

Vermont Reading Partners

A Volunteer Literacy Program

Student-Tutor Newsletter, June 2010

Student Writing Edition

Board of Directors

Koshka Pabst,
President

Sarah A. Brown,
Vice-President

Alice W. Gilborn,
Secretary, Editor

Charles Brewster,
Treasurer

Donna Bazyk

Barbara Bellino

Elizabeth Butler

John Cave

Sarah B. Knight

Marion La Torella

Elizabeth Luca

Cristina Mansfield

Sarah Post

Bobbi Schalit

Carolyn Smith

Marie Sossi

Christine Wetzel

Program

Coordinator

June Gutbier

Advisory Board

Meg Costanzo, M.Ed.

Patricia B. Johnston,
Former Interim President
ProLiteracy Worldwide

Cynthia Kilburn,

Consultant

Carol Kristofak Lyle,
M.Ed

Suzanne Meyers, M.Ed.

Madeline Rockwell,
Consultant

Welcome to our annual student writing edition of the Vermont Reading Partner newsletter. Our students have been hard at work all year not only reading (and they do that with a flair) but also writing and illustrating their work. Here you'll see results, and colorful they are. We hope you'll be able to view this newsletter on our website (www.vermontreadingpartners.org) to see the full effect. While students work with their tutors to correct mistakes, learning the important skill of revision in the the process, the way they express their thoughts and observations is their own.

Thanks, reading partners!

Adult Program

Book Review by Jessica Martin

The book **Lost In The System** is by Charlotte Lopez and she tells what she went through growing up in foster care and winning Miss Teen USA. She talks about going from foster home to foster home waiting for someone to adopt her.

Charlotte and her sister (Diana) and her brother (Duane) got put in foster care because their mother was mentally unbalanced. As they went through foster homes, after awhile they got split up.

When Charlotte was put in with the Wensleys in Shaftsbury, she was almost four years old and it was her 5th foster care placement. The Wensleys only let Charlotte and her sister watch cartoons but the girls were not allowed to watch a lot of TV and only when Bill and Cari were watching. Bill and Cari were religious people and they felt that TV corrupted kids. When the girls were bad, they got spanked with paddles really hard. Charlotte was growing apart from the Wensleys because she was terrified of them on account of the things she was not allowed to do that Bill and Cari thought were sinful and she did not want to get hit. Charlotte got put in a bedroom in the basement with no windows when Bill and Cari added on to their home to make more room. Charlotte started sneaking out of the house; she could do this because her bedroom door was not

far from the door that went outside and if the TV was on, no one would hear her leave.

Charlotte got put in Janet Henry's house in her teen years. Most kids in Janet's home were children in need of supervision but there were some thieves. Janet's house had two sides to it; one side was the group foster home facilities- the living rooms,

Join us Sunday, August 29,
to celebrate
our 25th Anniversary at the Barrows
House , Dorset, Vt. Excellent cuisine
and a fine variety of auction items.
Call 802-362-2323 or e-mail vrp2323

the kitchen and bedrooms. The other side was the independent living quarters where responsible kids lived who were old enough to be on their own and that had very few rules and had more privacy. Janet had 28 rules and it took awhile for Charlotte to get used to them, like there were no long distance calls unless permission was given and everyone was expected to be home for dinner at 5:30. If you bought something, you would have to show a receipt to prove that you bought it. There were a lot of rules but she had more freedom then when she was at the Wensleys.

Charlotte entered the Miss Teen USA pageant when she was living at Janet Henry's home in Bennington. Charlotte didn't want to stay at Janet's anymore because she wanted to be adopted and have a family, so Angela, the social worker, looked through her list of prospective people and noticed a woman named Jill Charles, who had been a licensed foster parent in 1989. Jill had a husband named Al Scheps and they lived in Dorset. They came to Janet's to see Charlotte and they asked her if she wanted to spend the weekend. Charlotte liked going to Jill and Al's on the weekends and was feeling better about leaving Bennington. On July 12 Charlotte moved in with Jill and Al and said goodbye to Janet's house on Silver Street. Charlotte won Miss Teen USA on August 1992. On March 7, 1994 Jill and Al adopted Charlotte.

I liked the book because it was easy to read and it told about what it was like growing up in foster care. I disliked the book because of the way it was written. Charlotte goes back and forth from the past to the future a lot throughout the whole book.

I would recommend the book to people that think all kids in foster homes are bad because not all the kids are. Some kids get put in foster care because their parents have died or gone to jail and if they were abused.

Jessica is the student of Adult Program tutor Betsey Belvin. See p. 6 for more adult writing.



School Program

As a finale to April, Manchester Elementary Middle School's pre-school students in Ms. Dianna's class contributed to their class booklet of poetry.

As a group, the children listened to various rhyming stories. Once in the smaller group setting, each child chose a short rhyming story. After writing his/her name, which personalized the poem, each child drew a picture which related to the poem. --Marie Sossi



Grace

A bubble she blew
Her favorite color is that of blue.



Emma

Her favorite color is pink
Look, it is in her lemonade
drink.

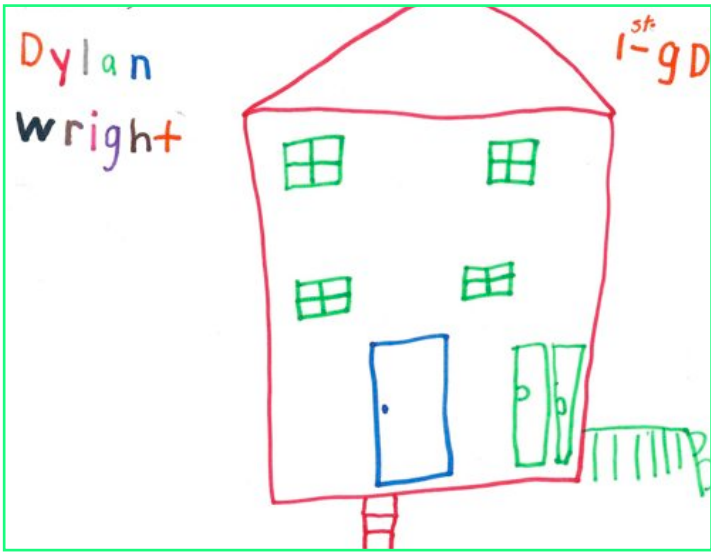


Guv

Says it is fun to jump in the hay
He will run and jump all day.



Left: Paige and Ann at work at the writing center.



My House
By Dylan Wright, grade 1, Fisher

My house is very nice, but my puppy tears up stuffed animals and makes a mess. Ziddy the big dog bites Bella's head.



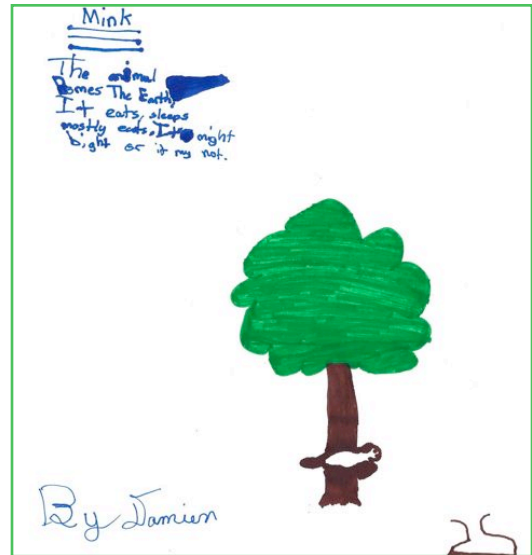
Dragon.
By Nasier Camp, grade 2, MEMS

Flame producing organs: venom reservoir, fang, spark pouch.



By Savanna Becker, grade 3, Fisher

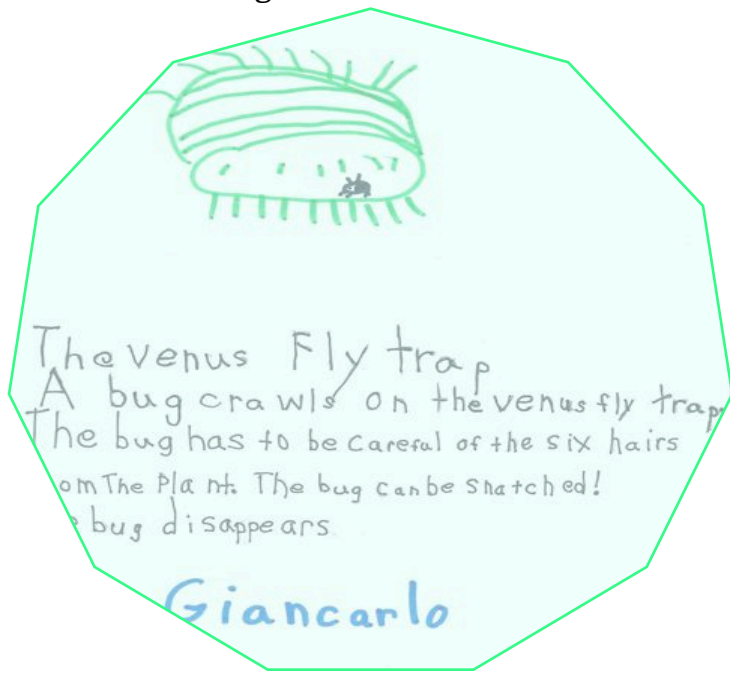
Roses are red
violets are blue
My cheeks are pink
And so are you.



Mink
By Damien Burdick, grade 4, Fisher

The animal roams the earth. It eats, sleeps, mostly eats. It might bite or it may not.

Dylan, Nasier, and Savanna are students of School Program tutor Pat Beach. Damien is the student of School Program tutor Dick Baily.



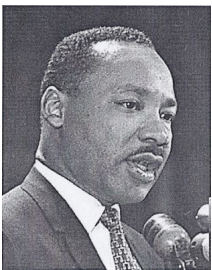
A bug crawls on the venus fly trap. The bug has to be careful of the six hairs on the plant. The bug can be snatched! The bug disappears.

By Giancarlo Russo, grade 1, MEMS

Giancarlo is the student of School Program tutor Joanne Van Meter



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
 By Devin Sears, grade 2,
 Fisher



*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia. His date of birth was on January 15, 1968.
 *Dr. King helped to end Segregation. He led the bus boycott in Alabama

and led more peaceful protests. Now everyone could get good jobs.

*Dr. King received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, teaching people about fairness and kindness.

*This was how Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. turned the world upside down.

When I ride my horse Sassy I think that we will be best friends because we've been together for a very long time.

By Morgan Jennings, grade 2, Fisher

Devin and Morgan are students of School Program tutor Dorothy Danforth.



I Like Looking for Waldo.
 By Nevada Dotson, grade 3, Currier

Nevada is the student of School Program tutors John and Deborah Cave



Ana is the student of School Program tutor Alice Gilborn

My Easter Egg Hunt at the School

By Ana White, Grade 3, Currier

At the school it was very hot. It was on the day before Easter. It was the day that I got a golden egg. I got a soccer colored egg and when I went there were age groups. My friends and I traded some eggs and we all got candy in our eggs. I found my golden egg in the bushes. It was a big one like an orange. It was just like an orange. I broke it open and found a little town in the golden egg. In the little town I found a thousand people having an Easter egg hunt.

The Rhinoceros

By Payton Sears, grade 3, Fisher

The rhinoceros is big and gray and has two sharp horns. He is by the drinking water and old brown trees. A bull frog was there too. Its red tongue is sticking out. The blue water is gone and goes somewhere else. All of a sudden an oval shaped drop of rain comes down from the gray sky and the big rhinoceros came back.



Lost in the Woods

By Saige Snow, grade 4, Fisher

I see lots of tall pine, apple and peach trees with swinging branches and leaves.

I hear bluebirds chirping loudly.

I run, jump, and play.

I feel happy and excited.

I see green heart shaped leaves all around me and brown tree bark.

I smell fresh pine trees and sweet apple trees.

I eat blueberries, red apples, juicy violet red strawberries, and tasty orange peaches.

I touch bushy trees, yellow green leaves, smooth branches, and the moist, bumpy ground.

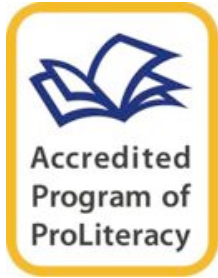
What a wonderful place to be lost in!

Payton and Saige are students of School Program tutor Liz Luca



Vermont Reading Partners
 PO Box 72
 Manchester, Vermont 05255
 (802) 362-2323
vrp2323@sover.net

Non Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Manchester, VT
 Permit No. 6



A Volunteer Literacy Program

www.vermontreadingpartners.org

Our Twenty-Fifth Year

In the Summer

In the summer I like to play and I like to jump around all day. I like to go swimming a whole lot. It is good when days are hot.

At the Museum



From Superhero and Supervillain Comic Book
 By Charlee Davis, grade 3, Fisher

*Charlee is the student of School Program tutor
 Cristina Mansfield*



1/26/10

HORSE SENSE.

MY NAME IS TREVOR SANDERS. I LIVE IN BENNINGTON, VERMONT, THE HOMETOWN OF MAPLE SYRUP{THAT'S WHAT IT IS TO ME!} I WORK AT THE PULLMAN FARM IN SHAFTSBURY. THE FARM IS A HORSE FARM. I ENJOY WORKING WITH HORSES. THE HORSES HAVE DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES. I LOOK FORWARD TO GOING TO WORK AT THE FARM. IT'S FUN TO ME. THE HORSES ARE GLAD TO SEE ME. AND POKE THEIR NOSES IN MY, POCKETS LOOKING FOR A TREAT.

TREVOR SANDERS

*Trevor is the student of Adult Program tutor Ken
 Moriarty*