



# THE FLIPSIDE



**ASSIGNMENT:** Write a letter to someone you admire.

Dear Mrs. Ameri,

You are the kindest teacher in the world. I think it was really cool that you let us listen to an audio book in reading. I also started crying when we listened to “Puff the Magic Dragon” on your Ipod. Making those egg salad and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches was really fun.

You really made 1<sup>st</sup> grade and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade exciting for me. I loved studying about Argentina and Japan with you. You’ve encouraged me to keep on writing, and you always know the best way to do things. Putting on *Stone Soup* couldn’t have been better, and of course there’s the adorable doggy, Sam.

You can make anyone laugh or cry, and you are the most lovable teacher ever. I giggle to myself whenever I hear one of your jokes. You are a pleasure to know. Mrs. Ameri, you have changed my life.

**DOMINIQUE LAZZARO**  
*Fourth Grade*

**ASSIGNMENT:** Describe a place that is significant to you.

A place that’s very special to me is my grandmother’s house. What’s great about her house is that it’s less than a mile away from my house. I go there at least once a week, most of the time on Sundays, because that’s when everyone in my family comes to have macaroni and meatballs.

When I was little, Mom used to work, so I would go to my grandmother’s house. We would play a game where we would sit on the porch and watch the cars go by, and then we would each pick a color – let’s say silver was my color, and if ten cars would go by that were silver, I’d win! But if ten of the color of my grandmother’s car would go by, then she’d win!

Now that I’m older, we don’t play that game so much anymore, but we do bake and cook! In the summer we do *A LOT* of fried zucchini! One time this summer we did *EIGHT* zucchini at one time. It’s a lot of work, but I don’t mind because I’ll eat all of it! We also bake jelly cookies. They are oatmeal and brown sugar on the outside with jelly from the garden in the middle. We usually use strawberry and raspberry jelly, but you can use any kind. Those are only a few things we bake, but there’s plenty more in that magic cookbook of hers.

There are *TON* more reasons why my grandmother’s house is really special to me; these are only a few of my favorites!

**IZABEL FARYNICK**  
*Sixth Grade*

My country house is one of my favorite places in the world. It is in upstate New York. I usually go there in the winter to go skiing. There are four floors; they are the basement, the first floor, the second floor, and the third floor.

No one in my family ever goes down into the basement, so I don’t really know what it is like down there. Whenever I look downstairs, there are a lot of

spider webs, and it seems very creepy. I don’t know, but I think someone might live down there.

The first floor is where almost everything is. There are the kitchen, the TV room, the living room, the “new” room, and the dining room. The new room is not really new anymore, but it is the newest room, and the name stuck. The new room is what most people would call a screened porch. There is a fireplace in the living room that is nice to sit by when it is cold.

The second floor is where the adults, and sometimes my cousins, sleep. We also have the clubhouse. That is where we used to sleep and hang out, but now we keep most of our skiing equipment there during the summer.

The third floor is where almost everyone else sleeps. There are three rooms there. There is a bathroom, a kid’s room (which Liz thinks is hers) and the “Scottie” room. The third floor is always COVERED with bugs. Like seriously, if my country house got destroyed, at least twenty species of just ladybugs would become extinct. The bathroom is small but has a tub and a shower. The shower up there is one of the strangest showers in the world. Sometimes it randomly gets really hot, even if you don’t change the temperature. The “Scottie” room is probably one of the nicest rooms in the house. It has the nicest and most comfortable bed and is normally clean. It is called the “Scottie” room because it has many pictures of Scottie dogs in it. The Wii is in the kid’s room because it has a lot of people. The kid’s room has most of the bugs in it. So, if there are a lot of bugs in that room, I’ll try to sleep in the Scottie room.

As soon as you walk into my country house, there is a creepy staircase that no one ever uses. It goes straight into the clubhouse and is full of spider webs. When you need a good place to hide in *Hide-and-Go-Seek*, you hide there because everyone is too afraid to go in there and look for you.

My country house has a very big back yard, but it is mostly woods. There is a jungle gym that is barely used, except when we go down the slide on a snow tube during the winter; a pretty big area to play games like running bases and Wiffle ball; and a basketball hoop and paved area to play. The basketball hoop is only a few years old, so we use it a lot. The teams are usually John and I against Danny and David. Sometimes my dad and sister play, so John and I usually get Liz, and Danny and David get my dad. John, Liz, and I usually win.

Also right before I go inside, there is a door that is in the ground that no one knows where it goes. It is surrounded by plants and weird animals like small snakes and bugs. I think it might have a staircase when you open the door that leads down to the basement, but it is too scary and covered with things to open and check.

My country house is one of my favorite places because it is fun to be up there, it is a good place to relax, and I always have fun when I am there. I hope I will be able to go there for the rest of my life.

**THOMAS GOLD**  
*Sixth Grade*