



THE FLIPSIDE



THE CREATIVE COMMUNICATION CONTEST - Essays selected for publication.

I hate how most people treat animals. When most people see a bug, they step on it for no reason. What did the bug ever do to that person? It did nothing, but the person stepped on it anyway. Why? For no reason. If most people see a rat, they become petrified and call the exterminator for no reason. I wish that would change.

It also annoys me how some people treat trees. I know that people only cut down trees for money, but think of this. Which is more important, money or trees? Without trees, life would be impossible. Besides, cutting down trees isn't the only way to earn a living. You could be a doctor or a firefighter, and instead of destroying life, you could save it.

Everyone and everything would be happier if people were nicer to plants and animals, and in return, animals would be nicer to you.

EZRA BRODY Fifth Grade

Since we are in global warming, we are trying to be more eco-efficient. We have many different ideas for eco-efficient ways to live. The most famous idea that is in production right now is the solar panel idea. Solar panels extract electricity from sunlight.

We also have rain panels, wind turbines, and waterfall electricity catchers. There are even cars whose wheels act like wind turbines (except they are powered by gas)! Many houses have been turned eco-efficient by using all these new ideas.

Cars are also turning eco-efficient. Hybrid cars have batteries as well as a gas tank so the consumption of gas is smaller. Just because cars are turning eco-efficient, doesn't mean people can't enjoy them. The 2020 model Mustang® is one of the coolest convertibles ever, even though it doesn't run on gas. The new off-terrain cars are going to be designed not to run on gas. Even though cars are getting smaller, they are getting cooler. There is a new technology which changes pollution to gas. This technology helps use less gas for more energy and creates no pollution. People who make more power than they use will get paid by the power grid. This could help people in this economic recession. So why can't more people try to be eco-efficient?

RUSHABH MEHTA Fifth Grade

My baby brother, Damian, is four months old. He is very cute, and he smiles a lot. Damian has only one dimple, which is on his right cheek. Every time Damian has a blanket, he rubs it on his cheeks and smiles. Whenever Damian smiles, his one dimple shows. He is such a smiley baby, even when he has a minor accident.

One day, I was eating dinner. My middle brother, Adrian, was done with dinner and was playing the Nintendo Wii. Damian was happily sitting in his stroller. My dad wasn't home yet from work, so my mom was in charge. All of a sudden, there was chaos everywhere! Adrian got all frustrated with his Wii game. My mom was getting Adrian to not throw a tantrum. Then suddenly, we heard Damian screaming.

We looked in the stroller, and Damian wasn't there! Then, we looked on the floor, and he was lying there, on his face! My mom grabbed him quickly, comforted him, and checked to see if he was all right. He was fine, but was probably scared. We had no idea how he ended up on the floor. We all hugged and kissed him. Then he stopped crying, looked at us, and gave us his one-dimple smile.

Now everything is okay. That was in August which was 4 months ago. Now he is a happy, healthy baby and loves to smile. Let's hope he stays that way.

JULIAN BALKCOM Fifth Grade

I am taking Earth Science this year, and I am learning about minerals. I just learned about silicate and non-silicate minerals. They are really interesting because they're the most common and useful minerals.

Silicate minerals are a combination of silicate and oxygen (O). Feldspar, a type of common silicate, makes up about half the earth's crust. They also contain aluminum, potassium, sodium, and calcium. This keeps us separated from the earth's core. Another type of common silicate is biotite mica. It's found in most granites. This is helpful because it causes granite to easily be worked with. Quartz is another common silicate. It is also known as silicon dioxide (SiO₂). It is useful because it is used to make glass and jewelry.

Non-silicate minerals do not contain silicon, but they do contain oxygen along with carbon, iron and sulfur. Native elements are minerals composed of only one element. Some examples are gold, platinum, diamond, copper, sulfur and silver.

I find this subject interesting. There is much more to learn about it. If you find something interesting too, look it up, take out a book, and maybe someday you could become a geologist.

SCHUYLER YOUNG Fifth Grade

ASSIGNMENT: Describe a special gift you gave someone and how it made you feel.

One day I gave my grandma and grandpa a calculator if grandma or grandpa needed to add. It made them happy and me too. The ninth grade helped me. It was \$6 at the L.I.S.G. gift shop. In kindergarten I got the calculator. I was still 6 at the time. I got it for Mother's Day.

JASON JACKREL First Grade

For Mother's Day I gave Mom a piece of paper with a finger print. It made me feel happy. It made Mom feel happy. She wrote words on it.

ANNA WAITE First Grade

I gave a gift to my parents when I was in Pre-K. The gifts were ornaments. One of the ornaments was a macaroni frame. They were really happy. They hung it on a tree. It looks nice. There is a poem on the back. I felt happy.

DYLAN KLANSKY First Grade

I gave a key chain to my mom and dad. I gave the key chain in 2008. I gave it to them because I think they liked it. It made me feel happy, and they felt happy.

DARIO HASSANKHANI First Grade

Last year I gave my spelling teacher an apple and a mug holder and a key chain. The mug holder made my teacher feel fine, and the other thing made me feel fine.

ALEC MIERZEJEWSKI First Grade