

Collection of the Winning Texts
First Nations Young Writers
Contest 2025



June 2025





To promote young talents from member communities of the First Nations Education Council (FNEC), a literary contest was organized, which highlighted the skills of young writers in grades 4, 6, and 8 within the framework of the PLC – ELA (Professional Learning Community in English Language Arts). The idea was to let students explore their writing from different angles.

The contest was divided into 7 categories:

1. VOICE

The winner for this category gives a personal tone to their writing. It is original, clear, engaging, and it stands out. It shows passion about the topic.

2. IDEAS

This category is about finding a good angle to explore a topic, sticking to it, and adding relevant details to make the writing original and coherent.

3. CONVENTIONS

This category refers to writing following the conventions of written English: capitalization, grammar, spelling, and proper punctuation.

4. ORGANIZATION

Organization refers to a text that includes an introduction that catches the reader's attention, sequence words throughout the story, events that follow a clear intention, and a conclusion that gives us a sense of resolution.

5. WORD CHOICE

Writers who won in this category made sure to include adequate verbs, to avoid repetitive vocabulary, and to choose words that are precise and that stand out.

6. SENTENCE FLUENCY

The winners of the selected texts used various types of sentences with different lengths and different rhythm and flow.

7. TEACHER'S FAVOURITES

The selected texts for this category capture the reader's attention as the writing stood out and the writer exceeded expectations.

CATEGORY VOICE

Kijibika Tendesi (2025-04-39)

Grade 4

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

The snake attack!



One hot summer day, after Jan and Abe ate lunch, Jan asked Abe "wanna go swimming?" "sure!" Abe said excitedly "But should we invite someone?" Abe asked "yeah but who

are we going to invite?" "maybe Awema? we don't usually see him too often" said Abe "that's a good idea!" Jan exclaimed. They rushed to the phone Abe put in the phone number ring ring ring ring ring ring! "hello?" said Awema "hi um Awema we are gonna go swimming wanna come?" Jan asked "sure I'll meet you at the lake nearby your house" said Awema "okay" said Jan. They went to get their towel and swimming trunks. When Jan and Abe met Awema there they realised it was awfully quiet at the lake what they didn't know that there was a water snake They jumped in. When they were swimming Abe seen something and Abe got curious and wanted to see what is in the water he was shocked to see a watersnake it tried to bite him but he kicked it "get out of the water!" Abe exclaimed Awema and Jan was curious why but when they seen the snake they got scared and ran out of the lake. When Abe couldn't defend himself he ran out of the lake too the snake

chased after him and when it got close a animal expert
grabed it and put it in a cage "you three be careful next
time" said the animal expert "okay" said Jane Abe and
Awema when the expert left they went back in the lake
to face they're fears and they had a good time.

CATEGORY VOICE

Sundance Mitchell (2025-06-104)

Grade 6

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

Brave War



3000 years ago there was one realm called the Realm of Power. It holds the most powerful magic in the universe but a war had begun so Leanbow the greatest sorcerer in

the galaxy split the realm in two. He called them the Shadow realm where all the people who want to use the power for evil and the celestial realm where all the people who want to use the power for good but it cost his own life.

The story starts in winter at Brave heart Academy in the celestial realm. Two 3rd years are bullying one second year "May stop it" (bullies) what are you going to do about it:". Then he strikes them with thunderbolt and they ran away "Are you okay Diana" (Diana) "yeah thanks to you Apollo". Apollo has black hair and white accents and a master at thunder magic and Diana has purple hair and black accents and master of wind magic. At the parent teacher night they talked about students' grades in allopatic order starting with Apollo Kami. (teacher) "Apollo Kami is a second year 17 year old with okay grades in math and languages but amazing in everything else and I'm sure he

will graduate next month. They talk about more students and they talk about more students and they talk about denji Aemilius who has white hair and a master at ice magic and is good friends with Apollo. (teacher) "denji is 16 and has good grades besides gym and art which has D+ and A- best in math and languages most likely denji will graduate".

Apollo, denji and Diana eat together but then they see something coming closer and it is a mentor. The mentor hits the ground a few feet away from Brave heart academy and destroys the south gate. Every one went to check it out but the mentor glows and exploded and the king of the shadow realm with a suit of armour Daggeron appeared (Daggeron) "I have come to conquer the celestial realm surrender now or we will do it by force" (someone) "no way" Daggeron smirk and summoned monsters made out of shadows and cut Braveheart academy in half with one finger and one half starts to fall down but Apollo, Diana and

Denji are in the falling half. Apollo wakes up to see Daggon and his father the best sorcerer fighting (Apollo's father) "Go help any one who under the rubble" Apollo went to find his friends and he sees they under rubble. He use his magic to get them out of the rubble and Apollo went to help his dad but his father is laying on the ground with a hole through his chest (Apollo) "Dad dad! Wake up dad!!!" Two weeks have passed and Apollo is on a journey with his friends to find Daggon and defeat him.

3 months had passed and they came across a cave in the snowy tundra they went in and found an orb Denji said "Isn't that the orb of time magic" "Indeed I'm the orb of time" said the orb of time and scared Denji, Apollo and Diana. He said "I will help you on your journey but it will take 10 years off your lifespan." (Denji) "How did you know we are on a journey?" (orb) "I know everything so then come with me" They followed the orb in a door (orb) "This is the chamber

of time 1 day outside is a year in the chamber do you want to do this" (All) "Yes".so they trained 10 years in the chamber of time but in the outside it been 10 days then they came out and now they are in there late to mid twenties and now they think they are ready for daggeron.

The group came back to Brave heart academy after a week of travel and it was taken over by daggeron. They have a plan where diana takes out shadow monsters and free the people who have been captured and Apollo and denji will attack daggeron. diana saves most of the people and Apollo and denji are holding up with daggeron but losing but then every sorcerer comes and some students and they charge at the army of shadows the current most powerful sorceress Roy came to help denji and Apollo. Apollo, denji, diana and Roy face off against daggeron. In the battle Roy surrounds him in magic and with the extra time Roy uses magic to see different timelines Apollo asks "how

many different timelines did you see" (Roy) 1094. (Apollo)
"How many did we win" (Roy) "One" Apollo is shocked. A few
hours later in the battle Daggeron knocks out Denji and
sends him flying. Diana gets overwhelmed by shadow
monsters and Roy gets badly injured. It's only Apollo left and
he is losing but he taps in to the powers of Leanbow the
most powerful sorceress and unlocks a new abilities and
defending Daggeron and he is about to kill him but Daggeron
teleported Denji in front of him. Apollo stops in time but
Daggeron pierces Denji's chest with his hand and blasts Apollo.
Denji and Apollo are barely alive from that attack and
Daggeron is preparing to do the final blow but Roy freezes
him and then Apollo and Denji shot their most powerful
attack at Daggeron and he disintegrates from the blast
and shadow monsters disappear so they have won.

A month later when they heal their injury the academy
held a ceremony (principal) "I would like to announce that

three students will be graduating for one reason. They learned all the spells they need in life and they are the property of graduates and I want to give them a medal for saving the academy". so Apollo, they became heroes of Brave heart academy and set off on their journey.

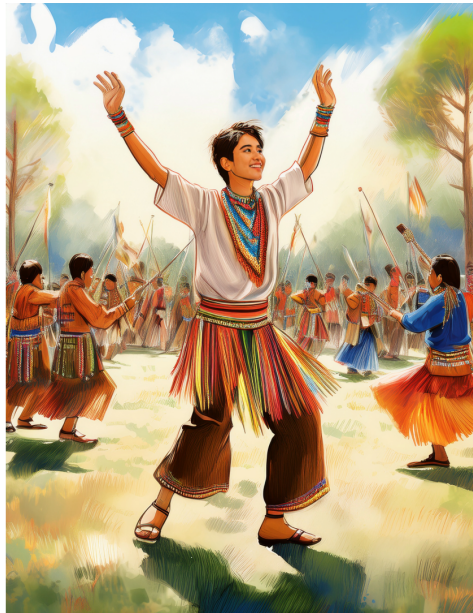
CATEGORY VOICE

Anabelle Jerome (2025-08-106)

Grade 8

Wejgwapniag School

In my ancestors shoes



"get out of my way, nerd". Students shuffle into the hallways. "Watch it!" Teachers telling kids to get to class, lockers slamming, keys clinking together. Three eighth

graders are making their way to history class, one of the kids drops a sweet grass broom from their pocket. A ninth grader named Brian walks past the posse of students in the halls. He stumbles across the sweet grass broom and he has a bewildered look upon his face. Brian slowly bends over to pick the broom up from the dirty school floor. Meanwhile the girl who dropped the sweet grass is wondering where it vanished to "Mimiges, did you lose something?" One of the eighth graders asked. "Yeah, I did." Mimiges looks behind her to see a tall boy standing still in the crowded hallway. They lock eyes and Mimiges notices that the boy is holding a green object. Mimiges makes her way to the boy, "I think you have something of mine." Brian opens his hand and Mimiges tries to grab her sweet grass broom. "What does this even mean?" Brian asked, "It's a sweet grass broom, my grandmother made it for me." Brian closes his hand tightly. Mimiges lifts her eyebrows up

and began to speak, "what are you doing?", You think this looks cool? It looks dumb". Brian swings his backpack to the front and drops the broom into his bag. The bell rings "See you later dirty Indian." Brian walks to class. Mimigés is left in the hallway alone with her thoughts about what just happened.

School was over and Brian walked home. Once he got home, he saw his grandma cleaning the house. He put his bag on the table and went to get a snack. She comes across Brian's school bag and picks it up to hang on the wall. All his books, papers and pencils fell out, making a big bang sound. "I'm so sorry Brian, it must have been unzipped". His grandma bent down slowly, trying not to hurt her back. "No need to apologize grandma, I got it." Brian said. His grandmother found the sweet grass broom while picking up the mess she made, she gets up and places the broom on the table. "Where did you get this?" "Some Indian girl

dropped it at school, so I just kept it". His grandmother looked offended by his answer. "Young man, why didn't you give it back to her?" "Because it looked dumb and I wanted to show my friends." Brian told his grandmother while twirling it around his finger. Brian's grandma pulls out the seat next to her. "Brian take a seat." Brian sat down. "Brian, I've kept this a secret between your mom and I. Your twenty five percent Mi'kmaq from Gesgapegiag". Brian looked at his grandmother not blinking, not speaking, not even twitching. "I'm sorry we never told you." Brian got up from his chair slowly making his way up the stairs, he didn't know what to say, his whole life had been a lie. Brian opened his bedroom door, jumped into his bed, grabbed his phone and listened to music.

Knock knock, Brian got up from his bed and made his way to the door. When opening the door, he felt a shock, suddenly, he was on cold wet grass. A young girl appeared

and gave him her hand, "come on, I want to show you something." As he got up he felt like he was stepping on rocks. Brian looked down to see he was wearing leather shoes. "Excuse me, what do I have on my feet?" Brian asked the girl, "Those are moccasins, your ancestors would wear them." All of a sudden the girl took his hand and lead him towards the sound of druming. "what's that sound?" "It's the sound of our mother's heart beating." Brian saw a few boys his age singing and druming, while girls with bells on their dresses danced around them. Brian was amazed. The closer he looked he spotted Mimiges, she had her hands on her hips while moving her feet one front of the other. once the druming stoped Mimiges walked over to her family. An old man walked over to the middle of the circle; he had a microphone "next up teen boys grass dance." The man sounded like a TV host, Brian felt a tiny nudge on his back. "Thats you, go on", the young girl who had draged him there

said. Brian blinked, he had on a flowing shirt with bits and pieces of beaded parts with ribbons falling from from them. Brian walked into the circle, the drums started, Brian started to dance with out even knowing. He couldn't stop even if he tried, his body kept on moving.

The drums came to a stop after a loud thud, Brian looked up into the crowd to see Mimiges with the girl he was with. Brian was breathing loudly, he walked over to the two girls. "Hey Brian, Your grandmother told me about how you were going to dance." Mimiges said while pointing at the young girl. "My grandma?" The girl gave Brian the sweet grass broom, "How? How did you turn into this young girl?" Brian asked his grandmother, "As I explained I have secrets." Brian's grandma grabbed his sweaty palm. She took both him and Mimiges around the pow-wow telling them storys of the Mikmaq people. "Grandma why did you keep my culture away from me?" Brian stopped in his tracks.

She answered "when I was a young girl like Mimiges I was sent to residential school. After I left I found your grandfather, he told me that I could forget about my past if I didn't tell anyone that I was Mi'kmaq, so I did. That was the biggest mistake of my life. I should have told you sooner." Brian went to hug his grandma, then he woke up in his bed.

From that day forward, Brian expressed his culture. The next day at school Brian gave Mimiges her sweat grass broom back, she told him "I liked your grass dancing." She gave him a big smile, knowing they shared a moment.

CATEGORY IDEA

Rocco Bernard (2025-04-047)

Grade 4

Wejgwapniag School

No choice.



One day Jason was going to his freinds house Taxon.
They played on the trupolen. Taxon got hert and needed a
bandge. Jason rushed inside he came back out with bandge.

He tried to give it to Jaxon. But Jaxon said no get away from me. That hurt Jason feelings. He thought it was his fault. Jason felt sad inside. Winter came by they did not see each other for 4 months. Jason said he did not want to be friends with Jaxon! 5 years went by one day someone knocked at the front door it was Jaxon. Jaxon said hi with a gentle voice. Jason said im sorry but i realized im a happier person without you. And im sorry but i had no choice. Jaxon walked away with sadness in his eyes. 7 years went by they were in the same work. At the same time. They became masons. They seen each other at lunch break. Jaxon said hi friend. Jason looked at him with no response. They both retired and wanted to enjoy the rest of their life time! So they became fishermen at the same spot they did as kids.

They had a moment of silence Jaxon said hi Jason said nothing. They got older and had to go to a nersing home. Jaxon said by and died rihgt there. Jason died 2 days later. They seen echother in the after life. Jaxon said hi ones more. Jason said hi im sorry want to be freinds again? Yea sure id have no other freind without you.

The end.

CATEGORY IDEA

Iewennatatie Polson-Lahache (2025-06-037)

Grade 6

Karonhianónhnha School

The Jump



He's facing his fear HEIGHTS!! This is Logan Green. He's

26 and has brown hair and he's 6'7" and he has to fly to Hawaii in 2 months. He has a fear of heights he didn't want to fly but it's for his little sister Mia's wedding and his fear and he's one of the groomsmen so he signed up for skydiving lessons to overcome his fear. He was really scared for the first one: he almost didn't go but he really wanted to go to his sister's wedding because he would be THE ONE TO WALK HIS SISTER DOWN THE AISLE. He's here at the skydiving place, he's really nervous. They came to get him and told him about the safety precautions but he was zone out for most of part because there was a girl there and her name was Emma SKY and she was REALLY pretty.

his skydiving instructors name was Dave domino. So they got him suited up and while were suited up him and Emma. He was talking to Emma and they were talking about their fear of heights and that they were trying to overcome their fear. She said that she was getting really nervous. He decided to sit next to her on the plane. She grabbed his arm when they were taking off and he didn't even notice that they were taking off untill Dave said are you ready. Logan said for what and Dave said to jump off. Logan could feel that his heart beat was going faster and faster. Logan thought that Emma would pass out. "I was getting scared but I had to comfort Emma." "I thought Emma was for sure going to pass out." Emma and Lela were the first

ones to jump of the Plane; they were 5000 feet in the air. Right before Emma and Lela were about to jump off the plane Emma looked behind Lela and said to Logan.

IF WE SURVIVE

She said to Logan "if we survive can we". then Lela jump off the plane which taking Emma with her. Logan was SHOCKED! he didn't even notice that he was about to jump off the plane. What brought him back was a burst of air in his face. He looked down and he saw Emma and Lela and then he started to hyperventilate. Dave asked if he was alright Logan said that he was fine but he was not fine he thought his heart would burst and when this was happening Dave kept asking him if he was ready and finally Logan

noticed and said yeah but he didn't know why he said that he was screaming inside but before he could say anything dave jumped. Logan thought it would be scary but it wasn't. it was fun after he open his eyes.

When they landed Emma hugged Logan and they went out to get some coffee after they got coffee they went out a few more times and they started dating. He brought Emma to the wedding and his family loved her. And it's been 3 years now and Logan recently proposed on top of a mountain your she said yes and Emma had her bachelorette last weekend. and they wedding is in june and they became good friends with dave and Lela.

CATEGORY IDEA

Kaleia Horne (2025-08-093)

Grade 8

Kahnawa:ke Survival School

The Rotting



wren hated this, this STUPID THING that ate up her world. She remembered when it first started.

She was in class, it was fuzzy about what class but it was a class nonetheless. The sky was weird, it was just... off. different. The sun had a weird ring around it, like one before an eclipse or something, as the teacher described it. It was on the news, the ring, that is. Had been for a few days until NASA themselves came in and said it could have multiple different reasons why it could have a ring. That it would probably go away in a bit, they said. But it didn't go away, it stayed that way. And then the sky started to turn brown, plants started to die around populated towns or cities, some grew, like they were eating each other's life or energy or something like that. Then the animals got bigger. More hostile. The scientists said it could be because of pollution or radiation or something. The water started to change too, it got browner in some spots, weaker people got a little sick after drinking it but other than that it didn't do much else. The big continent she and

the other people that lived on it called home started to collapse at the edges like the icebergs that fell in Antarctica, making it a hundred foot drop to the brown ocean below all around.

well, "They" jumped right into action, who is "They"? Basically the government and NASA and blah blah blah. They started to build a giant glass dome around the brown water, trapping wren and all the people that lived there in, so the "Rotting" couldn't escape. It was SUPPOSEDLY for the best, yeah suuure, did Trump decide that? There were a lot of protests, asking why they couldn't leave.

Remember the animals? well, they got worse. There was this giant red lizard-fish thing that ate anyone that dared to go into the ocean. The animals started to morph into each other, there were bee-bats that ate any fruit that they could find, making it even harder to find food. Giant humming birds that drank from the giant flowers

that could now grow to around 30 feet tall. Huge praying mantises that killed and ate anything or anyone that moved, and more. And then the continents people freaked out and went absolute wonkers and then suddenly it was like the movie "Forever Purge" for about a month or two before they decided to have "Leaders". Those Leaders started to build their own domes around the continent that held hundreds or thousands of people that made in their homes and had little stands among the streets that sold the best foods and wares. There were four domes with four Leaders; Toad, Newt, Frog and Olm.

She specifically avoided Toad, he... was a friend before he blamed her for his fate and decided to straight on hunt her down and attack her whenever he could. There were days he was after her so much that she couldn't leave the Tall wilderness, which was basically the healthiest place you could go to where the Rot wasn't too bad and where the

spruce trees could reach 300 feet tall and the grass was actually green and alive.

Alright, back to reality, Wren. She was STARVING, and honestly mad again, her anger issues were always there but they seemed to get worse now and she wasn't exactly sure why. Whatever, she needed food or might have a bounty on her head again and Axolotl would get mad at her like he ALWAYS was whenever she did something remotely bad.

She could see why though, being the son of Olm who just made him the Leader a year ago put a lot of weight on his shoulders, and he was the same age as Wren and she couldn't imagine having to run a place like that, while also keeping wars at bay and feeding thousands of people at the same time, and then having her get into trouble. So, fine, she wouldn't cause any trouble for now until he gets his job screwed on straight.

She inhaled and closed her eyes. Which dome was the closest? Toad's was only about an hour walk away. Wren opened her eyes and sighed, then got mad, then kicked a rock which hit a bush and scattered a bunch of... bee... bird... things? Whatever, as long as they were scared of her it made her feel a bit better about her screwed up life.

She started to walk, she would PREFER that she make it there before dark but seeing how her life has been going and the way the sun is setting she probably wouldn't, so she started walking faster. She hated the nighttime, NOT BECAUSE SHE WAS SCARED OF THE DARK OR ANYTHING, but because she kinda liked having a life and movable face. There were these creatures that would come out at night, they kinda looked like axolotls, but mixed with a titanoboa and sharp teeth and claws and loved to eat unfortunate people that were in their fields at night because of course they were nocturnal. She made sure to watch her step, not

wanting to step in any of the holes that are the entry to their dens. Once someone falls in there, they're getting EATEN and then surprise, surprise, THEY DIE. Sure enough, more and more start to show up in the ground. She didn't like how fast the sun was setting, she also didn't like how she heard claws scraping against rocks and dirt as a ground-Axolotl made their way up to the surface. She froze, as far as she remembered they didn't have the best eyesight and mostly only saw movement. She heard it sniff around before slithering out of its home and using its four legs to stand up before it shook itself off and made direct eye contact with her. I'm not here, I'm not here. Just LEAVE me alone! She thought furiously, its little gills on the side of its head that made it look like an axolotl twitched. It took a step forward and she was about ready to run as fast as she could back to Axolotl's dome. It

sniffed the air again, before walking off, its tail slithering behind it. She exhaled in relief when it was out of earshot.

Believe it or not but this wasn't even remotely close to how dangerous it could get for anyone living where she lived, anyone could die by one simple mistake, and for some... the Rot gets to them and they lose sanity and/or mutate. She had many friends that mutated and disappeared, so she stopped making friends after that. Well, that's not really true; she had Axolotl. But he- whatever, she NEEDED FOOD! She shook her head and started walking faster, jumping over ground-Axolotl dens and other critters she didn't recognize. She saw the sun setting behind something awfully tall and awfully DOME SHAPED. "HECK YEAH!" She exclaimed and then immediately regretted it when she felt the ground shake and heard the sound of slimy rough skin scrape against rocks and dirt at a fast pace. "Aw man, alright, time to run for my life. Again, yay." She

muttered as she started sprinting as fast as she could with the sound of a heavy body running on all fours right behind her. She definitely COULD NOT outrun a ground-Axolotl so, she was hoping one of the dome guards could hear her and kill it for her. "GOD, FINE. EXCUSE ME! I NEED HELP YOU TIN CANS!" She yelled when she realized she wasn't going to make it to them. Sure enough, she heard the familiar sounds of fire being shot out of a suit and them flying towards her. She was just about to laugh in its face but she fell down, groaning and looking up just in time to see jump right at her. She was NOT going to close to her eyes and be all scared, she narrowed her gaze at it 'Try me, you overgrown worm' she challenged in her head, before it got shot with a bomb and fell to its side with a hiss. "HA! TAKE THAT, B-" She was cut off because two guards landed in front of her and shot at it again, blood and chunks of flesh flew off of it this time. It shrieked and hurriedly got to

its feet and ran off. She never saw something so big dive into a hole in the ground so fast. She huffed and got up, putting off her clothing, she said. "Well, thanks, I guess, but maybe you should actually kill next time. I saw the scars on that thing, that's not the first time it got in trouble with guns." "Silence," The guard said in the robotic cover up voice he had. "You look similar to the most wanted person on this continent." The guard said, slightly more aggressive than usual. She blinked. "Uh, what-? Pfft- me? I- nooo. I'm just, uhm, she's my mother- sister, yeah, we're uh, we're identical twins... so... yeah." She gave them a thumbs up and an awkward smile. "... "..." The guards stared at her, she couldn't see their faces but she could tell they probably didn't believe her. 'Damn, it.' She thought as they marched towards her and grabbed her wrists and dragged her off towards the dome. She knew it was more entertaining for them if

she struggled so she just sighed and didn't even bother to help walk.

So, after a lot of YAPPING with other guards they finally shoved her in a cell. "mm, do I get a phone call or something? Or are we too far gone to bother with that now?" she asked, leaning against the crusty bricked wall. "And who would call?" The guard asked. "...my friend." she said, "That does not answer my question." she was just about to cuss him out before a door slid open, and in came Toad. "Oh... This ain't gonna end well, is it?" she muttered as the guard walked out. she felt the anger radiating off of him. "If this is about the fire taking your face off thing, I just want to clarify that-" "That what? That it wasn't your fault?" he cut her off. "Ahaha... Bingo?" she tried. "I know you think it is my fault, but it wasn't. can I at least call someone?" "Even if wasn't your fault, you saw me and left me to burn." he snarled. she raised her hands when she

saw him open the cell door and point a gun at her. "And don't worry, I'll tell Axolotl that his little girlfriend is dead." He said. She rolled her eyes. "He is NOT my boyfriend. Anyway, T-Toad, you're really going to kill me over something that happened eight years ago? That's, that's uhm, that's a long time to hold uhm, a grudge, don't think- don't you think?" She didn't like the silence. "Oh, come on Toad! I really regret that I just left you the-" She felt the first shot in her abdomen, and heard the sound of him refilling his ammo, she didn't feel the three shots that followed after.

CATEGORY CONVENTIONS

Shyla Cox (2025-04-055)

Grade 4

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

The stuck cat and her owner



Penny wakes up one morning. She gets up from her bed and puts a leash on her cat "come, spots!" said Penny. She goes outside for a walk. 2 minutes later she sees a

gray thing coming up... They are both curious. "Meooooooooooooow!" said Spots. Spots pulled on the leash "WOAAHH!" Spots broke the leash and sniffed fish. She ran all over the way to a cage and got stuck Penny ran up to her and tried to open it. It was locked and the key was nowhere to be found. "No, no, no!" cried Penny. "huh?.." A cat helped Spots "I'll call you... Learly!" Learly pried open the bars, saving Spots! Spots and Learly are now friends, but once Penny lifted up the cage, everyone was dissopointed. The key was under there the whole time! Penny adopted Learly and took the cats home. Learly and Spots are now forever best friends! And now, Penny learent to never keep a old cheap leash again.

CATEGORY CONVENTIONS

Jeff A:kwe'ks Lacombe (2025-06-086)

Grade 6

Rotiwennakehte School

Just driving on the road until
everything went badly



hello my name is Lee and I am driving on the highway with my friend carver. We were just driving to the store until I saw someone walking across the road. "Watch the stupid road!" I screamed. carver swerved out out of the way hitting another car and flipping our car in the proces. I woke up in the car flipped over. I looked around for carver but I couldn't find him. "Lee!" "Over here"! "come on you need to get out"! carver said. I was in extreme pain but I had to get out. "wait carver I need help." I said. He helped me get out. I heard alot of screams and growels nearby. "What the he** is that sound". I said. I don't know carver said. Since our car had rolled in to the forest next to the highway we didn't know what was hapening on the highway. "carver look!" I said there was about one hundred rotten looking humans. "help me" someone said behind us. We looked and we saw a woman getting attaked. I grabbed the rotten corpse and threw it on the ground then carver

dropped a big rock on it's head. "Are you okay" I said. "Yeah im okay". She said. "My name is Lee by the way". I said. "My name is clementine". "Well it's nice to meet you clementine. I said. "come on we have to hurry up or else those things will kill and eat us! carver said. "Look there is a town over there across the forest!" I said. "It's getting attaked by those things we can't go there". carver said." We need to help those people"! I said. NO! We need to get out of here". carver said. "come on guys! They are getting closer"! clementine said. "fine! im going by my self!. carver said. He turned around and a rotten corpse jumped on him and bit his neck. "NO! carver"! I screamed. "come on we need to go"! clementine said. " We started running through the forest. Once we got there we saw the army evacuating people. "There is to many and we are running out of ammo." One of the soldiers said. "I will hold them off" I said. So I grabbed a knife and a pistol. "Lee don't! There is to many!"

clementine screamed. "No it's ok". I said "Just go!". I said. While the army was evacuating everyone with their APC's and helicopters I was shooting and stabbing the rotten corpses. Once the army evacuated everyone it was my turn. So I ran to the helicopter and got on. "How did this happen and why". I said. "nobody knows it just happend those rotten corpses just started to appear." The pilot said. "Thank you Lee. For doing that. clementine said. "I don't feel good." The pilot said. Then he started to attak us. "He's one on them!" I said. With no one able to control the helicopter we crashed. I woke up in the burning helicopter. I couldn't move then I saw carver I thought, I was hallucinating but I wasn't "carver?" I said. He kept on walking closer and closer. I took a closer look at him and I saw that he was one of them. "No! Stay away!" I screamed. He started to crawl to me. I knew what was going to happen to me. I just couldn't move I was to injured.

"carver please, don't!" I screamed. But it wasn't carver anymore it was a flesh eating monster. He started to bite down on my neck. I screamed and screamed. There was nothing I can do but just wait for it to end, and soon enough I was dead. Now I am one of them. A flesh eating monster. The end.

CATEGORY CONVENTIONS

Zoe Montour (2025-08-81)

Grade 8

Kahnawa:ke Survival School

Unfortunately, Zoe's text was not scanned.

CATEGORY ORGANIZATION

Hayzen Ray Isaac (2025-04-019)

Grade 4

Alaqsite'w Gitpu School

The Spirit Boy



One day, a boy named John asked his parents if he could go into the forest. They said yes so he went into the forest. While in there he heard a mysterious sound deep in woods. John went towards the sound, it sounded like

someone whispering his name. John was pretty scared, but the closer he got, the calmer he got.

When he got to the sound he saw a message on the ground saying "Pray to talk to me". John was hesitant at first, but after a little bit of time and thinking he prayed. John felt a type of energy around him, he felt a little calmer while in that area. John saw some light forming a wolf with a beak of a bird.

"Hello?" John said, "Hello! I am the forest spirit!" said the forest spirit. John replied "Wow! What can you do?" well I am the protector of the forest! I can control the woods in any way! "Wow! How can you do that?" John asked. The forest spirit replied "Well, no one is supposed to know!" "Oh." John said.

"You know, you are different then the other humans." the forest spirit said, "Really?" "yes, you can turn into a spirit!" the forest spirit said "How do I do that?" "Watch

this" suddenly, John turned into a spirit "Whoo!" John said "I must warn you, if you are a spirit for too long, you will be stuck as a spirit! the forest spirit said "OK" John replied.

They were flying around, over the forest until they saw a lumberjack cut a tree down, BOOM! A big bang from the tree came! "Oh no." said the forest spirit. "What's wrong?" "They just cut down a tree! This is bad!" The forest spirit said. "How can I help?" John asked "well... I have an idea!" the forest spirit said. "John, I need you to gather all of the animals in this forest!" "Ok!" John replied. John went to go gather all of the wolves, bunnys, birds, moose and bears. The forest spirit then told John to follow him. They got there and then all of the bears, moose and wolves scared the lumberjack away! "Thank you, John, now you must go home." He got home and lived better than ever

CATEGORY ORGANIZATION

Halle-Berry D'Ailleboust (2025-06-057)

Grade 6

Kateri School

The Hero



Hi my name is Summer Stacy, I live in Sunnyside ville
Orlando, Florida. I am sixteen years old and I go to
Sunnyside High School. I decided to start journaling because...

She stops to think about it. "What am I journaling for?" Summer says laying on her bed. She sighs "I quit for now". Summer pets her cat buttons and sits up on her bed. Summer's dad Ronnie comes in, "Hey umm I'm sorry but I have work" He says. But you said we were gonna have a fun day today" Summer says kind of let down. "Yes I know and I'm sorry but it was a last minute thing" Ronnie says. "It's ok I get it your job is important you go I'll be fine here" She says cause she understands. Before he leaves Summer's room Ronnie says "remember what I told you, keep the doors lock-" "Locked, if you answer the phone and it's for you say he is busy and call back later" Summer says finishing his sentence because she knows the rules by heart. "Love you, see you in a few hours sweetheart" Ronnie says then leaves and closes the door. Summer doesn't know what to do, she becomes bored so she goes downstairs to watch a movie and make popcorn. After a

couple movies she looks at the time and sees that its gotten late so she goes upstairs to bed. The next morning she wakes up and starts getting ready for school. After she's done getting ready, Summer goes downstairs, eats and waits for the bus. Summer gets on the bus and arrives at school. Summers walks into school and goes to her locker. She puts her stuff away and starts walking to class having a feeling something is wrong. As Summer is walking to class the speaker went off and said "lockdown lockdown lockdown". Before she could even move all of the classroom doors were closed and locked. Summer looked around and ran to the bathroom. Summer hid in one of the stalls then suddenly she heard "anyone with a walkie can you call the bomb squad" as Summer heard that she looked on the counter next to the sink there was a walkie talkie. As Summer picked it up it went off again. "The bomb is located on the shelf in the library in the back corner". Summer

knew that she could deactivate it so she started heading to the library. As she got in the library she saw the bomb in the corner. She quickly started working on it, pulling wires, taking things apart. After ten minutes she finished just when the bomb squad got there. Summer saw her dad and smiled "You were a here today". When they came out all of the teachers were claping for them. "How about I take you out of school and we go get lunch" Ronnie said smiling. "I would love too" Summer said smiling back.

CATEGORY ORGANIZATION

Sigon Nottaway-Ratt (2025-08-119)

Grade 8

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

The girl in the lake



*It was a beautiful day trees danced in the wind a
wooded cabin with a long dock that went over the lake*

leading to a big sliding door to the cabin, there was not a single house in sight.

Emma walked out of the dock the sound of footsteps caught her attention it was Mia's mom coming down with her suit case "Mia emma come here!" both mia and emma made their way to the door "we are leaving to go to florida bye love you mia, listen to aunt Emma" "Yes mama bye dad by mom" Mia replied knowing this would be there best week ever, so she thought.

after her parents left they decided to go swimming, suddenly dark grey blankets covered the sky, the wind howled through the trees. "um thats strange lets go inside mia" Emma said "go upstairs and put some clothes on you can play with you're dolls when you're done "okay Emma" Mia replied.

Emma was enjoying a hot chocolate by the big sliding door, suddenly she seen something rise from under water, she

sqinted her eyes it was a lady in the water however this was not a normal person she was able to breath under water, the fear was pulling Emma's shoulders to the ground.

Emma dropped her cup on the ground and ran upstairs to see Mia, but once she opened the door fear took over her face and made it white as a ghost. Mia was not there, she sreamed all over, Mia was gone, "drip thomp drip thomp", the monster was in the house, she could not imagine what could have happend its like she dissapered.

Emma knew she had to get out of there so she waited for the sound of it going back in the water. "Spash" "I got to go now" Emma wispered to herself, Emma snuck down stairs "tap tap tap tap tap" Emma tip toed to the keys and walked out the back door suddenly the thing was back, "What is that" Emma wispered to herself in fear, she sqinted, Emma gasps. it was a doll that looked just like Mia.

She closed the door and backed up slowly and bumped into the car. In a panick she opened the door got in, and drove away the sounds of mias voice was driving her crazy, "how can you loose me auntie I thought this was going to be the best week ever" Emma felt a sharp pain in her chest like something stopped her heart. "bing bing bing" it was Emmas alarm clock Emma jumps up and takes breath in, she slides her feet in pink pig slippers, "it was just a dream" Emma says to herself she was just glad it was a dream and she was happy to be back at her house.

"Huh whats this?" Emma reaches inside her pocket all the joy and happieness draind from her face into straight fear she felt the shap pain in her chest again, it was the doll of Mia. Emma fell to the ground while dropping the doll and covered her mouth with her dry shaky hands.

CATEGORY WORD CHOICE

Toby James Swasson Barnaby (2025-04-015)

Grade 4

Alaqsite'w Gitpu School



One night a mom and her daughter went for a hike. All of a sudden they find a river, but the animals didn't run. They just stared, no moving, or no blinking. While the daughter played near the water. the animals were calm. All of a sudden, the animals ran except for the one deer.

The deer was special it made her feel different like a rush. Maybe the deer was trying to send her a message. The deer was saying that there was something to get them something evil. They didn't know. They continued without knowing that there's something coming. They continued to play until the sun went down.

They tried to leave, but they didn't know the way down. They heard loud footsteps, loud footsteps it was a giant. The deer grabbed the little girl by the mouth to get her to safety. Her mom followed her. The giant threw boulders. The giant started to run at them. They ran away in the woods, they were safe for a while. The giant looked around. They are behind a tree. While they were processing what just happened a boulder flies at them. They dodged the massive boulders. They tried to move seats but the giant tried to step on them. The mom jumped on the deer

and then the deer couldent handle the weight. Then it had a rush just lik the mom.

The deer ran as fast as he can. The ground shoulk as he ran. then a big boulder and norrowly mist the little girl. they found a safe spot in a montian. The deer was out of energy. they were scared.

The deer put the girl and mom on his back, and ran down the montian. They were lost but, the deer wasn't. He ran down the montian. He dodged boulders. The giant tried to step on them but he dodged. They finaly found home but, it wasn't done yet.

The mom trew nitro at the giant and his arm blew of then trew one at his leg it blew off. The giant gave up and ran off never to be seen again.

CATEGORY WORD CHOICE

Lucas Roger Arsenault (2025-06-125)

Grade 6

Alaqsite'w Gitpu School

Time of destruction



Today was the time of the year every one despised.
Every year at the start of October the sky turns red
and the beast awakens. The beast craves destruction and

madness. When he walks, the earth trembles, when he yells the forests flew away. Every one fears the Wendigo.

Star has always dreamed of being a hunter, but she was just never allowed to hunt. Star asked her uncle if she could go hunting but he said no. Her grandmother felt sorry for her and gave Star a mythical crystal. It was a beautiful shade of red. Since Star was a tool maker she carved it in to her walking stick. By the time the hunters were back every one was asleep. Little did they know tomorrow was the beginning of October and chaos would begin. The village woke up to the leader blowing in his war horn. Every one looked up just to see that the sky was blood red.

Today was the day the Wendigo came to destroy the village. They all tried fighting the mighty Wendigo but he is just too strong for them. The beast swung his massive arm on the village and it fell apart. Arrows and spears were

being thrown, but it did nothing to his thick skin. The Wendigo stepped on a trap of sharp spears. The beast yelled loudly causing half the village to fly away. Instead of admitting defeat Bear made plans to attack the Wendigo while it's asleep.

They quickly made boats to go battle the mighty Wendigo as a group. Star was independent and took her own boat to sail the river. Wendigo River was a dangerous ride but it's the safest way there. She began sailing across the river dodging rocks and fallen trees. While sailing she took a wrong turn. Her boat slowly moves to the drop. Star paddles even faster but it's no hope, the river is just too fast. She jumps out and lands on a big rock. Then Star remembered about her spear. She ties a long rope on the blunt end and throws it at a tree. The crystal spear glides across the air hitting the tree. Star grabs the rope and

carefully climbs her way there. She was near the mountain so she just walked there.

There she was at the mountain ready for battle. She pulled out her bow and shot the Wendigo's eye. The beast yelled in pain ready to defend. Star felt brave and use the magic stuff to jump up there. The Wendigo noticed her and tried stomping on her but missed. She pulled out two knives and climbed the Wendigo. With her mighty spear she pierced his heart. The Wendigo fell to the ground cracking the mountain. Star stood on the corpse victorious with the crystal spear. Bear the lender told Star that she has proven her strength and could go hunting. The brave hero returns back to the village just to remember that the village was still destroyed.

CATEGORY WORD CHOICE

Rohnha'shatste Whitebean (2025-08-102)

Grade 8

Kahnawa:ke Survival School

The path of John



A comet begins ripping through space at lightning speeds. A symbol is present on its side just as it slams into the earth creating a small fire. A young man named John wakes

up. He jumps out of bed in a panic but soon calms down after realizing it was a dream. He draws the symbol on a piece of paper and stuffs in his desk where there are a lot more drawings of the same symbol showing this wasn't the first time he had this dream. John goes back to bed as his phone shows its two in the morning. John wakes back up to his mom calling him down stairs "John you'll be late for school". John rushes to get ready and accidentally stumbles down the stairs. "You should stop staying up so late all the time it's not good for you" his mom says. "I didn't it was just a" John stops before saying "I woke up to the sound of something outside". "Oh must be the raccoons," John's mother says. As John leaves and says bye to his mom, he grabs one of the drawings and brings it to school. John sits at his desk as the teacher says "ok class as some of you might've heard we have a new student, please welcome Evan". The class is mostly silent and John doesn't pay much attention to even. "I guess you can sit next to John," the teacher says. "Ok" Evan says before walking over to John's desk. Both boys sit silent as Evan pulls out his books. "Now that everyone is here we are starting a project and after that we have a class trip". The class is filled with a mix of excitement

and disappointment. John raises his hand "Where are we going and for how long" "Good thing you asked John we are going to go on a camping trip for a week at some historical spot about three hours from here and the project you will pair up and create a historical scene model" the teacher says. The class seems more happy with this and John and Evan decide to pair up for the project. "I think I got some tank and plane models in my attic," John says to Evan. "Oh sweet I got some of those green army men in a box somewhere after school I'll look" Evan says with excitement. John turns to get a pencil from his bag but the drawing of the symbol slips out onto the floor. Evan goes to pick it up but pauses when he sees the symbol. A look of pure terror washes over Evan's face as he turns to John. "You see this when you sleep too?" "Yeah but" Evan cuts him off "we gotta talk at lunch". John agrees both continue to work the rest of the classes until the bell rings for lunch. Both skip the food and go outside right away to a secluded area. "When did you first start getting these?" John asks. "About six years ago when I was like eight". Evan says. "Are there any other things you see besides the symbol?" Evan asks. "Last night I had a new one. It was the symbol on a comet

but that time it crashed into a planet. I'm sure it was earth," John replies. "You think it really can happen, I mean in real life" Evan asks. "Well just the fact that we both have seen this and never met says a lot" John says. The bell rings ending the lunch break and the two boys head back to class. After a few more classes of the boys talking about their experience with the dreams of the comet. School ends and John and Evan decide to search for the items they will need for the project. When John gets home he goes into the attic of his house to search for the models. He finds a few broken army planes and a tank model unopened. John grabs them and takes them to school the next day. When John gets to school he finds Evan with the green army men toys. "Dahm man those models look sweet" Evan says. "Yeah I know, I found them in my attic". Both boys go to class and begin putting together the model. "So did you see anything new last night like the comet?" Evan asks. "Nah, I usually get them once a week or sometimes a month," John says. "Oh I get them daily, but yesterday it was mostly the same" Evan says. "class please stop what you're doing for a minute I gotta hand out your slips for the trip" The teacher says, "We didn't

even finish the project," John says. "Well the trip ended up getting moved to next week instead of month to give you guys more time for final exams" the teacher says. "Well in a way this is pretty good. I've been looking forward to this trip, it seems cool, do you guys go there every year?" Evan whispers to John. "No this is the first time we're going," says John. A few days later the boys finish the model and get ready to present in front of the class. But when Evan is walking up with the model he slips on a bag and hits John. The model cuts into John's arm and he begins to bleed. "Oh snap you good" Evan asks. "Yeah yeah it's good I know you didn't mean to". John gets sent to the nurses office while Evan presents alone. After the Presentation The two boys meet back up after school. "Dahm that's a pretty deep cut if you needed all those wraps" Evan says. "Yeah I think the wing of the plane sliced me," John says. The trip rolls around and the two boys are on the bus talking about what they want to do when they get there. "All right, we should be getting there in about two hours so sit back and don't be too loud" the teacher says. "Yo John I had another dream last night," Evan says. "Dahm what happened," John asks. "Well it started off like usual but when the comet hit

the earth the whole planet was destroyed" Evan says. "Oh man that's crazy now I hope it doesn't crash on earth." John says. The two continue talking for a bit when a fight between two students breaks out. The teacher breaks it up but had to separate John and Evan to place one of the students that fought in the seat. "Yo why the hell do I get to sit with him all he does is cause trouble" John says. "It's only a temporary calm down," the teacher says. John sits back in anger. The bus arrives at the campsite. It's a really forested place far from any town or sign of life for that matter. John gets his stuff from the bus and lines up with his class to wait for further instructions. "Ok everyone, we've made a mistake, there isn't enough room for everyone in the lodge, one of you will have to stay in the cabin down the path, it's not too far but whoever does go you will get one hundred percent on your project" the teacher says. "I'll do it," says John. "Same here," Evan says. "Well only one of you is going to be able to go due to the small space in the cabin," the teacher says. Both boys look at each other for a moment still figuring out who will go. "You think you're good with just yourself," Evan says. "Yeah I'm good," John says. "Well then John the cabin is just down the path

you can't miss it and I think there is a phone that can call the lodge if you need anything but youre welcome to hang around here if you'd like" the teacher says. John grabs his things and begins walking down the path. The sound of birds and wind fill the air around him. As John makes it to the cabin he notices it has a storage container beside it. John tries to open it but to no use as it is so old the rust around the locks prevents anyone from opening it. John decides to head inside. Before he left the teacher gave him a key to the cabin. John opens the door with it and begins to unpack his things when he hears a knock from down the hallway. It's Evan "Yo this place is kinda creepy you see the container in the back" Evan says. "Yeah I tried to open it but it wouldn't budge" says John. "If I were you I wouldn't want to know what's inside," says Evan as he walks over to help John unpack. "The group is making smores later you should come" says Evan. "Oh definitely I'll head back with you after I unpack and we can just chill around the lodge" says John. The two boys continue unpacking then head back down the path towards the lodge. "What happened to the kids that fought on the bus. Asks John. "Oh, the bus brought them back when it left," says Evan. "Dahm that's one

hell of a punishment but those two always get into trouble one way or another" says John. As the two boys arrive Evan brings John into his room where they hang out for a few hours. Soon the teacher brings everyone outside to a fire pit where the kids roast marshmallows and make smores while the teachers sit back and monitor them. "Ok dude if you get anything of the comet or symbol nature tonight let me know right away tomorrow" John says. "Yeah yeah I will"says Evan. John begins to walk back to his cabin when he notices the lock on the storage container looks broken so he gets closer to take a look. John attempts to open the door when the chain snaps and he falls back. John gets up to see an old car sitting in the container. He walks into the container to take a closer look when notices the keys are on the seat of the car. John leaves and closes the door not wanting to get in trouble so he tries to make it look like the the lock wasnt broken by rewrapping it around the door and heads to his cabin to sleep. As John is lying in his bed the thought of the car stained his mind like spilled coffee. If he really wanted he could take that car. But he had no reason to, so he shrugged it off and went to bed. John awoke in a snowy place, it was cold and he was

following Evan up those stairs to a ship when Evan stabbed and threw him off. John fell and hit and hit the snowy ground as the ship took off. John woke up realizing it was a dream but this time he could taste metal and heard a loud crash come from outside. He jumped out of bed rushing outside to see what it was. John could see a large fire around a patch of trees and in the center was a piece of what looked like a rock but it wasn't. John could see the symbol on the rock; it was the same one from his dreams. He rushed to the comet but realized it wasn't just a rock with the symbol it had wires and a liquid like metal dripping from it. John realized this was no comet, it was a piece of a ship. As he stepped closer some of the liquid metal got on him and it spread across his body forming a full body suit of armor that hardened when it was fully on his body. John didn't see anything other than the fire. Evans' face turns to disappointment but says "well we should go back there and check it out. John agrees knowing that after he took the material the peace of the ship lost its integrity and fell apart into hundred of pieces. Like the material was the only thing holding the peace of the ship together. After both of them are done they leave for the forest

where the piece of the ship crashed but when they arrived there was just a large area of grass and trees burned. Evan seemed bummed out but decided to go back to the lodge while John went back to his cabin and found that the jars were still there. He grabbed them and brought them inside. Then John touched the bracelet to see if anything would happen. The armor suit diploid and John could see through the visor display that the suit recognized his DNA and that someone with similar DNA had the suit before him. John was freaked out to see this. John began to test what else the suite had and learned it was filled with weapons like blades and shields they could deploy and retract. Then there was a noise from outside like footsteps. John taped his wrist and the armor retracted. John opened the door to find Evan. "Yo whats up" Evan says. "Nothing much man," John says. "Well I was just seeing how far the fire went and thought I would stop by. "Oh you want to hang out or something" John says. "Nah I got to head back to clean a mess my bunkmate left" Evan says. But John knows he is lying and he probably came to snoop around off of some dream he had. John closes the door and graps some of the jars to hide in case Evan came back while he was not there.

John loosens a floor board and stuffs the jars under them. Meanwhile as Evan is walking around the woods a branch catches his leg and he falls and hits his head on a rock. Through a vision Evan can see that the comet was actually a piece of a ship and sees it has tech as John kills him with the suit. Evan wakes up in horror to what he saw and that it was now dark out showing that he had been there for a while. He begins to race back to the lodge. John is preparing for bed when he hears a knock, it's his teacher asking for Evan but John doesn't know. The teacher then sees Evan running back. John closes the door wondering why the teacher wanted Evan but shrugs it off. The teacher asks Evan where he has been and Evan tells him he got lost while exploring before going inside his room. John lays in his bed for a moment before dozing off. Evan sneaks out the window of the four story lodge and could see through the helmet's visor that a burning tree was falling in his direction. He put his arm up when a shield deployed from the suit around his arms. The tree smashed into it and left John unharmed. As he put his arms down the shield retracted and he ran into his cabin to find something to collect the ship's material. John came out with

a few jars and began collecting the rest of the material from the ship. When he heard yelling coming down the path. "John, are you okay?" the teacher yelled from down the path. John almost called back when he realized he still had this big set of armor on. It was so light he almost forgot he was wearing it. John sneaked to the back of his cabin and attempted to stash the jars under some grass and bushes. Then he ran inside where he attempted to take the armor off but to no use. Then he tapped his arm and the whole suit retracted into a metal bracelet around his wrist. John then opened the door pretending like nothing happened. The teacher told him to stay inside and that there were old propane tanks that had exploded near his cabin. John tells him he heard an explosion and that he saw some fire by the trees. The teacher explains to John to instead run to the lodge and to leave his stuff as the fire department arrives. John runs to the lodge hoping no one will find the jars. Evan is outside with some students and the watch from as far as the forest seemed to fade with the flames. "Do you taste metal, John," Evan says. "Yeah what the hell could that be". John says. "I don't know but it's freaking me out," Evan says. Soon the fire is

extinguished and John sleeps on the floor in the lodge. John begins to shiver on the cold dusty floor but he glances at the bracelet for a bit before falling asleep. John begins to dream about the ship's tech being taken by Evan to be used against him. Meanwhile Evan dreams that the fire was caused by the comet and that John was there. The next day while eating breakfast the teacher announces that the fire and everything that happened last night was taken care of and that John can go back. John is still worried about the jars but heads to eat breakfast in a big room in the lodge. He takes some eggs and sits alone when Evan sits next to him. "So do you know what happened last night?" Evan asks. "Not really, I woke up to a crashing sound and the teacher told me to run to the lodge," John says." Evan looks at him suspiciously before saying "you think it was the comet". I don't think so because there were many old propane tanks around and that could've he jumps slides down to some bushes before heading to a shed. He grabs some gas cans and a lighter before heading to John's cabin. Meanwhile John dreams of being in a type of fortress with others with similar suits on as one is turning to face him. John wakes up to fire being everywhere around him. He

leaps out of bed but it's too late. A piece of burning wood lands on John, sending him crashing down and hitting the phone on the wall. The burning wood melts John and more burning debris falls and stabs him right through the chest. Back at the lodge the students are horrified to hear John's screams through the phone as they see the smoke rise above the trees. As John begins to close his eyes and accepts his fate the bracelet activates and the armor deploys around his body saving him. John feels that the suit is healing him and he grabs the jars that surprisingly were unharmed and rushes through the burning cabin. He smashes his way into the container and gets in the car. He floors the pedal after turning the keys. But one of the jars gets cracked and the material spills in the car and transforms it into a ship of some sort. Evan sees this from a distance as the ship teleports and is nowhere to be seen. John passes out as the ship crashes into the ground of some snowy planet. He is later woken by someone named Ripley who is also wearing an armor suit. He grabs John out of the ship and asks him if he is okay. John says yeah as he realizes the armor suits make your voice sound like you're speaking through a radio. John and Ripley head to more

crashed ships which are scattered around the area. "So what's your name?" Ripley says. "John and what's going on here" John says. "Well to tell you the truth I don't even know I found this tech on a crashed piece of space debris and used it to get here completely by accident" Ripley says. "Yeah that's pretty much how I got here too" John says. "Did you have a dream about being here or all the tech that came on the crash ship debris" Ripley says. "Yeah, how did you now?" John says. "I figured, because we're wearing the same suits," Ripley says. "No we are not yours has a different style to it" John says. "Oh I just meant on the shoulder all suits seem to have the same symbol that was on the crashed debris" Ripley says as they get to another crashed ship. John never noticed the symbol was also on the suit. John and Ripley help out another guy named Arlo. Arlo is confused but the two tell him to help them get the others. They get four others but find one was killed in the crash. The three others were named Apollo, Rex, and Chris. Together they use the tech of their dead friend. Ripley seems to know what he is doing and combines the tech with some of his to make a huge fortress. They head in. Ripley explains that he had a vision that they were meant to be

here and to keep life safe and that there was a great threat that could wash out existence. The others all seem to wonder why Ripley knows so much about the tech and how it was able to what Ripley explains that he had much time to study it and tells them it's about what you think you want it to form into. Apollo says he needs to hear back and go home. But Ripley says there is nothing left for them back home. To which Rex and Cris agree. Cris says he would have died if it wasn't for the armor and the tech he would be dead. The rest realize they were all almost killed and were saved by the tech. "So what is this tech then" John asks. "Well I think it's called the remnant I got from some vision I had" Rex says. "God I need some fresh air" Apollo says before trying to take his helmet off. "NO don't these suits are the only thing keeping you breathing" Ripley says. "Oh snap my bad" Apollo says. Ripley explains that the suits are constantly healing them from their injuries as all have suffered burns or other injuries that would be impossible to survive out of the remnant armor. "So you will have to be in this armor for the rest of our lives," John says. "Well we don't have much of life left anymore" Ripley says. "What do you mean by that I thought you said the remnant armor

keeps us safe" Rex says. "It does but it comes with a price: the suits completely stop aging" Ripley says. "Well then I guess we're just invincible then huh" Rex says. "Not entirely, although the armor stops aging it does not stop us from being killed, the only thing that can punch a hole through it is a weapon that is made from remnant material but all of that is with us so we are good so long as we work together" Ripley says. John realizes that he is one jar short and that Evan might have gotten a hold of it and tells the group but they shrug it off knowing it was likely too complex for him to know how to use it. But John is still worried and wonders if Evan will come back to finish the job. Apollo soon worries too after realizing the fourth guy who died wasn't killed by the crash but had a hole punched through his helmet. But ultimately they decide to rest for the night and assemble a militia with an underground city nearby called New Crystal. The next day rolls around and John and Ripley head to New Crystal to see who would want John there fighting force while the rest set up the base for the meeting. As the two are flying there in the ships they spot a crack in the ground. Ripley calls over the ship's radio system that they need to head down it to get to the

city. Both aircraft zip with lightning speed down the tunnel and underground. They soon reach the city of New Crystal and touch down on landing pads near the city. The city is huge and seems super advanced in terms of technology. "How'd you know this planet had any other living creatures on it" John says as they exit the ships." I told you lots of time with the remnant tech it helps with visions and communication. I got in touch with this city before we even got here. Just know this tech can do basically anything if you know how to use it" Ripley says. "Well I guess you got to give the team a proper training on it when we get back" John says as they are walking through the streets of the city. They soon end up at the city's control room. It is the biggest building in the whole city and is where all the power to the city comes from including its leaders known as the grand council. John and Ripley head to the room where the council is housed and introduces themselves and their purpose for being there. Then Ripley asks if a meeting can be arranged back at their base but one council member explains they cannot leave the building because of terrorist activity going on within the city. So they agree to have the meeting there and Apollo asks if they can have a

portion of their residents to train as soldiers to keep the galaxy safe and in turn the city will be under protection. One council member asks if they even have proper equipment and enough facilities to house the troops and Ripley says each recruit will go through one year training then when they graduate and they become soldiers they will be given weapons and equipment such as body protection. But he also says the body protection won't be as strong as what he and John are wearing and instead it will be made from resources mined from the planet." The facilities for the troops will be completed in a few weeks giving you time to get the people ready. The council discusses but soon agrees but only if they can get rid of the terrorists first. John and Apollo agree and they ask where to find them so they can plan an attack to which the council says they have a small outpost far beyond the city and that they will send the coordinates. John and Ripley thank them before rushing back to the ships to get back to base. "So where are the council members then" Rex says. Ripley explains to the team that they can't leave the city because of terrorists and the only way to get troops is to prove themselves by taking them out. So the team ready

their weapons and begin planning out the attack when the base receives a message from the council claiming the terrorists group kidnapped some of their citizens and are planning to execute them if not paid. So now the team must save them and take out the terrorists group. The team doesn't waste a minute and gathers their equipment and rushes to the outpost in their ship. They soon arrive and scout out the base and find a way to sneak inside to where the hostages are being stored, half the group helps escape and the other half begging to wipe out the terrorists. One by one the terrorists are killed. John heads back into the building to help the others. Wrist blades are deployed from his suit and he uses them to cut his way through the rest of the terrorists. The team is successful in this victory and celebrate with the city when they get back. The team seems to be building strong trust with the city's people and a lot of the citizens sign up to become soldiers for the team. Years go by with many successful victories for the team and they are now well known across the universe as its elite fighting force. Their empire is now ten times bigger than ever and more advanced than when they first got there. But John is

having many visions and nightmares of Evan killing him for the remnant tech. But he knows they have the best fighting team so he is well protected. Rex is the emperor of the team and the rest help maintain order and they are known as enforcers like John, Apollo, Arlo and cris then there are the soldiers that keep everyone safe and are usually joined by enforcers when on missions. And that is how their empire became what it was. Rex decides they will host a party for the anniversary of their arrival at the main fortress this coming week. He explains everyone will be there and it will be a big get together to mark the day the galaxy was saved. John and the rest of the enforcers agree and begin spreading the word to the people of the planet. John is worried that it would be risky having everyone in one place like that but Ripley ensures that the planet's shields are always up and no one from outside the planet will be able to get in. But still John is still worried. Soon the day comes around and millions show up to the fortress. The reason why most of the planet can fit is because under the fortress there are a huge array of tunnel systems that can be used for events when not in mission use. But John is outside scanning for any threat.

Ripley calls him to head in and that things are fine. But for John things are quiet to quiet like they're the only thing in existence. But he says he will head in after he patrols the shield generators. Ripley agrees before heading back inside. John begins patrolling in his ship around each of the five shield generators that surround the planet. Everything looks right if there was a problem he would usually get an alert. John begins to head back thinking he is just being paranoid when he feels like he just has to check one more. So he heads to the fourth shield generator not really that worried anymore and even gets excited for the party when that soon melts to horror. When he arrives at the fifth shield generator he finds it almost completely destroyed. John rushes and tries to rush back even trying to warn them on coms but the lines are down and he could see a massive ship descend from the clouds in the distance racing to the base. He knows he's got to get there first and pushes his engines to the limit. John could see the fortress but the other ship was gaining speed on him. John seems to almost make it when his engines fail from the shot taken from the other ship's gun. He crashes hard into the ground just a few meters away from the

fortress but it's too late the huge ship flies over his head and he watches it hover above the fortress before launching a huge blast that takes out the fortress and the ground below it killing everyone in a moment's notice. John is horrified but what he sees, All that he and his team has built is destroyed right in front of his eyes but he doesn't have time to wait as the ship turns in his direction. John hops in his ship managing to start up the engines and escape still with tears in his eyes. As he enters space John could see as the planet explodes. After managing to find refuge on a tropical planet far from the one that was just destroyed. John can see propaganda in the planet's towns claiming that the force he fought for was being blamed for what happened and that they were planning on taking over and killing their followers for more power but were stopped by one man. John sees the man's picture and recognises it to be Evan. John is struck with rage but soon realizes everyone wants to kill him due to a bounty placed on his head and now all he could do is lay low until things die down. Some time goes by and John spends his time depressed and full of anger. Things haven't gone down at all. People are searching everywhere for him. And

he begins contemplating taking off the remnant armor and killing himself seeing as the whole universe wants him dead anyways. But the day he plans on doing an announcement is made to the whole universe from the ship that destroyed the fortress. John heads down the mountain where he was hiding and makes his way closer to the city to see what it is. The announcement comes from Evan and he says he will wipe all of existence out with a weapon he has been building for the past couple of years. claiming he needs to be the only one left and that's how he will become the most powerful being. Soon everyone begins to panic as Evan says he will unleash this weapon in a couple hours. John knows he must be insane having been looking for him for all these years but taking out everything to kill John just didn't sit with him. John decided this would be his final mission to stop Evan and take revenge for his fallen comrades. John heads back to the mountain and uncovers his old ship and starts it up. He flies off the planet and heads to another planet that was covered in the debris from his old fortress. John lands with tears in his eyes to see the remains of his old home scattered across the planet. He soon sees one of the flags that had their symbol on it and

makes a memorial for his comrades and the people that were killed that day. "I swear I'll get him for you guys. Don't worry I'm sorry I was not there in time to save you guys but I'll make sure he doesn't get away with it" John says while sobbing. Those were the first words he spoke since the incident. John pays his respects before leaving. He knows where Evan will be and races to another galaxy to get to him. He soon sees the ship that took everything from him so long ago and pushes his engines the way he had when he tried to warn them. John wasn't about to let a single drop of blood that was spilled that day be for nothing as he slams into Evan's ship going full power. The crash was so powerful that John's ship went straight through Evan's. But John jumped out and now was in Evan's ship. John began to search everywhere and soon came up to what looked like the ship's control room where Evan was standing like he was expecting him. "Now I see you after all these years," Evan says. "You won't leave this ship alive after what you'd done" John says in rage. "Oh you mean when I burned you alive or when I killed all your friends" Evan says. Evan soon explains that he set fire to John's cabin and after he saw him leave in the ship he went back to find a full jar of the

remnant tech but everyone knew he started that fire so he had to leave. But once he saw how famous John and his team were getting he knew he had to stop them before they could ruin his plans of destroying everything. "You guys really thought this tech was too hard for me to understand, it really wasn't" Evan says. "You heard us," John says. "Yes John, once I made this ship I was connected to your coms and heard all about that big celebration and knew that was the time to strike. I was there the whole time you just didn't see me" Evan says. John had enough and charged at Evan. The two began a huge battle that rained across the whole ship. With John and Evan trading fetal blows and slashes using their weapons but Evan wasn't wearing the suit's helmet so John cut his face with his wrist blade and Evan kicked him sending John flying. Evan now charged at John and using a piece of the ship Evan smashed it against John's helmet slightly revealing his burnt face. Evan took the time to make fun of John's appearance giving John time to lunge forward stabbing Evan through the chest before retracting his blades letting Evan bleed out on the ship's floor. John activates some the ships missiles to explode the weapons reactor but that also means the ship

will explode to but John doesn't care he activates the timer and sits in front of the window looking into space as he takes his helmet off and all the memories of when him and Evan were just normal friends came back and his time with Ripley, Rex, Arylo, Apollo and Cris and all the great things they did. John sheds tears as he hears the countdown till destination Three two but just before it hits one John says "I'm ready". The ship explodes, John dies but he saves existence. The explosion could be seen by most planets as a piece of debris hits one and lands in a forest where a young boy discovers it. Restarting the cycle. The end.

CATEGORY SENTENCE FLUENCY

Piper Alexis Rose Isaac (2025-04-006)

Grade 4

Alaqsite'w Gitpu School

Not Every good story starts with Once
upon a Time



This story starts in a small village. A little girl named Wowgwis lived in a small house not too far from her grandmothers. She loved going to her grandmother. One day her mom said "Wowgwis wake up" Wowgwis woke up half asleep and said "what mom?" do you want to go to Giju's house?" She asked. Wowgwis jumped out of bed and said "YES!". She was so excited to go her Giju, they are going to have so much fun making cookies and watching the sunset. She wanted to ask her Giju to tell her a story, that was her favorite part of the night. Once she was done packing. She went out back to the fields, it's a five minute walk. It's very hot to get. So you should be careful. Wowgwis said, "I can see the house" She started running, once she got there her Giju was waiting for her. "GIJU!" She shouted as she jumped into her arms "Gwe Wowgwis" said Giju "can we make cookies Giju?" Wowgwis asked "Sure let's go inside," said Giju "ok" Wowgwis responded. A few hours later,

"Wowgwís the cookies are ready!" gíju shouted. "coming" wowgwís responded as she rushed to the kitchen." gíju can we eat cookie and watch the sunset?" wowgwís asked, "sure" gíju responded. They went outside to watch the sunset. "It's beautiful" wowgwís mumbled. As the sunset, the stars begin to shine. "It's time for bed wowgwís" gíju said. "can you tell me a story?" wowgwís asked "sure." said gíju so they went back inside. As wowgwís was getting ready for bed gíju asked, "what story do you want me to tell you?" "You pick" wowgwís responded. "wowgwís do you know not every good story stars with once upon a time?" gíju explained. "what do you mean gíju?" wowgwís asked. "well let me tell you a story that my mom used to tell me. It's about a little boy named git'pu," gíju said. "That's so cool." "Are you ready?" gíju asked. "Yes" wowgwís responded. "Long ago, far away, centuries before our day, was boy named git'pu. he loved going out during a full moon. nobody knows why, but

he always said. "In the woods there is a moose" and the kids allways said, "Yes, there is a moose in the woods." One day wen he went out the spirit asked him "what is your name?" Git'pu muttered, "My name is Git'pu, it's a stupid name." The spirt said, "Your name is one of the seven sacred teaching you know." "What do you mean?" Git'pu asked. "Your name is the teaching of love." The spirit responded. "can you teach me adout it?" Git'pu asked" Of course," the spirt responded "what does Git'pu mean?" Git'pu asked. "It means Eagle" the spirit responded. "Am I the only one that can see you?" Git'pu asked, "Yes and no." "What?" Git'pu asked, "Well during a full moon humans can see me." the spirt said. "Thats so cool!" Git'pu shouted. "do you want to know the seven sacred teachings?" the spirit asked. Git'pu said "yes!" "Love, respect, humility, courage, honesty, wisdom, and thuth." by the time giju finshed the story Wowgwis was asleep.

CATEGORY SENTENCE FLUENCY

Mila Rose Vicaire (2025-06-115)

Grade 6

Alaqsite'w Gitpu School

Tiam Jinim



Every night wapus and his dog, Plamu, would go hunting for food. They go hunting in order to keep grandma healthy and alive. She is very sick and needs a special cure owned

by Tiam Jinim. Tiam Jinim is a statue that takes place in the mystical gloomy forest. Legend says, you need a moose foot to summon him. This so called Tiam Jinim has huge long antlers, a tall figure and large claws.

Around his waist is an wengigo. He is challenging to beat but wapus will do whatever it takes to help his grandma. Wapus wakes up from an intense, sweaty dream. He'd dream about defeating Tiam Jinim for awhile. This is the day he finally gets the cure for grandma. Wapus get up from his comfortable bed and enters the kitchen seeing grandma cooking her delicious lusginigin. "Good morning Wapus my dear" grandma said as she was mixing the batter for her lusginigin.

"Good morning Giju" Wapus mumbled while he was rubbing his eyes. Soon then there was a ding from the oven signalling that the lusginigin was done. She gracefully took out her fresh lusginigin and placed it on the table. After

Wapus finished his meal, he only remembered now all about the cure. He rushed to get his hunting gear and as soon as he was about to open the door "Where are you off to?" grandma asked. Wapus fibbed and said he was only going out hunting.

Wapus called Plamu over and took his leash off. "I'm taking Plamu with me to!" Yelled Wapus. Then soon the journey of hunting Tiam Jinim began. Soon they arrived to the dark, gloomy forest. Plamu whined to signal if Wapus was 100% ready to fight. "Yes Plamu I'm ready, don't worry" said Wapus in a cold tone.

Four minutes into walking they encountered an hungry eagle. "Go home! Go home! You eagle Jiji". Wapus yelled. He finally leaves them be, not because he told the eagle to, but because they had arrived to the hug of statue Tiam Jinim. "This is it, the battle begins" whispered Wapus. He takes out the moose leg and slowly places it in front of Tiam Jinim.

now the scene gets intense, as they wait for something to happen. Soon a big purple and blue explosion bursts out into the air and the pressure of air threw Wapus in the air.

Tiam Jinim warps out of an mysterious portal. Wapus gets knocked out for a hot second, but this isn't over at all. He gets up and runs towards Tiam Jinim with his strong metal sword. Before you know, their swords are clanking together but fierce Wapus never gives up. Tiam Jinim pushed back Wapus and makes him revert back. Plama seen that and soon runs to jump in and pulls Tiam Jinim's horns back with his strong teeth. Tiam Jinim screamed in agony and pain. He fell back onto his knees and soon feels very defeated. Wapus gets up from the pain and runs toward him to stab Tiam Jinim in the back. A second scream echoes into the woods. But Tiam Jinim isn't dead yet. Wapus took out his bone arrows and shot him into the head. That's the

final hit. Wapus is excited to finally get the cure delivered to his grandmother.

He took off Tiam Jinim's necklace and starts running to his wigwam. Soon he arrived and yelled "Giju!" while running into her arms. "Wapus! My dear why are you full of cuts and bruises?" grandma asked "I'm fine but I need you to drink this tea!" yelled Wapus. "Okay but let's get you fixed up first!" laughed grandma.

CATEGORY SENTENCE FLUENCY

Nina Nottaway (2025-08-117)

Grade 8

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

The mysterious cabin



On one dark night where the twigs of the trees
twisted like skeletal fingers, the wicked trees danced
along in the wind, the cool breeze howling into the unsettling

night. And last, theres no sound to be heard, other than the cool wind. The ground was uneven, filled with damped leaves and squishy wet moss. The area seemed to be empty without stones, schools and playgrounds. But beside all that, there was an abandoned old cabin. Also, although it looks small and cozy, something about it was terrifying. As my alarm went off I rolled out of bed, stretching as I let out a long yawn. I looked down at the floor, seeking my slippers, I slide my feet into them. It's soft and warm. making me feel a warmth spreading through my body. As I was about to walk towards my closet to fetch my clothes I notice a strange light in the corner of my eye. curiosity spread to my mind. Without hesitation I walked towards the mysterious light. I rubbed my eyes. Wondering what I'm seeing is real or fake. I blinked, the strange light I was seeing was on my mirror, "what in the world am I looking at?" I muttered to myself. I held out my arm to the light

on the mirror. And suddenly my hand went through the mirror. I gasped and was about to pull my hand away, suddenly I felt something grab my wrist. It's grip squeezing my wrist hard, causing me to grunt in pain. What was happening?! It's pulling me in! I began to panic. My heart racing from fear and worry. I screamed for help, but it was pointless. Nobody would hear me. The strange cold humanlike hand kept tugging on me. But with one final tug, I went flying head first into the mirror. I screamed in fear, closing my eyes tightly as I fall onto the ground. As I open my eyes I notice how I fell into warm wet moss. However, I was sinking. Started I got up quickly. Now I began to worry. Where am I? How did I get here? What is this place? I questioned myself. I turned back to find a way out. But the mirror I came through disappeared. "Great. How am I supposed to get home now?" I let out a long sigh, knowing theres probably no way out. I looked up in the sky,

it's getting cold and dark. I take quick glances of my surroundings, the trees are wicked and mysterious, the cold breeze howling through them, the roots of the trees looked like they're reaching out to me. Shivers ran up my spine, looking down at the ground, the ground was filled with bones and fog. Without thinking I walked straight ahead. "Ooh! I want to go home!" I started to cry, tears rolling down my cheeks. Suddenly, I heard a loud wail behind me. Without knowing what it was I sprinted, terrified. My heart beating rapidly, like the sound of drums, I sprinted faster, the deeper I go, the more fog there was. I stopped right in front of an old eerie abandoned cabin. The wood was dark and broken, the windows broken and boarded up, glass was seen on the sketchy deck, the old creepy cabin looks like it's been falling apart. I turned back to see the fog getting thicker, getting closer to me. Worried that I was going to get taken into the fog, I

stepped forward onto the creaky steps, the deck was loud, other than the breeze howling into the fog. I walked towards the door. Reaching my hand out, I twisted the door knob and pushed the door open. And what I saw. I was frightened. My eyes widening in fear, my lips trembling, my heart was beating rapidly. I took in the scene, inside the cabin was ruined and haunted, human bones scattered across the floor, the smell of fresh rotting flesh filled the room. I gasp in fear, noticing how there was a corpse that was getting sucked in into the floor boards. Remembering I'm standing on it. I tried to escape, but it was already too late. I screamed as the floor sucked me in like quicksand. I screamed, beg and cried. It was no use. I stopped struggling and look at my surroundings. All these rotting corpses died after the other. I cried silently, I felt pain around my body. Was it some type of acid? Am I going to die here? What was that noise I heard earlier?

I looked down to see my own skin melting. It burned, In pain, I screamed. There's nothing I can do to stop this. Soon afterwards, my screaming filled up the room, along with the spirits that appeared. The spirits let out high pitch wails and screams, circling around me. What I heard earlier was the sounds of the spirits in pain, wailing as they lure other humans to the prison. And I fell right into their trap. I know I was going to die and turn into them too. And no one would hear or see me ever again.

CATEGORY TEACHER'S FAVOURITES

Devery Decontie (2025-04-56)

Grade 4

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

The candy world



One cloudy gloomy day, Shurbert and Strawlinda were taking a stroll. "You know, the large festival is in a few

days," Strawlinda said. "Do you think we should buy the tickets?" Shurbert said yes. By the time they were finished chatting, it was evening. "I should go home" she said. A while has past and Shurbert felt Exhausted so she closed her brown eyes. She woke up at early morning, ready to start the day. But suddenly she felt groggy rather than refreshed. "Huh, thats odd." Shurbert whispered to her self. She went to the shops to check if shes sick or not. When she got there Mintellia was already there. She said "Hey Shurbert! Im just getting magical Jelly Beans for my younger brother"! Shurbert said why, and Mint just said queitly "Because he has the grumpy." Shurbert was shoked, because she might of have it to". She wouldn't celebrate. At the festival. She got the medicine. It was called: "The Wonderful Beans." But it was already sold out, she saw it on display.

She went back to her pink gingerbread house. Shurbert called up her freinds, strawlinda and mintellia. On her colorful phone." We would have to walk to lollipop lake to find a cure for the grumpy, strawlinda said. "It would take us about a day!" The group started walking at noon. They soon arrived at Rainybow Rainforest. The owner, Trixy choco welcomed them by saying "How ya doing everyone?" with a bright voice. "And don't even ask me for a cure!" "Rude, but okay." Says mintellia. "Even though we just got here lets head on over to lollipop lake." So, the three freinds went to the lake. Mintellia and strawlinda were argaring over if they would find the cure or not. All of the talking made Shurbert fusrated. As you expect, the body of water didn't magicly apeared a cure for the grumpy. They all walked back to candy land in a hurry because Shurbert was fearful of the gigantic festival happening with out her. "Hello!" Says the cashier for the tickets. "We decided that we shouldn't

start the celebration with out you guys!" The celebration ended, and Shurbert finally found a cure, to control her emotions.

CATEGORY TEACHER'S FAVOURITES

Miley Gagnon (2025-06-102)

Grade 6

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

The abandoned



Jay slightly pushed open his front door and was welcomed with screams coming from his baby brother, and

also the smell of his favorite pie, blueberry pie. Jay was never really close to his father growing up, by the time he reached 12 his parents divorced, leaving just his mother to take care of Jay and his baby brother Josh. Jay looked up to authors and writers and had his mind set on a college a few hours away from his hometown. Jay kicked off his shoes and bolted to the kitchen table which was where the still steaming pie laid. To break the ice his mom asked, "How was school? Anything new?" she asked, "ehhh, nothing new, I managed to get invited to a class field trip though!" Jay smiled, "okay, I'll be in my room, tell me when that pie is ready!" Jay ran down his hallway sliding on his socks, he also caught a glimpse of his brother with a finger in his mouth watching one of his favorite cartoons. Jay sat at his desk almost slamming his door behind him, he pulled out his planner and labelled the day of his field trip, "I might as well do my due homework now". After a good 20 minutes Jay heard his

moms footsteps coming down his hallway, his mom opened his door and placed a plate of pie on his desk, filling up his room with a scent of blueberry pie. He didn't really eat anything all day at school so he was starving. Jay finished the pie not so long after he got it. About two hours later he fell asleep watching Youtube. Jay opened his eyes, still half asleep he sat up his legs hanging off his bed, "A new day, a new hobby" which was what he said every morning, it didn't really do anything, its supposed to mean he learns something new everyday. Jay threw his arms up, yawning and still had a small taste of blueberry pie, his phone went off with notifications from a old friend, Jay shrugged it off, it probably was just a message saying how much he misses our friendship or something along those lines anyway. He got up from his bed and opened his closet doors which is where he got dressed. He wore a hoodie, a red one, black sweatpants, and his favorite red shoes to go with

his sweater. Jay ran out the door within seconds after throwing on his shoes. It was really cold out and Jay was so close to missing the bus, before he reached the bus stop he was able to see a tall man sitting down. The mans coat looked like its been passed down multiple familes, and in his hand he held a cup, it was a brown liquid and it was steaming. "What could it be?" Jay thought, "could it be tea, coffee?". He sat down but couldn't get a good glimpse on what the guy looked like "Excuse me?" the man said, "You must be cold, want this hot chocolate?" Jay could've sworn hes seen this guy on the newspapers or somewhere out in public anyway, "Im okay, thanks." but the guy insisted, Jay was cold so he finally said yes and took a sip, it tasted weird, almost to chocolately, Jay took his phone and checked the messages he got that morning. Jays heart skipped a beat once he read the messages, it said, "hey Jay, I dont know if youll see this but dont go to the bus stop, theres

a weird guy there, he offered me hot chocolate, but I denied it and ran off." Jay started to look up and the bus hadn't arrived yet, he tried getting up but his legs gave up on him. Jay looked at the guy who was looking at him still. He started to feel nausea and passed out. Jay woke up in a unfamiliar place, it also smelt HORRIBLE, before he got used of the smell he heard footsteps coming down the stairs so loud, he thought, "too loud", and there walked in the man, he had a mask on, not a normal one, the same one he saw on the news. His surroundings were also a bit recognizable aswell, cold, grey, dirty, and old. The man asked Jay, "If you wanna get out of here you have to play MY game." Jay didnt wanna play but had no choice, "Okay? What is it?". The man handed Jay a bone, it wasnt a human one, it looked like a deer leg, "now identify that bone and what animals it is" the man asked politely, too nice for a guy that poisoned me. "deer leg" Jay said, "good job, now find the

deer" the man said. Jay watched the man walk up the stairs slightly turning his head back and forth. Jay recognizes the voice a bit, but can't remember where, but it's the same guy that took all the other kids too. Jay got up and looked for the deer, not long after Jay heard him walk back down. Not long after Jay found a sharp object, his plan was to try and unalive the guy by stabbing him in the heart. He got up and ran at the guy, it took a lot of bravery and courage but he did it. Jay watched as the guy slowly fell on his knees then the ground, "I made it! I managed to kill him!" Jay grabbed the keys off the guy's belt and unlocked the door. He knew he was brave but not that brave enough to ruin another's life for the sake of his own. Jay's red shoes were ripped up, his sweater was full of blood and dirt, and he looked like he dug himself out of a grave. Jay walked into his house and took off his shoes. He went to the kitchen and his mom screamed "Where have you been?" "I

just got lost" Jay said. His family hugged him. He took a shower and they all shared one big blueberry pie to celebrate.

CATEGORY TEACHER'S FAVOURITES

Akeea Keyes (2025-08-123)

Grade 8

Kitigan Zibi Kikinamadinan School

my world



The sun rose from its sleep, finally it was time for the moon to catch a break after his long night of supervising the land. The light helps guide animals through

the night, the animals stayed unquied and very quiet, most animals stay hidden but they come out when the community needs them. They have a heartbeat like us, they communicate to each other in different ways, they bring themselves from places to places with their minds and muscles.

The morning sky seemed more gloomier than usual, even the thrusting song birds didn't sing their early songs. There stayed a huge grass field with a forest in the distance, and in that grass field carried groups of people, there were trees and little bushes surrounding them. "djodjo¹, djodjo, the bird we saved!-" "It's okay now mama come see!"

A young girl cried out happily while she ran out of her family's teepee to reach out and get ahold of her mother's hand. The teepee holds about four to three tree stums

¹ Mother

or logs, to continue their creations they needed about eight to fifthteen buffalo hives for at least one.

“Enh Enh², Abi sakadjito³.” Mom smiled and followed her daughter back to their family's teepee. Their hands entertwined together as they walked. Once they got inside the teepee and once she heard the bird cherping excited Rose.

Rose quietly and mindfully being careful with the box and quickly made her way beside the bird to peak inside. It was a beautiful raven with an injured wing. “careful Rose, he still night be afraid, he's not home”. Her uncle mumbled and carefully reached out for Rose's arm, and he pulled her back from the box. Rose groaned annoyingly and huffed underneath her breath and sat down on the ground beside the cracking fire, “Nin kikenidjige⁴.”

² Yes

³ He is well-fed

⁴ I know

Rose murmured quietly, she sat there staring down at the fire, listening to the sounds of the fire crackling.

11h56 AM

As the day went on, Rose's uncles decided to head out from the grass field and into the forest after breakfast. They decided that the community needed more meats, most women in the community were always busy skinning the animal hives, some of the women were even cooking meats and food over the fires. They used sticks and rocks as their props, they even boiled water everyday for the Elder's morning teas.

And for the children most of them were just toddlers or newborn's, Rose and her cousin's named Wabanang⁵ and Nibin⁶, they were one of the first few babies known to the community. They aged finely and the

⁵ Morning star

⁶ Summer

kids grew to help around the community, they went to pick berries in the forest for teas or for some yummy desserts they created and homemade.

They went down to the river everyday with homemade baskets that their elders created to carry heavy loads of water up to the community. And Wabanang really enjoyed setting down some animal traps with the men, he wasn't allowed to pass the berry bush according to Auntie Louise, Wabanang would be an pretty inspiring hunter.

"Wabanang, why don't you hunt? You're pretty good too."

Nibin would question him every single day every time they went berry picking, he probably thought she was annoying. "Auntie said it's not safe to pass the bushes".

Rose mumbled underneath her breath, annoyed by the daily question herself, until she was interrupted. In the distance held loud yelling and terrible screaming from the

grass field. It froze Rose's body in fear mid-picking berries, she never heard anything like this before.

Rose, Nibin and Wabanang just stood there listening to everything going on down at the field, they didn't know what to do. It sounded rough and scary. "Boom! Stay back! These children must go to school, they need education, don't you understand me?"

A very loud explosion blew off into the air that seemed to quiet up all the cries, and loud screaming from the women and men. The loud bang caused Wabanang to drop everything and he started to run as fast as he can to his own mother, and went he ran, he started up Nibin and Rose to start running too.

"Ojodjo! What's happening? Mama!" Rose screamed, running past people dressed up finely in suits, they were red, white and black suits. She noticed some women with them dressed in black dresses with white crosses labeled

on it. Rose ran past them, she pushed through crowds, and she even heard her Aunt Lola cry for the first time, she thought her Aunt Lola seemed to tuff to cry.

"Nibin, give me back my love, my danis⁷!" Rose just stood there utterly confused. "Where did nibin ho? I was just running with her" she thought before she continued to run and straight into her family's teepee.

"Mama, what's going on, where's nibin? Aunt is going agawadiz⁸ -" Rose questioned in a singing tone to try and brighten up the mood a bit. But before she can question further more on what the chaos is all about, her mother quickly took Rose's hand into hers, and sat her down beside her, as if they were waiting for something to happened.

"Shh, don't you worry now." Her mother whispered into her ear, the yelling got louder and closer to their family's

⁷ Baby girl

⁸ Crazy

tent. Rose knew something was up by her mom's body language. Her body trembled in fear and she kept her eyes shut tight, she took deep breaths and her breathing quivered quietly but heavily, and she held onto her mama tightly.

She kept her eyes glued shut tight, and she started to count backwards from 100. "100, 99, 98..." she whispered shakily. Eventually Rose fell asleep to the sound of yelling and screaming from her people, she drifted off to the sound of her mother's heartbeat. She felt safe as long as her mother was there, or at least she thought so.

The people in the field got quieter, the mother's began to grief, and cry for their babies to come back home, the grass field held this devastating presence. There were no kids running around freely, there were no laughter or cheers, it was so sorrowful and gloomy. As for Rose, she woke up from her family's teepee into a room filled with

beds and all the children she grew up with, she noticed how they all wore the same clothing. The men wore sweatshirts and trousers while the girls wore dresses and leggings with white cardigans.

"mama?" she thought to herself, listening to all the other kids cry and whimpered for their mom's. Rose noticed how quiet Nibin got, she seemed to scared to talk after the kids and herself witnessed wabanang being disciplined for speaking their language and being unkind to these new people they've never met or heard of. As the years grow into years, the children grew to understand on what they were going through, the abuse and neglect. The "school" fed them rotten fruits, unwashed carrots and califlowers that seemed cooked but cold and mushy, they gave them pieces of bread and water while they ate for snack.

While the "white people" fed themselves fulling and warm meals, but the children didn't complain , they would rather eat cold breakfast and stay quiet than locked away in a basement for being "unkind". Rose spent years there figuring on how to keep herself safe from being quiet, she even noticed that she can no longer memorize her native language, or her old traditions.

Rose, Nibin and Wabanang, the trio gone quiet, they barely talk to each other anymore and it breaks Roses heart. They used to unstoppable, and powerful together before they got seprated them. Rose herself grew into an helpful young quiet woman, she spent half her childhood trying to live a perfect life for these "white people", she didn't hestiant to clean around their small "school", and she did what she was told and expected to do.

Rose and her cousins evenually were set off free to go home after an decade of being away, and hidden from

her community, they felt like complete strangers to her people, it still felt like she was still in that ****hole. (Residential) Rose struggled to understand her mother, and her kokoms, and whenever she spoke a little bit of english, she gets weird staves from her uncles and Aunt's.

3:45 pm

Rose, Nibin, and Wabanang tried their best to fit in again, they slept in their teepee's uncomfortably after being used to sleeping in beds. They tried out berry picking again, but they grew to get bored, or giving up on it, they tried fishing and hunting again but they disliked the feeling of dead flush and slimy fishes, they hated the smell for sure.

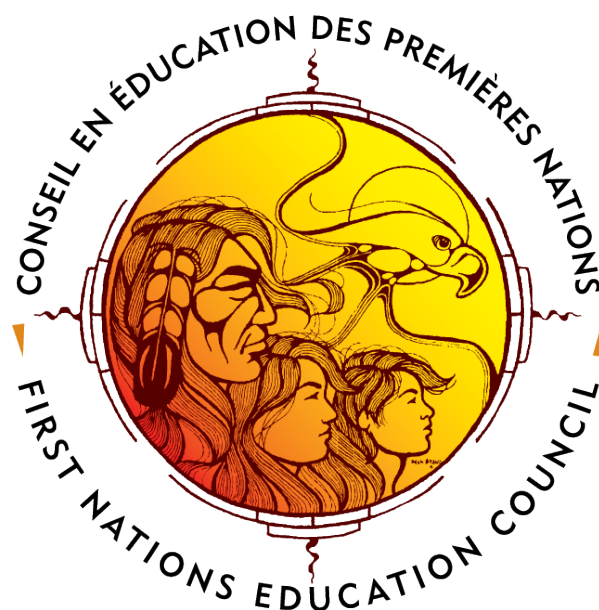
"mom, I don't know. Ah! I caught it!" Rose mumbled but quickly cast a fish in, she reached to grab the fish from the hook excitedly, but quickly dropped it onto the grass. She forgotten how much she hated the slimy feeling "Eww,

yuck!" She groaned and watched her mother pick up the fish and tossed it into the basket full of other fishes they've caught.

Meanwhile with Nibin, she stayed by her mother as well, Aunt Lola began to teach Nibin her native language again, they spent mornings drinking mixed-berry teas to nighttime snacks, they practiced speaking to each other. Nibin's kokoms continued to re-teach her how to skin hives, they continued to guide her through their old lifestyle, how she grew up. "Djodjo, I don't want to overcook it, take the pan."

As for Wabanang, he spent his time reconnecting with his family again, he taught them some English words and even explain the meanings and things about it. And his family in return continued to teach him his native language, they taught him how to pronounce words and tried their best to explain to him. His uncles taught him how to set down

hunting traps again, and they even took him past the berry bushes to go hunting with all the other men, they thought he was old enough to learn. The trio will forever live with what they went through, but thanks to their family, and their people they found their purpose, they found their peace in their own way of living, they never felt more alive.



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