scifest

RANDOLPH COLLEGE 2021

ON WINGS OF CURIOSITY

Finalists' Contributions from the
2021 Randolph College
Science Festival Poetry Competition

Poetry OF SCIENCE

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The Sun

Shining brightly, tilted slightly, you're the color of gold, you're fearless and bold… you're very hot, your heat never stops, you take care of Earth, we all know that you're worth more than septillion moons, too many tablespoons to measure to find out whether to avoid asteroids and Mars, instead of staring at the closest star. You're like an avatar, and though it seems bizarre an oven can't reach your temperature and even Jupiter agrees, thinking about you is fun, because now we all know you're The Sun.

First Place
Magnolia Chisolm
Bedford Hills Elementary School
Grade 2

The Natural Resources

I am thankful for water because it is cool,
I am thankful for plants because they rule.
I am thankful for animals, I ride on their backs,
I am thankful for land where I put a shack.
I am thankful for air, in it I jump,
If it all went away, I would be a grump.

Second Place
Ryleigh Grimes
Bedford Hills Elementary School
Grade 1
Teacher: Chantelle Deddens

Thunder and Lightning

Lightning goes through the air.
It gives me a scare.
Thunder happens at the same time,
but it is last to the finish line.

Third Place
Lydia Jones
Homeschool
Grade K

Planets and Stars

Planets
In orbit, big and small
Spinning, dying, orbiting
Dragging, Striking, exploding,
falling, shining, killing
Hot, yellow
Stars

Elex Gowen
James River Day School
Grade 1
Teacher: Betsy Layne

Volcanoes

When a volcano erupts,
its sounds can be heard.
All of the people fun,
from the bear to the bird.
Magma stay inside
the crust.
Lava comes out,
when it busts.

Gideon Jones
Homeschool
Grade 1

Pileated Woodpecker

It eats bugs in the trees,
when the wind's in a-blow.
It eats bugs like these,
the red-head I know.
Oh that bird!
It's not the pileated flicker.
That's not how you say it-
it's the pileated woodpecker!

Lawson Neufeld
Homeschool
Grade 2

Hurting Hornets

Hornet
Fierce, Fast
Moving, Frightening, Stinging
It hurts when stung
Wasp like

Blaine Parandian
James River Day School
Grade 1
Teacher: Elizabeth Owen

Health

I am thankful for water that's healthy to drink,
I am thankful for plants that make medicine pink.
I am thankful for animals, they are good to ride,
I am thankful for air where it's tricky to hide.
I am thankful for land where beautiful things grow,
Natural resources help the world, I know.

Megan Rumore
Bedford Hills Elementary School
Grade 1
Teacher: Chantelle Deddens

Resources

I am thankful for animals because they are strong,
I am thankful for plants whose petals are long.
I am thankful for water, I swim in the sea,
I am thankful for land, because it grows peas.
I am thankful for air, the wind moves the trees,
Our natural resources are good for me.

Zoey Smith
Bedford Hills Elementary School
Grade 1
Teacher: Chantelle Deddens

Otter

Otters float on the water,
The sea otter is active during the day,
The river otter is nocturnal,
Each otter has different amount of pups at a time,
River otters have longer rounded tails.

Isaac Spontarelli
TC Miller Elementary School
Grade 2

Unique Universe

Stars shine in your eyes
Galaxies are all around
We are all just specks

Burke Stands
James River Day School
Grade 1
Teacher: Elizabeth Owen

Space and Earth

Space
Big, huge
Blasting, exploding, shooting
Stars, planets, good, small
Living, breathing, spinning
Green, blue
Earth

Noah Warren
James River Day School
Grade 1
Teacher: Betsy Layne

Horses

Horses are black and brown and white
Often eat carrots
Run fast
Some are short and some are tall
Every horse is different

Lilly Woods
James River Day School
Grade 1
Teacher: Elizabeth Owen

This is Coronavirus

In 2021
Please wear a mask,
It is all that I ask.
It's not that hard of a task.
Don't make it worse,
We need to disperse.
Keep your distance,
Or there will be no more human existence.
For instance,
I see people young and old of age,
Who just don't feel like a change.
If you get it, it could be misery,
This event will go down in history.
Wearing a mask is best,
Otherwise, you might have to take the Covid test.
Wash your hands,
Especially if you just shook hands.
Go to the grocery store safely to get the things you need,
That way you do not have to go out to eat.
Remember what I say,
This is no time to play.
Doctors are being clever,
By working harder than ever.
THIS IS COVID
Do not be stupid.

First Place
Taylor Woodruff
Bedford Connects
Grade 5

Poetry OF SCIENCE

elementary school

Honey Bees

I am a honey bee,
a pollinator,
a worker,
foraging for my colony,
helping the economy,
my sisters and I,
build a honeycomb,
my home.

We serve our duty,
to our queen,
and the Earth
we help bring flowers,
with bright sheen,
on warm spring days,
we swarm in fields,
the Humans yield,
they spray us with neonics,
wiping out our family.

We play the most important role,
in this place we call our home,
we are disappearing,
when you need us most,
even though the earth,
is both of our hosts.

You should act,
sign our pact,
maybe one day we'll be free,
to go about as we please,

Continued

in this land,
where is all the empathy?
Listen closely,
hear our plea,
the plea of,
the honey bees.

Second Place
Rowena Phillips
RS Payne Elementary School
Grade 5
Teacher: Sarah Hoffman

elementary school

Silly Little Cats

Walking through the dark, whiskers leading the way
A wall? Oh no! Just some silly hay
Silly me, hissing at a dog
Should've known it was just some fog
I run and run and pounce on a face
Silly cat, give me some space
Ailurophilia? What is that?
Oh it's just the love of any cat
I hiss and meow and scratch galore
Silly cat, it's just the door
I'm a hunter hunting for mice
Mmm... that tastes nice
Ahhh I hate water!
Noooo! Don't make it hotter

Third Place
Lucinda Ashare
RS Payne Elementary School
Grade 3
Teacher: Amanda Fiefhaus

Lizards

Lizards are reptiles, and most have four scaly feet.
And I really think they are just neat.
Some camouflage live leaves and some like twigs.
Some camouflage like bark and some like sticks.
The green iguana can turn various shades of green.
They may look scary, but they're not mean.
Geckos can climb on a glass wall.
Because of the hairs on their feet, they will not fall.
The frilled lizard has a huge frill.
Once you look at it, it will be a thrill.
The blue-tongued skink has a tongue that is blue.
It eats bugs, snails, and plants too.
The chameleon's toes are in groups of twos or threes.
They can also change any color they want to be.
The marine iguana shoots saltwater out of its nose.
It feeds on seaweed wherever it goes.
Some lizards even have two legs or no legs at all.
If you want to learn more, just give me a call.
I love lizards, and that's all I have to say.
I hope I win Scifest, and have a great day!

Jenna Ballard
Forest Middle School
Grade 4

Geometry

When you step outside what do you see?
The sky, the mountains, and maybe some trees.
I thought that too until it hit me
It's all Geometry.
My brother plays basketball outside
I notice the backboard has four sides
A rectangle jumped out at me
It's all Geometry.
Up in the starry night
Shines a moonlit circle so very bright
The moon winks at me
It's all Geometry.

Malia Barrera
RS Payne Elementary School
Grade 5
Teacher: Sarah Hoffman

Ratios

I was doing math homework,
My sister questioned me,
Looking over my shoulder,
"Does 3:2 equal 2:3?"

I shook my head,
But she didn't care.
I'd have to do
A visual compare.

"If you had two apples,
For three honey bees,
You know that would be
Two to three."

"But when apples are three,
And bananas are two,
You'd have a 3:2 ratio,
Wouldn't you?"

Annabelle Martinez
RS Payne Elementary School
Grade 5
Teacher: Sarah Hoffman

Poetry OF SCIENCE

elementary school

On Wings of Curiosity

Quail, Ostrich, and Cockatoo
They're all the family of the you-know-who…
The bird family!

From the Brown Kiwi to the Blue Jay
They are all unique in a different way
The Cardinal and the Chickadee
Stay for winter, then they leave
While other birds like the Meadowlark
Stay for spring and then depart

Some birds have names that are very pleasant
Like the Magnificent Bird of Paradise
And the Ring-Necked Pheasant
Ornithologists are people who study birds
They gave them fancy names made from scientific words
Like Agelaius Phoeniceus or Red-Winged Blackbird

Male birds usually have brighter colored feathers
To impress the females (who may look a bit more weathered)
Some males and females basically look the same
Like the Robin and the Mourning Dove
But to win the females, the males still entertain

So, dear reader, I wish to enthrall
With this poem about birds
For I enjoy them all!

Alysse Martins
Homeschool
Grade 5

Division and Fractions

Multiplication, addition, subtraction; all of these things
have a different reaction. But we can't forget division, I
bring it up now for a different reason.
If you want to split a pizza with a friend, you have to use
division in the end. You can also call this fractions, but
that's a different course of action.
If everyone wants an equal share you have to divide into
pairs. You can do the same when cutting a pie, now lis-
ten closely I won't lie.
Division and fractions are the same even though they
have different names.

Graham Meador
Bedford Hills Elementary School
Grade 3

Decimals

Decimals are the subject of my poem, and I think it's safe to say, Decimals are something we use almost every day. From calculators to money, decimals pave the way, to a great math journey that will never lead you astray

Everyone uses decimals whether they know it or not, it is something you do quite a lot. If it is a 50 % chance for rain then you can change it to 0.5 percent just the same. The chance of rain does not change but the way you see it is rearranged. So next time you see a percent or even a fraction, change it into a decimal to see the reaction.

Calculating the answer with a decimal involved can be fun! If you know what has to be done. The multiplying is exactly the same but add the decimal and change up the game. How many numbers are behind the dot? Let's say two, and move the decimal two spaces behind the lot. Now your answer is a decimal too, the problem is done and you're all through!

In case you are caught in a place, where the decimal doesn't make sense. Use this little lesson to teach you, at no expense! You see behind the dot is a tenth, out of the hole number one. And even further down is when it starts to get fun. Behind the tenth is a hundredth and behind that a thousandth out of one. See? This is easy! And now the lesson is done.

Money is yet another way we use decimals every single day. When you buy an item at the store, you always have

Continued

to pay! Dollars and cents, it always adds up. With one little dot that divides the lot. Between cash and coins, the decimal has a place. It's not just a little dot. It leaves quite a trace!

Adding decimals is a bit tough, if you don't know what to do it can be rough. If the decimal has to regroup then you add a number to your whole, this is getting easier isn't it? You can finally take control. You add it normally, one on top of the other, just like a bunk bed you would share with your little brother.

Left of the decimal are whole numbers that go one forever, 1,2,3,4 counting is easy! Not that clever. So then if you look to the right of the decimal you will see, parts of numbers going all the way past a billionth and three! One little dot separates the sides, left and right the dot divides!

So always remember to think about the decimal and the many ways, it helps us do math every single day.

Caroline Shoemaker
RS Payne Elementary School
Grade 5
Teacher: Sarah Hoffman

The Tree

The breeze hits the tree and ruffles her leaves,
As a dove flies above looking for love.
The children climb up her playing around,
For there is no noise just simply sounds.
The bright shining sun beams down on her bark,
As the sun sets down low and it becomes dark.
The soft forest ivy grows up her tall spine,
As the world keeps on spinning and time passes by.
The bees make their nest of her tall limb,
Helping the flowers a so simple win.
Nature keeps growing through her life and mine,
For life keeps on living all different kinds.
Trees are our friends they keep us alive,
No more complaining they are just fine.
So let's not keep chopping up all of our friends,
They are here for a reason it doesn't depend.

Paige Sittason
RS Payne Elementary School
Grade 5
Teacher: Sarah Hoffman

Lava

When lava is hot
It reaches 2000 degrees
When lava cools
It turns into igneous rock
Lava is fast it can reach
The speed of 25 mph
When you are in caves lava is near
When you are at the bottom
Diamonds are near
Lava is a certain type of liquid
When the lava crosses the land
The trees, the grass, will now leave the ash

Nate Smith
Forest Elementary School
Grade 4
Teacher: Marylee Reynolds

The Bored Bar Graph

I have numbers,
Below and to the left of me.
I sit on a wall overlooking the classroom.
And every once and awhile,
Colorful rectangles are added to me.
Sometimes they reach high,
Sometimes they stay low.
But it doesn't matter to me.
I want something new!
I want to be in a new place!
So I struggle to un-stick the tape that keeps me prisoner.
But it doesn't work.
Finally a gust of wind blows,
Ripping the tape and a little bit of me too.
But I'm free!
I'm finally -
I get put in the trash.
It's not fair!
I worked so hard to get off that wall,
And I end up in the trash?
Oh well,
I'll never be free.

Leo Styrsky
RS Payne Elementary School
Grade 5
Teacher: Sarah Hoffman

elementary school

Red Pandamonium

I wish that the red pandas with their cute and snuggly face
Would have a nice green habitat
I wish I wish I wish
I wish people would stop clearing trees
Don't take their trees away please
I wish I wish I wish
I wish they could have a nice green dish of bamboo soup
And eat those endless leaves
I wish I wish I wish
Bushy tails not for retail
Don't trap the little bears
I wish I wish I wish

Colson Sullenger
Homeschool
Grade 4

Poetry OF SCIENCE

middle school

The Four Seasons

The wind howls as the leaves dance gracefully in the spring's breeze.
Green leaves dance around me as I skip to the beat of the wind.
I see nature at its best and hear the seasons tell their story.
Summer boasts about its sunny weather and its glory.
Spring talks about its new beginnings and breath of life.
Fall mentions its significance of growth and maturity.
Winter comments on its calmness, silence, and detachment.
Summer comes like a thief in the night.
The breathtaking color of green in sight.
The hot sun radiating off my skin.
Birds sang gracefully as the melody engulfed my body within.
Yes, this is summer.
Spring arrives with new beginnings and breath of life.
The trees start growing and turn a variety of magnificent colors.
Grass is no longer faded, but a magnificent color of green.
The captivating sight of spring is seen.
Fall approaches with the promise of growth and maturity.
Animals start gathering plenty of food for security.
Plants stop making food and daylight grows shorter.
Cold winter-like breeze dances around in the season of fall.
Winter rolls around on the guarantee of calmness, silence,
and detachment.
The animals have hibernated and the birds have flown further south.
The sweet and graceful melody of the bird's song is no more.
Bitter cold breeze dances around me and I shiver throughout.
Welcome to winter.

First Place
Olawande Oluwaji
Linkhorne Middle School
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

Finding the true Earth

I sit on the bank
Listening
To the spring flow
Taking in
The simplest forms
Of nature
Thinking about nothing
Focusing on nothing
Listening to nothing
But nature
I open my eyes
And I am in
A little heaven
Tall swaying trees
With nothing but natural
Surrounding me
The earth
Is showing me
it's true self
And I do not interrupt

Second Place
Jacob Mitchell
Linkhorne Middle School
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

Poetry OF SCIENCE

middle school

Space

Space
Space, full of stars and matter
Stars that might not even be there
Light that travels forever and ever
Today's children are told to you wish upon
To grant them dream and wishes
That may come true, but that outcome is never certain

Ocean
Big, blue and full of wondrous creatures
Some big, some small, and some you can't see
at all Fish the color of pink, green, orange, blue
purple, and many more
Some are captured and some are free
Many are meant to be eaten
by bigger predators hunt them for food
CHOMP! CHOMP! CHOMP!

Wind
I carry the whispers on lost souls
Secrets and mysteries that have
never been solved.
I carry the tears of lost children
I carry the worries of parents
I carry that the blood of the innocent
And convicted
When I think I've seen it all
I think that can humanity get any worse
Truth be told it always does and it never ends
It's a repeating cycle of torture, greed, vengence, and justice

Third Place
Sierra Kelly
Linkhorne Middle School
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

The mystery of space

Cold and dark
A deep abyss
Is surely filled
With dormant bliss

An infinite void
So deep and black
Is an empty remind
Of my cul de sac

Houston counts 3, 2, 1
Travel out to new territory
The trip to come might not be fun
But after the fact we have a story

Down on earth
The little dots
Tied to ground
In gravity knots

The war that rages
In our minds
Curiosity
Our mental bind

Back down to earth
We head steadfast
Our gallant ship
Shall not be last

The past events
Which made us bicker
The last of which
Just fade and flicker

Though I am drawn
To sail once more
Reeled back in
On spaces lure

Space is truly a mystery

Michael Bennett
Altavista Combined School
Grade 7
Teacher: Andrea Rice

Covid 19

The smell stings my nose.
Its slippery under my toes.
Hand sanitizer.
It fogs up my glasses.
And makes it hard to concentrate in classes.
Masks.
They smell like rubber.
The bright blue makes you shudder.
Gloves.
It's coated with spikes and armed with protein.
It's nothing like scientists have ever seen .
It is Covid 19.

Dalia El-ahdab
Homeschool
Grade 8

Science

I absolutely like science because scientists learn something new every day.
Science is enjoyable because I can do experiments.
When I see science I see different things every time,
like electricity,
a star,
or cells through a microscope.
Science is everything,
Earth,
the solar system,
the universe,
and everything in between.
With science, you can do countless things like,
make an elephant toothpaste volcano,
launch a bottle rocket,
or build a solar-powered car.
Science is for everyone no matter what you like.

Rowan Harrington
Jefferson Forest Combined School
Grade 7

Poetry OF SCIENCE

middle school

Eruption

The magma turns and bubbles
Deep below the surface
Causing little trouble
And almost no disturbance
Then the pressure starts to build
The magma starts to rise
Then lava finally spills
And we start to realize
That we should hit the bricks
Before we're burnt alive
Leaving all the ticks
And things we want to hide

Michaela Harvey
Linkhorne Middle School
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

Plant Life

I started under the ground, then my color came around.
The sun was shining on me, for everybody to see.
They came from far and wide, to see if I would grow to the sky.
Even though I started small, I will grow up to be big and tall.
It takes me about three months to grow, watch and see and you will know.
The sunny days will come by fast, winter will come and I won't last.

Travis Logan
Altavista Combined School
Grade 7
Teacher: Andrea Rice

Our Earth

Our earth
We walk on it, build on it, learn on it, live on it
But do we know it
It is made up of many layers
Like a wedding cake with many tiers
Our earth

First, we find the crust
The mighty crust that protects the other layers from drills and hammers
Like a protective mother watching over her newborn baby
Sedimentary, igneous, metamorphic
These rocks have all combined, putting aside their differences
To make our wonderful crust
This is the layer on which trees grow, children play, flowers bloom
And memories are made

Next up is the mantle
The lonely mantle
Separated from the crust by the Moho discontinuity
It has no friends, no one can even visit
It must be observed by seismic waves from far, far away
It has hardened itself up to the world, its upper parts made of solid rock
But deep, deep down in the asthenosphere
Its heart is made of plastic rock
Passing between liquid and solid
Wishing for a friend

Poetry OF SCIENCE

middle school

The core
One large layer split in two
The outer core and the inner
core broken apart by yet another discontinuity
Each with similar names but very unique personalities
The outer core is liquid rock
Compassionate and kind
With an optimistic view,
he bears the earth's weight with joy

The inner core has buckled under this trial, hardened into solid rock
And there he sits, pessimistic as ever
Never uttering a kind word
The earth's magnetic field exists here in the core
Sparking discoveries and controversy

There is so much more to learn about the earth
About how things grow and live
Gravity, tectonics, elements, and weather
Topics for another day

Our earth
Created to perfectly support life
From the Homosphere to the inner core
Let's get to know it
Our earth

Hope Martins
Homeschool
Grade 8

A World Without Numbers

Imagine a world without numbers
We would all begin to slumber
We would not know math
And go down the wrong path
A grim life we would encumber

Jonas McLeroy
Homeschool
Grade 7

The rhythm of snowflakes

Today, I saw snowflakes falling and snow building up
I thought it would keep coming,
But then it stopped.
Why did it stop?
I cry.
I cry.
The morning was so perfect,
But it came to an end.
I looked out the window
Over
And over again
With one last glance,
I got out of bed,
And to my surprise,
It had started again.

Leighton Nelson
Linkhorne Middle School
Grade 8
Teacher: Katie Cyphert

Space

Space beautiful with its grace
Leaving the atmosphere
Without a trace
Everyone wants to be in the place
Where you can't hold
Onto your case
Like the stars in the sky
How wish I could fly
Like the stars in the sky
But I'm too shy
To fly
Like the stars in the sky

Emma Radar
Altavista Combined School
Grade 7
Teacher: Andrea Rice

This is a poem about science

Lost in my mind I am. I try to find a way out but the only way is to go through the beaker and Anemometer and all the other tools. You have to run and run as fast as you can to get to the other side of the grippers and nippers and forceps. But you also have to get through the forest of "shaving cream?" yup shaving cream is a complex liquid. bye.

Jurrien Shirlen
Altavista Combined School
Grade 7
Teacher: Andrea Rice

Water Wheels

As heat increases, and water evaporates
The clouds appear, and so the rain falls
Saturating the ground, seeping underground
From the coast to mountaintop, the water cycles

The cause and effect is stronger than most
Rivers and lakes love this show
And the water wheels keep turning so
The waterfalls can keep on falling

The forest cheer them on, every atom on fly
Vapor making the fuel, clouds making the car
Hold the water close, to survive, to live
A never ending cycle
that would kill us if ended

First Place
Caleb McCain
EC Glass High School
Grade 9
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Puddle

You see a puddle,
Like a child, you kick the puddle,
But the puddle remembers that.
The puddle has been through a lot,
It's been through breakups,
And shake ups,
And everything in between.
It's been through a father forgiving his son,
And a single mother looking for someone.
It's been in the clouds,
Up in the sky,
Round and round,
All through every town.
The puddle doesn't need to search for a purpose,
It doesn't believe in anything profound,
Its purpose is just to be a puddle,
Right there, sitting on the ground.
So next time you see a puddle,
In a crowd, with the water huddled,
Remember our puddle?
It's been through a lot,
So just let it sit,
Let it sit there in thought.

Second Place
Toby Bradner
EC Glass High School
Grade 9
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Life Is Not What It Once Was

Within the pulsing interior of this tree,
Its fragile existence,
I rest,
I rest my tired eyes,
Tightly shut like old hinges of a door that sighs open with a cautious breath of air,
With these leaves cradling each tear that falls,
My despair feeds the wrinkling and withering roots reaching through the earth,
Craving sustenance,
Even the poisoned waters that pour from above,
Each wind beckons,
Telling of my downfall,
Acidic rain burns
through my shut eyelids,
The smoke-filled air suffocating,
Choking and smothering the hope that, in the past, battled for a thought in our minds,
Soon this tree will perish like all the creatures that expired and drew breath in times gone by,
Either extinct or invasive, the lot of them,
They meet their end,
And here my shivers cannot be suppressed,
Because I fear my own,
Each sudden drop and increase in temperature grappling with Mother Nature,
My aching want for survival keeps alive this lone body of mine,
My tears form crystalline and clear as morning dew,
When liquid came calmly as such,

Yet becomes tarnished once the pesticides present take hold,
Blisters appear and a flaming rash carves vine-like lines that scab over my translucent skin,
The shadowy haze filters my vision and I reek of the mustardy textured
substance,
I feel a heaviness strike me,
And gravity coaxes me near,
Where a familiar hollowness then fills my insides,
I can only hope that someday the buds will show green again,
That the drying heat won't control the cycle of growth,
That the white sun will bring the nights,
Animals that still live can one day thrive again,
So I may no longer be the only one,
The only one struggling,
The only living thing I see,
And I am on the edge.
125%

Third Place
Angelica Rodriguez
EC Glass High School
Grade 12
Teacher: Heather McCormick

high school

The Life Cycle of a Common Frog

In the murky shallows below,
Float a myriad of slimy eggs resembling roe.
Thousands, thousands, thousands of them are spawned,
By a leaper who will have left them by dawn.
For weeks they sit there waiting to burst,
The only question is, which one will be the first?

POP!
An egg releases a creature.
A small amphibian,
Much like the size of its egg.
It is small, round, and slimy,
With a tail attached to its head.
Throughout the pond water,
It twirls its tail with a swish.
It breathes using gills,
But it is no fish.
Green: the color of its flesh,
And the algae and plant life it consumes fresh.
For several weeks in this stage it will remain,
Till it is ready to take on its new terrain.

Before it is able to leave the pond,
Of which its memories are so very fond,
Adjustments must be made,
To the biological systems already in place.
Lungs to breathe in air,
Replacing its gills seems pretty fair.
Hind legs so as to leap,
But the tail it must keep.
A strange looking creature to some,
A froglet, this animal has become.

Closer than ever to its final form,
Soon enough it will be feasting upon worms.
Hind legs are already here,
Now it is time for the front legs to appear.
A quadruped with legs so grand,
This young frog is ready for dry land.
But wait, what do I see?
A tail as long as the eye can see.
Though it won't stay that way for long,
As it is absorbed for nutrients, it will eventually be gone.
This source of sustenance provides it a life carefree,
As it has all of the food it needs.
It is on to the final stage for this green being,
This cycle of growth is almost complete.

The creature is in its final stage,
Living on dry land is all the rage.
A loss of its tail isn't
the only change,
Its diet will also never be the same.
Algae and plants used to be its favorite food.
Now, anything other than insects will simply not do.
For two to four years the frog will grow,
By the end of this time an adult you will know.
It is now time for this frog to lay its own eggs,
In an effort to start this marvelous cycle again.

Hyden Daughon
EC Glass High School
Grade 12
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Learning to Fly

Little round eggs
Lay on a leaf
Not yet with legs
Not yet with grief
Out they come, lovely caterpillars
Their lives are yet to become such thrillers
Chrysalis is the biggest part of the change
For what happens inside is really quite strange
Finally out comes a nice sight to the eyes
Lots and lots of butterflies

Emma Elwell
EC Glass High School
Grade 9
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Math is Hard

2+2
It's simple
Anyone can do

3+8
Well I think
11 is pretty great

5+5
Wow
Don't I feel alive

4+4
There definitely
Could be more

6/2
Hey wait
It's 3

3/7 minus the square root of 11/9
Now
I don't think I'm feeling so fine

It just gets harder

Harder

Harder

Continued

$x^3+y^3+z^3=k$, for each k from 1 to 100
Now I think I'm done

I'm sorry

Alexis Hubbard
EC Glass High School
Grade 12
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Math and I

Math and I have a love hate relationship.
I hate math but I love it when I find the answer to a math problem.
Adrenalin starts running through my body like a track star.
I get excited when I realize I solved a problem by myself.
But then I feel discouraged when I can't solve it and the problem isn't like the last.
I stop.
Inhale, exhale, think.
Finally, I understand, now I can apply what I know.
Parentheses, Exponents, Multiply, Divide, Add and Subtract.
I am going to conquer this math problem with math.
Decimals, Percentages, Fractions, I got it.
Love you now, hate you later.
What's next, so that we can continue this relationship.

Quiniya Hubbard
EC Glass High School
Grade 10
Teacher: Heather McCormick

The Earth

Earth, such a wonderful place.
Animals roaming.
Kids playing in the water.
The birds chirping.

Earth, where all life resides.
The lush, green, grass swaying in the wind.
The circle of life at work.
Every day is different than the last.
Nothing ever the same.

Billions of years in the making.
Evolving, trying different ways to survive.
In the dark for the longest time, light emerges from the depths of the darkest ocean.
Earth is alive, currents moving water, animals grazing on the grasslands.

Many key elements needed to survive.
With how many people occupy this place we call Earth, pollution is destroying it.
How can we as a race, destroy the only place we call home?
Dumping trash into the ocean?
Coral reefs dying out.
Endangered species are becoming more and more common.

And we don't do anything about it.
We can not truly call Earth our home if we keep treating it like this.

With a population of over 7 billion people, resources are more scarce than ever.

Even with more and more planets being discovered,
Earth will always be our true home.
We evolved on Earth, dependent mostly on the soil to grow crops.
Survived natural disasters.

And yet, even after going through all the things we have gone through, we still pollute this beautiful planet.
With all the things on this planet, couldn't we appreciate it just a bit more?
It makes me sad to hear about the bad things that we do to our planet.

Earth needs to be protected at all costs.
Humans are destroying Earth but claim something else is doing that.
We need to stop and take a moment to think about the beauty of Earth.
SAVE OUR PLANET.

Earth, the place where we live, the place where animals and plants live, dependent on soil and nutrients.
The place where humanity started out as two people.
We are living out the circle of life day after day.
Yet we do nothing to save Earth.

Sierra Leair
EC Glass High School
Grade 10
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Ocean

The ocean has tides from the moon
The moon dances around Earth as though high from its motion
When oceans crash they make a great boom
When you put your toes in it could be cold like the Arctic Ocean

The ocean tides push and pull
The moons' gravitational pull makes a tidal force
Don't go in too deep or you'll get a mouthful
Ocean waves and tides can be as strong as a horse

There are the high tides and the low tides
The high ones come way up the beach with deep waters
Be careful and always keep a foot out for the undertow sides
High tides can also cause floodwaters

Low tides I think are the most fun
Sometimes you can even walk out for a mile
You can be on a sandbar in the sun
You can also see fish going by in a file

Mary Mayo
EC Glass High School
Grade 12
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Acid? Base? -The pH Scale

The pH scale goes from acids to bases,
one to fourteen,
from red to blue,
and if you're trying to make it all a little more fancy,
you can call the base alkaline,
but really,
if you don't know what's where,
you are wasting your time.
This is because,
water's in the middle with a pH of 7,
lemon juice,
soda,
battery acid,
all below it.
If you run above 7,
you get cleaners and all,
like baking soda,
bleach,
and soap.
The farther away you go from the 7,
the stronger the acid,
or base,
will be.
Mix an acid or base with water,
it'll neutralize it,
making a weaker acid or base,
but,
if you don't know if your substance is an acid or a base,
well,

Continued

dip it in litmus paper,
and color will show!
Red for an acid,
blue for a base,
with colors in between,
just like a pH scale redone.

Megan Nelson
EC Glass High School
Grade 9
Teacher: Sharon Weeks

The Earth is on fire

The Earth is on fire.
Some of us turn a blind eye.
Global temperatures grow higher,
And we know the reason why.

Greenhouse gases poison our atmosphere.
Our innovation cost us the Ozone.
Burning Fossil fuels releases smog and acid rain here.
With Los Angeles and East Asia we should have known.

Nature rears its ugly head, warning us of wrong doings.
California and Australia burn like gasoline, the Texas ice storm the world is currently viewing,
an increase in hurricanes that leaves the world unclean.

In the split second we have inhabited the Earth,
the worst has come to happen.
We have the choice of reversing our actions henceforth,
or continue to do nothing and watch the world cave in.

Elizabeth Plucker
EC Glass High School
Grade 9
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Quadratic Formula

"x" equals no clue
The quadratic formula
"Miss teacher, help please!"

Keira Potts
EC Glass High School
Grade 12
Teacher: Heather McCormick

Math

Math can be like a lottery you may never win

Math can be
like a train track; it never ends.
It can also be stressful but help you in the end.

Zach Smith
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