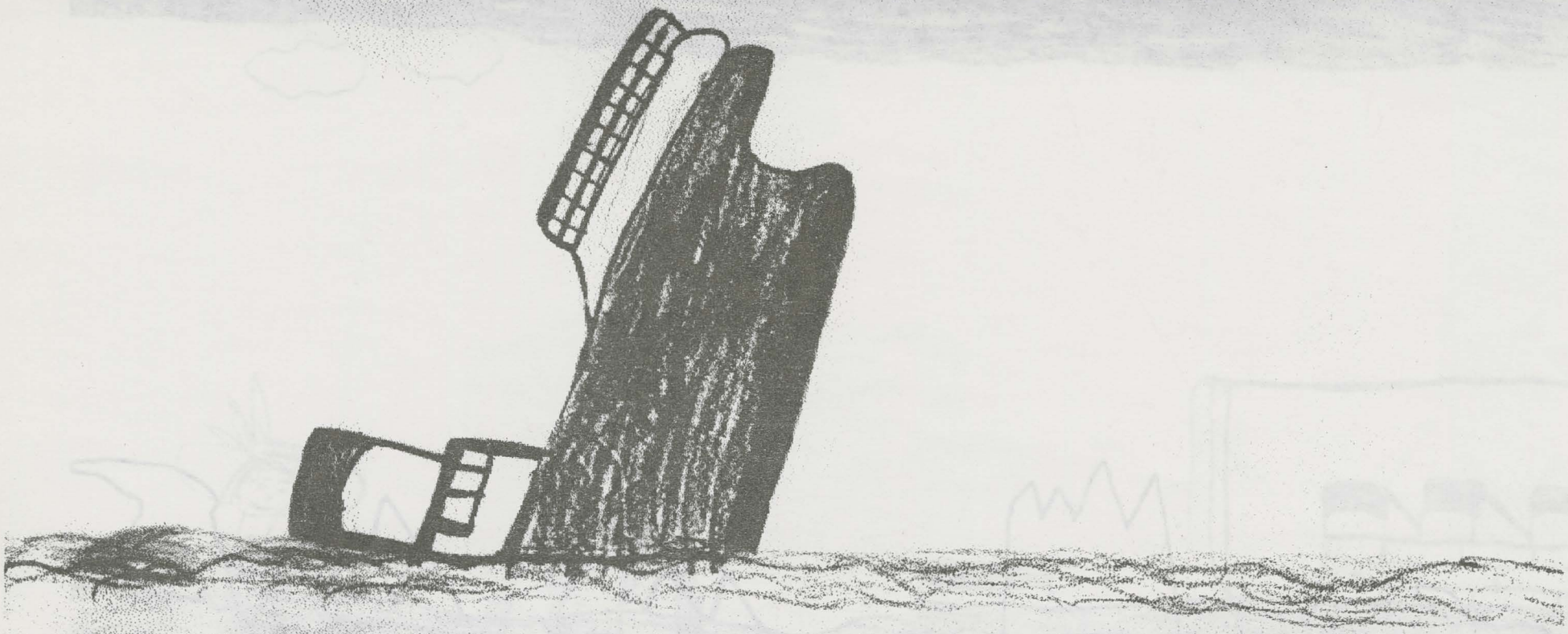


The ship sailed from England to America on April 10, 1912.

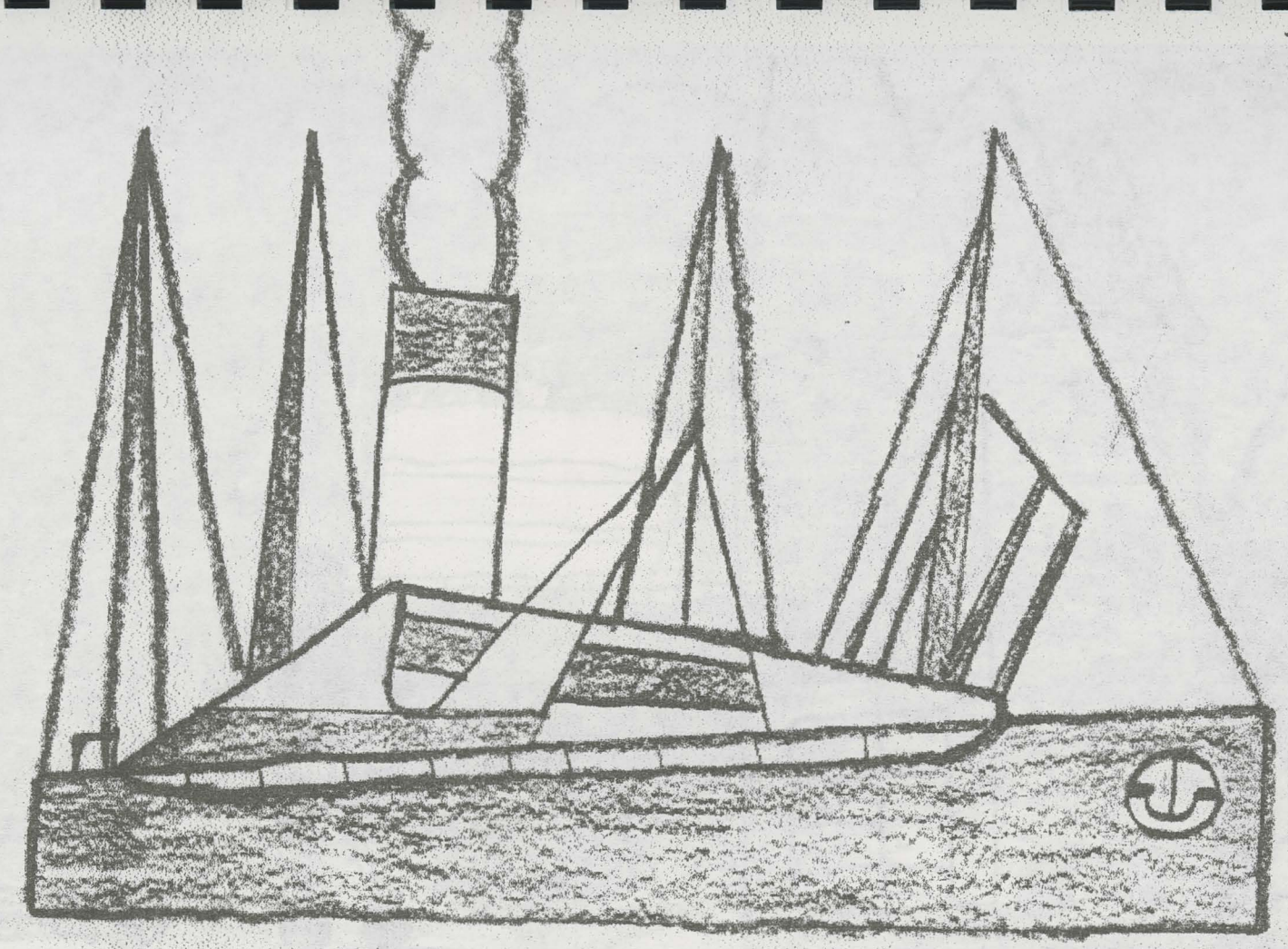
There were rich people and poor people sailing on the ship.



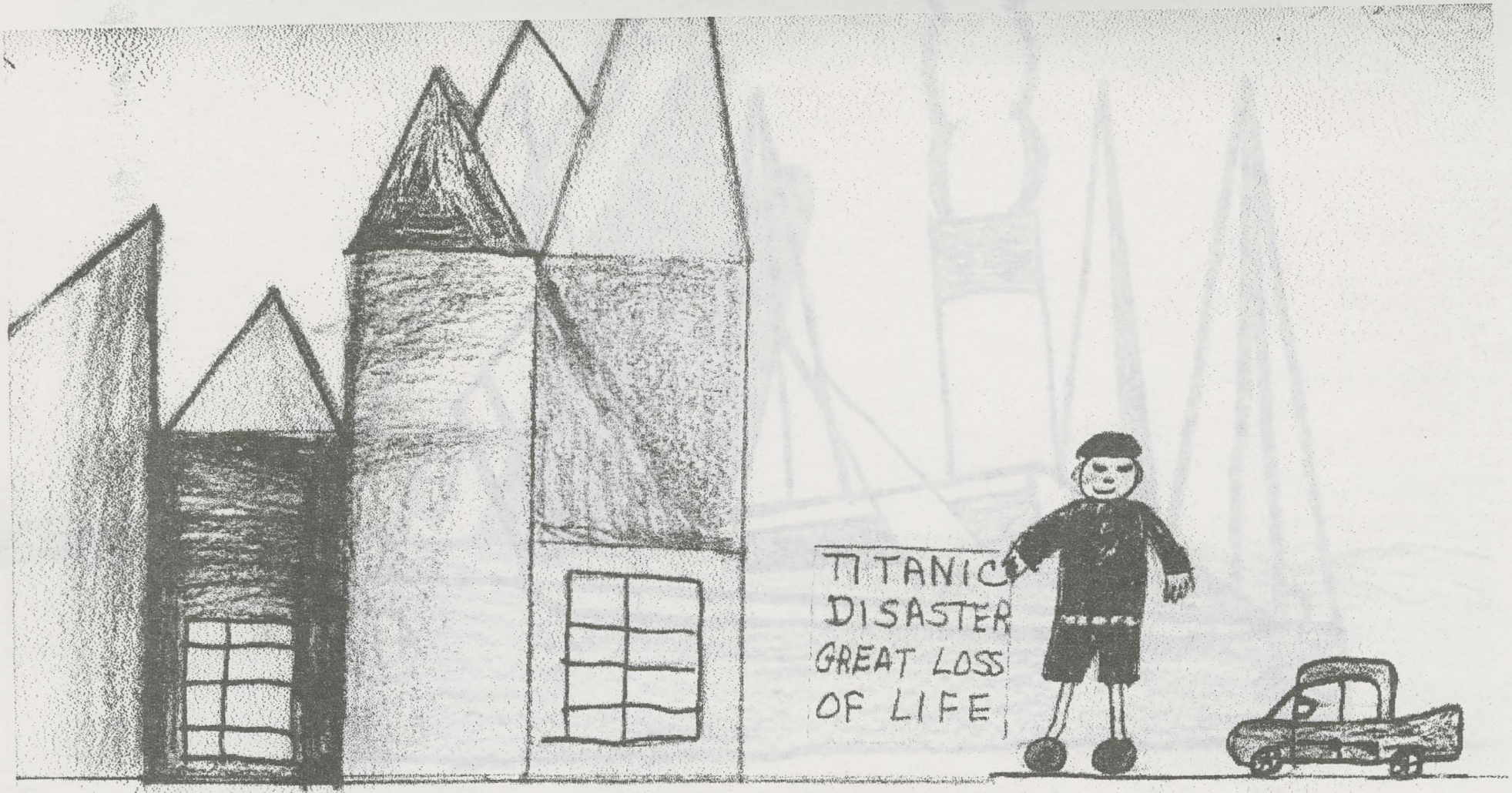
The warm winter caused icebergs to break away from the coast.



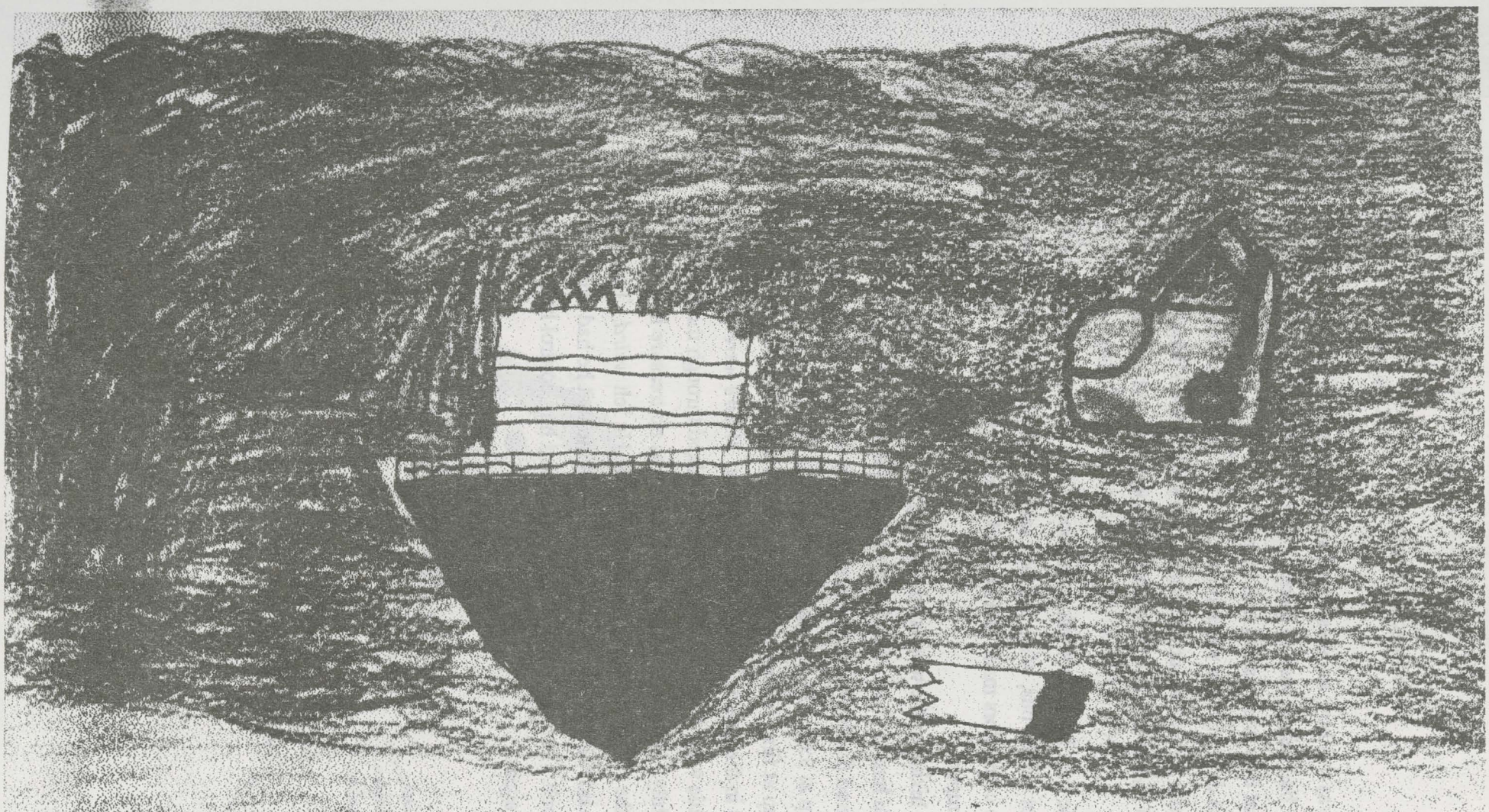
Two hours later the Titanic had gone down



The Carpathia was the first ship to come to the rescue of the Titanic.



More than 1500 people died.



In the darkness of the Atlantic Ocean the ship is still there.

The Special Treasure

One time there was this boy; he always had a mad temper. If somebody told him to shut up, he would say bad things back to them. Then *he* would get into trouble. He never told the teacher that they were calling him names.

His mom and dad did not know what to do. He kept getting meaner and meaner. So, his mom and dad made him go to summercamp. He said, "I'll do better!" His mom and dad said that he said *that* every time he got into trouble, but he always got into trouble again anyway.

When he rode the bus, he did not talk to anybody, and he did nothing to get him into trouble. *Until* he got off the bus, when this boy said hey to him. He told the boy to shut up. Then the camp counselors made him do hard work that he hated. But that did not make him lose his temper.

When they went hiking in the woods one morning about 7:35 AM, he did not want to get up. But they made him anyway. When they started hiking there were two trails in the woods. He was so tired that he went the wrong way. He fell down and went to sleep because he usually got up at 9:00 AM, or somewhere around then.

When he woke up at first, he did not know where he was. But then he remembered that he was in the woods hiking with the others. *Where were they?* he thought. He walked a little ways in the woods. Then he walked through the woods and the sun was shining brightly. He saw a big pot! But there was no treasure in it...

When he found the rest of the troop he felt different. He felt *weird.* Then this boy said "Hey" to him. He said "Hey" back. That was the first time that he had said something nice to someone. Then he knew it. The pot helped him control his temper! He never got a mad temper again.

Channing Hall
Grade 4
Franklin Elementary
Lynn Armstrong, teacher

Mom Can You Hear Me?

Mom, Mom can you hear me?
I am up so far far in Heaven.
I love you Mom very very much!
I see you Mom every day.
I love you Mom. Do you know that?
I wish you could see me in Heaven.
I am an angel now.
God told me to tell you that you will go to heaven too.
I will see you Mom up in Heaven.
I wish you could play with me.
I have to go now.... God is calling me.

By: Stormy Bullins
Age 9
Copeland Elementary
Mrs. Jones

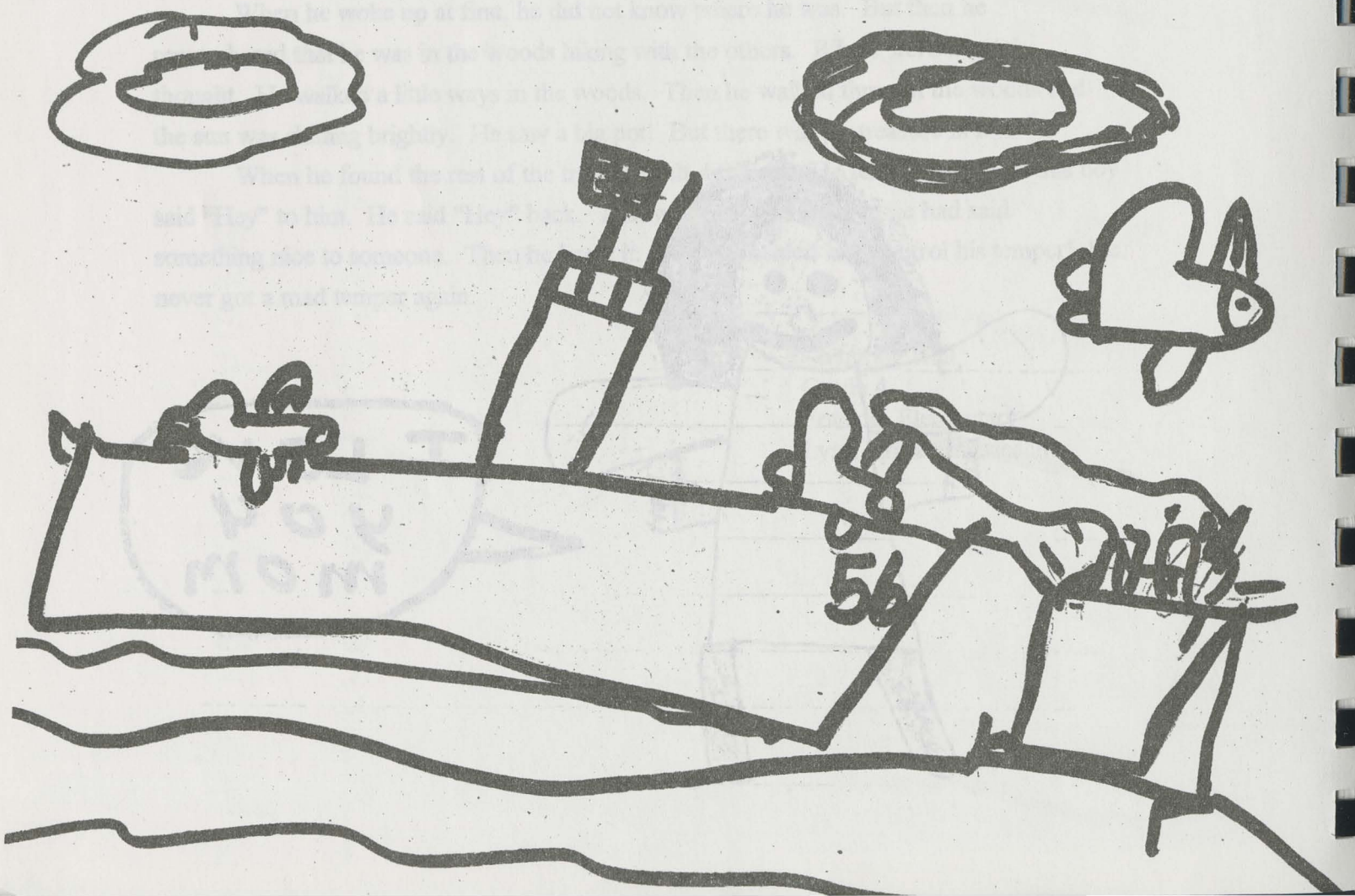


My Favorite Things

My favorite things are boats and airplanes. When we go to see an airport carrier, we go to airshows. They are awesome!

Boats float in water and get fixed on dry dock. I got boats to play in the bathtub with.

By: Justin Dant
Dobson Elementary
Kindergarten- Mrs. Wilmoth



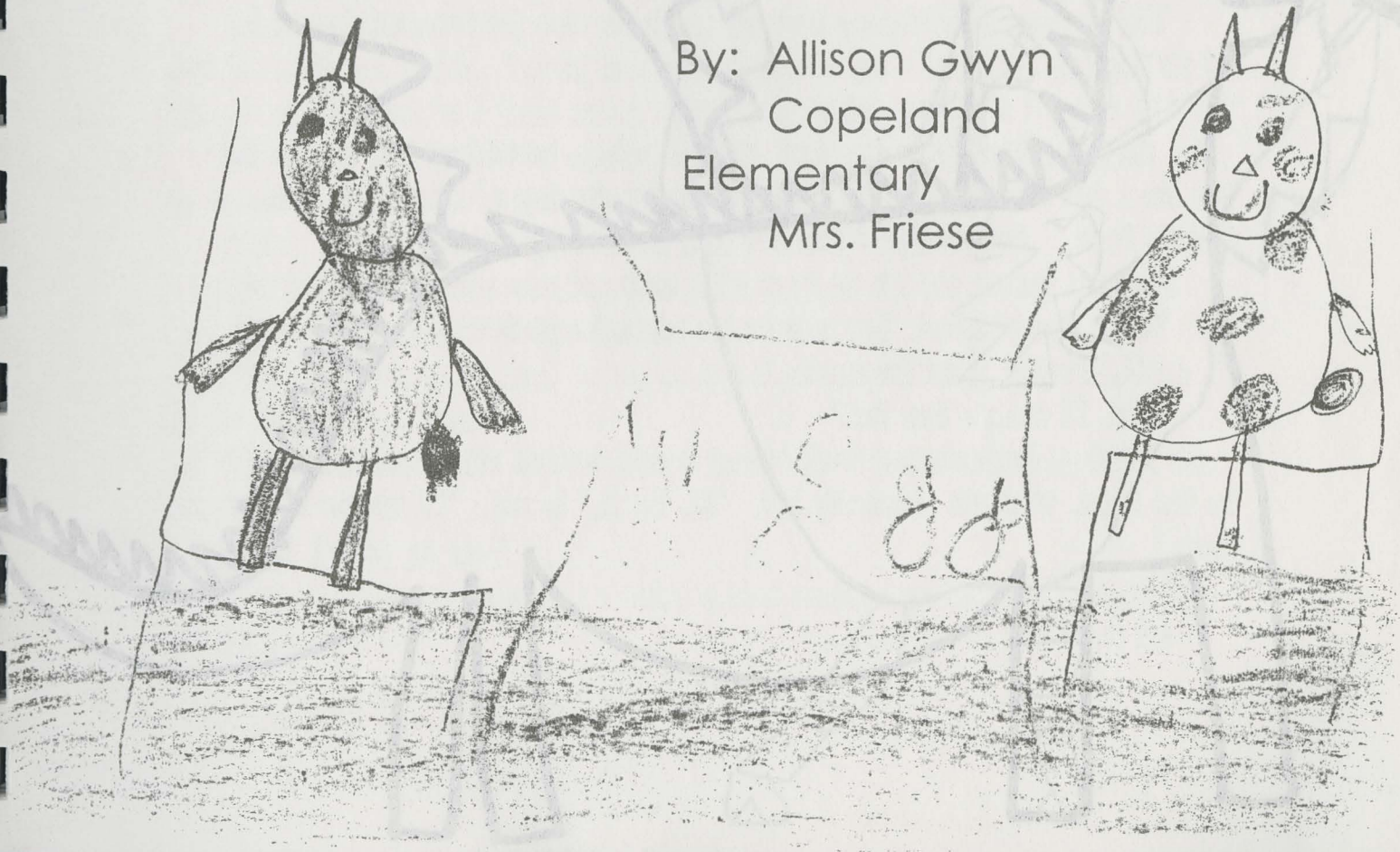
Two Bunnies

Once, there was a bunny named Kelly. She lived in the forest. One day she met a friend. Her name was Allison.

One day, Allison went to Kelly's house. They cooked carrots. They cooked lettuce and they cooked apples. They ate all the vegetables and fruits.

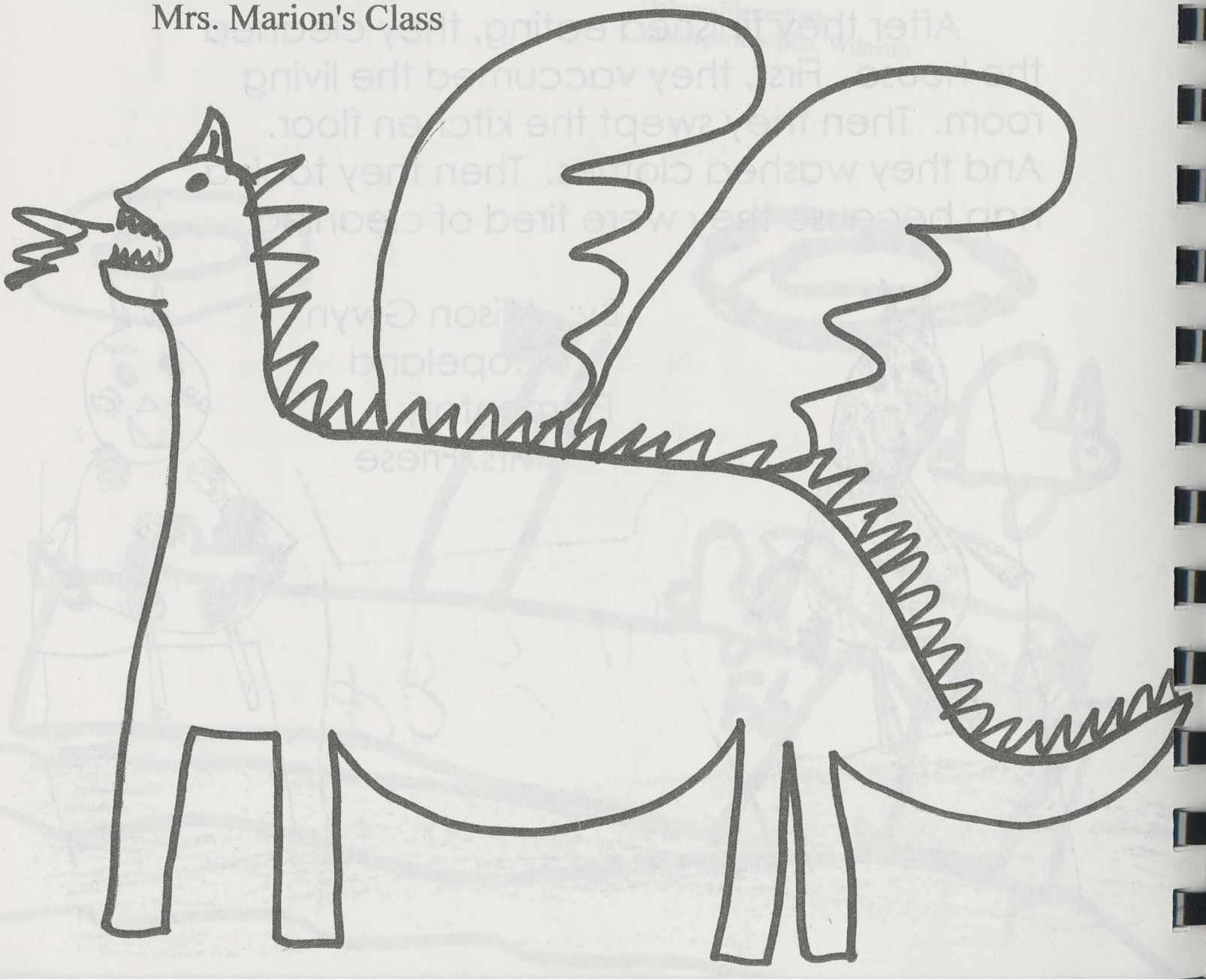
After they finished eating, they cleaned the house. First, they vaccumed the living room. Then they swept the kitchen floor. And they washed clothes. Then they took a nap because they were tired of cleaning.

By: Allison Gwyn
Copeland
Elementary
Mrs. Friese



One day I was walking along when a T-Rex stepped out of the bushes. He roared at me! He roared so loud that he shook the earth. I was not afraid because he was a robot. I knew that he was not real because I saw a cord that you could pull to make him roar.

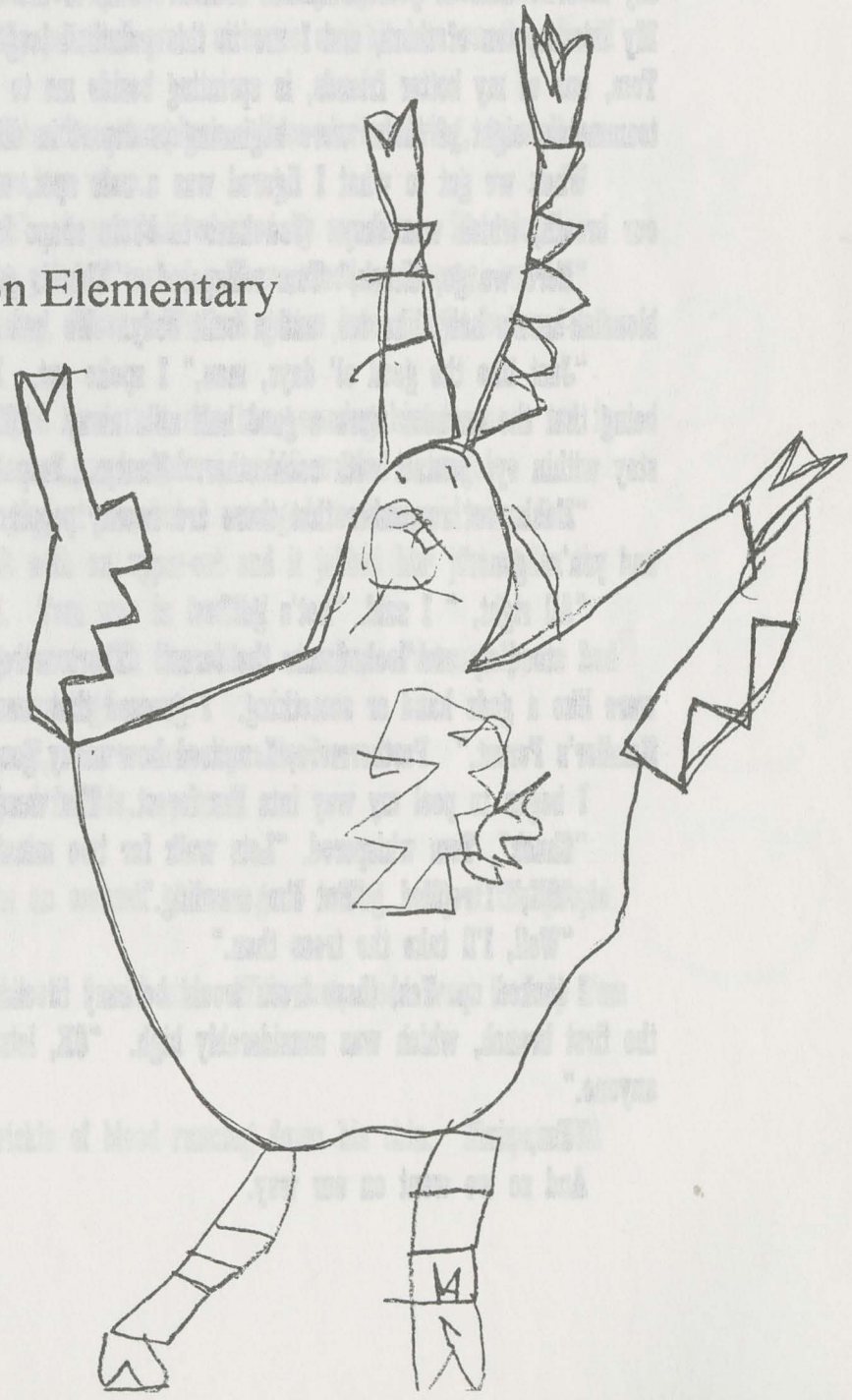
David Bright
First Grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Marion's Class



THE LOBSTER

A enormous lobster lives in the water. He likes the water and he likes to see the fishes.

Carla Medina
Kindergarten
Kristi Branch-Dobson Elementary



Paintball!

Ready... set... go! Off I sprinted toward the ten acre bushel of forest. Yes, here it was. My favorite time of year...Paintball season. This is the first game for me, and I hope I do well. My friends, ten of them, and I are in this paintball league. And our game has just started. Tom, one of my better friends, is sprinting beside me to a safe place in the woods. Our other teammates, eight of them, were beginning to depart in different directions.

When we got to what I figured was a safe spot, we slowed our breathing down and caught our breath, which was easy. You have to be in shape for this sport.

"Here we go, Chuck," Tom whispered. "This is going to be fun!" I studied Tom, he had blondish-brown hair, like me, and a built body. We had worked out alot over the summer.

"Just like the good ol' days, man," I spoke out. I figured I had no reason to whisper, being that the enemies were a good half mile away. "OK, you know the hand signals. Always stay within eye contact with each other. Hmmm....keep extra paintballs ready. Anything else?"

"Nahh, but remember that there are twenty people for us to gun down, and that one hit and you're gone."

"All right, " I said. "Let's go!"

I stood up and looked into the forest. There were huge, twisted trees with branches that were like a gods hand or something. I guessed that was why they called this place "Man-Handler's Forest." Furthermore, I noticed how many good hiding places there were.

I began to peel my way into the forest. The weeds and vines made it difficult to travel.

"Chuck", Tom whispered. "Lets walk for two minutes to get close."

"OK," I replied. "But I'm crawling."

"Well, I'll take the trees then."

I looked up. Yes, these trees would be easy to climb for Tom. He jammed his way up to the first branch, which was considerably high. "OK, lets go," he said. "I'll note you if I see anyone."

"Yes, sir."

And so we went on our way.

When I figured two minutes had gone by, I stopped. It actually felt like two hours, beings how nervous I was at the time. I looked up. There was Tom, looking back at me with a smirky grin on his face. He signaled a three and touched his ear...Enemy at three o'clock.

I knelt down to my stomach and peered over a bush. There an enemy was, out in the open. so vulnerable, it had to be a trap. I signaled Tom to look for others, then I saw one! Directly behind a tree, almost completely covered up, but not from my angle.

Tom saw this too, I could see it in his eye. We knew what to do. I tapped the ground with the tip of my paintball gun. Once.....twice.....three times.

Tom fired from above! His paintball whizzed by and hit an enemy right in the chest. He turned, and saw me! I fired at my man. My paintball went airborne and hit him on the cheek! Haha..."Got 'em".

Suddenly, a herd of enemies plumaged into the atmosphere. Tom started firing, as well as me! The enemies knew right and well where we were.

"Tom!," I yelled, "Watch your backside!" A paintball whizzed by my face. Too close!

"Chuck, 10 o'clock!", Tom managed to yell. I turned. There stood an enemy, but I recognized the face. It was my new arch-enemy, Jason. We had gotten into a fight before, us two friends, but now we hated each other.

I anticipated Jason's first move. I jumped head first into him, causing him to moan out in pain. He had embarrassed me in front of alot of people before, and I wanted revenge!

His hand, balled into a fist, came swinging at me, but I managed to duck and miss the blow just in the nick of time. I swung back with an upper-cut and it jabbed him just under the chin. Jason went down, so I turned around. Tom was in trouble!

He was still stuck in the tree, battling it out with four other enemies. Fortunately, he had the protection of his tree and a good height advantage.

"Help!," he hollered. I thought to myself, where were my allies?

Just then Will and Todd, two of my good friends, appeared!

"Where are the others?" I asked Todd.

"Out. Every last one of them. It was an ambush of ours gone wrong. All of the people left are fighting now...I think,"

"Good luck, theres alot of 'em down there!" I told him. With that, Todd went to help Tom out.

"Haha, I've got you now."

I turned. There was Jason, with a trickle of blood running down his chin. His paintball gun was pointed at me.

"Wooohh, now," I said. "Lets not jump to drastic solutions... eh?" I pointed my finger and pointed it like a gun. I then put my arm down and the signal was sent!

Will jumped onto Jason's back and down Jason went. He seemed to be out cold.

"Watch your wingside!" Will hollered. At that, I turned around and started blasting my paintball gun. Down dropped two enemies, right on top of Jason. I figured paintball shots must hurt!

"Lets go help the others," I suggested. So we both ran over to the battle.

When we arrived, I heard a variety of noises.

"Tom, look down!" I head Todd yell.

"Watch your left side, Todd!" Tom yelled back.

I instantly started firing upon our enemies. My eye was on a particular person who was trying to climb a tree to get a better angle on Tom. I blasted my paintball gun at him, but I could not hit him!

"Cover me Chuck, I'll go get the one trying to climb the tree," Will said.

Before I had time to answer, Will was charging right through the middle of the battlefield. Then two enemies spotted him! I started firing!

"Will, 6 o'clock!" Todd yelled.

Too late. Will dropped down, splattering against the ground with a thud. Well, the odds for us winning now just dramatically declined.

"Tom!" I yelled. "Hit the one up the tree!" Tom started firing, and a few moments later, down fell the figure out of the tree. Yes! Todd and I got beside each other as three people charged towards us. We started pumping out paintballs! Down they all went, and I was amazed at how I hadn't been hit by a paintball yet.

All of the sudden a dead silence filled the air. Tom jumped out of his tree.

"I think we won!" he said.

"Good," I said back. "Lets all go rent some movies and throw a party!"

And so we went.

-End

Charles Harold
Gentry Middle School
Grade 7
Mrs. Creed

Morning Glory Adventure

I am a Morning Glory. I am half pink and half blue. Everyone loves my color. I like it too. I have leaves on my stem. I have roots to stand me up and to give me food and water. One time someone planted me. I was just a baby. I didn't know much. When I grew up, a little rain storm came. I thought it was a tornado. It was so strong it pulled me up. When I landed, I was in a huge field. I just couldn't believe it. I saw lots of other flowers that had been carried here. I saw roses, daisies and sunflowers. There were all kinds of flowers. I made friends with all of them. Every day I got to see my new friends.

by Tara Dockery
DOBSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FIRST GRADE
MRS. JUDY BARHAM'S CLASS

Colored Balls of Cotton

Once there was an old lady who was turning 100 years old. Back then there were no planets. People lived on stars. The old lady lived with her husband and dog. She and her husband were farmers. They grew white cotton and sold it for a living. For her birthday she got nine big colored balls of cotton from her husband. He had somehow grown colored cotton. The old lady had no use for the colored cotton.

The next day when her husband went to sell cotton, she replanted the colored cotton he had given her. When her husband got home, he found the cotton. He brought it back to his wife and thought he was giving her more. She gave it away to one of her friends, but when her husband saw her friend with the colored cotton, he paid her $20.00 for it. He thought he could give it to his wife. He did not want anybody else to have this wonderful gift of colored cotton.

This time she threw the nine big balls of cotton out the window and told her dog to chew them up . As the dog was coming out of the doghouse, the man went by and took the cotton and took it back to his wife.

Finally, she sat down in the rocking chair and was about to give up, but that very second she had an idea! She went and picked white cotton, and sold it. With her money she bought a tramploine. She took her colored cotton and went outside to the trampoline.

The old lady took one piece of colored cotton, jumped on the trampoline to the sky and made a planet. She continued doing this until there were no pieces of colored cotton left She told everyone on her star about the planets. She traveled to other stars in a rocket and told everyone about the planets too. She told everyone to live on the planet Earth because it was the best planet and had water on it. Everyone lived on the Earth, the best planet! She, her husband, and her dog lived happily ever after!

Hannah Comer
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Barnes' Third Grade

I see me.
I can walk.
I can jump.
I can hop.
I like to eat hot dogs.
I do not like spinach.
I can read.
I am pretty.
My hair is red.

Vannah Jenkins
Dobson Elementary School
Kindergarten
Mrs. Heidt's Class



Sail Into Summer

This summer I'd like to go camping in the mountains. I would swim in rivers and go hiking to see a lot of animals. I'd ride my horse up threw the mountains to see lots of beautiful things! I'd do cartwheels and jump rope. Then I'd take a nap. When I got up I would eat some chips and watch my sister swim and hold my new baby sister. That's what I would like to do this summer.

Myra Riggans
2nd grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Lankford

Winter

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Donald. He loved to play in the snow when winter came. One day he started to play with his little sister. He decided to throw a snowball. When he threw the snowball, it hit his little sister in the face. She started to cry, "Mama, Mama, MAMA, brother hit me with a snowball." Then Mom came running outside. She said, "What's wrong?" "Brother hit me with a snowball," sister said. His mom sid, "Go inside and go upstairs to your room and think about what you have done". "But Mom", said brother. "No buts", said Mom, "Just go".

So Donald went upstairs in his room and thought about what he had done. Then he said to himself,"Why did I throw a snowball?"

His sister and his Mom came inside. They made hot chocolate. They made an extra glass of rich hot chocolate in case Donald came downstairs. He did come down and apologized to his sister. He drank his rich hot chocolate. Then he and his sister went outside to build a big snowman.

Whitney Sprinkle
2nd grade
Dobson Elementary
Mrs. Lankford

My Puppie

My puppie is so crazy,
He likes to eat daisies.

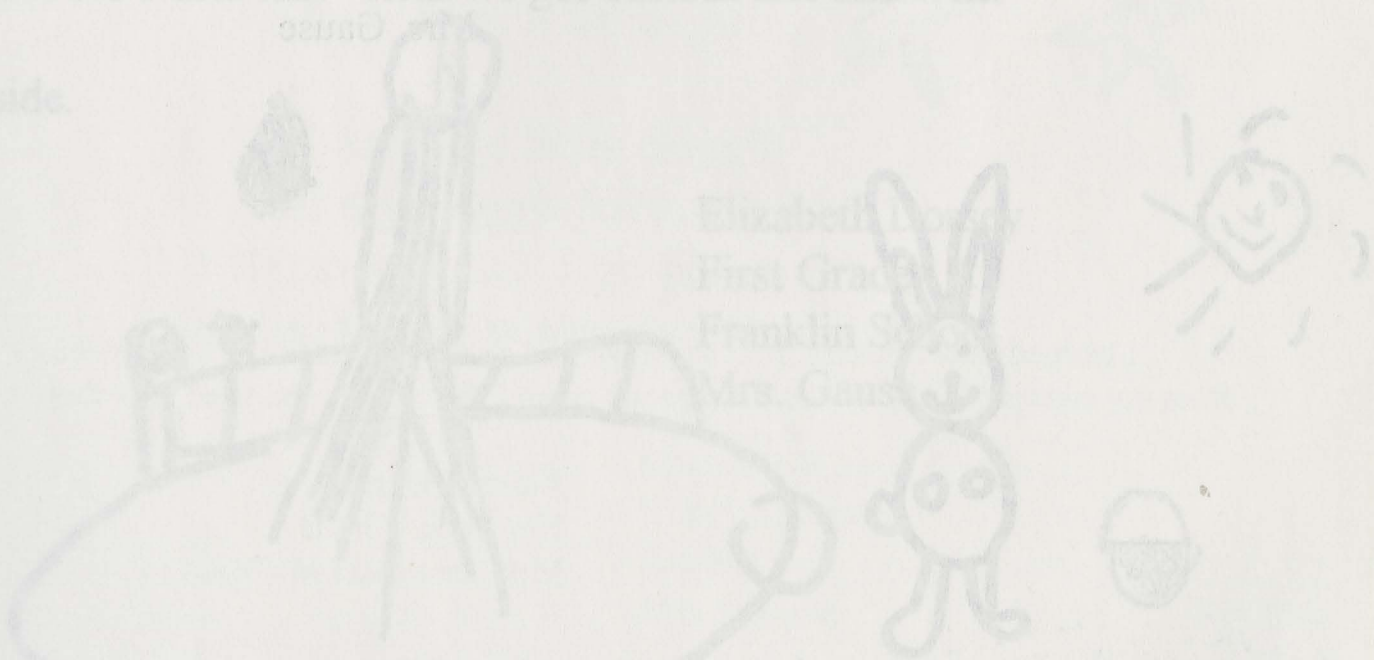
When he chases a rat,
It scratches him on the back.

When he scratches me,
He doesn't get any treats.

He runs faster than a rabbit,
He's smaller than my hand.

But no matter how much he does,
He's always my little puppie.

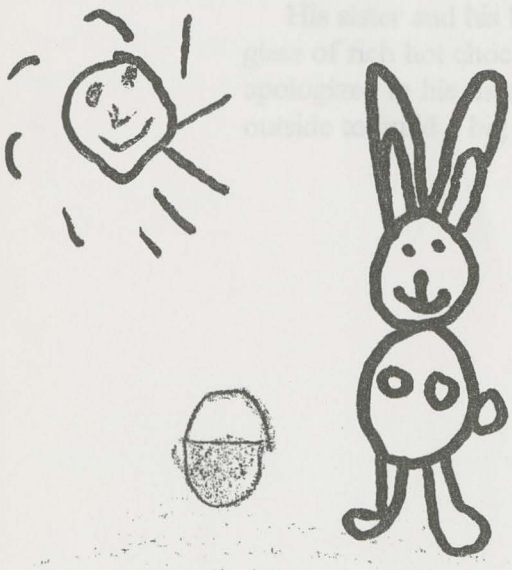
Bristole Bottoms
3rd grade, Copeland
Ms. Joyce's Class



Easter Bunny Visit

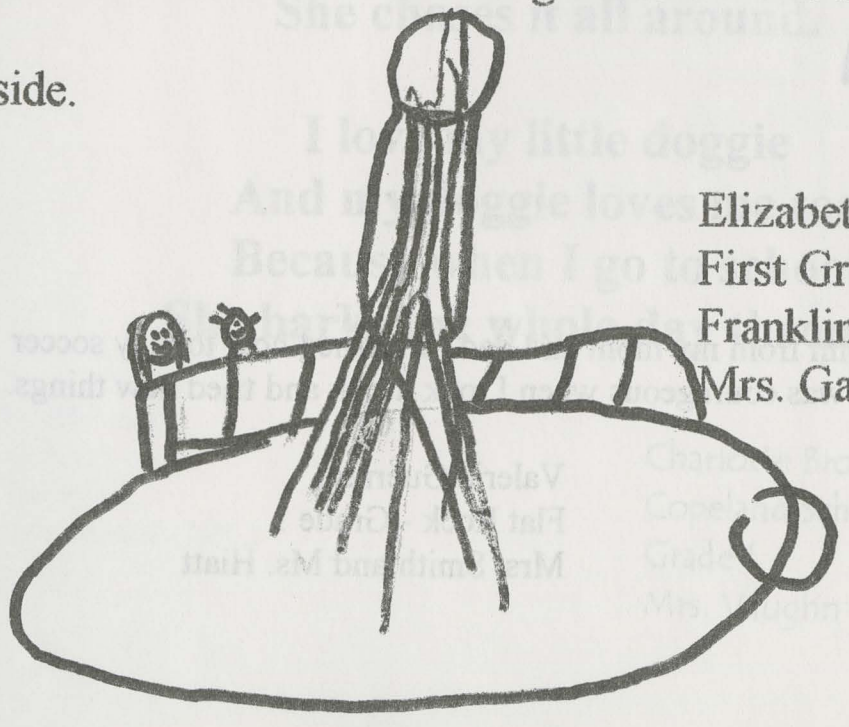
One day I saw the Easter Bunny at the park. He was giving Easter eggs to the little children. He was happy that he was sharing Easter eggs with the children. He was happy cause it was Easter. Then he went to a house. He knocked on the door. Then mom came, she said my kid is sick. The Easter Bunny was sad. Then he gave her a Easter egg to give to her kid. Then the Easter Bunny went home. He made a card for the sick kid. Then soon the kid felt better. He woke up, got his clothes on and went with the Easter Bunny to the park. They played and then went home. The Easter Bunny was happy that the kid was better.

Christina Smith
First Grade
Franklin Elementary
Mrs. Gause



Ruby Falls

I went to Ruby Falls. It was fun. Ruby Falls is about a cabin that shows things that are alive. We walked through the cabin and saw the live things. We saw different things on the way. There are rocks that if you touch them your hands will turn black. At the end of Ruby Falls there is a water fall. We were in room where the water fall is (except the lights were off). Then they said, "This is Ruby Falls." Then the lights came on and you could see diamonds falling down from the sky. But you really can't . We went all around the water fall. Then we got back in line and went outside.



Elizabeth Dorsey
First Grade
Franklin School
Mrs. Gause

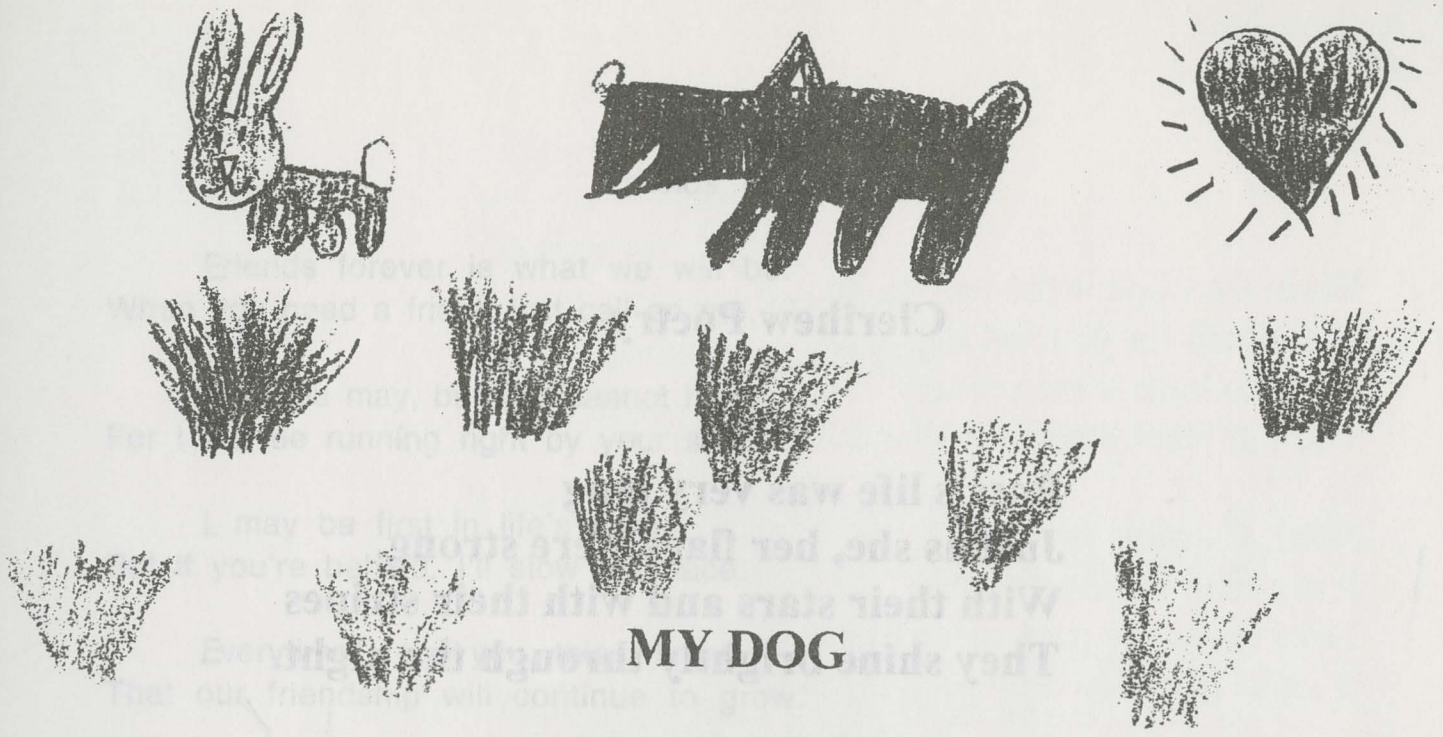
I love baby chicks and Mrs. Smith keeps them in a box to keep them warm. Some eggs are in the incubator and some chicks are in the box with the light to keep them warm. Two eggs did not hatch.

Ashley McConkey
Art by Nikki Mears
Flat Rock - First Grade
Mrs. Smith and Ms. Hiatt



I learned how to swim from my mom and dad. I learned how to play soccer from my cousin Daniel. I was courageous when I took a risk and tried new things.

Valeria Guerrero
Flat Rock - Grade 1
Mrs. Smith and Ms. Hiatt



MY DOG

I have a little dog
She is cute as she can be
And every time I call her
She comes running straight to me.

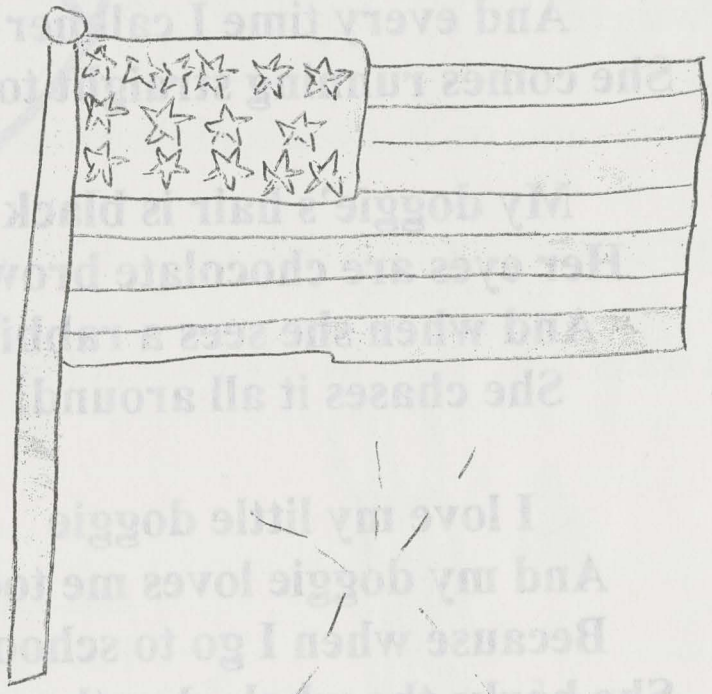
My doggie's hair is black
Her eyes are chocolate brown
And when she sees a rabbit
She chases it all around.

I love my little doggie
And my doggie loves me too
Because when I go to school
She barks the whole day through.

Charlotte Brown
Copeland School
Grade 1
Mrs. Vaughn

Clerihew Poetry

Ross's life was very long
Just as she, her flags were strong.
With their stars and with their stripes
They shine brightly through the night.



Vicky Hicks
Franklin
Grade 5
S.McMillian,teacher

Friends Forever

Friends forever is what we will be.
When you need a friend just call on me.

Run you may, but you cannot hide,
For I will be running right by your side.

I may be first in life's race
But if you're behind, I'll slow my pace.

Everytime I see you, this I know
That our friendship will continue to grow.

Never will I harm you
For fate will harm me, too.

Don't ever leave without saying goodbye
For I shall die, die inside.

Standing alone you will never be
For you will be standing next to me.

By: Stepanie Craddock
Gentry Middle School
Grade 7
Mrs. Creed

North Carolina

North Carolina is the land to be.
It is a land for you and me.
I love to look at the scenery.
The Tar Heel State is the land for me.

North Carolina is right for me.
It is a land beside the sea.
I like to see the mountains high.
It looks like they can touch the sky.

North Carolina's rolling hills.
You can look at all the daffodils.
The sun glows bold and strong.
The moon shines all night long.

North Carolina's people say
That every day is
A wonder day.

Emily Hegler
Dobson
4th grade
Mr. Hinson

Heaven

Oh Heaven, oh Heaven
I'm so glad you are true.
For I worship you, Oh God
And I love you too!!!

I wish some day and some how
I could go up there and rejoice you so loud.

Running and playing through the fields,
Celebrating your birth, rejoicing so real.

Oh Heaven, oh Heaven
I'm so glad you are true.
For some day I'm coming
To a land that is near you!!!!

Author- Brittany Mellow

7th grade
PMMS - Sanders

The Broken Glass

by Kelly Hemmings

2nd Grade- Dobson Elementary- Mrs. Wilmoth

One fine, warm, spring day, three brothers were walking to the ice-cream parlor. The oldest, Jeff, got a float. His younger brothers, John and Joseph, got a malt and a mudslide. After they finished eating they all went home. They played games like Sorry, Trouble, and Monopoly. The next day, they came back to the ice-cream shop. They saw broken glass and a closed sign on the door! They were really surprised. They looked in the broken window. They saw more broken glass. They all went home disappointed. The next day, they came back to the parlor. The parlor was open. Jeff asked the manager why the parlor was closed yesterday. He said that it was because all of their food had been stolen. That night they stayed outside in an old, rundown car. They saw somebody try to sneak in the parlor. Jeff called the police on his cell-phone. The police arrested the man and put him in jail. Now the parlor is open and has had no more break-ins.




Halloween by Trent Hatcher



Hairy monsters creeping up on you.



All alone in the dark.

Last one trick or treating on your block,





Lonesome, all alone.



Owls hooting like a ghost.

Witches flying by the moon





Evil eyes in the bushes.



Echos in the distance.



Nothing left to do but go back home.



Trent Hatcher
4th grade
Flat Rock.
Mrs. P. Gross

Halloween

by Rebecca Blanchard

Haunted houses filled with fright
All through the midnight
Little witches everywhere
Little ghosts- Oh I'm so scared!
Owls, monsters, and goblins too,
Wow I'm scared! Aren't you?
"Eeeooo," the ghosts say.
Eew, eew witches brew!
Night of fright is what it is.
Halloween - it is the best thing yet!

Rebecca Blanchard
Flat Rock
4th grade
Mrs. Kristi Fowler

Tar Heel State

The Tar Heel State,
Isn't it so great?
We have the best for you to eat,
Sweet potatoes, corn, and pickled beets.
From our hearts and our town,
We the people will never fall down.
This place will stay forever great,
The one and only Tar Heel State!

The Tar Heel State,
Isn't it so great?
This place will take your heart away,
So why don't you come and stay?
Hop in your car and don't be late,
To get to the Old North State!

Meredith Lowdermilk
Dobson
4th grade
Mr. Hinson

My parents had just left to go to the movies and left my sister and I all alone. We were starving so I shouted "I've got it." "What?" my sister muddered. "We'll make popcorn" I replied." Mmon" my sister cried. Afterward we rushed and jammed a bag of rich, buttery popcorn in the microwave. Our taste buds ran wild! We stared at the mouth watering popcorn but something went wrong, very wrong! The popcorn burst out of the microwave covering us in a wave of popcorn!

I asked my sister in panic "What are we going to do?" Well, what else but eat it" she replied. We started to eat like big fat hungry pigs. "Hey, we can't eat popcorn without a movie" I said with a mouth full of popcorn. "You're right" my sister replied. So I swam in popcorn all the way to our room and picked Scoody Doo of Zombie Island. I struggled through the ocean of popcorn to the living room "VCR" and popped the movie in.

All through the movie I kept thinking what will mom and dad think? I was interrupted by a huge "burp". What's that?" "Just me" my sister said blushing. I went back to thinking while my sister sat watching TV and crunching loudly on the popcorn. Just then the door opened. There stood mom and dad open mouthed staring at all that popcorn on the floor. "What in the world?" they both shouted instantly. "You two clean this disaster up" dad cried angrily! "But how?" my sister and I asked. "Eat it" dad replied. "Oh boy" I muddered to myself. Unhappily we started to munch like big, fat, bulging pigs. We had half eaten the popcorn when we started to feel like throwing up but I held it in. Dad looked at us and relieved us by saying "I'll shovel the rest to the cows". I looked up and smiled in relief.

Sterling Hardy
Dobson Elementary
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Hardy

It's a cold, dreary, Saturday morning. I am looking out the window. I can see big rain clouds forming in the sky. My parents went to the beach for the weekend, so now my brother Tobey and I have the house all to ourselves. I let the curtain drop and walked away from the window. I ran down the hall and grabbed my favorite movie, "Wild America." I pushed the movie into the V.C.R. and pressed play. Boom! The T.V. exploded! A couple of seconds later I could hear a rumble of thunder. "A bolt of lightning must have hit the T.V." I thought. I was terrified!

I stood there for a moment listening to the huge raindrops hitting the windows. I was getting more and more afraid listening to every single colossal drop of water. My teeth chittered and chattered so hard they started to hurt. I was going insane! I screamed and cried so much my eyes got red. I cringed and yelled but the rain never stopped. My brother came running down the steps and he was crying too. He explained to me his roof was leaking and the floor was getting to be like a small swimming pool.

I remembered my favorite toys were outside and raced to get them. I threw open the door to find the yard was flooded. I ran to the shed and picked up my toys. I ran like a cheetah back to the front door, only to find the door was locked. I turned around and sped to the shed once more. This time I grabbed a ladder. I took it to the front of the house. I put it up against the roof and climbed up. I was glad my brother was stupid enough to leave his window open during the storm and lunged into it. I shut the window and tried in vain to trudge through the pond that used to be my brother's room.

I galloped down the stairs in a fury. I prayed and prayed until I fell asleep. Later I woke up to see my brother's <u>happy</u> face staring at me. I was about to ask what was so great about being flooded but he interrupted me. He told me the rain had stopped and the sun had come out. Now, when my parents go on a trip to the beach while the sky is cloudy, I always end up going with them!

Bennett Mitchell
Dobson Elementary
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Latza

One cold Saturday morning I woke up because my toes were being bitten. I was astounded to see Wishbone sitting on the end of my bed bitting my toes. I screamed and slung Wishbone. He screamed too! Then I said, "What do you want?" He wanted to go on an adventure. That's where it all began.

I put him in my bookbag and went to school. When I got there I let him out in the bathroom. He said, "Wow! I've never been to school!" Then I quickly stuffed him back in my bookbag. When I got to the class he leaped out of my bookbag. I grabbed his hind legs and told him to stay in my bookbag. Mrs. Hardy asked, "What is nine times nine?" As my hand went up Wishbone shouted,"Eighty one". Mrs. Hardy said,"Who ever yelled that, bring me a ticket!" Throughout the day Wishbone answered questions.

Lunchtime came and I took my bookbag with Wishbone in it to lunch. When I got my food Wishbone hopped out of my bookbag and took everybody's food. They all looked at me and Wishbone in anger. Then I had to buy everybody lunch. I spent over thirty dollars. I was steaming with anger too. There goes thirty dollars down the drain!

Later that day when I got off the bus I looked in my bookbag and Wishbone was gone! There was a note and it read,

Dear Caitlin,

I'm sorry you had to spend your money. I guess it was my fault. Look in your pocket and you'll find something. I looked in my pocket and pulled it out. It wasn't money. It was something better. It was a Wishbone action figurine. Wishbone had signed it. Then I realized money doesn't matter. It's your friends that matter.

Caitlin Emlinger
Dobson Elementary
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Hardy

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Caitlin Emlinger
Dobson Elementary
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Hardy

On a hot Saturday morning, I heard a noise like my mom screaming at my brother. I pushed the covers off of my head. I looked and right in front of my bed there was a four legged animal with his tongue hanging out of his mouth. He looked like he was ready to go on an adventure. I said, "What do you want me to do for you?"

"I want you to help me find my bone. Last night a huge black cat came right by me and I dropped the bone in a groundhog hole. I probably could fit in the hole," Wishbone said.

I said, "I have an idea. Let's go to my dad's shed and get a rope and anything else that you could use to get the bone."

Wishbone took me to the hole where he had lost his bone. I stuck my arm in the hole to see if I could feel it. Then I got the rope and tied the rope around Wishbone. I put him in the hole head first. Wishbone said, "Let me down a little more. I have it!" I lifted him up and there he was, him and his bone. There was slobber dripping out of his mouth.

We were going to my house. When we opened the door, my mom was video taping us. My mom took the video to Fox 8 News. I watched Fox 8 and I saw myself on T.V. I said, "Look at us!" Wishbone said nothing. I looked and he was not there. He had left. I went to church that next morning. I never saw him again.

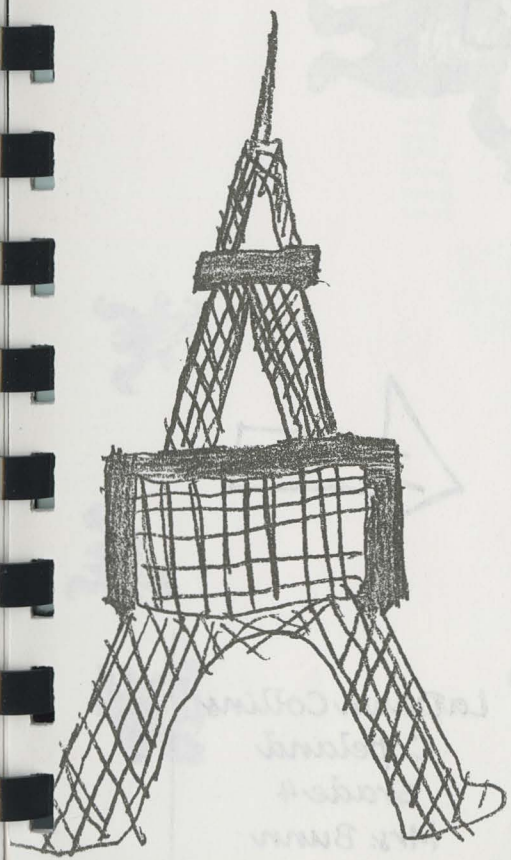
Jacob White
Dobson Elementary
Fourth Grade
Mrs. Latza

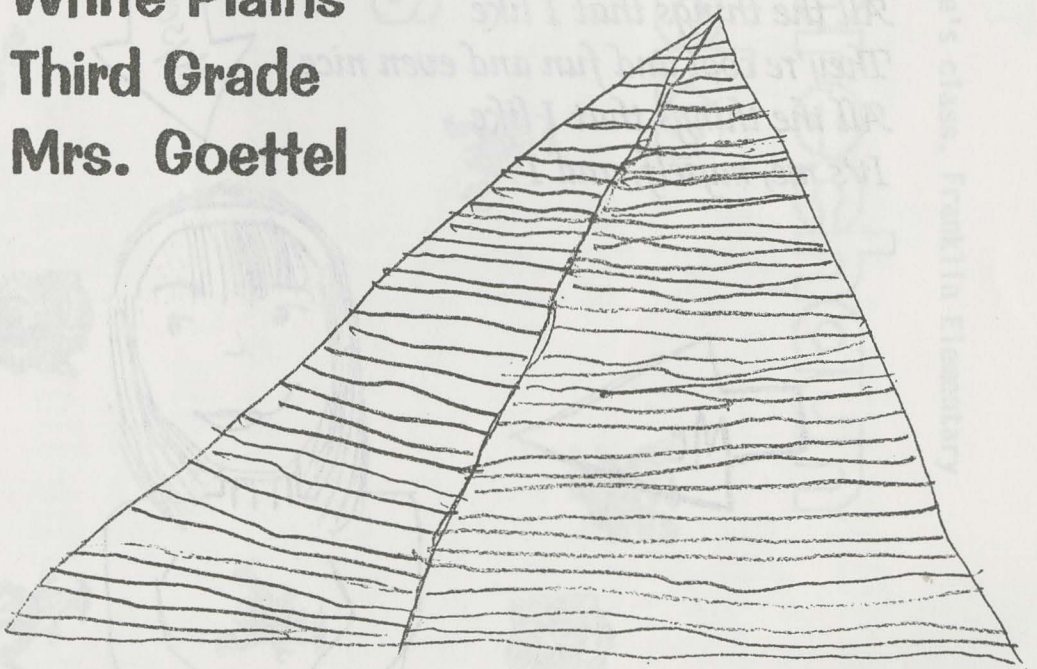
"Places I Like To Be At"

I would like to go to Hawaii
Or maybe even Maui,
I would like to go to France
And do a funky dance.

I would like to go to Cancun
Or maybe to the moon,
But my favorite place to be
Is in my room.

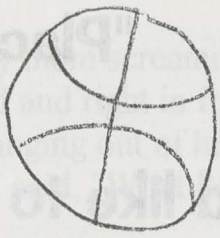
By: Corey M. Redding
White Plains
Third Grade
Mrs. Goettel





All That I Like!

My Favorite Sport is Basketball
It's always in my mind
My favorite sport is Basketball
I play it all the time



I love to read adventure books
I just love the adventures
I love to read adventure books
Because all of the amazing creatures



My favorite teacher is Mrs.Bunn
She is cool and a lot of fun
My favorite teacher is Mrs.Bunn
HOMEWORK no problem she barely gives us none





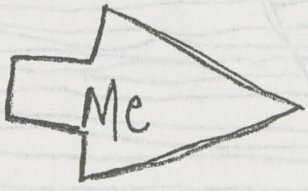


I sort of like school
But not too much
I sort of like school
Because of Mrs.Bunn (It's Fun)

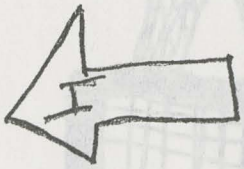


All the things that I like
They're cool and fun and even nice
All the things that I like
It's me, myself, and I









LaDawn Collins
Copeland
Grade 4
Mrs. Bunn

POEMS AND STORIES CREATED BY EC students in Kat Cooke's class. Franklin Elementary

Leaping Leprechaun Limericks and Stories



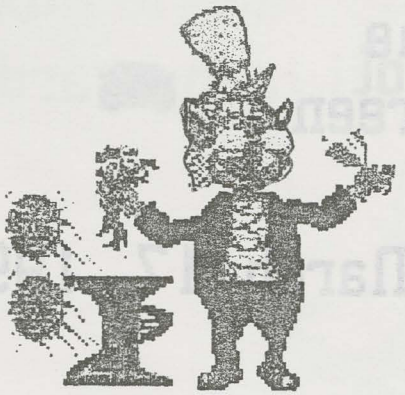
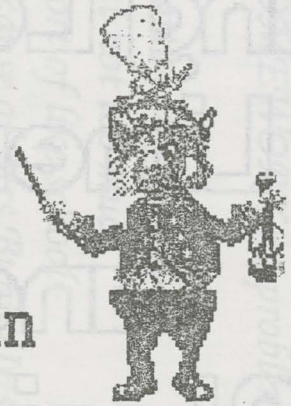


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March 17, 1999









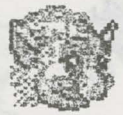
The End of the Rainbow

When I got to the end of the rainbow the pot of gold had turned green , I picked it up it wasn't green because the rainbow wasn't shining on it anymore. A leprechaun jumped and I caught him. He gave me three wish's. The first wish was a sport's car my size. The second wish was two sportcars for my mom and dad. My third wish is two bike's for my sister s just the ir size.





Josh Lail



Mysterious Limerick

I woke up and saw something green.

It looked at me and started to scream.

It jumped up and spun around.

Then it fell to the ground.

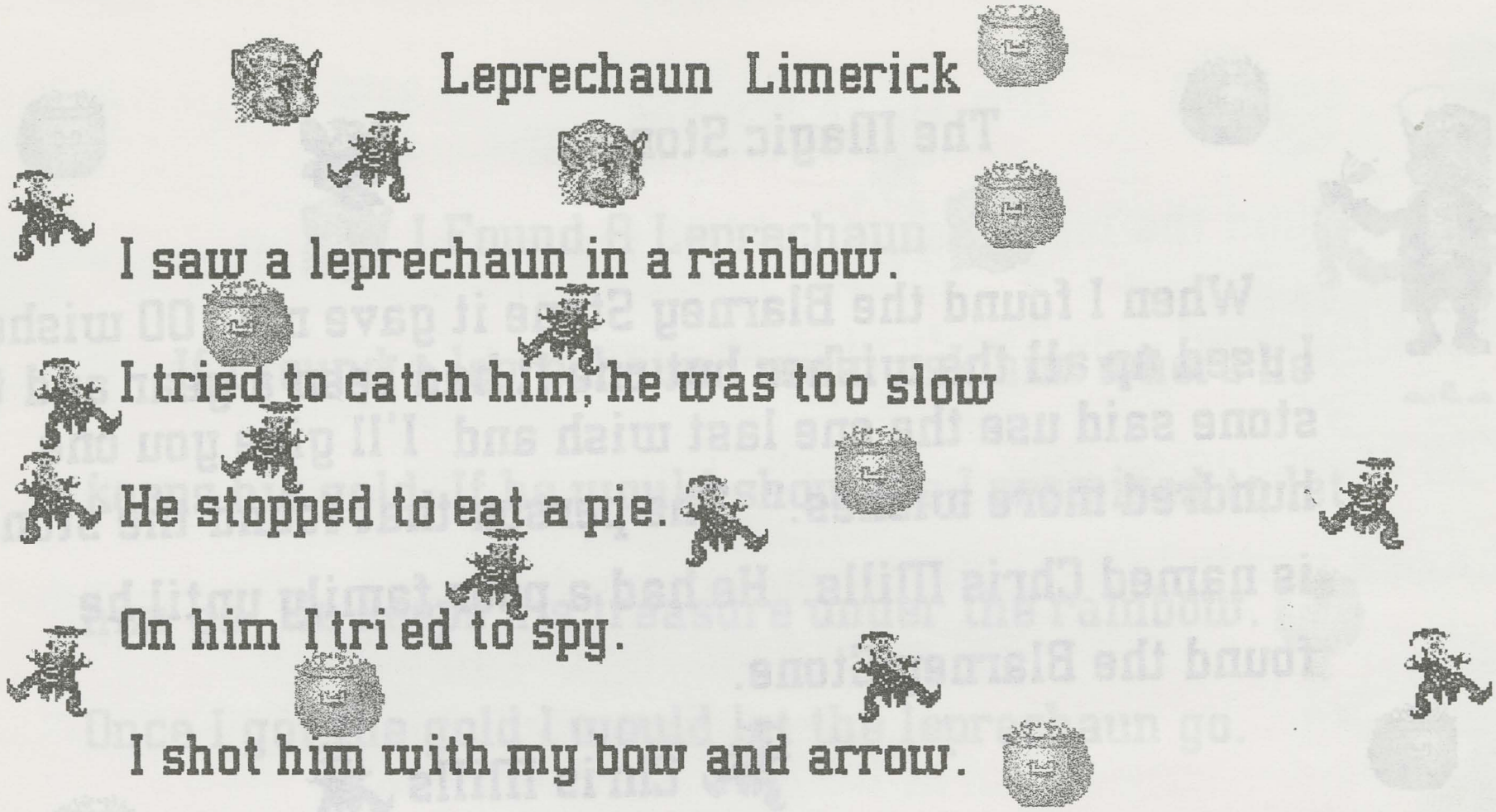
It ran off to my garden and stole my beans.





Anthony Smith

Leprechaun Limerick



I saw a leprechaun in a rainbow.

I tried to catch him, he was too slow

He stopped to eat a pie.

On him I tried to spy.

I shot him with my bow and arrow.

Jessica Grant



The Magic Stone

When I found the Blarney Stone it gave me 100 wishes. I used up all the wishes but one.It had been a year and the stone said use the one last wish and I'll give you one hundred more wishes." The person that found the stone is named Chris Mills. He had a poor family until he found the Blarney Stone.

Chris Mills

I Found A Leprechaun



If I found a leprechaun I wuld ask him where he keeps his gold. If he would show me I promised to let him go. He keeps his treasure under the rainbow. Once I got the gold I would let the leprechaun go.

Natterrio Goodwin

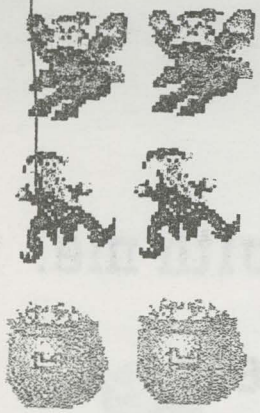
My Three Wishes

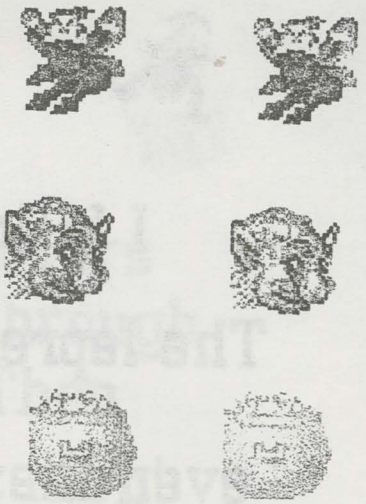
I found the lucky pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. I got three wishes.The first wish was that I was strong. My second wish was to be rich. My last wish is that I would have a pretty house. My wishes came true.



Andrew Campbell

Leprechaun Limerick





I saw a leprechaun outside.

He was trying to hitch a ride.

He jumped into my car,

Said he did not need to go far.

When I stopped he tried to hide.

Kenny Goins



My Friend the Leprechaun



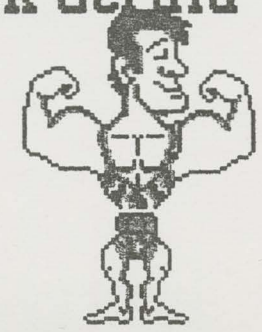
I followed a leprechaun and the leprechaun played with me. The leprecnaun took me to his house Everything was green even the food. I asked his for a wish. He said , "Yes, you wee little friend!" I wished for a princess to marry me. She said "Yes" and we lived happily ever after with the leprechaun as our roommate.

Deodrick Gerald











The Blarney Stone

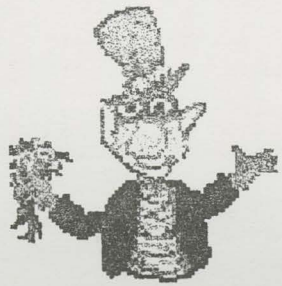
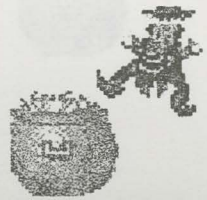







When I found The Blarney Stone I was happy. The Leprechaun took the Blarney Stone. I chased him for the Blarney Stone. The leprechaun ran to his castle. I ran in his castle. I found the Blarney Stone in the castle. I got the Blarney Stone and all my wishes came true.

Thomas Butcher

The Day I Was Green

One night I wished that I could be green. The next day I woke up and I was green. At first I thought my brother had done it, but I was wrong. My brother was on a trip to his grandmother's. I walked in the kitchen to eat my breakfast. My mother sreamed her lung's out and her head off. She ran out the door the police office. They did nothing.That night I wished to be normal again.

The next day I was still green.I went in the woods to search for a leprechaun. I found his pot of gold but no sign of a leprechaun. I yelled out "Are there any leprechauns around here?" I heard a voice say,"Why yes there is my good fellow.Allow me to introduce myself.I am Mr. Stonecup." I made a wish to be normal again. The next day I was!!!!!!!!

Michael Milstead