

## E-books from Reading Companion for Grade 6

Title	Topics	Pages
<b>Joe gets a note from Sarah's School</b> (Narrative collection)	Child/adult (complex vocabulary, characteristics and actions, thoughts)	6 pgs
<b>Joe decides what to do</b>	Child/adult (Joe thinks in going to Sarah's school, he remember his school and how bad he felt it).	7 pgs
<b>Joe decides what to wear</b>	Child/adult (Joe thinks in what to wear, he thinks in costumes)	5 pgs
<b>Today is the day</b>	Child/adult (In this book Joe remember all the things that happen until now, he imagine the school, 3 y 4 grade).	6 pgs
<b>Joe at Sara's School</b>	Child/adult (Joe goes to the school and found it beautiful, Sarah was given a speech, Joe was very proud).	6 pgs
<b>Fun at the Zoo</b>	Favourite animals	4 pgs
<b>Whales</b>	Characteristics of whales.	4 pgs
<b>What to do when you want to catch a frog</b>	How to do to catch a frog story.	4 pgs
<b>Irregular Verbs Book 1</b> (Vocabulary Collection)	Child/adult (irregular verbs in the present, past and past perfect tense. Each tense is demonstrated in a relate sentence).	7 pgs
<b>Irregular Verbs Book 2</b>	Child/adult (irregular verbs in the present, past and past perfect tense. Each tense is demonstrated in a relate sentence).	7 pgs
<b>Irregular Verbs Book 3</b>	Child/adult (irregular verbs in the present, past and past perfect tense. Each tense is demonstrated in a relate sentence).	7 pgs
<b>Irregular Verbs Book 4</b>	Child/adult (irregular verbs in the present, past and past perfect tense. Each tense is demonstrated in a relate sentence).	7 pgs

### **Joe gets a note from Sarah's School (Book 1)**

(Your child's school)

Joe gets a note from his daughter's teacher. This is Joe. Joe has a daughter. Her name is Sarah. Joe got a note from Sarah's teacher and Sarah's school. Here is the note: "Please come to a meeting with Sarah's teacher. Please come at four o'clock on Friday. Thank you." Joe starts to worry. What did Sarah do? Did she show off in class? Did she boycott the cafeteria again? Joe thinks about the note from the school. "I don't know about notes from schools," Joe thinks, "I don't know what to do." Suddenly, Joe thinks, "Wait! I can't go to school! No way!" I have to play in the Super Bowl. And let's see, I have to have an operation. A major operation. And also I have to go on a trip. I will not be back right away. I will not be back to go to school on Friday. I can't go to the meeting with Sarah's teacher.

### **Joe decides what to do (Book 2)**

(Your child's school)

Joe decides what to do. Joe thinks about going to Sarah's school. It makes him nervous. Actually, he is VERY nervous. Joe thinks about years ago when he was in school. He remembers the school and what it was like. He did NOT like it. The teacher did not like him. The principal did not like him. The kids did not like him. They made fun of him. He had to sit under the table. He remembers. Maybe Joe will NOT go to school to see Sarah's teacher. He is VERY busy, after all. But then, Joe thinks, "Wait. Sarah needs me." Joe thinks he is being a coward. So, Joe makes a good decision. "I WILL GO!"

### **Joe decides what to wear (Book 3)**

(Your child's school)

Joe must decide what to wear when he goes to Sarah's school. "I know," thinks Joe. "My old chef outfit." "That teacher will be very impressed." "Or maybe I will wear my clown outfit. The teacher will laugh, and be in a good mood!" "Better idea, I will wear my motorcycle outfit. Then I will be in a good mood!" "Everyone will be impressed." "Maybe I should be dignified," thinks Joe. Joe can be Doctor Joe. "Of course," thinks Joe. "I'm not a chef anymore. I'm not much of a clown anymore. And I had to sell my motorcycle. And I never was a doctor." Joe needs to think of something else to wear. Finally, Joe decides what to wear. He will wear his regular work clothes.

### **Joe decides what to wear (Book 4)**

(Your child's school)

Today is the day Joe must go to his daughter Sarah's school. Finally. This all started when Joe got a note from Sarah's teacher. Joe worried his daughter was in trouble. He thought she had been acting silly at school. Joe was so worried. He remembered school when he was a kid. Nothing went right in those days. He remembered all that, and he didn't want to go to Sarah's school. No way! Joe made up all kinds of reason why he could not go to the school. Then he realized he was being a coward. He wanted to help Sarah. He decided to go. And TODAY is the day. Joe has a picture in his mind about the school. He thinks he knows what it will look like. It is not a pretty picture. (Picture of a scary looking school.)

### Joe at Sarah's School (Book 5)

(Visiting your child's school)

Joe goes. Joe drives up to Sarah's school. The school is not what he thought it would be. It seems nice. Joe feels better about the school. He decides to drive around to the back. Then he can look into a window. Maybe he will see Sarah's class. He sees Sarah! Sarah is giving a speech to the older kids. The teacher picked Sarah. She wants Joe to see Sarah. Joe feels really good. Joe went inside the school. He went inside the classroom. He met Sarah's teacher. The teacher was glad to see him. The teacher thanked Joe to coming. Sarah was glad to see him. And Joe felt proud. Then Joe and Sarah went home. It was a good day. Joe wants to go back to Sarah's school again.

### Fun at the Zoo

Jenny's parents knew that Jenny loves animals, so they took her to the zoo. Jenny couldn't wait to get to the zoo because she was going to see her favorite animals. When Jenny arrived at the zoo she was amazed because there were so many animals. Jenny saw tigers, crocodiles, lions, monkey, polar bears, birds, penguins, elephant, zebras, snakes, giraffe's wild dogs and camels. Jenny's favorite parts were petting some of the animals and riding the camels. Jenny had a lot of fun. She even asked her parents if they could live at the zoo instead of their boring house. Jenny's parents laughed and said when she is older, she can live in the zoo.

### Whales

By Mujmmail, New York, 2007

Whales are big mammals. They eat krill and plankton. There are 98 kinds of whales all over the world. Long ago, people used to hunt whales. They hunted for the blubber, meat, and bones. Blubber is the thing inside the whales. Dolphins are part of the whale group. Did you know that dolphins are small whales? That's why they are part of the whale group. When a baby whale is born, it drinks milk from its mother. It drinks milk before it eats krill. Whales and dolphins go in pods. A pod is a group of whales. A school is a bigger group of whales. A blue whale is bigger than the biggest dinosaur. The narwhal has a big horn. Actually, the horn is its tooth!

### What to do when you want to catch a frog

By Paula, Pennsylvania, 2007

Leah loves frogs. She watches them all the time but she has never caught one. One day, Leah woke up and asked her brother Harrison to come with her to catch frogs. "I want to catch a frog!" said Leah. Harrison said, "There is a pond down the street. We can search there!" "Let's remember these rules and be safe; Wash your hands after you're done with the frog, and remember, the frog belongs to the wild." Leah knew it might take a few tries. When she spotted a frog, she knelt quietly on the ground. She moved forward and gently placed her hand over the frog. She caught her first frog! Leah wanted to keep the frog for a little while, so she made a home for it. She put sticks and grass in a box, along with a small dish of water. Later,

Leah let the frog go back to the wild where she could visit it again.

### Irregular verbs book 1

Bring

Brought

Brought

I always bring my books to school.

He brought his books to school yesterday.

He has brought his books to school every day this week.

Buy

Bought

Bought

I buy a new suit once a year.

He bought a new suit last year.

He has just bought a new suit.

Catch

Caught

Caught

I catch the baseball with my mitt.

He caught the baseball with his mitt.

He has caught the baseball with his mitt many times.

Fight

Fought

Fought

My children often fight over their toys.

My children fought over their toys yesterday.

My children have fought over their toys many times.

Teach

Taught

Taught

I teach math every day.

She taught math yesterday.

She has taught math every day this week.

Think

Thought

Thought

I think hard before I answer each test question.

She thought hard before she answered each test question.

She has thought hard about all of the test questions.

### Irregular Verbs Book 2

Break

Broke

Broken

They often break their pencils.

They have just broken their pencils.

They have broken their pencils many times.

Choose

Chose

Chosen

We usually choose the color red.

We chose a red truck last year.

We have chosen a red minivan this year.

Speak

Spoke

Spoken

I usually speak to my mother once a week.

She spoke to her mother last night.  
 She hasn't spoken to her mother today.  
 Steal  
 Stole  
 Stolen  
 Thieves steal from people.  
 This thief just stole a TV.  
 He has stolen many things since he became a thief.  
 Wake  
 Woke  
 Woken  
 I wake up at six o'clock every morning.  
 She woke up at six o'clock this morning.  
 She has woken up at six o'clock every morning this week.

### Irregular Verbs Book 3

Drive  
 Drove  
 Driven  
 I drive my car to work every day.  
 He drove his car to work every day last week.  
 He has driven his car to work every day this year.  
 Ride  
 Rode  
 Ridden  
 I usually ride my motorcycle to work.  
 He rode his motorcycle to work every day last week.  
 He has ridden his motorcycle to work every day this week.  
 Rise  
 Rose  
 Risen  
 Does the sun always rise in the east?  
 The sun rose in the east this morning.  
 The sun has always risen in the east.  
 Write  
 Wrote  
 Written  
 I write in my diary every day.  
 She wrote in her diary every day last month.  
 She has written in her diary every day since she was 16.  
 Beat  
 Beat  
 Beaten  
 My friends and I play cards every Thursday night.  
 I often beat my friends.  
 I beat my friends.  
 I have beaten my friends many times.  
 Bite  
 Bit  
 Bitten  
 Does your dog bite strangers?  
 My dog bit a stranger last week.  
 My dog has bitten many strangers.  
 Hide  
 Hid  
 Hidden

She likes to play hide and seek with her siblings.  
 She likes to hide behind their bedroom door.  
 She hid behind their bedroom door many times.

### Irregular Verbs Book 4

Cost  
 Cost  
 Cost  
 Rubies are expensive.  
 They cost a lot of money.  
 They cost a lot of money ten years ago, too.  
 They have always lots a lot of money.  
 Cut  
 Cut  
 Cut  
 I use a knife to slice vegetables.  
 I hardly ever cut my finger while slicing vegetables.  
 Unfortunately, I cut my finger last week.  
 I have cut my finger only once this year.  
 Hit  
 Hit  
 Hit  
 She just hit the baseball with her bat.  
 She hit the baseball with her bat yesterday, too.  
 She has hit the baseball with her bat many times.  
 Hurt  
 Hurt  
 Hurt  
 She often gets headaches.  
 Does your head ever hurt?  
 Her head hurt all day yesterday.  
 Her head has hurt all day today, too.  
 Let  
 Let  
 Let  
 How often does she let her daughter use her laptop computer?  
 She let her daughter use her laptop computer last night.  
 She has let her daughter use her laptop computer many times.  
 Put  
 Put  
 Put  
 I put money into my savings account every month.  
 She put money into her savings account last month.  
 She has put money into her savings account every month this year.  
 Shut  
 Shut  
 Shut  
 Do you shut your dresser drawers and doors every day?  
 Did you shut your dresser drawers and doors yesterday?  
 Have you shut your dresser drawers and doors today?

## E-books from Reading Companion for Grade 7

Title (Children's collection)	Topics	Pages
<b>Ellie's flower</b>	Follow instructions about how to growth a flower.	5 pgs
<b>Time to tie</b>	Follow instructions, how to tie the shoelaces, step by step, numbers.	6 pgs
<b>How do you press flowers</b>	Follow instructions, objects, making cards.	4 pgs
<b>The biggest bubble ever</b>	Follow instructions, colours, blow, mouth.	5 pgs
<b>Watch me grow a tree!</b>	Follow instructions.	4 pgs
<b>Look at that snowman</b>	Build a snowman.	4 pgs
<b>Look, I can braid</b>	Make pony tails and plaits.	4 pgs
<b>Wash your face, Wendy</b>	Follow instructions, checklist objects.	5 pgs
<b>Newspaper hats</b>	Easy instructions of how to make a newspaper hats.	4 pgs
<b>Welcome to sock puppet theatre</b>	How to make a sock puppet.	4 pgs
<b>Clean up, Katie!</b>	Child (Katie needs to clean up her room, because a friend is coming, she started to categorize her toys in different bins).	4 pgs

### Ellie's Flower

Written by Nicole M., student, Pennsylvania 2007

Ellie wants to help her community look pretty. So Ellie decides to grow her own flower. First, Ellie needs a seed to plant. It will take about two weeks for the seed to become a pretty flower. After Ellie gets a seed, she needs some soil. The soil will act as food for the seed. Ellie gently pours the soil into a flowerpot. She does not pat the soil down. Next Ellie pokes a hole into the soil with her thumb. They she carefully places the seed in the middle of the pot. Ellie covers the seed with a little bit of soil. Ellie fills a watering can and sprinkles water on the soil. Ellie will do this twice a day for two weeks. Ellie places the flowerpot on the windowsill. After about five days, Ellie sees a green bud peek out of the soil. This means Ellie's flower is growing! She does not stop watering the flower. Finally, Ellie notices a big pretty flower in place of the bud! This makes Ellie very excited. Now Ellie has to find a place where people can see it!

### Time to tie

Written by Christopher, student, Pennsylvania 2007

Today I am going to teach you how to tie your shoe! Tying your shoes is as easy as counting to three, or saying your A, B, and C's! Step One: Grab your laces and pull them tight. Cross one lace over the other to make an X. Step Two: Fold one lace down behind the other. Step Three: Pull the ends of both laces tight, so the knot does down towards your shoe. Your laces should look like this: [diagram]. Step Four: Make a loop with one of the laces. Step Five: now grab the other lace and wrap it around the bottom of the loop. Step Six: Push that same lace behind your loop. It will make another loop. Step Seven: pull both loops tight. WHOOPEE! You tied your shoes! Goodbye, sticky straps, hello laces! Now, you can teach your friends how to tie their shoes!

### How Do You Press Flowers?

By Kelly T, student, 2007

Before you start, make sure you have all the tools that are listed on the checklist. If you have any trouble, ask a parent or adult. You can also look back and reread the page. Happy pressing! To begin, you will need to gather these objects:

1. Wax paper
2. Heavy textbooks
3. Real flowers

Lay everything out on a big table. Take a piece of the wax paper and lay it out in front of you. Then, take the flower and place it on the paper the way you want it. Take the other piece of wax paper and place it over the top of your flower. Now you can place your big, heavy textbooks on the top. Put your pile in a safe place. Then wait about two or three weeks to take out the flower. Your flower should come out as flat as a piece of paper. It should look like this. You can anything you want with a pressed flower. You could...start a collection, make a book, make a picture or card, frame your flower and hang it up, or just keep your flower. I hope you had fun!

### The Biggest Bubble Ever

Written by Naaie T. student, Maple Glen, PA USA, 2007

Have you ever blown big, pink bubble? Well, today, I will blow the biggest bubble EVER! First, I go to the store to buy my favorite kind of bubble gum. My favorite king of bubble gum is chewy pink gum. When I get home, I put a piece of Chewy Pink Gum I my mouth. I start to chew the gum. I keep chewing and chewing until the gum is soft. Now that the gum is soft, I flatten it on the top of my mouth. When the gum is all flat, I put it on the tip of my tongue. I need to keep the gum on my tongue before it falls off. I star to blow. I keep blowing and blowing until I run out of air! Wow! This bubble is HUGE! Oh, No!! The bubble popped. Now my face is all sticky. After I clean up, I do a show for my mommy and daddy. They say I am really good at blowing bubbles. Now, you can try!

### **Watch me grow a tree!**

Watch me grow a tree! Here are the things you will need:

- A pot, soil, seeds, water, a shovel, a yard, a sunny place and a heart full of love

Start by filling the pot with soil. Next, put a small hole, about the size of your finger, in the soil. Put the seed in the hole. Cover it with soil and loosely pat the soil down. Water the tree with half a cup of water and place it in a sunny spot. Keep watering the tree every day. Until it gets too big for the pot. When the tree is too big for the pot, take a shovel and dig a hole outside your house. Be sure the hole is in a sunny spot in the yard. Also, be sure this tree is not blocked by any other trees. Put the tree in the hole and loosely pack the dirt down. Water it every other day and watch it grow! You will be able to watch your tree grow for many years. Remember these tips:

Be sure to water the tree during weeks it doesn't rain. If your tree needs to be trimmed, ask an adult for help. And if your tree grows fruit, always wash it before you eat it. It may take a long time, but I hope you enjoy growing your own beautiful tree.

### **Look at that Snowman**

Written by Charlie, student, Pennsylvania 2007

If it's a cold, snowy day, what do you do for fun? You could build a snowman! First, gather the materials. You need stones, a carrot, two sticks, a hat or a scarf. Bring the items outside, and let's get started! You may want an adult to help you. To start, get a big glob of snow and pat it into a ball. Make a BIG ball of snow for the bottom of the snowman. Now make a snowball that is smaller for the middle of the snowman. Last, make another, smaller, snowball and put it on top. Now, let's bring the snowman to life! Put on the hat if you have one. Put in the carrot to make a nose. Put the stones in place to make the eyes and a mouth. Put the scarf on the snowman. Put in the sticks to make the arms. Now your snowman is complete! Did you have fun? I hope so. You are now a PRO at making snowmen!

### **Look, I can braid!**

Written by Lauren, student, Pennsylvania 2007

Hi! My name is Lauren. Today, I'm going to braid my doll Kailey's hair. I'm taking Kailey to the American Girl Place in New York City, so I want her hair to look special. First, let's get the materials ready. The items I need are a brush, two ponytail holders, and, of course, my doll Kailey. Let's start braiding! First, I brush Kailey's hair back so there are no bumps. Next, I take one of the ponytail holders and tie Kailey's hair back in a ponytail. Now, I separate the ponytail into three parts. The parts are labeled left, center and right. Take the left part and cross it over the center part. Hold onto the new center part. Now take the right part and cross it over the center part. I repeat these steps until Kailey's hair is almost all braided. There is just a little of her hair left at the bottom. The unbraided hair is as long as my pinky finger. I tie a ponytail holder at the end of the braid to hold it in place. Kailey's hair looks beautiful, and so can yours! Just follow these easy steps. We arrive at the train station to meet my friends. They all loved Kailey's hair. We set out for New York looking good and ready to have a blast!

### **Wash your face, Wendy**

Written by Dominique, student, Pennsylvania 2007

Today, we are going to help Wendy wash her face. It is VERY messy. She just had a BIG piece of chocolate cake. First, Wendy needs to get everything on this checklist: washcloth, stepstool, soap, and towel. Now Wendy will lay out the washcloth, soap and towel on the bathroom counter. She uses the stepstool so she can reach the sink and see herself in the mirror. Wendy turns on the water, making sure it is not too hot. She wets the washcloth with the warm water. Wendy grabs the soap. It is slippery! She rubs the soap in circles over the washcloth until it is bubbly. Wendy softly rubs her face with the soapy washcloth. She is careful not to get any soap into her eyes. They Wendy rinses out the washcloth and splashes water onto her soapy face until all the soap is gone. Wendy takes the towel and pats herself dry. When she is done, she cleans out the bathroom. Now Wendy has washed her face! She looks great!

### **Newspaper hats**

Written by Jack, student, Pennsylvania 2007

Have you ever seen a newspaper hat? They are fun to wear and also fun to make! I will teach you to make one kind of newspaper hat. It is called the military hat. You will need a newspaper and some tape. First, take a sheet of newspaper. Fold it in half. Next, fold in the two corners at the top. The newspaper should look like this: [drawing]. You may want to tape the flaps in place. Now fold one of the bottom flaps up twice. Do the same thing to the other bottom flap. The paper should look like this: [drawing]. You may want to tape the folds in place. Now you have your new hat! Put it on. You are ready to play. I hope you have fun!

### **Welcome to sock puppet theatre**

Written by Jimmy, student, Pennsylvania 2007

Do you want to make a sock puppet? I am going to show you how. It is really fun and easy to do. Let's get started! The first thing you have to do is to gather your materials. You will need a sock, two plastic eyes, one colorful cotton ball and colored yarn or pipe cleaners for hair. Now you need to think of some ideas as to what you want your puppet to look like! You can make it as fun and silly as you want. It is time to make your puppet. Put your hand inside your sock. Glue your eyes

### **Clean up, Katie!**

Written by Jessica M., student, Pennsylvania 2007

Oh, no, Katie's playroom is a big mess! Mommy says, "Clean up, Katie!" Kelly is coming to play. Katie looks around her room. How is she going to clean up all these toys? She sits on her stool and thinks as hard as she can. Aha! Katie goes around her whole room and first places all her stuffed animals in a bin. Then she takes her larger toys and puts them in a big treasure chest. That's the doorbell. Kelly is here! Kelly goes right to the playroom. She looks sad. "Kelly, why are you sad?" Katie asked. Kelly says she could clean up as well as Katie! Katie had a great idea. She showed Kelly each of her bins full of fun games. Katie told her how each of the bins are sorted with toys. Katie told Kelly how important it is to put back your toys where you got them. Then your room will always stay clean. The two girls plan to go to Kelly's house to clean. This way they will always stay neat and remember how to clean up.



## ADDITIONAL E-BOOKS IN CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

Title (Children's collection)	Topics	Pages
Reading is very important	A good story about two boys and how they come to realize the importance of reading.	5pgs
The Carter Family goes to a baseball game	Clothing, food, clapping.	4 pgs
The Pet Escape " Happy Pet Shop"	Animals, characteristics.	5 pgs
All aboard the Space Rocket	Talks about earth, the moon, the solar system and a marvellous journey.	7 pgs
Learn about China with Ping-Pong the Panda Bear	Geography, nature	6 pgs
Everyone can play	Playing.	4 pgs
A Lesson in Sharing	Monkeys sharing pizza.	5pgs
The friendship book	Characteristics of friends, how to make new friends.	4 pgs
<u>I scream for ice cream!</u>	Food	5 pgs
The Pet Escape " Happy Pet Shop"	Animals, characteristics.	5 pgs
Tyler's first day at school	First day at first grade.	4 pgs
The big storm	The weather changes, hot, cold, rainy, thunder, rainbow and sunny day.	7pgs

### Reading is very important

Once upon a time, there were two boys named Derek and Michael. Both boys did NOT like to read. They did not think reading was important. After school, Michael and Derek went the long way home to Derek's house. They saw a sign in front of a road that said, "Do Not Walk, Dangerous Road". Derek and Michael could not figure out what the sign meant. They decided to go down that road anyway. They kept walking and heard a weird noise. They saw a bear that was sleeping. They began to tiptoe around him, but Michael stepped on a potato chip. That woke up the bear! They started to run back to where they saw the sign. Derek copied down the words on the sign to show his mom. When they finally returned safely to Derek's house, the showed his mom the note. When they figured out what the sign said, they realized just how important reading really is! The two boys went to school the next day ready to read.

### The Carter Family Goes To a Baseball Game

By Melissa Coletti, teacher, New York, 2007

On Saturday, the Carter Family went to a Baseball game. Everyone was excited to see their favorite team, the Bears, play. Melissa and Peter wore matching shirts and hats. The grass on the field was green and the stadium was full of fans. Dad bought hot dogs, sodas, and ice cream. Our favorite player hit a homerun. We were so excited! In the seventh inning, everyone stood up and stretched. At the end of a long game, the Bears won! During the ride home, Melissa and Peter clapped and cheered for the Bears. The Carter Family cannot wait to go to their next baseball game.

### The Pet Escape

At the local pet store, there lived a cat, dog, hamster, and turtle. The hamster came up with a plan to scape. The others thought it sounded like a great idea! They decided that once they escaped, they would visit each other's natural habitat. The next night, after the storekeeper went home, the animals broke out of the shop through the window. First they visited hamster's house. No one liked hamster's house because he only ate seeds and slept in the dirt. Next they went to cat's house. No one liked cat's house because he chased mice for dinner. Dog's house was the next stop. No one liked his house because they did not like to be on a leash. Finally, they went to turtle's house. No one liked his house because they could not swim. They looked for a house they would all enjoy for days, but had no luck. Finally, they all decided they were much happier living in the pet shop!

### All aboard the Space Rocket

Sue Roberts, 2007

Zip, the Comet

"Zoom! Zoom! Zoom!" Michael ran to his bedroom window. A beam of light flashed across the dark sky. It shone brighter than the moon and the stars. The beam of light had a long bright tail. It was getting closer. The beam of light was a comet. His name was Zip. Zip was made of dust and ice; like a dirty snowball. "Where are you going?" asked Michael. Zip answered, "I'm traveling through space. Would you like to join me on a few stops?" "Oh, yes!" cried Michael. "All aboard," called Michael. Michael hopped onto the space rocket. "Countdown," yelled

Zip. 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Blastoff! Michael looked down. He saw the big blue earth. He looked up. The moon was getting closer. Inside the rocket, Michael began to float. He was weightless. He had escaped the earth's gravity. "Yippee! Wheel!" Watch out for the weather satellite," warned Zip. Steering a rocket was hard work. Space was full of objects to bump into. "Do you see the Big Dipper on your left? It is within a group of stars called the Great Bear," explained Zip. Michael waved at an astronaut as he passed by. The astronaut was working outside the space station. Scientists are learning what it is like to live in space. "Michael, this is the solar system," said Zip. The sun is in the center. The earth is the third planet from the sun. "Wow, it's awesome!" cried Michael. It was time for Zip to continue his trip into outer space. Michael returned home. "Thank you for a wonderful visit into space," said Michael. "Keep watching the night sky for me. I'll stop by on my next visit here," promised Zip. "Zoom! Zoom! Zoom!" Zip, the comet, was gone in a flash.

### Learn about China with Ping-Pong the Panda Bear

By Sue Roberts, 2008

Ping-Pong is a black and white panda bear. She lives in China with her mother Ting. Ping-Pong loves to climb trees. She eats bamboo leaves and twigs. Bamboo is a woody plant that grows very fast. "Ping-Pong, school begins today. You will learn eight new things about China," said Ting. Eight is a lucky number in China. "I am ready!" shouted Ping-Pong.

Number One: If you look at a map, China is shaped like a rooster. In land size, China is the third largest country in the world. More people live in China than anywhere else in the world.

Number Two: The Great Wall of China is the longest wall every built by man. It is very old. Ting asked, "Do you see how the Great Wall wiggles across the land?" "It looks like a very long snake," said Ping-Pong between the bits of bamboo.

Number Three: China has big cities and small farms. People shop on busy city streets with tall buildings and bright lights. A farmer ploughs his rice field using a water buffalo. His son watches. Rice plants grow in water.

Number Four: Chinese dragons are friendly and magical. Dragons are everywhere, even on walls and boats. Dragons bring good luck. Ping-Pong waved to the red dragon dancing in the parade.

Number Five: Many Chinese people exercise. Some people like the gentle slow moves of Tai Chi. Others like the strong quick moves of Kung Fu. "Ping-Pong, what are you doing?" asked Ting. "I am practicing Kung Fu," laughed Ping-Pong.

Number Six: a very long time ago before movies, there were shadow puppet shows. The puppets were made of wood and painted bright colors. A person behind a screen told a story and made the puppets move.

Number Seven: Ping-Pong heard music and girls giggling. She looked around a red pole. Little girls were dressed in native costumes with big silver hats. Two girls were playing Chinese string instruments. "Music and dances remind people of the past," said Ting.

Number Eight: The children of China are like little boys and girls around the world. They go to school. They like to play. "They blow kisses," laughed Ping-Pong as she blew a kiss back.



## Everyone Can Play

By Michelle Cardoso, second grade teacher  
(4 pages)

It was a beautiful day for Jenny and her classmates to play outside. Jenny brought a toy to school but only allowed a few of her friends to play with it. Jenny made the other friends feel sad and left out. They also wanted to play with her and her new toy. The next day, one of Jenny's classmates brought in a really cool game that everyone could play together. The whole class was playing with it and having lots of fun. Except Jenny. Jenny felt sad because she wanted to play with her friends. Jenny told her classmates she was sorry and the next time she brings something to school, everyone can play.

## A Lesson in Sharing

By Maros, Third grader, 2006  
(5 pages)

There once was a monkey named Ray who had a best friend named May. They went to May's house to have a pizza party. When they got to May's house, they saw that they had only one piece of pizza left. Ray thought he deserved the piece. May said it was his house, so it was his. They both fought until May's mom came down the stairs. When she found out why they were fighting, she was very disappointed. "What could you do when you have ONE piece of pizza and TWO people?" May's mom said. The boys thought about it for a while and then May said, "We could split it!" "Of course we can!" "Great idea!" May's mom cut the piece in half down the middle. Now both Ray and May got to enjoy the pizza!

## The Friendship Book

Everyone needs a good friend. Friends help each other.  
Friends laugh with each other. Friends go places together.  
Friends take care of each other. Friends are friends no matter what.  
Here are some tips to help you make a new friend. Step One: Talk to someone new. Tell them about yourself and ask them questions about themselves. Learning about someone is a great way to become friends.

Step Two: ask your parents if you can invite your new friend over.

If you can, start planning something fun!

Step three: Do fun things with your friend.

Play games, go fun places, spend time together.

Making new friends can be a little scary at first, but I know you can do it!

If you follow these tips and be yourself, you will be able to make LOTS of new friends.

## I scream for ice cream!

Written by Kiernan M., student  
St. Alphonsus Catholic School  
Maple glen, PA USA  
2007

Today I am having an ice cream party!

All of my friends are coming over to make yummy ice cream sundaes. First, I have to help my mommy gather all of ingredients. To make ice cream sundaes, we need:

-ice cream,

-chocolate sauce,

-caramel sauce,

-whipped cream,

-sprinkles,

-gummy bears and

-our favorite candy.

We also need lots of bowls and spoons. I am using my favorite bowl with balloons all over it.

All of what we need to make our sundaes are ready!

My friends are. It is time to make our sundaes.

My mommy carefully scoops ice cream into my bowl. I am having two big scoops of chocolate ice cream!

Now I can choose my toppings. This is the really fun part!

I am putting gummy bears and sprinkles on my ice cream. They are my favorite!

Before I start eating, I have more to add.

My mommy helps me pour caramel sauce on top of my ice cream.

I also love whipped cream, so I put a big pile on top my sundae.

Mommy says, "Good job on making your own ice cream sundae!"

Now it is finally time to eat. I grab a spoon and take a BIG bite.

My sundae is great! Everybody is happy.

## The Pet Escape

At the local pet store, there lived a cat, dog, hamster, and turtle.

The hamster came up with a plan to escape.

The others thought it sounded like a great idea!

They decided that once they escaped, they would visit each other's natural habitat. The next night, after the storekeeper went home, the animals broke out of the shop through the window.

First they visited hamster's house. No one liked hamster's house because he only ate seeds and slept in the dirt. Next they went to cat's house. No one liked cat's house because he chased mice for dinner. Dog's house was the next stop. No one liked his house because they did not like to be on a leash. Finally, they went to turtle's house. No one liked his house because they could not swim.

They looked for a house they would all enjoy for days, but had no luck. Finally, they all decided they were much happier living in the pet shop!

## Tyler's First Day

Of school

By Paige Sileo, teacher

JFK magnet school

Port Chester, NY USA

2007

Tyler woke up early this morning. He was very excited!

Tyler's mother drove him to the school. He saw his friend, Tyree.

Tyler and Tyree walked to their new first grade classroom together.

Miss Lund welcomed the students into the bright, colorful room.

Tyler listened as Miss Lund told the class about first grade.

Miss Lund was nice to the class. She smiled a lot. Tyler just knew it was going to be a great year. At the end of the day, Tyler and Tyree walked home together. They were both tired. Tyler told his mom and dad, "I know I'm going to LOVE first grade!"



## The Big Storm

Sue Roberts, 2007

SkyEye, Jennifer, Mr. Snowden, The Weather Team

Tap! Tap! Tap! Jennifer heard the raindrops hitting the window.

The weather team would be busy today. Jennifer was ready with her weather tool kit. She had a thermometer to tell her how hot or cold it was outside. Using a ruler, Jennifer could measure how much rain fell into the pail. Jennifer was working on a school science project She was learning about weather. Today she would help SkyEye and Mr. Snowden. SkyEye was a weather plane. He had special tools to check the weather above the clouds. Mr. Snowden was the TV weather man. He was watching the storm on the computer. SkyEye took off when the storm began. He flew above the dark clouds. Strong winds rocked the plane. A big storm was getting closer. Lightning danced across the dark sky. Boom! Boom! Boom! Jennifer could now hear the thunder. At school Jennifer learned that light travels

faster than sound. That is why she saw the lightning before she heard the thunder. Mr. Snowden wrote the weather report with help from SkyEye and Jennifer. The early TV news warned people about the big storm. Soon the storm passed. White fluffy clouds chased the rain clouds away. The sun came out. Jennifer saw a rainbow in the blue sky. The colors were red, yellow, green, and blue. Mr. Snowden talked about the big storm on the TV news. He thanked his weather helpers SkyEye and Jennifer. "What will tomorrow's weather be like?" asked Mr. Snowden. A proud and smiling Jennifer said, "Tomorrow will be sunny!"

