

We are Every Good Thing

Second Grade Poems

**From Mary M. Bethune School
Cleveland, Ohio
2025**



**Inspired by Derrick Barnes' book
*I am Every Good Thing***

The poems in this anthology were written in small groups by 2nd graders at Mary McLeod Bethune K-8 in Cleveland as part of a creative writing teaching artist residency supported by the Ohio Arts Council.

Thank you to Ms. Vitantonio, Ms. Benjamin, and Ms. Williams for making time for creative writing this spring!

Thank you to Ms. Goggans, Ms. Nakonachny, and Ms. Bruce!

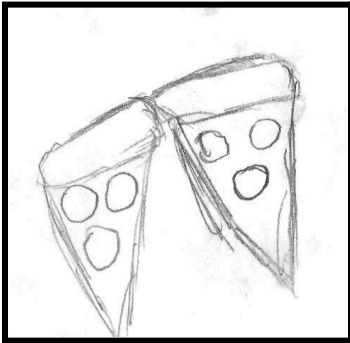
Thank you to the Ohio Arts Council for supporting eleven years of creative writing at Mary McLeod Bethune!



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Ben



I am every good thing.

I am pizza.

I am swings and movies.

I am good at football.

I am good at basketball.

I am what I say I am,

and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

I am what I say I am,

and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Budrick



I am every good thing.

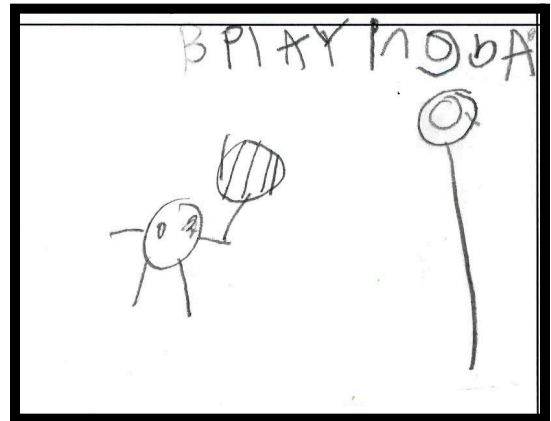
I am a juicy, sweet watermelon.

I am making buckets playing
basketball.

I am a fancy hotel with a
swimming pool and comfy beds.

I am chilling with my punching
bag.

I am a toothy alligator who
loves watermelon.



I am watching YouTube and playing too much.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

Cherrish

I am every good thing.

I am delicious rice and chicken.

I am a game of tag.

I am my peaceful safe house.

I am a birthday going skating at the rink.

I am a cute small brown puppy.

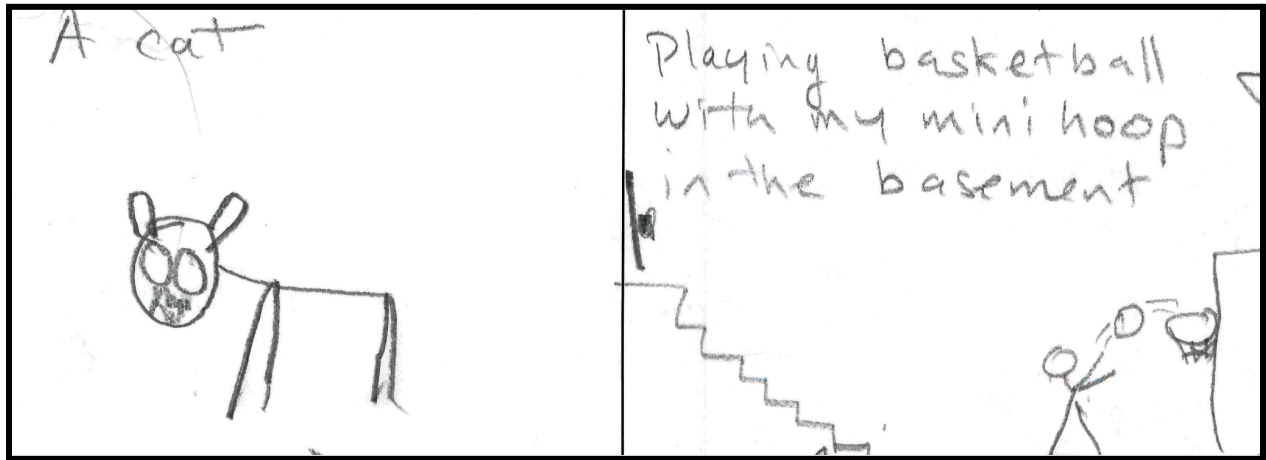
I am playing tag and hide and go
seek with my brother.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Dereion?



I am every good thing.

I am cookies.

I am McDonald's.

I am the swimming pool.

I am the park.

I am a cat.

I am playing basketball in the basement with my
mini-hoop.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Delilah

I am every good thing.
I am delicious, spicy crab legs.
I am a fun game of tag with my friends. (I am really fast!)
I am the slide at the swimming pool. Whee!
I am my birthday when I go to SkyZone and jump!
I am a friendly dragon lizard.
I am playing Roblox with my sister.
I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.
I am worthy to be loved.



Destiny

I am every good thing.

I am pizza.

I am skating.

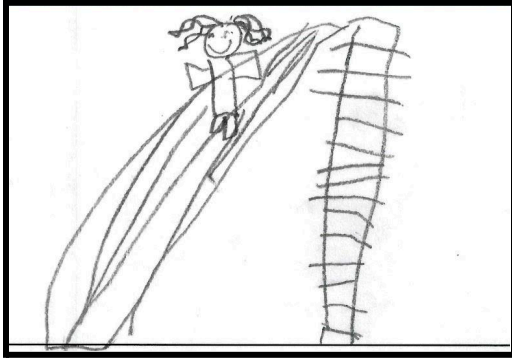
I am a cute cat.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Eli



I am every good thing.

I am a Happy Meal from
McDonald's and the toy inside.

I am running around on the
driveway.

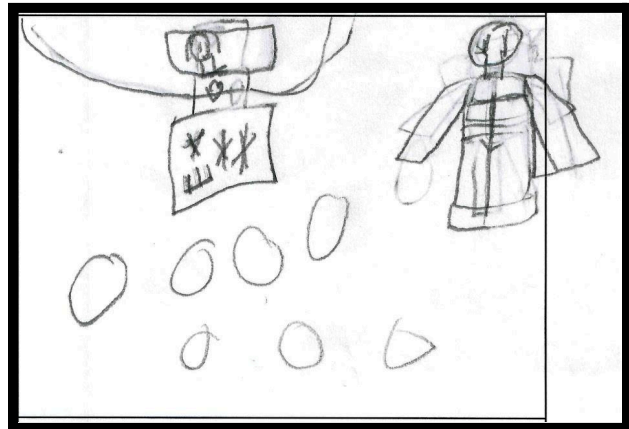
I am a water park.

I am all the presents on my birthday and the strawberry
cake.

I am a cheetah. I can run
almost as fast.

I am a summer morning in
front of the TV.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be
loved.



I am worthy to be loved.

Ei'Mill

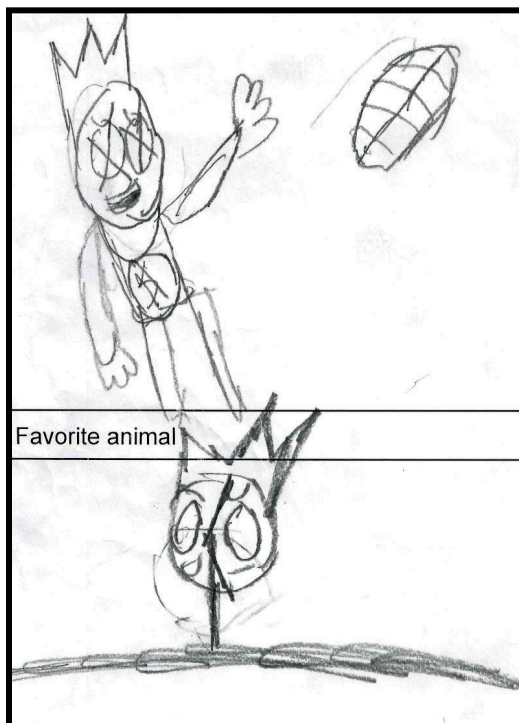


I am every good thing.

I am pepperoni pizza.

I am football practice.

I am basketball at the park.



I am soccer in the summer.

I am the black panther!

I am a game of football with my
friends.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved!

I am worthy to be loved.

Emonie

I am every good thing.

I am spaghetti with meatballs and a burger and fries.

I am a Coca-Cola.

I am going down the slide fast.

I am a spinning basketball.

I am the characters at Disney
World.

I am the birthday cake and the
presents.

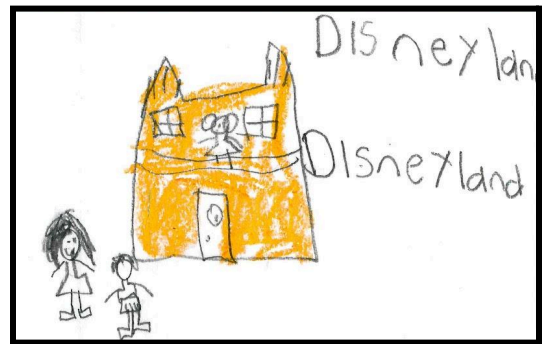
I am my family.

I am playing games on my tablet in my chair.

I am cool.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Giovanni

I am every good thing.

I am spaghetti with meatballs, cereal crunch, and Cheeto Puffs.



I am the slide and the swings.

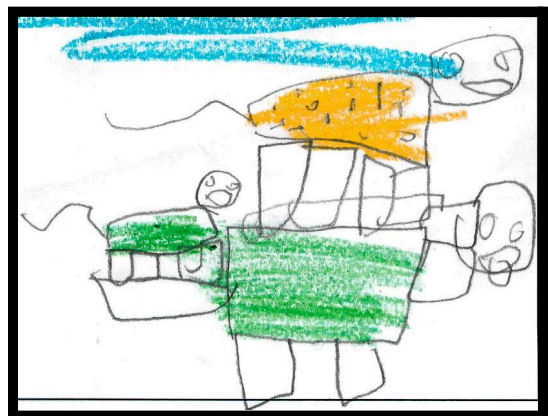
I am school because it's fun
and helps me read and do
math.

I am a day at the beach with
my family.

I am a fast cheetah, a cute cat, and
a friendly dog.

I am tall Lego buildings and cities!

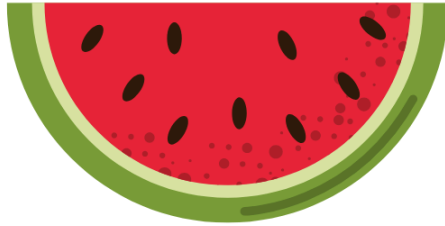
I am running across the carpet
and all around the house.



I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

Jacquey



I am every good thing.

I am juicy fried chicken and watermelon with seeds.
I am planting seeds in the garden and building dirt houses
for the ants.

I am a zipline at Urban Air. I can see everything!
I am Sunday when I play video games with my dad.

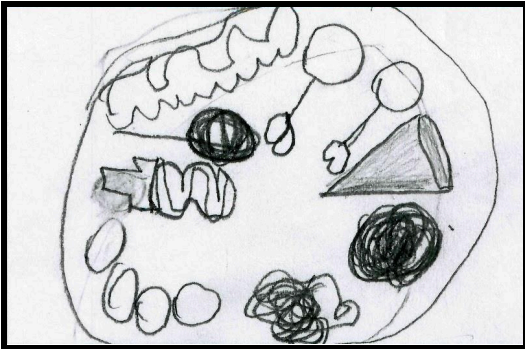
I am a dog that can do tricks.
I am playing Uno with my sister.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Jaliyah



I am every good thing.

I am the all-you-can-eat buffet at Golden Corral.

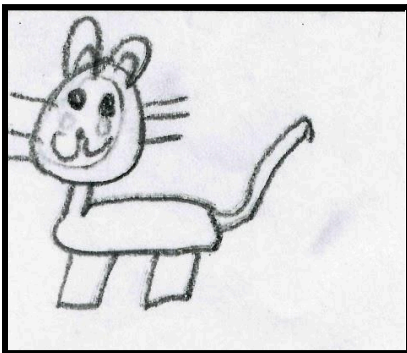
I am training with a stick outside.

I am a splashy water park.

I am a day with Chipotle and a trip to the park with my dad.

I am cats, dogs and bears.

I am a beautiful artist and my own drawings.

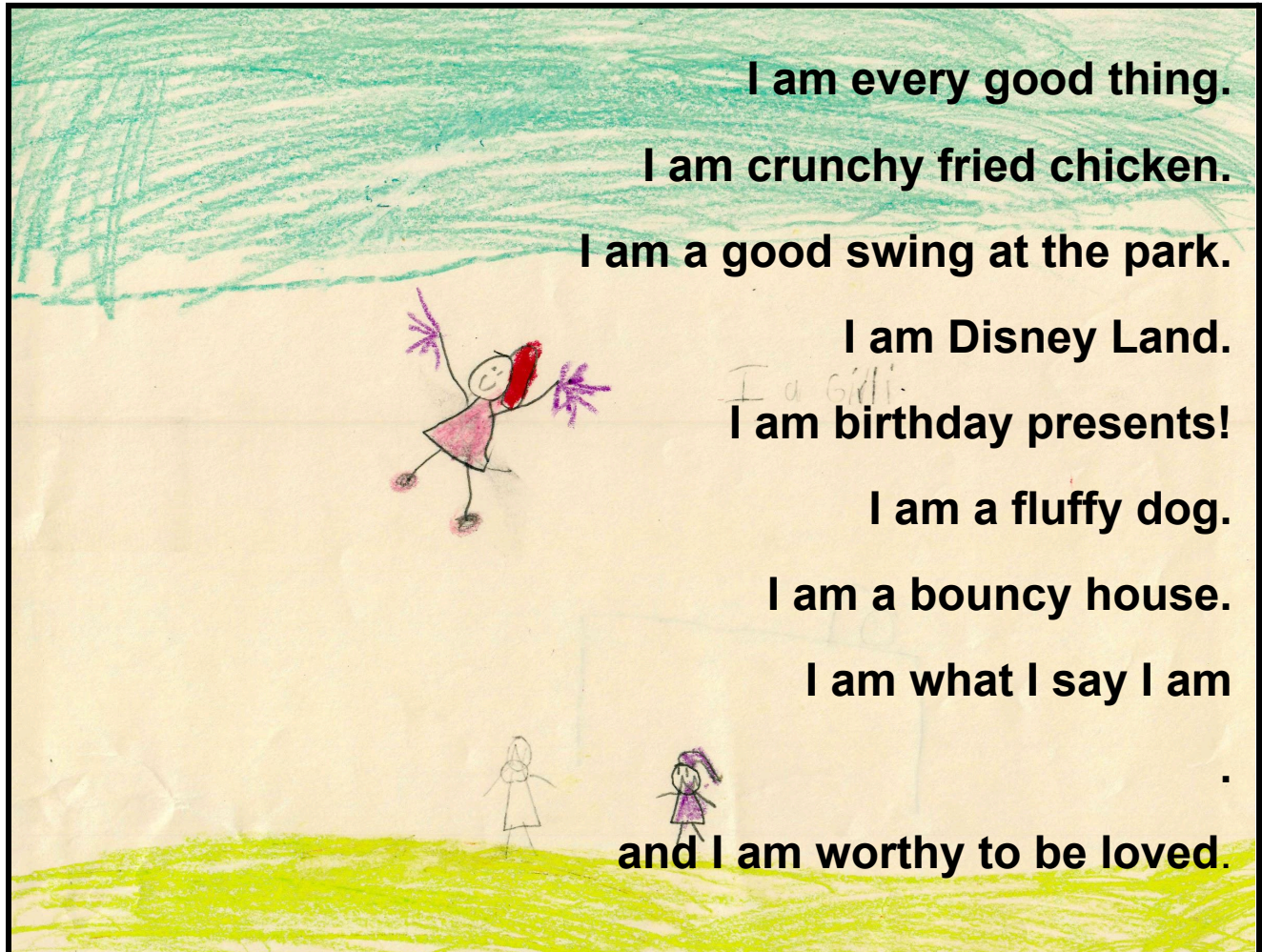


I am what I say I am,

and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

Journee





Luke

I am every good thing.

I am a crispy chicken sandwich from McDonald's.

I am a football game. I catch all the balls.

I am New York City. It's so cool.

I am my birthday.

I am a spaghetti cheetah.

I am a person who makes vending machines out of cardboard.

I could teach you one day.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Ma'Layah

I am every good thing.

I am a crunchy red apple.



I am a balloon floating up
into the sky.

I am the warm swimming
pool.

I am a fun day at a wave
pool.

I am a playful cat.

I am a relaxing TV show.

I am what I say I am.

And I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Milo



I am every good thing.

I am SkyZone. I jump!

I am a playground with slides.

I am a basketball game. I win!

I am a cool alligator.

I am a playful game.

I am what I say I am. I am
cool.

And I am worthy to be loved.
Yes.

I am worthy to be loved.
Yes!



Mulan



I am every good thing.

I am good at art.

I am kind.

I am what I say I am,

and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

Mylah



I am every good thing.

I am delicious spaghetti and meatballs.

I am a jump roper—very fast.

I am my Auntie's house, where I have lots of fun.

I am June 15th, my birthday.

I am a cute fuzzy dog.

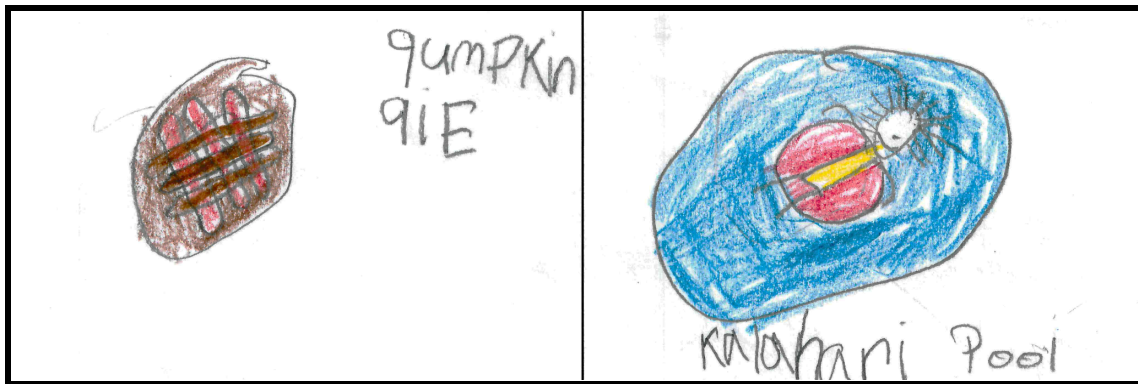
I play board games like Monopoly with my sister.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Naomi



I am every good thing.

I am delicious pumpkin pie.

I am colorful chalk.

I am Kalahari pool.

I am a playdate with
Torianna.

I am my dog Fluffy.

I am all the games on
Roblox.



That means a lot of Fun!

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

Nari

I am every good thing.

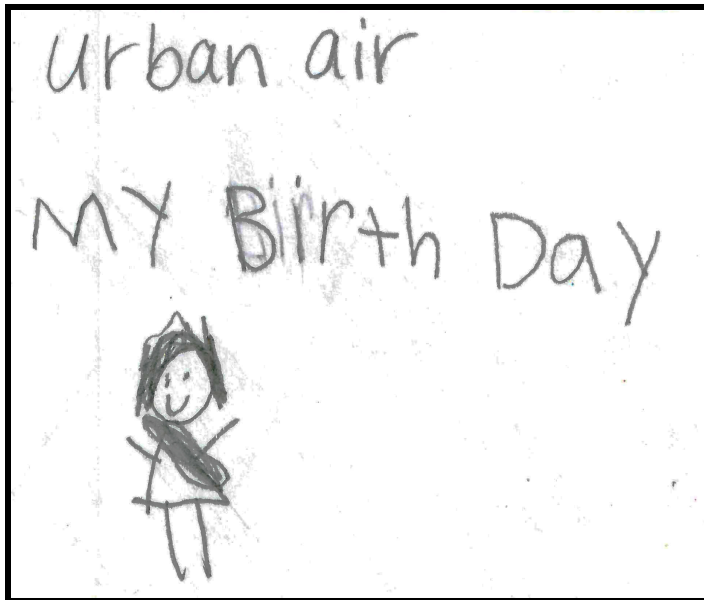
I am cheesy pizza.

I am a warm pool.

I am movies.

I am Urban Air and my
birthday.

I am a puppy, cute and
playful.



I am Legos and my
iPad.

I am what I say I am.

I am worthy to be loved.

**I am worthy to be
loved.**

Pandora



I am every good thing.

I am a cheese and pepperoni pizza with hot pepper on the side.

I am a basketball game. I catch the ball and dunk it!

I am Myrtle Beach in the water.

I am a celebration on my birthday with chocolate cake.

I am a mountain goat butting heads.

I make cakes and cupcakes for a party.







I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

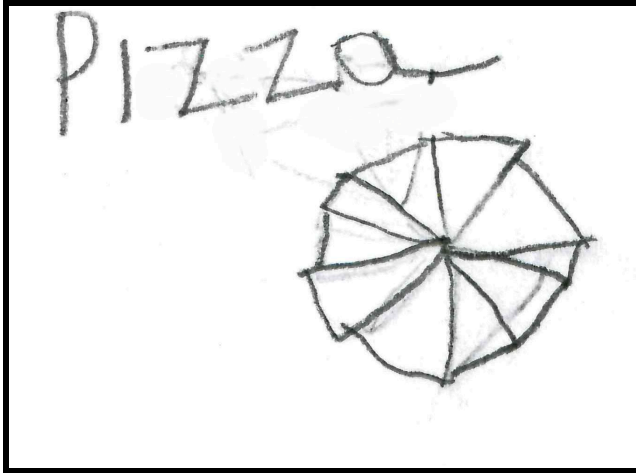


Rai'Lyn

I am every good thing.
I am pizza and ice cream
I am Walmart

| | |
|--|---|
|  <p>pizza and ice cream</p> |  <p>Walmart</p> |
| <p>I am playing at the pool. I am Fridays.</p> | |
|  <p>pool</p> |  <p>friday</p> <p>iPod</p> |
| <p>I am a goldfish. I am my Barbies</p> | |
|  <p>Fish</p> |  <p>Barbis</p> |
| <p>I am what I say I am. I am worthy to be loved!</p> | |

Samir



I am every good thing.

I am pineapple pizza.

I am icy water.

I am a fun game of tag.

I am my family.

I am cool.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.



Saw

I am every good thing.

I am spicy pepperoni pizza.

I am a great soccer game.

I am a concert in a stadium.

I am a rabbit eating
carrots—funny!



I am a game of Uno.

I am a day at the beach

I am what I say I am.

I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

Sifa

I am every good thing.

I am a volleyball going over the net.

I am a burger and fries, and Sprite.

I'm a grape.

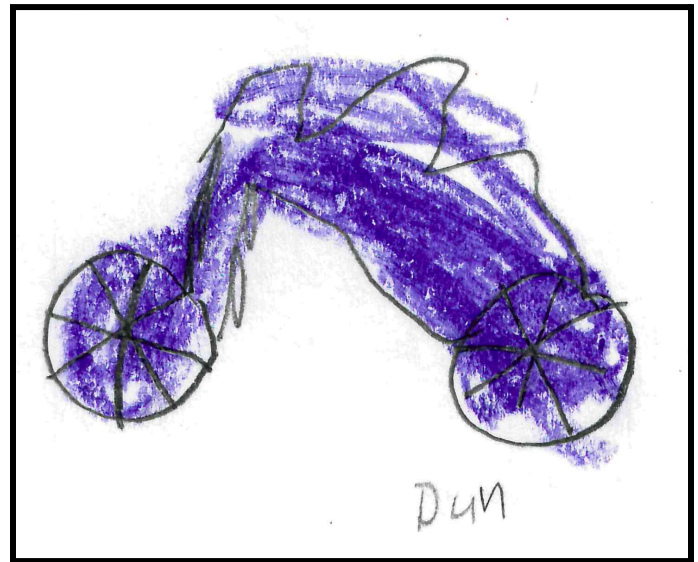
I'm my purple bike.

I'm the beach on a sunny
day.

I'm learning at school.

I'm a dog, my name is
LaLa.

I am a bouncy house.



I am what I say I am.

I am cool.

And I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

Solomon

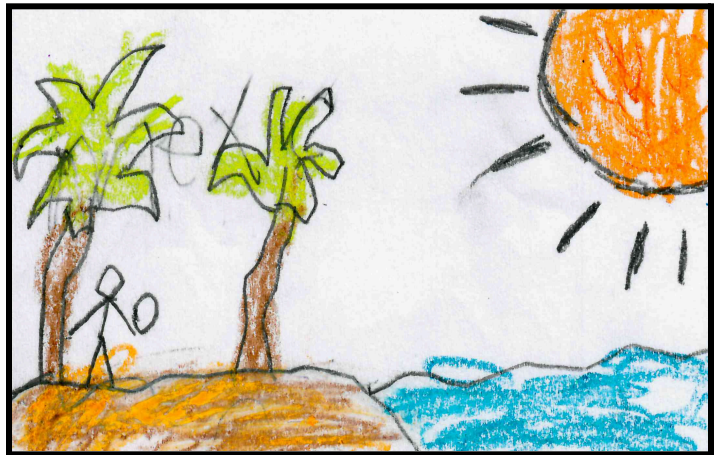
I am every good thing.

I am spicy Takis.

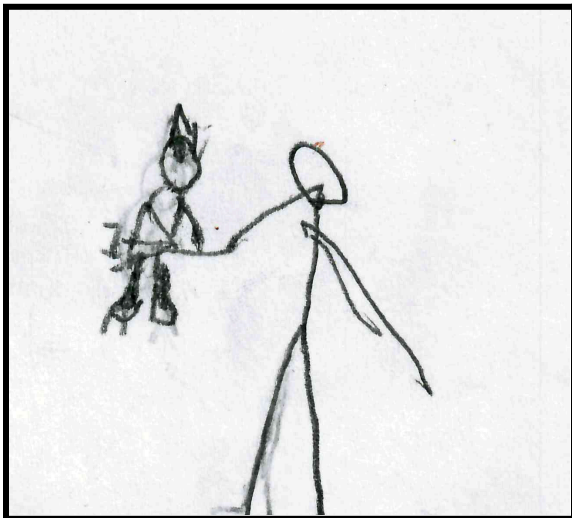
I am a perfect pass in a
basketball game.

I am a beautiful beach
with trees and ocean on a
sunny day.

I am Friday because it's
hot.



I am playful like a dog with a ball or like kittens.



I am my favorite YouTube
videos.

I am what I say I am,

I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.

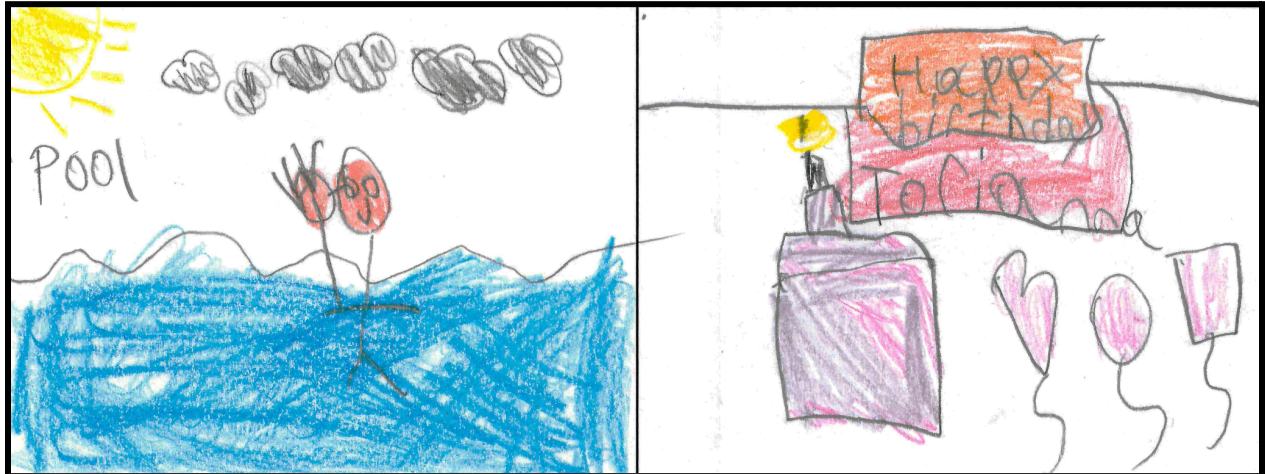
Torianna

I am every good thing.

I am crunchy hot fries.

I am a day at the swimming pool.

I am Disney Land.



I am my birthday cake and balloons.

I am my dog Fluff.

I am playing Uno with my mom and dad.

I am what I say I am,
and I am worthy to be loved.

I am worthy to be loved.