

“A great work of art is cherished, not merely endured....because it guides and inspires.”

S. Kriyananda
Meaning in the Arts

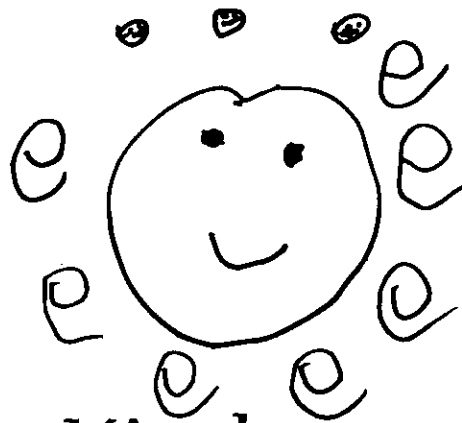
Preface

Art, whether in the form of literature, music, painting, or sculpting, is ultimately about making meaning—and great art is about the deepest kind of meaning, which brings wholeness to our lives. It is not surprising, therefore, that within our *Education for Life* system, literature and art come under the curriculum heading of Wholeness.

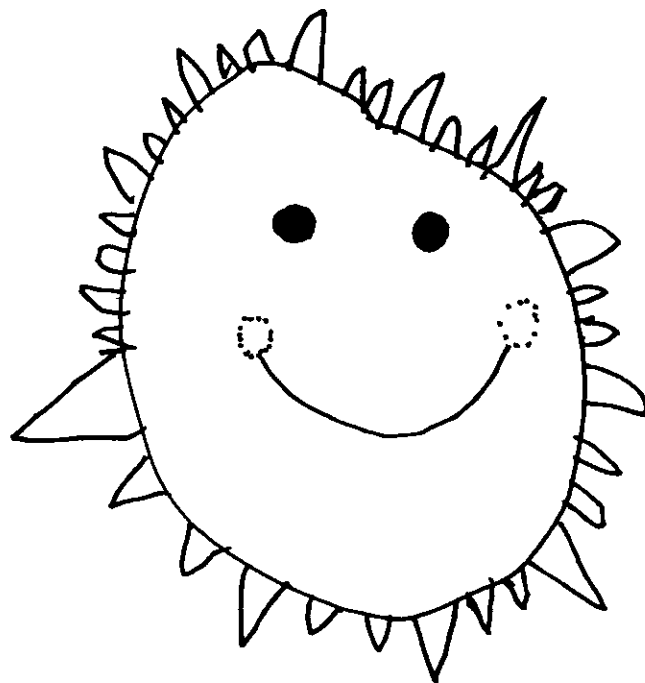
Each unique and original entry in this literary magazine reveals the children in the very real process of making meaning both on the page and in their lives. They work hard at shaping their material toward an end. They imagine and reflect, observe, listen, ask questions, draw connections, make assertions, and revise to catch just the right shape, or sound, or nuance. They learn that surprises may be friends, not enemies, that roadblocks are temporary, and that energy, will power, and discipline are the foundation of creativity—all the “stuff” of the deepest kind of learning.

While this publication celebrates the children’s originality and creativity, it also celebrates their teachers who have crafted an environment that allows and encourages young writers and artists to trust their own ideas and to share them with others, to take control, to experiment, to struggle, to fail, and, ultimately, to succeed. Their creative products are the result of a wonderful synchronicity between child and teacher, and they are enchanting.

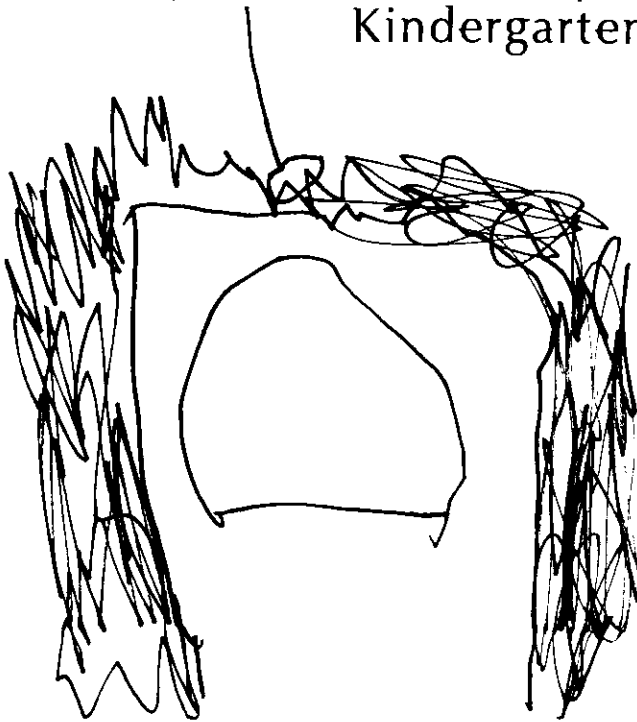
Helen Purcell
Literary Magazine Editor,
Middle School Language Arts Teacher,
& School Director



Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten



Imaginative Stories by the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Playmakers



Pirate Adventure

By Dean Bojinov, age 5

Pirates are sailing to a treasure island. There is treasure below the orange sand. When they were digging, they heard a clank. They knew it was a treasure chest. They were trying to take the treasure chest. They did it with a green metal shovel. They opened the treasure chest, and there was a golden cup, jewels and gems.

The Flowery Day

By Jaya Urrutia, age 4

There was a flower that was growing, (this is the tiny seed). There was a rainbow that comes from the clouds after the sun came out. A flower grew inside the rainbow. It started raining. The rain was getting harder and harder and harder and harder until it was almost time to stop, but it still had three little drops. Then it had eight drops. Then it had four drops, three drops, two drops and finally it had one drop left. The rain had stopped!



Bob

By Neel Rangan, age 4

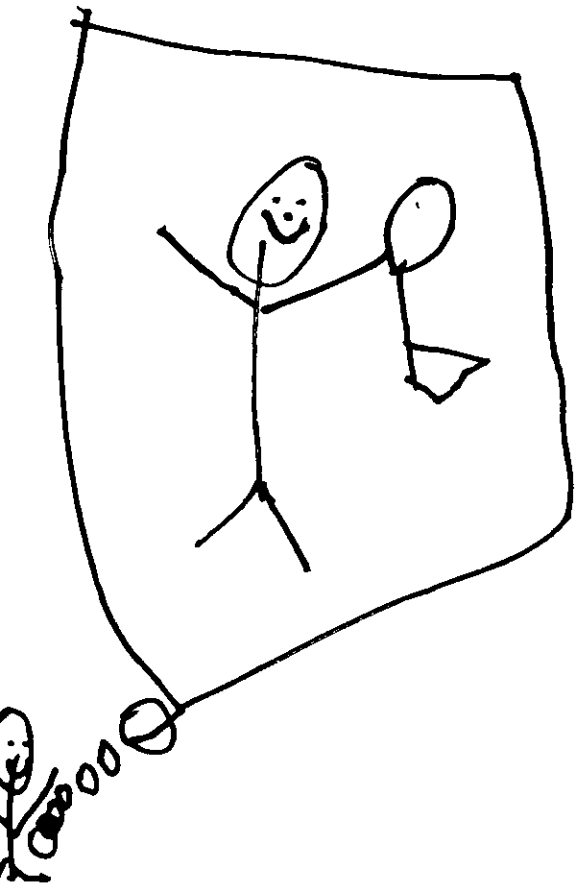
The river is flowing. Bob is working in his house. The clouds are coming from the sky. It is raining. A monkey is hanging from the tree. He is trying to escape from a scary animal that eats meat. There is something enormous swimming in the river. It is a shark. The river is leading to the road and Bob's house. The shark is swimming, but Bob is far away. Bob is in his house. He is saving himself from the shark.



The Caterpillar Who Turned into a Butterfly

By Pooja Punn, age 5

Once upon a time there lived a caterpillar. His name was Squeaky. One day he saw a beautiful butterfly. "I want to be like you," said the caterpillar. He was hungry so off he went. He ate and ate until he turned into a chrysalis. Then he turned into a butterfly just like the beautiful butterfly. Then they both became friends. They played games and they flew outside together.



The Missing Light

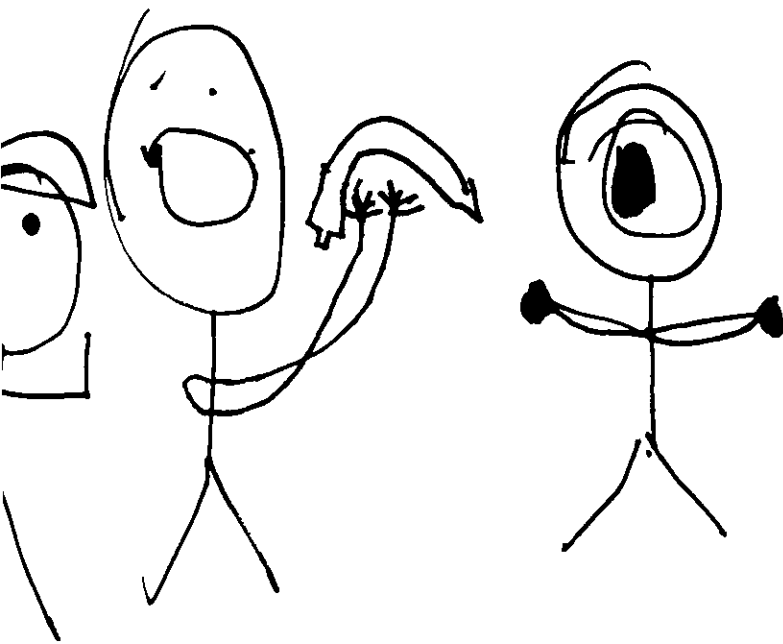
By Alec Holmes, age 6

Somebody opened the door. It is a skeleton. He is camouflaging because he doesn't want anyone to see him. He is trying to get away with the missing light. The missing light is a power that was hidden inside a ball. As he is running away, the skeleton falls into the missing lake, which is formed in the shape of a number one. The power floated back to its home. The skeleton sinks and a shark swims up and eats him.

How Everyone Became Aliens

By Kevin Jiang, age 6

Seven different colored aliens were here on Earth to attack the humans. The leader made a house turn into fire. One of them was hiding pretending to be a person. This alien really looked like a person. The red one made people become black aliens. The yellow one shot banana boomerangs that made people into another type of alien. No one knew that this was happening. They all combined to scare people away.



How the Sun Disappeared

By Eegan Ram, age 6

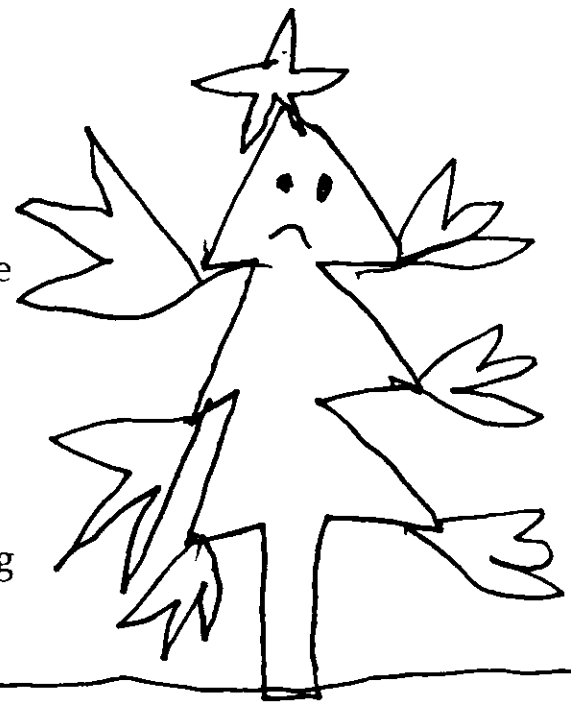
Once upon a time it was a sunny day in Florida. One day the sun went away. Only one centimeter of the sun showed. Then one day it was like midnight during the day. After the sun stopped coming, it rained and rained. If you stepped in a puddle it would cover your whole foot. In the Fall the sun revealed itself. When it revealed itself, it was Christmas.

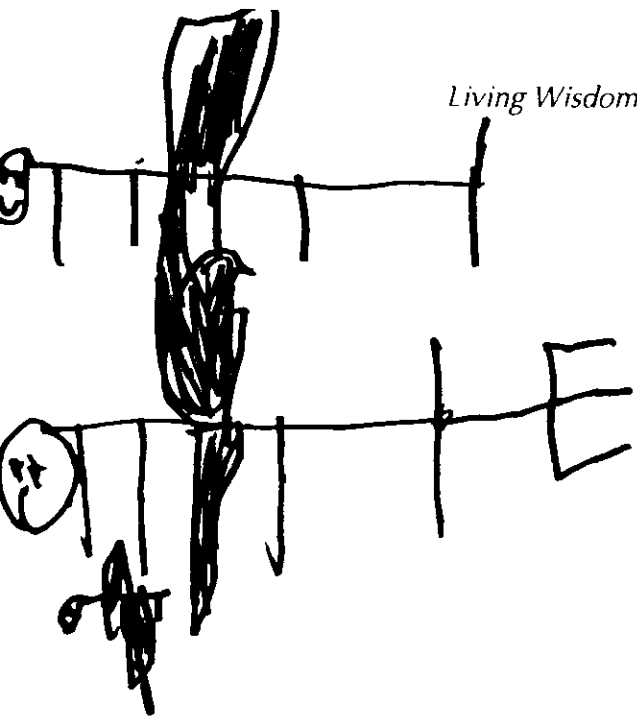


The Mystery of the Christmas Trees

By Bryan Fu, age 6

This is a Christmas tree mystery. In a store a Christmas tree was completely on fire. In a different house there were lots of presents, and one of the kids was running to get the presents. Santa had just come. In another store the Christmas tree had a lot of smoke, and the Christmas tree's face was all crinkled up. The tree was a little bit on fire. Santa just dropped two presents here because the smoke frightened him. In the next store Santa dropped a few more presents and other presents were still dropping. Next-door the Christmas tree was really on fire. One of the kids said, "Run." The other kid was frightened and sad because Christmas was getting burned up. Next-door Santa dropped more little presents and everyone came down and opened them all. Next-door the Christmas tree was broken. Why were the Christmas trees going on fire?





Dragons

By Luca Gabrea Tejada, age 7

This is a pack of Dragons fighting skulls. These are all their energy powers. Some shoot strings that wrap around and explode. Others have grass power, lava power, water power, and spark power. The black dragon has spark power, which distracts the skulls by shooting sparks and creating smoke. The black dragon, which is black like the night, is the longest and strongest dragon of all. The black dragon's name is Smoke. These are his energy powers. He has smoke power, fireball power, and can fly faster than any other dragon. Danger on sight!

The Rainbow and the Rainbow Flower

By Pia Alvarez, age 5

Once there was a rainbow. This rainbow didn't have any colors except one—red. The flower didn't have any colors either, except at its center. The next day the rainbow had two colors. It was red and orange. The flower grew a little more. The next day the rainbow had more colors. The new color was yellow. The rainbow and the flower's colors grew. Now it is the next day, and now the rainbow and the flower have the color green like the grass. Now the rainbow has blue like the sky. Now they both have the color blue, but one more color is missing. It is purple.

