



Dragon Tales Jr.

Olney Elementary School; Olney, Maryland

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Wrestling Homework

By: Lexi Matthews, Student Editor

It was a perfect Wednesday afternoon where the sun was shining brightly and not a cloud was in the sky. It was one of those days where you just had to go out and play. I had those very intentions and I was heading out the door when suddenly something violently shoved me back inside and dragged me towards my backpack. The force made me pull out tonight's homework, which I greeted with a scowl. And the fight was on.

I counter-attacked the homework with a thrust towards the doorway. I dragged myself toward the door using every muscle in my body to get myself far away from the dangerous fate of homework. To my disappointment homework fought back dragging me towards it. But I was stronger; I was fighting back, inching closer and closer to the doorway of freedom and fun.

Just as I could taste the fresh air and laughter, homework tried a fresh approach with me: reasoning. Thoughts of icky things like "you won't have to do it later" and "you'll get great grades" and even "you can play another day" crept into my mind and almost won when common sense snapped back into me and I slammed my pencil down, realizing I was poised in writing position. I tried to sneak away when it caught me and we were in a heated fight.

We were rolling on the floor, wrestling, it trying to drag me to my desk, me trying to break free and run out the door. Suddenly, after several minutes of wrestling, I broke free and was sprinting towards the doorway when it tackled me to the floor again. I grabbed it, carried it squirming towards my backpack, and used all my strength to shove it in there. I lay on the floor exhausted. I was pulling my shoes on and walking towards to door casually when I heard sobbing from my back pack.

I unzipped my backpack and pulled my homework out. "What's wrong?" I asked. It explained it was sad and that I didn't want to work on it. I didn't want to offend it, so I talked with it and we figured out a schedule for playing and doing my homework. Now, we are the best of friends and I can still play outside. My days of wrestling homework are over!

Summer

by Aaron Jaffe, 2nd grade, Ms. Bunns

Summer is pool parties,
burning hot days at the beach,
no more school for a couple weeks,
and homework has disappeared!

SPRING SENSES
Springs 5 Senses
near, taste, Smell,
feel & see. You can
use these Senses
Anyday & Anywhere.
I feel Spring is
getting hotter
So BEWARE!



By Christina Lee
2nd Grade
Ms. McEneaney

Spring Flowers

By Rachel Shaw, 4th Grade, Ms Wallenstein

Pretty Spring flowers in all array.
Like silk on a stick, in beautiful display.
As the sun sets down, I sit and look.
As flowers close up like the end of a book.
As I end this poem of flowers looking so nice.
I need to give you this advice:
Stop and smell the flowers;
Embrace them like so,
Before they disappear all in a row.

A Message from the Dragon Tales Jr. Staff: We would like to congratulate the following classes: Mrs. Preller's, Mrs. Mills', Ms. Bunns', Ms. Corrigan's, Ms. Wallenstein's, and Mrs. Gangloff's, for winning the Spring Submissions Contest. And thanks to **all** of the Olney Elementary students who provided us with great writing this year. Your hard work and support helped us to publish some truly beautiful issues, and we appreciate it! This is our last edition for the 2010/2011 school year, but it's not too early to start thinking about next year! When we come back in August, we'd love to hear about your Summer Adventures, so keep those pens busy. Finally, we'll be looking for a new 4th grade Editor in the Fall, so please apply if you'd like to join us!

Bald eagles

By Elizabeth Mao, 3rd grade, Ms. Buckingham

What is brown and white, has a wingspan of 8 feet, and is the symbol of the USA? A bald eagle! Bald eagles are fantastic animals to learn about. A bald eagle is a type of bird. It is about 3 feet long and has a wingspan of 8 feet. They can live for about 35 years. Bald eagles live mostly in Canada and Alaska. Young bald eagle birds from Florida have been found in Michigan and ones from California have been spotted in Alaska. They also are found around lakes and off coasts.

Bald eagles are called 'bald' because of their white heads. 'Balde' in English means white head. Baby bald eagles are called eaglets. When baby bald eagles are born, they are all dark-colored until they are 4 or 5 years old and then they grow white heads and a tail. Bald eagles have talons on their feet. The talons help them grab fish from the water to eat. They can see a fish from a mile away and swoop/drop 100 miles per hour.

A fun fact about eagles is that they build the worlds largest nests. A nest found in Florida was 9 feet wide, 20 feet tall, and weighed 4,000 pounds. Most nests are built at the tops of trees because the eggs will stay safe from predators. Their nests are called aeries. Bald eagles eat mostly dead animals and often eat fish. The bald eagle has been the USA symbol since 1782 when Ben Franklin suggested it. Females are usually larger than males. Bald eagles were very close to extinction because of pollution and people hunted bald eagles as a sport. Now some places are increasing the amount of bald eagles.



Reach for my Hand

By Fuad Arogundade,
5th grade, Ms. Wallenstein

Reach for my hand,
I'll show you how to stand.

Hold on tight,
we'll walk towards the light.

Don't let go,
together we can grow.

Come closer,
we can put on a show.

Kiss my cheek,
and my face will glow.

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Ocean

By Elyssa Rowell, 2nd grade, Ms. Bunns

Crashing waves hit the shore,
an ocean appears into view.
An ocean is a wondrous place,
both for me and you.

The ocean is a beautiful paradise
that rises over the beach.

The ocean is like a blue bird
sailing through the sky.



The Jaguar

By Sophie Houmran, 3rd grade, Ms. Corrigan

Did you know that a jaguar is strong enough to take down a crocodile? Jaguars have many unique body parts that help them survive in the rainforest. For instance, jaguars have very sharp teeth to help them kill prey. Jaguars are carnivores. They eat wild pigs, turtles, sloths, tapirs, and fish. They are very good hunters. They sneak up on animals very quietly so that they don't run away. Plus, jaguars like to hunt near a watering hole so that if an animal comes to drink, the jaguar can attack. Jaguars are strong swimmers, so if an animal tries to swim away, it won't get that far. Another body part that helps the jaguar survive is its magnificent tail. It helps the jaguar keep its balance in trees. The spotted fur on its body helps with camouflage. The spots also help it hide from prey. That way, they can just jump down and catch their food. In conclusion, many body parts help this magnificent creature survive in the rainforest.

Hockey Lessons

by Garrett Dunty, 1st grade, Mrs. Mills

For 4 years I had been wanting to play hockey. So I went to ice-skating classes, Basic 1, 2, and 3, got my equipment, and got ready. And then finally the day came and I felt very excited! Today would be the best day ever! I fell a few times but I had a good time and I learned a lot. There were about 50 to 60 kids on the ice at the same time. I did 4 drills: skating backwards, stopping, skating as fast as you could, and practicing how to get up when you fall down. All of the kids were wearing a red and white uniform that had the Capitals symbol on the Capitals jersey. And everyone had equipment that they were supposed to wear. I had an awesome time at my first hockey lesson!

