



# Vermont Reading Partners

A Volunteer Literacy Program  
Student-Tutor Newsletter, June 2011

Student Writing Edition

## Adult Program

Once again we're pleased to bring you proof of our students' creativity. Whether in poetry, prose, song, or a drawing, students in our VRP programs are learning to convey their ideas and perceptions. Although mistakes creep in, revision, with the help of tutors, leads to clarity of expression and ultimately to literacy. To see the newsletter in living color, go to [www.vermontreadingpartners.org](http://www.vermontreadingpartners.org).

"Summer in Vermont"  
by Paola Oakley

Summer is coming and I am looking forward to the sunny and warm weather.

I will enjoy making plans and going everywhere.  
It's more fun to explore when the weather is nice.

In the morning, the birds begin the day singing and it makes the day happy for having fun!

Driving on the country roads, I can see the horses, cows, llamas, deers and the pretty flowers around.

I love Vermont, because it has beautiful places for me to get to know and to explore and it's quiet and peaceful.

*Paola is the student of Adult Program tutor Donna Calder.*

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### Mark Your Calendars

Vermont Reading Partners Annual Summer Social and Fundraiser

Sunday, August 28, 2011, 6:00--8:00 p.m.

Manchester Country Club

Hearty hors d'oeuvres, Dessert, Music, Silent Auction

802-362-2323

[vrp2323@sover.net](mailto:vrp2323@sover.net)

# MY FAMILY

By Brandy main

Roses are red, Violets are blue here's a story about my family and me.

I have a fiancé; his name is Eric Flanigan. We have a daughter; her name is Laketa Rose Flanigan. She is 23 months old. She's a happy outgoing toddler. She loves to dance and tries to sing. Eric & I also love taking her with us fishing, to the mall, for walks, and to the park. Laketa and I also love to plant flowers while Eric mows the back yard or works on a project.

Eric and I were outside. I was raking the yard while he was mowing the yard. I helped him move the picnic table so that he could mow the rest of the yard. We found a caterpillar called a willow bear. It's brown in the middle, black on the two ends. I put the caterpillar in a jar. I poked holes in the top and brought the caterpillar back outside to let it down. I let the caterpillar move and walk around. After a few minutes, I put the caterpillar back in the jar and brought it back in the house. A few days later, I looked to see how the caterpillar was doing. I was like "Eric look! Something is wrong with the caterpillar!" Eric said "Nope, he is in his cocoon." Aww how lovely.

© May 10th 2011



Brandy is the student of Adult Program tutor Danielle Fogarty.

## Coming to America

by Yuval Sela

Can you reinvent television again in America? After all the reality shows and sport and cooking shows the producers are looking for new ideas. They started to look over the sea.

Great Britain has given them a handful of shows, but the dull life of the English society began to fade away for the producers of the American producers. They wanted something else, a nation that has real problems.

Israel had for many years a lot of problems and dilemmas that can appeal to the audience. The first show that will be on television in the United States is about three men who were kidnaped while they were in the army. They were held in a secret place (facility) for 17 years without any contact with the outside world. Their families held to the hope that they are alive, but the majority of Israelis continued with their lives. One day two men appeared and were released from the prison and one man didn't. He was dead. We do not know who killed him.

The questions that this series tries to answer are: what happened to the other man? Why were they were released after 17 years? Maybe there are spies who made a deal with the Syrian Army?

It was eye opening for us to see what happened after the celebration after the prisoners' release. Every war prisoner must have come to a compound for questioning by the Israeli Army about his role at the Syrian prison. They were questioned about what exactly each of them offered to the Syrians in order for these prisoners to be released.

The men are released from the questioning, but at home they have more troubles. One of the

wives married the brother and continued with her life but was marked as "not holy". The other wife continued to wait and had all the sympathy, but had to raise two kids without their father. If a person had to sleep on concrete for 17 years, can he adjust to sleeping on a bed? The former prisoners had to adjust to the noise of the big city, drive, have credit cards and watch TV that changed so much during those years.

The children who were little when all of it happened grew up and now they are teenagers. They used to be around the mother only and now they have to live with a stranger in the house who can tell them what to do. They rebel against him. The conflict between father and his kids escalated because he was away for all of those years and the children felt like he should not be in their lives. Can he regain his status as the man of the house?

I think that this series can be shown in every place where you have a conflict and people could get hurt. In the United States the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq took a toll on the soldiers' families. It can explain to the rest of the nation what problems emerge when a man or a woman come back from a foreign [war] to families they have left behind.

*Yuval is the student of Adult Program tutor Curt Russell.*

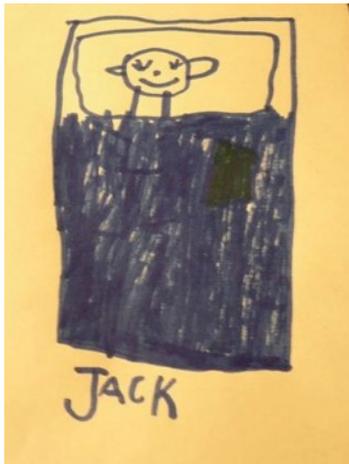
**Should Being a Bookworm Make Me Squirm?  
Can you answer that question in 400 words or less?**

**Coming in September, a VRP Essay Contest for  
Grades 6, 7, and 8 in southwestern Vermont. Prizes  
awarded in November. Inquiries may be sent to  
[msossi148@comcast.net](mailto:msossi148@comcast.net).**

**Watch our website for details.**

## School Program

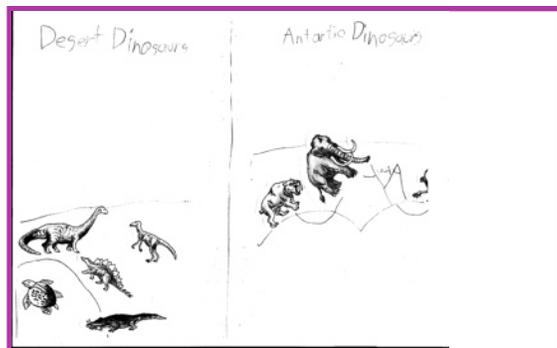
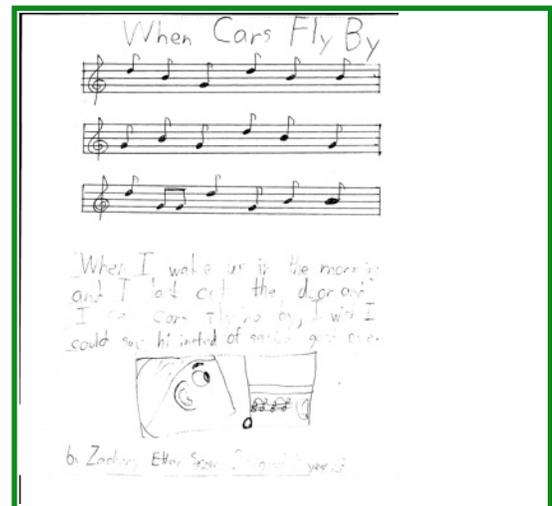
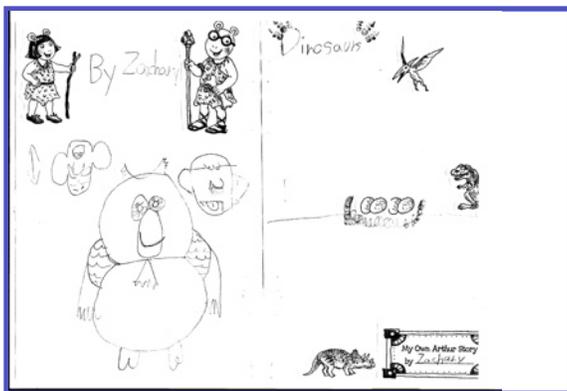
After listening to the picture book, *The Prince Won't Go To Bed!* by Dayle Ann Dodds, students in Ms. Dianna Scott's pre-school program at Manchester Elementary Middle School drew a picture of themselves going to sleep.



During this spring semester, a "mail-room" area was set up in Ms. Dianna Scott's pre-school classroom. In part due to the generosity of Vermont Reading Partners, envelopes and writing paper provided the tools to answer the call, "Did I receive mail?"



### Dinosaur Book and Song by Zachary Ethan Setzer, Grade 2, Fisher



**When Cars Fly By**  
**When I wake up in the morning**  
**and I look out the door and**  
**I see cars flying by, I wish I**  
**could say hi insted of saying good bye.**

Zachary is the student of School Program tutor  
Norma Peebles.

**The Cool Pool**  
by Devin Sears, Grade 3,  
Fisher

Montshire was cool  
And has a main pool.

The water was cold  
But I was bold.

I got out  
and did not pout.

I got my shoes on  
And everyone was gone.

I say hi  
And now I say goodbye.

*Devin is the student of School  
Program tutor Dot Danforth.*

**Butterfly**

In the grassy field  
Taking honey from a rose  
In early morning

**My Christmas Gift**

My dummy looks like me! He  
has blue eyes and has blonde hair.  
He has a red and blue striped shirt.  
He has converse sneakers and  
white socks and dark blue pants.  
He has stuffed legs and stuffed  
arms. He has a hole in the back for  
moving his mouth and head. I like  
my dummy because he looks like  
me. His name is Payton 70.



**Poem and story by Payton Sears, Grade 4, Fisher**



**Four poems by  
Saige Snow,  
Grade 5, Fisher**

**Snow**

White and fine, I watch all day  
On trees, on branches, leaves on lakes  
Oh, how you're on everything  
I watch, I stare, as you carpet the ground  
white  
With shiny, fine, crystalline snowflakes  
Observing you all day.

**Jaguar**

Jaguar jumping up  
Fast into big trees, small trees  
Through the dark moonlight

**Butterfly**

On blue waterfall  
Getting ready to take off  
On a moonlit  
night

**Limerick**

There once was a cat named Harry  
Who had fun riding on a ferry  
He was big and fat  
And had a hat  
He ran to a bear and took a berry.

*Payton and Saige are the students of School Program tutor Liz Luca.*

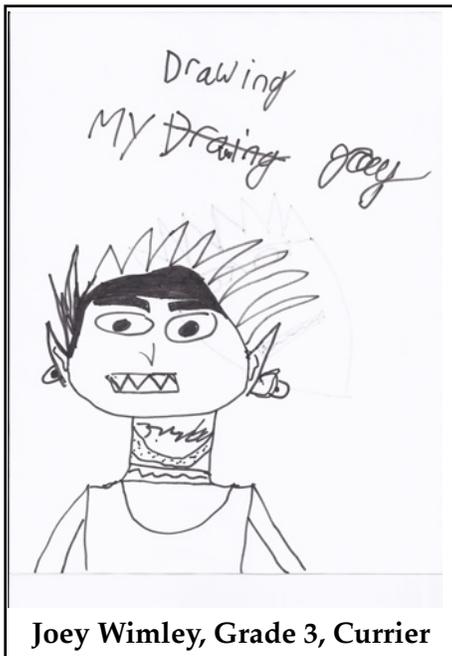
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[www.vermontreadingpartners.org](http://www.vermontreadingpartners.org)

A Volunteer Literacy Program serving southwestern Vermont for over twenty-five years  
Affiliate of ProLiteracy America

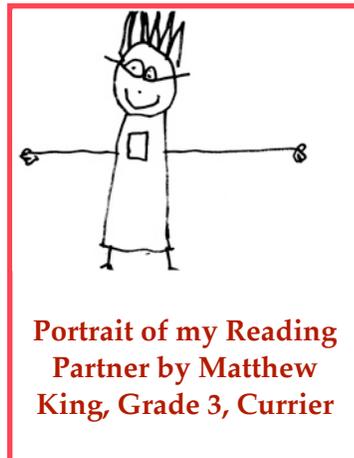


Joey Wimley, Grade 3, Currier

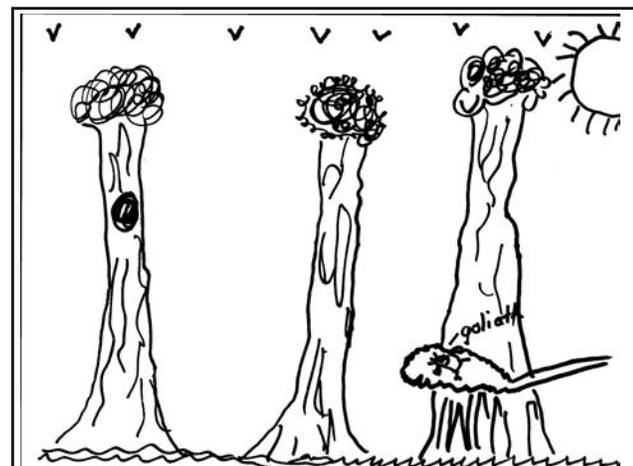
Joe and Matt are students of School Program tutors Alice Gilborn, and John and Debby Cave.

*That goliath beetle of Africa can weigh as much as two eggs. The stink bug is that horrible smelliest bug. They are monster bugs.*

By Giancarlo Russo,  
Grade 2, MEMS (right)



**Portrait of my Reading Partner by Matthew King, Grade 3, Currier**



*That the goliath beetle of Africa can weigh as much as two eggs. The stink bug is the horrible smelliest bug. They are monster bugs.*  
Giancarlo

Giancarlo is the student of School Program tutor Joanne Van Meter.