

STORIES AND PLAYS FROM THE SECOND GRADE



**Created by
Ms Mellinger's Class
Mary McLeod Bethune K-8 School
Cleveland Metropolitan School District
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Introduction and Acknowledgements

The work in this anthology was written by the students in Ms. Mellinger's second-grade class during the 2022-2023 school year. The students wrote in small groups, creating plays or stories. The first group of students to work with Ms. Larsen finished their play, Magic in the Woods, in time to submit it to the Marilyn Bianchi Kids' Playwriting Festival and were selected as winners whose play will be performed on the first weekend in June at Dobama Theatre in Cleveland Heights. CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM!

Teaching artist, Cynthia Larsen, from Lake Erie Ink: a writing space for youth, spent one day a week at Mary McLeod Bethune. We appreciate the support of the Ohio Arts Council and Leo Serrano for this to Teach Arts Ohio Grant and residency.

We would like to thank Ms. Mellinger and Ms. McCorvey for hosting these small group workshops.

We also wish all of the students in Ms. Mellinger's class the best of luck and hope they continue to use their voices to express themselves and to work together to create art and stories.



Magic in the Woods

By Enarie, Karri, Jaylon, Raelita, Robert and Nampewa

Characters:

Daisy—a second grade girl

Emma—Daisy's friend

Adam—a second grade boy

William—Adam's friend

James—Daisy's big brother

Scene One—The woods by Daisy's house

Daisy, Emma, Adam and William are playing hide and seek.

Emma: 8, 9, 10! Ready or not. Here I come!

(Emma starts walking through the woods looking for her friends.)

(Daisy is up in a big tree.)

(Emma walks past her.)

(William is hiding behind a rock.)

(Emma walks past him.)

(Adam is hiding in a big pile of leaves.)

(Emma doesn't see him either.)

Emma: Where are you guys? You ditched me.

(Emma walks back past all of them. She is getting really frustrated. She screams.)

Emma: Ahhhh!!!

(Emma walks off stage.)

(Daisy jumps when Emma screams.)

Daisy: Ouch. Something scratched me.

(The stage gets dark and there are little sparkles, and a magical sound. Then the stage lights up again. And Daisy has become a squirrel with a big tail.)

Daisy: (screams) Help! What happened? Where did this tail come from? Get it off me!

(She spins around trying to grab her tail.)

(When William hears Daisy scream, he jumps and scrapes his arm on the rocks.)

(The stage gets dark and there are little sparkles, and a magical sound. Then the stage lights up again. And William has become a fox with pointy ears and a tail.)

William (screams): Help! I'm a fox!

(When William screams, Adam wiggles out of the leaves and scratches himself with a stick.)

(The stage gets dark and there are little sparkles, and a magical sound. Then the stage lights up again. And Adam has become a snake.)

Adam (screams): Where are my arms and legs? Yikes! Am I a snake?

(Emma comes back on stage with Daisy's big brother, James.)

Emma (out of breath): They disappeared into thin air.

(The snake, the squirrel, and the fox run up to James and Emma.)
(James and Emma run away, but the animals keep following them.)

Emma: Stop following me!

James: Emma, run away!

Daisy/Squirrel: I'm your friend! Emma, why do you keep running away?

Emma: Am I dreaming? I thought I heard that squirrel talking.

James: Yeah, that sounds like Daisy.

Daisy/Squirrel: It is me!

Emma: Then who is the fox?

William/Fox: It's me. William!

Adam/Snake: And I'm a snake. I'm Adam! How can we go back to normal?

William/Fox: Yeah, I don't like this.

James: How can we turn you back to normal?

Emma: We have to find the fairy.

James: That's a good idea.

William/Fox: Which fairy?

Emma: The fairy of the woods.

Daisy/Squirrel: Where is the fairy of the woods?

Emma: In the middle of the woods, under a rock.

Daisy/Squirrel: Then let's go!

Scene Two—the middle of the woods, by a big rock

James knocks on the rock. Fairy of the Woods is wearing a purple dress with designs on it.

Fairy of the woods: What's up?

James: My little sister has been turned into a squirrel and her two friends were turned into a fox and a snake.

Fairy of the woods: What happened to you guys?

Daisy/Squirrel: I was hiding in a tree and I scratched myself on the bark.

William/Fox: I turned into a fox when I was hiding behind a rock and scraped myself.

Fairy of the Woods: Very interesting.

Adam/Snake: I was scratched by a twig in a pile of leaves and turned into a snake.

Fairy of the Woods: Oh, I see. That was my evil twin sister. She is always up to something.

Emma: Can you help us?

Fairy of the Woods: Yes. Drink this tree sap and then repeat after me.

(The three animal/kids drink the tree sap.)

Fairy of the Woods: Sing this (sings from Michael Jackson's song)
Do re mi, A B PIC, 1 2 3, Baby you and me girl

William, Daisy, Adam (singing): Do re mi, A B C, 1 2 3, Baby you
and me girl

(The stage gets dark and there are little sparkles, and a magical
sound. Then the stage lights up again. And all the animals are
children again.)

All the kids: Thank you!

Fairy of the Woods: My pleasure. Come back soon!

James: It's dark. We should go home.

THE END

Breakdown in Outer Space

By Naudia, Hunter, Savannah, and Zymir

Characters:

In the Monster Family Spaceship—Momma Monster, Daddy Monster, Lift

In the Human Family Spaceship—Ashley, Tim, Ashley's Mom & Dad

Scene One—The Monster Family Spaceship

(Momma Monster is driving the spaceship. Daddy Monster is eating cookies. Lift is looking out the window.)

Momma: Oh no, the ship is breaking down.

Daddy Monster: Lift, use your super vision to look for a planet where we can land.

Momma: It's too late. we're dead in space. We don't have any power.

Lift: I'm trying to find a planet, but it's not working. What are we going to do?

Momma: We need to make an emergency call to anyone near us.

Daddy Monster: What if the humans hear our call? I'm afraid of them.

Momma: We have to. or we'll run out of food, and then water, and then air. So we need to call ANYONE, EVEN HUMANS!!

Scene Two: Ashley's Spaceship

Ashley: I'm so excited. I can't wait to see all the planets.

Tim: We gotta wait till Mom is ready, sis.

Ashley: Hurry up. I'm hungry. When am I going to get there, Mom and Dad?

Tim: Sis, I packed some food in my backpack cuz my tell me to so we can eat.

Ashley: I'm hungry, please.

(A noisy beeping sound fills the spaceship.)

Ashley's Mom: That sounds like an emergency call. Ashley, can you answer it?

Ashley: Yes. (Ashley picks up the phone.) Hello. Can I help you?

Monster Mom's voice (through the phone): We; 're stuck in space and we need you to come and save us.

Ashley: Okay. Where are you at?

Monster Momma: We're floating in space, 200 miles from you. Follow my signal.

Ashley: Okay, we will see the signal and we will be there in a while.

Tim: who was calling? Was it aliens or something?

Ashley: I do not know. So we will see soon.

Tim: Oh no, what is going on? We probably shouldn't save these people, we don't know who they are.

Ashley's Momma: Okay, we're on our way.

Tim: But Mom, what if they are like, different things and we don't know who they are?

Ashley's momma: It doesn't matter. We're just going to save them anyway.

Scene Three: Several hours later.

Tim: Finally we're here.

Ashley: Okay, now we're going to have to see what the people look like.

Ashley's mom (opening the door): Please come into our spaceship.

(The monster family walks in the door. They look scared.

Lift: Are you those human people thingies?

Ashley: Yes we are. We are people.

Lift: We are people too. The monster kind of people.

Ashley's Mom: We finally got here. Come on inside, and have a seat. Are you hungry?

Lift: What do you humans have to eat?

Tim: We like to eat macaroni and pizza and stuff. And if you want to look around the spaceship we can show you around the spaceship.

Monster Daddy: Do you have cookies?

Ashley: Of course!

(Everyone sits down and starts talking and eating.)

The End

Capture of the Big, Magic Raccoon

By So'riya, Alkareem, Joziah, and Najee

Once upon a time, Princess Charlie and Prince Shabazz were playing in their castle. They heard a loud noise. The noise was coming from outside. They went to go find out. The loud noise was a raccoon that knocked down the trash can. The raccoon started to chase them.

"We should split up and hide somewhere," said Prince Shabazz.

"Okay," said Princess Charlie. Princess Charlie ran into the castle to tell the King and Queen. Prince Shabazz ran and he ducked into a big hole. The raccoon chased Prince Shabazz into the big hole. "I'm gonna eat you up for dinner," said the raccoon.

Prince Shabazz grabbed the raccoon's tail and swung it around until it got dizzy. Then he climbed out of the hole. He used a shovel to put the dirt back into the hole and cover the raccoon up so he won't get out.

Princess Charlie told the King and Queen, but when they got outside, it was too late. "It's safe to come back outside," said Prince Shabazz.

"Okay, what happened to the raccoon?"

"He is in the bottom of the hole."

They put a tape thing to keep the raccoon in the ground.

“Thank you for saving your sister,” said the Queen.

“Thank you, big brother,” said Princess Charlie.

The Prince and Princess and King and Queen lived happily ever after.

The End

Daisy Elizabeth and Spencer Planet

By Quinell, Kameron P., Maliyah, and Desire

One day, Daisy Elizabeth went to the library and picked out a book. The book was her favorite, The Dolphin Book. After she was done with the dolphin book, she went to the beach to see if some dolphins were there. She saw one dolphin named Spencer Planet.

She said, "You are a big dolphin."

Spencer Planet said, "You're big too."

"Thank you."

"Do you have your surfboard with you?" asked Spencer Planet.

"Yes. Of course I do. I like to surf."

"Are you gonna surf?" asked Spencer Planet.

"Of course, silly, where else would I surf?"

So Daisy Elizabeth got in the water to surf. Spencer Planet chased her and splashed her.

Daisy Elizabeth smiled. Then Daisy got off her surfboard to play with Spencer, and they started to play volleyball. She hit the ball so far that they had to go far and go get it.

The problem was that the ball went so far that Daisy Elizabeth got too far out and was lost in the ocean.

Spencer Planet care about Daisy Elizabeth.

"I'm gonna help you," said Spencer Planet.

So Spencer swam under her and put her on his back and swam back to the land.

"Thank you for helping me back to the land," said Daisy Elizabeth.

"You're welcome. I hope I see you again."

The Wish Comes True

by My'Yaunna, Cam'ren, Ayden, and Rylee

One day, Inari the Rhino was very bored and he wanted something to play with. "I am sad and bored. I wish I had a water park."

"Well, one day your wish is gonna be true," said My-My.

"Okay."

"I think that's very nice," said Isabel.

"We will try to build you a waterpark," said Annie.

They got their tools: a screwdriver, hammer and drill and a wrench. They just needed a cement truck. So they asked Donny who lived down the road.

"Can we borrow your cement truck?" asked My-My.

"No way. Not this time," said Donny.

So they asked Lina, Donny's wife. She said, "That's a great idea. I know Inari will love it. I will help you."

"First we have to dig a hole," said Annie.

"But we don't have a shovel," said My-My.

Isabel said, "Donny has shovels."

So they asked Donny and he said, "Okay."

They dug for 100 hours. Then Lina poured the cement.

Finally, "We're done," said My-My.

"Yay! I'm ready!" said Inari.

"But we need water," said Isabel.

"Let's get some buckets," said Annie, who was already done building the slide.

They carried water in buckets from the river for two whole days. Then Donny said, “I can do the rest,” and he got his big excavator to carry water from the river to the pool.

“It’s time, it’s time!” said Inari.

“Let me help you,” said My-My. And she taught Inari how to climb the ladder.

“Wheeeeeeee!” yelled Inari. KERSPLASH!!!!

Lots of the water splashed out of the pool onto the ground.

“Oh no! I’m too tired to get more water.”

Isabel said, “It’s starting to rain!”

“Thank you for helping me,” said Inari.

Then the girls jumped into the pool and played with floaties and played Marco Polo.

The End.