

# **LOVE FEELS LIKE FREEDOM**

Is an Anthology of Poetry and Stories by the Third-Grade Students of  
PS 457X—Sheridan Academy for Young Leaders  
Bronx, NY  
Spring 2018



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**Principal**

Mrs. Pevey  
**Assistant Principal**

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Ms. Kouakou  
Ms. Pimentel  
Ms. Weiner & Ms. Wright

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**Teaching Artist**

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**New School Education Associate**

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### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## **Introduction**

**LOVE FEELS LIKE FREEDOM** is an anthology of poetry by the third-grade students of 457X, Sheridan Academy for Young Leaders. During the twenty days we had together, students discussed the writing of Sandra Cisneros, Walt Whitman, Aracelis Girmay, Franz Kafka, Christina Rossetti and others. Students engaged in an extensive study of the great Harlem poet, Langston Hughes.

Students learned how to use hyperbole, metaphor, simile, alliteration, personification and to they practiced using their imagination to enliven their writing.

This is the second year that I have worked with these creative children, and it is inspiring to see how much they remembered, and how much more they are willing to learn. We hope that each one of these young writers will continue to play with language and to explore poetry.

We are grateful to the teachers who welcomed us into their classrooms and who were active collaborators in our lessons. Whether connecting our lesson to the school curriculum, walking around helping students with their poems, or sharing poems they wrote themselves, they have added their own unique contribution to the experience.

This anthology could not have been possible without the collaboration of the teachers and aides. Thank you to Ms. Cohen, Ms. Kouakou, Ms. Pimentel, Ms. Weiner and Ms. Wright and paraprofessional, Mr. Jusino. We thank you for your enthusiasm and dedication to these young students. We are grateful to have been part of this team.

We thank Principal, Ms. Febus and Assistant Principal, Mrs. Pevey for inviting us into the school once again. Thank you for your warmth and for always making time for us when we needed help! Thank you for cherishing the arts and for your commitment to celebrating the arts in your school.

With Love,  
Alba Delia Hernández & Virginia Valenzuela

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# Ms. Cohen's Class





## A Dog Playing Basketball by Marcus Torres

When I woke  
up one morning  
from troubled  
sleep,

I found myself  
as a dog. Instead of  
arms I had four legs.

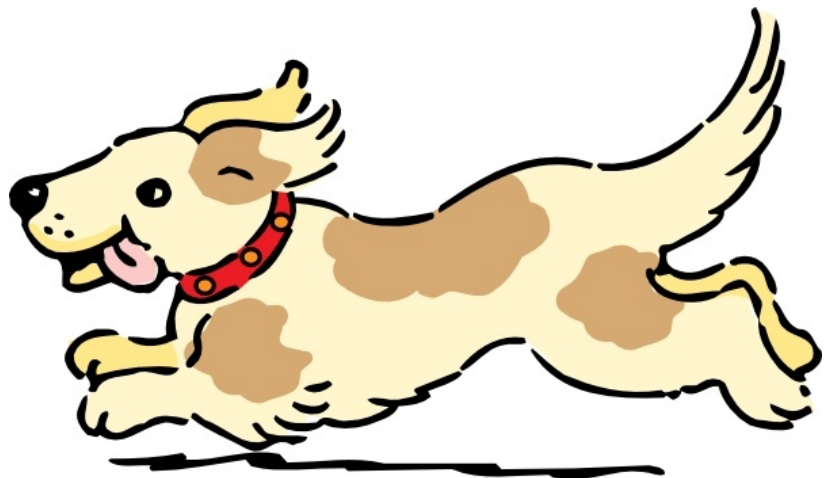
Instead of human skin  
I had black and white  
fur.

When I tried to say  
something I barked,  
“ruff ruff,” a dark  
sound.

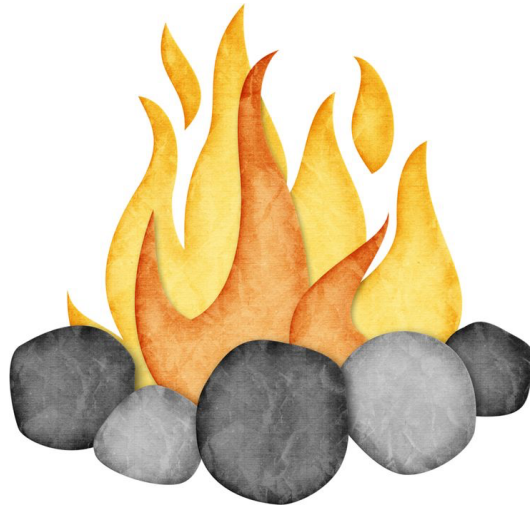
My friend Adam knocked  
on the door. “You guys  
get a new dog?”

He thought we  
got a new dog  
but it was me!

I tried to play basketball  
but my hands  
were clumsy paws.



## Like Fire Touching You



**by Mamasa Sawaneh**

Love is attached  
to people like  
your legs are  
to your  
body. They  
can never  
break apart.

Love smells  
so good that  
you can  
eat it.

Love hurts your heart  
sometimes like  
fire is touching  
you.

Love  
Is  
All  
Around  
You.

Love is the  
heart of  
your life.

Love feels  
so soft  
like a red  
teddy  
bear.

Love is  
like a  
bird  
whistling.

Love is  
like laying  
in the sun  
for too long—  
you will get  
burned.

## I Celebrate My Life with Mythical Animals by Genesis Alvarez

I celebrate  
my life.

I am a great  
glorious girl  
and  
I like good games  
that gallop  
on gators  
and gorillas.

I am intelligent  
like an icy igloo.  
I like ice cream  
that tastes like  
immature icebergs.

I am a  
    happy  
        handy  
            hippo

with a horn  
that honks  
and some humor  
that sounds like  
a hot-dog  
with hats  
on a hopping  
hare.

I am...  
a math  
master

who eats  
    m & m's  
        on a moose

and  
macaroni.

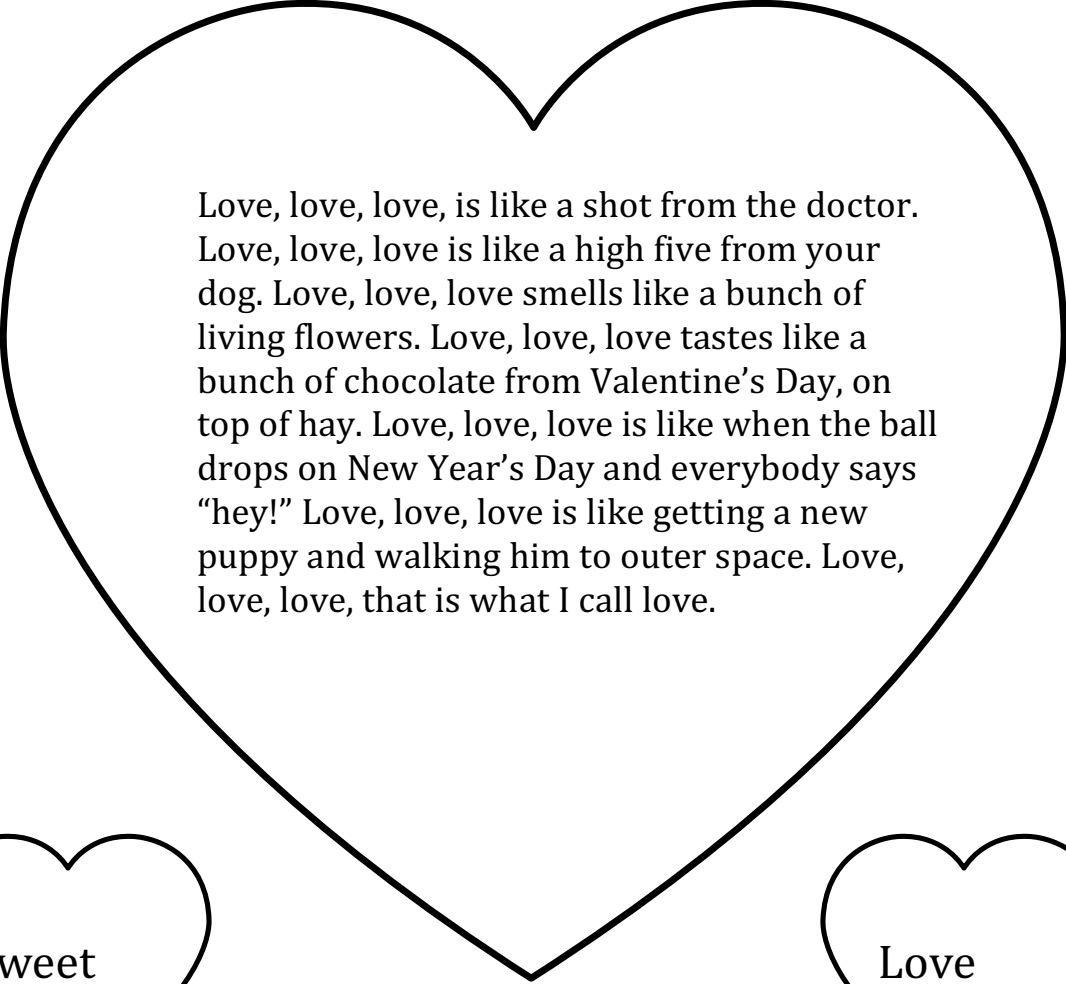
I like  
    writing about whales  
        that wave

at your whisk  
for watering  
wheels  
with  
candy and watermelons.  
I am a funky, funny fish  
with a flopping  
flower at Florida's  
flags.

I celebrate  
my life.



**Love Expert**  
**by Keymora Wilson**



Love, love, love, is like a shot from the doctor.  
Love, love, love is like a high five from your  
dog. Love, love, love smells like a bunch of  
living flowers. Love, love, love tastes like a  
bunch of chocolate from Valentine's Day, on  
top of hay. Love, love, love is like when the ball  
drops on New Year's Day and everybody says  
"hey!" Love, love, love is like getting a new  
puppy and walking him to outer space. Love,  
love, love, that is what I call love.



Sweet



Love

# Life is Like a Sweet Cake!



by Michael Mensah

Life  
is  
like  
sweet  
candy  
and  
you  
like  
it!  
Cool!  
and...  
Nice!  
Life  
is  
tough

like  
you're  
playing  
a  
video game  
and  
you  
keep  
failing  
at  
every  
level!  
You  
should've  
known

to  
play  
more!  
to  
be  
better  
at  
the  
game.  
So  
life  
is like  
a  
sweet  
cake!

## Feels Like It's Going to Rain by Melanie Cruz

I see tall trees standing  
in front of my house

like giant people  
I hear cars and trucks

honking and beeping. I hear  
buses passing by, picking

up children from their houses.  
I see tall, tall buildings standing

like a statue in front  
of my house. I smell hot-dogs  
getting ready for a BBQ party.

I can smell  
yummy cheeseburgers,  
yummy tacos,  
and yummy pizza.

I see kids running fast  
like they have a sugar rush.

I see people listening  
to music.

I hear loud  
music like people

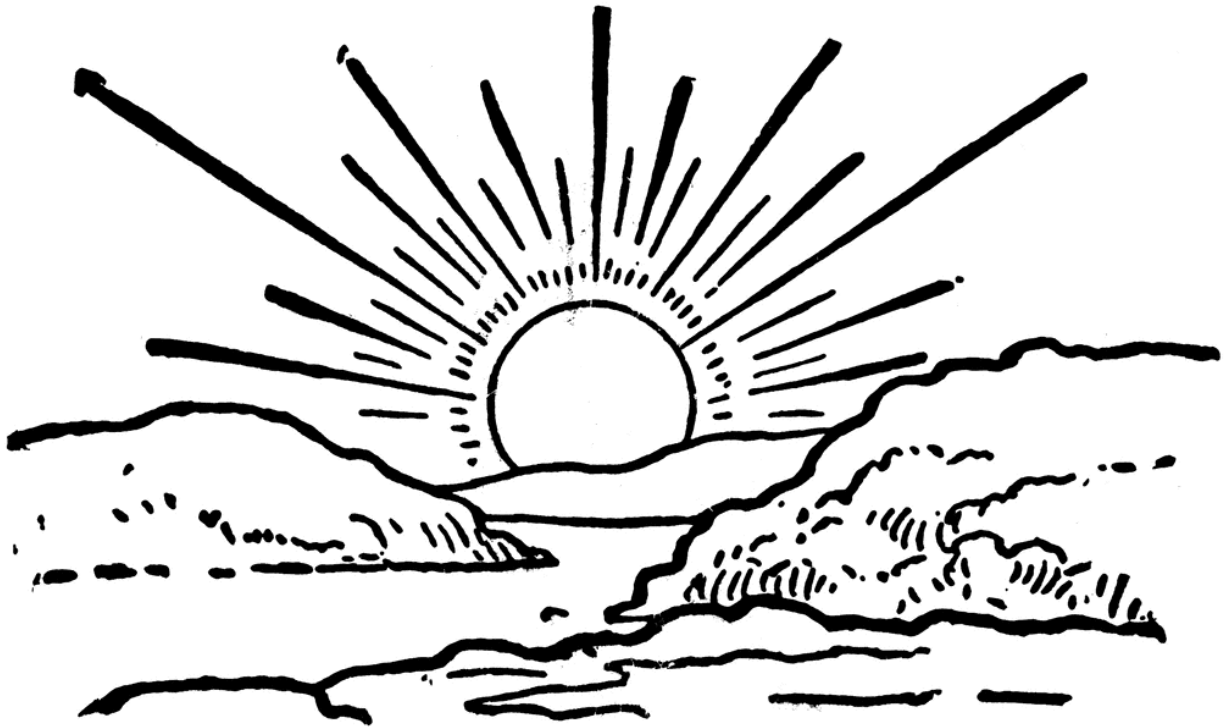
getting ready for a concert.  
I can hear

thunder and raindrops.  
I feel like it's going to rain.





**My Life Flow**  
**by Jordan Compress**



I'm happy  
like a horse.  
I am sad like  
the sun. I am silly  
like a dog.  
I play basketball  
at the park.  
I eat pizza  
every Friday.  
I like to play  
with my friends.  
My friends are  
funny like  
a dog on a stick.  
Every time  
I go to sleep  
the sun is setting.

**Love**  
**by Karim Fondio**

Love is like an  
Oreo cake

with chocolate  
sprinkles on top.

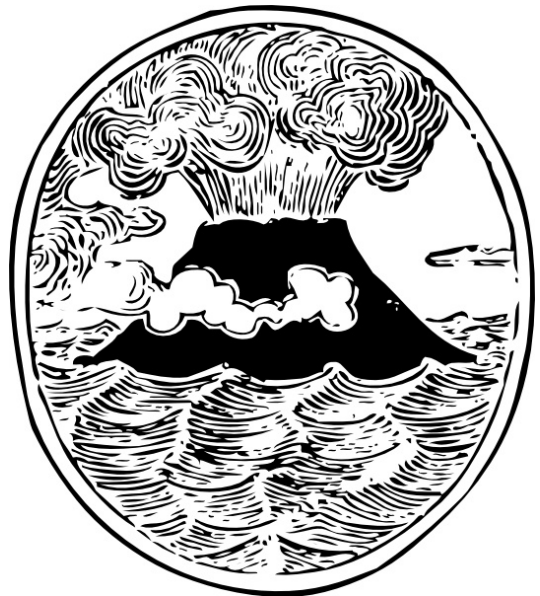
Love is like a  
cinnamon sweet  
candy with a  
honey  
flavor  
that gives you  
a sugar rush!

Love is  
pizza with  
spicy sauce  
on top.

Love has  
things  
that  
the world  
doesn't  
have

and it is  
compassion.

Love is bright  
as the lightest  
lava  
in the whole  
entire world!!!!



**Dear Melanie Rose  
by Andrea Herrera**

Life is hard  
to take care

of a baby girl.

It's like a  
girl sleeping  
with a  
sheep. It's  
like an aunt

caring for a cute baby  
girl. Life is  
like when a  
birthday is a  
piece of apple pie.

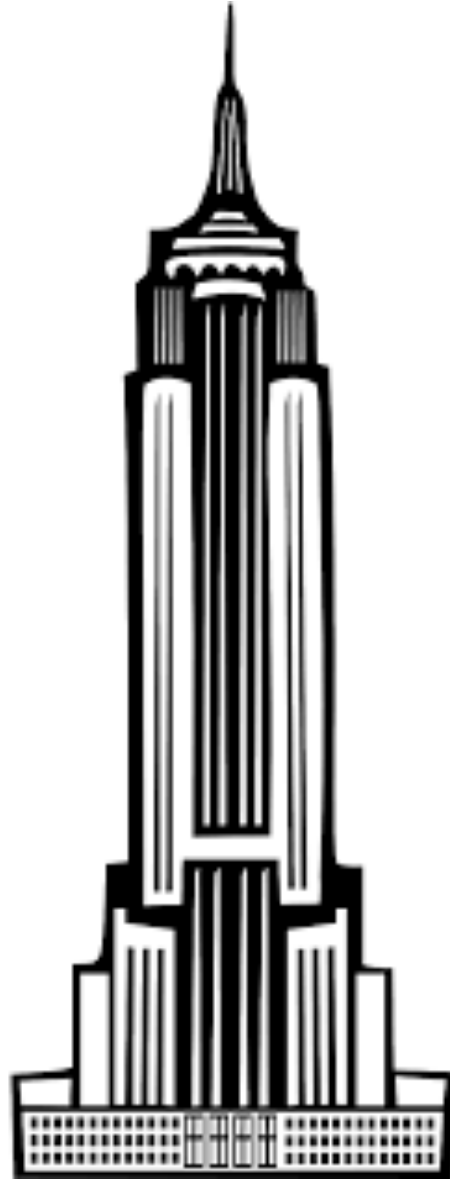
And it's like a  
girl eating ice  
cream and like it's  
raining candy and  
made out of sweetness  
and kindness.



## Life is Not Easy for Me by Brandon Huerta

Dear Matthew,

Little one, life is  
not easy for me  
because life is like  
passing a huge test.  
It is not easy because  
it is like doing 1  
reading homework, and 3  
math homework, and reading  
for 30 minutes. Little one,  
life is difficult like taking two  
sneaky dogs back into  
the house after  
walking them.  
Life is hard like taking down  
a huge monster  
and the monster is as tall  
as a skyscraper.  
Little one, life is also  
good because when it is hot  
you can play outside or go  
to the park  
and see the butterflies.



## Illuminati/Questions by Adam Daniels

Dear Giovanni,

Life is  
like broken limbs.

Life is like  
a doorway to  
Heaven.

Life is like a  
rock and a mountain  
in third  
grade, you're stuck  
on a question.

Life is like  
a bomb,  
"BOOM!"

Life is like an  
illuminati, a question.

Life is like a second language. It's hard  
at first and then you  
get it.



# A Rainbow Slide by Jennifer Galvez

life  
is like  
a rainbow slide  
it's amazing  
but  
you only  
go on it  
for ten seconds  
and have to  
go up  
the long  
stairs and  
go again





**Dear Sister**  
**by Housai Touray**

I celebrate  
myself I am  
fast like a  
fire I am  
gentle like  
I am cooking  
showing love  
to my mom  
just the same  
as she does  
to me I am  
nice like  
a sweet girl  
I am sleepy  
like a  
teddy bear  
that is not  
real I am  
slow when  
I am doing  
my homework  
I am fast  
as a lion

**Questions I Will Ask You**  
**by Sekou Camara**

what do  
you think  
of shoes?

is there  
anything  
sillier than



a hairline?

is there  
anything  
better than  
a t-rex?

what if  
it gets  
small?

what happens  
when you  
fall off  
the sky?



## Love Feels Like Freedom



by Sara Ramirez

Love looks like fun  
school.

Love tastes like  
sweet cupcakes  
with  
rainbow sprinkles.

Love smells like pancakes  
with  
syrup.

Love sounds like  
birds tweeting  
in the sky.

Love feels like freedom.

Love is someone you  
miss.

## Cheetahs and Butterflies by Melody Garcia

I start from the  
beginning through  
to the end.

I am  
fast as  
Flash.

I am a respectful  
rabbit.

I am creative  
like a  
compassionate gorilla.



I am  
smart  
as science.

I start from the  
beginning through  
to the end.

I am  
crazy  
like a  
monkey.

I am  
quiet  
like a  
cheetah  
trying to  
catch  
a butterfly.



**Life is Hard**  
**by Rachael Motiño**

Life is cold like  
an ice cream cone  
in a freezer.

Life is beautiful  
like a small  
puppy.

Life is big like  
a whale jumping  
on the sea

and the splash is like  
a volleyball  
thrown in the air.

Life is hard  
like nails  
stuck on a wall.

Life is a  
rainbow like  
skittles falling  
down the bright  
sky.

Life is red  
like sweet  
cherries





## **I Celebrate Myself With Love by Isys Sterling**

I celebrate myself  
I'm pretty and skinny  
I celebrate myself  
I'm happy and honest  
I celebrate myself  
I'm sweet smart

I celebrate myself  
I'm cute and helpful

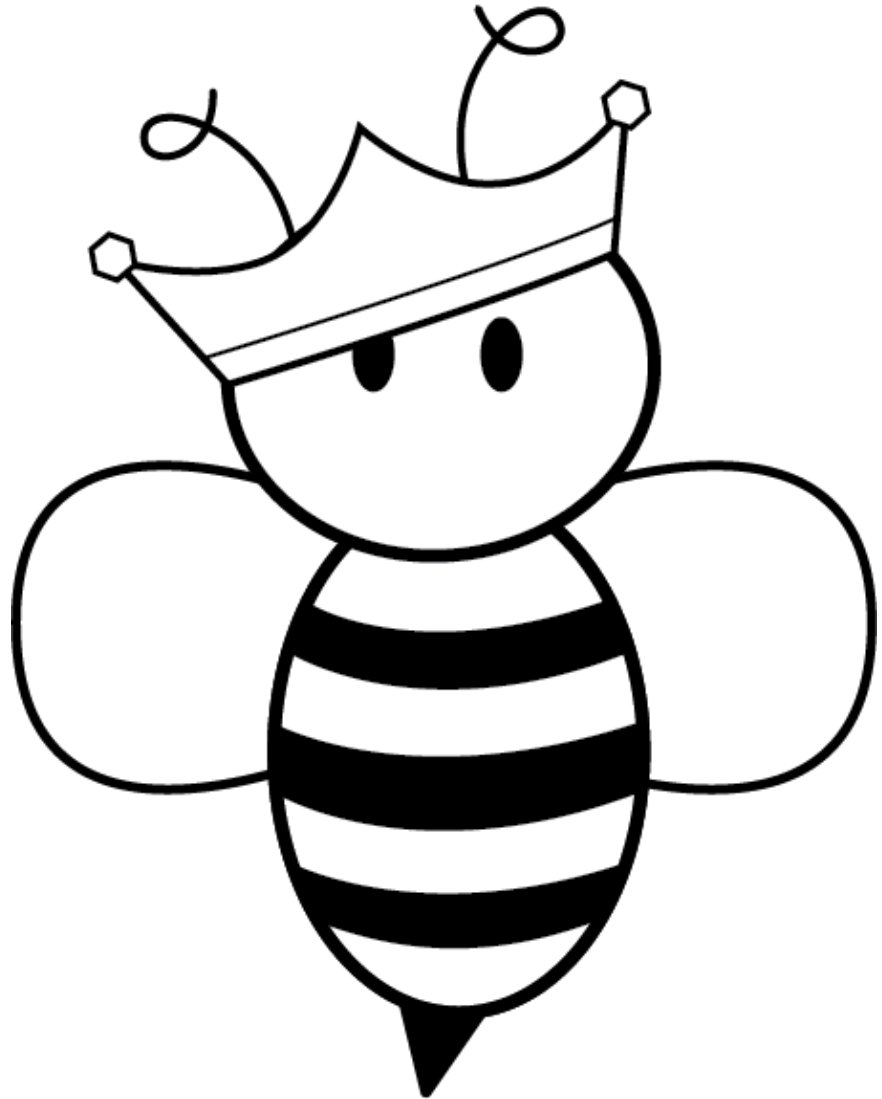
I celebrate myself I'm  
sweet  
I celebrate myself I'm  
lovable  
I celebrate myself  
I'm kind—respectful

I celebrate myself  
I'm confidence—

**SWEET and  
CUTE**

**Be Brave**  
**by Angel Fernandez**

I celebrate myself  
I am happy and  
the sun is hot  
and I said hi  
to my friend and  
I had a hat also  
I went to eat fast  
food and my shoes  
are not fake and  
I need a fade  
and I am brave  
like a bear  
I said  
bye to the  
bees and  
I can be  
like a bee  
and I don't  
pay the fees.



## Love is Partying with Your BFFs by Danna Sanchez

Love is in Everything or Anything!

Love is a  
mountain that can

never fall!

Love is like  
a beautiful singer singing  
on a hot day

on the beach!

Love is  
like having  
a lollipop  
on a long  
day.

Love is like

the sound of  
waves on the beach!

Love looks like  
butterflies in the sky!

Love smells like  
flowers in a park!

Love feels like  
partying with your best friends!

**LOVE IS IN EVERYTHING  
AND EVERYONE!!!**



## Sweet Like Maple Syrup by Jocelyn Esteva

Dear Yadellys,

Life is sweet like  
maple syrup.  
It has candy  
and love  
and unicorns  
and rainbows.

Life is hard  
like missing a  
dance.

Life has homework  
that makes  
your hands hurt  
but you  
have to do it  
to get good grades.  
It is hard  
like reading books.  
Life for  
me has been  
sweet

like maple syrup.



## **Penguin and Butterflies** **by Izzabella Isasi**

I am Generous  
like a joyful  
Jumping giraffe.

I am Respectful  
like a reading  
Rabbit.

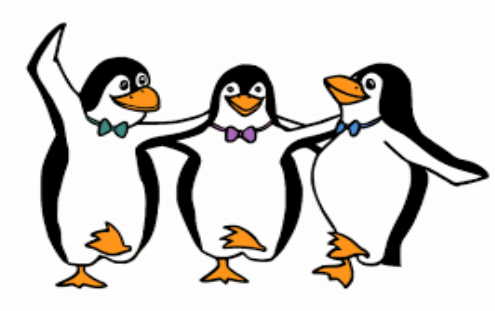
I am Sweet like  
a silly, smart  
slug.

I am a leopard  
that goes  
really, really  
fast!

I am Funny  
like a  
silly face.

I am Cold  
like an ice and  
igloo.

I am pretty  
like a penguin  
and a butterfly.





## Hard Like Basketball by Dashan Hendricks

Dear Dad,

Life is hard  
like basketball.  
Life is hard  
like baking a cake.

Dear Dad, life is hard  
like my basketball.

Life is hard  
like a game.  
Like you won level  
one and two  
and you're stuck  
on level three  
doing it ten times.

Life is hard like  
real basketball.  
Life is hard like buying  
food.  
Life is hard like going  
to Hollywood to stay  
but it's too  
much money.

Life is like going  
somewhere fun  
to play games  
because sometimes  
games are hard  
and sometimes  
games are easy.



## Life is Fun



**by Bangaly Sidibe**

Dear Zack, life is like a rosette.

Life is when the sun shines.

Life is when I get to your home.

Life is when we go to the beach.

Life is when we go home.

Life is when we move to New Jersey  
in two more years and when we can be  
bunk mates. Life is when I can go  
to the backyard. Life is when people be  
digging. Life is when the sun  
comes up. Life is like when you  
lose your rose. Believe diamond.

# Ms. Kouakou's Class





# Cats and Meow by Kenya Taveras

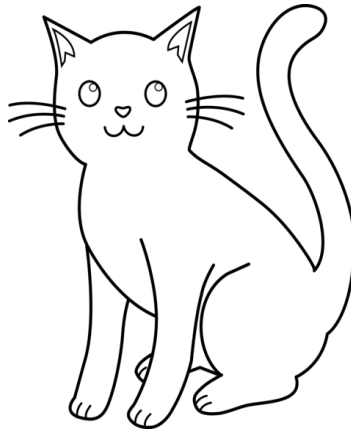
My  
cat  
meows.

Why  
do cats  
have  
whiskers?

Why  
do cats  
have  
tails?

Do cats  
eat food?  
cat food?

I  
love  
you  
cat.



**Family**  
**by Jelizabeth Otero**

Mom's  
hair is  
blonde  
like  
the trunk  
of a  
tree.

Dad  
has  
green  
eyes  
like  
the  
leaves  
in the  
summer.

My  
grandma's



hair  
is short  
like a  
lollipop.

My cousin's  
baby  
Erika's hair  
is curly  
like  
mac  
and  
cheese.

We  
love  
our  
natural  
hair.

## **Running Loose** **by Ziva Gonzalez**

I remember when  
I was going  
to  
Coney Island.

There was a  
problem  
with my  
hair.

My hair was caught  
between the doors of  
an elevator on my way  
to a plane ride.

Then I  
couldn't  
get  
it  
out  
two times.

The  
elevator cut  
my hair.

My mom  
took me to a  
hair salon  
and they cut my hair  
and made it shorter.

After, I went up the elevator  
and rode a dolphin  
under the  
water.



## My Love Elizabeth



by Amaryllis Hernandez

I go with  
Miss Elizabeth.  
She  
takes me  
to the  
park  
and the  
library  
and to  
Dunkin  
Doughnuts.

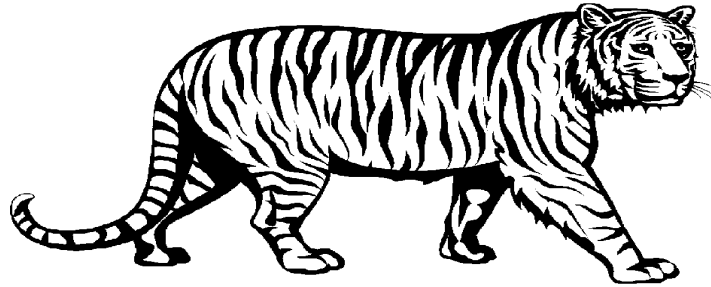
We  
go see  
people  
like  
Azula,  
Romeo Santos,  
and  
Prince Royce,

and sometimes  
I see  
my friends  
Jose,  
Lis,  
Jorellis,  
and  
Aledy.

And  
I go  
home  
to see  
TV.

We  
love  
all of  
our  
friends.





**Tigers**  
**by John Nuñez**

Tigers roar  
very loud.

Tigers eat deer, goats,  
cows, and alligators.

Tigers  
have cubs.

Tigers have  
stripes.

Tigers have sharp  
teeth.

Tigers  
have claws.

Tigers have beautiful eyes.

Tigers eat meat  
from other animals.

Tigers live  
in the jungle.

Tigers have sharp teeth  
like sharks.

# **Rock n Roll** **by Brian Velasquez**

Rock Rocking roll!  
you use it for  
singing

you use it for  
dancing

you use it  
for  
the  
party

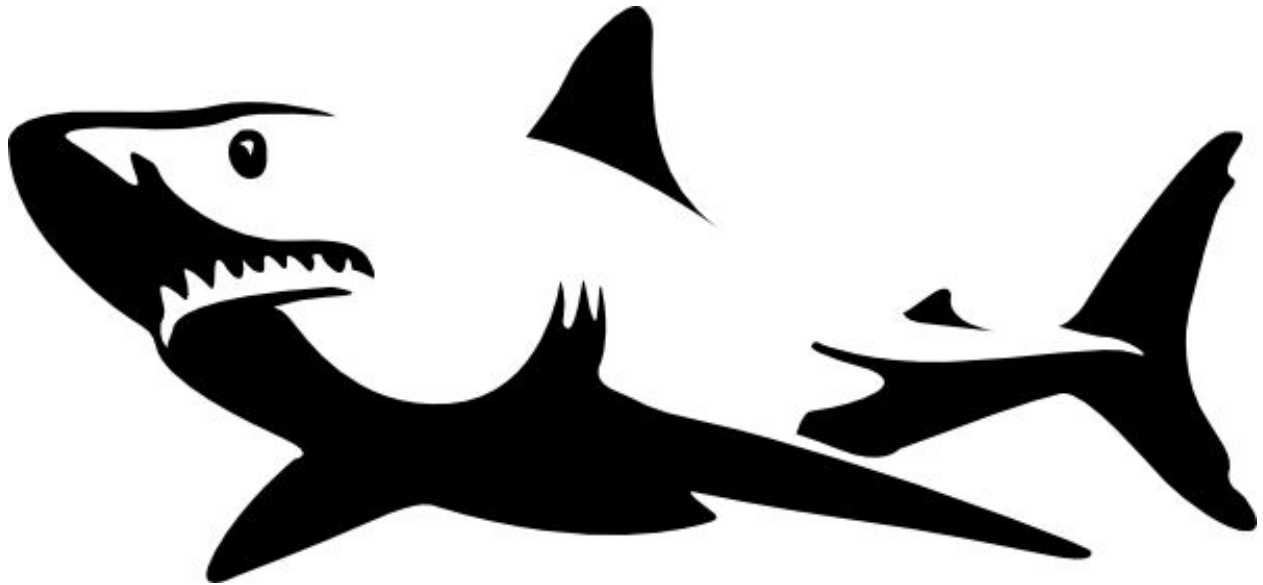
You use  
it for  
Rocking  
Roll

How do you  
make sounds?  
The strings!

Use it  
for a Rock  
and Roll  
song.



# **Sharks Do Everything** **by Addison Velasquez**



Do you eat fish?

Do you eat hot dogs?

Do sharks walk?

Do sharks say “Hey, hey!”

Do sharks play on computers?

Do sharks go to the schools?

Sharks do everything.

## **Alliterations by Dyianna Brazier**

I love a frog and fly, and the frog can fly

and a girl is eating gum and she

makes a Batman car, fly frog.

He has you and his name is Frank.

Mrs. K. is a cat woman teacher.

I am a Batman car. I like the cat dance.

I am a magic dog.

I am a silly cat. I am a funny cow.

A frog and fly, and the frog can fly

and a girl eating gum and she

makes a Batman car, fly frog.





**Words that Start or End with N**  
**by Nasir Bing**

necessary

neat

nice

brown skin

fun

run

new

never

need

nickle

number

notice

news

knee

near

nest

know

nose

no

none

now

nightmare

# **Tornado**

**by Eryk Irapailla**



A tornado looks like an ice cream cone.

A tornado feels like nothing but wind.

A tornado smells like rotten eggs.

A tornado tastes like a rotten banana.

# **Ms. Pimentel's Class**







## **The Ways I Celebrate Myself by Zariah Serrata**

I celebrate myself!

I'm joyful like a gentle  
jaguar in a party.

I am thankful like a thoughtful  
thief.

I am smart like a smiling snake  
going to school.

I am brilliant like a baseball  
getting hit with a bat.

I'm delightful like a doll dancing  
under a disco ball.

I am weird  
like a dancing animal at a dancing competition.



## Ride on the Wind by Chinel Coleman



I like to ride on the wind  
it makes me want to sing with blowing colors  
and the beauty inside makes me want to sing  
with the rain and color blowing through the deepest part of my heart  
with wind and ride.  
I love to ride on the wind because it makes me want to sing.  
I love to ride on the wind it just makes me want to sing and sing.  
I love to ride on my bike on the wind because when I ride on the wind I  
know I love it.

## Two Hands and Long Teeth by Ismeal Diomande

When I awoke one  
morning  
from troubled  
sleep, I found myself changed  
into a Spinosaurus dinosaur.

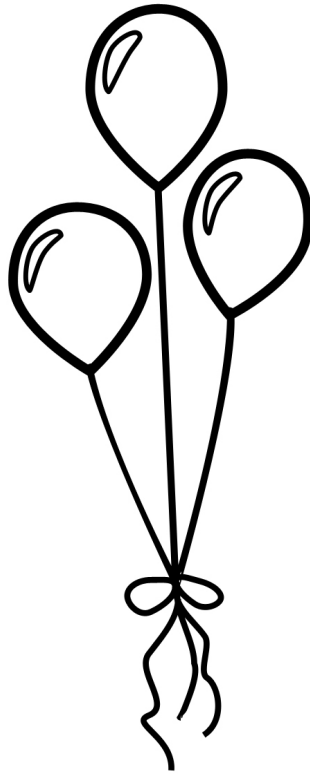
Two hands, long teeth,  
powerful  
legs, long legs.

I will break the  
bed and look.

I hear the doorbell ring and my teacher is at the door. I will say  
RRRRRRORR.



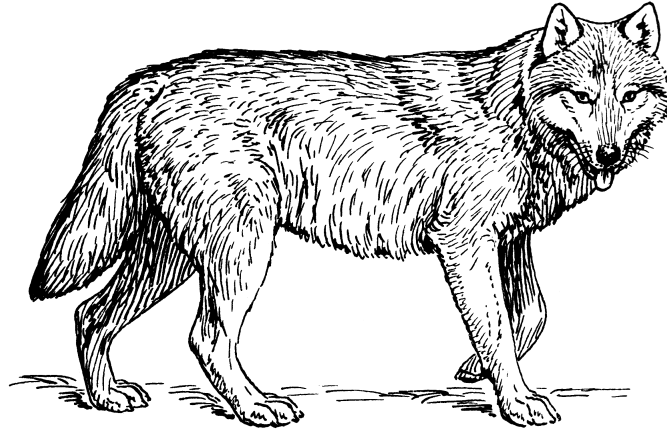
## The Balloon Popper



by Amadou Kourouma

One dark, stormy night, there were two Twin kids, Jake and Jeremy. Jake was going first, he was telling a forbidden story. THE BALLOON POPPER. This was his story: Twenty-five years ago there was a balloon salesman. He had a friend with him but he got jealous. So the balloon salesman showed all of his balloons. He went into the sky and all the balloons popped except the red balloon. Then the red balloon popped. The last thing he saw, touched, or talked to was a red poison bow dart. His last words were “you and me are gonna’ be best friends.” Then he touched the dart and he died. His spirit comes every five years. Then Jake said, “Let’s call out his name.”

## Wicked as a Wolf



**by Yaya Camara**

I am as gorgeous as a Greek god.

I am as cherished as a cherry.

I am as handsome as a hand.

I am as happy as a heart.

I am as determined as a dog.

I am as wicked as a wolf.

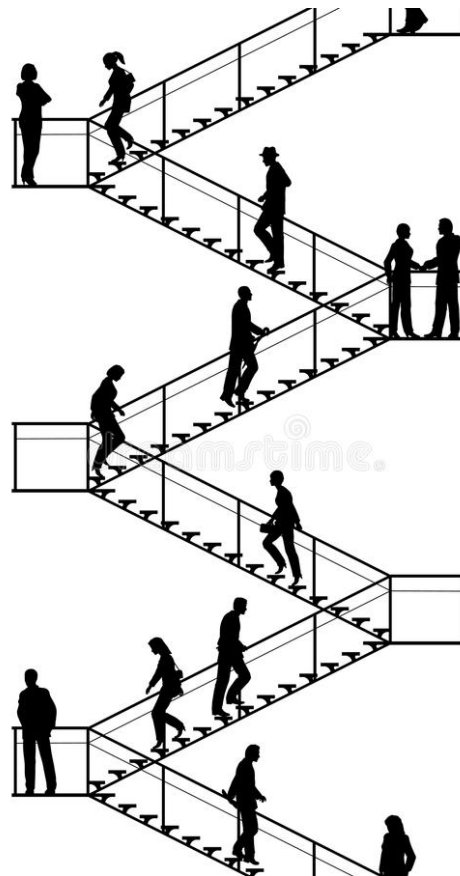
I am wise as a wizard.

I am kind as a kite.

# The Fire Escape

By Deandre Sanchez

a bridge is so big and high  
a fire escape is fun to be in  
the trees make  
me feel like  
climbing  
the painting  
makes  
kind of a foot  
a fish  
a fan  
a radio  
a computer  
a keyboard  
a table  
different kinds of food  
it's a fun place to have a picnic  
a river  
the grass  
the trees  
the cups  
a fence  
the sky  
a lake  
a pole  
buildings  
cars  
a window  
the floor  
a hole



## **Helpful Heart** **By Dezondre Brazier**

I celebrate  
myself  
By my  
hopeful heart.  
To people who need  
help. The sky  
is shiny, as bright as  
a sunny sky. I am  
as bright as a diamond  
in the sky. I am like a  
cheetah. I am warm with a  
house and helpful heart.  
The sky is a red, shiny heart.  
I am tasty like an  
ice-cream cone.



**My BFFs**  
**by America Gracia Nuñez**

Dear Jaylin,

Life

is so

beautiful

like doing ballet

in a rainbow

swamp and like flying

to the clouds

and flying to

the stars like

you are a fairy

and also eating

cake with your BFFs

like you are

having a party with

a chocolate fountain

and having

a beautiful bed,

and having a

cloud pillow

and having

a pillow fight and

going to a castle

made out of ice.





## **I Like to Play**



**by Floyd Thompson**

I like to play ball at the park with my bros and I like to play by myself. I like to play with my bros a lot. I got into ball because my bro and I like to play with random people. And I like to win. If I lose I get mad. So mad. I don't even want to play. I play like I will walk out the park.

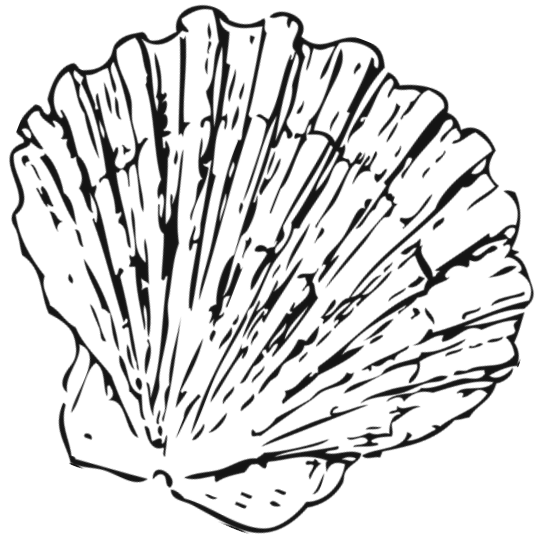
## **I Celebrate Myself With Everything** **By Rosielis Gonzalez**

I always say to myself I am  
brave, I'm bold, big, and my brain  
helps me think, so I can be  
who I am, and do what I do.

Every day I try to be joyful,  
jolly, jovial, and jubilant, and if  
I can do that I will be  
the happiest person in the world  
like a pile of cute kittens purring on each other.

Every day at home and school  
I giggle but I'm always gloomy  
about something but I'm always  
great to my teacher and I'm  
glad that she is Ms. Pimentel  
because she is the best third grade teacher.

I am like a sad ocean  
and happy like the sun.  
I like to play soccer and  
I have soft skin and I get  
shy when I do anything in  
front of people and I get sad  
when people force me to do things.  
If I were in the sea, I  
would love to be a cute  
seal, or a beautiful shiny  
seashell to be collected!



My most important part of  
my body is my brain.  
It helps me drink my blood  
that courses through me and  
my bones that help me sit straight!

## **Life in the Streets** **By Genesis Mencia**

I see pigeons.  
I hear cars beeping.  
I live in the dead end of the  
street.  
I talk to my friends. We talk about  
How many pets we have.  
It is hot like fire.  
I see a garden,  
With a lot of flowers,  
Trees, and dandelions.  
I see stars and the moon in the sky.



## Similes of Me by Jolany Tejada

I celebrate myself. I am  
Pretty as a precious puppy.

I am convincing as a king. I am  
Fast as a furious frog. I am  
As agreeable as an angel.  
I am as miserable as maple

Syrup. I am joyful  
as  
Jolly ranchers.

I am amazing as an annoying  
Orange.

I am excellent as  
An elephant. I am  
Brilliant as balloons. I am  
I am sad as a sun  
When it's cold.  
I am happy as a heart. I am as  
Determined as a dragon.

I am as spicy as a  
Snake. I am elated as an egg.  
I am wicked as a wolf.  
I am as decent as a dragon.  
I am wonderful as the  
World. I am kind as a kitten.

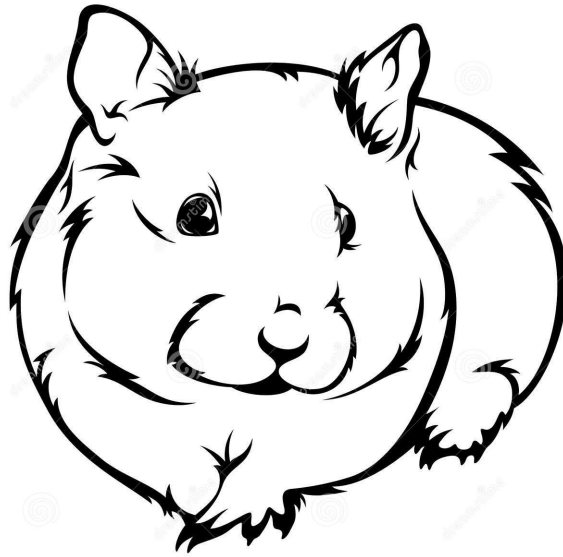


## **Uncurled to Curled by Brianna Tavira**



I remember when I got my hair curly like noodles. It felt as if someone was using a pencil to make my hair curly but they were using a curler and they did it soft like a pillow or a soft cloud. After I got my hair done it felt as if my hair was flying in the sky and when I was taking off the curls it felt like fresh water falling down. Then my hair was back to straight, how it has always been. Straight like grass. When the day was over I did some hair styles and I did a bun and it looked as if a ball was on my head.

## **I'm a Hamster, ahhh!**



**by Lizet De Jesus Mejia**

When I woke up one morning from troubled sleep, I found myself changed into a hamster. I am brown and white and cute. When I woke up I said, “Ahhh! I am a hamster!” I jumped off my bed. I said, “Ow! I jumped up to the window. It was stormy outside and there was thunder. I got scared and jumped to the floor and I fell on my back and I hurt my little hand. Then I said, “Oww again!”

When I heard the doorbell ring I said, “Oh no,” in a squeaky voice. I tried to fit in my clothes and they were tiny like me. I put the clothes on and then my teachers saw me at the door because I didn't show up at school. Then I opened the door and I said, “Hi, Ms. Pimentel.” She said, “Who's down here?” and Ms. Pimentel said “Is that you Lizet? Are you a hamster?” I said, “ Yes it is me as a hamster.” Ms. Pimentel said, “OMG.”

## What I Love by Ailyn Perez



Love is like strawberries  
with chocolate and  
rainbow sprinkles.

Love smells like Coco Blue  
perfume with  
sprinkles on it.

Love feels as  
if you're petting  
a soft Husky dog.

Love sounds like my  
sister singing a fast  
Spanish song.

Love looks like my  
beautiful teachers.

Love makes me  
dance hip-hop.

**The Hair**  
**by Douglas Mcree**

My dog's hair  
is like a  
hairball.

My mom's hair is  
like cotton candy.

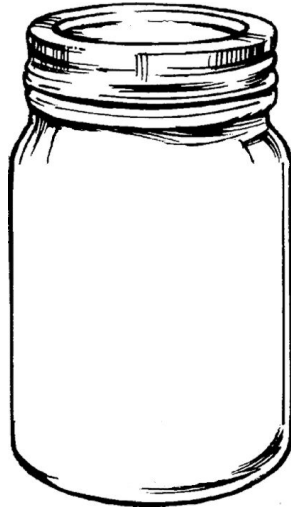
My Dad's hair is like a  
fireball.

My cat's hair is crazy  
Like a clown.





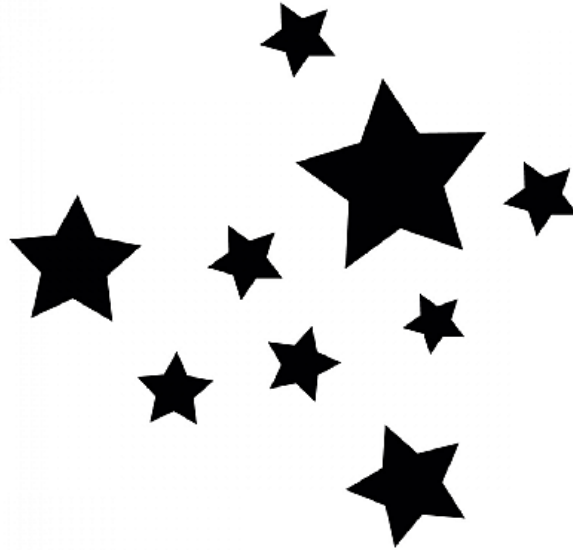
**King God**  
**by Nana Kyeremateng**



I am kind like a king  
that keeps a key.  
I am fast as a hat with my  
head of hair is all my heart.

I'm as hard as God in a  
jar of goo that I got  
and give to my sister.

## **Stars Flying in the Sky**



**by Yaneury Valera**

Love is like stars  
flying in the sky.

Love is like the sunshine of my heart.  
Love is like a humming bird on a sunny day.  
Love is like macaroni and cheese.  
Love feels like my  
Mom hugging me.  
Love is like birds flying up  
In the sky.  
Love smells like chocolate.  
Love is stronger than a gorilla.

## **I Love My Family's Hair by Iman Campaore**

My mom's hair is  
long like spaghetti.  
My Dad's hair is  
short like a bush.  
My little twin sister's  
hair is curly like  
a mop. My brother's  
hair is spiky  
like a knife. My  
hair is soft  
like a teddy  
bear.  
My Grandma's hair is  
white like snow white.  
My aunt's hair is black like a choker.



**I am a Whale**  
**by Akeelah Christopher**

When I awoke one morning from troubled sleep,  
I found myself changed into  
a whale.

I tried to get out of bed.

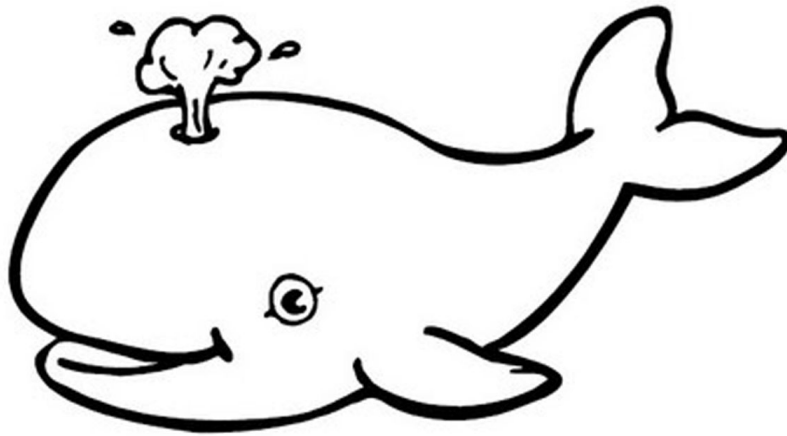
I rolled out of the bed then I fell on my bare, blue back.

I rolled all the way to the kitchen to get whale cookies but there were no  
whale cookies

Then I swam until it was school time. I forgot that there was no water then  
instead

I slid to my bed covers. I heard someone  
ring the doorbell and my teacher  
came in.

I screamed. Then I slid back into my room.



## Freedom



**by Tarasia Blackwell**

Love tastes like  
vanilla ice cream with rainbow sprinkles.

Love smells like  
Pizza.

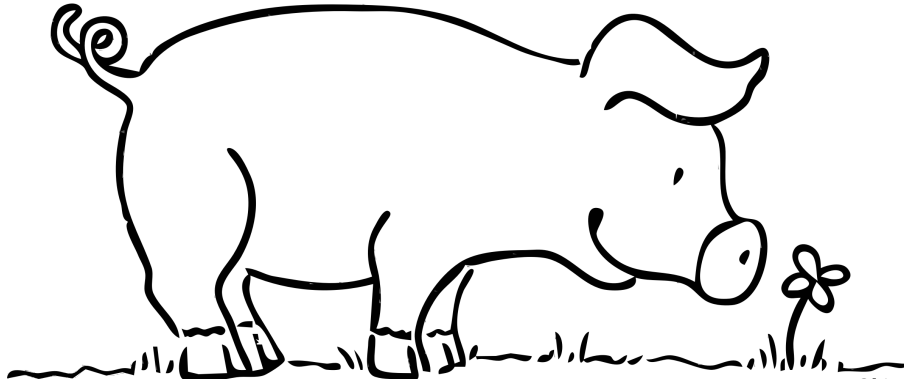
Love feels like a cozy soft pillow.

Love sounds like  
Birds singing.

Loves looks like  
Freedom.



## When I Woke Up



**by Madoussou Kourouma**

When I awoke one morning from troubled sleep, I found myself changed into a pig. I felt like I was not a human anymore. When I looked at myself, I was a pig. I had to fall to get of the bed. It was so hard. When I looked out the window, it was sunny, but I had school.

I heard the doorbell ring and it was my teacher and she said, “Open the door!” But I couldn’t. But my mom opened the door. I jumped out my window and ran. Everybody saw me. Then I went to school. The next morning, I was a rat. What is going on? I was a pig yesterday. I jumped but I wasn’t human. I had to get surgery so I could be a human again.





# **MS. WRIGHT'S AND MS. WEINER'S CLASS**





## **I'm Still a Butterfly**

**By Naila Hidalgo**

Once, I saw a butterfly. The butterfly was so pretty with a lot of different colors. The next morning it felt like I was a green butterfly with pretty colors.

I wanted to go back to see the butterfly. My Mom and Dad said, “No! No! No!” I was sad. I said, “Please! Please!” I watched some videos about butterflies. I was trying to go to the place where I saw the butterfly, but I couldn't. I dressed up in a butterfly costume. I was sad, sad, sad.

The next morning, when I got up, I was a pretty butterfly. It was like I was flying so high. I got scared but it felt good. I fell asleep and when I woke up I was still a butterfly. I was in Florida and it was amazing.



## Flowers by Jayline Ovalle

Flower

Why are there different types of flowers?

Why do flowers have a smell to them?

Why do flowers grow so big?

What happens when a flower gets old?

What if a flower does hip hop?

Why do flowers have different colors?

Teal, burgundy, mint green,

Yellow and more.

Why do flowers have vines?



## **Was I Just a Whale? by Justin Hardy**

One day I woke up  
from troubled sleep  
and I was a big whale.  
I no longer had legs  
or arms and I couldn't  
breathe well. So I rolled out of bed and bounced to  
water and thought to myself, "I can't go to school like this and I can't even  
breathe right." Later I was hungry for fish  
so I saw a bunch in the distance and I chased them. Then I got very tired  
so I fell asleep on the comfortable  
sand. Finally, I woke up  
in my bed and I said to  
myself, "Wasn't I just a whale. Well  
I guess I'll get  
ready for school.  
Wait a minute! It's  
A Saturday. Oh well."



**Mi Pelo**  
**by Arismeydy Peña-Polanco**



    Mi Mama me peina el pelo.  
    Me gusta cuando ella me peina.  
    Ella me hace trenzas y moños.  
    Me peina en la casa y el salon.  
Me lavan el pelo y despues me lo secan  
con el blower. Me gusta mi pelo.

# It's All About Me by Lamine Diallo

I am

Mad like

A moose

Is mad

I am

Full like

A bottle

Of water

Is full.

I am

Excited

To eat

My food.

I write

Until I

Am so

Weak.

When I

Do math

I am

Myself



I am mad

Like a moose

Is mad

I am full

Like a bottle

Of water is

Full

I am excited

To eat my

Food

I write until

I am so

Weak.

When I do math

I am myself.



**My Woods**  
**by Brianna Diaz**

My neighborhood  
Is like  
Music  
Salsa and people  
Dancing

Is like  
music  
Salsa and people  
Dancing

In the woods  
It sounds like  
Water falling  
In the sky

In the  
Woods it sounds like  
Water falling  
In the sky





# How Much I Love School by Johan Almonte

Love tastes like

Pizza

With ham

Love smells

Like

Salad.

Love feels like

Climbing a  
rock wall,

Giving

everyone a kiss

You are  
Climbing  
A

Mountain.



# Crazy Airplane Questions by Osvarlin Malena

What happens  
When planes  
Take off?  
What do you think  
Of flying?

What if it crashes?

What's  
Going to  
Happen? Why do

Pilots put the  
Landing

Gears up when they fly? Instead  
of  
Leaving them  
Down?

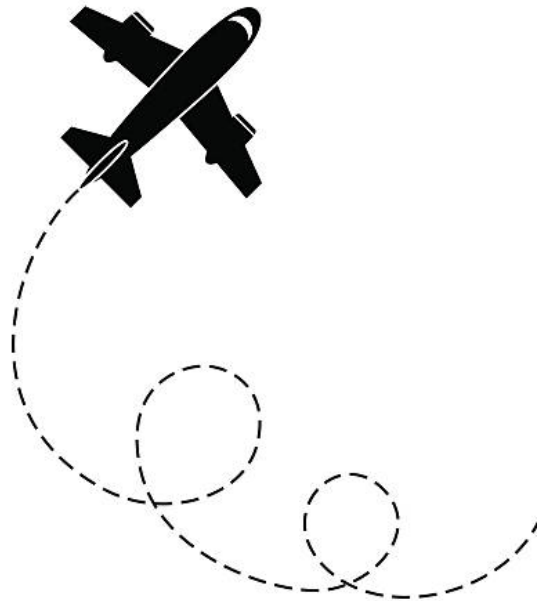
How do  
Pilots  
Fly an  
Airplane?

What  
Part of  
The airplane  
Makes the  
Most  
Noise?

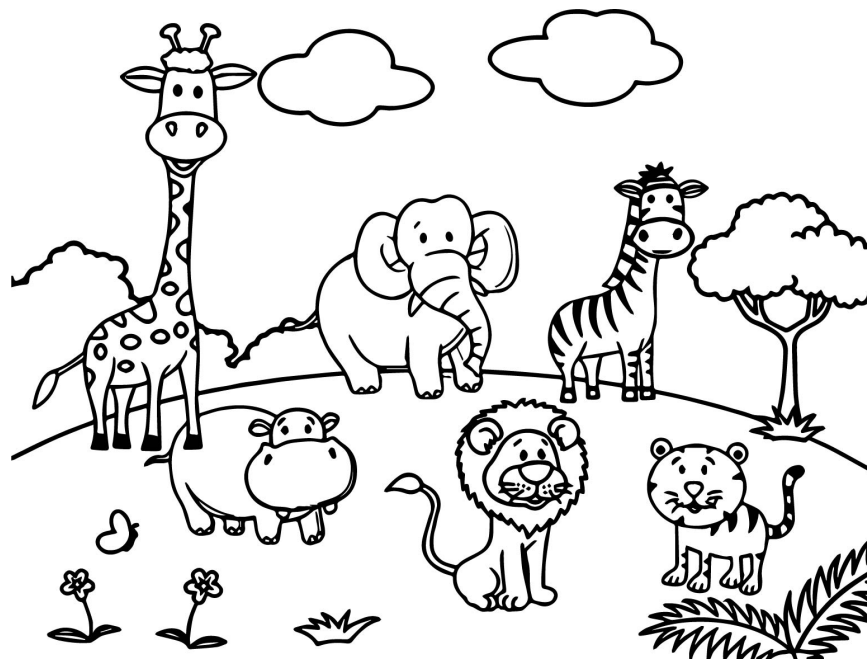
What distance of  
Miles

Can a  
Plane  
Fly?

Is  
a  
Plane  
Heavy  
Or lightweight?



## My Neighborhood—Highbridge by Ana Herasme



I see  
People, dogs, cats.  
I hear  
Cars, bus  
Trains.  
My neighborhood  
Is quiet like  
A cat. My neighborhood  
Is like a zoo. My neighborhood  
Is so loud that the sun can hear it.

## **My Favorite Sister by Jasmin Flores**

Dear big sister, Ana,  
You give me  
All your love.  
You're pretty like a  
Beautiful flower. Your love is  
Like a unicorn. You  
Help me do my  
Homework. I love  
You with all my  
Love. My heart is with  
Your heart. Your love  
Smells like M&Ms.  
I love to hear you say,  
"I love unicorns!"  
She always  
Buys me  
Things at Toys R Us.  
She takes me places  
Like Times Square.  
We go to the park  
And have a fun time.  
She likes slime  
Like me.



## My Colorful World by Melanie Matia Reyes

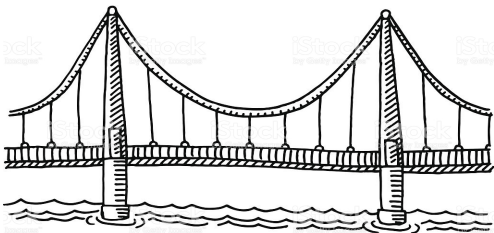
The bridge  
Looks green  
Like  
Grass.

This book??? Looks gray  
And has  
A hole  
But  
It still  
Has  
A  
Floor.  
I see  
Windows  
Ladders  
Too.

I see a bridge  
Blue and bright  
So pretty  
So light.

I see a bridge  
Blue and bright  
So pretty  
So light.

Love it at night  
I see its



Beautiful ocean  
So clear and  
Blue.

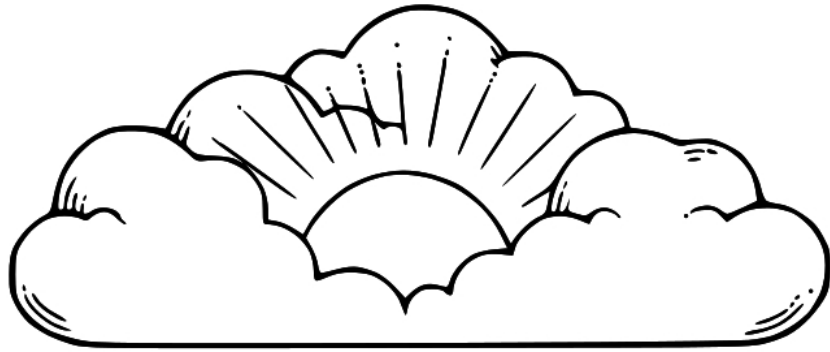
This art is sweet  
So colorful  
Like paint is  
Beautiful is like  
Rainbows passing  
By  
And saying  
Hi.

Hey it's a machine  
Colorful and neat  
Needs bolts  
To  
Live or it will not survive.  
So we'll screw  
And use  
Tools.

Wow it's dinner  
Time  
Hurry hurry  
Or we will  
Lose  
Time  
So eat, eat  
To be  
Healthy  
And  
Sweet.

Bridges and machines  
So bright.

# Rainbow Cloud



by Ashley Saldana

Love is as  
Sweet  
As an  
Apple

A rainbow  
Full  
Of joy

Love  
Is calling  
Me when I  
Am  
    Sleeping

Love is  
Beautiful  
As a bird

Love  
Is sweet  
As  
A lollipop

Love smells  
Like  
A strawberry  
Perfume

My heart  
Is  
Like an apple  
Tree

My heart  
Is a  
Cloud  
That's called  
Rainbow Cloud.

My love is

## **My Sister Gia Bella** **by Nathan Ramos**

Life for you is like you're  
A princess in a castle,  
Having everything  
You want in your  
Whole entire life.  
You are my  
Shining star.  
I will never  
Leave your side and  
You are everything to me.  
If you aren't  
A queen or princess  
It doesn't matter because  
You are one to me.  
You're my first  
Ever sister and  
You will never  
Leave my side  
Like a never ending panda  
Because I will always  
Keep you company  
And you can count on me like 1, 2,  
3.  
I can count on spirits  
I can count on family  
I can count on love  
I can count on wishes  
I can count on myself.

I'll  
Be there.  
When I first  
Met you, I knew  
You were going  
To be the best  
Sister in the world.

You are a warrior that never gives  
up. You are  
A teddy bear. You gave me all your  
love.  
You love me like a beautiful  
puppy.  
I love you so much  
I will glue us together.



**Dear Little Sister,**



**by David Enebi**

Life is like a  
Haunted house. It  
Is so scary because  
You might faint  
When someone scares you.  
You might scream like  
A girl and even Santa  
Can hear you from  
The North Pole and  
His elf can hear you.  
So now you know how  
I feel. Life is like  
A haunted house. Also,

If someone scares  
You, don't scream  
Like a girl. But if  
You just tell them  
To stop and don't  
Cry to your mom.  
Be brave to tell  
Them to stop scaring  
Me.



## Pin Drop by Tashike Franks

I see lots  
of cars and

People, stores and the  
Parks, a football field, and  
The Yankee stadium. I hear  
People screaming and I see lots  
Of cars, people and stores.  
Motorcycles. My neighborhood

is quiet like a mouse  
marching so slow. My  
neighborhood is a sleepy  
person. My neighborhood  
is quiet like you  
can hear a pen stir.

My neighborhood is loud  
Like a lion roaring.

My neighborhood is like  
A crazy duke.

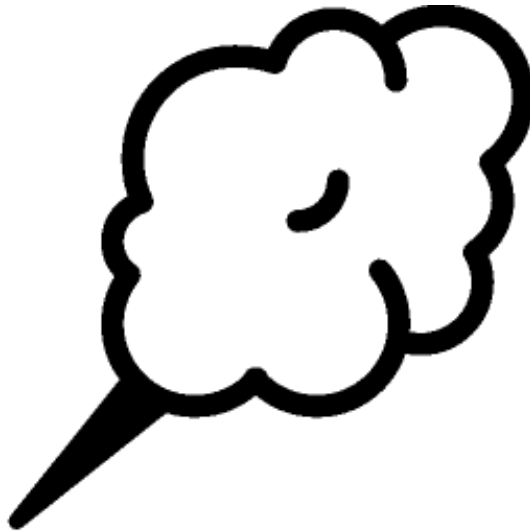


**Dear BaBy Nephew,  
by Elliany Concepcion**

Life for  
Me has  
Been

Like sweet  
Cotton  
Candy. Don't eat  
Too  
Much because  
You  
Might get a  
Tummy ache.

Every time  
You look  
At  
The sky  
And you're holding  
Cotton candy  
You will  
Feel as  
If you  
Were  
Flying with  
Cotton candy  
Because cotton candy  
Looks like the  
Sky.



# Owls

by Kimberly Garcia

How  
Can owls  
See from  
Far? Where do  
Owls come from?  
Can owls swim  
In the cold  
Water? Can owls  
Play instruments  
Like a guitar?  
Are owls different  
Colors like a hot  
Pink owl? Can  
Owls use clothes  
That humans wear?



## Things I Want to Happen by D'Angelo Cruz

I wish  
It could  
Be  
    Summer.

I wish  
I  
Had a  
Computer.

    I wish  
I  
    Was in  
Bed.    I  
Wish  
I  
    Wasn't  
Reading. I  
Wish there  
Was no school.

I wish  
I  
    Had  
A vending machine  
Doritos and Takis.

I wish  
    I  
Had 1,000,000  
Takis.

I wish  
we were  
walking  
in  
watermelons.



**Dear Mom**  
**by Dahiany Polanco-Rivera**

Dear Mom, life is hard for you because you have to change my little brother, take me to school, take my little brother to the daycare, and then you have to go to work. Now you even have to go to work on Saturdays. Every day you have to do the same. Life is hard for you. Life is hard for you. I love you Mom. Good job, Mom. You are courageous. You persevere. You are like a queen.



## **Pandas** **by Mariana Mejia**

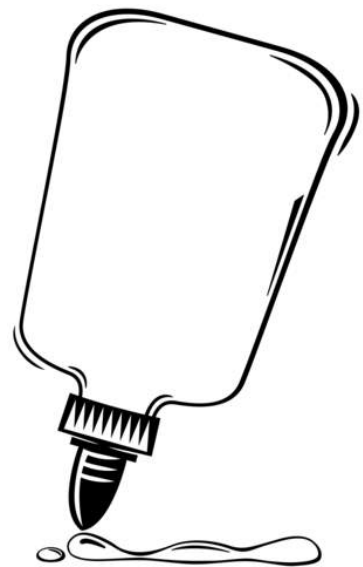
When I awoke one morning from troubled  
dreams I  
found myself changed  
into a panda. Instead of hands  
I had paws.  
My  
body was  
black and  
white  
fur. I'm used  
to living in  
warm  
places.



## Glue Spilling On My Head by Godfred Kumi-Gyan

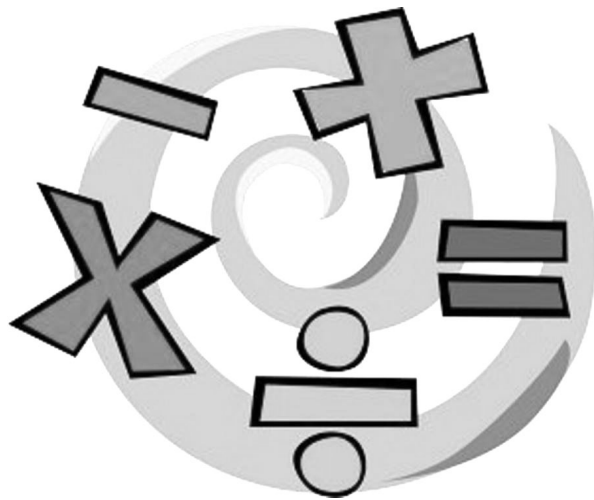
When my  
Mom was  
Combing my  
Hair it  
Hurt because  
Glue got  
Stuck on  
My head  
Because I  
Was painting  
The house  
And my  
Head hit  
The cup with glue  
And all of  
Glue spilled  
On me and  
I was sad.

I called my  
Mom. She  
Said, "Let's  
Go to the  
Bathroom."  
And then  
She helped  
Me take  
It off.



## Miracle Born From Math by Malvin Melo

I celebrate myself  
For being smart,  
Sweet slick, and  
Strong. I am  
Also as positive  
As a pomegranate  
And would like  
A giant pool of pencils.  
I celebrate  
Myself for being  
Good at piano.  
Painting paper is  
Perfect. I'm also  
Good at writing  
Like a watermelon.  
Winter makes me  
Want to wonder  
A lot. I celebrate  
Myself for being  
Malvin Melo like  
A miracle born  
From Math.





## **My Hair was Messy** **by Joshuary Martinez**

I remember when ...My hair was messy.  
On a Saturday morning it looked like the boy  
from the little rascals, Alfalfa. My hair was up like a line  
But the line was little  
and my three  
sisters, Ashley, Chelsea and Maya  
were laughing at me and they said, "You look funny."  
"Stop laughing at me!" I told them and I told my Dad. The next morning my  
Dad did the same hair  
as I had on Saturday.  
My sister Maya said,  
"You look funny just like Joshuary."  
My Dad said to my sisters, "Do you want me to make your hair like ours?"  
They said, "No thank you."



# Love



**by Ami Noudjo**

Love tastes like  
School.

Love smells like  
My cousin and Ms. Weiner.

Love feels like  
Mother and Father.

Love sounds like  
My brother and sister.

Love looks like  
Me.

# Bigger Than 1000 Schools

by Johanny Perez

I see a  
    Little bit  
Of people in my  
    Neigh  
    Bor  
    Hood.

I hear  
    A lot  
Of wind  
    Air.

My neighborhood  
    Is quiet  
        Like a  
    A baby sleeping.

    My neighborhood  
Is messy

        Like a  
    crazy monkey.

My neigh  
    Borhood is  
A really big museum, like the Museum of  
Natural History.

    My neigh  
        Borhood is  
Bigger than  
    1,000 schools!



# AUTOGRAPHS

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