

**Stories, Rhymes, and Good Times!**  
**Volume 18, 2008-2009**

**Writing in 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

**By: Mrs. Rhinehart**

The students in fifth grade have done various writing assignments throughout the year. They have written short stories, personal narratives, poems, research papers on US states, and stories relating what they learned on their field trip to Space Camp to what they learned in Science class about Newton's Laws. Since the length of the research paper would prohibit publication in this document, only the other writings will be included. We hope you enjoy what they have to say.

**What I Learned at Space Camp**

**By: Cooper Adams**

I learned that when the thrusts come out of the engine it makes the rocket go forward and Newton's Third Law states that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. Then when the astronauts went to the moon they had to use Newton's Second Law - speed divided by mass = acceleration - to find out how fast to go. Also, so they could save fuel, they used Newton's First Law when an object is moving and when it is at rest it will remain that way until an unknown force acts upon it.



**Ohio**

**By: Chase Brown**

Ohio River

Hall of Fame (Pro Football)

International Perry's Memorial

Ohio River Valley



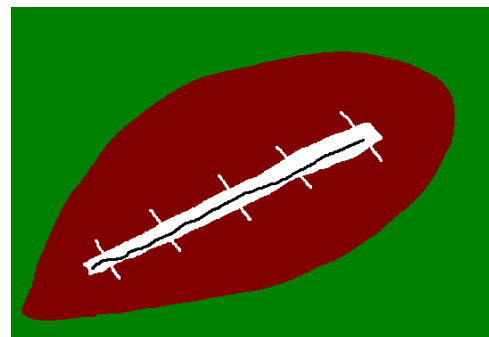
**A Cold Night at Football**

**By: Kelsey Clause**

On Friday Allison and I went to a FMHS football game. My mom said it would be cold, but I didn't believe her. So I went with my thin jacket, and once we got there I knew I made a mistake. I was freezing and so was Allison. I told my mom that we were cold and she started saying, "I told you so." Finally, I said, "Ok, you were right." I shouldn't be complaining because, after all, she did say it would be cold. And I knew I wasn't the only one that was cold, a lot of people were cold. One of those people was my sister. She is a cheerleader at Fort Myers High, and she had a short skirt on and a shirt. Right before half time, Allison and I went to get some food. We ended up getting cheese fries and a hot chocolate. I liked the cheese fries but hated the hot chocolate. It tasted watered down to me. I thought it was a bummer because it was cold, and I wanted it. But, oh well.

When it was half time, my sister came up to where we were sitting. She asked if we had anymore hot chocolate. When we said, "No," she was upset because, like I said, she only had a short skirt and a top. When she went back down, she was so happy because they got sweat suits.

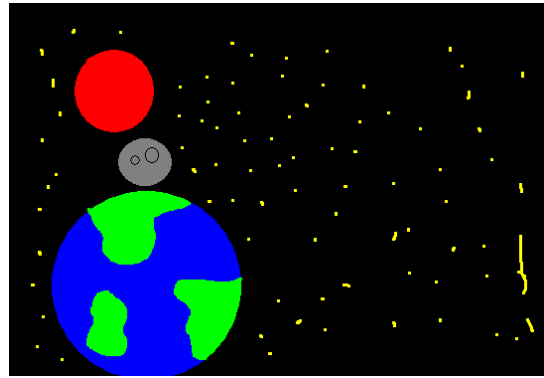
Allison and I were trying to force my mom to go home, but she kept on saying, "No." We asked one more time, and she said alright. When we got home, Allison and I made a fort and got into warm pajamas. We were so tired, we went to bed right away.



## My Space Camp Experience

*By: Jared Batiz*

When I woke up at 5:30, I was excited and so were my teeth, when I got to the bus everybody was screaming it was chaotic. We said our goodbyes and we got on the bus we all had our Nintendo DSes in our hand. When we got to Wendy's, my group and I were very calm but everyone in the back of the room made a mess. My chicken sandwich was awesome and delicious. We got back on the bus and we were off. When we got to the Astronaut Hall of Fame, Allen B. Shepherd greeted us at the door. It was cool. When we got going into the Hall of Fame, it showed us a movie. Then these big doors open and it has all the seven astronauts. They had all these pods and they had all this stuff of all the missions. Then, I ran straight to the fun room. It had a bunch of stuff that was fun and science stuff to do. I never went on the G-force ride, but I went and did the space shuttle landing game a lot and I did perfect on every signal one. Then I went to see this ginormous weight, but with an air pump under it. The pump blew air under the weight making it feel weightless in space like Newton's third and second law. After that I went on this ride that took you to Egypt and flew through all the pyramids and towers. That was really fun, too. But then everybody found this game where you had to land the space shuttle and I got every signal one perfect. I did that game the most. After we left, we did podcasting. My topic was Allen B. Sheppard Jr. When I was done, I went straight to the picnic table to get my snack. The apple was good, but the banana wasn't that good because people were touching it. Now we had to get on the bus again and go through security to get our luggage checked so we could mess around and play. But before we could do that, we had to put our luggage in a room. After we got there and put our luggage in the room, we had to watch a movie. Then we watched a simulation of the operation room, which I thought was pretty cool because the room came alive. But then another pair of doors opened and the Saturn V rocket was sitting there waiting to be seen. That was probably the best thing there. The hard part was when we had to make a tower on the moon that would withstand a moonquake and was tall. We came in second place. It was hard and fun at the same time. After that we had to get our sleeping bags and go to bed. In the morning we ate breakfast and it was really good. I had hot chocolate, oatmeal, and an apple. Then it was the fun time. We had the whole day to play. First we went to an I-max theater that was really fun. After that, my group and I did another podcast. I didn't do so well. After the podcast we ate lunch, but the bad thing was I ran out of money for food so I had to



use the money from my souvenir moneybag. We went to the space shuttle and stood under an external tank. You should have seen the size of it! But we saw the new ride, and we wanted to go on it. They took you through a launching simulation. It was fun. We missed the Mars movie so we went on a journey through time. It was okay, but they had windows into the Mars movie. We did our podcast on the external tank. That one was awesome. Now we had to go back, grab our belongings and get back to our bus so we could put our stuff on it and go home!!! On the way back I was thinking about the gift shop and what I got. Plus, the two coins I got were pretty cool, too. We were finally at Burger King. It was fun. Max, Cooper, Anthony and I were messing around with our toys. That was fun, too. After that was done, I should have expected that the ride home would be chaotic. Once we were back at school, my dad didn't come in time. So Max and I had to call our dads so we could go home. That was my experience at Space Camp.

## How To Bathe a Hamster

*By: Jake Fuscardo*

First, you take the hamster and put it in the sink. You next turn on the faucet and put the hamster under it until it gets wet. Then, you put a dab of shampoo on it and rinse very well so the hamster doesn't get sick. You finally hold the hamster in a washcloth until you get it to its cage and set the hamster in. It will get warm again by rolling in its bedding.



## One Happy Girl

**By: Julia Boron**

Once upon a time, there was a girl named Amy Craftsman, and she was going to go to the Royal Ballet School. She was really excited, except she was also a little nervous because she had never been away from her family for a year before. The only time she would be able to see her family is on holidays and vacations, but those times were still limited since the school is in England and she lives in Minnesota.

She is leaving in six days. She plans to go shopping with her mom and sister and have a sleepover with all of her best friends. She is really going to miss them.

She has just taken off from the airport with her parents (her sister is staying with her grandparents). She had a choice of going there today or in three days, but that is when school started. She felt tears rolling down her face. She was thinking about how before she left, she went on a **Giant** shopping spree with her best friend, Melissa. She was excited to go get her first passport before she left, but the plane ride was very long.

She was finally in England, and it was really beautiful like she thought. They were riding in a taxi to the Royal Ballet School. When they got there, she stared in awe at the building. They said hello to the head-mistress Laura (they could call all the teachers by their first name.) Then Laura took her to her dormitory. She would be sharing with five other girls. Three of them were already there. One of them introduced herself right away, and said her name was Caitlyn.

After she got completely unpacked her parents were going to their hotel where they were staying for three days. They wanted to see England, since they were already there.

Her parents had left England yesterday, and she missed them terribly. She had her first class today, and was nervous.

One week later and they were already getting ready for the first show that they would be putting on for friends and family. All of her really good friends were saving up the money for half of their plane fare, and each of their parents would pay the rest. Her friends were going to fly with her parents when they came for the show.

The auditions for the show were today, and Amy was going to try out for the lead in the production *Beauty and the Beast*. She tried out and felt very confident. All of her new friends told her she was really good, including her newest best friend, Caitlyn. It turned out that Amy really did get the lead role - Belle.

There was one day until the show, and today was the day of the last dress rehearsal. She



**Beauty and the Beast**  
STARRING AMY CRAFTSMAN

was really excited because all of her costumes were officially finished. Her parents had already arrived yesterday and were in their hotel

waiting anxiously to see their daughter as Belle.

OK. She was officially more nervous than she ever thought possible. Her parents and friends were already in the theatre, and she had already given them all a big "group hug" along with their own separate hugs. She took all of them briefly into her dressing room. There were flowers that were already delivered, sitting on her vanity. Then after they saw her dressing room, they all had to go back out into the audience so the show could start.

The show began.... And Amy (*Belle*) was dancing on the stage. She was having a lot of fun, and she had gotten a lot of applause, but she was nervous for her lift with *the Beast*. Yessssssss!!!!!! The lift was amazing, and she didn't fall!! They had been working on the lift for a long time and she didn't think that her and her partner would be able to do it, but they did and the audience cheered.

After the show, she went to a cast party at an Italian restaurant (an Italian restaurant in England??) and the food was really good. After a week had gone by after the show, she said good-bye to her friends, parents, and sister. When they left, she wasn't as afraid about the rest of the semester.

## Party Time

**By: Hayden Clarke**

My birthday party was yesterday. I got a belt from Michael. A gift card from Chase it was 30 dollars to Target. Anthony got me a Target gift card it was 20 dollars. Chris gave me a check for 20 dollars. Ben gave me a PS3 container and there was a gift card to Game Stop for 20 dollars. My parents got me an xbox360 and I was very happy. Lastly Drew got me Fifa09 for my new xbox360. Drew and I tricked everybody thinking that Drew got me the xbox360. Clearly I got a lot of gift cards. We also saw Twilight and it was very good. When we got back we attacked each other because on the car ride home we were bugging each other like pulling each other's hair and bonking each other. So when we got home, it was the back seat against the front seat. We called Chase, the beast, because he was crazy. Everyone else also had a nickname. And when we were playing basketball, For some reason Chase took off his shirt, but when Sara came to pick up Ben, he put it back on. And that is what it

was like  
at my  
birthday  
party.



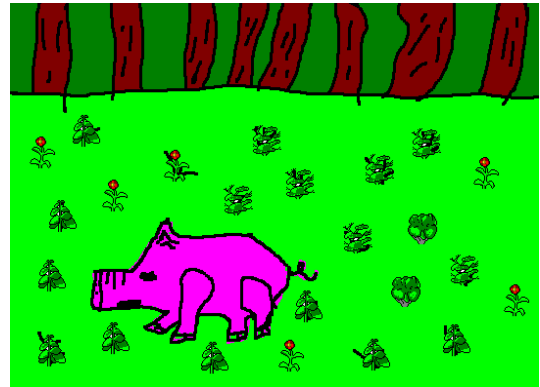
### The Little Pig and the Woodcarver

*By: Kyle Collins*

Once there was a little pig. He was 12 years old. One day he was playing in the field of happiness when a large bear attacked the poor pig and ate him alive. A goat heard the attack and quickly got all the animals. They chased the bear into the woods, but he was gone.

The next day one of the people saw the bear. It was Donimoke, the woodcarver. He chased the bear and cornered the bear. Before the bear could think, the woodcarver chopped him in half. Then out came the little pig. The town threw a party for him. He was the talk of the town for weeks. Now there is a statute in remembrance of him.

I grew up on in Ft. Myers, Florida. I have 4 people in my family; my mom, my dad, my brother, Joshua, and me, Allison. We have 1 dog-named Annie. We did have two dogs, but one died. Her name was Snickers, when she died she was 98 years old. I was in 2nd grade when she died, and it was sad. In 3rd grade, my class went to Sea World. In 4th grade, we went to Sea Camp. In 5th grade, we are going to Space Camp. I do not know where we are going in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade. Then I will be in High School, and I am going to St. John Newman, I hope. My dad is the principal there.



### 11th Birthday

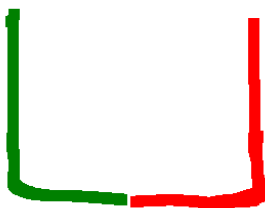
*By: Austen Ebenger*



### My 10 Year Old Life

*By: Allison Denison*

For my eleventh birthday, I went to Georgia with my dad and my brother. We went to the Miami Hurricanes football game and an Atlanta Hawks basketball game. Atlanta beat the Charlotte Bobcats, but Georgia Tech creamed the Hurricanes.  
 At the hotel there was a basketball court, where we played an extraordinary amount of basketball. It was around 40 degrees the whole time. For food we went to Fuddruckers.  
 On the way to the airport to come back to Fort Myers, the traffic was horrible. Fortunately, we made it in time for the flight. When I got back, I slept. Then the next day I went to school.  
 Two days after I got back it was my birthday (November 19th.) It was an extreme birthday. By far my best birthday!



**New Jersey**

*By: Jennifer Madden*

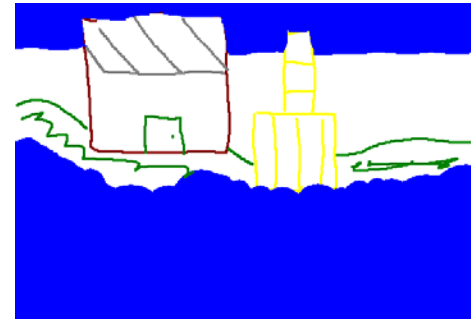
Newark  
 Elizabeth  
 West Orange

Jersey City  
 Earliest state in the U.S.  
 Revolutionary War  
 Sewing machine was invented  
 Yellow

**My First Summer**

*By: Ally Fraser*

I was 5 years old, and that year I was going to my grandparents' summer house on Lake Maranacook, Maine. We were about ready to land, and I was getting impatient. Finally, the flight attendant announced we were landing in Portland. I started jumping up and down. I looked at my mom and screamed, "We're here!"  
 Five minutes later, (what seemed like forever) we got off the plane. I looked around for my Grammie and Grandpa. "There they are!" I started running toward them.  
 "Welcome to Maine, Ally!" my Grandpa said. We got our baggage and got in the car. Later we arrived at their summer house. I admired the huge windows and the beautiful lake view. The next day, I went swimming and ate yummy food.  
 But the favorite part of the summer was my birthday. All of my family came: my aunt and uncle, my baby cousin, and my grandparents. I got lots of presents and ate lots of cake. That is how my vacation was throughout the entire summer. I had a really good time, and I wish I could go back. It had to be the best summer ever!



**Fishing**

*By: Ryan Gleisle*

Last November, I was in the North Naples Fire Department fishing tournament. I was with my dad, who works at fire station, and my Uncle Robbie. We left around 8:00 a.m. to get there extra early. After hearing all the rules, we went way offshore to get good fish. It was so much fun because when we got out of the "No Wake" zones, we were able to go fast making the boat jump some waves from the boats that were in front of us. Well after a while, we finally found a great spot to stop at. We stopped the boat and got our poles out ready to start our mission to fish. I had brought my whole tackle box, but I barely used anything in it besides hooks and miscellaneous items. Then when I finally had my bait on, the bait wouldn't go down. So I put a weight on it and gravity pulled it down. The fish were hard to pull up because they would try to swim away while I was trying to reel them in. There were a few that were hard to pull up, but I managed to get them up in time. Well after a few hours, we were fished out and thought we should go back. Plus the time was almost up. We had caught seven grouper and many other tiny fish not worth keeping. When we got back, I found out that I had won first place just like I did last year. When we got home, my mom was proud of me for getting first place, again. After that I had to go clean the boat, which I hate doing, but since I went fishing I had to. At least we all had fun that day.



**The Amazing Burrito!**

**By: Daniel Mazzorana**

Once upon a time a burrito was made. Then it was served to a very lucky customer. Just in time it ran away. It was on the loose and went to a haunted house. There were ghosts everywhere and they never saw the burrito. Then on Friday the thirteenth that month, he tried to get something to eat. For the first time ever, a ghost noticed him. It was a very nice girl ghost. She kept him as a pet at first then he became her friend. The ghost said, "No one should know about you." Then he snuck away that night. In the morning, he saw a little girl chasing a ball on the street. Then he sprung into action... and saved the girl. He became the hero of the town. He called himself, "The Amazing Burrito". After that day in the restaurant, he was in the crime-fighting business for twelve years. Everyone thought he was too old, so he retired. Then someone came to his retirement home. It was the person who made him, and he said, "You are a very lucky guy." The burrito said, "I will miss you." That is the last we heard of the "very brave burrito".

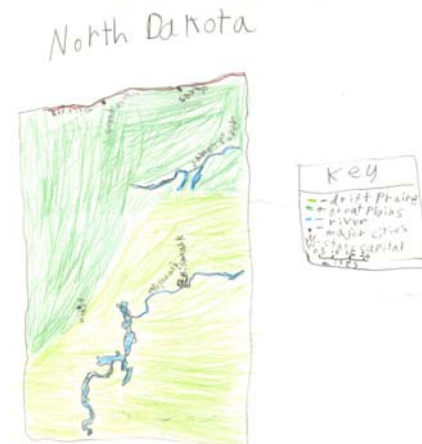


**North Dakota**

**By: Ben Strausbaugh**

Near Minnesota  
 On the plains  
 Right above South Dakota  
 There are a lot of plains  
 Herds of cattle

Death Valley  
 American elm  
 Kansas  
 On the border of Canada  
 Trees  
 A lot of prairies

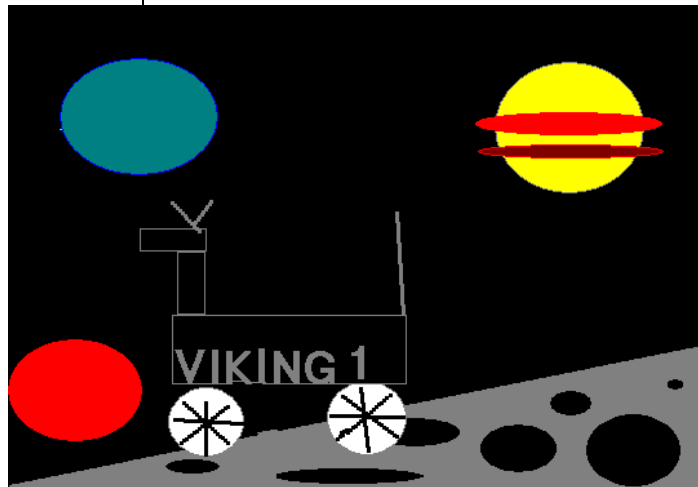


## The Mars Rover Viking!

**By: Katie McEwen**

In 1976 two American space probes, called Viking, landed on Mars. They sent back photographs of the surface. It looked like a rocky desert - but there weren't any cacti or camels. The surface was red because it was rusty. There was a lot of iron in the rocks, and it had combined with oxygen from the air to make rust. The Viking probes dug in the soil of Mars to see these views for themselves. They picked up rocks from Mars and brought them back to earth for scientists to study. One day there may be a manned base there.

The Viking Mars mission was performed by two spacecraft, Viking 1 and Viking 2, launched within a couple of weeks of each other. Each spacecraft consisted of an orbiter and a ladder, which traveled, attached together, for nearly a year to reach Mars orbit. The orbiters then began taking pictures of the Martian surface; from which a landing site was selected. The Landers then separated from the orbiters and soft-landed. The orbiters continued imaging, and between Viking 1 and Viking 2 imaged the entire planet at what was then high resolution. The orbiters also conducted atmospheric water vapor measurements and infrared thermal mapping. The Viking 1 orbiter flew within 90 kilometers of Probes to take images of this larger, inner moon of Mars. The Viking Landers took full 360-degree pictures, collected and analyzed samples of the Martian soil, and monitored the temperature, wind direction, and wind speed. The Viking missions revealed further details of volcanoes, lava plains, huge canyons, and the effects of wind and water. Analysis of the soils at the landing sites showed them to be rich in iron, but devoid of any signs of life. That is my story on Viking 1and2, the Mars rover. [www.nasa.com](http://www.nasa.com) Mars, The Space Book



## Candyland

**By: Sara Murray**

This was not home! The grass was orange and in the sky we saw... I don't even want to talk about that purple sky! There was candy everywhere and chocolate rivers! This was the best place ever.

Then a little man came up to me and asked me, "Are you the new princess?"

And I said, "I don't know, I guess."

Then everyone in "Candyland" came out and congratulated me. They gave me a tiara, with mints as diamonds. I was the new princess in Candyland! Then they told me to get in the carriage, and they would take me to my palace. When I got to my palace, it was made of gummy bears, lollipops, licorice, chocolate bars, graham crackers, and frosting, to keep it stuck together. My palace was huge!

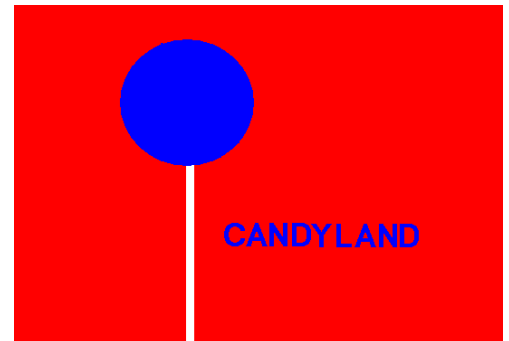
I stayed in Candyland for 6 years. Then I told the little men I had to go back home. I told the little men before I left, "I will be back soon, don't worry."

When I got home, I asked my parents, "How long have I been gone?"

They said, "You never left, you have been in bed the whole time."

I told them, "Are you sure I haven't left?" And they said, "Positive."

So maybe I did go to Candyland, or maybe I didn't. I guess I will never know if it really exists unless I go back to there someday.



## The Girl in the Shadows

**By: Olivia Morales**

One little girl named Rachael, who was adopted, was just moving to her new town of Boston, Massachusetts. This was her third summer moving to a different city. You see, her dad is a traveling salesman and has to go everywhere. So her mom thought of moving where her dad was if he was far away. So far in her trips she had only had two friends.

She was 13 going on 14 and was going to have a birthday party in a couple of weeks but there is one problem. SHE HAS NO FRIENDS. People used to call her "the girl in the shadows" because she'd lurk into the night and start whispering to something nobody knew.

Her biological mother died two days after she was born. The doctors said, when she was born, there was a green glow in her mom's stomach. And they said that her mother left after she was born.. Then her adopted parents made a phone call to adopt a child and they requested a girl. When they went to the hospital, they wanted HER. So they took her home and named her Rachael. Now she wants a clean start.

A FEW WEEKS LATER....

Today is Rachael's birthday party and her mom invited all the girls from her new school. "Why did you invite every girl in my class? They think I'm a freak."

"Honey, you just need time to make friends and this is the perfect time." After the party she made two friends. She doesn't lurk into the night anymore after she made friends. THE GIRL IN THE SHADOWS IS NO MORE!!!!



## A Great Sunday

**By: Ben Murray**

It was a beautiful day outside and I went to play. Then mom called me home for lunch. After lunch, Zoë called Sara to go to her house. Then my friends and I wanted to play kickball. Therefore, we invited the girls over. They came

over and we played only 3 innings. But we won. My mom went to the store and came back. She got the dogs BIG bones. Ally ate hers fast. Brady, on the other hand, ate his slowly. So then we went to my friend's house and went into his cold pool. Then we went to watch the TV. Myth Busters was on. Then we went home and played football. After that, my friend had to go home. Therefore, I went in. Mom told me to go do the garbage, so I did. Then dinner was ready, and my dad came back from Miami. He got us presents, they were shirts.



**Five Things You'd Never Expect to Happen**

**By: Junco Nelson**

I never expected that one day I'd open my closet and find an owl sitting on my hanger. But then again, I never expected to find a cat giving birth in a very awkward place, or going camping to find a macaw pecking my head in the morning. So I've decided to make a list of five things, (there's more than five, though) all of them the weirdest things that have ever happened to me...

**Five Things You'd Never Expect to Happen**

*By someone who's experienced them all...*

1. Have a iguana try to eat your hat
2. Have a rabid raccoon attack your store of marshmallows
3. Feel something wet at your feet in bed and suddenly realize that your cat really was pregnant, not just gaining a ton of weight
4. Wake up to find a chipmunk nibbling on your ear
5. Find a large, wild owl sitting on your new, cashmere sweater

If you can out-do this list, call me. (I can give you another one)

NOTE: This story is NOT TRUE!



**Christmas Break**

**By: Brianna Marazzi**

During Christmas break, my cousin, Gabby, came down from New Jersey for a visit. On Christmas Day, my family and I went to her dad's house where she was staying. Gabby is my cousin. Tracy is my Aunt, Graham is my cousin too, but he lives here. I spent Christmas day with Gabby and her family and slept over at her house. The next day, Gabby, Tracy, my grandma, Graham, and I all went shopping for the day at Miromar and Coconut Point. It was very fun. But on Monday, she left to go back up to New Jersey with her mom who lives there. I had a very good summer break. When I got back to school Mr. Schwan said "Pop-Quiz", and I had not studied at all. Surprisingly, Sara (awesome person) and I got the best grades in the class. We both got 100% (A+) on our "pop-quizzes." My birthday was coming up, and I wanted the biggest party ever, with my whole class! The day of my birthday was the same day as my party. Later that night, the party had begun. All my friends were there and we also went in the pool. After everyone left (except for some girls who were spending the night) we went night fishing. We all got to see some dolphins.

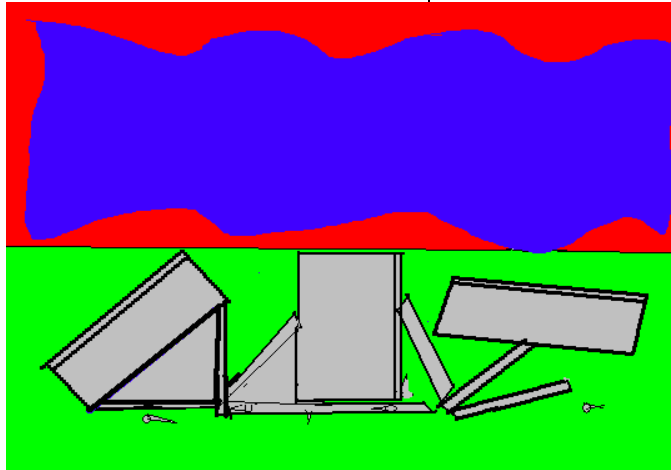


**THE MOVING****By: Christopher Kelton**

My name is Emmanuel. Here is what happened before I moved and why I moved.

I went to school like usual; and during math, Jack was messing around as he always does.

Only thing is, he was disassembling the desks. No one was watching him, so no one knew it was him but me. And I got



blamed for it. He somehow got the bolts, screws, and nuts in my locker with a screwdriver with my fingerprints on it even though I've never touched it. Even in a lie detector, it showed that he was telling the truth. Also, worst of all, I'm the closest one to being the suspect. The policeman said, "Do you admit you did this?" I was thinking in my head, "How did this become legal business?" I answered, "I told you I didn't do anything, it was Jack." I know he didn't believe me, so I just went along with it. I said, "Look at my permanent record. If you find anything interesting please tell me." He knew I was getting annoyed, so he said, "Do you want me to get your parents?" I said, "Sure." Then he called my parents and they came, very worried of course; but they came. They said, "We came as fast as we could." They were asking the cop what had happened. They said that Jack would probably be the least suspected one for the crime. Then I came up with an idea. They should check all the desks, legs, and bolts for his fingerprints. But then I remembered I saw him doing it with gloves on. After everything was over, they still thought it was my fault I got expelled, and my parents had to pay for all the desks. We moved to St. Louis from New York City. It's pretty much the same; but with a different house, school, friends, neighborhood, and pretty much everything else. I have a reputation at my new school and teachers think wrongly of me. But that's their problem not mine. If they think I'm bad, then I'm bad. If they think I'm good, then I'm good. It's up to them, not me. My friends are the bad kids, unfortunately. And my mom scolds me for having friends like that, but I don't think it's that bad. And you know what's really freaky? After I had already moved to St. Louis, Jack told the principal after 2 years what he really did because the guilt had eaten the inside of him those two long years.

**Delaware****By: Edward Doyle**

Diamond State  
Environment  
Lord De La Warr  
American Holly  
Wilmington  
Atlantic Ocean  
Rehoboth Beach  
East Coast



## RACING AND NEWTONS LAWS

*By: Aidan Maribona*

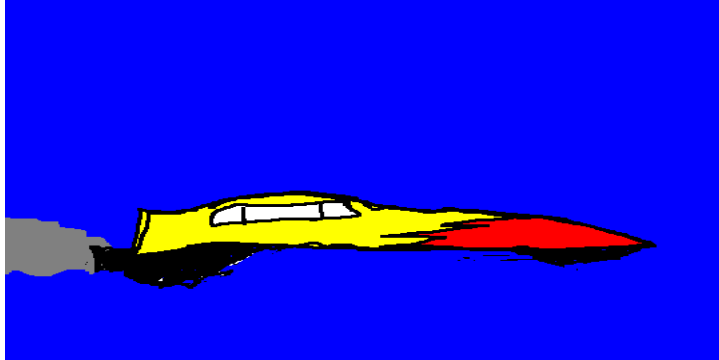
Newton's laws can be related to many things in our lives. One event that is very fun to watch is auto racing. The 24 Hours of Daytona is an endurance race where Newton's laws are very much in action.

The track has many twists and turns with some long straights. All of the cars have large powerful motors with wide tires. Newton's First Law says that an object going straight will remain going straight unless acted on by another force. It also says that an object at rest will remain at rest unless a force acts on it. A race car coming to a turn has to apply brake force in order to slow the car down. As the car comes to the turn, force has to be applied to the tires in the direction of the turn.

Newton's Second Law says that when an unbalanced force is applied on an object it will accelerate. At the start of the race the driver presses the gas pedal. This revs the motor which turns the back wheels. The force of the wheels turning is greater than the force of inertia and the car overcomes it and goes forward.

Newton's Third Law says that every action has an equal but opposite reaction. When the race car driver accelerates, his car goes forward but inertia wants to keep him where he is at. The driver feels like he is being pressed into his seat.

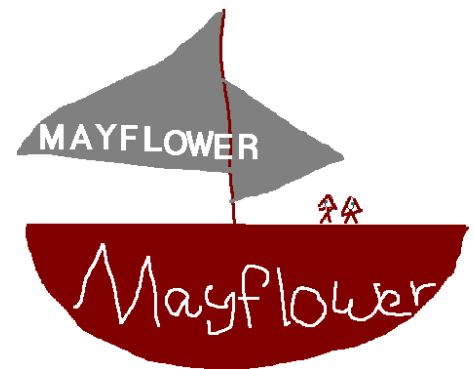
As you can see, the Laws of Newton are applied in many ways to racing. From the force of friction that holds the car on the track, to the force of acceleration. All the forces must be balanced or the car will crash!



## The Story of Thanksgiving

*By: Kayla Wherry*

One time, a long time ago, there was a little girl named Elisabeth. She was only about 8 years old when she got on the Mayflower. At first she was scared of all the people that were on the boat and of the waves. After a while, she got used to it. Then one day her mother said she could go up to the dock to see if she could find any friends. She did find a friend and her friend's name was Felicity. They were both very proper and agreed on almost everything. Soon they were best friends. One day they were on the dock together and the captain came out on the deck to tell them to gather their things because they were going to get off soon. When they heard this, they were so excited because they had been on the ship for 6 months. And everyone was getting pretty cranky. But when they got off of the ship, they found themselves in an unknown land called Plymouth Rock. When they got there, it was getting cold. They did not have any food, so a lot of people died. Then during the spring, an Indian named Squanto showed them how to plant crops like corn, wheat, and beans. The next winter almost everyone survived. Felicity and Elisabeth died on Friday, April 23, 1689.



**My Trip to Georgia**

**By: Julie Mast**

Last summer, I had a special trip to go on. I went to Georgia with my mom. First, we had to drive to the Fort Lauderdale airport because that's where our plane was. When we got to the airport, we got a snack at a coffee place then got on our plane to Georgia.

When we finally got to Atlanta, we started to drive from the airport to where we were going to stay. My mom had been there before with a friend, and they always stopped at this one Chili's on the way. So we stopped there too. After that, we were finally there. It was one of the prettiest places I've ever stayed at. We stayed at a place called the lodge. It is in the mountains. We got unpacked then went to the souvenir shop. Next, we went on a trail. We went to the top of the Amicalola Falls. We had to go up 612 steps then back down again! At the top, there was a little stream and mom and I dipped our feet in. It was actually really cold! When we got back down, we met a man who was amazing. He was 68. He had been to the doctor last year and the doctor had said that if in a year he didn't improve his health, he would die. So in that year, he ran up and down those stairs about 25 times a day! He ran faster down those stairs than I could! He was amazing.

Then we had dinner at the restaurant there. My mom was drinking her coffee so slowly and I was begging her to come get dessert. We then finished dinner and went to bed. We woke up early the next morning. I got a teddy bear from the gift shop. We checked out, then drove back to Atlanta. The next night we stayed at the Ritz Carlton. My mom's friend, Denise, had a surprise party. Everyone went to dinner at the Bricktop restaurant. It was very fun. Then my mom and I went back to the hotel and slept. The next morning; we got up, ate breakfast, and then went to the bookstore. We found some good books there. Then we went for a walk to the local parks and went to the Coke factory. It was really cool. Then we got Starbucks. We spent the rest of the day shopping. Then we went to the airport, got on our plane, and flew home. Our family- and especially Jacob- were so happy to see us!



**North Dakota**

**By: Ben Strausbaugh**

**N**ear Minnesota  
**O**n the plains  
**R**ight above South Dakota  
**T**here are a lot of plains  
**H**erds of cattle

**D**eath Valley  
**A**merican elm  
**K**ansas  
**O**n the border of Canada  
**T**rees  
**A** lot of prairies



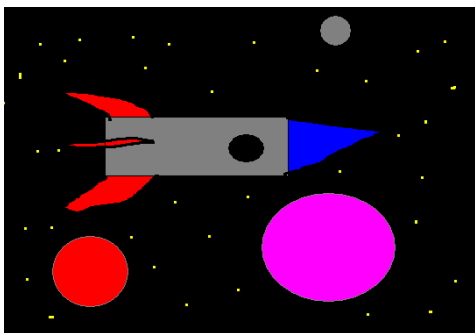
**My Space Camp Memories**

**By: Luke Reilly**

At 7:00 a.m. both classes got on the bus, and we left for Space Camp. It was a four hour drive. When we got to the Astronauts Hall of Fame we saw a couple of the space capsules from some of the early space missions. In the Astronauts Hall of Fame I went on a ride, and it was like a mission to Mars. It actually felt like you were flying in a space ship to Mars. Then we took a bus to the Kennedy Space Center and we went through a place that showed a lot of things from the history of space. Then we met a real astronaut who talked to us about the future of space exploration and he told us what it was like to be in space and what it was like blasting off in the space shuttle. Then we went and saw a 3D Imax movie of what it was like on the moon and it showed us a lot about the first moon walk. I learned that when the shuttles orbit the Earth, the forces of gravity and inertia balance each other out just like in Newton's Third Law of Motion - for every action there is an equal but opposite reaction. If it weren't for gravity, the shuttle would just float out into space. But if it weren't for inertia, gravity would just pull the shuttle down to the surface of the Earth.

Then we went to the Saturn V rocket facility and we saw the one of the three Saturn V rockets left in the world. They were unused because of budget cuts. The rocket was huge!

Then we did an engineering project to construct a communication tower for the moon to communicate with the earth. The object was to have the highest tower that would be able to survive moon quakes. We had to build the tower out of straws, tape, play dough, and toothpicks. My group's tower was the third tallest and it survived the moon quake! Then we slept under the rocket and we went back to the Kennedy Space Center in the morning. We were allowed to walk around the Space Center and go on all the different rides and see all the different sights. I went inside a space shuttle and I saw the Rocket Garden, the rockets were huge! Space Camp was a lot of fun!



**The Red Backpack**

**By: Drew Swett**

(This story takes place in the 1900's)

There was once a boy named Billy. He went to school in Texas. He once had a red backpack and it had been on many backs. The first back a very old town. He only had four classmates, and they were

mean except one in particular, his name was Christopher. Christopher and Billy were very good friends and whenever the bullies picked on them they would stand up for each other. But when the bullies picked on them out of school, bad things happened. They brought friends, and they got beat up. So when they got back home, they would tell their parents. The parents would then give the bullies a paddling.

The End

**Tennessee**

**By: Caroline Maschmeier**

- Tulip poplar
- Elvis international tribute week
- Nashville
- National storytelling festival
- Exploration
- Smoky mountains national park
- Stones river national battlefield
- Eagle watch tours
- Electric power

