

An Anthology of Poetry by the Second-Grade Students of PS 51 M \* Spring 2019



# HERE TO SHINE!

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An Anthology of Poetry by the Second-Grade Students of PS 51 M \* Elias Howe



Manhattan, New York

Spring 2019



Ms. Stephanie Lukas, Principal Ms. Dana Goldberg, Assistant Principal

Ms. Alyssa Grossman and Mr. James Park Mr. Wayne Casimir Ms. Danielle Murgolo and Alix Merryman

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Matthew Burgess Teachers & Writers Collaborative

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# Introduction

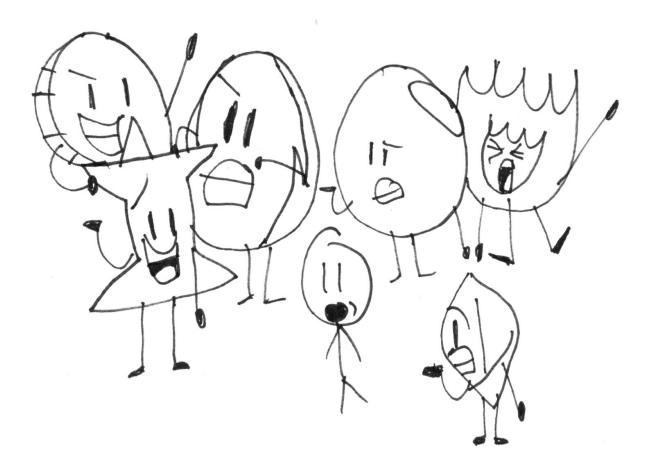
The title of this year's poetry anthology comes from Rae-Shon Sanchez's amazing poem, "I Am." First, we read "The Delight Song" by N. Scott Momaday as a class, and then we did a brief meditation: what are some things we might compare ourselves to? Once our ideas began percolating, I issued the writing challenge of the day: repeat the phrase "I am" and add vivid descriptions using "delicious details." Rae-Shon clearly connected with this prompt, and soon he was on a roll. "I am a rover, here to explore. / I am a dinosaur, here to roar. / I am a sun, here to shine. / Everyone can become / what they want to be. Everyone has a different legacy." Rae-Shon packs a lot of wisdom into a short poem, and he gives his readers a reminder and nudge of encouragement: "We have one life—make it a good one."

What does it mean to "shine"? Maybe it means being present, living in the moment. Maybe it means connecting with our creativity and tapping into our joy. I believe the second-grade poets of PS 51 demonstrate what it means to shine, and the poems in this anthology are wonderful proof! Surely, anyone who opens this book and reads the poems published here will walk away with a little extra life force, a little boost of vitality and imagination. And if you know any of the poets here personally, you might give them a kind word in response, or ask them to read their poems aloud. Then, certainly, you will see them shining bright!

This program would not have been possible without the generous support of Elaine Clark and the folks at ING. Thank you for supporting this wonderful partnership with Teachers & Writers Collaborative. We also wish to thank Ms. Stephanie Lukas and Ms. Dana Goldberg, principal and assistant

principal of PS 51; the terrific second-grade teachers, Ms. Grossman, Mr. Park, Mr. Casimir, Ms. Merryman and Ms. Murgolo. We were very fortunate to have Charleen McClure, education associate at T&W, participating in our program and lending a helping hand. A final, wholehearted thank you goes to the second-grade poets of PS 51, whose poems fill these pages. Thank you for sharing your SHINE with the rest of us!

Matthew Burgess May 2019



# Ms. Grossman and Mr. Park's Class

Sally Alshiri Sivad Baillou Jashria Bennett Jaime Carballo Cindy Correa Evan Cuevas Nasir Dickey Madisyn Galarza Aiden Guerrero **Rehan Haque** Bradley Jagessar Jayden James **Eleanor Johnston Payton Jones** Grace Kansfield Sophia Li Will Melli-Jones **Rae-Shon Sanchez** Lejla Sejfic Samir Soriano Angely Torres-Cortes Valending Vicente Chad Williams Ilir Sejdija

# Sally Alshiri

# Things To Do If You Are a Unicorn

Sparkle, sparkle, sparkle Shining in the bright pink sky Yelling "Hey!" and flying by Twirling here, twirling there Twirling everywhere, flying everywhere Making a rainbow and making a sound Shine, shine, shine, I am a unicorn.

### The Moon

The moon is a ball rolling in the street. The moon is a croissant that needs to be bitten. The moon is a waffle spinning in the sky. The moon is shining in the night. The moon is a clock ticking in the sky. The moon is a sparkly hairband.

### **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is a cave and no one can get in unless you press a password. I have a ninja that kicks your head and a unicorn that makes you fly so high on a rainbow that is so so so bright you can't look at it. Quiet. Quiet.

# Sivad Baillou

# Ode to White Panthers

Hello panthers! Panthers are fast, are good hiders, are smart. They could sneak up on you. They are fast like a cheetah. They eat meat. They like talking in trees.

### Things To Do If You Are Miles Morales

Shoot webs at bad guys. Lose the spider. Run up walls. Hang from ceilings. Turn invisible and then use your electric powers. Make spider bowling balls Swing with webs. Stick webs on cans and swing them around and then throw them at the bad guys.



# Jashria Bennett

# **Budging the Curmudgeon**

When I get mad, I sing a song to myself. When my friends get mad, I be respectful and share my food with them. When my Mom gets mad, we talk about it and we fix the problem. When my Dad gets mad, I help him. When my pet gets angry at my mom, I tell him, "Sit, now."

### Love

The girl loves her friends and her family. Love is also about happiness and joy and Love has green eyes and red hair. Love is about peace, hope, lots of stuff. You know that everybody loves God. He makes love and all the good stuff. That's why all these things are good. God made us. He gives food to us and love to us and peace to us. The thing about God is he is LOVED.



Jaime Carballo

# l Am

I am a wolf protecting my pack. I am a bird singing in the sun. I am a snake slithering around. I am a puppy whimpering for help. I am an elephant with a sore trunk. I am the sun shining bright. You need me to see the light. If I was not there, you will not see.

# Ode to Dogs

When dogs wag their tails, they are happy. Dogs like to eat. Why do you sit when you want a treat? We simply want just a little tiny treat. Why do you sleep on us? We are a little sleepy.

# Cindy Correa

## The Moon

The moon is like a slice of pizza cooking in a smoking oven. The moon is like a chocolate cookie melting in a plate, so good that I can eat it. The moon is like a slice of cake. The moon is a like a rainbow. The moon is like a banana. The moon is like a girl smiling. The moon is like a sun burning in a cup.

# l Am

I am the rain watering in the sky. I am a dancing unicorn shining in the rain and thunder. I am a shadow who follows a fox in the thunder. I am the sun floating in the sky. I am the feather flying in the sky.

# Evan Cuevas

# Things to Do If You Are the Sun

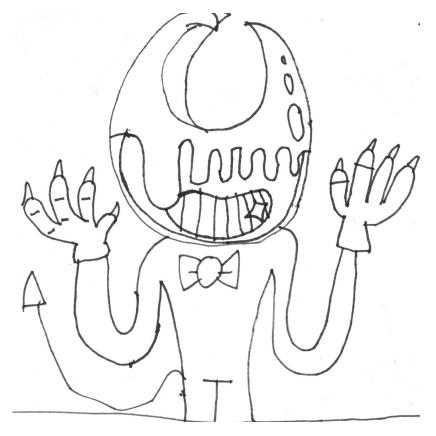
I'm the sun. I'm hot. Nothing is bigger than me. Not even any of my planets. Not even Jupiter is bigger than me. You can fit 3,000 Earths in me and when I'm a red giant I will eat you up. But sometimes I'm green and sometimes I'm blue and sometimes I'm blue but don't touch me. I'm hot, very hot! I'm 1,000,000,000,000 hot. I'm the biggest one of all.

### l Am

I'm the sun shining so bright. I'm Mercury. I am really friendly. I'm Venus, the hottest one. I'm Earth, the loveliest planet. I'm Mars, the red one! I'm Jupiter with the red circle. I'm Saturn with some pretty rings. I'm Uranus. I'm the one who's on its side. I'm Neptune. I'm the farthest away! I'm Pluto, the saddest dwarf planet.

### **My Secret Hideout**

My hideout is in a black place. It has my favorite things in the world. The password is (11 Solar). My place has two secret doors. The door to the left leads to my (tent). The other door leads to Greece and you only have five seconds to go through the right door. If you see Greece that means you will see fancy cars and kittens and nice robbers and a lot of babies and if you ride a fancy car in Greece you will be a rich person in Greece.



# Nasir Dickey

# Ode to Dogs

Morning, Dogs! Dogs like to eat. Dogs like to smell. Dogs growl. Dogs like to fetch. You are furry and smelly. Why do you get wet? And why do you sit so much, dog? And why do you go to the back door when we go to sleep?

# l Am

I am a thing that never has been seen. I come out in the night. I see you in the night. I am the coolest one. I could climb in trees. I am a beast. Do not touch me or else!

# My Soul

My soul dreams about going to Greece and going to the backyard and swimming in the beautiful clear water and seeing the clouds and swimming with my mom and I feel that she is nice with me and I like my mom. She is so nice.

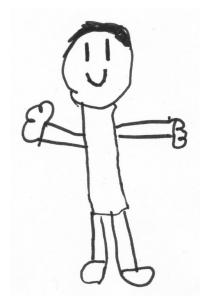
# Ode to Cats

Little cats are very cute. They have whiskers. They have fur. They also have soft fur. Cats eat stinky cat food and they are so cute when they eat. Cats always purr. Why do you purr when I scratch your hair? Why do you sit in the window too much? Little cat, you are so cute. I like to be you.

## Aiden Guerrero

# Excitement

Excitement is a boy. He's always excited and he has black jeans and brown hair and he's a person of color and he has a blue hat and a green sweater and when he plays he is having so much fun. He plays on the slide with his friends and he's having lots of fun!



### Ode to Poison Serpents

Poison serpent, you are so poisonous. Poison serpent, you look like a stick. You look like a snake slithering through the sand. You have fangs in your teeth sticking out of your mouth. You affect frogs and other animals. You can stand. You have a defense in your neck. You have stripes in your neck. You have poison fangs. You have spiky teeth!

# Rehan Haque

### My Soul

My soul is like a spider pushing everything I hate away. My soul is like a tiger scaring everything away with its sound wave. My soul dreams that everybody is good one day. My soul is the moon orbiting all around the sun and earth. My soul is like a very big knight protecting everybody who is good. My soul is like a very calm meditator. My soul is like a small thing that makes me calm. My soul is like a very strong bone that can never break.

### Thing To Do If You Are a Squid

Swim swim, push push Squirt ink all over your food. Now time to munch, munch and crunch, crunch. Eat that meal all up. Make a clan with your family. Try to beat up a humpback whale but be careful not to die and protect your babies so they can grow up and make more babies so also try to be like a king. Bradley Jagessar

### Ode to Dogs

Hello, dogs. You get hungry a lot.
Dogs, your ears are soft.
Dogs, do you bite people?
Dogs, why do you bark a lot?
Dogs, you're playful.
Dogs, you go outside.
When you get mad, your ears go down.
Dogs, you are hairy.
Dogs, you are smelly.
Dogs, you eat a lot.
Dogs, why do you like to play in the rain?
Dogs, why do you fight cats?
Dogs, you're nice.

### My Secret Hideout

In my hideout I have a code. No one will get in. Nice wind blowing big blue sky big and small clouds floating tall buildings soft branches planes flying me and a branch floating. You have to hear the beat of the music to get in. You have to get through dinosaurs. I have 99,000,000,000 money in there and 85,000,000 locks. Jayden James

# Ode to Dogs

Hi dogs, happy day. Why are you guys so happy every day? Are you just happy when people come so they can give you food? Yes, when people are gone we are very hungry. Why do you guys like kids so much? We just like kids because they are super fun! Why do you like to go to the park? We like to go to the park because we like people. Why do you get in fights with cats a lot? Because cats don't like us. Why do you play with dogs a lot? Because we can do the same thing brothers and sister do. You guys are so awesome.

# My Soul

My soul is fighting fire in the dark woods. My soul is like a lion saving me. My soul feels like my friend playing in the sun with me. My soul is dreaming a kid is fighting a lion in the middle of the night. My soul moves like a dog saying, "Help me."

# Eleanor Johnston

# Things To Do If You Are Puppies

Splash, splash in the tub. Puppies are here, let's have some fun! Playing with toys! The ball goes bounce, bounce! And the car goes vroom, vroom! Time for a snack! Eat up your food then we have a blast! Time for a nap, cuddle up in bed! You'll wake up again, my sweet puppy friends!

# Ode to Dogs

Dogs, why do you sniff each other's butts? It's weird... Dogs, you're so cute! And fluffy! And my first word was "dog." Dogs, you are so cute and nice! Dogs, you're so playful! Dogs, what do you talk about when your owners are gone? Dogs can be chocolatey brown or fluffy white! They can be nice or scary. Dogs can be Hershey chocolate brown or they can stick out their tongue as long as a string! Thank you, Dogs, for saving people who are blind and helping people and being nice.

# **Payton Jones**

### The Moon

The moon is a cookie, better with milk. The moon is like a piece of cheese. The moon is a donut spinning in space. The moon is a clock ticking at night.

### How to Make a Curmudgeon Budge

Chomping on chocolate chip cookies. Having a peaceful time watching a movie. Doing art with BFFs. Doing math with your mom. Going to the park with your hula hoop. Playing in school with your teacher.



# Grace Kansfield

## Things To Do If You Are a Snowflake Diamond

Falling from up above, a twinkle, a shimmer. A gold silver magical thing. White snow, a snowflake on my twinkling tongue. Boom! Pow! Crystals appear and the sidewalk is covered with twinkly snow! Crystal snowmen appear. Snap, Santa is here. Princesses fly. Christmas trees light up, glittering.



### Love

Love is a glittering girl. Love has pink wavy hair. Love's eyes are gold and sparkly. Love wears a pink glittery skirt and a pink shirt. Love likes to give out roses and chocolate. Every time Love sees a person gloomy and blue Love will give a kiss, a chocolate kiss. She flies up into the air just like an angel sparkling away... Into the dust.

# Sophia Li

# Things To Do If You Are Magic

Wee, flying through the clouds Making wishes for you. It's truth. Having your magic day of a unicorn. I'm friend magic, very cool. In the clear blue pool of me. Fun as the rainbow magic. You wish you can't earth. I'm the only one as magic.

# My Secret Hideout

In my secret hideout. You will never get in. In my world magic. Find the golden key in my soul. With my girls in there rocking out. Jump inside my land. Or my wolf is gonna eat you. Maybe there is DARK! Knock you out. I wonder if you want to get there. Well, you can't go in my room portal to get there. Wind singing in my hideaway. Bad falls, good comes. I boom you out with my rainbow power. I'm 100 then you... Ha-ha! Cool in the clear blue pool of me. It's time to end your time now!



## Will Melli-Jones

### Things To Do If You Are A Rapper

Yo yo, I'm a rapper. I rap in a house, I rap like a mouse. I rap when I'm free, I rap in a tree. I rap in a box, I rap with a fox. I rap on a train, I rap in the rain. Uh-oh, I forgot my game!

### **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is on an island far, far away from here. I have 1,000,000,000,000 dollars. The password is super hard. You will have to get past the Great White Shark that will eat you up. Then you will have to get past the laser beams and then you will meet me.

# Rae-Shon Sanchez

### l Am

I am a ninja, silent but deadly. I am a brain, here to learn. I am a rover, here to explore. I am a dinosaur, here to roar. I am a sun, here to shine. Everyone can become what they want to be. Everyone has a different legacy. We all have different personalities in many ways. We have one life make it a good one. I am Rae-Shon Sanchez. I am a poet. Bye.

### Things to Do If You Are A Dinosaur

A silent predator hunting instincts for a meal. King of Dinosaurs, I'm the top of the food chain. My bite brings lots of pain! About the size of this class, millions of teeth go against me and you'll be Dino-Sore! I'm a T-Rex, Tyrannosaurus Rex. I love eating—I might eat you next. ROAR!!! THE END

# The Amazing Poet

My soul is the voice in my head. My soul is like a ghost that wanders in my body. My soul feels like matter itself. My soul dreams to finally be free. My soul moves like a bird floating around the sky. My soul is my personality. My soul tells my heart what to do. My soul is a dolphin floating in the water. My soul releases all of my energy My soul is my heart beating. My soul is a crow dropping its black feathers. My soul is light. My soul is a rapper in my body. My soul is my imaginary self. My soul is my void. My soul is my thinking space. My soul is everything to me. My soul is my life.

# llir Sejdija

# Things To Do If You Are Feet

Tap dancing on the floor. Running fast like the Flash. Jumping up like a rocket ship. Bending like a seesaw. Tall as the Empire State Building. Going fast as 100 miles per hour. Kicking a ball forever.

# Anger

Anger is a boy. He has green hair like the grass. He has golden eyes like the sun. He has purple pants like grapes. He has a blue shirt like the diamond. He snaps his mouth like a crocodile. He runs around like a jaguar.

# Lejla Sejfic

# My Secret Hideout

My secret hideout is in the woods. I walk with my beautiful feet. No one at all. I love to take my headphones and listen to some beautiful songs and sometimes I fall asleep. I always have a password. I sometimes feel sad, happy, mad, scared, friendly, and mostly quiet. I see all the colors of the trees and the rainbow. I see trees all around me. It's like a darkish color. I see people singing and walking and dancing too.

# The Moon

The moon is a sun in space.

The moon is a pancake sparkling in the sky.

The moon is a dime flying in space.

The moon is a clock flying to god.

The moon is a sticker sticking everywhere.

The moon is a 0 going into numbers.

The moon is a stamp with a face.

The moon is the earth flying to Jupiter.

The moon is an eyeball looking at people.

# Samir Soriano

# Things To Do If You Are a Ninja

Sneak past trees. Feel a soft breeze. Crouch down to the ground. Cut leaves while you are down. Blend in with the dark, just move being smart. When you get to your location, drop a mark on the nation. Splish, splash Plop.

### Anger

Anger is a boy with a shirt with a picture of a devil and a scar going diagonal through his eyebrow with his black hair going down his eyes. His eyes are green with black jeans.

### The Moon

The moon is cheese bitten every now and then. The moon is like a pancake being flipped on a pan.

# Angely Torres-Cortes

### Things To Do If You Are a Cat

We are rough when we play. Eat a treat with my furry friend. It's yummy. And sleep in my soft bed and say meow, meow, meow. Eat yummy breakfasts with my friend cat. We eat like crazy when there are two cats fighting and switch like a lion and a tiger and they have too much hair.

### Ode to Cats

Hello, cats! You have so much hair. You are funny. You have so much fur. You have soft paws. You are cute. How are you so dry? How are you so soft? Can you laugh and talk and hear? Do you like to take a shower? You are so cute. Some are mad, some are happy, some are funny. I like you.

# Valendina Vincente

## Things To Do If You Are a Christmas Tree

I'm in a box in pieces. I get built up. I'm green and heavy. Put jingle bells on me and put candy on me to make me happy. Play a song. Put lights on me. Turn off the lights and put on my lights and watch me glow. I look like a rainbow in the dark. Watch me 'til it's Christmas and put presents under me! Take the presents under me and open them up.

### Love

Love is a girl who has a white ruffle dress with a bow around her waist and high heels that are pink with glitter on them. She has gold hair with glitter and she has rainbow headphones on. When she sees hearts, she thinks about her family.

# Chad Williams

# Things To Do If You Are a Shark

I am a shark eating one big killer whale for myself so I am not sharing with any sea creatures in the ocean. For good and for my self-confidence I am going to hunt for more sea creatures from the ocean. But I will be home eating.

# My Soul

My soul is a pizza given to me by God. My soul is like a book. My soul feels like a dark, dark night. My soul dreams about me and my mom. My soul moves like the moon in earth, like a spinning car.

### **My Secret Hideout**

This is my secret hideout. It is from the tree made from wood and tree bark and it has Venus Fly-Trap guards so if anybody tries to sneak inside they will be eaten for good and it has sharp teeth and it can eat anything in the world, even sharks and the moon to the earth.

# Anger

Anger is a girl with her arms crossed. She has bright red hair like fire and her eyes sparkle blue like the sky in the summer. Anger wears black ripped jeans with a golden hoodie. Her shirt has silver dots like stars shining at night in space. When Anger sees something upsetting, she rises up like a stallion and stomps loudly, breaking the floor. Crack! Boom!

# Mr. Casimir's Class

Rowaida Alarage Maddox Alonso Willen Arauz Ermine Boothe Niaz Cecunjanin Christing Chen Tayyibah Chowdhury **Michelle** Criollo Ana Feliciano Isa Feliciano Michelle Galvez Villanueva Roza Gonzalez Diego Ibarra Archie Keating-Brown Jonnah Madison Elias Massa Valdeon Aiden Mghendi Isis Nelson Abdiel Pabon A.J. Perko C.J. Polanco Victoria Rosario-Mercado Hudson Seiger **Roman Spiers** Trinnity Terry

# Rowaida Alarage

# Things To Do If You Are a Sun

This sun is so bright and shiny in the sky. The sun is so bright that it makes you shine. Go to the beach and lie down and shine. The sun looks like a ball, go to the park and play with a ball and have fun. Go get some ice cream and eat it fast before the sun eats the ice cream. Yum! Ice cream.

# Spring

It's spring when the world is park-fun daylight-crazy butterfly-wonderful rainbow-amazing

It's spring when the world is sunshine-cool

flower-lovely water-explosive rainbow-cool

It's spring!

# Maddox Alonso

# Spring

S sp spr sprin spring pool time! It is so fun. Trampoline time, backflip-extreme, ice cream cool weather. Spring!

# Things To Do If You Are A WWE Player

Take the Undertaker to the end. Get the champion belt. Be rich. Get a Lamborghini.

# Ode to Megalodon

Hey Megalodon, why are you so big? Why do you kill people? Are they mean to you? Do they hurt you? You are fast fast as a flash!

## Willen Arauz

## Peace

Peace is a nice guy and he's new in school. He has friends too. Peace has dark skin.

## In My Wonderful World

I see orange and black striped animals. I hear a brown and peach animal swinging. I taste the air, juicy and nice.

## l Am

I am the man of determination and I'll never have "destervination." I am a glasses man and if you don't, then check my hand. I am the flower of evilness and I am a human with kindness.

## Ermine Boothe

#### The Moon

The moon is a ball kicked into the sky by the ancient gods of the universe.

> The moon is a light bulb that turns on in the night sky.

The moon is a cookie that spins around the earth.

### **My Secret Hideout**

I tiptoe through my mom's room and yank the blanket off the bed. I take a piece of string and wrap it around the doors. I go inside and I'm gone.

rainboulicious Ermine Splash splash splash the raindrops Keep Falling then the Sun poeks between the ctouds P thers a rainbow h and the S K 16 V Y a Y D icous, W

# Niaz Cecunjanin

## Things To Do If You Are Ronaldo

Ronaldo is famous. Ronaldo scored two goals with his head. It is called a header. The other team was surrounding him but he made another goal. 3 zip! Ronaldo made all those goals. Ronaldo makes three goals again.

# My Soul

My soul is a cobra running like a cheetah and my soul is a dragon

using

his flames.

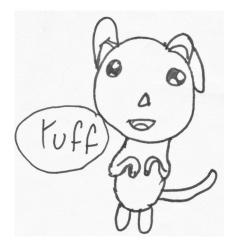
# Christina Chen

# Joy

Joy is a girl. She stands up to a bully. Joy always fights with her voice. She cares about homeless people. Joy has a heart to care about people. She doesn't have a heart to fight. She has a mouth to fight. Joy is a caring person.

### Ode to a Puppy

Hey puppy, how are you doing? I like that you are fluffy and cuddly. Why do you bark? How old can you grow up to? You could do tricks by training. I see some sniffing puppies a lot! Can you show me all your tricks please? You have a furry, fluffy, soft body. Your tail is so soft and small and wiggles a lot! How do you know what to do and what people are saying?



# Tayyibah Chowdhury

## The Moon

The moon is a yummy chocolate chip cookie floating in the sky. I think the moon is a person watching other people. The moon is a skyscraper drinking milk in the sun. I think the moon is a cereal swimming in the sea. The moon is a superhero saving the day. I think the moon is a glowing banana shining in the water. The moon is a golden creature.

## l Am

I am a shining fish rolling in the sea. I am a tree holding apples so people can eat. I am a tiger that runs like a cheetah. I am a banana floating in the sky falling down on the ground. I am a window that shines in the sun. I love the world and my whole family. The world is shining around me. The universe is getting more fun and shiny. The world is rolling across us. Flowers, roses, daises floating on the ground. Stars floating in the sky.

## My Soul

My soul is a friend that keeps me alive in the night and day. It lets me have fun in the day and it lets me sleep in the night. It lets me watch TV and my soul feels happy with joy inside and it feels happy when I feel happy. When I am sad, it feels sad.

### **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is in my bedroom because I can lock the door and dance and listen to music and sometimes I like to look out of my window and draw what I see outside. My secret hideout is my living room because I get chairs and a blanket and make a tent out of it. My secret hideout is my sister's bed and sometimes I let my sister come inside my secret hideout so I don't feel so lonely and so sad. Ana Feliciano

### **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is in my room on my bed. I run to my cubby, I grab my favorite book and I imagine that I'm in the book. The princess in black is fighting a monster. Boom! Bam! She almost won, the monster almost hit but I come in and save the day. She picks up her staff, she waves it like a bird flying side to side and gives me a high five! And then I lay down and take a nap.

### Things To Do If You Are The Moon

Glow in space like a diamond. Big and bold, spinning in space. Rule the earth at night. Take the sun's place. Turn off the light and then the people go to sleep!

My soul Anabella My soul is the spirit that keeps me sofe? My soul is the browenesinnside of me. My soul is like on ocean keeping me alive. My soul is lik a person that stands in front of me saying yo'll n e V 0 r kill me. My soul is the confiting inside me. my soul the strongnes h me. my soul is the "true me"; 3

# Isa Feliciano

# My Soul

My soul is like a mountain peeking on the fluffy clouds. My soul is like a puppy breathing loud, saying, "Pet me." My soul is like a rainbow shining like a diamond. My soul is like a heart saying "I love you" and beeping so soft. My soul is like a girl going into the forest smoothly and talking to animals, saying "I love you." My soul is like a bird singing a song.

## **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is surrounded by the kitchen. My secret hideout is low and dark. My secret hideout has a code to go in. Only a few people can go in there but if I want to go in there I could go in there without a code, but if somebody else like my sister wanted to go in, she would need the code. What I do in my secret hideout is watch the iPad and eat snacks and take naps. And how I get inside is I open the chairs and get inside, and close them again. And my secret hideout is under the table!

## Michelle Galvez Villanueva

## Spring

It's spring when the world is water-cool, mud-fun, tree-epic and we can go out Wish! Boom! Bam! It's spring when the world is water-fun, flower-amazing, butterfly-exciting and we can go to the park Rish! Boom! Buzz! It's spring!

# **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is deep in the trees through the branches' bush. My secret hideout in the dark box deep down on the grass, so deep that you can't see anything, inside deep in the dark. My secret hideout is so deep you can't see. My secret hideout is a nice place for you and me. Whoosh!

## Roza Gonzalez

#### The Moon

The moon is a face smiling bright, its eyes looking at you. The moon is a soccer ball spinning in space.

## Things To Do If You Are A Pokémon

Fight in the battle. Use your powerfullest move. Be big and bold. Have fun. Be nice, kind, and cute like Flareon has evolutions. Enjoy your life every day! Speak to your Pokémon trainer. Oy! Oy!

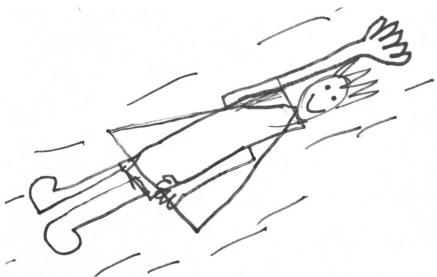
# Diego Ibarra

#### Things To Do If You Are A Superhero

You will kick bad guys' butts and save the planet with the super power of flying and laser eyes and super strength like Shazam!

#### Ode to Panthers

What's up, panthers! Your eyes are epic. You are so cool. Do you want to be my friend? You are black like the night. You are fast like a cheetah. You are fast like Flash.



## Archie Keating-Brown

## l Am

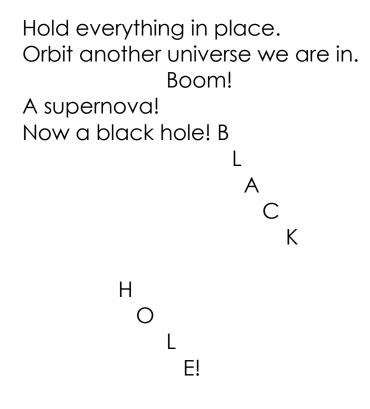
I am an orange Pokémon shooting fire through the air. I am a bald person, Avada Kedavra. I am a python slithering through the earth. I am an alien coming to life. I am me. I come in peace.

#### Ode to Peregrine Falcons

What's up, Peregrine Falcon? How are you so fast? You dive down for the pigeon and other birds. You are delicious gliders. You are like a bald eagle. You are as fast as a cheetah. You live in tall buildings and cliffs. You snatch your prey out of mid-air.

## Jonnah Madison

### Things To Do If You Are The Universe



#### **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout has \$1,999,999,999,999,999 and 100 Lamborghinis. My code is 911911. 1,000 diamonds 10,000 gold 100,000,000 cash 100,000,000 rubies 1,000,000,000 asteroids. That's my BOO!

## Elias Massa Valdeon

### My Secret Hideout

In Argentina, on the top of a tall mountain surrounded by snow, my secret hideout is in a cave where I am in peace, calm, no one enters and I live there for a moment.

### Things To Do If You Are A Hacker

Hack the city. Take someone's cell phone, for hack. Put what you want in the person's phone. Hack how you want. Know how to spell: H. A. C. K. E. R.

Spell everything else how you want. You need to have a creepy mask for hack.

# Aiden Mghendi

#### Ode to a Whale Shark

Did you know that you're bigger than the great white shark? You're part of top 10 biggest sharks. You swim in the water like a missile. You're the 2<sup>nd</sup> in the top 10.

### l Am

I am Pikachu. I am all yellow and red cheeks and a zigzag tail. I am Charmander. I'm orange and my stomach is yellow and I breathe out fire.

## Isis Nelson

## Ode to Kittens

Oh kittens, your fur is music to my ears. I love your soft, cute fur. You're a purr-fect napper. Do you want some pink yarn? "Meow meow meow." What's that? You do? Okay, here you go. You look like a kitten with yarn doing crochet. Kitten, you are a rainbow kitten with rainbow glasses and a rainbow dress. I'd take you on walks and take naps together. Goodnight, kitten. See you tomorrow. I owe you lots of cat food (but not too much). Goodnight.

### My Soul

My soul moves like a cool girl that always walks out in the summer and people watch her walk by and say, "Can I have your autograph?" and she will say, "Sure" and walk away with the sun in her bright red eyes. She puts her glowing pink glasses on.



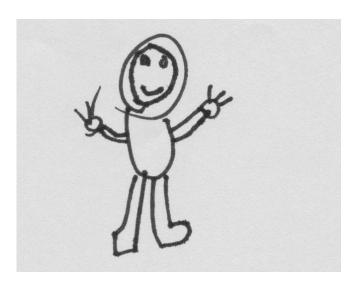
# Abdiel Pabon

#### Things To Do If You Are A Moon

The moon is white. You can jump on the moon. The moon goes around the Earth.

### Excitement

Él es niño con ojos azules y el pelo corto y negro. La camiseta azul como el agua. Él corre y corre afuera.



# A.J. Perko

### My Soul

My soul is like the sun giving light to the gods.

My soul is the peace that flows through me.

My soul is like the Pokémon trainer that is unstoppable.

## **My Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is surrounded by army soldiers. Inside of my secret hideout is a chest filled with armor like shields and spears and bows and arrows for the army soldiers. I also have a chest filled with money. 10,000,000,000,000,000 dollars and a Nintendo Switch.

# C.J. Polanco

# l Am

I am a dragon blowing fire in the night sky. I am a wave flowing on the beach sand. I am a peacemaker that makes peace around the world. I am a person camping and listening to the owls. I am a friend who cares about one another. I am the joy of the air. I am air smoothly blowing across the sky. I am a skyscraper and people are looking through my windows. I am a living person who is alive.

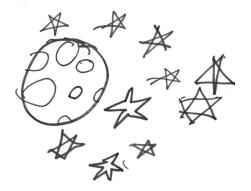
# Ode to Puppies

Yo what's up, puppies? You are so cute. You are the cutest thing on earth. You love all teachers. You are so fast, one day you may be as fast as me and as cool as me. You almost run 15 miles per hour. You chew on toys like no other thing in the world and I hope you can learn more about yourself.

# Victoria Rosario-Mercado

### Peace

Peace is a girl. She has black straight hair. It glows in the moonlight. When her friends are mad, she gives them a hug and says, "Cheer up!" When she is in a fight, she uses her words not her fist. When Peace needs help, she asks for help. When she is bullied, she ignores them and walks away.



#### Ode to Bunnies

Oh bunnies! You have white soft skin like snow. You have darling eyes that shine in the sun. When you eat carrots you crunch and crunch and crunch. Oh bunnies, please be my friends. Amen to bunnies!

# Hudson Seiger

## Things To Do If You Are A Ninja

Do karate. Help people from bad guys. Stay in the shadows. Don't talk. Have swords. Do flips. Sneak up on bad guys. Have nunchucks. Run really fast. Go on roofs. Hide if someone is trying to get you.

### Joy

Joy is a girl. She has long blonde hair. Joy has a pink jacket. Joy has blue eyes. When someone is hurt Joy helps them. Joy likes to dance when she is happy. Joy has rainbow shoes that glow at night.

# **Roman Spiers**

## In My Wonderful World

I see the Amazon rainforest. I hear birds singing a song. I taste the leaves of trees. I touch the bumpy tree trunks. I smell red roses and green trees too. And I think to myself, what a peaceful world. We all live happy.

## Spring Time

Spring is waterluscious. Spring is gnirps. Spring is water. Spring is r a i n. is Rain n i a r. Spring is wonderful. Wonderful is lufrednow.

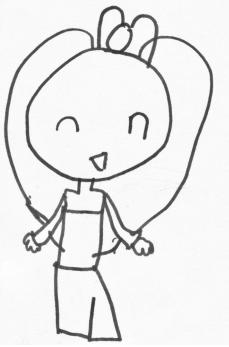
# Trinnity Terry

## My Secret Hideout

My secret hideout is a girls' pool party. My best friends are allowed to go to the pool party. The password is a secret. How do you get there? You take the bus to 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup>. The food is yummy and the pool is so pink at the girls' pool party.

## What Might Make My Curmudgeon Budge

Say "I love you" but funny. Invite friend to play on a comfy bed. Go to sleep on a comfy bed. Make new friends. Play with a teddy bear. Eat strawberries in bed.



# Peace

Peace is a girl. She runs with the wind. Peace has long black hair that shines like she's in the sun. She wears a colorful coat that glows in the moonlight. When her friends are sad or hurt, Peace brings toys and plays with them. If people get bullied, Peace knows how to fight with her words and not with her fist.

# Ms. Murgolo and Ms. Merryman's Class

Antonio Blake Jade Chavez Thor Chung-Deas Naomi Czebotar Michael De La Cruz **Blanca** Fuentes Mason Halls Brandon Igiozee Rachel Laguerre Pia Lahey Jeordie Lopez Madison Lopez Julie Matos Adrian Matvienko Abrar Naji Sya Nelson Maria Obaid Juliet Ogden Jayson Perry Bryant Rivera Allie Samayoa Mia Sharustamov Chace Thompson Marcus Tran Kris Wang

# Antonio Blake

## Antonio's Crazy City

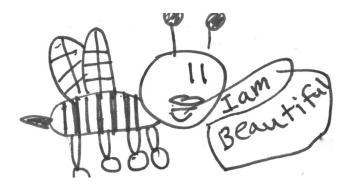
A bunch of people there, including tourists. Trains bring you from place to place like McDonald's and stores. Tall buildings, different parks and different arenas and stadiums and all kinds of electronics and all kinds of things.

## **My Secret Hideout**

Yes, there is a secret code. If you do not get the code, Momo is going to come out of nowhere and chop your head off which is in the last part. That would be the hardest and will probably kill you. Jade Chavez

### **Yay Spring**

It's spring when the world is bunny-rific bee-utiful bear-some



In spring I smell roses and tweety birds at the park. I do Easter egg hunts and find the golden egg.

It's spring when the world is puddle-rific!

#### Things to Do If You Are a Baby Bunny

Stay with my mom bunny, hopping, hop hop! I go to my house. My house is a hole. In the day I am AWAKE! At night I am asleep. My mother sniffles, "twitch sniff." Guess what kind of bunny I am... AN EASTER BUNNY! And that's the end.

# Thor Chung-Deas

### The Moon

The moon is a big grey ball that the sun plays with. The moon is a big circle of cheese and the cheese falls from the moon. The moon is a big source of brightness that fills the earth with light. The moon is a big giant that has awakened in space. The moon is the light in the sky when it is nighttime.

## Ode to Beast Eyes Dragon

Why do you have three eyes and why does one of them look like a beast's eye? Why do you jump and breathe fire? You are always summoned by Polymerization...Why is that? We can journey together and adventure. I can be the best dragon tamer and you can be the best dragon. We can discover new animals. I will feed you too.



# Naomi Czebotar

# Spring

It's spring when the world is turtle-rific bunny-lovely flower-cheerful I swing on a swing whoosh whoosh whoooosh It's spring when the world is Easter-splendid flower-happy rain-rific I go on a boat honk

honk honk

It's spring!

## Things To Do If You Are A Penguin

From my huge diving board made of ice, with joy, I jump. Splash! I dive in the water, hunting for prey, I feel it, I catch it. I climb up onto the diving board and share the meal. We save some for the kids and babies. While they eat, we dance and sing. We are tired when the day is done. We go to bed. ZZZZZZZZZ Goodnight.

## **My Secret Hideout**

In my secret hideout up in the clouds there is a staircase that is invisible. You have to say the password then you see the stairs, climb them, then walk on a poisonous snake's back, fly on the dragonfly. There it is! There I do anything I want. I am the Queen of my hideout. In one of the rooms there is money everywhere! Another room is candy, slurp, slop I cover it with a hard block for protection. My room is full of clouds because it's in a cloud, only I can go. If you go, you'll explode. I have a guard at each room which can chop your head off and eat your brain, and I always lock the door.

# Michael De La Cruz

# l Am

I am a human snoring in the light. I am a dabber and I am bright. I am the lightning with the rain. I am a wrestler, cool and crazy with might. I am one broken wing and the other is not. I am the King! Kidding, I'm not. I am all the things and I'll transform.

## In My Wonderful World

I see a shrimp do a backflip. I hear a lobster yelling in a portal. I taste a booger snot. I touch a King's crown while backflipping. I smell free money. And I think to myself, I should be the King for this garbage.

## What Might Make My Curmudgeon Budge

Sugar with rotten fish. Spaghetti with yelling chicken. Nose picker. Corny smile. Rotten eggs. Grim Reaper.

# Blanca Fuentes

## Ode to Puppies

Puppies have cute eyes. Where do you come from? Why do you have such cute eyes? Why do you play so much? You are so so fluffy. Everyone loves you even I do. You sleep like a baby! Why are you so adorable? I am so into you.



### In My Wonderful World

I see a bright sun shining in my eyes. I hear birds singing in their nest. I taste food that is nice and warm. I touch a cat that one day scratched me. I smell fresh red roses. And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

## Mason Halls

#### Anger

Anger is a boy. Anger has red eyes. He has red hair like blood, a red hat, red nose, and red skin. He plays with red toys. He breaks things.

#### Rubber Bands, Your Powers Are Like Mom's

You are stretchy like bubblegum. You are twisty and tricky. You shoot pans and pots when you are mad. Ouch! You sting when you bounce back. So watch out! Here comes Mom! She is the coolest Mom. Brandon Igiozee

#### Things To Do If You Are a Ninja

Blend in with the dark. Special weapons to fight. Pleck! Boom! Pow! Crack! Booz! Zoom! Get the five robbers and kick their butts to jail.

#### Spring

It's spring when the world is on a field trip

> bird-splendid cherry-blossom-happy sunshine-exciting

It's spring when the world is outside on the playground

> air-awesome Easter-lively bunny-joyful.

## Rachel Laguerre

#### The Moon

The moon is a soccer ball going around the world.

P.S. I kicked it.

## Ode to Tigers

Hello Tigers! Why do you poop? Do you brush your teeth? You do not climb. You have stripes. You are predators.



## Things To Do If You Are A New Puppy

Call for you mom. Crawl on the floor. Have no fur. Say wlp! wlp! wlp! Have an owner. Drink milk.

## Pia Lahey

## Ode to the Snow Leopard

Look how sleek you are and your cute paws. That's how you show your hunting powers. Your beautiful fur makes you do everything well. Is that right, Snow Leopard? I think so.

## **My Secret Hideout**

I hide. Hiding in the dark Swish! A breeze comes. It's coming from my door, I hold my breath. But my breath comes out. My hiding spot saved me. I sat there for a long time. Then my sister calls me, I sit there still. A breeze comes again, someone's looking for me. Then that someone leaves. Then that someone comes—it's my sister saying, "You're in your laundry basket."

## Jeordie Lopez

#### Things To Do If You Are A Ballerina

A ballerina spins fast. She hits a tree. She hurts herself. But magic appears... She's okay again, she says. She spins, flies into the sky. An angel catches her! And the ballerina says, "I am not a ballerina." She cries, her tears look like a pink dress who's crying. She quits. She is nothing But she says, "I'm a princess." She searches for a crown, finds a gold, pink, red crown! She puts it on. She is a Queen.

## Ode to a Sloth

A sloth is very slow. A sloth is very quiet. I whisper and say, "Are you okay?" I look into the blackness when I blink, the sloth is gone. Sloth climbs on a tree. Sloth is fluffy. I pet sloths. I love sloths. I care for sloths. I see baby sloths. I see a sloth in a dress. I see a sloth cry. I ran from home and lived with a sloth. Sloth says, "You have a tree house. Do you like food? Am I your prey?" Sloth says nothing. Sloth says nothing. Sloth kicks me out. I become Jungle Girl and started a new life.



### Madison Lopez

#### Things To Do If You Are A Puppy

You can play with people and take naps and drink water. Slurp! slurp! slurp! The water drips down my mouth. I chew down my food. Crunch! crunch! crunch! The food goes down my throat. I love when people give me tummy rubs. It tickles. Thank you to the puppies.

#### **The Secret Hideout**

My secret hideout is the closet. It is quiet like a mouse. Shhhhhhhhh! I put a password. My dog does not bother me. I can be quiet and the wind blows Shhhhhhhhh! goes the wind. It blows in my hair. My secret hideout.

## Julie Matos

## l Am

I am a feather that floats in the sky. I am a color that is as bright as the sun. I am the color of your skin. I am a question you will like. I am cool like Elsa.

#### Ode to Unicorns

Hello, Unicorns. Oh Unicorns, why do you fly in the night sky by my home? Why do you poop out glitter? Your hair flies in the sky when you fly and that's why. Namaste, the unicorns say.

## Adrian Matvienko

## Things To Do If You Are The Britannic

Whoo Whoo Feeeee
The Britannic whistles its whistle and honks
for its eleventh month voyage.
Everything is nice, or it seems so!
On the sixth day of travel
people heard an explosion occur.
The Britannic hit a mine!
Dun dun dun.
Water has already filled six of the compartments.
The Britannic is doomed.
About fifteen minutes in,
the Britannic starts to list to one side.
In thirty minutes, the Britannic
is gone. 30 lives were lost.
1,600 survived. It's a sad story.

#### The Moon

The moon is a ray of light shining away. A rock that floats in space. A chunk of Babybel cheese rolling away... Where? We don't know. A white horse that flies a plane away, away. A glass of milk from the above. A big snowball flying in space and hitting the ground. Hitting a tsunami and destroying it. And saving New York.

## Abrar Naji

#### In My Wonderful World

I see wonderful light blue skies and the clouds are shaped like cartoon people. I hear horses galloping down the road. I taste shrimp and lobster. I touch a tiger's fur. I smell pancakes with whipped cream and blueberries and strawberries and maple syrup. And I think to myself, this is the best place in the world.

#### Anger

Anger is a boy. Anger is mad at everything. Anger's eye color is red like hot sauce. Anger's hair color is dark, dark red. Anger's clothes are all red. If you go too close to him, he might say, "Get out of my way!"

## l Am

I am a mouse looking for cheese. I am a cat looking for a mouse. I am a dog looking for a cat. I am a bear looking for a dog. I am a hunter looking for a bear. I am the hunter 's mommy looking for the hunter to come home for dinner.

## In My Wonderful World

I see a cat grabbing her yarn. I hear a dog barking. I taste yoghurt. I touch the grass in the park. I smell the flower. And I think to myself, what a happy world.

## Maria Obaid

#### Love

Love is a girl. Her eyes are green like turquoise. Her hair color is red as fire and lava. She wears a short-sleeved dress. Her dress is rainbow colors. And she wears pink and purple pants. She wears long socks, as long as a rectangle. She wears glitter sneakers. Love helps somebody with their homework by giving them a hug and trying to make them sound out words and tells them, "You did a good job." And she gave the person she helped a big high five.

## Things To Do If You Are A Bee

If I was a bee, I would love to sip the nectar from the flower all day long with friends. My mouth is like a straw sipping nectar forever. Flish flash dishity dash. I fly so fast with my friends like a cheetah. I buzz all day long. Buzzzzz. I am a good winner buzzer. I wish I was really a bee. I would love to fly. I would love to sip nectar all day long and forever with my friends.

Maria		
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## Juliet Ogden

## Spring

It's spring when the world is beartastic! bunnyhappy! We touch owl wings all day, lizard happy day. Hoo! Hoo! Hoo! We fish. We caught a fish. It is a rainbow trout. He escaped because I let him go. Swish Swish Swish Swish

#### Things To Do If You Are A Cheetah

Hiding in the grass. Looking out for gazelles. There's a gazelle! I take off, I see it with my built-in sunglasses. I run faster Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! I got my prey! Dinnertime! Munch Munch Munch I wait in the grass again.

## Jayson Perry

#### Things To Do IF You Are The Sun

The sun shines bright. It keeps us warm. It helps the plants grow. It circles around the Earth.

#### Joy

Joy is a boy with blue eyes. He has black hair. He has a blue shirt like the sky and blue socks.

#### Ode to the Lizard

Hello, Lizard. How do you move? How do you walk? I like your black spots and stripes. You are cool.

## Bryant Rivera

#### My Secret Hideout

My secret hideout is a moving closet that has fancy lights falling from the sky. Crash! Everyone is invited. What's the password? My password is 891. Can you pass the obstacle? My obstacle is hand slapping. Welcome! You get a prize!

### Things To Do If You Are A Milky Way

Hold all the stars that look like the shining sun. Spin around slowly like a turtle. Two miles per house. That's mega slow! Be shiny and colorful. So big, like a watermelon!

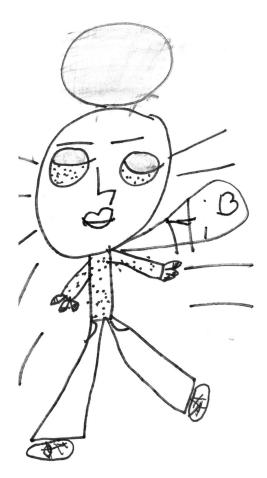
## Allie Samayoa

## Ode to Flying Fish

Hello, flying fish. You are so lucky. How can you do that? You are so, so, so lucky. I wish I was like you. How can you fly? I think I am dreaming. I do not know how you fly from your predators. You are so cool.

#### Норе

Hope is a girl. She likes to play with her dolls. She has rainbow hair. She is a YouTuber. She has a dog with rainbow hair too.



## l Am

I am a feather up high in the sky, in the dark blue night of the sky. I am the horse up, up in the sky. I am the tree who goes side to side up in the wind. I am the fly who sees the wind in the dark sky. I am the shadow who follows the wind up in the sky, up above in the dark, dark sky. I am the lightning in the blue sky. I am the dog in the wind. I am the sky in the blue world.

## Ode to Dogs

Why do you drink water? Why do you try human food? Why do you run fast? Why do you play with people? Why do you like squeaky toys? Why do you like sleep? And why do you swim? Do you like resting? Why do you play with dogs? You have very sharp teeth. Why are you cute?



## Chace Thompson

#### Things To Do If You Are A Basketball Player

Shoot the ball. Run with the ball. Dribble the ball. Keep the ball in your hand and dribble. Try not to travel and foul.

#### Норе

Hope is a boy. Hope wears Gucci. His eyes are blue. Hope has red hair. Hope likes to play video games with his friend.

## Marcus Tran

#### Ode to Pandas

Dear pandas, Hello! But if it's night, Ahhhhhh! To wake you up. Why were you born pink and blind? Did you come from Planet Pink? But when you turn black and white, you go to Earth? Why do you eat bamboo the whole winter? Are you thirsty because you did not drink in weeks? Who made you endangered? **BIG FOOT? #BOOM** I'm going to give you a like on Facebook!

#### **Hideout Fun**

My secret hideout is in a giant beehive! I'm in a honeycomb...but you need to go through an obstacle course first! There's a secret code that only I can figure out! And then Pokémon that only I can tame. then bees that will kill you unless you're me! Then my dog will bark at you unless you have my dog biscuits. Then honey will drown you! If you get through all of that, you can get all the candy you want.



## Kris Wang

## In My Wonderful World

I see birds flying in the sky. I hear people talking on the street. I taste my grandmother's yummy food. I touch my mom's soft hair when she sits next to me. I smell my mom's perfume every morning when she goes to work. And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

## Ode to Cats

Cats make a cute sound. "Meow." Cats have fur. Cats have beautiful eyes. Cats may scratch you if you bother them, but if you be nice to them, they can be lovely. They have tails, four legs, and two ears. Cats have a small nose. Hello, cat! How are you today? "Meow, meow. I'm good."

## Class Collaboration Poem

## Ode to Jaguars

Oh jaguars, you are amazing climbers and you can hunt crocodiles! You have a long pink tongue and teeth as sharp as silver swords! Jaguars, how are you the fastest cat in the universe? Your light green eyes look like grass glowing in the night, like green syrup poured in your shining eyes! Your sharp claws can scratch through anything and catch prey. Oh jaguars, you are the most dangerous carnivore in the land!

# Author Autographs!

