

FIRST PRIZE

In the Winter

In the winter
I see snow falling
I hear wind whistling
I smell hot chocolate
I taste flavours
I touch snowballs

by Chase Liang (Kindergarten)
Trinity Montessori School
Markham, Ontario

FIRST PRIZE

Acorn

Acorns in the sky
Fall down from the big oak tree
Let them hit the ground

by Kennedy Downs (Grade 1)
Westmont Montessori School
Victoria, British Columbia

FIRST PRIZE

Chinese New Year

I am celebrating Chinese New Year,
I love watching the dragon dance,
The dragon dance greets me when I am standing.

I am celebrating Chinese New Year,
I love going to the lantern festival,
The lanterns are as bright as lights.

I am celebrating Chinese New Year,
I love collecting red envelopes,
The red envelopes melt my heart.

I am celebrating Chinese New Year,
I love eating dumplings,
The dumplings jump in my mouth.

by Erica Sun (Grade 2)
Brain Power Enrichment Program
Vaughan, Ontario

FIRST PRIZE

My Paper Airplane

I made a paper airplane
with my sister.

My sister tried to fly hers
all over the playground.

But her paper airplane flew
only a little bit.

And my paper airplane flew
all around the world.

I couldn't see it until
I turned around and looked
behind me.

My sister said, "Ha-ha-ha,
your airplane did not fly up.
It went over your head
and landed behind you."

But I still think my paper airplane
flew all around the world!

by Jasper Xiao (Grade 3)
Daniela Elza Writing School
Vancouver, British Columbia

FIRST PRIZE

The Spring Butterfly

Snow and ice lift their clutch,
snow-powdered grass perks up a touch.
Green leaves grow on tall trees,
energy returns to buzzing bees.
Frost leaves slush in their wake.

Hanging from a branch is a cocoon,
the spring butterfly woke to a singing loon.

Out bursts a blue-tipped butterfly,
it spreads its wings and flies to the sky.
Heads towards the north arboreal forests,
passing cardinals stretching in their nests.

Arrived at the forest when the Sun was high,
flapping around animals and saying hi.
“Hey, Bear!”
“Hello, Little Spring Butterfly!”
The butterfly gives a happy sigh.

Watching plants lift their blooms,
it goes to the flower orchard with a zoom.
Pansies, tulips, lilies, and orchids galore!
It felt so happy it could soar!

Brushing wingtips against soft mud,
sweeping nectar and pollen off small buds.
Seeing hundreds of butterflies rise,
all in different shapes, colours, and size!

Chirping greetings and resting wings,
the spring butterfly settles on oak sprigs.
Light rain falls gently and warmly,
though no clouds gathered a dark army.

The butterfly surveys its surroundings,
hearing church bells ring and ding.
“My job is done! I feel spring!” it proclaims.
“Spring’s here, alas! I can feel sunny rays!”

by Jocelyn Chan (Grade 4)
Richmond Rose Public School
Richmond Hill, Ontario

FIRST PRIZE

Sunflower

From a seed,
I grow my roots,
Soaking the refreshing rain.
Now, I sprout up from the ground.
I am free.
I have found a new world I have never seen.
From there, I grow taller and taller each day,
Watching the busy world.
As children play and cars drive by,
My leaves are shining in the bright Sun.
Suddenly, I start to develop
Beautiful yellow petals.
I watch the Sun as it shines.
My petals face the Sun.
Now, I am a sunflower.

by Layla Radwan (Grade 5)
Immaculate Heart of Mary School
Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Labrador

SECOND PRIZE

My Visit to Boston

I went to Boston.
I went on a train.
I enjoyed going on the hop-on, hop-off tour.
The library visit was fun.
I was happy.

by Mason Allen (Kindergarten)
Uptown Montessori School
Woodbridge, Ontario

SECOND PRIZE

Snowman

Snow
Needs a carrot
On its head
Wears a hat
Melts in spring
A magical pal
Needs a scarf

by Jayson Chen (Grade 1)
Aurora Montessori School
Aurora, Ontario

SECOND PRIZE

Unicorn

Unique and musical, so rare to see.
Nice, with a horn on its head.
In my dreams, with my imaginary creature.
Colours glowing with warmth.
Oh, how I wish I could ride on it!
Radiant and graceful, galloping along.
Nothing in the world is more magical than my unicorn.

by Evelyn Koop (Grade 2)
Central Montessori School
Toronto, Ontario

SECOND PRIZE

The Flower Field

A bird sleeping in a tree,
waiting for summer to arrive
and the flowers to bloom.

Even if it takes forever,
he will wait and wait.
And then, it happened.

Summer came,
and the flowers bloomed,
and you could see him fly free.

by Oceana Szydelski Campuzano (Grade 3)

Franklin Public School
Kitchener, Ontario

SECOND PRIZE

Reminiscéd

In a small container, where caterpillars crawl,
holds legends of adventure, a tale enthralled.
The gift of a pin—it holds it all,
the story of Sunset, where we met.

Webbed paths woven from their little feet,
they started nibbling the tissue paper sheet.
Then, dangling from thin thread,
chrysalides were spun . . . meconium red!

A kaleidoscope of newborns flutter within the net,
their wings unfurl.
Here they were kept; they yearn to soar.
They fear nothing, their actions bold.

Whispers of wishes—they fly to freedom, all except one;
his name is Sunset, and he will stand strong.
Even though his wings were crippled,
they were beautifully stippled,
and his one antenna worked perfectly well.

Evening hues painted the sky in vibrant colours.
Sunset opened his wings wide to breathe them in,
wanting to be like the others.

He felt disappointment,
but he didn't have to fly to soar,
didn't have to be perfect to be adored.

Different but cherished,
wings bent but beloved.
Always etched in our hearts,
his life reminiscéd.

by Sophie Ma (Grade 4)

Denlow Public School
North York, Ontario

SECOND PRIZE

I Try

People seem to think
that my life
is just peachy.
There's a lot more
that I don't let on.
My family
is very smart.
I have
a secret.
I try
to be smart,
but really,
sometimes I don't understand.
I try
to be nice,
but really,
deep inside,
there is
always a
spark of
anger.
It may not
come out,
but that
doesn't mean
that it's not there.
I try.
I really do.
But sometimes,
I'm just not enough.

by Sarah Snider (Grade 5)
Mackenzie Community School
Deep River, Ontario

THIRD PRIZE

Horses

Four little horses gallop in a house.
One climbed a tree and saw everything there was to see.
Another horse saw a mouse.
A cat in the house ate a bee.

by Lilia Roberts (Kindergarten)
Glenn Arbour Academy
Burlington, Ontario

THIRD PRIZE

My School

I have a lot of friends here,
But they are not to fear.

My school is the best.
It's better than all the rest.

My school is great.
I've made some good mates.

by Eddie Ormsby (Grade 1)
Blue Mountain Wild School
Kimberley, Ontario

THIRD PRIZE

If I Were a Squirrel

If I were a squirrel,
I would live in a tree,
And I would be free.

If I were a squirrel,
I would be nice,
Except when eating everyone's rice.

If I were a squirrel,
I would be grey
And stay away.

If I were a squirrel,
I would gather food
And be in a good mood.

If I were a squirrel,
I would be a spy
And fly very high.

If I were a squirrel,
I would run very fast
And have a blast.

If I were a squirrel,
I would be sleepy
But not very creepy.

If I were a squirrel
I would take a view of the land
And make sure there is no sand.

by Ziyana Kassam (Grade 2)
Sidney Ledson Institute
North York, Ontario

THIRD PRIZE

The Massive Grey Wolf

Bloody eyes, with creepy smile, impressive brain.
Of all, the king of the night
When they dance, they howl.
When they hunt, they hunt silently.
When they eat, they eat in a very unpolite manner.
When they howl, they howl in a terrible voice.
When you see one, you sure scream, unless you're one of them.

by Ann Hao (Grade 3)
Fresh Minds Academy
Vancouver, British Columbia

THIRD PRIZE

When Lilly Loved Lego

When Lily loved Lego,
She would fiddle night and day.
When her mom said, "Go to bed,"
Lily shouted, "No way!"

Her mom got angry one night on Halloween.
Her mom gave her a piece of toast and bet she would scream.
Lily laughed and went to her neighbour's door,
Knocked once or twice and asked, "Are you there anymore?"

She heard nothing.
Then she got so scared
When she saw something frightening,
A ghost right there.

She knew that she was toast, and she went around the coast.
She ran into a post.
She knew it was a dream,
And then she screamed.

Her mom heard
And asked if she were all right.
Her mom knew
Because she was the ghost that very night.

by Emma Egeland (Grade 4)
Medstead Central School
Medstead, Saskatchewan

THIRD PRIZE

A Friend

Negative thoughts swirl through my brain
Tears stream down my face
The rude words repeat over and over
A ringing in my ears
I wish it would stop
I wish the misery could end
I fear it never will

Until it does
Something small in a world so big
Something unimportant
Or maybe someone
Or so I thought

Soon enough, I realize what it is
A friend
She puts a comforting hand on my shoulder
Then she gives me a hug
Softly, she speaks comforting words
And soon, I realize that those other words didn't matter
They never mattered
Not when you have a friend

Now I walk, passing the old bullies
My head held high
I know I never could have done it
Not without a friend

I pedal down the streets
Laughing as the wind ruffles my hair
I could never have had this much fun
Not without a friend

Walking past those bullies, I think
*I suppose it is a very good thing then
That I have a best friend by my side
Helping me every step of the way*

by Amina Naeem (Grade 5)
Hawthorn Public School
Mississauga, Ontario