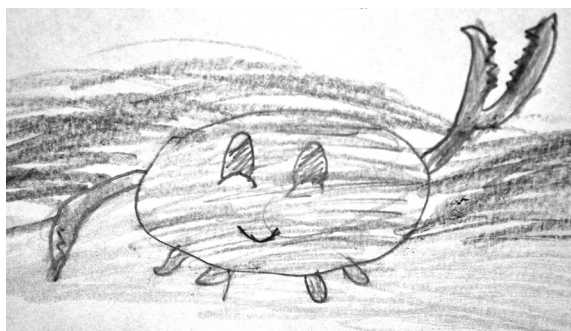
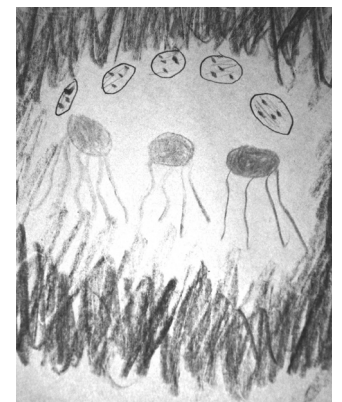
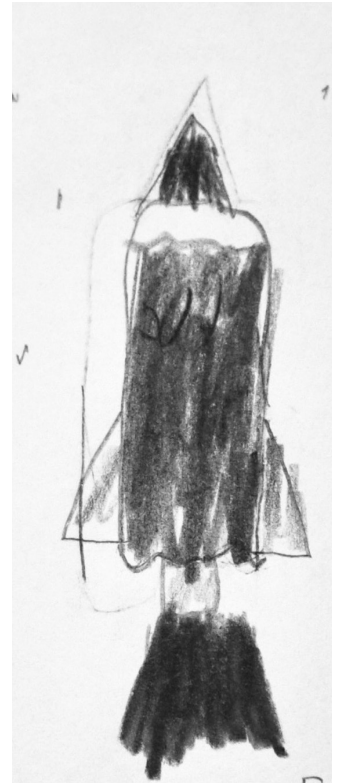


# & the O Wall

John Lyman School • 2015-2016

Writings accepted by  
the Literary Board.

Cover Illustrations done by the Art Board



# The Wall

The writings in this book were submitted to the John Lyman School Literary Board by Kindergarten through Fourth Grade students. Students submitted writings throughout the school year that they felt were representative of their best work.

In order to be considered for the Writers' Wall, submissions had to meet specific guidelines and parameters set by the Literary Board, including teacher and peer review. In some cases, suggestions for improvement were made and a piece was edited by the author and resubmitted.

Once a piece of writing has been accepted by the Literary Board, parent volunteers type it so that the work can be displayed on the Writers' Wall located in the main entrance of John Lyman School. The printed writing is mounted on construction paper by parent volunteers. It is then sent to the Art Board to be illustrated.

The writings are also formatted for final publication in this book by parent volunteers. **Off the Wall** is then distributed at the end of the year to each family in the Integrated Day Program, as well as the Board of Education, and both town libraries.

## **Parent Coordinators:**

*Stacy Allen*

*Heather Castiglia*

# The Literary Board

**Advisors:** *Ms. Margo Novak, Mrs. Valerie Swiantek, and Mr. Bill Kurtz*

The John Lyman Literary Board is comprised of third and fourth graders. Students on the Literary Board must consider their own writing skills and their ability to discuss and fairly critique the work of others.

Once selected to the Literary Board, students meet weekly with staff advisors to review all work submitted during the week. The selection process for these pieces is facilitated by high level discussions, compromise and team work by the board.

We are very proud of our accomplished young writers in the Integrated Day Program at John Lyman School, and are delighted to share this work with you.

## **2015-1016 Literary Board Members:**

*Taylor Connell*

*Derek Gaffney*

*Alec Rodrigue*

*Tiana DiLeone*

*Norah Healy*

*Chase Willett*

*Kieran Driscoll*

*Sofia Hurlbert*

*Eliana Fraschilla*

*Serra LeDuc*

# The Art Board

**Advisor:** *Mrs. Carrie Howes*

The John Lyman School Art Board is comprised of Second, Third and Fourth Graders. Interested students submit applications in the fall. Those chosen meet weekly to illustrate the typed and mounted pieces for final display on “The Wall.” In addition to this important job, they chose various themes for the monthly Artist’s of the Month art submissions. Together with Mrs. Howes, they chose the student artwork to be framed and hung on the Artist’s of the Month wall.

## **2015-2016 Art Board Members:**

*Shiloh Aceto*

*Cassie Dugan*

*Brooke Konefal*

*Josie Belise*

*Arianna Eddinger*

*Tess Lussier*

*Hayden Brady*

*Ethan Feinberg*

*Addison Martin*

*Francis Cleveland*

*Liam Fitzpatrick*

*Mya Seymour*

*Tiana DiLeone*

*Hope Giammatteo*

*Jenny Zacilli*



## **MAKING PAJAMAS**

*By Bromley Corona, Grade 2*

I made pajamas with my three sisters. I picked out the fabric. There is a bottom and a top. The pajama bottoms are very colorful and very patterned. You can see a lot of shapes on them. My top is just striped, gray and black with one strap. They are very comfy, you know. We used a sewing machine to make them. We also put an elastic around the waist. My sister did the hem like two weeks later.

I was the first person who wore them because they are mine! We also made a little dress and a headband. We made pillows at that time. We tried to make a quilt. We were so distracted, we could not finish it.

I am going to wear my new pajamas to Pajama Day. I wonder when Pajama Day will be. I can't wait!

## **THE BASEBALL GAME**

*By Luke Swanson, Grade 2*

Last year I went to a baseball game in Tampa Bay with Mom, Dad and my brother Jordan. First I got some food. I got a warm pretzel with salt and some chocolate ice cream in a baseball cap. The food was good. I got to see David Price pitch his last game. The Rays scored 5 runs in the 4th inning. The Brewers scored 10 runs in the 5th inning. Then I went back to my Great Grammy's house. It was my first game. I hope I can see another game.

## **GOING TO SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS**

*By William Bachinsky-Kremzar, Grade 1*

I went to a haunted house with my mom. I was holding the lantern. It was dark inside the haunted house. We got to a Scooby Do door. I had to figure out his favorite snack. I knew it was Scooby snacks. We told the guy and he opened the door for us.

My mom and I walked inside the haunted house and saw a person cooking a fish. It was scary with make-believe blood down to the floor. Then we went into a very spooky room. There was a spider on a barrel. Next to the barrel stood a one-eyed zombie!

Then a man told us we were going to the scariest part. The scariest part was when we opened the door and it was the mall! We thought it would take us to another part of the haunted house. I said, "What?!" We went into the mall. The haunted house was not that bad.



## **GOING TO THE LAKE AND MY GRANDMA'S HOUSE**

*By Taylor Kestenbaum, Grade 2*

I went to Lake Beseck with my mom and dad. I went in the water. My mom and dad came into the water with me. My friends came in the water too.

I played tag with my friends. I can tell you how to play: someone goes under the water and the other people have to swim away. I played with them for a while in the water. It was fun at Lake Beseck, but it was freezing. Then dark clouds came so we went to my Grandma's house for dinner.

My cousins came over my Grandma's house. I put dinner on the table. I ate dinner with my family. Then my cousins and I played games like tag. We were playing outside. Three people were playing with me. Then we all had to go home to get some sleep.

My favorite part of my day was playing tag with my friends and my cousins.

## **BUNKBED FUN**

*By Daphne Liss, Kindergarten*

Me and my sister share a bunkbed at our grandmother's.

## **BALLET**

*by Sofia Hempel, Grade 1*

Someday I would like to take ballet. I love the pretty pink tutus and leotards and the ballet shoes. In my living room I pretend to be at a ballet studio with my friend Sara. I spin like the wind. I plié like a bouncy ball. I leap like the sunset at the end of the day. I love ballet!

## **MY DISNEY "VACAY"**

*by Rhys Noyes, Grade 1*

My brother Mason, Grandma, my grandfather, my mom, my dad and I went on an airplane called...JetBlue. It was so fun. I liked to watch the TVs on the airplane. After we went on JetBlue, we got to our hotel. It was called "The Four Seasons." I got to watch TV at 10 p.m. In the hotel bathroom there was a TV too!

The next day we went to Walt Disney World on a monorail. Monorails are like subways, but they are above the ground. My grandfather was asleep. I really want to go on one again.

In Disney, I liked going on a ride called Buzz Lightyear's Space Ranger Spin and the Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween Parade.

I wish I could go there again.

## **I LOST A TOOTH**

*By Elizabeth Putnam, Kindergarten*

I lost a tooth. I got money and a book.

## **FAMILY SHARE NIGHT**

*by Emilia Richard, Grade 1*

It was Family Share Night. My brother likes sports so I brought my brother to the gym. We played ball. We were trying to get the ball in the hoop. Then I showed my family my art. I drew pictures. I showed my family my journal. I read some of my stories to them. I played "Pyramid Ten" with Kate. The pyramid won! I showed my family the fish tank and my book pouch. My brother liked the fish tank. I read some books to my mom and dad. I had so much fun. I liked that my family got to see all my work.

## **MY GRANDPARENTS' BOAT**

by Sara Kaliszewski, Grade 1

My sister Paige and I went on my grandparents' boat in Rhode Island. Before we went we spent two days at their house. We watched one movie on the boat and one movie at the house. We watched Box Trolls and Grace. We went to an arcade and we went out for ice cream. I had a chocolate cone with rainbow sprinkles. We went hunting for hermit crabs. I caught a very big one. Its legs tickled my hand when I was holding him. It was my second time sleeping over. I will go back again next year.

## **GOING TO MY FRIEND'S HOUSE**

*By Rylie Dorsey, Grade 2*

Last night I called my grandma because I wanted to remind her about the sleepover at her house. My mom was going to be working at her school the next day and I was going over to my friend Zoe's house. My grandma lives near Zoe's house, so I went for a sleepover.

When I went for the sleepover, it was fun! My uncle was tickling me when I was sleeping. It woke me up!

In the morning, I went to Zoe's house. First we were playing tag in her yard with her uncle. Then we played family inside. I was the mom and Zoe was the baby. We pretended to eat dinner.

We also dressed up as princesses. I wore Rapunzel's long hair and a dress. Next we played hide and seek again inside.

I hope that I can go back to Zoe's house. I loved going to my friend's house.

## **THE BEST PLACE EVER!**

*By Lindsey Joy, Grade 2*

I went to the Lyme Beach. I went with my mom and my sister. It was very sunny. There were a lot of people there because it was Labor Day weekend! We got there before 9:00 because we knew it was going to be busy.

I went in the water a lot. I had a life jacket on. It was high tide and the water was really cold.

Then we went to go get Italian ice. I got blueberry. My sister got a lemon and my mom got cherry. We came back to the beach. I sat down to watch the grown-ups play volleyball. Next we went to the gift shop. I got a smiley face book at the gift shop. They were Mad Libs, which had funny stories in it.

Then we went home. I hope I go there again. It's the best place ever!

## **THE FIRST TIME TO GYMNASTICS**

*By Ariana Eddinger, Grade 2*

On Thursday, November 5, 2015 it was my first time to gymnastics. I was with Sam, AJ and Brianna. I went to CGA. CGA stands for Connecticut Gymnastics Academy. We warmed up in a big circle and used the jump ropes. Next I used the mats and the cargo net. The cargo net felt like straw in between my toes. On the mat we did handstands, forward rolls, tater tots, cartwheels and backbends. A tater tot is a half cartwheel. Then I used the trampoline. It felt scratchy like getting rug burn. I did straight jumps, tuck jumps and straddle jumps. Last I used the beams in a rotation. We have six beams, but I used five of them. The last one was too high and dangerous for my group. The second beam is the widest one and it is the easiest to walk on. When it was time to leave I got a pumpkin stamp and went outside. I made a lot of friends.

## **THE DURHAM FAIR**

*By Jenny Zaclli, Grade 2*

I went to the Durham Fair. I went there with my mom, dad, cousin Felica, my sister Megi, and Megi's friend Trever. It was sunny but then it got darker. The temperature was really, really hot but then it got cooler. There is a roller coaster. The roller coaster has painted bad guys on it. My cousin was too young to go on the roller coaster so my sister Megi had to stay with her. So we waited in line to get on the roller coaster. The roller coaster went very, very fast. The roller coaster is...crazy because I got rained on. In the middle of the roller coaster was a tunnel and in the tunnel was rain. But only in the tunnel. Then the ride was over. Megi came with us and my mom stayed with my little cousin and it happened all over again. The next ride we went on had an American Flag painted on the seats. The ride went fast. All other seats had one thing that you can swing side to side when you get sweaty. I think that was five minutes. When that ride was over we all headed to get fried dough and fried Oreos. Then suddenly came a voice from near the roof of the building. It was a monster! The monster was in a chair and the chair was moving out of the building! It was night. Also the monster said, "Boys and girls you can never catch me because I am zip zapping everywhere!" I pulled my little cousin to see the monster. Then he went back in the building saying, "Ha, ha!" and "He, he!" He was very funny. When my mom was done ordering the fried oreos we all found a table. Then music turned on all by itself. It came from a ride. The ride was called animal cars. Then when we went at the table I saw two fried doughs with sauce and lots and lots of sugar. It took about close to 10 minutes to eat it. It was...AMAZING! Then when we were done with that we saw a train. The train went all around. Then Megi and Trever ate fried dough. And then Megi and Trever left. After 10 minutes they came back. And then the train set to leave. The train was red. There was a caboose. The train stopped in the middle of the train tracks because there was an accident. It took about 10 minutes to go to the accident and 10 minutes to go back to where we started. Then we all went to our locker (which I opened with the key). We gave the key to the person we got it from.

After that we went home and I wished we could do it all over again.

I liked it a lot.

## **MOE**

*By Claire Roraback, Grade 3*

Moe is my furry, cute dog. Moe is a boy dog. He is a light black color. Moe's eyes are light brown color. Moe is a medium sized dog. Last year on Christmas my mom, my sister and I got presents for him at Agway. We got Moe a toy squirrel, an elephant toy and a tennis ball. We also got his favorite kind of dog treat called Greenies. Moe was very excited to see the Greenies. My mom fed him one. Moe loves food. He begs for food at the table. Moe and I like to play tug-a-war with his blue ball. One time Moe jumped on the counter and stole a piece of pizza from the box and ate it!

I love Moe.



## THE DURHAM FAIR

*By Ava Pizzo, Grade 1*

I went to the Durham Fair. I won a monkey. It is pink and purple. I had to throw three darts to break the balloon and get the monkey. There weren't a lot of choices for prizes. My sister won a bear. My brother Luke won a sword but it was not a real sword.

Then I went on the Ferris wheel. It was really high. I could see the whole Durham Fair. When Taylor and I went on the dragon ride, we went around and around really fast. We were bumping our heads on the wall. My brother got a little dizzy. It was really fun.

I had so much fun at the Durham Fair. The best parts were when I went on the Ferris wheel and the dragon ride.

## GRAMA'S VISITS

*By Madelyn Ventola, Grade 1*

My grama came up from Delaware two times in September. I call her Nanna. The first time she came up for a week because we needed help when Tucker and I were sick. By the time she came up we were better. Nanna got me off the bus the first day she arrived. There was a party at the bus stop except it wasn't even half of my family. I have 26 people in my family. It was supposed to be mom but she had to go to the pediatrician so it was just dad, the dog Roxy, Pam our baby sitter, Nanna, and my little brother Tucker at the bus stop. One evening a couple days later we played Smarty Blocks. How you play the game is there are blocks, a timer, and cards. You pick a card off the top and flip the timer. You do that card by moving a block to match the picture. If the timer is done before you are done you have to put it at the bottom. If you do it before the timer runs out you can put it in your pile. Whoever has the most cards wins. A day later we played in the dune buggy. Nanna watched us in the dune buggy going full speed around the house! Tucker and I have a ton of fun in it. When it starts slowing down we have to charge it for 48 hours. The second time Nanna came she was only up for five days. She left on a Thursday and came back on the next Thursday with mom's aunt. The family calls her aunt Jo. They brought me a jean vest. It is the same as a jean jacket. The only difference is the vest has no sleeves. It is going to be great for the fall weather. Tucker, Nanna, Aunt Jo and I went to the Griswold Museum. You got to pick what picture you wanted for your ticket. (It was a sticker.) My Nanna took me and Tucker to the Griswold Museum to see fairy houses. They were amazing and magnificent. They were based on movies. There was one on Ariel. There was one that that was the land of Oz. I am going to be Dorothy for Halloween. I got a map. There were 32 of them. On the map it told you what each one was called. You had to find a thing in each one. Some things you had to find were: scissors, a golden cup (we could not find any), a tiny bear, a key, a tiger lily, a magic slipper, a golden ball, a flute, a ring, and a witches broom from Oz. And here are some names of the fairy houses: The Little Mermaid, Baba Yaga, Rapunzel, and Lord of the Rings. Nanna missed the Durham Fair because she left the day before it happened. I had so much fun with them!



## **MY FAMILY TRIP TO GREAT WOLFE LODGE**

*by Charlotte Young, Grade 2*

I went to Great Wolfe Lodge with Dad, Mom and Adam this summer. I have been to Great Wolfe Lodge two times. I love going to Great Wolfe Lodge. Dad drove us in the car. When we got there, we had to unpack. I had on my bathing suit and I was ready to go to the water park.

There are a lot of water rides at Great Wolfe Lodge. There was a big water slide. I love going down it. I sat on an orange tube and held on to the handles. Mommy rode with me on the tube. We went in a black tunnel and I was scared. I couldn't see my mommy, who was right in front of me. I tried to feel my mom with my feet and hold on to her. Mom asked me if I was okay and I said, "I am okay." She said, "Phew!"

We kept going down the water slide. The water was going down through the tube. You have to stay in the tube. There is a pool at the bottom of the water slide. I fell off the tube in the pool. I like to swim under water. I touched the bottom and then I stood up.

After the water slide, we went in the wave pool. I bounced up and down. When I wanted to go into the deep end, Dad said yes. I was happy! I said, "Yeah!" I went down to the bottom of the pool and I came back up. I was proud. We stayed in the wave pool a long time. I did handstands, a cartwheel and a somersault. Adam was only splashing the water.

After that we had lunch. My dad ordered lunch at the counter. I had a cheeseburger, French fries with ketchup and a soda. It was awesome! I loved my cheeseburger.

After lunch we went to our room. My brother and I had a room to ourselves. We watched TV. We watched "Star Wars." Later we went to the game room. There were a lot of games. I got tickets to play the games. One of the games I played was a submarine game with Adam. It was like I was driving under water. We were shooting bad boats. We had to push a button to shoot. We had to push the button two or three times.

Next, we played a golf game. I held a golf club and really hit a golf ball. Sometimes I hit at a bad angle, but two times I hit the golf ball in the hole. I got to level 10. It was hard but I tried my best. When we went back, we ordered dinner. I was too tired and I fell asleep!

When I woke up, I was starving so I was taking a look in the refrigerator. I saw pasta and I said, "Don't mind if I do." No one was awake. I got a fork and started eating. I looked for a napkin. I found one on the TV near my mom's and dad's bed. I was very quiet and I didn't wake up mom and dad. I started eating at the table. It was dark and quiet.

When Mom and Dad woke up, they were surprised to see that I was awake. I was surprised too! We had to go home in 10 minutes. I thought Great Wolfe Lodge was awesome. I hope I can go there again. The best part was the wave pool because I got knocked down by the big waves.

## **GOING TO THE STATUE OF LIBERTY**

*By Kaelyn Connell, Grade 2*

I went to the Statue of Liberty with my Cousin Emmy, my mom, dad, grandma, my other grandpa, and my sisters Taylor and Ellory. We went on a Wednesday in the summer time. My cousin Emmy is 7 just like me! She lives in Colorado. She came to CT for a week by herself! Emmy came to Connecticut by going on a plane with my grandma and grandpa. I was surprised that she came by herself. All Emmy wanted to do when she came to CT was to go to the Statue of Liberty! We got in the car and drove off. We went to New Jersey to get on my boat to leave. On the way there we had a snack. It was so good. When we got there all of us tried to find our boat. We found our boat. First we had to go through a safe house. The safe house was something that you had to go through to get on the boat. Then we got through. We all walked to the boat and got on. I saw Ellis Island. It was so cool. We walked in a building. It showed a lot of stuff. All of us got a sound player. The sound player told amazing stories! They were all about people's lives. I loved them. Then we went outside and had a snack on a bench. Then our boat came. We got on our boat and headed to the Statue of Liberty. The Statue of Liberty was huge! Then our boat arrived at the Statue of Liberty. We all got off the boat. I jumped off and we walked around for a little bit. Next we got a tour and walked a little bit with our tour guide. She told us all a lot about when the Statue of Liberty was built. Then the tour was over. All of us walked to the Statue of Liberty and went in. Inside the Statue of Liberty was huge! When we all got in we saw the Statue of Liberty's torch. Next everyone went up a staircase and saw bathrooms. After that we had to walk 100 staircases. My legs were burning. Then we all found a door that led us all outside. It was a very small space. We all walked up to the feet of the Statue of Liberty. Next we all had to walk back down the staircase. I had so much fun at the Statue of Liberty. I wish I could go again.

## **THE DURHAM FAIR**

*By Genevieve Newton, Grade 2*

On Friday I had fun at the Durham Fair. I went on the Polar Express ride with my friend Taylor. It went fast forward and fast backwards. After the ride I got cotton candy with my friend. After that we watched the llama show and we saw baby llamas. There was a brown one, a black one and a white one, too. They were so cute. My mom and I each got a smoothie at the corner. The smoothie was cold and the kind was strawberry. My mom's kind was banana. Taylor's kind was chocolate. After the shake I went on the ferris wheel with Taylor and her dad and her cousin. The ferris wheel that we went on went high and fast. The color was blue and blue is my favorite. My mom was so proud of me because I was so brave to go on the guitar ride with Taylor and her dad. I screamed so loud that my mom could hear me when I was up high. It was so fun because you get to go high and when you go high you can see stuff better like the bear ride and the motor ride and the pirate ship. I got my face painted and on my face was the sunset. On the other side was Hello Kitty. My friend got the bird mask on one side and on the other side she got a sunset, too. When I got my face painted my mom was not there, but Taylor's mom was there. My mom was getting a drink. My mom and I saw a baby bunny and so did my friend and her mom. Then we went on another ride. When I was on the ride my mom took pictures of me and Taylor. I got ice cream and so did my friend and her mom too. My mom got another smoothie. After everything, my tummy was full and I had fun on the rides. I want to go again when the Durham Fair is back.

## **THE HISSY CAT AND THE JUMPING DOG**

*By Sam Anderson, Grade 4*

Yawn. I had just woken up and my cat Stella was on my knees playing with her paws. But Stella was still sleeping so I had just assumed that she was having another nightmare. Then I touched her paw and...

She was hissed at me as soon as I moved my hand away. She did a flip on to her feet and scratched my wrist and bit my nose. "Owww!" I yelled and threw her off my bed. My Mom shook stella's food so she ran into her room and ate her kibble.

While she ate I got ready for school. "Incoming!" I said and almost fell over on Emma's flute. "Please move" I asked her but she was too busy doing her hair to even listen. So I decided to gently push her out of the way. Then of course my Dog Lucy came over and jumped on me with her soggy wet tongue and really sharp nails. "Eew! get off me you cute vicious animal."

Knock knock...I heard a knocking at the front door. It was my mom's daycare kid's arriving. We told them to come in. "Hi" says Addy and Mya. I say hi back. "Sam can you get the dog?" my Mom called to me from upstairs. "Yes" I said. Stella almost ran out the door and then out of the corner of her eye she saw the dog. (That's never good!)

Next thing you know the Dog was laying on the cat and barking and the cat was hissing as loud as a lion. Addy and Mya are sisters and both laugh every time that happens. We separated them so the animals would not continue fighting. We can't just sit there because Lucy has broken Stella's leg before.

They still fight all the time but we will keep looking for a solution.

## **GETTING A DOG**

*by Hope Giammatteo, Grade 2*

I went to my mom's friend's friend's house with my mom, my dad, and my little brother Eric. I had no idea why. When we got to my mom's friend's friend's house a little dog was at the gate. He was light brown and he had a camo collar. His owner said his name was Sunny. Sunny's owner's name was Sarah. I said hi to Sarah. then Sarah opened the gate. I walked inside the yard and Sunny jumped on me. I said, "Ow." Sunny's nails were sharp! I took Sunny's front paws and danced with him. I threw a tennis ball. Sunny chased it but he did not bring the tennis ball back to me. I gave Sunny a treat but I had to break the treat up into pieces. I rolled a roderfrisbee with no middle. Sunny chased it but he brought it to my dad. I sat down in a beach chair and Sarah put Sunny on my lap. Sunny jumped off my lap. Then Sarah went inside. Sunny tried to follow but Sarah closed the door. Sunny was sad. He started to whine and cry. I gave him a treat and Sunny climbed down in a little but Sunny was still sad. My mom called Sunny over to her. Sunny went over to my mom and jumped on her lap. My mom said, "Good boy" and gave him a treat. Then petted Sunny. My brother was scaring Sunny. My dad told him to stop. Sunny started whining again. Then Sarah came out. Sunny ran over to Sarah and jumped on her. Sarah told me and my family to come inside to get Sunny's stuff. Sarah gave us Sunny's towel, cage, and water bowl. Then it was time to go home. So my dad put the leash on Sunny. Then we got in the car and went home. I had a good time! I hope I can go visit Sarah again.

## **MY AWESOME TRIP TO THE DURHAM FAIR**

*by Taliyah Rojas, Grade 2*

I went to the Durham Fair with my mom and my brother. My first ride that I went on was the Bumble Bee ride. Next we met some family members. It was my uncle and my grampa. We went on the Ferris Wheel with them. My car's color was green. Next I played a game. It was when you shoot water. I went on another ride. Next I went in the fun house with my brother. There was this spinny thing at the end. I almost went all the way around. Later I went on a spinny thing called the Tornado that goes fast. It was fun. Then we went on a parachute that goes up and down. The color was green and there was a stripe at the middle of it. Next I wanted to get fried dough. I put sauce on it. Then I went on the fun slide. I felt like I was going to fall but I did not. Then I went on a roller coaster. It was scary. It was loud. I went on the Chinese Dragon rollercoaster. The next ride was a dragon ride too. My color was pink. It was white. There were five dragons that spun. We waited until all of the dragons were full. We started spinning. There was a wheel that spun and you could sit and spin the wheel. Next we went on this bungy jumping thing. It was where you are attached to a hook. You are jumping on a trampoline. I did a front flip and a back flip. It was scary at first. Then it was not. It was amazing. After bungy jumping I went on the mirror maze. I bumped my nose. It hurt. I did all the mirrors. Then I went down the slide. It was fun. We also went on a ride that rocks back and forth. It was a pirate ride. Then we got more fried dough because my mom was hungry. I got sauce on it and powder. We saw my uncle Eric. He had sunglasses on. Then we went on the fun slide again. We had three caramel apples. One for me, one for my brother, and one for my mom. They had peanuts. They were good. Finally my favorite part was games. We played this horse game that you throw a ball and your horse goes forward. Next we played a game. You had a pin and you threw it at a balloon. I got two in one so I got a unicorn. It was fun. Then we went back on the bus. It was a bumpy ride. I was leaning on the window. I bumped my head three times. It hurt badly. I liked the Durham Fair this year because we did fun things. I wish I could go again and again.

## **WOODS BEHIND MY HOUSE**

### **My Favorite Place Writing**

*By Claire Pareti, Grade 4*

Being careful not to stab myself, I climb over the sharp pricklers that almost block my way into the woods. I hear the singing birds on the tree tops whistling to the beat of the rustling leaves in the wind. As soon as I'm all the way in the woods, I smell the sweet smell of tall green pine and feel the soft breeze blow through my hair. The cool on my neck is refreshing. I watch the red, orange, brown, and yellow leaves drift softly to the ground. I stop to watch a bright, red cardinal glide down and then out of sight again. I start to walk forward, then take a left to carve a fallen branch that leans against a pine tree. Once I reach it, I bend down, pick up a sharp stick and carve a triangle pattern into the branch. I sit down next to the same pine and relax. I take out my Harry Potter drawing journal and draw a sunset on a grassy landscape. One look at the sky and I realize it is getting dark, so I make my way back through the trees to the entrance, and climb back over the pricklers. I stare wantingly back at the woods wishing I had more time, but knowing that I can go back tomorrow.



## **JUMPING INTO A LEAF PILE**

### **My Favorite Place Writing**

*By Alec Rodrigue*

As I run down the runway, I feel the calm breeze blowing through the air. As I jump into the air, I see the roaring colored leaves falling onto the ground from the trees above. I smell the fresh smell of the woods next to my yard. As I look forward, I am nearing the leaf pile and almost feel like I am flying. I look to the side and see the big, green, field of grass far away from my body. I quickly look back into the pile of leaves which has beautiful fiery red, orange, and yellow colors. I am getting closer and closer and feel the soft leaves on my body. As I touch the ground I feel so energized. That was the best time that I jumped into the leaf pile. I am going to jump in again later ...

## **TURKS AND CAICOS**

### **My Favorite Place Writing**

*By Micah Ackerman*

I went to Turks and Caicos over the summer. The water slide dripped down on my head rushing to the bottom of the pool. The slide was a red tube water slide with blue, yellow, white, and green lights inside.

Next we went over to the beach. The clear, crystal, blue, glossy color on the water was amazingly beautiful. We almost went parasailing, but we just wanted to relax by the pool. The sun blazed on us so we went in. It was perfect. There was a drink bar in the pool. The waiter's name was Steve and he made a lot of different drinks and shakes! He also served food.

When we got out of the pool, we went to Cafe Paris. There were cupcakes, cheesecakes and other good tasting desserts! My favorite kind was called Tropical Breeze. It was sweet.

That night we ate at a hibachi restaurant. In our room there was a mini fridge that had a lot of different things to drink. Our room was the best. The next morning we had cheesecake and cupcakes for breakfast. We had to leave.

"I wish we could come back again"

## **UNIVERSAL ORLANDO**

### **My Favorite Place Writing**

*By Chase Willett, Grade 3*

My Favorite place is Universal Orlando. I see the very crazy rollercoaster go around the loop. I also see gorgeous puffy clouds over me. I hear the loud, weird screeching from the noisy rollercoaster.

I eat a soft, chewy, crisp donut as I walk to the Hollywood Rockit on the hard rough ground. I look at the Hollywood Rockit. It is a crazy, scary rollercoaster. I walked like a turtle towards the ride because I was so scared. I thought I was going to die. When I got on the ride, I shivered head to toe. I was thinking there was no way off the ride now. When the ride started, I was terrified. The ride starts by going straight up a hill. It stays on the top for a little and I felt like I was going to fall. Suddenly it goes down and on a loop 2 times. When I got off the ride, there was a video of me on the ride. It was funny and weird because my lips were flipped up to my nose. When we were done we walked slowly to the exit. I love Universal, even though there are scary rides.



## **THE TAG SALE**

*by Mason Bender, Grade 1*

I went to a tag sale at somebody's house on Saturday with mom, dad, Logan, Mimi and Dominick. I wanted a watch. We went in Mimi's car and drove there. We stopped there and I saw watches. I picked up a watch and put it back down. They let me have it. It was for free. I looked at other things that were there like paint and a table, but I only got the watch. When we were done, we left and went to Logan's football game.

## **THE UNDERWATER SEA**

*By Piper Cleveland, Grade 1*

The jellyfish has tentacles  
Light blue slimy creature  
The jellyfish falls down  
When not pulsing  
When the jellyfish pulses  
Up and down  
Floating  
The Storm

*By Aubrey Christopher, Grade 2*

Storm so warm  
Could be harmed  
The powerful storm  
Winds through the earth  
So fast  
The wind goes past  
The storm has gone through  
Fast past the Earth  
Storm so dark  
In the sky.

## **BIRTHDAY PARTY BOWLING**

*By Alivia Christopher, Kindergarten*

I am at a birthday party for my friend Cameron.  
I ate cupcakes and knocked a lot of pins down.

## **THE JELLYFISH**

*By Taylor Minogue, Grade 2*

The jellyfish's hood  
Goes pulsing up and down  
As it floats,  
Jellyfish tentacles can hurt you,  
These tentacled creatures,  
Don't have eyes, ears, or brains  
Their color depends on what they eat  
Pretty and blue like the sea

## **AMERICA**

*By Adam Bufford-Cournoyer, Grade 2*

Darkness is the opposite of light  
War is darkness  
Risk is light  
People risk their lives to save their people  
The army stands up for our country  
The army and the navy fight for their home

## **THE DAY I WAS SICK**

*By Ella Fappiano, Grade 1*

The day of our field trip I was sick. I stayed home. I played with my elephant, frog, and dog stuffed animals. I also played with my blanket and my pet dog, Ruby. My grandma was over my house to babysit because I was sick and mom had to work. Her job is being a nurse. When mom came home I made a picture. Dad came home a little after mom. Next I took a bath and I rested on the couch. I did not have fun. Later I went to bed at 8 o'clock. I went right to sleep. I was sad because I missed the field trip, but happy that I went back to school the next day.



piece  
of the  
week

## OCEAN DAYS

*By Aiyana Donecker, Grade 1*

Hot summer days at the beach  
Ocean waves crash on the rocks  
The ocean breeze blowing in my hair  
Sand between my toes  
Shells glistening in the sun

The sea salt dissolves into the ocean  
Creatures move on the bottom of the ocean  
The barnacles live on the rocks  
The birds are chirping in the trees  
The fish swim in squiggly lines  
At Hammonasset

## FOG

*By Finn Healy, Grade 2*

Little drops of rain  
Rain clouds are fog  
Fog in the air  
Fog everywhere

And up in the sky  
On the ground  
And on the trees  
Fog everywhere

## PYTHONS

*by Lucas Gillooly, Grade 1*

I wanted to learn about pythons. They live in Africa. They like wet, warm places. They climb trees. Mom pythons wrap their body around the eggs to keep them safe. The mom does not care for the babies when they hatch. I learned a lot about pythons.

## PLAYING AT MY BROTHER'S SOCCER GAME

*by Makayla Fazzone-Chettiar, Grade 1*

I went on Saturday to my brother's soccer game. My mom and I went at the very end for the little party. My brother had the soccer game at Middlefield Peckham Park. I heard people talking. After the game my brother Andrew ate food and so did I. I was sitting on the benches. I ate a muffin and a cupcake. The cupcake had sprinkles but I don't know what flavor it was. It was a circle. The muffin and the cupcake were squishy. And then we went on the playground. First I went on the slide. Next I went on the high top of the playground. I was swinging on the monkey bars. We left after the party was over. I had fun.

## ALL ABOUT EYES

*By Macy Gerry, Grade 1*

I learned about eyes. I learned that our eyes need light to see. I learned that you blink to protect your eyes from hurting. Your eyes water to clear your eyes. Some people need glasses because they can't see that well. Some people are blind and can't see at all. I hope you learned a lot about eyes.

## CIRCLE

*By Mary Spenceley Taylor*

Circle, circle, so, so, round  
Like a ball that I found  
No sides at all  
Just round, round like a ball  
But flat  
Like a mat  
Circle, circle so, so, round  
Like a ball that I found!

## THE OCEAN

*By Mya Seymour & Tiana DiLeone, Grade 4*

The ocean is as blue as the sky.

Play in the water and dive.

You may hear birds singing everywhere.

Dolphins jumping in the air splashing water  
here and there. Turtles hatching out of their eggs,  
slowly exploring their new place . Pretty flowers  
blooming up. I hate to say goodbye.

## SHAPE ISLAND

*By Bella Oakley, Grade 1*

Shapes are so awesome

Shape Island is made of shapes

Cross the sea to get to the shape island

Go to shape island it's so nice.

An island with only shapes, nothing else.

Triangles and rectangles and any kind of shapes

Three shapes a day, yay!

Everyday someone gives three shapes away.

A triangle, a circle, and a rectangle, oh fun!

Shapes for me to play with every day.

3-D shapes too, sphere and cube the best of them  
all

A sphere can roll when you play with it!

What a lot of fun

There are beautiful days there.



## SNOWY DAY

*By Julia Hahn, Kindergarten*

My mom was sitting on the couch and my  
dog was snuggling next to her. He didn't stop  
shivering. I think it was because he rolled in  
the snow.

## BOTTLE ROCKET

*By Miles Miller, Kindergarten*

I was at my house with mom and dad. I made a  
bottle rocket. It is made out of these things- bottle,  
fin, cone, launching pad and decorations.

## THE DURHAM FAIR

*by Arabella DiPentima, Grade 1*

On Friday I went to the Durham Fair with my  
mom and dad and two sisters. First I went to a  
booth that had cotton candy. It was pink, blue and  
on the bottom it was purple. I had my face painted.  
It was called the Rose Princess. It had roses and I  
got sparkles on it. I went on the Polar Express. I  
went with my sister's friend Ava. It went fast back  
and forth. After I got in line to go on the ferris  
wheel with Aiyanna and then we went on the  
guitar ride. It went in circles really high and we  
sat in the middle. I went on the big rollercoaster.  
It had a big drop that tickled my tummy. After  
the rides we walked up the big hill and we set up  
chairs and blankets for the concert. Then Ava got  
bored and she asked her mom if we could go win  
prizes. I won a bird by knocking down glass bottles  
and a dolphin for throwing a ball into a hole. After  
we went up the hill and I fell asleep for the rest of  
the concert. Then we went home.

## I SLEPT OVER MY GRANDPARENTS' HOUSE

*by Sara Kaliszewski, Grade 1*

I went to my grandparents' house with my family but I was the only one that stayed overnight. It was really scary at first. In the morning I went to Build-a-Bear Workshop. In Build-a-Bear Workshop you build a stuffed animal bear and you pick your bear but sometimes you can get other things too. I got an Anna bear. It has a wig but it falls off a lot so Nana had to sew it on. I played with it a lot. After lunch I went to a place where you can see lots of old rooms. The rooms have old telephones. It has a giant Christmas tree too. I went to see Santa while I was there. You can eat and drink there too. I got hot chocolate and a cookie. The hot chocolate was really hot like the sun. I was happy and sad. I was happy because it was really fun and I was sad because my parents were going to pick me up. When we went home to their house it was really late so I had to go to bed. In the morning my parents came so I had to go and say bye and then I had to go home.

## A VERY FUN PLAY DATE

*by Ashley Crouch, Grade 2*

I went to Genevieve's house for a play date. We got there and went into the playroom and played with the rainbow loom. Then we went outside. We went on the trampoline and played Don't Touch the Ball. After we got off the trampoline and chased the dog. Then we stopped chasing the dog because we got tired. Then we started riding scooters and we pretended the scooters were horses. Then Genevieve's mother had to get the dog on the leash so I could go inside because the dog was jumping and scratching me. Then we played with the rainbow loom again. I didn't finished my bracelet, but Genevieve finished it for me and brought it into school. Next we started making cookies. After they cooked in the oven we decorated them with frosting, sprinkles, jelly beans and tiny Hershey kisses. I got to bring some of the cookies home. Genevieve and I made a cookie that was not one of the Christmas cookies, so Genevieve and I both got a half. Then Genevieve's mom drove me home. When we got to my house I showed Genevieve my room, the barn and the trampoline. I WANT TO GO BACK TO GENEVIEVE'S HOUSE.



piece  
of the  
week

## MY ADORABLE ALIEN

*By Tessa Lussier, Grade 3*

I couldn't help myself from staring at a fuzzy, adorable creature standing right in front of my face. The purple thing had combed lavender fur that went from the top of her foot all the way up past her head and down to the top of her other foot. Her entire body was one large blob with two oval feet. On her face was one HUGE, round eye with a black pupil smack in the middle of her light blue iris. She had elf-like ears with points at the top. The arms were all wiggly and were tucked into funny pocket-like bubbles on the sides of her body. She had a big open mouth, but I couldn't see if there was anything in the mouth. I listened quietly to the soft humming buzz coming from her mouth. She had a sweet smell like minty caramel. And lastly, the nose was made up of two tiny, small lines that were just big enough to breathe through. I thought this alien was one of the cutest things ever!



## HOW TO MAKE SNOWMAN HOT CHOCOLATE

*by Sofia Hempel, Grade 1*

I will teach you how to make hot chocolate with a snowman in it. First you get some hot chocolate powder then put the hot chocolate powder in a cup. Then you put some milk in a pan and then heat it up on the stove for about 4 minutes. While your milk is heating up you will make the snowman. Get 3 marshmallows and 1 toothpick. Take the 3 marshmallows and put them on the toothpick and then you get 2 pretzel sticks then put the pretzel sticks in the middle marshmallows. Then get 2 big chocolate chips and get about 5 small chocolate chips. Use the 2 big chocolate chips for the eyes and the small chocolate chips for the mouth. If you need to use less chocolate chips go ahead. For the nose, get an orange gummy and carve a snowman nose. Put it where a nose goes. When your milk is done, put it in the same cup that you put the cocoa powder in and stir. Put sugar in the cup. Wait for it to cool down. You made hot chocolate!

### THE BUS AND THE BARN

*by Lauren DelGrego, Grade 1*

I ride the bus to Epic Farm every Thursday because I have my riding lesson. My first time riding the bus it was very noisy. My mom wanted to be there so they don't feel like they have to babysit me and she was able to come. On my first time at the farm I rode Fiesta. She is a white pony. Her bridle is purple with flowers. On my second time I rode Rhett. He is also white and a pony. I normally ride Treasure. Treasure is a brown pony and sometimes she is tired. Once we were in the rain with the lights off and I was jumping without the poles on the ground. Poles are these really long things that we put on a stand to jump over. I can't wait to go again.

### SKIING WITH JIM

*By Gavin O'Rourke, Kindergarten*

I was at Powder Ridge with my step daddy. We went skiing. We went up the magic carpet. We went up the chair lift. I loved how the chair lift was so high. I even loved the carpet.

### MY DAY OFF PLAYING IN THE SNOW

*By Liam Tietjen, Kindergarten*

My day off I was playing in the snow. I made a snow angel. I made a snowman. Then mom let me use the snow blower. We went inside and had snow and syrup. I hope that mom will help me do this again.

### JELLYFISH

*By Derek Gaffney*

Jellyfish

are clear, green, orange, and other colors. Some jellyfish sting. A sting is a painful shock that hurts. Jellyfish lurk deep In the sea sometimes, other times there in shallow end. Jellyfish are more Jellyfish  
slimey. jellified. defend  
Jellyfish Jellyfish themselves  
are kind have by stinging  
of like dangling their prey.  
jello, thus tentacles. Ouch.

Jellyfish are awesome!



## CLOUDS

*By Marley Wood*

Clouds, fluffy like fluffy balls  
High in the air.  
Touching the blue, stone sky.  
Making different shapes.  
Watch out for the rainbows clouds  
Don't explode into color.  
Clouds are awesome and beautiful.  
Fluffy, puffballs  
That are super soft  
Like cotton fluff.  
Makes clouds feel like the softest  
Thing in the world.

## MY TRIP TO MYSTIC AQUARIUM

*by Emilia Richard, Grade 1*

I went on a field trip. It was to Mystic Aquarium. There was a classroom we went to first. We learned about many animals. We learned about crabs, hermit crabs, lobsters, and baby alligators.

After we went to the classroom we got to do anything we wanted to do. In the aquarium, I saw pretend alligators. They were green. I saw large sharks swimming around an abandoned ship. Their skin was gray. In a different tank, there were big goldfish. I also got to touch a stingray. It felt like sandpaper.

I went to see the sea lion show with my dad. The sea lions were very cool. One was jumping off stairs. It was a very big sea lion. Sea lions have bigger flippers than seals. Seals flop on the ground. Sea lions slide on the ground. The sea lions were very funny. They jumped off a tower into the water. Then we saw the beluga whales and the penguins. The beluga whales were large and white. They seemed friendly. We saw a penguin's egg. The penguin's egg was little and white.

It was a wonderful trip. The sea lion show was my favorite part.



## BIRTHDAY POEM

*By Silas Barrett, Grade 3*

Roses are red violets are blue  
Happy Birthday to you, you, you.  
Even though you are slow  
You will get a lot of dough.  
Just because you're a beast  
You'll get a birthday feast.  
On this day in history  
We celebrate the birth of, Hughie.

## HAVING A PLAYDATE

*by Allan Crouch, Grade 2*

Xavien and I had a playdate on Monday at my house. First we went on the trampoline. We played "Superman" on my trampoline. Here's how we played "Superman": somebody goes on the yoga ball, the person on the yoga ball pushes off the net, then the yoga ball rolls and they tumble off the yoga ball! We also played "making sandwiches." That is where somebody lays on their back. Then the other person puts the yoga ball on the tummy of the person who is lying down and lays on top of the ball. The two people are like the bread and the ball is the middle of the sandwich. After we finished playing on the trampoline, we played on my Leap pad in my room. We got hungry so we ate two helpings of Doritos. Xavien and I had playdate because we are best friends and having a playdate is fun. I hope to have a playdate with Xavien again.



## **PLAYDATE WITH FLYNN**

*by Sophia Fappiano, Grade 1*

When I went over to Flynn's house, we played in the bedroom. We played pillow fight. We hit each other with pillows. We were laughing.

Then we went outside. We played on the trampoline. We played two different games. We played "Dead Man" and "Monster." To play "Dead Man," one person lies in the middle of the trampoline and closes her eyes. Then the other people sing a song. The person gets up but keeps her eyes closed and tries to tag the other players. They were fun games.

Next we went back inside and we watched TV. We watched "Clarence." We ate Cheetos and drank soda. The flavor was grape. It tasted good. Then we went in the bedroom again. In a few minutes, my mom came and I went home. I liked when we played on the trampoline. It was fun because I like bouncing.

## **MY GYMNASTICS MEET**

*by Macy Gerry, Grade 1*

I had a gymnastics meet and it was my first meet. I drove on Thursday to get there a day early. I was the first one there. I did routines and stretching at the hotel while I was waiting for my friends to come. Then my friends Abby and Delaney came. Then Aliyah came. Then we played for an hour. Then we went to get a drink. Aliyah said I was spitting but I wasn't. Then we went to bed. The next morning I had my gymnastics meet. I did my hair and went to the meet. I practiced and it was time for the meet. I went to beam and bars and vault and floor. On floor I did a roundoff back-handspring. Then it was done. I got 6th place overall and 6th place on bars and that's it. It was really fun.

## **SKIING**

*By Gavin Farnsworth, Kindergarten*

My dad took me to my skiing place. I went on the little mountain. I practiced my S turns on the mountain. Then I got hot chocolate and we went home. I wish we could do it again

## **MY OPINION OF BAD KITTY VS. UNCLE MURRAY**

*by Ariana Eddinger*

In my opinion Bad Kitty vs Uncle Murray is a good book. My first reason is Bad Kitty is funny. For example, Bad Kitty made Uncle Murray spill his lunch all over the floor. My second reason is there is informational text and fiction all in one book. For instance I liked Uncle Murray's fun facts which is information. Finally I like that Bad Kitty exaggerates. An example is Bad Kitty thinks ten minutes is five days. In conclusion these are my reasons why I like Bad Kitty vs. Uncle Murray.

## **ABOUT JELLYFISH**

*By Brooke Jacobson, Grade 1*

Three see-through jellyfish  
Swimming around in a circle  
Round white fish tank  
The jellyfish's food smells like fish food  
I love the moonjellies so much  
Some jellyfish can be dangerous  
These jellies are cute.

## **MY OPINION OF STREGA NONA**

*by Tommy Wickwire, Grade 2*

I think Strega Nona was good, but not great. First I liked the part when she made potions to cure things. For instance one of the potions she made made girls get husbands. My next reason is the illustrations were really beautiful. In particular I thought the pasta pictures were my favorite. I liked when Big Anthony made the whole town be full of pasta. For example I liked when Strega Nona made Big Anthony eat all the pasta he made. All in all that's what I liked about Strega Nona.

## **MY OPINION OF BAD KITTY**

*by Luke Swanson, Grade 2*

In my opinion I would rate Bad Kitty Gets a Bath five stars. First it is filled with laughter. For example, the book says "cat + water = explosion." Second, I liked the illustrations. For instance, the picture of Bad Kitty when he's done with the bath and he's dry and he's all puffy. Finally I like him being bad. In fact when he didn't want to finish his veggies he hid behind the chimney. So that's why I liked Bad Kitty Gets a Bath.

## **OCEAN**

*By Chloe Rizzi-Smith, Grade 1*

Ocean as great as can be  
Rocky sand between my toes  
Lots of cool animals to see

Study the ocean animals and you can learn more  
The ocean animals can be interesting.  
You will know facts that you didn't know before

## **MY ECHO**

*By Miles Miller, Kindergarten*

I was at my ECHO with Mrs. Swiantek. I am in the science ECHO. I made a boat. I made it out of recycled materials. I used styrofoam and straws. I also made an instrument. I made a bridge. I like my ECHO because it is so sciencey.

## **I LOVE ARCHIE THE TROUBLE MAKER**

*By Aubrey Terveen, Kindergarten*

My dog Archie rips up lots of his toys. He chews on my clothes. I say, "NO ARCHIE!"

Archie may sound cute but he is Suspicious!

Watch out! He is coming!

Archie is creepy because he makes weird faces. He lays on his tummy and makes silly noises. When he wants a treat, he hops on his feet.

Whenever we are eating he is always eating a piece of our dinner.

I feel fine. I love Archie!

## **MY DOG AUSTIN**

*By Brooke Konefal, Grade 3*

When I think of Austin, I think of his cute face. I think of how he snuggles up next to me when I read. When we go on walks together he trots along happily. I think of the colors on his fur. Brown, black and white. I think about the times when I feed him and he barks. I think of when we sit on the couch together and he licks my hand. I also think of his cute beagle nose sniffing the ground. I love seeing his adorable face smiling at me. Austin is awesome!

## SLEDDING

*By Carson Miller, Kindergarten*

I went sledding with my mommy at Lake Beseck. I went up the hill with my sled. I went up the hill with my sled and my mommy. Then we went down the hill again. My hands got cold. Then we decided to leave Lake Beseck. I was happy. I loved going sledding. I hope we do it again.

## THE AMERICAN GIRL DOLL STORE

*Written by Allison Booth, Grade 1*

I went to the American Girl Doll Store in Boston. I went on Saturday, November 14, 2015. I went with my grandma, my mom and my sister Rebecca. First we went in the mall. We looked at the dresses for me. I picked out a penguin sweater. It has gold on it. It has a belt on it. The penguin is black and white on the penguin. It has snowflakes. I also got a dress that has circles on it and it is black and white. Next we went to the American Girl Doll store. We headed upstairs to eat. I got some lemonade to drink. Rebecca got lemonade too. I had yogurt, fruit and two banana muffins for snack. Rebecca and my mom had pretzels with ketchup and mustard. Next the server came. Her name was Rebecca, just like my sister. I got for a lunch a grilled cheese and french fries. I was done with my lunch. Finally it was time for a dessert. My sister and I had frost your own cupcake. Even the dolls had a cupcake too. My American Girl doll is named Catherine. My middle name is Catherine too. Then we went shopping for my American Girl doll clothes because my sister Rebecca got clothes and Rebecca got her American Girl doll's ears pierced but I got nothing. Before we left my grandma got me and Rebecca pretzel sticks. Then we left. It was bedtime. My grandma stood to talk to my dad. I can't wait to go again!



piece  
of the  
week

## SQUEAK SQUEAK

*By Draya Gohagon, Kindergarten*

This is Squeak Squeak. She is a mouse.

She lives in a box in my house.

I take her for a walk and she likes it.

And I LOVE it! It is fun.

She has a collar and you tie a long string on it to take her for a walk.

One time she rode on Pepper. Pepper is a dog.

She may sound cute but she is mischievous.

One time she took a tiny pencil and wrote on the staircase. Sometimes I am mad at her but she is cute.

## CLEANING MY BARN

*By Allan Crouch, Grade 2*

I cleaned my barn Sunday. In my barn I have four stalls. In one of those stalls there is a feed room. The feed room is where we keep the food for the animals in my barn. We have two extra stalls.

Armani is a goat. Armani likes to go on his two front feet a lot! He likes to roughhouse too. He likes to head butt people a lot. Under Armani's hay were wet, wet, wet shavings. The shavings were really heavy. It took me a long time to clean Armani's stall.

I cleaned Izzy's stall too. Izzy is a big horse. She is very nice and soft. Her shavings were even heavier than Armani's. To clean the two stalls, I had to use a pitchfork and a shovel. I put the dirty shavings and hay in the walkway of my barn. My dad pushed the shavings and the hay out of the walkway with the tractor.

It was fun because I like living on a farm. I like taking care the animals.

## **WHEN GRANDMA AND MY COUSIN SLEPT OVER**

*By Xavien Rosario, Grade 2*

My grandma and my cousin slept over my house on Saturday and Sunday. I had a lot of fun with my cousin. Her name is Nyla and her age is 10 years old. She always plays with my baby brother. I don't know why. My grandma was there because my mom and dad went to dinner.

I was dancing and the song was "Watch Your Step." My cousin was dancing. My brothers were too. The music was on the TV in the living room. I had so much fun because we were being silly. My oldest brother Andre was not having fun because he had a cold. Andre was coughing and he was in bed in his bedroom.

It was so late. It was bedtime. Elijah was crying a lot because he wanted my mom and dad. Nyla was sleeping in Andre's room with my grandma. Andre was sleeping in my room. Elijah finally stopped crying so I went to bed. My brother Elijah is one year old. He always cries. My big brother Isais is 8 years old. Sometimes he plays cars with me.

On the next day we went to Kid City. I had so much fun there. There were a lot of places to go and at Kid City it was free parking. My favorite part was the movie show. I was wearing a ladybug costume. It had black spots on it and it mostly was red. My cousin was wearing a princess dress. Her dress was purple. Nyla and I pretended there was a big storm. I was walking around crouched over and I pushed a button on a machine so it would make a thunder sound. My brother Isais watched it. I had a great time at Kid City.

I hope they had a great time at my house. I hope they come back soon.

## **PLAYING IN THE SNOW WITH MY BROTHER COLE**

*By Lia Wilson, Kindergarten*

I played with Cole outside in the snow. I made a snow angel. Then I turned it into a flower. Then I went inside and I got hot chocolate. I wish I had a cookie.

## **THE GOOD DAY**

*By Griffin Pacileo, Grade 1*

Mrs. Martin showed me how to use a big net to scrape to the bottom of the ocean. It was deep down. The water was so deep it went over my knee. It got the edge of my pants wet. A big wave of water came and I ran away from it. A ton of sand went into the net. And a crab went into the net with the sand. I dumped the sand into a plain white bucket, then I filled the bucket with water and put the crab in it. I sifted the sand out of the bucket into the low tide and dug a hole and put sand in it. There were two fish in my purple bucket. One bucket was big and one bucket was little. I didn't want to leave because it was so fun.

## **CRABS**

*By Ethan Greenwood, Grade 1*

Crabs snap their claws  
Up and down, click, click, click.  
Crabs quickly scurry across the sand  
As fast as little torpedoes.  
And very, very, carefully  
Slip into the water.  
Sometimes they get washed along  
By the current.





piece  
of the  
week

## **SPRING**

*By Marley Wood, Grade 4*

Flowers blooming. Winter melting away.

Animals rise once again.

Water splashes today.

Glistening sunshine ray, rising from the east.

Spring is in the air, goodbye winter beast.

Splashing water everywhere.

Animals jumping out.

Loving critters all around,

That's what spring is about!

## **CHRISTMAS**

*By Julia Reynolds, Grade 1*

Presents under the Christmas tree

The lovely smiles and Christmas cheer

PJs, PJs, everybody in their PJs

Christmas morning, we never get dressed

Happy because unwrapping is fun

You get to tear the wrapping paper open

Unwrapping presents

Messy torn paper on the floor

Because it is fun, I am excited.

I am happy because Christmas is a holiday!

## **MY TRIP TO GAME STOP**

*By Italy Caraballo, Grade 2*

After my dad and I left the gym we walked to Game Stop. We bought some used games for PlayStation 3. We bought Batman, a fighting game and Dead Rising. Then we went to find the car. We had to walk in the snow to get to the car. My dad and I ran to the car and then we got in. We buckled in and we went home to play the games. When we went home we played the fighting game and I won. I watched my sister play Batman and then I went to bed. I liked buying new games.

## **GOING TO NANA'S AND PAPA'S HOUSE**

*By Evangeline Volenec, Grade 1*

I went to my Nana's and Papa's house. They gave me Valentine's Day candy and two cookies. I did not eat the cookies yet. I slept at my Nana and Papa's and my cousins were there too. I played with my cousins. I played cards with my cousins. There were two cousins and one is nine and one is eleven. It was very fun. When it was time to leave my Nana's and Papa's house, I said good-bye to my Nana and Papa and I went home. I do not usually go to my Nana's and Papa's house in the winter and I do not usually see my cousins but I hope I can do it again.

## **CATS**

*Written by Addie Buckheit, Grade 2*

There are some cats that wear funny hats!

There are some cats that catch rats while on mats.

There are some cats that run with a blur, and

There are some cats that don't have fur.

## **AT LEGO LAND**

*By Flynn Berry, Grade 1*

At Lego Land, my two brothers, my mom, my dad and I got out of our car. My family and I saw a hotel. It was painted to look like it was made of Legos. I saw it from a distance. It was awesome. It was all different colors.

We were hungry and wanted to eat before going on any rides. We walked to the pizza place next to the hotel. One of the workers made a pizza person. It was made out of Legos. When you went near it, the pizza flipped up. We had cheese pizza and I had buttered pasta. We enjoyed the food. Now it's time to have some fun and go to Lego Land.

At Lego Land, they had a water park. At the water park, they had a bucket of water. When it was full, it would pour on people. They had a water slide. It was really dark inside the slide. It was fun going down the slide. My mom did not go down it because she didn't want to. My dad did not like going down the slide because it was dark. I thought it was fun because it was dark. I wasn't scared.

In the game section, I won a big bear by throwing ball in bowls. My family helped me. The bear was soft. I cuddled with it. I got a princess cape at a store because my mom said I could have it. Almost everything was made of Legos in Lego Land. My brother loves Legos so he had to have some sets of them.

There was a really fast roller coaster. It was fun because it was really fast and it went in a circle. My mom and I went on a fast roller coaster one time. On the roller coaster, I brought my teddy bear. Then it was time to go.

The best part is that I had a fund time with my family and they won me a white bear.

## **THE PLAYDATE**

*By Genevieve Newton, Grade 2*

One weekend Ashley came over for a playdate. When I was waiting for Ashley I sat outside on the stone at my house. When Ashley came she got out of the truck and she came into my house. We went outside and went on the trampoline. On the trampoline, we pretended to do cannonballs. Then my mom let the dog out when Ashley and I were on the trampoline. My dog's name is Guinevere. When we got off the trampoline, we went inside to get a drink. Ashley had water and I had orange juice. Then we went outside to go back on the trampoline to play do not touch the ball. Guinevere was under the trampoline chewing a stick while we were playing the game. After that, Ashley and I went on the playscape to play hide-and-seek and Guinevere gave my hiding spot away. Then she was chasing Ashley and me. We ran around the backyard while Guinevere was chasing us. Then my dog was scratching at the door to go inside and my mom came outside to let the dog in the house. Then I was swinging when Ashley was going on the slide. Then I got off the swing and we went on the scooters to play horses. Then Ashley went home. I felt really tired after our playdate.

## **SHELLS**

*By Leah Atwell, Grade 2*

Shells  
Hard as a rock  
Glistening in the sun  
Sticking in the sand  
Squishy insides  
Any kind of shell  
Salty as could be  
Safe under the wet sand

## **THE SEA**

*By Isannah Dreyfus, Grade 1*

The wind is whooshing and wishing  
The seawater crashing  
Surrounding my toes beautiful seaweed  
Walking on the wet sand  
The seagulls cling to their families  
Crabs crawling on the ocean floor  
Me and my mommy collecting shells  
The lighthouse is shining bright  
Now it is time to sleep  
Sleepy head



## **GOING TO NEW YORK**

*By Jane Waterman, Grade 1*

I went to New York. 16 people went with us to New York! My Grannies and Grandpa plan the shows. Some of the people that came this year were my sisters, my grandparents, and our friend's aunt. This year more people got to go because they were old enough. We went on three trains. The first train we went on was three hours! The second train we went on was one minute and the third train we went on was three minutes.

We went to M&M World. Abby, Granny and I went! We went to Macy's. There were two broken elevators. All the elevators had a lot of pokey things sticking out! I loved Macys because there were decorations in the window! We went to a mall and stayed there for 5 hours.

At the restaurant Cece's, we had the whole downstairs to ourselves. It was a really long table. Then we saw the show! It was the "Christmas Spectacular!" We have the movie at home.

Last year the show was "Aladdin." The year before that it was "Annie." The year before that it was "The Lion King." I did not get to see that. Christine and Abby got to see a lot of shows in New York. My sisters have seen more shows than me because they are older.

I loved the show because there is a part that is 3D! The part that is 3D was when Santa was in his sleigh and snowballs were 3D. The Santa and his sleigh was 3D too. After the "Christmas Spectacular," we got to keep the 3-D glasses. Then we went in a taxi. I was bonking my head on the seat 20 times! I can't wait to see what the show is next year.

## **BUTTERFLIES**

*By Sarah Kennedy, Grade 1*

Beautiful  
Usually flying,  
Twisting and  
Turning  
Either way,  
Resting on  
Flowers and  
Leaves,  
I drink nectar,  
Even farther and farther  
Sailing across the sun.

## **GOING ICE SKATING WITH MY FRIENDS**

*By Kate Roraback, Grade 2*

I went to an indoor ice skating rink with my sister, my mom and my friends Loren and Audrey, and their mom. Loren is in third grade and Audrey is in Kindergarten. Loren and Audrey had to rent skates and they didn't know how to skate either. My sister and I had our own skates. My sister and I were skating on our own while our moms were helping our friends skate. My mom had to skate with Loren and Loren's mom had to skate with Audrey. For the rest of the time, Loren got to skate by herself but Audrey didn't. The ice at the indoor skating rink is better than the place I usually go to. The place I usually go to is across from Peckham Park and is not indoor. The indoor rink's ice is smoother than the pond where we usually go. The pond has bubbles in the ice. It was fun. I wish I could go there again.

## **TREES**

*By Grace Velardi, Grade 1*

Trees, they hide me from the sun  
Sticks from the trees laying on the ground  
I pick up branches  
Up from the ground  
Where I play hard in the sun  
Trees, leaves falling  
Red, orange, brown, yellow,  
and dark green too!  
Wishing I had more time,  
But I have to go inside.

## **MY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

*by Sara Kaliszewski, Grade 1*

It was a few days after my birthday so my grandparents came to my house and took me out. But before all that happened my family and my grandparents went to my sister Julia's concert. She plays the saxophone. After the concert I opened my present. It was Grace the American Girl doll. I was so excited that I got Grace. I played with her a lot before my skating lesson. Then my grandparents took me to my skating lesson. When I went to skating my mom came, but she left before my lesson started so it would be just my grandparents. My grandparents wanted to see me skate and they could. After they took me out for dinner I got pizza. It was bacon pizza. It was good. After I ate the pizza there was one more piece of pizza left but it was really big so we gave it to my dad. After we ate the pizza my grandparents took me to get frozen yogurt. I got chocolate and vanilla and then more chocolate. Then I got toppings. It was good. Before I ate my grandma sang happy birthday to me then my grandparents took me home. After I got home they left and I played with Grace. Going out with my grandparents was really fun.

## **OCTOPUS**

*By Annika Liss, Grade 3*

Oval shaped head,  
Calm and quiet, so he can catch his prey.  
Tentacles waving, as though he's saying hello.  
One eye on each side of his head, to see what is going on.  
Purple, red, and orange are his colors.  
Upside down or upside up, that is the way he flows.  
Squirting ink when he's scared.

## **THE SUPER BOWL**

*Written by Hayden Farnsworth, Grade 2*

I invited a lot of friends over to watch the Super Bowl. I invited Emerson, Audrey, Tina, Brandon, Pam, Jim, Isanah, Finn and their dad. I was devastated when they were not here. The first person there at my house was Isanah and Finn. Then the second people there were Pam and Jim. Then the third people there were Emerson, Audrey, Tina and Brandon.

We were all at my house. Isanah, Audrey and Emerson were with me. The grown-ups and the boys were not with us. The grown-ups were watching the Super Bowl and the boys were trying to stop what we girls were doing. We didn't like that.

We were making a play about a gymnastics girl and these 2 ballerinas dancing on a wood block. Isanah and I were the ballerinas dancing on wood. Isanah and I were dancing this really high wood block. We were dancing at the same time. We didn't have music on.

Audrey and Emerson were doing gymnastics on the exercise balls. We were doing what we knew about ballerinas and gymnastics. Emerson and Audrey were on the balls doing back bends. They were jumping and we had to see who could jump the farthest to the end of the wall. Emerson and I jumped the farthest. My favorite part of the play was when we got to bounce on the balls to see who won. While we were doing the play, we did exercises. We had to practice it a lot before we did it for the grown-ups.

Then for dinner we had this delicious guacamole and chips. I made the guacamole. First I used two avocados. We mashed them up. Then you put lime juice on it. We put it in a bowl. We put slice up tomatoes in it. We bought the chips from Stop and Shop. Those chips and guacamole were so delicious.

Then we built a fort before everyone left. We made it in a flash. We made that fort really really fast. How to make the fort: You need a big box that seven people can fit in. We fit all of us in there. Then you cut a door. Then you put on a handle for the door. Then you can put decorations on there. We cut a little window so we could see what the boys were doing. We had a big blanket over us that we could see through. We had a camera to see what the boys were doing.

Then I went upstairs and watched a little bit of the Super Bowl. Then I yelled downstairs to the basement, "Will you come next year?" But I could not hear them answer back. I hope they come back next year. It was the best time of my life.



## **THE EASTER EGG HUNT**

*by Mason Bender, Grade 1*

One morning I woke up and I saw some Easter eggs all over my house. Then I remembered it was Easter! I saw some buckets down my stairs and wanted to look for eggs, but I did nothing and I waited downstairs for Mom, Dad and Logan. Then they came downstairs and we looked for Easter eggs right away. There was one in one of my toys. Inside the eggs were jelly beans and other candy. I ate the jelly beans. After, we had breakfast. I felt happy because I like Easter egg hunts.

## **GOING TO EMI'S AND EVIE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY AT A FARM**

*By Bridget Gaffney, Grade 1*

I went to Epic Farm for Emi's and Evie's birthday party. I rode Treasure. He is gray and small. Emi rode Rosa. Next I did an egg race. Here's how you play: you get an egg on a spoon and run as fast as you can to the finish line. We also did a sack race. You put a sack over your feet. Then you hop with the sack on and try not to drop it. You have to jump over a horse jump twice and then hop back to the start. Whoever gets to the finish line first wins. The races were fun! At the end, I opened a present. Everyone brought a gift for a grab bag so I had a grab bag gift to open. I said, "Thanks, Emi and Evie." My favorite part was riding Treasure. I loved it. I want to go there again.

## **BABY SEALS**

*By Flynn Berry and Taylor Kestenbaum, Grade 1*

The seals flap their fins for the first time.

They see their mother too.

The baby seals are on top of the ice.

The baby seals are going to splash in the water.

The mom goes in too, splash! They had fun.

The dad seals find food on the way there, the dad slips on the ice and falls in the water.

The mom and dad love their baby seals so much, the baby seals love them.

The baby seals grow up, turn into moms and have a baby girl and a baby boy.

The mom and dad are a grandma and a grandpa.

The mother and father seals miss their girls.

The baby seals flap their tails.

Splash splash, one of the mothers gets food - she got the food, but she didn't save any for her babies.



## **I WENT ON A MINI VACATION**

*By Taryn Adams, Kindergarten*

I went to Boston with my mom, and my brother Kyle and my Dad. I went swimming. In the pool, me and my brother Kyle squirted my mom. My mom did not like it. Then I went back to my room and dried off. I went to a hockey game and I got hot chocolate. When the game was done I went back to the hotel. I watched TV. I loved it. I hope we can come back soon.

## **THE BIRTHDAY PARTY**

*By Ella Fappiano, Grade 1*

I went to the birthday party for my cousin Grace with mom, dad, Andrew and Sophia. She turned one year old. I played with my baby cousin Grace and Sophia played, too. We played with one of her favorite balls. I played with Brooke, too, who is another baby. Then we fed Grace her milk and rocked Grace to sleep. Laurie hung up the pinata so we could do it. Laurie is Grace's mom and my godmother. Andrew hit it really hard with a bat and broke it. He got most of the candy, so he had to put some of it back so the little kids could get more. Sophia and I got the same amount. Laurie had music for us to dance to and face paint. I got a flower on my cheek. I had cake when Grace woke up. Grace had a piece, too. It was vanilla cake with chocolate and vanilla frosting. There were cookies also, and candy. Then we went to Laurie's house to open presents. There were a lot of presents for Grace. I think we gave her a turtle with numbers on it. After presents, I went home.

## **NO LIE, I ACTED LIKE A BEAST** **OPINION**

*By Ariana Eddinger, Grade 2*

In my opinion I think No Lie, I Acted Like a Beast was the best story of the three versions of Beauty and the Beast. My first reason is sometimes I like a different point of view than the original story. In other words, this story was told by the beast's point of view. Second, it all started out because the beast wanted to get the troll part in the Three Billy Goats Gruff play. For example, he got turned into a beast because he was practicing for the troll part. Lastly, I like that the beast is dramatic. For instance, he was being dramatic lying on the ground and trying not to breathe when beauty came back. That is why I think No Lie, I Acted Like a Beast was the best story.

## WHAT?

*Written by Paul Oakley, Grade 2*

do it. My little  
I didn't brother  
did it.

What?

Oh yeah,

I don't  
have one.  
Then my dad  
did it.  
Oh yeah,  
dad's on  
the couch  
sleeping.  
You did it!  
Forget the  
cookie  
crumbs  
on  
my  
M  
O  
U  
T  
H

## FIREWORKS ARE AWESOME!

*By Jenny Zaclli, Grade 2*

We went to the fireworks. We had to walk a long, long, long way. There were tons and tons of people. It was very crowded! While we were walking we saw a cart. The cart had tons of glowing toys. I bought a butterfly and my little cousin Felica bought a sword. Felica told me to get a sword next time. Each one costs 10 dollars so we spent 20 dollars in total. My whole family went to the fireworks on July 4th. It was in Middletown. After that we got a butterfly and a sword. And a little more walking. And the best part is finally here. The fireworks are coming. BAM! WHAK-A-WHAK-A BOOM BOOM! I heard. People yelled, screamed, and shouted. "Whoahoo!" I yelled. After a little bit the fireworks stopped. Everybody was silent for a moment...but then the fireworks started and people whistled, screamed and shouted again. The fireworks were cool and very, very, very BIG! We had to hurry up to get an ice cream cone. It was YUMMY! Then we had to walk all the way back to the car. I'll have to wait 365 more days until the next time I'll be there.

## GETTING COTTON CANDY FOR THE FIRST TIME

*Written by Keirra Sartor, Grade 2*

One day when I was in bed I heard the phone ring. "Why is someone calling me right now?" I shouted. Then I stomped down the stairs like a herd of elephants would.

When I picked up the phone, I shouted, "What?"

"Hi," my grandmother replied quickly.

"Oh, it is you. Sorry," I said calmly. She has short brown hair and black glasses. Her eyes sparkle in the sun. She asked if I could go to Praline's. By the way, Praline's is an ice cream place.

"Of course I can but I will have to check with my mom first."

"That's OK," she answered. "11:00?"

"OK," I replied. Then I walked up the stairs to tell my mom. She said that I could. As soon as my grammie got to my house I instantly ran over to her dark, dark car. It was hot and I could feel the sun pushing its energy on me.

I was nervous to go because I didn't know what kind of ice cream they had there. When we got to Praline's, my heart started to beat very quickly. Then I swallowed and my teeth started to shake. As I walked in, my mouth dropped open.

I saw so many flavors I did not know which to choose. The walls were so colorful. I think I'll get cotton candy. When the waitress gave me my cotton candy, I started to swallow again. When I tasted it, it tasted like an angel from heaven. "This is so good," I shouted. Then I took about 30 bites a minute. Then I took many more bites. I did not know how many. Then I started to sing a song in my head:

This is so great

This is so grand

I want to eat this every day with my hands

I love cotton canddddyyyy!

When I was done, I danced my way outside to the beautiful trees with beautiful leaves with the sun still shining in my beautiful brown eyes. Then I sang all the way home.

And this is the best part...

Well, I am not telling you yet.

To be continued...

## GOING TO NEW YORK

*by Madelyn Ventola, Grade 1*

It was a regular Friday morning until I remembered that mommy and I were going to New York City!!!! I was so excited. But first we had to drop off Tucker my little brother at school. He is in preschool at The Country School in North Madison. After we dropped Tucker off we went to the New Haven train station. We brought a lot to do on the train. The ride was about two hours long, but felt a lot longer. The hotel was about one block away from the train station. A block is a short distance between two streets. I am guessing that the temperature was 20-25 degrees outside. The place where you exit the train was a little bit spooky. It was pretty interesting. There were pictures on the ceiling. We walked around and then headed straight for the exit. After we got outside and walked about one block we walked under the awning of the hotel and spun through the spinny door. The hotel was called The Roosevelt Hotel. I thought that it looked like a palace. I jogged to the check-in counter under the chandelier. A chandelier is a really fancy big light. When we were checking in I heard that our room was not ready so we put our suitcases on hold. Hold is where you can give a person your suitcase to put in a room and that person gives you a ticket. Then when you get back you hand in the ticket and get your suitcase. While we waited we went on a double decker bus tour. Mom and I walked to the corner where the M&M store is. I felt really cold! While we waited it felt like it was just getting colder and colder. Now I was freezing! When the bus finally came I was so glad! A double decker bus is a normal bus but it has an extra layer. Some busses have a cover over the top. When we were getting on the bus we got a set of headphones to listen to the tour guide. We were holding a microphone that connected to the headphones that you got. You could hear them even if they were on the bottom when we were on the top. We got off at a stop. The stop that we got off at was stop 11 or 12 to see the Statue of Liberty. We did not go on the boat to see the Statue of Liberty close up on the island. We only looked at it for around five minutes. It was very cool because it my first time seeing it. Then we got on another double decker bus and went back to the hotel. I was already having a great time! After we got back to our hotel our room was finally ready. Our room and the lobby looked more like a palace. We had a bathroom, two double beds, a desk, area, and a closet with a keepsake box that looked very much like a microwave. Later that day we went the Stardust Diner (a restaurant) for lunch. At lunch the waitress/waiters sing to you on a little stage but a lot skinnier. What I had for lunch was a milkshake and mac and cheese. Mommy had a sandwich. After we had lunch we walked around Times Square. There were a lot of lights and the M&M store in Times Square! We got some of those for Tucker, my little brother. The thing that the M&Ms came out of looked like an ice cream dispenser. We got teal and dark blue. I just wanted to eat them because they looked so yummy! Next we went to Rockefeller Center and saw people ice skating. There was someone twirling on the ice. The ice skates and the dress were white. Then we walked to Central Park. I climbed on the big rock near a pond and mommy took my picture on the rock. After I climbed down we started to walk to the stairs. I saw roots of a tree that looked like an elephant. Then we walked a lot to get to the Lego Store. There was a big dragon made out of little pieces. I said, "That must have taken 100 days." Then we walked out. Next we walked on 5th Avenue. It was so cool. After we walked around 5th Avenue we went to our hotel around dinner time. I flopped on the bed when we got back. I was really tired. We looked at the menu for room service on TV. We ordered fish and chips, a dessert plate, and a pitcher of water on the phone. Then while we waited. Mom and I took showers. Mom went first. She took a long time. After she was done I went. Then finally after a while our dinner was ready and was delivered to our room. But first I had to finish in the shower. After my shower I got to have dinner. Next I got some berries and fudge spread across the plate



next to the huge piece of cake. I think that it was chocolate. It was very, very yummy. But not healthy at all. Then we went to bed. Mommy read me a Heidi Heckelbeck story. In the morning we put our suitcases on hold then we walked to breakfast. After breakfast we walked to an I New York store. We went there for me to bring in something for share when I got back for my meeting leader day. I chose a sculpture of most of the important/cool buildings. Then we walked to the American Girl doll store. I got swim gear. In the box there was a mask, a snorkel, towel, bag, sunscreen, and flippers. Then we went to check out while we checked out mommy saw that lime colored glasses that were on sale so she snuck them in the bag. She got me new glasses for American Girl doll Elenor because I accidentally knelt on the pair that I had at home and they got a crack. When we got out of the American Girl store we walked to our hotel to get our suitcases. After we got our suitcases and walked to the train station. We got on the train in the train station and off we got back to New Haven. I almost fell asleep on the ride home. We had to watch people get on and off and Mommy and I talked. Finally it was our stop and we were able to get off. We walked to the car and when we got home I gave my little brother a big hug. I was happy to be home, but I wish that I was still in New York City having a great time.

## **SUNSET**

*By Emily Allen, Grade 3*

There is a sunset.

Its...

O-R-A -N-G-E

It's orange!

It's...

P-U-R-P-L-E

It's purple!

It's...

P-I-N-K

It's pink!

It's...

Y-E-L-L-O-W

It's yellow!

It's....

a S-U-N-S-E-T!

It also is beautiful and colorful.

It is magical with sparkles.

You can't imagine it!

It is like candy is flowing through the sky,  
and the sweetness is in front of your eyes!

## **MV-LONG POINT BEACH**

*By Ben Rascati*

The sizzling hot beach, enormous waves glistened in the bright summer sun.

The white caps were as white a polar bear in a snowstorm.

The sand was as yellow as the burning hot sun. The water was as clear as glass.

The horizon was as blue as a perfect day.

## **GOING TO THE RALLY**

*By William Bachinsky-Kremzar, Grade 1*

I went to a rally for Bernie Sanders. I was the first one to raise a sign for Bernie and I got ten honks from a car. I yelled, "Bernie!" Then a lot of people came and I met a friend. I liked when we shook a Coca Cola bottle and it exploded. I was turning the lid almost until it fell off. It was splattering everywhere.

We had at least 3,000 thumbs up for Bernie. It was at the green in Wallingford. I had a good time at the rally. I sat on the gazebo. I was very careful on the gazebo so I didn't fall off on the stone and concrete.

I was drinking coffee. I ate chocolate and glazed Munchkins. I added a lot of cream in the coffee. The coffee was very hot inside the coffee cup. We went to my grandparents' house and I had a good time. I watched "Spongebob Squarepants." I went back to my house and I was hungry. I lay down on the couch.

It was very crowded at the rally. It was too loud. I still had a good time.

## **AT THE PARK**

*by James Pongetti, Grade 1*

Have you ever been to a park in Guilford? Last summer we went to the park and we ate ice cream. I was hot. It was 100 degrees. My brother Nate, my step-brother Jaden, my step sister, my sister, my other step sister, my step mom and my dad were at the park. We played tag. We were chasing each other and pushing each other down. We got to eat food. The snacks were crackers. I felt happy when I was eating my snack. We had water because we had no other drinks. Next we played war. We had Nerf Guns in the park. We were imagining other people in the park. We had a red team and a blue team. Jackie, Nate and I won. We were the red team. We heard the ice cream truck and ran over. The ice cream was vanilla. It tasted good. Then we went home. I hope we do it again.

## **SNOWMEN ARE COOL**

*By Carly LaPointe, Grade 4*

Snowmen are cool but they can't go to school.  
They dig for jewels then they put them on a stool.  
Then, they get lots of money and rule the duel.  
Then, they go in the POOL.  
Such fools!  
And that  
is  
how  
snowmen  
are cool!

## **SKY ZONE IS AWESOME!**

*By Dylan Ram, Grade 1*

Have you gone to Sky Zone? Because I have! My birthday was on March 3rd. My party was Sky Zone. I was going to be seven. Sky Zone is a trampoline park. I invited my cousin Jason and a couple kids from school. My brother Noah and my sister Jocelyn were at the party too. First we played basketball. I dunked to little basket hoop. Jason did too. Then we went to the foam pit. We did tricks like backflips and side drills. A side drill is where you jump and go sideways and spin. Then I played dodgeball. I got three guys out. Jason got ten guys out. Then we walked to the trampolines. I played trampoline tag. Then we did a trick test. It's where you have to do tricks and everybody watches. Then we ate pizza and cake. The cake was a batman cake. I had cheese pizza. Then we went home. Jason came with us over our house. My family watched me open presents. Then I played Star Wars Bounty Hunter on my PS4. It is a game where you get to be Boba Fett. You destroy stuff and beat a bunch of aliens. Then I built a Lego Iron Golum Minecraft set that someone got me. Then I played with the Lego set. I shared my toys with Noah, Jocelyn and Jason. Then my cousins left. I hope I go again.