

October 2006

Fandangle Magazine



Fandangle Magazine

Vol. 1, Issue No. 8

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR

Nancy A. Cavanaugh

GRAPHIC AND WEB SITE DESIGN

Nancy A. Cavanaugh

Fandangle Magazine is a free online magazine promoting educational fun for kids ages 6-10.

Editorial Guidelines:

We are always looking for new writers and illustrators. Find the full editorial guidelines at www.fandanglemagazine.com/guidelines.html.

Suggestions:

Please send comments and suggestions to editor@fandanglemagazine.com with 'Suggestions' in the subject line.

On the Cover:

Caitlin Cavanaugh, 6, goes pumpkin hunting in northern New Jersey.

Table of Contents

Foggy Fun	3
Finger Painted Landscape	3
What a Tangled Web He Wove	5
Autumn Wish	6
5 Rules for Internet Safety	7
Computer Word Search	8
Finish the Story... Bird Dreams	9
Weighty Tomatoes	10
Halloween Ghosts	12
Fun with Pumpkins	13
'Round Nine at Night	13
Tall Tales... Keep Your Pants Up!	14
How to Draw a Spooky Ghost	16
Ravens Speak Out: The Hidden Talents of Corvids	17
Anna's Homemade Pizza	18
Kid's Art	19
How's the Weather?	20
Autumn	21
I Took My Turtle for a Run	22
Magic Cure	22
Funny Feeling	22
Changing Leaves	22
Everyone's Dollhouse	23
Granny Gert is a Knee Slapper	24
Match the Dogs	24
Haunted House Coloring	25
Last Leaf Coloring	26
Football Coloring	27
Meet the Writers	28
Mazes Galore	Back Cover

Copyright 2006 by Nancy Cavanaugh. All rights reserved.

No part of the website or other materials can be reproduced in any form without written consent. Parts of the site and materials include, but are not limited to, graphics, photos, copy and content, HTML, meta tags, template and web layouts or other features. If you have a technical problem with this website or accompanying .pdf files, please e-mail the webmaster at editor@fandanglemagazine.com.

Foggy Fun

By Sara Webb Quest

When warm air inside a car hits a cold window (from cold outside air), the inside windows get foggy. The windows become wet enough to draw on...

Ayla's favorite park had a small merry go-round, see-saw, swings and pretend cars. But it was a public school park, and Ayla and Mom were there during school hours.

"In twenty minutes, you can come in," a young teacher said when they approached.

"Okay," said Mom. Then she turned to Ayla. "We have twenty minutes till we can go inside. Let's wait in our car."

It was a cold, wet day. Once in the car, mom turned on the heat.

"What do you want to do?" asked Ayla. She was disappointed they couldn't go right into the park.

The car's heat started to warm the car inside. The windows became foggy. Ayla could not see outside.

To cheer her, Mom drew a smiley face on one window. Then she put her handprint on it. "You try."

So Ayla put her handprint on the window next to Mom's.

"That's kind of fun," Ayla said.

Then Mom made a turkey out of Ayla's handprint.

"Just like the bird at Bray Farm," Ayla noticed. "Let's draw a puppy."

"Good idea!" So Mom drew two floppy ears, two dots for eyes, one for a nose and the face outline.

Ayla drew her own puppy next to it. She liked this new way of drawing. She drew a squiggly line. "It's a worm, like

the ones in *Ladybug* magazine."

"Excellent," encouraged Mom. "Now watch." She turned on the car's "defog." All drawings disappeared!

"Where did the drawings go?" asked Ayla.

But Mom didn't answer. She turned off the defogger. Then she turned on the heat. The pictures came back!

"WOW." Ayla said.

"Fun, huh?"

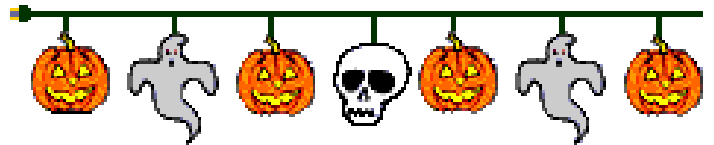
"Why did that happen?" asked Ayla.

"When it's cold outside, and warm in the car, it makes the windows cloudy." Mom pointed at the clock. "It's time to go to the park."

"No," said Ayla. "I want to stay in the car and draw on the windows."

"You're sure?"

"Yes, I want to have more foggy fun!"



Finger Painted Landscape

By Christine Fagan-Tricarico

Strokes of saffron swirl through
Tinted trees, skies of blue.
Pumpkin, amber, tangerine,
Ruby-red and hints of green.
Watercolors weave and twine –
Make a finger-fun design!

What a Tangled Web He Wove

By Roxanne Werner

Perched atop a loom in Lyons, France, ten year old Joseph-Marie Jacquard worked as a draw boy. For hours every day, he raised and lowered threads like a puppeteer according to the master weaver's commands. A detailed pattern appeared in the silk. On their best days they wove two rows of silk per minute. Joseph found the repetitive task boring. Wasn't there a better way?

In 1804, the adult Jacquard developed a simple system that not only improved weaving, but paved the way for computers and the world wide web of today. He used cards with holes punched at regular spaces to give instructions to the loom. Several thousand cards linked together held the design for a fabric.



A Jacquard loom.

Cards could be replaced with a different set for a new pattern.

Jacquard's idea eliminated his old job, the draw boy, and created a reusable method of storing information that a machine could read.

Jacquard had programmed the loom. Weaving speeds went from two rows per minute to an amazing forty-eight rows per minute. Not everyone was pleased with his improvement. Silk weavers worried about losing their jobs and destroyed his invention.

Fortunately Napoleon recognized the possibilities of the machine; the state bought the loom design from Jacquard paying him a yearly sum for the rest of his life.

In 1836, Charles Babbage, an English inventor took the next step in the journey from the loom to the computer. Babbage realized Jacquard's punched cards could feed numbers into his Analytical Engine. The engine performed mathematical calculations. A very early computer, Babbage was unable to complete the machine in his lifetime.

Player pianos used Jacquard's principle to store musical notes. A roll of paper with holes punched at precise intervals told the piano which keys to strike. The piano read a program, set of commands, from the paper. The punch card was evolving from a mechanical command to a method of storing abstract data.

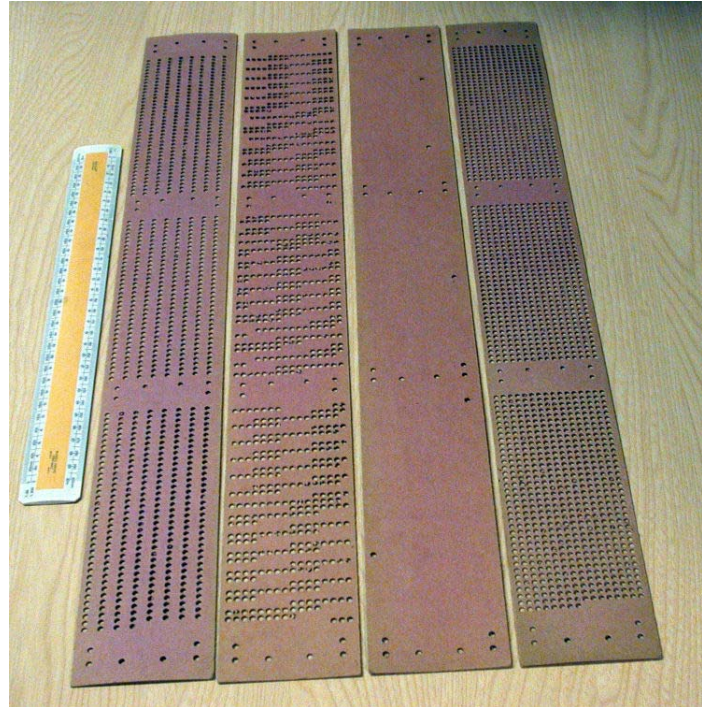
In the 1800's the U.S. census bureau collected so much information on the population of the country that it took ten years to evaluate it. Inventor Herman

Hollerith based his tabulating machines on Jacquard's loom. In 1890 the tabulators, using punched cards, processed the census data in a single year. Hollerith's name may not be a household word, but his tabulating company, IBM, is known worldwide today.

Tabulators developed into computers capable of performing complex programs. Jacquard's simple system of coding information remained. Computers used punched cards until the 1980s, almost two hundred years after his original invention. Even though we use tapes or CDs to input programs today, the basic principles have not changed. Programs still use a binary system, switch on –switch off (hole-no hole), to issue instructions to the machines.

The young boy from France never imagined his idea would change the fabric of life forever. Today threads of information connect people across the globe at the speed of light. We sit at comput-

ers, descendants of his loom, weaving webs across the world.



Here are several of punched cards that were used in a Jacquard loom. Each was approximately 60cm long and had 120 rows of holes. The cards would be tied end to end to create the pattern needed.

Some Computer Definitions

Binary system: A method of representing data in which only the digits 0 and 1 are used.

Census: An official periodic count of the population.

Computer: A device, especially a programmable electronic machine, that performs high-speed mathematical operations or that stores and processes information.

Data: Information in a form usable by a

computer.

Input: To enter data or a program into a computer.

Program: A set of coded instructions that enables a machine, like a computer, to perform a desired sequence of operations.

Programmed: Provided a machine, like a computer, with a set of coded working instructions.

Read: To obtain (data) from a storage medium (like a hard drive).



Autumn Wish

By Karen De Lucia

The screen door slammed shut with a crash that echoed across the yard. I heard voices. I peered out from my leafy haven in the old maple.

Billy and Joey were coming. They reached the tree and the tinny rattle of a metal rake began clawing through the pile of leaves beneath me like a chorus of bells. Autumn - the time for raking the fallen leaves into a pile and leaping in.

I looked down at the boys. Their hair was shining in the sun and their skin was bronzed from the long summer days. Their voices murmured softly below me. I longed to join them but I remained hidden in the branches like I had done so often throughout the summer. I wished I could join in but I wasn't quite able to.

I spied the swing tied tightly to the branch next to me. It drifted gently back and forth. The low groan of the rope was a gentle sound that I could barely hear above the rustle of the countless blazing leaves. Billy and Joey had spent hour upon hour on that swing. I remembered their friendly joking and open laughter. Did I dare reveal myself now? Yes!

I leapt. I was thrilled. Did they see me? I fell slowly, almost floating to the ground. I must have been dreaming. All around me swirled the colors of autumn - vivid reds and yellows, muted

oranges and deep browns, fading greens.

The pile of leaves caught my falling form and covered me in sun-warmed softness. The clear blue sky stretching overhead was dotted with a few fluffy clouds floating like dandelion fuzz. I watched the clouds drift and picked out cloud-shapes; trees and birds and airplanes and insects.

Then leaves were all around me. I rose with the sound of the rake. A breeze tickled me as I jumped into the air. I spun. I turned. I fell into the pile of leaves. The deep softness cushioned my fall and the sharp smell of leaves and earth rose around me. Nestled among the leaves was my favorite place to be.

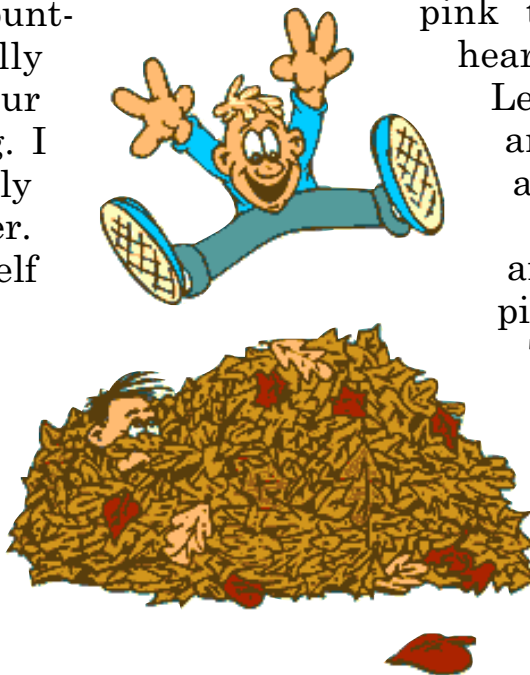
"Ready, set, go!" yelled Billy. Footsteps pounded. I was ready. There was a flash of blue jeans. Dirty white sneakers soared over me to plop into the leaves behind me. A second later there was another flash of blue jeans and bare pink toes flashed overhead. I heard laughter.

Leaves rose up like waves and skittered out in circles around the leaping boys.

I too rose up into the air then fell back into the pile with a sigh.

The smell of the leaves was sharp and reminded me that it was fall. It was the end of the year. It was a time for endings and harvest and goodbye to summer.

I was filled with sad-



ness knowing it would end and the cold and snow would come. But I also knew that the cold would lead again to a new beginning. A time for bright green leaf buds, blossoms, nests with baby birds and all the bright smells and sounds of spring.

Laughter continued around me and I burrowed deep into the pile. I was happy to be a part of the beautiful season and

changing world. I was also excited that I finally got to play with Billy and Joey before winter covered everything in a blanket of white.

As I slid down among the leaves the boys ran off, a blur of blue jeans and energy racing across the yard. I was content. I lay in the sheltering pile, my leaf-tips blazing like fire in the fading afternoon sun.

5 Rules for Internet Safety

By Susie Smith

The internet can be a wonderful place. It can also be dangerous if you're not careful. There are many rules you should follow to stay safe as you travel through pages and meet new friends. I know, you thought the internet was one place where you didn't have rules you had to follow. These rules are necessary though.

The Rules

1. Never give out personal information. If you want to join a site and they ask for anything personal, have a grown-up view the site's Privacy Policy to make sure it's safe. When sending emails, IM's, or setting up a website, never tell anyone your name, where you live, your school, or anything else that might let them figure out where you are. Not everyone you talk to is who they say they are.

2. Never post photos of yourself. It's an all-around bad idea and you never know how the photo may be used by others. Besides, you may be embarrassed by it later, and your kids will have access to it if you post it online. Have you seen old

pictures of your parents?

3. Never post anything you wouldn't say in front of the whole world. Once it is sent into cyber space anyone can read it, so don't bad-mouth the school bully or talk about your crush in a private email thinking they will never know. It may get posted somewhere you didn't intend and the whole school may read it.

4. Never agree to meet in person with someone you met online without a grown-up. You don't know who you are really meeting, so never go alone. Even adults should follow this rule. Actually, adults should follow all the rules and they usually do. This one, however, some adults forget.

5. If anything makes you uncomfortable, go to an adult, talk to them and show them whatever it is. Trust your gut when it tells you something's wrong, even if you're afraid it might be silly. Your gut is usually right.

If you follow these rules, you can have fun on the internet while staying safe. Visit www.kids.gov/k_computer.htm for more information on staying safe online.

Computer Word Search

By Evelyn B. Christensen

Find the words up, down, right, left, and diagonally.



web
clear
backup
computer
byte
drive
desktop
homepage
chip
email

internet
keyboard
disk
input
laptop
memory
file
menu
modem
program

icon
mouse
monitor
scanner
save
screen
printer
software

Use the uncircled letters to fill in this question from the puzzle creator:

_____?

Finish the Story...

Bird Dreams

The clouds seemed to float by so slowly, yet Anna knew that the plane was moving very fast. She loved to stare out the window and pretend she was floating with the clouds as her baby brother was crying next to her. Anna sighed as her daydream started to form. Just then what Anna thought was just a bird flew closer. Anna smiled as ...

By Shannon Bennett

Weighty Tomatoes

By Bonita Pate Davis

Nine-year-old Emily ate her weight in tomatoes last year—74 pounds. And she is below average. Average Americans (including men, women, and children) eat about 80 pounds of tomatoes each year.

How about you? Did you eat 80 pounds of tomatoes last year? Before you say no, think about some of the ways you eat tomatoes. Did you count them all?

Tomatoes are found in many of your favorite foods, like ketchup. You will also find them in spaghetti and pizza sauce. Other recipes include barbecue sauce, soups, stews, casseroles, tamales, chili, salsa, salads, and meatloaf. Maybe you like to drink tomato juice, like Emily. Can you think of any other tomato foods that you like?

How did tomatoes become popular?

Tomatoes originated in South America and were taken to Europe by early explorers. The plants grew well in the warm, sunny climates of Italy and Spain. Europeans were eating tomatoes in the mid 1500's, about 500 years ago.



Deadly nightshade
Tomatoes weren't very popular in England, though. In fact, the plants looked so much like two of their poisonous cousins, belladonna and deadly nightshade, that most English people refused to eat them. English settlers brought this prejudice

with them to the American colonies.

We don't know exactly when Americans started eating tomatoes. Maybe a few unknown volunteers bravely sampled some tomatoes for lunch or dinner. When they didn't drop dead, their family and friends decided tomatoes were safe to eat.



America's third president, Thomas Jefferson, was a pioneer tomato grower. His gardening notes tell us he grew tomatoes at Monticello every year beginning in 1809, almost 200 years ago. His cousin, Mary Randolph, published a cookbook in 1838 that included 17 tomato recipes. That means many people were eating tomatoes in a variety of ways by 1850.

Are tomatoes healthy?

In spite of their fatal family, tomatoes are good for you. They contain many vitamins like A and C; and they are low in fat. They also contain a chemical called lycopene (li-ko-peen). Lycopene makes tomatoes red. The redder the tomato, the more lycopene it has. Tomatoes that ripen on the vine, like those in your home garden or in fields for large canning companies, contain more lycopene than tomatoes picked green and ripened artificially with gas, like supermarket tomatoes.

Some foods are healthier before cooking than after cooking because heat

destroys many of their vitamins and minerals. But not tomatoes! Cooking evaporates some of the water in tomatoes and concentrates, or increases, the lycopene levels. This is good news since ketchup and pizza sauce become healthy choices in your diet.

Why is lycopene good for you?

Lycopene destroys free oxygen molecules (chemicals that do this are called antioxidants) that can harm your body and cause many diseases. Research shows that lycopene helps protect

Getting Scientific

What is the most popular tomato food?

What You Need:

- Pen or pencil
- Notebook
- Appetite



What to Do:

1. Make a list of foods that are made with tomatoes. (You can do this on your own or with friends or classmates.)
2. Formulate a hypothesis. Predict which food is the most popular—pizza, tacos, spaghetti, etc.
3. Collect data in food diaries. Every time someone eats a food containing tomatoes, they record it in their diaries. For example: Monday, September, 23: breakfast – tomato juice; lunch – spaghetti; dinner – taco; snack – pizza.
4. Keep food diaries for one month. At

against cancer and heart disease. It might also protect against exercise-related asthma and some eye diseases such as cataracts. Hooray for lycopene!

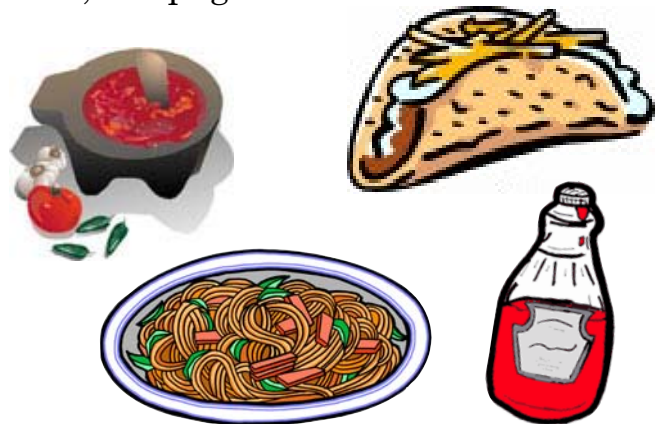
Aren't you glad Americans lost their fear of tomatoes? Just try to imagine some of your favorite foods without them. What would your pizza taste like? What would you dip your french fries in? Tomatoes taste great and have lycopene, too.

So go ahead. Bring on the spaghetti. I dare you to eat your weight in tomatoes this year.

the end of the month, add up diary entries for each food. For example: pizza – 11; spaghetti – 5; salad – 2; salsa – 1; taco – 7, ketchup – 5; chili – 2.

5. Add all the numbers and make a bar graph using total numbers for each food listed. What was the favorite tomato food? Find the tallest bar on the graph. Was your hypothesis correct?

6. Celebrate. Have a party and serve the most popular food. Was it pizza, tacos, or spaghetti?



Halloween Ghosts

By Melissa Marr

Ghosts are a fun Halloween decoration, but sometimes it's difficult to make a ghost that looks like it's really floating. The secret to a good ghost is cheesecloth (a thin cotton material, like gauze bandages). Once you have it, you're just a few short steps away from fluttering ghosts.

What You Need:

Cheesecloth (at your grocery or craft store)

Liquid Starch or watered down glue

Pan (a disposable tinfoil cake pan works well)

Scissors

Black Marker, wiggly eyes, or other items to decorate your ghost

Gourds (if you don't have any around you could use jars, jugs, hangers or other items to give shape while drying ghosts)

What to Do:

Stage 1—Preparing:

1. Cover your work area with newspaper. (Starch is sticky.)

2. Measure by draping the cheesecloth over your gourd (or jars) to see how much you need for each ghost.

3. Cut the cheesecloth into the size of squares you've selected.



Stage 2—The Starchy Part:

1. Pour the starch into the pan. Make sure it's deep enough to soak the cloth. (You can pour the extra back in the bottle afterwards if you want to save it.)

2. Place your cheesecloth in the pan of starch.

3. While the cheesecloth squares are soaking, be sure that your gourds (or jars) are in a secure area AND where the surface will be protected from dripping starch.

4. Position your starch-soaked cheesecloth over the gourd or jars. If you want to give the appearance of raised arms, use three items--a taller one in the middle; two of the same size on each side. A gourd gives a longer arms down shape.

5. Let them sit and dry overnight.

Stage 3—Ghostly Decorating:

1. Once they're dry, decorate your ghosts with eyes and mouth. Black marker works well for this.

For an extra touch, hang them from clear fishing line to increase the illusion that they're floating in thin air!



Fun with Pumpkins

By Dawnelle Breum

Pumpkins are orange
Pumpkins are heavy
Pumpkins have seeds
tucked in their belly

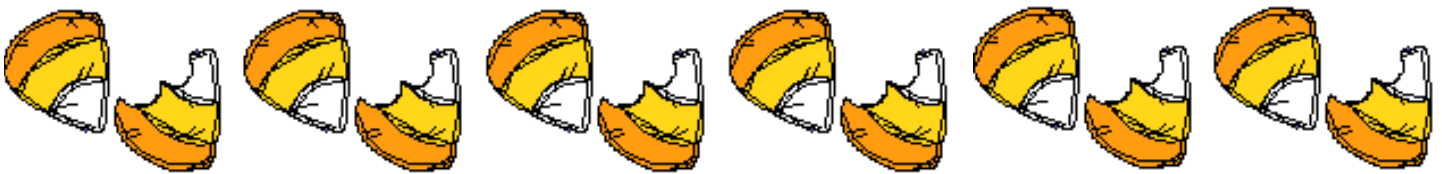
Pumpkin Seed Jack-o-Lantern

What You Need:

Small, white paper plates
Orange and black tempera
paint
Pumpkin seeds, rinsed and
dried
A paintbrush
Glue

What to Do:

1. Paint each pumpkin seed black on one side and let dry.
2. Paint a paper plate orange.
3. When the seeds and plate are dry, glue the black seeds on the plate to make eyes, nose and a big Jack-o-lantern smile.



'Round Nine at Night

By Rolli

'Round nine at night,
The full moonlight
Is gleaming bright, I'm waiting.
And all around
I hear the sound
Of phantoms roller skating.

Three hard knocks,
A door unlocks...
The shuffling creep of feet.
The door swings wide,
A ghoulish inside,
And I cry, "Trick or treat!"

Tall Tales...

Keep Your Pants Up!

By Lyn Sirota

It was a _____ evening on Halloween Night. _____
Adjective Your name
couldn't hide the _____ smile while sorting through all the
Adjective
_____ candy he/she got from Trick or _____.
Adjective Noun
_____, " _____! The doorbell again," shouted
Sound Exclamation

Your name
"I'll never finish _____ all my goodies." After he/she gave the
Verb
last witch and ghost some _____, he/she _____ on the
Plural noun Verb
couch and started _____.

_____ Verb
A _____ noise that sounded
Adjective
like _____ shook the house
Sound
and startled _____. Was it the door
Your name
bell again or a _____, he/she
Noun
thought. He/she rubbed his/her
_____ and blinked a few times to
Part of the face
be sure it wasn't a _____.

_____ Noun
It was then that _____ realized
it wasn't a dream or the
Your name
doorbell but the smoke alarm!

_____ remembered every fire safety _____ from
Your name Noun
school:



1. Don't ever run, hide or _____ from a firefighter. They may have
only one minute to save your life!

Verb

2. Put your face, body and _____ near the ground where
the air is clearer.

Body part

3. Crawl to the closest door and get out _____.

Adjective

4. Don't ever go back inside. Your _____ might turn

Noun

_____.
Color

5. Meet your family in a place you've planned together.

Just then, Dad came _____ in with a _____.

Verb

Noun

The smoke detector needed to be fixed. Everything was _____ and
there was no fire or emergency.

Adjective

_____ couldn't help but _____ at seeing Dad in his

Your name

Verb

underwear. He/She remembered that firefighters wear suspenders to keep their
pants up!

KEY

Adjective: An adjective is a describing word. Here are some examples: gigantic, blue, sparkly.

Noun: A noun is a person, place or thing. Here are some examples: Teacher, School, Dog.

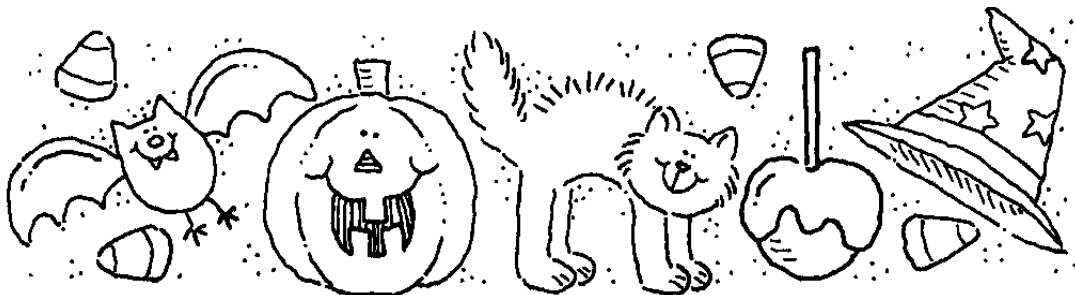
Plural noun: Is more than one person, places or things. Here are some examples: Teachers, Schools, Dogs.

Verb: A verb is an action word. Here are some examples: Ran, Jumped, Pushed.

Name of body part: Is the name of a part of your body. Here are some examples: Elbow, Foot, Toe.

Exclamation: Is an outburst, such as wow, yippee, yikes.

Sound: Any type of sound you've ever heard such as, plop, plink, kerplunk.



How to Draw a Spooky Ghost

Don't let the three easy steps below spook you! You can draw a ghost without waking the dead for Halloween!

1. Draw the ghost's body, add the face.

2. Draw the arms and stubby fingers.

3. Remember, the bottom of the ghost's sheet should loop like a curtain and have extra lines for creases.



Written and
Illustrated By
Kevin
Scott
Collier

Ravens Speak Out:

The Hidden Talents of Corvids

By Rolli

You've probably heard an exotic bird like a parrot chattering away in a movie, or a pet shop ("Raaaaack! Polly wanna cracker!"). But did you know there might be a bird in your backyard right now that can speak just as well?

Among the most widespread birds in North America are those belonging to the family Corvidae, which include ravens, crows, and magpies. These



A crow.

corvids are thought to be the most intelligent birds on the planet.

Among their many talents is the ability to accurately imitate other sounds, including the human voice. You'd have to wait around a pretty long time before you'd hear a wild bird speak, but tamed corvids can all be trained to talk. This takes a lot of patience, and involves repeating words and phrases for many days and weeks.

It would be worth the effort though, if you ended up with a pet that could tell your little brother, "Stay out of my room," or say to your parents, "Please, no broccoli!" at suppertime.

Many people have successfully kept corvids as pets, including famous writer Charles Dickens. His raven was especially clever, and kept its belly full by mastering a neat little trick.





Often when Dickens fed his dog, the raven would fly up to the animal, shouting at it in its master's voice. The dog would run away in fear, while the bird flew away with its dinner. Pretty smart!

Though untrained corvids rarely speak, there have been cases of wild birds repeating something after hearing it only once. The next time you see a crow, raven, or magpie, try talking to it—you never know what might happen!

Corvids include ravens, crows and magpies. People believe they are the most intelligent birds on earth.

Anna's Homemade Pizza





Written By Jeanette Marchand and Illustrated By Caitlin Cavanaugh




 loved homemade . She and  were making  for supper.







“You can mix the ,”  said.





 mixed the ingredients in the .

 kneaded the  until it was smooth.

“My turn,” said . She rolled the  into a flat  and then spread on the  sauce.

 shredded the mozzarella  and  sprinkled it over the sauce.

 sliced the pepperoni,  and  peppers.  added the pepperoni first then the  and  peppers.

When  was done,  slid the  into the hot oven.  set the timer for **10** minutes.

BUZZ! The  was done.  ate **2** big slices. “It’s the best  ever,” she said.

KEY



Anna



Mom



Pizza



Dough



Bowl



Circle



Cheese



Mushroom



Green



Ten



Two

Did you know?

October is National Pizza Month! It first started in 1987. There are more than 60,000 pizza parlors in the US and every year we buy 3 billion pizzas! Wow!

Kid's Art

Friends

Friends make you glad when you're down
Friends make you smile when you frown.
Friends come to you when you are hurt
And covered in a lot of dirt.
Friends are there no matter what,
Even when you say your scared of mutts.
Friends laugh with you when you bump into a wall.
If the people you hang out with don't fit this
They're not really friends at all.

Aileen, 10



Under a Tree

Ann, 10

Highway

Turn left!
Turn right!
Go in that roundabout!
Look in front!
You're almost there!
Oops. They're closed!

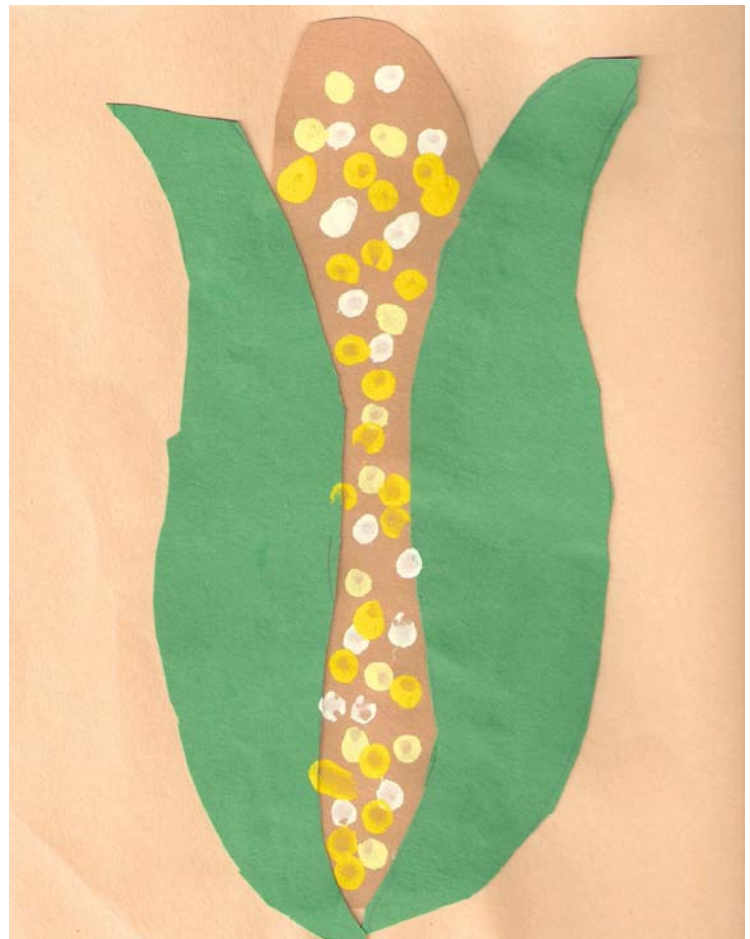
Caity, 9

This Month's Winners

Artist: Julia

Poet: Aileen

Send us your artwork and poetry! Each month will showcase several pieces of work by kids ages 6-10. Each month we'll pick one artist to receive a sketch pad, color pencils and erasers; and we'll choose one poet to receive a journal, bookmark, and pen. For more information visit the Fandangle Magazine web site!



Corn

Julia, 7

How's the Weather?

By Natalie Lorenzi

Miguel shivered in the gray, October drizzle. He was supposed to be guarding the goal, but his teammates were all racing toward the other end of the field. He rubbed the goose bumps on his arms. *I hate the cold weather here.*

His parents waved to him from the sidelines. He thought of his grandmother back in Colombia—warm, sunny Colombia.

“Miguel! Heads up!”

The ball sailed toward Miguel. He jumped, reaching up as far as he could. His fingertips brushed the ball, but it wasn't enough. Being the smallest boy in his fourth grade class didn't help. The ball smacked into the net behind him. He landed on the cold, muddy ground just as the referee's whistle blew. Miguel's team had lost the game.

He trudged off the field toward his parents. He breathed in the smell of wet leaves, then sighed. He missed the ocean's salty scent.

“Are you ok?” Miguel's mother wrapped a jacket around him. He shrugged.

His father patted him on the back. “Let's eat and then call Abuela. She's waiting to hear from you.”

Abuela had never missed one of Miguel's soccer games. Not until this year, that is—after he and his parents had moved to Washington, D.C.

“I wish you'd been at the game, Abeula.”

“I'm sorry your team lost, Hijito. But I was there with you.”

Miguel raised an eyebrow. “Huh?”

“Whenever I miss you, I try to imagine what you're doing—studying at school, playing soccer, sleeping. Then I feel like I'm right there with you—almost.”

Miguel decided to give it a try. “Ok, let me guess what you did today.” He imagined her walking through the winding streets of Cartagena's old city, past pink, yellow and blue houses. “You walked to the market and bought plantains, rice and beans.” He could almost see the sun shining and hear the wind tickling the palm trees.

“The market? Not today, Hijito. You wouldn't believe how much rain we have! Only a fish would go out on a day like today.”



Miguel sighed. So much for imagination.

After dinner, Miguel found his father at the computer. “What are you doing, Papa?”

“I’m checking the news in Colombia online.”

Miguel looked at the screen. In the corner he saw the words *el tiempo*, the weather. Miguel grinned; he had a plan.

The following week, Miguel couldn’t wait for Abuela’s phone call. “Ok, Hijito—let me guess what you did today.” Abuela paused. “You ate breakfast, got dressed, put on your coat, and went to mass.”

“Everything’s right—except the part about the coat. It’s hot outside, Abuela. They call it Indian summer. I’m wearing short sleeves!”

“One week it’s rainy and cold; the next it’s hot and sunny. What kind of seasons do they have over there?”

Miguel laughed. “Ok, my turn. I know what you did today... Tio Arturo and Tia Ana drove you to mass, and then you all went home to drink coffee.” He knew Abuela usually walked to the cathedral. Then after mass, she liked going to the café with Tio and Tia. But not today—today it was raining again in Cartagena.

Abuela didn’t speak for a moment. “But—how did you know that?”

Miguel smiled. “I checked Cartagena’s weather on the Internet!”

“They have weather on the Internet? What will they think of next?”

Miguel sat looking out the front window, holding his soccer ball. He stared at the rain puddles in the driveway. The

thunder and lightning had stopped, but it looked like it would rain all day. The phone rang, and he jumped up. “Ok, I bet I can guess what you did today.” Abuela’s voice wore a smile. “You’re sitting at home because your soccer game was canceled.”

Miguel stared at the phone. “What? How did—“

“They canceled it because of the thunder and lightning.”

“How did you know?”

Abuela chuckled. “I looked on...the Internet!”

“But...you don’t have a computer.”

“Ay, but Tia Ana has one. She showed me how to check the weather for Washington, D.C.!”

Miguel shook his head and smiled. Now whenever he missed Abuela, he would imagine her going to the market, walking through town...and surfing the Internet!

Vocabulary:

Abuela: Grandmother

Tio: Uncle

Tia: Aunt

Autumn

By Sharon Murphree

Crackling leaves falling,
The grass now brown and brittle,
Winter comes ‘round soon.



I Took My Turtle For a Run

By Sandy Green

I joined the track club in the spring
I love to race, it is my thing

To feel the breeze rush through my hair
And sprint along without a care

Sometimes I feel I'm all alone
When I am out there on my own

I make my turtle run with me
My favorite kind of company



We zip along the countryside
Jump streams and rivers, far and wide

We take a breather on some rocks
And let the sun dry out our socks

And when it's time to speed back home
I tuck him back in with my comb

He's happy there, it's like a hug
In my back pocket, safe and snug.

Magic Cure

By Gisele LeBlanc

I think I've caught a cold
My throat is feeling raw
But my friend is here to help
with a soothing paw

My friend is a Koala
She's hardly ever sick



And has no need for raincoats
because her fur is thick.

She's always giving hugs
that make me feel secure
But her eucalyptus scent
is her magic cure.

Funny Feeling

By Linda McReynolds

Oh my, I think I've got it bad.
The fiercest case I've ever had.
My mouth is dry, my brow is sweaty,
My knocking knees are quite unsteady.
My teeth are clenched, my eyes shut tight,
My skin has turned a ghostly white.
My hands are clammy, my face is hot,
The heebie-jeebies is what I've got!

Changing Leaves

By Bonnie Wideman

I watched leaves quiver on a tree,
As smooth and green as they could be.
But when leaves tumbled past my
head,
I saw that they were curled and red.
And now that leaves lie everywhere,
They're brown, and crisp as autumn
air.

Everyone's Dollhouse

By Donna Alice Patton

Have you ever heard of the “nation’s attic?” If you’ve visited Washington, D. C., than you know this is a nickname for the Smithsonian Museums. It has so many buildings, gardens and a zoo to explore, it’s like spending time in an old fashioned attic.

The National Museum of American History is where you’ll find the Bradford Dollhouse. Faith Bradford spent her whole life, from 1880 to 1970, living in Washington, D.C. In 1951, she decided to donate her dollhouse to the Smithsonian so that everyone could understand what life was like in the 1900's.

The dollhouse is four stories tall with an attic tucked under the roof. If you like measurements, the house is 4 ½ high, 7 ½ feet wide and around 1 ½ feet deep. The furniture is made to measure from 1 inch to 1 foot scale. It began as Miss Bradford’s toy, starting as a four room house, in 1887. She must have loved to play with it. The only piece of furniture left from that first house is a lamp without a globe. It sits, as all abandoned furniture should, on a cedar chest

in the attic. Miss Bradford and her friends had fun decorating the house, making furniture from such things as cups and flat matches.

No dollhouse is complete without a family. The Doll Family live in this house. Father Peter, Mother Rose and ten Doll children. If you are ever in Washington, D.C., the Doll’s would love to have you stop for a visit. After all, the Bradford house is everyone’s dollhouse.



The dollhouse at the Smithsonian Museum.

Winter Wonderland Writing Contest

What makes winter a wonderland for you? Is it the all the fun stuff you can do in the snow? Is it snuggling up around the fireplace with family and friends? Going on vacation on winter break from school? Tell us in 500 word or less something that happened to you that made winter special for you.

Visit the Fandangle Magazine web site for more information.

CASH PRIZES!



Book Review:

Granny Gert is a Knee Slapper

By Nancy A. Cavanaugh

Title: Granny Gert and the Bunion Brothers

Author: Dotti Enderle

Illustrator: Joe Kulka

Publisher: Pelican Publishing Co.

ISBN: 1589803736

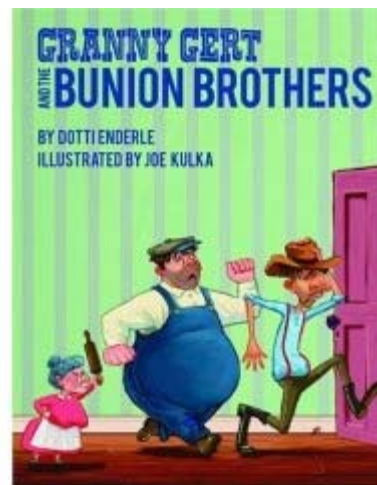
Buddy and Buck Bunion make their escape from Amarillo and meet their match in Granny Gert. She takes them on as hired hands and they become starry-eyed over her very pretty granddaughter Starla.

While doing work around the farm they take turns woo-ing Starla despite Granny Gert's threats to sic Mad Dog on them. Eventually they find themselves

rolling around in the dirt as they fight over her. Granny Gert breaks it up and the boys discover love is sweeter when they no longer have to share.

This is a really cute story with lots of Texas-style humor. The songs the boys sing to Starla and her sister are corny as can be but lots of fun.

This is definitely a story the whole family will love.



Match the Dogs

Can you match the dogs? Answer on page 29.

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



A.



B.



C.



D.

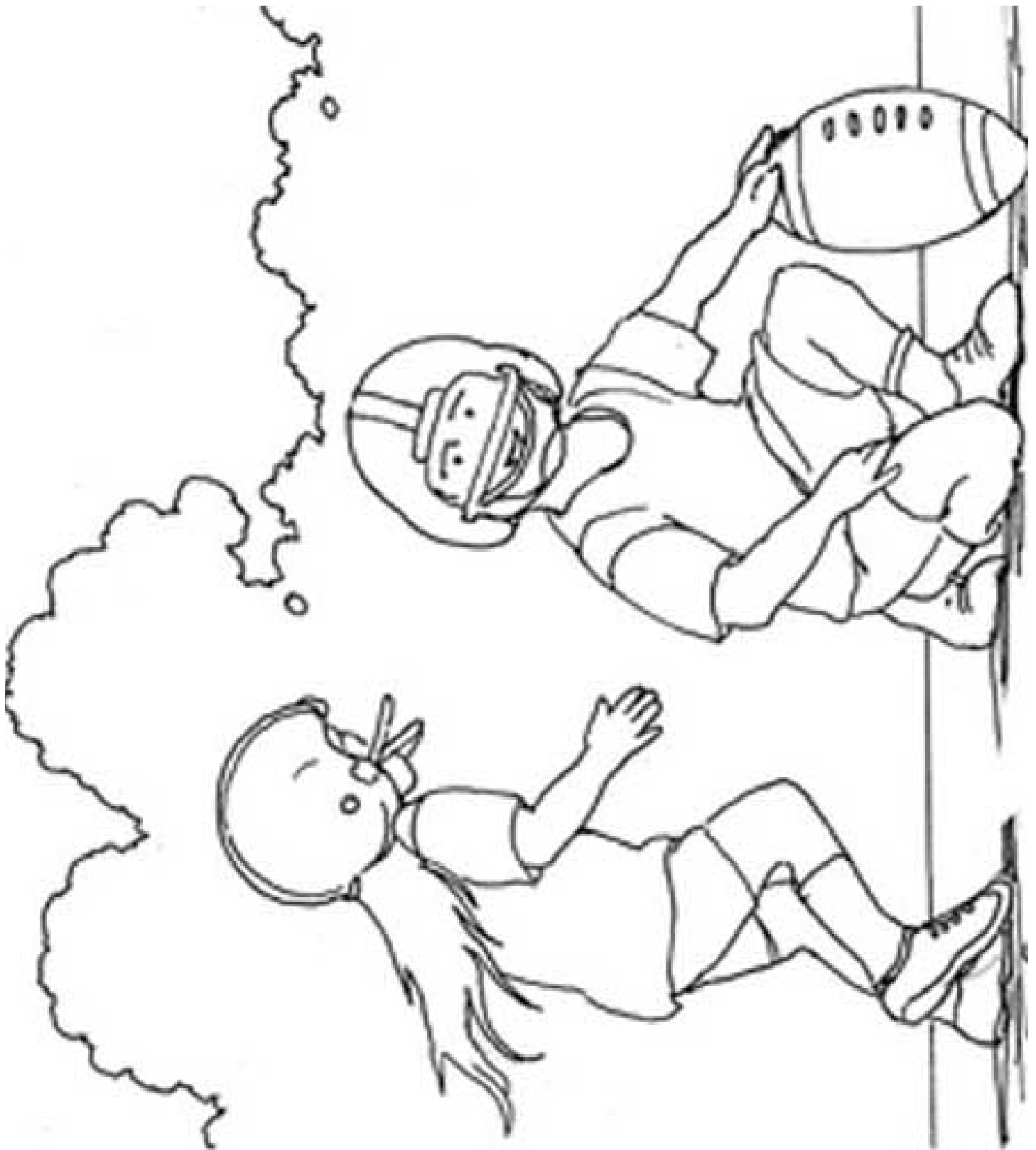


E.









MEET THE WRITERS

Melissa Marr teaches college literature and composition in So Cal. Her current and forthcoming texts can be found in GP4K, Boy's Quest, Kid Time, Wee Ones, et al.

Sharon Murphee has a Certificate in Child Development and is a former preschool teacher. She is currently a homeschooling mom of three children ages 4, 6, and 8.

Natalie Lorenzi lives in Trieste, Italy with her husband and three children. She writes magazine articles for children and adults, and is currently writing a middle grade novel. She uses the Internet daily to keep in touch with her family and friends in Virginia. You can contact her at nlorenzi@earthlink.net.

Karen De Lucia is a busy mother of three, wife to one and owner of two (guinea pigs). She enjoys spending time with her family, scrapbooking life's moments, reading anything she can, writing like crazy and baking tasty treats. She finds inspiration in her family and in everything around her.

Susie Smith is the owner of Lets Talk Writing, a critique group for new and emerging children's writers. She has been published under the name Virginia Smith in Holiday Crafts 4 Kids. You can check out her work at <http://susiesmith13.tripod.com/>

Sara Webb Quest is a professional writer. Her children's manuscripts have sold to San Min Book Company and Cape Cod Parent and Child. Her articles have appeared in Woman's World and Prime Time. She has written many children's stories. Visit her website at www.authorsden.com/sarawebbquest

www.authorsden.com/sarawebbquest

Linda McReynolds lives in Illinois with her husband and two children. She is a member of the SCBWI and has had numerous poems published in a variety of children's magazines. Her work can also be found in the poetry anthology Itty-Bits of Bliss (Tangerine Sky 2006).

Caitlin Cavanaugh is a sixth grader who loves to write, especially Yu-Gi-Oh fanfic and poetry, and draw. She enjoys swimming, singing, hanging out with animals and playing basketball.

Bonnie Widerman is a professional business communicator by day, but she's often found burning the midnight oil writing children's poems and stories. Bonnie lives in Southern California with her husband, two daughters, and one very large cat. You can reach her by email at bonnielee10@hotmail.com.

Christine Tricarico shares an itty-bitty, love-filled home in Michigan with her husband, Steve, daughter, Fallon, three dogs, turtles and even frogs. She has over 75 poems and stories accepted in children's publications. Her poetry collection, Itty-Bits of Bliss has helped raise over \$1,000 for Love Our Children USA. Her website is at www.christinetricarico.smartwriters.com.

Bonita Pate Davis lives in Owensboro, KY with husband Ken, daughter Emily, and dog Jenny. She writes adult and children's fiction and is currently working on a juvenile novel. She enjoys knitting, gardening, and eating mutton and burgoo at local barbecue and Bluegrass music festivals. Bonnie also teaches a Sunday School class for grades 1-3.

Jeanette Marchand is the mother of four. She loves volunteering at her kids' school, in the kindergarten and grade one classes. Jeanette has been previously published in Wee Ones Magazine, Holiday Crafts 4 Kids, Cecil Child and Fandangle Magazine.

Dawnelle Breum is a former first grade teacher who writes for children and adults from her home in Ontario, Canada. Her work has been or will appear in print and online magazines. Her lesson plans and crafts can be found in the upcoming book "The Giant Encyclopedia of Monthly Crafts" and at Viatouch.com.

Roxanne Werner lives in New York state with her son, husband and two cats. She is a graduate of Rutgers University and is currently enrolled in The Institute of Children's Literature. She enjoys reading, writing and gardening. She finds inspiration exploring the surrounding fields and woods.

Evelyn Christensen is a teacher who loves to create things to make learning fun. She has seven math games and twenty puzzle books on the market with nine more coming out soon. She invites you to visit her website and have fun with the puzzles and activities there: <http://echristensen.atspace.com>.

Lyn Sirota is an active member of her local and national Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. She writes content for their website and coordinates the New Jersey critique groups. Her publishing credits include articles and poetry in many children's magazines. You can find out more about Lyn at her web site lynsirota.4t.com.

Sandy Green volunteers regularly at the library in her local elementary

school. She is a member of SCBWI and has won a couple of writing contests. She writes children's poems and novels from her home in Northern Virginia where she continues to find inspiration in her husband and two children.

Gisele LeBlanc loves to write and illustrate for children. Her fiction, non-fiction, poetry, puzzles and artwork have appeared in many children's magazines and Itty-Bits of Bliss--an anthology published by Tangerine Sky Productions. When not writing or illustrating, she enjoys spending quiet evenings at home with her husband, son and loyal pooch.

Donna Patton is a freelance writer, daycare provider and homeschooling aunt who lives in rural Ohio. Her favorite topic is the Old West, the setting of her latest work in progress, "The Hooky Playing Fiasco".

Rolli (like his two sisters) is a painter and writer hailing from Regina, Canada. You can write to him at charlesmanderson@hotmail.com

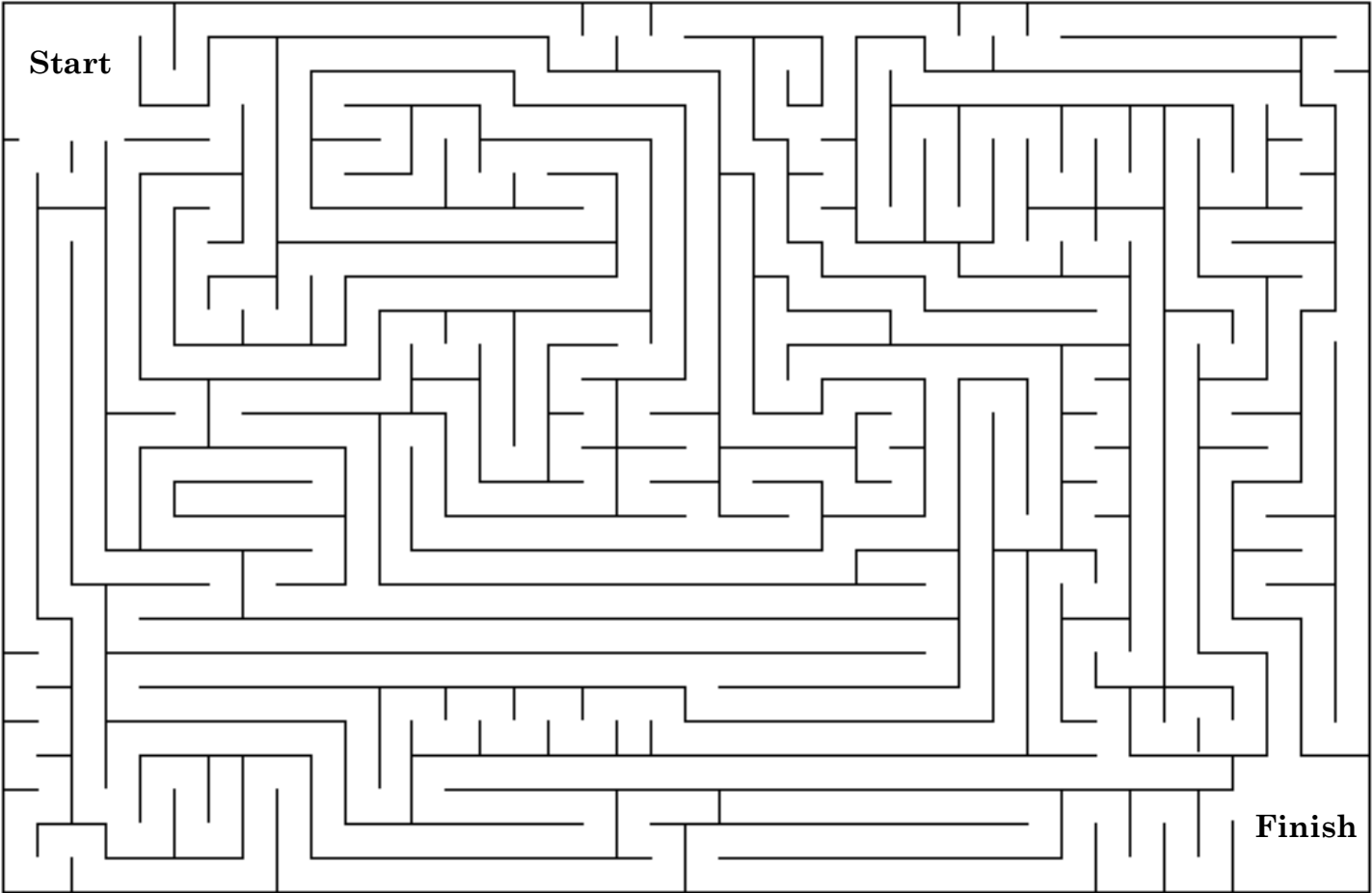
Shannon Bennett lives in Washington with her husband and two children. She loves writing, drawing and reading. She also enjoys being able to teach in the Pioneer Club.

Kevin Scott Collier is a children's book author and illustrator. He is under contract for Baker Trittin Press, Guardian Angel Publishing, and New World Publishing. Kevin also been published by Hidden Picture Books, Book Locker, Heliographic Press and Tangerine Sky. Visit his website at <http://www.kevinscottcollier.com>.

Answers from page 24:

1-C; 2-D; 3-B; 4-E; and 5-A

Mazes Galore



Help Bobby find his friend Fred.

