

Writing Workshop Pieces

2018-2019

Amusement

by Gabriell Shafer
(3rd grade)

Exciting games of Pokeman
are battles to win.
Driving RC cars speed faster
than a cheetah!
Collecting coins: big and small –
they roll all over the floor.
Hang drums sing beautiful
notes that drift
through silken air.

Rain Forests

by Camryn McKenna
(5th grade)

Rain forests have existed for 4.5 billion years, since the earth was formed. Rain forests are located in South America, Australia, Canada, Africa, and Hawaii. There are so many tropical animals, like squirrel monkeys and Victoria pigeons. Topical rain forest plants include the pitcher plant and star fungi. People also live in rain forests, such as the tree people of the Yanomani. Rain forest trees are some of the biggest trees in the world.

There are many rain forest animals that cannot be found anywhere else, such as Proboscis monkeys, Squirrel monkeys, orangutans, Toucans, Scarlet Macaques, and Victoria Crowned pigeons. The Proboscis monkey is the only male monkey in the world that develops a big nose. Squirrel monkeys love to swing on trees and play with each other. Orangutans spend most of their time alone. They are only found in Pacific island rain forests. Toucans are birds that sometimes have a bill longer than their bodies. Toucans crack nuts with their beaks, spit out the shells, and eat the insides. Scarlet Macaques are found in Peru. There, tribal people pluck their feathers, and use them in headdresses. Victoria Crowned pigeons stay on the ground unless they are threatened. Rain forest animals are all colorful.

DELICIOUS

by Gabriell Shafer
(3rd grade)

Old-fashioned plates hang
on the walls. Smells of sweet, hot
chocolate drift through the noisy
air. Plates clang together in the distance.
The Pancake House is as comfy
as a pillow.

The Moon

by Kenneth Weinrauch
(3rd grade)

The moon revolves around planet Earth in space, and appeared when the earth was formed 4.5 billion years ago. People thought that the moon could bring good or bad fortune. The moon formed when a small planetary body smacked into the young earth and made the moon. Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin touched the moon in their Apollo 11 spacecraft. Because the moon is a rock in space orbiting earth, it is worth studying.

Astrologers studied the heavens in ancient Babylon. They believed that the sun, the moon, and the stars might bring good or bad fortune. In the Middle Ages, Europeans thought that people could transform into wolves, which attacked during the full moon. The first science fiction novel in 1902 was about a trip to the moon. In the book, scientists landed on the moon and fought hostile moon people then returned to earth as heroes. Johannes Kepler, an astronomer who studied orbits of planets, wrote that lunar craters were made by aliens. In 413 B.C.E., an Athenian war ship was due to sail from Syracuse to Sicily. However, a lunar eclipse convinced the Athenian general that the gods were against him, so he did not sail. The moon has also had religious significance. The crescent moon can be spotted at the top of mosques and in the flags of Muslim countries. Fiction stories about the moon are fun to read.

There are so many kinds of plants in rain forests. Bananas most likely come from the tropics, like Southeast Asia, but they now grow in any climate that is suitable for the plant to thrive. The Pitcher plant is a deadly plant that eats small creatures whole. On the inside of its flowers is juice that drowns the animal, so the plant gets the food it needs. The Rain tree is also known as a Monkey Pod tree. This tree has a short trunk, but super long branches. Its pink flowers make pods that will fall and plant a new tree. Rafflesia weighs twenty pounds, and is three feet across. It has no stem, but lies on the ground. It is the world's biggest flower. The Rafflesia flower smells like rotting meat. It attacks flies, and the flowers eats the fly. Star fungi attacks dead, rotting animals, and eats them. Branches on the forest floor help the fungi avoid being smothered. The Copaiba tree gives off sap that is pure diesel. The difference between this fuel and gas, oil, and coal is that the tree will produce oil as long as it lives. Rain forest plants are different from the plants farmers grow here because the rain forest is the only location you can see them.

Rain forest people are hard working. Tree people will build a fort on top of a big tree. To get up there, they make big notches so they can climb up or down. Sometimes they have to climb up the notches while holding their dogs. Most tribes need weapons so they can hunt. They use bamboo to hunt big game, and if bamboo is not available, then Palmwood is good too. For small game, they use monkey bone. Some people in the rain forest will burn a spot of grass and plant food. Where the soil is good for crops, they will burn a new spot. Yonomami love to drink sap. and party all night. The houses they live in can hold up to twelve families. The tribe has 20,000 people. Yayua Indians make skirts from palm tree leaves. They make pots by finding clay and rolling small pieces until the clay balls look like worms. Then they place it into a bowl shape, and put it in the fire to make it hard. All of the rain forest tribes have something different about all of them, like their skills and techniques.

In the rain forest, people have to have the skills to live in a dangerous place. Plants in the rain forest are almost all deadly. Rain forest animals may all be different, but they have something in common: they are all brightly-colored. The rain forest is so unique and amazing – people should know more about it.

Kids Discover Magazine: Rain Forests. Kids Discover Publishing; Boulder, CO: May, 1993. Volume 3, Issue 5. pp. 6-9, 12-14.

Kids Discover magazine: Rain Forests 2. Kids Discover Publishing; Boulder, CO: September, 1999. Volume 9, Issue 9. pp. 3, 8-10, 14-15.

World Book Encyclopedia. World Book, Inc.; Chicago, IL: 1993. Volume T: pp. 127, 151.

There are four ideas about how the moon was formed. The capture theory says that the moon was a small planet that traveled around the sun. At some point in the moon's orbit, it was captured by Earth's gravity and became Earth's satellite. The escape theory says that the earth and the moon were once one body. The sun's gravity made a bulge on the side of the spinning earth, and the bulge broke away, forming the moon. A third moon formation theory says that the moon formed about the same time as the earth. The moon travels around the earth in an oval-shaped path called an orbit. The moon moves an average speed of 2,300 miles per hour. The collision theory proposes that a large body from space crashed into Earth, knocking a mass off the earth's mantle. This mass formed the moon. The moon does not give off light of its own. It shines by reflecting sunlight. Like the earth, half of the moon appears lit by the sun's direct rays. When we look at the moon from Earth, we always see the same side because the moon moves once on its axis at the same time as the earth does.

Astronauts can travel to the moon. The first layer of a spacesuit is the liquid-cooling garment. Approximately 250 feet of plastic tubing is sewn onto the fabric. The outermost garment is used to protect the astronaut from extreme heat and cold temperatures in space. The cover of the suit is called a thermal micro-meteoroid garment. It is laced to the outside of the flexible pressure suit, which holds oxygen and provides protection from space. Most American astronauts work for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). They live and train at the space center in Houston, Texas. On July 17, 1975, an Apollo spacecraft docked with a Russian Soyuz craft. Astronauts conducted experiments together for two days.

Astronauts have to be brave, because they could die in space. No one knows exactly how the moon was formed, but there are several theories. People used to think the moon was made of cheese; there are lots more fiction stories about the moon. I like the moon because I can see it in the day. When the moon is full, I can see my shadow at night.

Kids Discover Magazine: Moon. Kids Discover Publishing; Boulder, CO: October, 2001. Volume 11, Issue 10. pp. 12-15.

World Book Encyclopedia. World Book, Inc.; Chicago, IL: 1993. Volume A: pp. 828, 830. Volume M: pp.792.

Slipping

by Kenneth Weinrauch
(3rd grade)

White ice
cold as snow,
smooth as a computer screen, waiting
to be skated on.
Skating smoothly like a bird
flying through clear air. My blades
sheeeew
as I jump and spin.

Yum

by Camryn McKenna
(5th grade)

A cold breeze blows
in. Ms. Marie orders a cinnamon roll
bigger than a giant.
Beams cross high walls: ghosts
play there. People's talking fills
the room. Waiters take
orders all around. Cinnamon melts
in my mouth. Hot tea warms
my whole body. So much old stuff like
china plates and old Hershey bar
molds look down on customers. Stained glass
shines in bright sunlight. The thing
about The Pancake House is: it's warm
like a house.

Ice Age

by Nina Giddings
(5th grade)

During the Ice Age, glaciers from the North Pole grew and spread across other continents. This happened from about 30 million years ago to 20,000 years ago, forming areas where we live now. Animals had to adjust their lives to live in conditions of the Ice Age. Many Ice Age people left petroglyphs, but we do not know what they mean. It is important to learn about the Ice Age in case another cooling ever occurs.

Diversion

by Nina Giddings
(5th grade)

A slacker slouches, hanging over
his controller, like a koala taking a nap.
He's too lazy to move into
a different position.
The intensity of the game
causes him to stare.
He turns when his name
is called.

Rocks

by Maddison Keplinger
(3rd grade)

Rocks have existed for 4,500,000,000 years in fields, canyons, and forests. There are lots of types of rocks, like metamorphic, igneous, and sedimentary. Meteors are rocks that fall from the sky, and fossils are actually also known as dinosaur bones. Rocks are very interesting: they could be hung on necklaces and bracelets, and you can find rocks all over the world.

Wind is constantly changing rocks: breaking them down, and transporting tiny bits of rock. These small bits of rock are called sediment, which form into sandstone. Deep inside the earth is magma, also known as lava. When lava comes up, it will come out of a volcano, and cool on the ground. This makes igneous rock such as granite. Metamorphic rocks get their name from the Greek words "meta" and "morph," meaning they start as igneous, sedimentary, or even other metamorphic rocks. Pressure and heat change them into rocks such as slate and schist. It's good to have many types of rocks because then they're not boring.

When you see a bright light in the sky, it is maybe a meteor! An invisible meteoroid travels through space that has no atmosphere. The thin air of earth's upper atmosphere begins to heat the object, causing it to glow and create a tail of hot gasses. Meteorites sometimes explode into segments with a noise that can be heard far away. There are two kinds of meteorites: stony, and iron. Stony meteorites are made up of

People think the Ice Age was a time when everything was frozen and there was barely any life, but scientists know what the Ice Age really was. About 30 million years ago, the Ice Age began. Glaciers were forming. Seventeen million years later, the glaciers increased in size, creating the Antarctic ice sheet. Ice sheets only began forming in America about 2.4 million years ago. The first known ice ages were tiny in the Precambrian time period. The Ice Age we know today had enough ice to cover a third of earth's surface, leaving only two-thirds of land without ice. The Ice Age changed the earth when the glaciers shifted position, creating more mountain ranges. These mountains changed the position of the continents. New weather patterns led to snowfall, colder temperatures, and the formation of new glaciers. When most of the glaciers finally melted, there were high valleys, called cirques, and deep lakes, called tarns, which had been formed by the expanding glaciers. Scientists think the Ice Age was an important event to study if or when another one occurs.

The animals of the Ice Age were remarkably different than the mammals we have now. Arctic Muskoxen traveled from the west of North America to the east as far as Michigan and New York. Some mammoths grew to the size of fourteen feet or higher from their feet to their shoulders, and weighed as much as six tons even though they ate only plants. Woolly mammoths used their tusks to dig for roots and plants, and also to fight enemies, like other mammoths. Their tusks were enormous upper teeth. Like mammoths, Smilodon had seven-inch-long upper teeth. Saber Tooth tigers were probably the most similar animals to modern tigers. They were almost as heavy as today's tigers, and were probably thick-skinned animals. All these animals survived in the Ice Age, but did not live long enough to be on earth today.

People started drawing petroglyphs 35,000 years ago. Ice Age painters generally used three colors: black, red, and yellow. Popular drawings were animals they hunted, such as mammoths, and saber tooth tigers. Archaeologists think that paintings of animals were considered to bring luck during a hunt. At Lascaux, a cave in southwestern France, many petroglyphs filled the cave. Usually, there are barely any humans in the paintings, but these petroglyphs show part human/part animal figures like the sorcerer. Petroglyphs can help modern scientists understand the life of humans in the Ice Age.

During the Ice Age, everything was frozen. People drew petroglyphs to supposedly bring luck for hunting on ice. Animals were adjusting to their lives in the cold conditions. The Ice Age was an incredible change for the earth. Modifications in the weather made mountains and valleys. If scientists can study the Ice Age now, humans may be able to survive other events of future earth, too.

minerals mixed with a little bit of iron. Meteors burn up in the sky, so don't be too scared!

Dinosaur bones we find today were formed in the past by plants, animals, and rocks. Fossils are very rare. They can be found underground in forests and in fields. One million years ago, a volcano exploded and all the dinosaurs died. They left behind their fossils. Fossils may be strong, but they can break when people pull them out of the ground. Fossils can also be found in sedimentary rocks. Fossils are also known as "dinosaur bones."

Lots of scientists have studied fossils in many types of rocks. Meteors fall from the sky: sometimes they burn up before they get a chance to hit Earth. All kinds of rocks come from three types: metamorphic, igneous, and sedimentary. Rocks are great because you can use them to build churches and make jewelry, and you can skip stones on water, too!

Kids Discover Magazine: Rocks. Kids Discover Publishing; Boulder, CO: April, 2002. Volume 12, Issue 4. pp. 12-14.

World Book Encyclopedia. World Book, Inc.; Chicago, IL: 1993. Volume F: pp.422-423. Volume M: pp.431-432. Volume R: pp.371-373.

Wright Brothers

by Marek Clouser
(5th grade)

The Wright brothers lived most of their lives in Dayton, Ohio. Wilber and Orville made planes from 1903-1908. When the Wright brothers were kids, they had a very boring life. Wilber and Orville made hundreds of prototypes of planes. In December of 1903, they built and tested their first successful glider. If it were not for the Wright brothers, we could not travel quickly to other places.

Wilber and Orville grew up together in Dayton, Ohio. Wilber was born on April 16, 1867. Orville was born on August 19, 1871. Their mother, Susan Koerner Wright, was a talented mechanic, and could fix almost anything. She helped Wilber and Orville fix their toys. Their father was a bishop at the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Wilber and Orville had a sister named Katherine. She was the only one who graduated from college. In high school, Orville took only special subjects such as mechanics. Wilber started a printing

Kids Discover Magazine: Ice Age. Kids Discover Publishing; Boulder, CO: August, 2003. Volume 13, Issue 8. pp. 3-4, 6-7, 11, 14.

World Book Encyclopedia. World Book, Inc.; Chicago, IL: 1993. Volume I: pp. 6-7. Volume M: p. 130. Volume S-Sn: p. 3. Volume P: pp. 754-756.

Me

by Marek Clouser
(5th grade)

My hair is white as snow;
my head can think like a computer.
I skate like a bobsled
going down an icy
course. My thoughts race
through me like fish scattering
away from a splash.

Photography

by Gabriell Shafer
(3rd grade)

Photography exists in most of the world and has been around for 170 years. Cameras are very complex. There are hundreds of different types of techniques for taking photos. Quality of film is very important for good photography. I was inspired to take photos because I like drones.

Cameras can be difficult to understand. Light rays bounce off a subject and go through a camera's lenses. The lenses split up the light rays just enough so that they will join to create a sharp, clear image on the film. In a camera's core is a circuit, which has millions of micro units known as pixels. Over the past 200 years, cameras have recorded pictures as chemical changes in silver substances. Newer cameras use pixels to make a photo from light on the film. The world's oldest surviving photo shows the view outside the photographer's widow. It took eight hours of exposure for the photograph to fully emerge.

Quality of film is very important to the outcome of a picture. A camera obscura is a dark container with a pinhole inside. There is a lens inside the pinhole. Light passes through the lens, and the lenses flip the light rays upside down inside the camera obscura. This way, artists could get accurate details for painting. Almost as soon as photography was invented, people longed for color, but for several decades, they had to

company and made his own press. He published a newspaper called the *West Side News*. Before the Wright brothers built airplanes, Wilber and Orville designed bicycles. They owned a company called Wright Cycle, where they made and repaired bikes. Wilber and Orville's mother died of tuberculosis in 1889.

The Wright brothers first became interested in flying when they read about the death of pioneer glider Otto Lilienthal in 1896. Wilber and Orville bought some land for a runway. It was called Kill Devil Hill. They built a six-foot wind tunnel to test different types of wings. They tested more than 200 wing models. Their most successful wing had a curved surface. The Wright brothers' first glider had a wingspan of sixteen feet. They first tested it in 1900. In 1901, they returned to Kill Devil Hill with a much bigger plane, but neither the 1900 nor the 1901 glider had the lifting power they had counted on. The brothers first tested their glider like a kite. It had a rope attached to it so they could control it in the wind. One of their planes had flaps on the wings so the plane could turn. Orville and Wilber flipped a coin to see who would fly first. Wilber won.

The Wright brothers' first successful plane had a wingspan of 40.5 feet. The whole plane weighed 750 pounds with its pilot. The engines on their planes used gasoline and were as big as a fridge. Wilber and Orville's first successful glider cost less than \$1000.00. On December 17, 1903, their glider flew 852 feet in fifty-nine seconds. Wilber flew as high as three hundred feet. Orville tested a glider for the army, but it crashed, and his passenger died. They continued building improved planes.

The Wright brothers' first successful plane took hundreds of prototypes to complete. Making their planes took years of preparation and practice to master. In their early lives, the Wright brothers spent a lot of time in school. Wilber and Orville dedicated their whole lives to making planes. Without the brothers' dedication, we would not have fast and easy travel today.

Kids Discover Magazine: Wright Brothers. Kids Discover Publishing; Boulder, CO: May, 2001. Volume 11, Issue 11. pp. 2-16.

World Book Encyclopedia. World Book, Inc.; Chicago, IL: 1993. Volume W: p. 511.

settle for pictures that were hand-tinted or painted. Cameras need light in order to work; that is why most cameras have a light source.

There are hundreds of different types of techniques in photography. From the 1920's to the 1930's, a German camera called the Leica helped simplify photography further. It was the first pocket-sized camera that could take professional photos. A common type of shutter has two blades that open to form a slit that crosses the film. This slit is the space between a camera's lenses when they open. A smaller slit between the lenses gives a faster shutter speed. It is best to have a fast shutter speed because then you can take better quality photos.

Quality of film is very useful when it comes to photography. There are many different types of techniques to take photos, but it is very hard to figure out how a camera works. Cameras have been around for a long time and have been used to create newspapers, books, and movies. Today, cameras are being used in drones. I like photography because people can express themselves in photos.

Kids Discover Magazine: Photography. Kids Discover Publishing; Boulder, CO: July, 2000. Volume 10, Issue 6. p. 5.

World Book Encyclopedia. World Book, Inc.; Chicago, IL: 1993. Volume P: pp.422-423.

Courage

by Nina Giddings
(5th grade)

Hair flows off my shoulders:
a golden river surrounding my eyes.
Ice blue eyes freeze
time for thoughts,
to think about things I believe.
Maybe only four-and-a-half feet tall,
but not small;
my actions are gigantic:
I believe I can do
whatever I try.

Mystery

by Marek Clouser
(5th grade)

Countryside

by Marek Clouser
(5th grade)

Tall strands of grass dance
in howling wind.
Water rushes
in a bubbling creek:
bees *buzz*
around blossoming apple trees.

American Ninja Nina

by Gabriell Shafer
(3rd grade)

Nina Giddings has wanted a ninja line in her backyard for almost a year. She says, "My goal is to be an American Ninja Warrior Junior by next year." The ninja line is an outdoor rope line. "The ninja line is fun because you can swing across all of the obelisks," Nina says, "and in winter, you fall in the snow."

Camryn: "Suckers!"

by Kenneth Weinrauch
(3rd grade)

Camryn McKenna has a giant sucker full of mini suckers. Inside, the giant sucker has seven flavors. "My parents got it for me in Mexico!" Camryn says. The name of the sucker is *Chupa Chups*. Inside the giant sucker there are 15 small suckers. Camryn says, "It is the size of my brain." The giant sucker has a white pipe tube that is about one foot long. Camryn says, "It's about the weight of a bunny." Camryn's favorite flavors are watermelon and cherry.

Comfortable

by Kenneth Weinrauch
(3rd grade)

As I inched toward the noise, darkness fell upon me like snow falling to the ground. I closed my eyes, trying to concentrate on the noise, then all of a sudden noise exploded around me. Wind twirled everywhere. As soon as it had come, the sound left, and everything was still. I opened my eyes and saw an arrow flying straight for my head.

It all started on a cold Thursday morning. Mist floated around me. The air smelled like ice. I was walking to school, and heard a tiny howling noise. I decided to investigate. The leaves crunched beneath my feet. All of a sudden, the sky went dark. I opened my eyes, and saw an arrow flying straight for my head. The arrow was inches away from my face. A sword swished in front of my eyes and made a fierce *tinging* noise.

The arrow fell to the ground. I looked up and saw nothing. When I stood up and walked around, I noticed I was back in the howling forest where I had started.

Unique

by Maddison Keplinger
(3rd grade)

Eyes as blue as the ocean
see so far. Blonde
hair swirls in soft wind.
Blonde brightens
everyone's day. Fluffy
eyelashes blow
me away.

Scotering

by Kenneth Weinrauch
(3rd grade)

Riding a scooter feels fun if you can jump high. Jumping is hard because you have to pull yourself up into the air. You need to speed to jump high up. When you get speed you can hear the wheels on the pavement: *woosh, woosh*. You can feel the vibration on your hands.

You see the scooter and the road ahead of you when you ride. Riding up hills and down is fun. Once, I was riding up a hill

The Pancake House feels cozy:
waiters serve cinnamon rolls like puffy
pillows. Customers see old signs and Christmas lights.
Plates crash in the kitchen
like glass breaking.

Mountain Bike Maniac

by Maddison Keplinger
(3rd grade)

Marek Clouser's bike is yellow and it can go ten miles or thirty miles an hour when he is going down a hill. He really likes it. "One time," Marek says, "I was riding my bike at Eagle in Boise and went off a jump. I ran into a fence and cut my leg open. It hurt a lot. I went to the hospital and got six stitches." He does not know where his uncle bought the bike. "First my brother had it, then I got it three years ago, when my brother got a bigger bike," Marek says. He has not been in a race yet, but he will try one next year.

Spoiled Cutie Cat

by Camryn McKenna
(5th grade)

Maddison Keplinger has five cats. Her fave is Stitch. "He is black and white and sweet," Maddison says. He is ten years old, and has his own chair with a black pillow that has a gold S on it. His chair came with a blanket that says STITCH. "I call him 'Oreo', but my mom calls him 'Mr. Cow,'" Maddison says. Stitch will lie on his back and play dead.

Romanian Race Cars

by Nina Giddings
(5th grade)

Kenneth Weinrauch is a Writing Workshop friend. Sometimes he's silly. One of his special things is his collection of racing cars. They're important to him because his grandma gave them to him. "I barely get to

as big as a mountain. It was cold on the way to the top. When I reached the top, I jumped high in the air.

Then I rode down the big hill and went fast: I couldn't stop. I tried to stop but I almost fell off. It was terrifying. When the hill flattened out, I slowed down. I went home and stopped scootering for two years.

Satisfaction

by Marek Clouser
(5th grade)

The Pancake House is as cozy
as a baby bird in its nest.
Talking, plates crashing,
and shuffling feet
fill the air.
The cinnamon rolls are as sweet
as maple syrup.
The orange juice is tart and sweet.
Cold bars on my old-fashioned chair
chill my back.

The Cat Rescue

by Nina Giddings
(5th grade)

When I saw the cats on the side of the road, my heart was flooding with joy. My family was in a circle around the cats. One was small and had bluish eyes and tiny paws. The other had green eyes and its fur was ruffled. We assumed it was a boy and the other a girl.

In the distance there was a red barn. We maybe thought they came from there. Next to the barn there was a field with a cow in it.

The cats were staring at us through the dry grass. I prepared myself and reached forward. The cat leaped away - - it seemed camouflaged in the grass like a chameleon.

Morgan leaped forward and caught the bigger one. The smaller cat leaped into my hands. Since we were traveling back from Lewiston, we had my bunny in his cage in the car. So we took him out and put the cats in the cage. My bunny's

see her," he says. "I saw her once when I was three." He doesn't remember her name either. Kenneth's grandma lives far away in Romania. His race cars are blue. "I like the style because they look like [the real Italian race cars] Lamborghinis," he says. He has a race car track to play with. "I press a button on the racetrack that makes the cars go two miles per hour and when the cars hit the jumps, they go high in the air," Kenneth says. "It is really fun."

Goodness

by Maddison Keplinger
(3rd grade)

The Pancake House is special.
Customers laugh whenever food
is at their tables.
Cinnamon rolls are like puffy balls filled with
cinnamon.
Birds tweet through the windows;
customers rush inside to order
yummy cinnamon rolls on the menu.
The servers are like happy flowers.

Dying Drones

by Marek Clouser
(5th grade)

One time Gabriell Shafer was flying his H360 Drone. It flew over a tree a couple hundred feet away and disappeared. Then the H360 freefell and exploded. "It was very loud!" Gabriell says. Gabriell likes drones because they can take the coolest pictures. "I tried to fly my Parrot Swing Drone across Cascade Lake," Gabriell says. "The drone had one dot of battery left." He canon-balled it toward the beach at 40 miles an hour. "The drone was as small as a tiny speck."

Joy

by Maddison Keplinger
(3rd grade)

name is Fluffy. He sat in my lap the whole way home. Back in McCall, we took the cats to our house and adopted them!

Shocking Day in the Woods

by Gabriell Shafer
(3rd grade)

As I was running through the forest, I saw two big eyes staring at me. I froze in shock as I noticed a huge animal staring from behind a rock. Everything was still.

At first, I thought that it was a lynx. I tried to sneak away, but it kept looking at me. It felt like I was there for an hour. Finally, it took off.

It was a huge owl. It grabbed at a squirrel and ripped it off the tree. Opal, my dog, nipped my arm as leaves flew everywhere. I heard the owl hoot, and it was gone.

Surprise!

by Maddison Keplinger
(3rd grade)

When I woke up at 5:27, it was as quiet as a mouse. I hopped out of bed and dressed myself, then went to the kitchen to eat breakfast. When I finished eating, my mom woke up, so I hid in the kitchen cabinet.

My mom looked at the table and asked, "Why is Maddison's plate out?" As she came two steps away from my cabinet, I jumped out and said, "SURPRISE!!!"

Tercets

A big hairy ghost
wanted to eat blue toast,
but he ran into a spikey post.

-- Marek Clouser, Gabriell
Shafer, Kenneth Weinrauch

Quatrains

The big red beet
was sitting on an uncomfortable
seat
eating a yummy candy corn
treat
in the blazing heat.

-- Marek Clouser, Nina

Sweet smell of roses
fills soft air
like water in a bottle.
Bright sun rises over
a shadowed mountain.
Rabbits jump through meadow grass
like springs *boinging* down
some stairs.

Harmony

by Nina Giddings
(5th grade)

Old wood smells drift
through warm air.
Plates clank
on different tables.
The Pancake House
has old packages; china plates.
A cinnamon-y treat
with butter on top
makes everyone happy
as a puppy.
Fruity tastes: cranberry.
The Pancake House.
Cozy smells, sounds, and tastes
make it an exciting
place.

Aquaball

by Camryn McKenna
(5th grade)

As I entered the ball, all I could hear was a big splash. I saw a big fruit tree on the side of the hill: it was bright red. The water was as cold as ice. I felt like my limbs were chopped off. I tried to stand, but I slipped and fell as quickly as I got up. When I looked down, five kids were lying under me on the ground. All the men pushed me up the hill, and I rolled down again.

The Aquaball is a big ball full of air. You put a little water in the ball and roll it down the hill from inside. I was at a cool farm on Maui that had a zipline and Aquaball. My family and I did both. I brought two

The big black spider
is an excellent rider:
he stole a glider.

-- Maddison Keplinger, Nina
Giddings, Camryn McKenna

There once was a big scary
bat
who ate a sad little rat,
which was friends with a
striped cat.

-- Maddison Keplinger,
Gabiell Shafer, Kenneth
Weinrauch

Giddings, Camryn McKenna

Greedy evil witches fly
in misty inky midnight sky.

Fleeing toward their swampy
lair
where they'll finally wash their
greasy hair.

-- Marek Clouser, Nina
Giddings, Camryn McKenna,
Maddison Keplinger, Gabriell
Shafer, Kenneth Weinrauch

friends: Ani and Cohen. I had so much fun. The best
part of my day was rolling down the hill in an
Aquaball.

Joy

by Nina Giddings
(5th grade)

Dry grass
crunching, cackling:
emerald and gold crickets
hop through brown grass.
Smells of ripe apple
drip out of orchards.
Wind howls
like a distant wolf;
golden bright sun
blazes over
crisp country land.