

FIRST PRIZE

The Sleepiest Superhero

Once upon a time there was a great superhero in the land. His name was Fighting Golden Dragon Rider. He never slept because he stayed up all night, riding his golden dragon, fighting crime.

One night Fighting Golden Dragon Rider was so tired every time he tried to get up onto his golden dragon, he would fall right back into his bed.

The superhero became very angry he had no energy to go out and fight the bad guys, so he decided to sleep and get his energy back. He put banana peels all around his bed in case any bad guys came.

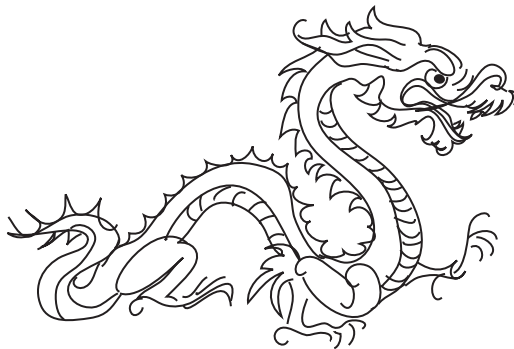
That night Fighting Golden Dragon Rider was sleeping in his bed when an enemy named Zero One realized he was asleep and tried to attack. The banana peels worked for a little while. The superhero stayed sleeping while the enemy slipped all over the place. At last, Zero One reached the superhero and stole his golden dragon and all of his superpowers.

Fighting Golden Dragon Rider woke up and Zero One quickly flew out the window on the golden dragon. He crashed right into a tree, and fell down. He didn't know how to ride the golden dragon or use the superpowers very well, but he still got away.

This gave the superhero an idea. He ran to get his saw and started to cut down the tree. When Zero One returned for his next attack, Fighting Golden Dragon Rider was ready. He made the final cut with his saw, and the tree fell right on top of Zero One. The enemy was trapped, and the superhero took back his golden dragon and all of his superpowers. He called the police, and they took Zero One to jail and locked him up.

At last Fighting Golden Dragon Rider was safe, and he wasn't sleepy anymore.

by Kaab Shujah (Kindergarten)
An-Noor Private Islamic School
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FIRST PRIZE

The Little Boy and the Escaping Robot

There was a little boy who loved Lego so he built a robot. When he went to bed the robot came to life. The robot decided to explore the house.

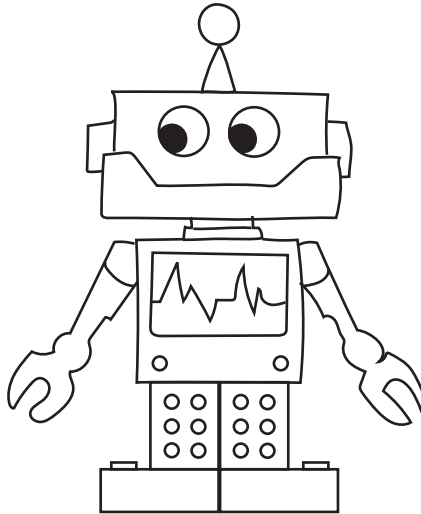
First he went to look for a friend to play with. So he looked. He looked behind the couch. “Hello, is anyone home?” Nobody answered. He looked behind the bookshelf. “Hello, is anyone home?” Nobody answered. So he gave up. Then, he wanted shelter so he decided to build one.

He thought he had built a very sturdy house, but he was wrong. It toppled over on him and it hurt a lot. Next he was tired, so he sat on the couch.

The little boy woke up and he wanted to play with his Lego. He went downstairs, but when he got downstairs he found everything except his robot. He went on a search party to look for him. The little boy looked everywhere he could think of. He went upstairs to get changed. He found his robot under his bed. He was so angry he accidentally broke his robot! Then he started crying so much he made a flood! His dad came in and swam and found all the pieces from the robot. Then he built a new one that was not the same but looked even better. The boy stopped crying and the flood went away, so the dad did not have to swim!

Finally his dad went away and the robot was punished. After, the robot asked if they could be friends and the boy said, “Okay.” They were best friends forever.

by Connor Wang (Grade One)
Bedford Park Public School
Toronto, Ontario



FIRST PRIZE

Princess Mary and the Zombies

Once upon a time there was a princess in a faraway land. Her name was Mary.

One day Mary was walking home from school when she noticed a graveyard. When it was dawn she noticed a grave was shaking. It did nothing more so she kept on walking, but then she heard a noise. It went like this: “Eeeeeeh!” She turned around and saw a zombie! She ran home screaming and yelling, “Father!”

Her father said, “What’s wrong?”

“I saw a zombie!”

“Nonsense,” said her father, “now go to bed!”

The next morning Princess Mary was getting ready for school, but then she remembered the graveyard, so she pretended she was sick. But no one fools the king. He said, “What are doing? Your bus is going to be here soon.”

“But, Dad,” said Mary, “the zombies. . . .”

“There are no such things. Now get on the bus.” So Princess Mary got on the bus.

When she got to school none of her friends were there so she went back home. Her father said, “Why are you back here?”

“No one’s at school today.”

“That’s odd,” said her father.

“Wait a minute! My father would never say that.”

“Oh really?” said a voice.

Princess Mary said, “You’re not my father. Who are you?”

“I’m the captain zombie!”

“Ahhh!” yelled Princess Mary. “Where’s my father?” she yelled.

“Oh, you don’t wanna know, but you’ll find out because I’m going to do the exact same thing to you,” he said.

“No, you’re not,” said Princess Mary bravely. “Now, where’s my father?”

Suddenly a fairy named Elaina appeared and said, “Don’t worry.”

“But my father is in serious danger.”

“I know,” she said, “but that’s not important right now. The zombies are planning to attack.”

“Really?”

“Yeah.”

“Oh no.”

“Oh yeah. Now let’s stop them.”

“Okay, let’s do it,” said Princess Mary.

So Princess Mary and Elaina the Fairy went to the graveyard. Princess Mary was scared. A voice came from the shadows. Elaina yelled, “Who are you?”

“The captain zombie! Oh yes, and it’s about time you had your punishment.”

“Oh no.”

“Oh yes. Now you want to know what happened to your father? He got locked up and I said I was going to do the exact same thing to you, but now I have something even worse to do to you! We’ll make you the zombie princess.”

“Oh no, you won’t,” said Elaina.

“Oh yes, I will.”

“Oh really? Because I don’t see Princess Mary.”

“What?” Then they went and freed the king and they lived happily ever after.

by Maria Cassata (Grade Two)
Quispamsis Elementary School
Quispamsis, New Brunswick



FIRST PRIZE

The Real Tooth Fairy

“Look, Daniel, I lost a tooth!” yelled Nicole.

“Hey, that’s not fair! I want to get money from Mom and Dad!” said Daniel.

“You don’t get it from Mom or Dad, you get it from the tooth fairy!” said Nicole.

Nicole raced down the stairs to show Mom and Dad before Daniel could ask them if the tooth fairy gives them the money or if they give Nicole and Daniel the money. “Mom, Dad, look! I lost a tooth!” Nicole screamed,

“Quiet down, Nicole. It is great you lost a tooth, but you don’t have to scream to tell us,” her mom said in a calm voice.

“Okay,” said Nicole trying to calm down.

“That’s good,” said Mom.

“Mom, do you give the money when Nicole or I lose a tooth or does the tooth fairy?” asked Daniel when he got downstairs. Daniel had short black hair and blue eyes. Nicole had blonde hair and blue eyes. Every time she ran, her hair fell in her face because it was so long it was down to her hips!

“Ah,” said Nicole, “finally I get to have money from the tooth fairy in one year!” yelled Nicole.

“You’re getting your money from Mom and Dad,” Daniel scowled at Nicole.

“Don’t scowl at me, or I’ll scowl at you,” said Nicole.

“Then do it,” Daniel teased.

Daniel never knew Nicole would actually do it, but she did. “You’re mean,” Nicole scowled at him.

“Mom, Dad, Nicole scowled at me!” yelled Daniel.

“Well, he scowled at me first!” shouted Nicole.

Mom and Dad came running down the stairs towards them like mad. “Daniel, you know you’re older than Nicole and you shouldn’t do anything mean to her,” said Mom.

“All right,” said Daniel.

When it was night and Nicole was asleep, Daniel snuck into her room and hid her tooth under their dog’s bowl. The next morning, Nicole got her money and the tooth was gone. Nicole was so excited she got a five dollar bill.

“Yes! I got a five dollar bill,” said Nicole in the morning.

The next day Nicole lost another tooth and Daniel dug up a hole in their backyard and hid the tooth in there, but Nicole still got her money.

Finally they stayed up all night when Nicole lost her seventh tooth, and they saw the tooth fairy giving Nicole a five dollar bill. Daniel was so surprised.

In the morning Nicole said, “See, I told you the tooth fairy was real.”

Daniel didn’t say anything, but he smiled. Nicole knew just what that meant. Daniel learned if you don’t believe in something, try to find some experiments you can do.

by Laura Gan (Grade Three)
MacLeod’s Landing Public School
Richmond Hill, Ontario



FIRST PRIZE

The Giant Squid

Splish! went the water as it softly splashed against Bob and Violet's boat. Bob and Violet were searching for more undiscovered land; they thought a life alone would be fantastic. Violet's cat, Mouse, scurried up to her and leaped into her arms. "What's the matter, Mouse?" Mouse started squealing like a one-year-old baby. Violet ignored her and gazed at the ocean.

While she marvelled at the ocean all she could see was a beautiful bright blue with spots of white. The aroma of salt filled Violet's nostrils. *Splish, splash, whoosh!* The amusing sounds of the ocean whipped away her last drop of worry.

Suddenly, a big voice boomed behind her. It was Bob. "Time for dinner!" She took one last look at the gorgeous ocean and strolled off to eat her dinner.

"Did you hear that?" shouted Bob as they munched on their dinner

"No, hear what?" asked Violet.

"That big crashing noise?" yelled Bob.

"Mouse must have knocked over the lamp again," said Violet. "Let's go find out."

Bob and Violet raced around the ship trying to find out where the sound had come from. Violet dashed onto the deck and saw the water was black. Just then Bob zoomed up from behind her. "Did you find anything?" Instantly, they both screamed.

"W-what h-h-happened?" stuttered Violet.

"I d-don't know," replied Bob.

In the blink of an eye the waves started to get bigger. Humongous black waves started to surround Bob and Violet as they shrieked their heads off. There was a red thing floating around in the water. Without warning it sprouted tentacles and grew larger. A giant squid!

Crash! A large tentacle smashed down onto the boat!

"There's a leak in the boat!" shouted Violet! "Get some buckets!"

Bob sprinted inside the ship and came out panting with a million buckets. He quickly patched up the hole. Another humongous tentacle crashed onto the other side of the boat.

"More buckets!" shouted Violet.

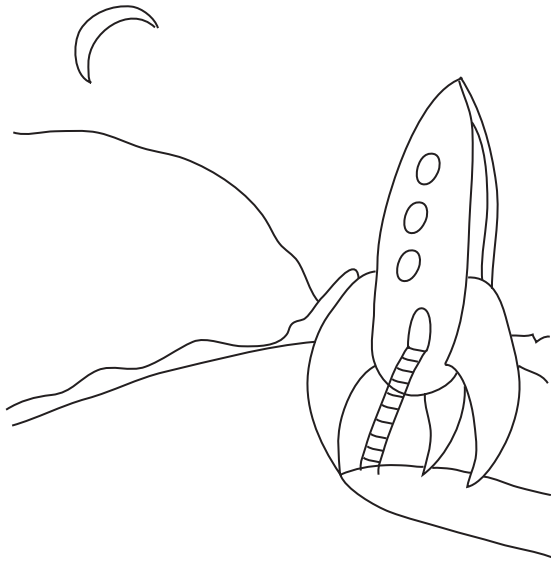
Just then Bob and Violet saw another tentacle coming. This time it wasn't heading for the sides of the boat, it was heading straight for them! "Aaahhh!"

Suddenly they heard a strange noise. *Meow!* It was Mouse! Mouse let out an enormous hiss! The squid's eyes grew big and frightened; it swam away faster than you can say "Hooray for Mouse!"

"Land ho!" They arrived at a small island in the middle of the ocean. Violet shivered as she imagined the giant squid once again. It seemed as if she could still feel the water splash against her as the squid attacked their boat. She hoped she would never meet that squid again. But for now, there was house building to do!

by *Avery Frere* (Grade Four)
Rundle College Elementary School
Calgary, Alberta





FIRST PRIZE

Moon Mission

Carter woke up with Charles licking his face. He had to get ready for another day slaving away in the mines. He hastily slipped into his clothes and went downstairs for breakfast. Charles came running down after him. Today his mother made a *scrumdiddioocious* breakfast for his thirteenth birthday. Then Charles followed Carter out the front door.

That evening five men knocked on the door. Carter answered. The man in front said, “Are you Carter Sescio?”

“Yes,” said Carter.

“We need you to come and work for us at the TSMB.”

“TSMB?”

“Top Secret Moon Base,” said another man in a cold rattling voice.

“Do you choose to accept?” asked another man, sounding stranger than the last.

“All right,” said Carter, “but Charles has to be able to come.”

“Charles?”

“My dog,” said Carter.

“Fine, but on one condition,” said the first man.

“Keep him quiet!” they all yelled at once.

“All right, I’ll keep Charles quiet.”

The next day Carter and Charles boarded *The Valiant*. When they got to the command centre, the first man, Briggs, sat down on a massive chair in the centre of the room. “Parking brake off?”

“Yes, sir.”

“Full power to engines.”

“Copy that.”

“Now . . . fire all engines.”

“Firing engines.”

“Jumping to light speed . . . you might want to hang onto something,” said a clerk.

Suddenly, the ship started shaking. Three seconds later, the ship was in front of the moon. *The Valiant* received a message: “Come in, Ship 536, I repeat, come in, Ship 536. Over.”

“We hear you loud and clear. Permission to land?”

“Permission granted. Land on Platform Six. Over.”

“Roger that. Over and out.”

A few minutes later, *The Valiant* landed on Platform Six. Carter saw people carrying crates, robotic parts, and weapons all around the TSMB. “Look out!” someone yelled.

“They’re coming back!” someone else yelled.

“Who’s coming back?” asked Carter.

“The Tazu,” said Briggs.

“Tazu?” Carter asked, confused.

“An alien race that craves destruction,” he said.

Carter caught sight of one. It had twelve eyes, with pitch-black skin and razor-sharp teeth. Carter had no more time to look because he was ushered inside the TSMB and taken to the commander’s quarters. Briggs knocked on the door. “Come in,” said the commander. “Aaah, Carter, isn’t it?”

“Yes, indeed,” Carter said cautiously.

“We heard you were clever so we need you to help our scientists build a death ray to defeat the Tazu.”

“All right, I’ll help.” *Ruff!* Charles barked in agreement.

Well, here Carter was again, working like a slave. He worked for about a year until he finished the ray.

“Excellent work, Carter,” the commander said. “Quickly throw him in jail. Hurry!” he yelled.

“Quick, Charles, run!” Carter said.

by **Matthew Cooke** (Grade Five)
Northmount School
Toronto, Ontario



SECOND PRIZE

How to Be a Tooth Fairy

When I'm bigger I want to be a tooth fairy because I like fairies. I need to go to Fairy School because I need to learn how to use magic. These are the things I have to learn:

1. I have to learn how to fly.
2. I have to be really quiet when the little girls and little boys are sleeping so I can trade their teeth for coins.
3. I have to practise my reading because I need to read a list of children's names and where their houses are.
4. I have to learn how to count so I know how many coins to give.
5. I have to learn how to take care of people's teeth.

When I collect all the teeth, I will plant them in my garden and they will grow to be pink and purple and golden and silver daisies.

by Aleyna Bhanji (Kindergarten)
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Toronto, Ontario



SECOND PRIZE

Hoppy Goes to Space

One day there was a frog named Hoppy. He was playing a jumping game with his friend Froggy. It was Hoppy's turn to jump. He jumped so high he actually jumped off his own planet!

He landed on Earth. He thought he could jump back to his planet. But he couldn't! He couldn't jump high enough because Earth was not bouncy like his planet. He tried one more time and he landed on something. He looked at what he landed on. It was a rocket ship! He was patient until the people counted down from ten. Then he was blasted into outer space.

In outer space Hoppy found a flashing light. It was different from the flashing lights his planet had. But he wanted to check if his planet had changed the flashing lights. It turned out to be the firefly planet! He played with the fireflies for a bit. Then his eye caught something. It was something very big. It was a big and fast scissor. It was heading for the firefly planet. Hoppy and the fireflies ran as fast as they could.

When Hoppy was running he found another planet. Hoppy hid behind this planet and the scissor didn't see him. He wondered where the fireflies would end up!

He checked to see what planet he landed on. It was the monster planet. There were monsters with one eye, two eyes, three eyes, and even one hundred eyes. Hoppy did some monster experiments with the monsters. Like would monsters snort, and would wheat make bread? While Hoppy was doing more experiments he felt something. Hoppy told the monsters. When Hoppy finished telling the monsters what he felt, the monsters also felt what Hoppy felt. The monster with one hundred eyes told them it was a monster quake!

"Get off the planet!" the monsters screamed.

The monster planet broke in two. One of the pieces of the monster planet was coming right at them! Monster planet pieces moved fast. The monsters and Hoppy ran as fast as they could.

The monsters and Hoppy bumped into another planet. They looked at what planet they bumped into. It was Hoppy's planet! "Have you seen all these fireflies?" Froggy asked.

"Yes, I saw all of those fireflies!" replied Hoppy. Hoppy was glad the fireflies were safe.

"Why do you have monsters with you?" asked Froggy.

"I have met monster planet!" replied Hoppy.

by Vidujith Widyalankara (Grade One)
Tiger Jeet Singh Public School
Milton, Ontario



SECOND PRIZE

Apollo Nineteen

Once in the year 3031, there was a rocket launch in America. The objective was to land on the moon, but before they took off they forgot to refuel the rocket engine. So when they took off they saw the rocket wasn't moving. They tried pushing the speed bar, but the rocket still didn't move. They tried to call for help, but they were too deep in space and there was no signal. But hopefully there was a bit more fuel left, so they pushed the speed bar in high speed and it finally came close to the Earth and the moon.

They landed on the moon, but there was another problem. There was no fuel in the space shuttle. So they tried to call the space station on Earth. Someone picked up, but there was no answer. But then someone answered. Someone screamed and said, "Get back to Earth. It was a mistake to send all of you to the moon. Remember what happened to *Apollo Eighteen*?" They remembered what had happened to *Apollo Eighteen*. They landed on the moon but there was a failure to get back to Earth.

But the astronauts said, "We don't have enough fuel to come back to Earth."

The person on Earth said, "There should be two fuel packs in the back of the space shuttle." So the astronauts went to the back of the space shuttle and they found them and took them outside and refuelled the space shuttle. But that didn't do any good because the fuel packs were already used, so the person on Earth said, "We're coming to rescue you."

The astronauts said, "Okay."

So they came to rescue them. When they got on the shuttle, the shuttle didn't move. They wondered why it didn't move, so one of the astronauts said, "We didn't refuel the space shuttle."

Then the person who came to rescue them said, "It was our fault. We forgot to refuel the rocket."

The astronauts said, "Did you bring some extra fuel packs?"

The person said, "Uh, yeah."

The astronauts said, "Then get those fuel packs and refuel this space shuttle."

They refuelled the space shuttle and went back to Earth. They were never allowed to go to the moon again. The person who came to rescue them said, "We are sorry for sending you to the moon."

The astronaut said, "That's okay." They never went back to the moon again. The astronaut said, "Just remember to refuel the rocket next time."

The person said, "We will."

by Prasanna Dev Hariharan (Grade Two)
R.C. Garnett Demonstration Elementary School
Langley, British Columbia



SECOND PRIZE

Freddy Has a Nest

On the first day of spring, a boy named Freddy went outside. On the farm he lived there was one particular field he visited every day.

On this day he found a brown nest that had fallen from a gigantic tree. It had three eggs and two yellowy-orange chicks in it, with no mother bird nearby. Freddy sat down and looked at the chicks and the eggs. He waited for about fifteen minutes, but there was no sign of the mother bird. Then Freddy had a wonderful idea. He would dress up in a bird costume and get some worms for the tiny chicks. So he went to change into his costume and get a bucket of worms.

By the time Freddy came back to the nest, the mother bird had finally come back to her eggs and cute chicks. The mother bird thought Freddy was going to capture her babies and take them away so she started pecking at him as hard as she could.

“I’m trying to help your chicks, Mother Bird,” said Freddy two times.

The mother bird thought he was just trying to trick her so he could capture the baby chicks.

Freddy threw five worms at the mother bird and she ate them all, but she left two for her chicks. She realized Freddy was just trying to help her chicks. So then the mother bird stopped pecking Freddy.

Suddenly, the three eggs started hatching. “They’re really cute,” said Freddy. “I feel excited.” The mother bird chirped in agreement.

All five little chicks jumped on Freddy and he fell onto the grass. The little chicks pecked super lightly on Freddy’s face and he giggled.

When Freddy finally went home his parents were worried about him. “Are you okay?” asked his parents.

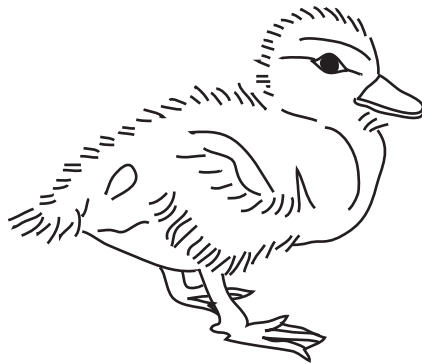
“I’m great!” replied Freddy.

“I made your favourite fruit soup,” said Freddy’s mom.

“Yay!” screamed Freddy, “I’ll eat it all. All the fun I had today has made me hungry!” So Freddy went on to tell his parents about the best day ever.

by Annelise Leung (Grade Three)

Trillium School
Markham, Ontario



SECOND PRIZE

Inside a Black Hole

Riiing! Seventeen-year-old Ben Yanky opened the door to find a strange man on the doorstep. Then everything went black.

Ben was lying on a cot when he woke up. “Where am I?” Ben asked.

“NASA Space Labs,” replied the man.

NASA! The man said they needed some people to explore a new planet. Ben would be part of the top-secret P6943 Expedition. The man said his name was Professor Latch.

Ben had to pass a series of tests. The first was non-gravity movement. The second test sounded even worse. Professor Latch opened a door that read “Radioactivity.” *Oh, no!* thought Ben.

Boom! Professor Latch yelled into a microphone, “Explosion in reactor core! Repeat. Explosion in reactor core!” Alarms blared, and men in gas masks ran around grabbing equipment. Lights on the wall flashed, and fumes filled the hall.

Ben had to yell to be heard over the noise: “What’s happening?”

“Someone forgot holding a match in there is dangerous!” shouted a man as he ran past him. Two other men rushed by with a stretcher, and Ben was led away from the chaos.

Meanwhile at home a news story came on the radio: “Scientists are baffled by the cause of this large explosion. Investigators suspect carelessness is the cause. The investigation continues.” Ben’s parents listened closely. “We will now give you a list of the witnesses,” the radio announcer said. “Ben Yanky, Professor La—” *Crackle.* The hum of static—static and then . . . nothing.

“One hour to go,” a female voice said on the intercom.

The expedition members entered a large door with the words “Top Secret! Keep Out!” on it.

Professor Latch opened the door, and what Ben saw made him gasp. “Wow!” he said.

“It’s time to go inside,” Professor Latch told him.

Here comes my death sentence, thought Ben as the countdown started.

. . . *Zero.* . . . Ben felt everything around him lift. His eyes felt like they were trying to burst out of his head. He blacked out.

When he woke he realized he was floating in the air! He struggled to get down, then floated over to a ladder and pulled himself down. He was immediately given a pair of shoes that would help him stay on the floor. He put them on and headed to the cockpit.

He saw the moon in the distance. He looked back and saw Earth far behind them. “How far is it?” he asked.

“One billion light years,” answered Professor Latch. “Of course,” he added, “you are aware of the black holes.”

Ben fainted again.

by Ciaran Ainsley (Grade Four)
Connaught Street School
Fredericton, New Brunswick



SECOND PRIZE

Confessions of a Piñata

I am a piñata, and this is my story.

For a long time, I actually believed I was a real llama. I thought I was born in the Andes, and I would spend my life packing people's treasures around.

I knew I wasn't soft and woolly. Instead I was colourful and papery. *What kind of llama am I?* I wondered.

I met some animal friends, which all looked a little bit like me. There were goats, fish, dragons, spiders, and unicorns. They were going to be sent to a store, whatever that was. I went with them.

When we got there, somebody attached a string to my back, and all my friends too! They hung us all from a ceiling. What was going on?

A few days later, we found out. A small boy and his parents came to see us. He said, "Mom and Dad, I want that donkey," pointing at me.

I thought to myself, *Wait. I'm a llama, not a donkey.* And I wasn't leaving this place without my friends either. The spider and I tangled all of our strings together. They would have to take all of us. Long story short—they did.

And here's where it really got weird. The boy's mom and dad stuffed us all with candy! They hung us from trees in their yard. The boy's friends were coming for a birthday, whatever that was.

With a noise as loud as a waterfall, the yard was suddenly filled with small boys running towards us. A boy pointed at me and yelled, "I call the donkey!"

What? I'm a llama!

Maybe they wanted to be friends and play with us. Maybe this would work out okay. But then I realized the boys had colourful sticks in their hands. What were they going to do? The birthday boy swung his stick at me. I tried to get away, but I couldn't move a muscle. I heard ear-piercing screams from my friends. Why were they hitting us? Why were they mad at us?

We had to get out of there. There was only one thing we could do. "Everybody, drop your candy on the kids!" I shouted.

One of the sticks hit me and the candy started to fall out. Gum and candy poured down onto the boy and he dove for the ground. It was all a blur. The string must have broken, because suddenly I was loose. The unicorn and the spider got out of the yard too. We didn't go back to see what happened. Those boys are probably still buried under candy.

It's dangerous being a piñata.

Note: No piñatas were harmed in the writing of this story.

by Andie Reynolds (Grade Five)
Arrow Heights Elementary School
Revelstoke, British Columbia



THIRD PRIZE

The Big Bad Bear

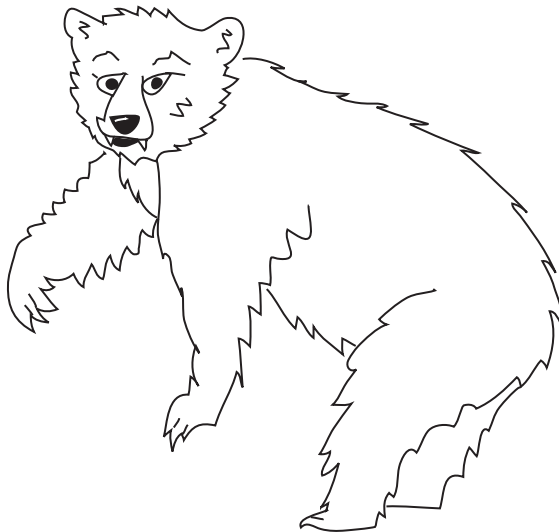
Once upon a time there was a bear. Everyone thought he was bad so they called him The Big Bad Bear.

One day there was a little boy who was walking in the woods when he saw The Big Bad Bear. The little boy saw The Big Bad Bear's big claws, big teeth, and big eyes. The little boy ran away.

The next day he came back and again he saw The Big Bad Bear. The bear came closer to him and he backed away. Soon the bear was chasing him and the boy just kept running.

The third day the little boy came, but he was ready to stand up to the bear. He found out the bear just wanted to be friends with him, so then they became best friends.

by Saad Yahya (Kindergarten)
Churchill Meadows Public School
Mississauga, Ontario



THIRD PRIZE

Molly, the One-winged Goose

Molly is a five-year-old Canada goose with a black shiny head, white spots on her face, and a long black neck. She is very beautiful! She likes swimming in ponds and rivers, but she lives in the woods with her two-week-old goslings named Gil and Hannah.

One day, Molly walked slowly through the woods searching for food for her babies. She walked and walked. Finally, she saw a lot of worms and corn, two of her favourite foods! She quickly had a mouthful for herself and then stuffed her mouth and hurried back home.

On her way home, Molly saw a lot of her friends. She greeted them by flapping her wings because her mouth was full with worms and corn, food for her goslings. By the time she was close to home, she heard a loud growling sound: *Grrr! Grrr!* She hurried home and saw a big black hungry bear named Bruno. He was about to eat her two goslings! She was very scared, but she quacked at him, hoping he would run away. *Quack! Quack!* she cried. *Quack! Quack!* she cried again.

When Bruno saw her, he moved quickly. He attacked her angrily and bit off her left wing.

Molly started to bleed a lot. She was in so much pain, but she still quacked as loud as she could at Bruno. *Quack! Quack!* she shouted.

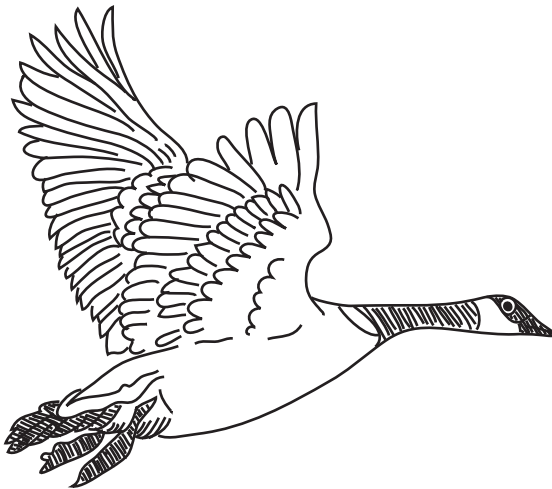
Soon a hundred geese came to help Molly. They shouted, *Quack! Quack!* loudly and pecked at Bruno's fur. Bruno tried to fight back, but they were too many so he ran away.

The geese ran to find help for Molly. They screamed at everyone passing by. Two campers saw the geese quacking loudly and decided to check out what was happening. They saw Molly bleeding and used a cloth to bandage her broken wing. Poor Molly, she kept quacking in pain!

The campers took Molly to the veterinarian quickly in their car. The vet, Dr. Rumsky, could not save Molly's broken wing so he gave her a brand-new wing.

Soon, Molly learned to fly again. She also taught Gil and Hannah to fly.

by **Chrisanne Jackson** (Grade One)
Crawford Adventist Academy
North York, Ontario



THIRD PRIZE

Super Spies

I am Agent Phil, the best super-spy in the agency. I am going to Super Spy Headquarters to meet Mr. Ness. He is in charge.

“Your mission is to stop these ghosts from roaming through a haunted house. You have to stop them,” said Mr. Ness. “They are found outside of town. The house is 100 years old. That is all the information I have right now. Off you go. Be careful, these ghosts are dangerous. You’ll find the ghosts and the haunted house southeast from Pine Street when you head towards the harbour. Take this compass, it might help you.”

“No thanks,” I said. “I have the GPS. That will help me.”

“Try to blend into your surroundings. Take your car, but park it far away so they won’t see you coming. Your car is parked downstairs. I think you should go now,” said Mr. Ness.

“Okay,” I said.

“When you get there go in the back door in case they are guarding the entrance. If you fail to find anything, then check the construction site down the road. They’ve been going down there too,” said Mr. Ness.

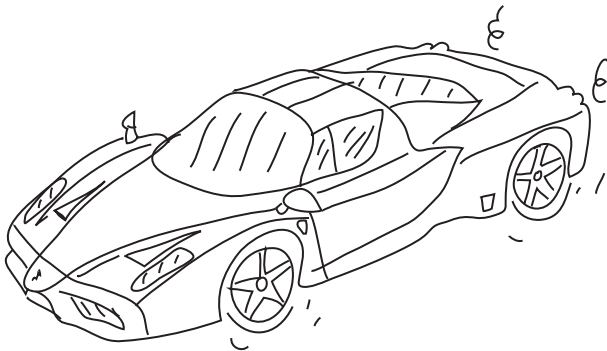
“Wait, what’s that out the window?” I said.

“Look! It’s a note. What does it say?” said Mr. Ness.

“It says, ‘You are done for. You will not catch us. We will catch you!’ That’s a bad threat, but I think I know how to stop the threats and the ghosts. The ghosts should be back with another note. So we will set a trap for the ghosts. . . . Wait! I see something out there. It’s a projector used for movies. I bet that’s for making more than one ghost. For the trap all we need is this wire and bars. So let’s put the wire right here as a trip cord and connect the bars,” I said.

“Duck! Here they come. We got them!” said Mr. Ness. “Wait! It was only a computerized robot. We solved the mystery!” said Mr. Ness.

by Nicholas Guy (Grade Two)
Brookland Elementary School
Sydney, Nova Scotia



THIRD PRIZE

The Winter Fawn

Once upon a time there was a little winter fawn. Her name was Snowball. She was waiting for Spring to arrive. It was April already! She had to find Spring! But where to look first? What does Spring look like? Would Sun know where Spring was? That's it! Sun would know where Spring was.

She went to the highest spot she could find and asked Sun if he knew where Spring went. He said he didn't know but maybe Summer would.

"All right!" said Snowball. "I'll go ask Summer."

Snowball packed up and set off to find Summer. Snowball found Summer at a little house in the woods. So Snowball went in Summer's beautiful house. It was covered with real flowers and vines and even had painted butterflies on the inside and outside. It was the most beautiful house Snowball had ever seen. She saw a little door and couldn't resist going in.

Inside were little fairies! They were waiting for Spring. They were Spring's pet fairies. Summer was watching the fairies while Spring took a vacation. But sadly when Snowball asked Summer where Spring was Summer said Winter had trapped her.

"Let's go get her back!" said Snowball.

"Not so fast," said Summer. "We still need a plan."

"Okay, let's think of one now," said Snowball.

Hmmm, they thought.

"I've got it!" said Summer. "If we go to Winter's house we could trick him into leaving the barn. He isn't very careful so he would drop the key to his house and we could tell him Spring got away and lock him out of his house."

"He would be mad," said Summer.

"That's perfect!" said Snowball.

"Let's go!" they said together.

They went and asked the fairies if they wanted to help. They all said yes.

"Now let's go!" said Snowball.

When they were at Winter's house they saw Winter making a mini blizzard in his hands. They yelled, "Hey, Winter, Spring got away!"

"What?" said Winter. "I have to capture her."

He dropped the key just like in the plan.

"Perfect!" said Summer.

Snowball ran and got the key and went inside Winter's barn. Fall and Spring were trapped.

"So how do we get out of here?" said Fall and Spring.

Summer took the key from Snowball and unlocked the cage. Fall and Spring were so excited they came out to Summer and hugged her tight!

by *Julia Stewart* (Grade Three)

Carman Elementary School

Carman, Manitoba



THIRD PRIZE

Erika the Brave

“Arrggghh,” Erika groaned as she woke up. Erika lived alone in a gigantic mansion where she had lived ever since she was born. Her mansion was situated in the mountains of Edmonton, Alberta. When her parents disappeared, seasons stopped changing, so it was always winter!

It was like time was frozen on a cold Sunday in January. Erika was frustrated she didn’t have a lot of friends: “My only friend’s name is Rosy.” After performing her morning rituals, Erika headed to school.

Erika arrived at her locker and there she saw a mysterious note stuck to her locker. There was a red seal stuck to the message. The document written inside read, “My Dear Royal Subject, you are invited to Mount Olympus, the home of the gods.” Then Erika saw a heart-shaped lollipop. She touched it and felt a warm tingling through her spine. She whispered to it, but it didn’t respond. She smelled it, and it smelled like lavender. She looked at it, and then opened the wrapper, closed her eyes, and licked the lollipop.

In a flash, she disappeared to Mount Olympus and landed gently on a daisy in a garden next to a bird named Victoria. Victoria was an intelligent bird who would send messages for people.

Suddenly, a man glared at Erika. “Nnnnooo!” he screamed. “You ruined my petunia, I mean violet, uhh no tulip, uhh ahh yes daisy.” Just then the daisy became a tall tree. “You ruined my masterpiece!” Poseidon shouted.

Erika was terrified and sorry. To reassure her, Victoria told her, “No worries, this man is named Poseidon and I will fix your mess.” Victoria replied, “She painted the leaves.”

Suddenly Poseidon exclaimed, “Ah, I know you. Zeus is expecting you. Follow me.”

They walked and walked until they stopped near a dark blue building. There was Zeus expecting Erika. Poseidon left in a hurry. “Your father, Jack, wants you to stay here for a while. In order to see your family, you must do a dangerous quest.” Erika was thrilled at the prospect of being reunited with her family, so she accepted the challenge.

She flew to the north where she had to battle Medusa. Erika’s quest was to steal a special necklace Medusa always wore. Gently some birds took their beaks and dropped polluted water on Medusa’s head; that would turn her to stone. Once Medusa turned to stone Erika took the necklace and flew away.

Zeus gave Erika her family back, and from that day on Erika’s mother grew fresher crops, and her father changed seasons and days. The people of Alberta rejoiced at the first signs of spring and feasted on the fruits of bountiful crops.

by Miwa Hayashi (Grade Four)
Elmwood School
Ottawa, Ontario



THIRD PRIZE

Disappearing Objects

My head was spinning. *It has to be in there. Where else could it be?* Slowly, I emptied my pocket. There was a hair clip, a penny, a push-pin, and an elastic. But no locket. I checked in my other pocket—a piece of gum and a half-chewed pencil thanks to my dog. No locket. How could I be foolish enough to bring my \$1,000 locket to gym class? My parents would be furious! The secret class thief had struck again. Over the past week, people had been *losing* their precious belongings. And now, I was going to solve the mystery.

As soon as I got home, I called my BFF, Kylie, who had lost her diamond ring this past Tuesday. I told her about my locket, and she agreed to help me find the crook. But first, it was time to enjoy the weekend. I went swimming, bowling, and shopping, but I still couldn't take my mind off my locket.

When Monday came, Kylie and I made a list of who had what stolen, but that was no help. Everyone had at least one thing stolen from them. As the day went on, I became so stressed I failed my science quiz! Kylie told me to stop worrying so much, but she seemed nervous too. After all, she got a C on her test, but she always gets As. But I kept worrying, so Kylie suggested we go to her house after school. That got my mind away from it, and I did much better in math class.

As Kylie and I were walking to her house, I noticed something on Kylie's wrist. It looked like the bracelet my friend Morgan lost. I was suspicious, but I didn't say anything. We got to Kylie's house and went straight up to her room. As we were looking through the movies, I noticed a small shining object. It was Kylie's ring! *So Kylie was the thief!* But I needed more proof, so as we were walking downstairs to the TV room, I told Kylie I was going to the washroom. Truly, I didn't have to go to the washroom, I wanted to find my locket.

Sneaking into Kylie's room, I looked in the drawer where I saw Kylie's ring. Sure enough, there was my locket, along with everyone else's things. I went downstairs and asked Kylie for an explanation. She said she was very sorry, and was going to return everything tomorrow. She faked her diamond ring being stolen so no one would suspect her.

On Tuesday we returned everything, not saying who stole them. The case of the disappearing objects was solved.

by Kaitlyn Pereira (Grade Five)
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