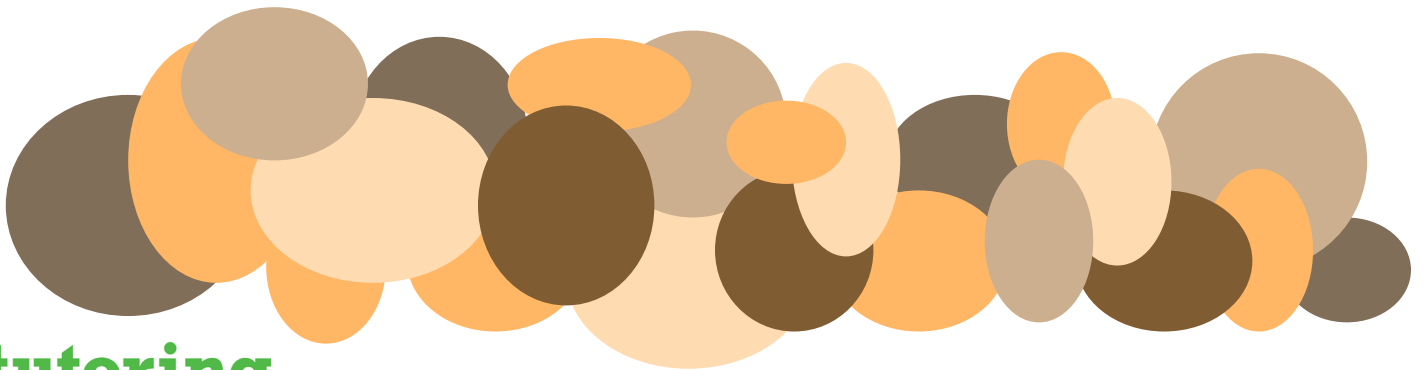


T U T O R I N G C H I C A G O ' S

STUDENT VOICES



The second edition of Tutoring Chicago's student publication, STUDENT VOICES, is dedicated to the ongoing influence that is a result of tutoring sessions. The impact of tutoring goes far and wide, as is recorded in these stories.

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What did I find most interesting to **LEARN** about this school year?

Every school year brings on lots of new things to learn—in school and at tutoring! What was one particular topic that piqued your interest this year? What are some facts you learned about it? What would you want fellow students to know about how/why this has been intriguing to you? Why may it be of interest to someone else?

EVELYN G. **My Favorite Class**

When I was a second grader I noticed an usual smell in my school. Would you like to know what it was? It was the pool at my school!

My swimming teacher is Ms. Kerrigan. She is so nice. Now swimming is my favorite class. It is enjoyable and useful.

I learned to float on my back and blow bubbles. I also learned to use a kick board and go to the deep end. This summer I am excited to swim in Lake Michigan because I now know how to swim. I can cool off when it is hot. I can play with friends in a pool. I can also play with my family, and go and find rocks under the sand.

“In class, I learned how to make beats and edit them.”

Elijah W.

ETHAN H. **GRADE 5**

KD is better than Lebron

Do you know why KD is better than Lebron? Well, if you think Lebron is better, I think I know what can change your mind. The way I can change your mind is by telling you eight facts.

My first fact is KD is so good that his greatness at basketball rubs off on other people which makes others better, like how MJ was.

My second fact KD is also a great all-star player because he has four all-star mvp awards, which Lebron only has two.

Thirdly, teams want KD because he gets traded, and signed to super star teams like the Thunder, Warriors, Nets, and now the Suns. These teams are good because of the great players they have.

Next, Kevin Durant has four scoring titles.

Then, KD could be more gifted than MJ, and Lebron isn't. That was said by basketball coach and champion Steve Kerr.

My sixth fact is he also has the height of a power forward, wingspan of a center shooting of a shooting guard and the speed of a more average point guard.

Seventh fact KD is more generous than Lebron because he only left one team and doesn't always want the ball but Lebron left 2 teams that loved him and he is a ball hog lots of times.

Finally, KD can shoot better, is taller, and smarter.

I hope that you now agree with me that KD is better than Lebron James.

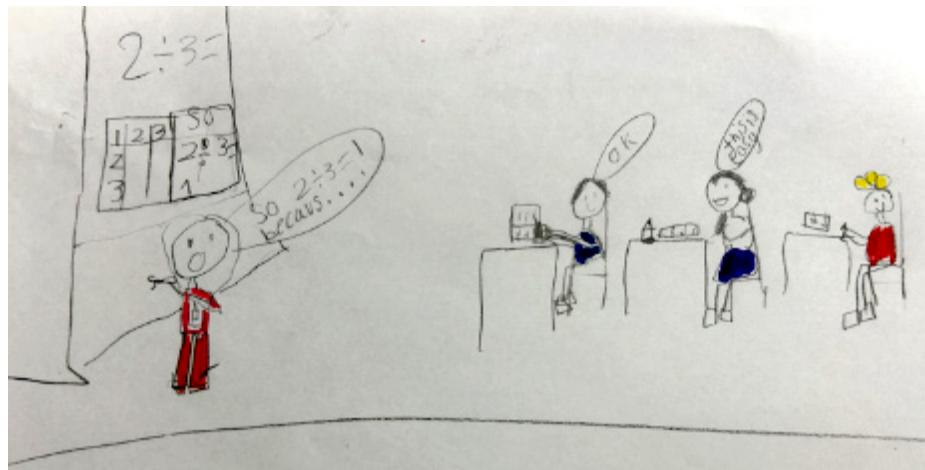
ELIJAH W. **GRADE 9**

The topic that I learned at my school is called Electronic Music and you can make different types of beats and it can be like a song. A fact that I learned is that the first electronic instruments were made in the late 1800s. In class, I learned how to make beats and edit them. You can do your favorite song, then you just have to find the right beat that sounds just like the song. It can be fun because students can learn how to make beats. You will also get tested on how to do it.

ISAAC D. **GRADE 5**

Something New I Learned This Year: Hockey

I love to play hockey. My position is defense. I like to play rough. My team got into the Championship game. I'm a little nervous, but I'm also excited. I practice on Wednesday nights after school. Before I practice, I have a snack. Then I drink water so I don't get dehydrated. During one of the games last week I got into a fight with someone on the other team. He pushed me and I hit him with the hockey stick. He got a bloody nose. The coach told me if I keep fighting like that then I can't be on the team. I told the coach that I was sorry and that it won't happen again. It happened again with the same kid and I got kicked off the team! This is a fictional story, but I do like to play hockey and my team is in the Championship this weekend. I am excited if we win the game. I think we will celebrate if we win. If we don't win, then I am still glad I played on the team.



ADN-IMAN J. GRADE 3

Do you want to know what I found most interesting in my school year? A few things I found interesting this year were reading Mr. Popper's Penguins, geometry, and division.

One of the interesting topics was Mr. Popper Penguins because it was really fun to read and entertaining while it lasted. Sometimes, I got to read some of the paragraphs. The whole class read it together and sometimes the teacher would read the first part.

I learned a lot of things about Mr. Popper and his penguins. Mr. Popper had penguins and he had to figure out how to keep them cold. They had two kids named Bill and Janie. They struggled to feed them because they didn't have a lot of money. Mr. Popper was a house painter and it was the end of the year so he didn't work anymore.

When they went in public the penguins acted really crazy around stairs and people. Whenever they got a chance to toboggan, they had to use it. Mr. Popper knew this because before he got the penguins, he did research about them. The penguins survived because it was winter. I'm excited to learn how they survive in the summer once we finish the book. I'm only on chapter 13.

I also found math interesting because I learned a lot of new things about geometry and division. In geometry, we were learning shapes and how to add, subtract and

multiply the shapes. We are learning how to calculate the area of a shape using one centimeter or inch squares and multiplying length times width. My teacher said we are learning both metric systems because if we are in architecture we can measure in either centimeters or inches. Our teacher gave us triangles, trapezoids, rhombuses and squares. We had to use those shapes to figure out how to fill in the square.

After we finished in the math book, our teacher gives us six or seven problems to do if we're done. If we're not done, we have to finish working. Sometimes we can't finish because we have gym. We learned how to divide big numbers and also to divide in your head. To divide in your head, you say for instance "How many times does 4 go into 6" and you can count on your fingers to do that. We haven't learned long division yet, but we're going to. I'm excited to learn long division because I never knew how.

We have different kinds of math books. One of them is for word problems and the other is for math drills. Math drills are when you have one minute to complete each problem. There is a part A and a part B. You don't get graded on it, it is just to see how you do.

In conclusion, I had fun in the school year learning about Mr. Popper and different math subjects. I had fun doing everything I did because I never did it before. I hope you liked my story.

DELILAH B. GRADE 5

SPHERE STUDIES

Hi, my name is Delilah — THE ONE AND ONLY DELILAH — and I'm in 5th grade. And let me tell you what I found most interesting in science.

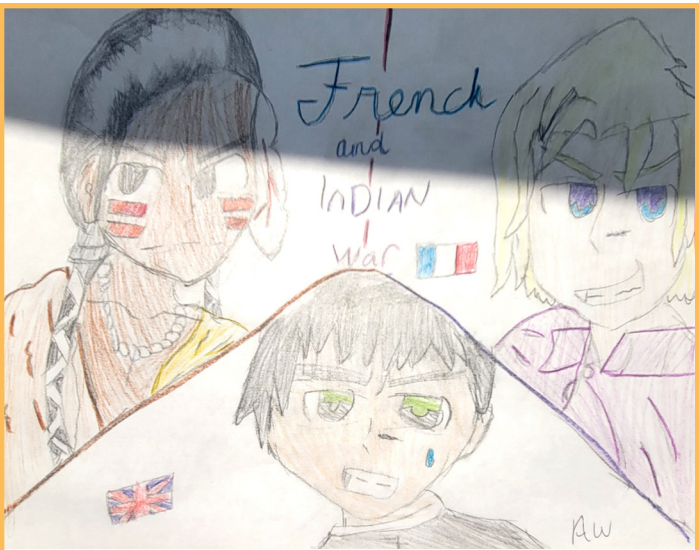
Well, when I started learning about the water cycle I thought my teacher was speaking gibberish. But once I raised my hand and said, "Ms. Alvarez, I am not understanding a thing you are saying," she started to explain to me, but she had to keep going on with the lesson. In the lesson she started to talk about the spheres and said, "Does anybody have an idea of what the 4 spheres are?" Nobody answered.

She went on to list them.

1. Hydrosphere: all the water on Earth
2. Geosphere: one word — LAND
3. Atmosphere: the air and space
4. Biosphere: all living things on Earth

The reason I think this is interesting is because I never really thought the world we live in was broken up into these four spheres, which are all connected. The reason this is important to know these spheres is because we need ALL 4 for the earth to be healthy. For example: if we affect the Hydrosphere — well, we need water to live — so the Biosphere would be endangered.

So you are probably wondering "Why did she find this important to share with us?" Well, fellow students, because this might help us in the future so that we take better care of all the spheres!



ANTON W. GRADE 5



BELINDA B. GRADE 2

I enjoy this school year because I'm learning about the Tainos. I like the sun symbol for the Tainos. I think you would like Mrs. Lopez class. It is fun.



A letter to someone who made an **IMPACT** on your year

The 2022–2023 school year is going to come to an end before we know it! Who is someone who has made an impact on you this year? Has there been a particular teacher, tutor, family member, friend, or other individual that has been especially impactful? Write them a letter to let them know how you feel.

CAMILA T. GRADE 4

Dear Lia,

You impacted me this year awesomely! First, you made the team better because you are good at tricking the opponent. We can go to the finals because you always score. Second, when we played soccer together, we won sometimes. Finally, we have fun together!



I'm grateful that you joined the team because you love soccer as much as I love soccer. You impacted me when you joined the team.

From,
Camila



LEONARDO A. GRADE 3

Dear Coach,

Thank you for making me get better at my skills. Practicing is fun and I feel calm. I hope we can win our final tournament.

Thank you,
Leo

SOFIA H. GRADE 5

Dear Zayna,

Thank you for the tutoring lessons you've given me. It helped me a lot during this school year. You have made me want to read more and find new facts I did not know. We read many articles about all sorts of things, one of my favorites was about this boy who slept outside for 3 years in a row.

Also, you've helped me in math which has helped me improve and get better grades. Together we learned PEMDAS which made big equations not so scary.

You've made me enjoy tutoring more because you make me laugh and want to learn. Thank you for teaching me!

Sincerely,
Sofia

MASON H. GRADE 6

Dear Ms.Parker,

Last year I used to have trouble in science class and didn't like it as much as my other classes. But this year you taught me so much and helped me with my science.

You are helpful because you break down the instructions to help me understand questions and understand why the correct answer is the correct answer. Also you pushed me to work harder by studying more and motivated me to do better. I also learned a lot more about the human body and how it works. I liked these subjects because I found it interesting how all of our muscles have to work together in order for us to be healthy. Even though I didn't like science last year, this year I found it more interesting. I was able to stay focused because I found science class interesting.

Sincerely, Mason



SILAS M.
GRADE 4

Dear Gio, you have always been there to reboot me in fortnite and always supporting me in class and you always help me when things go wrong. For example, you have been there when I got bullied and you made me ok and better. He is important to me because you help me get better and train me to do better in math.

MIA G.
GRADE 2

Dear Holly,
You teach me and you are nice to me. You are also so exciting! You are such a good teacher. Your brown hair and you are so cool.

Your friend,
Mia

ALANA R.
GRADE 2

Dear Ms. Davis,
I want to let you know that you are the best. You make me smile every day, even when I'm sad. You always help me with my work, like times tables, and you make math fun. Not only do you help me, you help a lot of other people. You always bring joy to the classroom and you never get mad over little stuff. You're very fun to learn with. March 29th when I was sitting at your desk we were talking and it was fun. I really like hanging out with you and learning from her and you make each day fun even when it's nothing special. You are always there for me - I hope you like this.

FROM: Alana R.

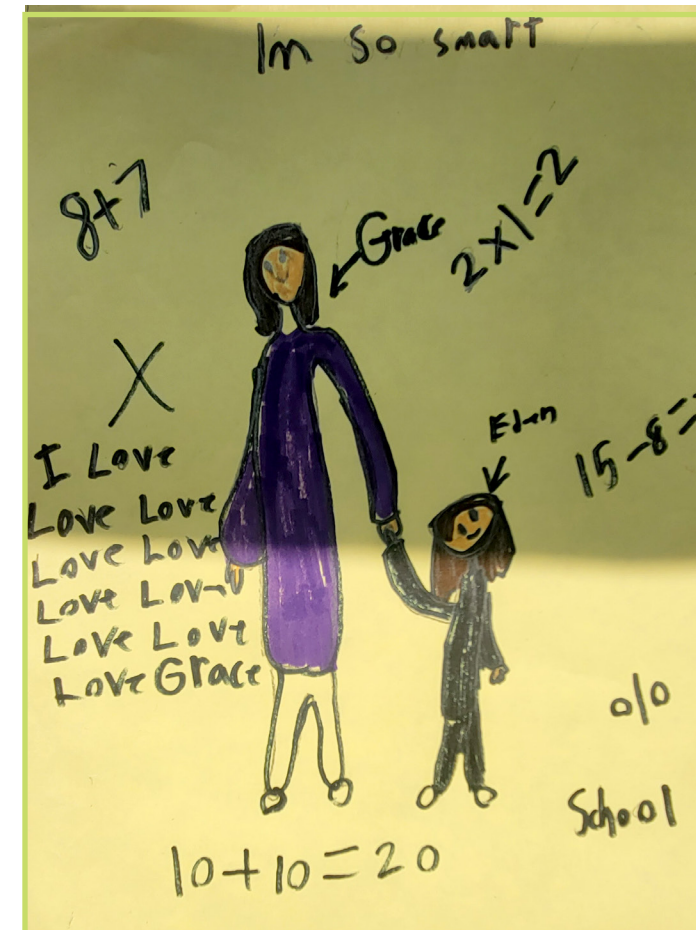
"I am glad you are my math and reading teacher."

De'Mire

DE'MIRE T.
GRADE 4

Dear Ms. Rosa,
You are my favorite teacher. I am glad you are my math and reading teacher. Thank you for being a nice teacher. Thank you for helping us do our work. Thank you for doing math bowl everyday and thank you for giving us freetime everyday so I can play Mickey Mouse.

Sincerely,
De'Mire



EDEN U.
GRADE 3

LEONARDO C.
GRADE 6

Dear Isaac,
Thank you for making soccer fun and fairer. During recess when we play soccer, the teams are usually split with all the better players on one team. You were able to convince the players to mix around, so the teams were balanced. This helped to make sure the newer players didn't get beaten by the experienced players by too many points.

Thank you,
Leonardo

ADVICE for a student starting __ grade next year

Can you believe that in a short couple of months you will be transitioning into a new grade?! As it is super exciting for some, it can be nerve-wracking for others. Do you know what can help those who are biting their fingernails out of anxiousness? A word of advice from someone, like you, who just completed the grade they're heading into! Write a letter to someone who is starting the grade you just completed.

What advice would you give them? How do they make friends? How hard is the homework? Ugh, tests? Quizzes? How can they be prepared to conquer just like you?!

"Your journey will be amazing or not the best, just know that it's ok and you will get through it."

Nai M.

**AUBREE C.
GRADE 4**

Dear Future 4th Grader,

If you are going into fourth grade and you need some tips, here are a few things that can help you.

First thing's first — practice your time tables! You need to know your times table to do division. A lot of people mess up on that. If it's hard, just keep trying and don't be embarrassed to ask for help.

Secondly, be prepared to be learning angles. If you want, you can try to at least learn parallel, acute, obtuse, and right angles.

Third, you're going to be starting some chapter books. You may think it's not fun, but in my opinion, I think it's pretty fun and calming.

Fourth, if you're in Pulaski CPS, be ready for "Invention Convention." Invention Convention is an invention that you make to help make the world a better place. You will be presenting it to third graders and judges. If your invention is good enough, you could win money!

Fifth — this is very important: don't be shy. Stick yourself out there. If you have a talent — go out there and tell people. Make friends, have fun. School is about learning and you can make it fun in your own way. That is why I like school. Even though my bestie is not in my class, I still made friends in my class because in Pulaski school, we are all family and friends!

**LIAME M.
GRADE 6**

Dear incoming 6th grader,

Welcome to the new school year! My advice is to listen to the rules and pay attention. School can be tough but you will make it as long as you have friends. Choose your friends wisely so you surround yourself with good people.

Have fun,
Liame

**NAI M.
GRADE 4**

Hello soon to be 4th grader,

I bet you cannot wait to be a 4th grader. It will be easy or hard. Your journey will be amazing or not the best, just know that it's ok and you will get through it. I know what you went through. I really liked art and when we did Claude Monet's water lilies. I didn't really like science tests. I hope you make lots of new friends!

From Na

**LEAH K.
GRADE 2**

Hello 2nd grader,

Welcome to 2nd grade! This year is harder than 1st grade. If you listen and follow directions you will get better. My favorite part of 2nd grade is math. I have fun learning about money and time.

Have fun in 2nd grade.
I know you will do great!

Good Luck,
Leah K.

NAOBI G. GRADE 7

Hi, My name is Naobi and this is all the advice so far that I have gathered through the torture of living as a seventh grader.

Avoid any romantic relationships because it can be distracting how corny middle schoolers can get.

Try to note and keep track of homework in an organizer... it can be easy to forget when you have more to juggle, so writing it down will keep it from piling up and you falling behind!

Avoid people who may be trying to start a fight with you or saying mean things. They will always eventually stop or on the bright side, if they don't, they'll eventually get themselves into trouble. You can't control other people's actions, but you can control yourself.

Try to make as many friends as possible so that you don't feel so alone. Don't be afraid to just go say hi, but don't be too pushy.

Finally, the most important piece of advice I can share is focus on school!

Good luck,
Naobi

AVERY C. GRADE 3

Hi soon-to-be third grader,

Can you believe you're done with second grade? Third grade is harder, but if you listen in your classes and work hard, you will get good grades. The key to making friends is to be yourself and to be loyal. One of my favorite things in third grade music is the recorder, but you have to practice it! I hope you have a good third grade .

Good luck!
Avery

BELLA V. GRADE 6

Hi 5th grader soon to be 6th grader,

The homework isn't as much or hard as they say it will be. Also, pay attention in class, so you don't fail. Make friends by being nice. And remember your classes and rooms, so you don't get lost in the hallways. And have a sharpener and eraser, because it's good to have one. Have more than one friend with more than one interest, because if you only have one friend and they like other activities than yours it'll be annoying to pick a game at recess. Bring an extra snack just in case the food in the cafeteria is nasty and gross. Take care of yourself and good luck moving to 6th grade!

Sincerely,
Bella

AMY G. GRADE 5

I feel like 5th grade is easy. My favorite part of the day is math because it feels like a fun puzzle. If you are good at math you will be doing 6-8th grade math in 5th grade, including geometry and pre algebra. Group 3 and Group 3B would be doing fractions and weight at the same time you will be doing the perimeter of 3D rectangles and triangles. To find the perimeter first you have to figure out the three or four sides or sometimes one pair of sides because in a triangle there are two sides the same size. In a rectangle there are two pairs of sides the same size. You would only need to multiply it and then add it all up together. Have a great time in 5th Grade Math!

EMMA B. GRADE 3

Oh hi! It's me Emma!

I am in 3rd grade and I am going to help you make friends and do well on tests in 3rd grade.

How can you make friends?

My advice is to be kind to your classmates and ask if they want to play. Also, your classmates will be nice to you.

How can you do well on a test?

If you are taking a test, it's alright to feel nervous. If you try your best you can get a good grade. If you are scared it's okay — I have been in your shoes!!!!

WHOA you are growing up so fast! You are almost in HIGH SCHOOL. Well, not really, but 3rd grade is a big step.

Okay bye bye bye now!

Emma (your very best friend)

JULIANA L. GRADE 5

Hello, new 5th grader. Nice to meet you.

This might be brutal to start with but truth hurts. Things will get more complicated and not only the work. Things like due dates will stack for each class. Not only due dates but the work in general is complicated, especially tests. My advice is if you have a test coming up then you should study beforehand. Also, be prepared for new types of assignments like essays. You will have a lot more essays to write this year. Another way that will help you get you through 5th grade is to be more organized because it will make life so much easier.

I hope this advice helps you the same way it did with me.

Juliana L.

VICTORIA E. GRADE 6

Dear incoming 6th grader,

Welcome to the new school year! You are just getting into middle school, and things may start changing, such as getting a locker. You all will be changing classrooms every hour instead of being in the same class ALLLLL day. You often go on field trips to places like the Science and Industry Museum. You will also have tests and quizzes. Don't stress about the quizzes as much as they are an opportunity to learn from your mistakes. Put a lot of effort into your work and study, or the teacher will give you a difficult time, especially on exams. Alright, that is enough for now. I don't want to give you any more spoilers about what is going to happen in your upcoming year.

Ps: Always remember to stay calm, and stress is OKAY.

Good luck lol.
Victoria

KENLEY D. GRADE 5

Dear incoming 5th grader,

Fifth grade is difficult, but sometimes it's easier if you try your best. In the fifth grade, it's better to first listen because you are not going to understand what they're doing. It will be better if you listen before you focus on other things. I hope this advice helps.

Good luck!
Kenley

MADISON F. GRADE 8

Dear Future 8th Graders,

Try to think far into the future about your career. Imagine where you will be the happiest. Think about plan A, but also think about plan B and plan C. Establish a peaceful night routine: do your skincare and write yourself a positive affirmation to set you up for the morning. Also, make sure your iPad is charged so that you can do your work at school the next day! When it comes to making new friends, pay attention to how you feel around certain people. Put yourself first. If you feel a positive vibe, keep those people close. It's important to nurture your friendships so that you have people to lean on when you need it. And remember, no talking back to your teachers!

Sincerely,
Maddy

SHANIAH W. GRADE 7

Hi,

For all the people that are entering 7th grade I know it might seem hard but talk to your parents and keep them informed of what is going on in your middle school life. Choose your friends wisely you never know what people are thinking. Get good grades, it is worth it.

Have a good year and make something of yourself!

Shaniah

ADOLFO T. GRADE 7

Dear 6th graders,

Congrats on making it this far. I'm just going to tell you about things I wish I knew in 7th grade.

1. **Do your homework**
 - a. Some teachers in 7th grade are strict so sometimes when you don't do your homework they will call your parents.
2. **Find the right friends**
 - a. Having the right friends is good. Some people are fake friends like they just use you to learn your secrets. Some good friends will stand up for you, and also if you need help, they will help you.
3. **Get good grades**
 - a. Just do it.

Thank you for your time and listen to my tips; it will help you.

Sincerely,
Adolfo

ELAINE P. GRADE 4

Congratulations, you are now in 4th grade! There are so many things to learn and look forward to like earning tickets, reading interesting books like Towers Falling, Ghost Boys, and Mockingbird. 4th grade has lots of responsibilities like more homework, projects, books and more. But 4th grade is amazing, and math has games you can play. Some stuff you will learn in math is long division and multiplication, fractions, decimals, and measurements. I hope you have a great teacher who is funny, kind, positive and the best teacher in the world. 4th grade will not be like 3rd grade, but I know anybody who puts forth effort, focuses, listens, and stays on task will rock 4th grade.

NEVAEH B. GRADE 7

Advice for 7th grade

Don't tell anyone your business because that's how it spreads around and that's how you get talked about.

If someone walks up to you and starts gossiping about someone just walk away from it because we don't know what the other person is going through, and you wouldn't wanna be talked about.

I would focus more on your grades than talking in class and being distracted/lazy or bored. Just focus more on your grades. It depends on if you get into high school or not.

Find a friend that you feel safe around instead of making a lot of friends. Most people are fake in 7th Grade and it's sad.

Don't be afraid to ask your teachers or your tutors for help. That's the reason that they are there. Plus your grades matter!

NINO B. GRADE 5

Hello 5th grader,

You are now in 5th grade, and I am going to be giving you some advice. My first piece of advice is to take lots of notes, and don't skip out on any of them, because those notes are helpful for you to study for tests. A way to make friends is to be yourself and be confident in yourself. I play basketball and baseball, and if you want to play a sport you should try it! If you like sports, you should try your best, do your best, and come up with strategies before every game. You'll learn about new things in school that you haven't heard of before. Rely on your older siblings if you have them. Always prepare for pop quizzes and expect the unexpected. Hope you take my advice.

Good luck!
Nino

NIKOLAS A. GRADE 4

Dear incoming 4th graders,

Fourth grade can be a little tricky; you will get more complicated work and more homework. You will get projects that are pretty fun but challenging. You will also get rewarded for your work by maybe getting incentives or homework passes. You will get substitute teachers and they may teach differently so don't get mad at them for not understanding; they know what they are doing. You should try your best and ask your teacher for help if you don't understand something. You should try to make friends and to not be the bully. Do not talk with friends in class, there will be a time for that. During recess follow the rules, such as if you need to be quiet at a time, be quiet. When you pack up at the end of the day, you should make sure you have everything, such as books for homework.

LUIS S. GRADE 5

Dear 5th graders,

In 5th grade you will have a lot of homework in everything. I get it done in tutoring. Sometimes it's fun and sometimes you have to do your work. My favorite subjects are math and gym. I like art as well. What I learned in math is fractions, division, and dividing decimals. My favorite games in gym class are dodgeball and basketball. In art you will do painting, cool drawings, and more. Overall, 5th grade is fun but make sure you stay on top of your homework. One more thing, you will be taking a big test in your last two months of school.

From,
Luis S.

HEMANI P. GRADE 7

Dear incoming 7th grader,

Welcome to 7th grade! This year is not just what you see in the movies, don't worry! It will be fun yet stressful as you will have to apply for high schools soon, and your decisions in 7th grade will influence the results. I'm writing this as I approach the end of 7th grade, so I have a strong memory of what has happened, and below I will discuss important advice that will give you confidence for the moment and in the future.

Starting off with Academics; be prepared from the start of the year for the next level of learning. Even if you worked very hard in the past, you'll need to work harder to be as successful as you were before. If you get a few bad grades, you'll need to improve them as quickly as possible, so ask teachers for any extra credit assignments or other ways to bring your grade up. Challenge yourself when you study. It's tempting to work on something simple that you already know, but it won't help you. Challenging and pushing yourself will, and if you follow this, you'll carry less of a burden while studying and taking important tests.

Remember to focus on your health, you're getting older and each year this becomes more important. Start taking bad habits out of your life and replace them with good habits. You don't need to be extra "perfect",

you only need to take your doctor's advice and cut down on unnecessary habits. Don't bring more bad habits into your life, even if it's about something socially popular. Remember: balancing is important. You can still treat yourself to junk food or stay up late, but depending on what it is, you should choose healthy choices over unhealthy ones.

Finally, having friends and talking with others is important, but focusing on popularity over more important things will lead you to not prioritizing the right things. If you focus on whether you're popular or not, that will ruin your overall happiness at school. It's perfectly fine to make many friends, but if you do it to try to gain popularity, that will help develop bad habits and a bad mentality. Genuinely trying to make friends or keeping close relations with your old friends will ensure lasting relationships and support a good mentality.

In summary, prioritizing health and academics and not being too focused on popularity but instead on creating and maintaining relationships will give you a positive 7th grade experience. Even with the stress, 7th grade should be a year you won't forget! I hope you find my advice helpful and good luck!

~Hemani

JEFFREY Y. GRADE 5

Dear new student,

Here are some tips for 5th grade: start strong and don't let the bullies bring you down. The homework is hard but if you listen to the teacher you can get it. The tests are also hard but try your best and don't give up.

If the tips work everyday please tell more people!

By Jeffrey Y.

KEYANNA J. GRADE 7

Advice to a future 7th grader

Dear 6th grader,

I wanted to welcome you to 7th grade and to encourage you to do a few things to make sure you get the full experience and that you enjoy this grade.

First thing I've noticed was important was to *join a club*, having friends made the year go a lot easier and joyful for me, a club is the best way to make friends.

Second was *participating in activities*. Schools usually organize many activities for students, they are very fun and you will be sure to make friends.

So now, having friends is nice, but they can sometimes be a distraction, that's why it is also important to *listen to your teachers* in class, *ask questions* if you don't understand anything, and *focus on doing your work* on time so you can have good grades.

I hope you will enjoy being a 7th grader, make the most of it and try your best!

Keyanna J.

DESTINY T. GRADE 7

Good job!! You did it. You finally completed 6th grade. Here are some tips for 7th grade:

- Study hard when it comes to a test or quiz
- Do your homework in all of your classes
- Pay attention in class so your grade won't drop
- Stay out of drama
- Take a lot of notes in all of your classes
- Make a planner for yourself so you will not forget your activities
- Always ask questions in all of your classes so that you will not be confused
- Don't be afraid to be honest

You will do great in 7th Grade!! Have fun.

Sincerely,
Destiny

KHARI M. GRADE 5

The advice I'd give 5th graders is to work hard, to push yourself, and to ask for help if you need it because if you don't learn then you don't get an education. The way I learned is by practicing with my parents and my tutor and I had to push myself to the limit and that's how I'm here now.

DANIEL A. GRADE 1

Future First Grader,

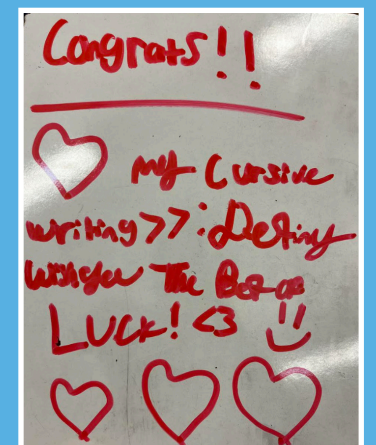
Nice to meet you!

The homework is super hard but I've learned to count in my brain! In first grade I've learned so much, now I know 2 million + 1 is 2 million and 1!

First grade is awesome! You can do anything like learn easy questions like 1+1=2. Recess is longer too!

From,

Daniel A.



JERMYRA W. GRADE 7

Hey guys, I am Jermyra! I'm leaving 7th grade getting ready to go to 8th! Ride on the magic school bus of advice! Step inside it's a pretty wild ride! In the morning, be prepared. Have all of your morning class gear and be mentally ready for the day. During lunch, talk with friends and relax. If you're not on top of your work or need extra help, ask a teacher to do some 1 on 1 sessions and try to catch up or do some extra credit work. In the afternoon, get all your class materials and get back into the zone. Try working with people and teachers and make sure you're satisfied with your grades. After school, do your homework and double-check that you're not behind. Lastly, try to make time for yourself so you're not stressing out. In the beginning the work is overwhelming, but it gets easier. Have a good encouraging support system for this wild ride, such as family and friends. I hope I have provided some helpful tips for your 7th grade year!

PHONIX C. GRADE 6

Dear incoming 6th graders,
Now that you are entering middle school, things are going to be a lot different. I recommend that you should be social, active and responsible. It could help you learn and make friends easier. If you have messy handwriting, try practicing it because it improves notes and makes it easier for the teacher to read. Homework is not that hard but it all depends on if you understand it or not; if you don't, ask a teacher for help. When making friends, your time at school would be a lot more fun, and it will seem like the school year went by pretty quick. If you find new hobbies like reading, drawing or even playing a sport, you can get good at it and maybe get advice from others. The more you share your interest, the more you make friends. I hope you have a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,
Phoenix

CAMILA S. GRADE 3

Are you getting ready to end second grade? Are you ready to begin third grade? Here are some tips!!

1. Usually starting third grade, there is no longer snack time. Usually, lunch should be an hour later so you won't get hungry. The older you get, you eat later lunches.
2. Always pick the best locker buddy. You could choose someone you know well so you can be great friends with them. Make sure they don't take up too much space so you have room for all of your extra stuff.
3. As usual, not all things may change in third grade. Things always do get harder the older you get. As a third grader, you have to learn to act good because you're expected to be role models for future third graders.

Don't forget to be on time for school, and good luck!!

JULIAN J. GRADE 6

Advice

Hello Future 6th Graders. My name is Julian and I'd liked to tell you things to do and not to do in 6th Grade.

- Be calm and collective.
- Make good friends and try not to get in trouble.
- When you finish your work, always double check and read aloud your mistakes.
- You may need to take time out of your private life to get work done. Just remember to make yourself a schedule for you to work.
- Trying not to shout answers like me because you'll get in trouble. Always remember to think before saying aloud.
- Make allies because sometimes when you're not at school because of personal matters you'll need notes and answers.
- Make good notes so it's clear to read over in the future.

Remember to think and not be clouded by someone's shadow. Be your own person, keep away from trouble and think before doing an action that could lead you to trouble. Always remember to have a schedule of things to never be too overcrowded by the work done.

LA'MEER B. GRADE 4

My advice for the 4th grade is to study!

You study because if something is hard you should have studied because it would be easier if you had studied. If you didn't study, you will get the answers wrong. If you study you might get 100%. In the third grade, math and reading was kind of easy, but in the fourth grade, it gets harder because you are in a higher grade.

There was a time when I should have studied angles for math but didn't. I didn't study because I didn't know what we were doing and it was hard. It was a math exit ticket, but I got the answers wrong because I didn't know how to do it. I got a bad grade and it made me really mad but I did a breathing exercise to get calm.

The next day I went to school and I paid attention. I got 100% in both classes: reading and math. I focused in class and I got 100% on the next exit ticket.

Before I get on a game or watch TV, I do my homework. On Tuesdays I do my homework with my tutor Molly and the rest of the time I do it by myself or with my mom.

My homework helps me because it might be the same thing as school, and I might get 100%. My advice is to study and stay focused on school.

DAVID M. GRADE 5

Hello friend.

I heard that you are going to 5th grade. And here are some tips. Pay attention. It is very vital that you pay attention in class. There is a lot of info that you need to remember. Have fun but not too much fun in class because you might get in trouble for laughing in class. I mostly listen and laugh quietly. Do the work they give out and don't mess around. If they don't have a ball at recess maybe you can bring one and play football/soccer or any sport as long as you have fun.

Best of luck — David M.

ARIEL T.
GRADE 8

7th grade is over, here comes 8th grade! 8th grade can be tough, the teachers and staff might not listen to you and the students can have different opinions than us. But, don't lose your temper or yell at your teachers. Here are some steps, so you can survive 8th grade:

1. Try not to get into any drama or cause any drama or spread it if you hear something.
2. Don't be afraid to speak up.
3. Know your worth.
4. Remain humble when faced with difficulty.
5. DON'T BRAG ABOUT WHAT YOU HAVE.
6. Always try your best to come on time to all your classes.
7. Try to get all your assignments done on time and study hard before tests.
8. Sleep later, work now! In class, make sure to pay attention and finish all your assignments.

Don't get into trouble, avoid fights, love y'all! ;)

Good luck,
Ariel

DJ (DWAYNE) B. GRADE 2

DJ B 2nd grade

The advice I have for second-graders is to be like the ninja in my story—be brave, get help from your friends if you have a problem, and always help people!

The ninja was sick on Thursday. Then he went to go train. And he got sick again. His name was DJ. He was super cool, but he kept getting sick. Then when the evil sorcerer came he got sick again! It was one month until he got better. He couldn't train when he was sick, he had to just lie on the couch and eat popcorn. But when he went back to train he wasn't sick.. he felt really strong and that he could reach his full potential.

Then the evil god came and the god got sick. But DJ the ninja was never sick again. Scorpentine came and gave DJ a sleeping potion (because DJ was the strongest ninja and they wanted him to not find out their secret.) Their secret was they had an underground base. And if DJ and his ninja friends came over, they would take out their golden weapons and save all the people at Ninjago. But DJ's friends gave him UNsleeping potion and he woke up! And then together they were able to save everybody. Sensai Wu the master came and congratulated DJ and all his ninja friends.

90000000000000000000000000000000 the end.

ERIN L.
GRADE 8

Hey Everyone,

Welcome to 8th grade and I hope it treats you well. There will be a lot of ups and downs, but mostly ups if you give your best effort. I thought I would share my perspective having recently completed the grade. Here are my Do's and Don'ts for 8th grade:

1. Do's:

2. Donts

- a. Listen to rumors
- b. Assume everyone is your friend
- c. Stress too much

Use this time wisely to be with your family and friends. Good luck and don't stress about anything, it will all be over soon.

Sincerely,
Erin

**DALEN A.
GRADE 3**

Hi incoming 3rd Grader!

3rd Grade can be hard and sometimes it's not very easy. You need to focus a lot to be successful. If you get a 100% on the exit ticket, you can get a surprise!

Deuces,
Dalen A.

NATALIE S.
GRADE 1

Dear New Student,

You will need to always do your work. My favorite part of first grade was putting our hand prints on paper.

From,
Natalie

ANALYSIS F.
GRADE 9

- Hi! My name is Anais. My advice is that
- students next year should work hard, study,
- and make friends. Try to problem solve
- through your homework, and be yourself
- all the time. It's always a good idea to join
- sports and clubs, and it's always fun to
- work on homework with friends. It's always
- a good idea to take notes in class and
- important to pay attention. Say hi and be
- nice to teachers as they help you learn.

- As a freshman, I like to join sports and clubs. I always pay attention in class and take notes in class. In my class, I like working in groups and going on fun field trips with my classmates. I always get good grades in school and the teachers are really nice and sweet to everyone.

Overall, I'm enjoying my freshman year!

• Sincerely,
• Anais F.

Express your voice through POETRY

Poems are a wonderful way for students to express themselves creatively and to explore their literary voice.

OHZARYD V. GRADE 6

Volleyball is very hard to master.
Others enjoy playing the game.
Love practicing
Like watching other people play.
Everyone should try playing.
You can learn to like something new.
Balls are a main part of the game.
Arms out
Legs facing straight.
Love a new activity!

LEAH H. GRADE 3

Oreo the Bunny

Oreo is my new bunny,
She is very funny.
My bunny likes to munch,
The carpet she think is lunch.
I named my bunny after a treat,
That I like to eat.
You can see Oreo at night,
Because she is black and white.
You know Oreo is a Rex bunny,
Because the way she stands is very funny.
When she stands on her back paws,
She deserves some applause.

LEONARDO M. GRADE 1

How to be a Goalie

First, start by getting healthy.
If the ball is behind a player,
get the ball, but be stealthy!
Stare at the ball so you don't lose control.
Pass it far so your teammate scores a goal!
Do it like that and then you will win.
Your victory dance could be a spin!

MAYRA O. GRADE 6

Learning

Learning can be fun.
It can happen anywhere.
Go to class on time!

ALISSON J. GRADE 6

Where I'm From

I am from Luis Jimenez
I am from Anahí Mora
And from Clarisa Guereca
I am from tacos, tomato soup, and tamales
From soccer after school
I am from "¡Échale ganas mija!"
I am from La Virgen and crosses
And from questionably necessary plastic
bags stuffed in kitchen drawers
I am from "La Llorona" and
"La Lechuza" at nighttime
From the smell of vanilla, coconut,
and strawberries
I am from "Can I have this dance?"

MAYRA O. GRADE 6

Memories

Photos can be nice.
Like a donut with sprinkles.
They are always sweet.

JOSIAH K. GRADE 4

Besties
Fun, Inclusive
Helping each other
Teaching about our experiences
Mates

AMEERAH O. GRADE 6

That's Not New

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
We all know that's not new.

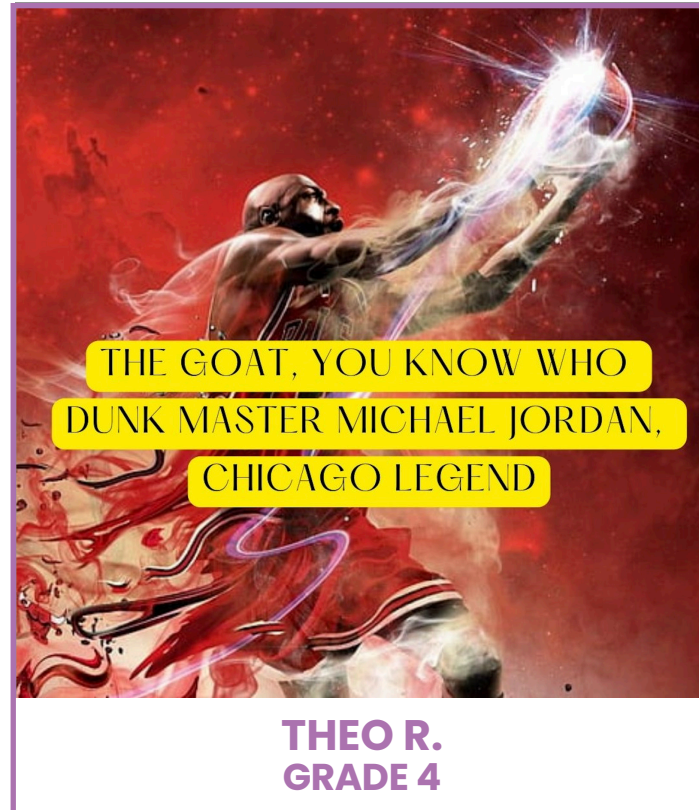
I sit here thinking,
Seeing, dreaming,
not knowing what to write.

The fear that I have
For plagiarizing
For someone to say "that's not new!"

"But it is," I say, I plead,
"The poem is inside of me."
Don't copy; be unique!

Writing isn't easy,
Yet, it's so extraordinary,
That's why it's so special to me!

"That is new!"
"That is new!"
It is, very much indeed!



MAYRA O. GRADE 6

A Vintage Instrument

Violins are old.
You can compose some music.
Once you learn how to.

KEANDRE W. GRADE 5

Dogs

Dozy, olfactory
Bark, sleep, run
Like to be pet
Mischievous

ASTON W. GRADE 5

The Last Days of 5th Grade

(Challenge: Try to Read Without Stopping!)

My name is Aston — I'm 11 years **young**
I'm good at gymnastics and I like to have **fun**
Math is my favorite, just thought to let you **know**
Reading is my goal, practice makes me **successful**

Also, I'm a whiz at doing **fractions**
Adding, subtracting, doing all the **actions**
Dividing and conquering — too **easy**
Always doing my homework, that's so **breezy**

I'm always playing my games — **yes**
Don't be surprised if one day I'm **famous**
Always taking time doing the **rhymes**
Reading a book before it's **bedtime**

That's why I love **to learn with my tutor**
It makes me a **sharpshooter**
I learn how to share praise with my **peers**
So that they don't shed **tears**.

This is the end, but I have one thing to **say**
Listen up closely if you're heading into 5th **grade**
Listen to your teacher, and take your **time**,
Be kind to others, and you'll be just **fine**.

JOSHUA F.

Cats of Disneyland

My name is Freddie.

I am a cat who lives at Disneyland
in California. My job is to keep the park
free of rodents, such as mice and rats,
and, especially Mickey Mouse.

I also have a friend named Walt.
Walt has blue fur and I have
black and white fur.

BIANCA C. GRADE 6

Drama

Drama

Drama ruins friendships

It's all it does

You put on a show for others

They laugh and have a ball

But at the end it's two people

mad at each other for what

Nothing at all

People make up lies

It's what they do we can't escape

It's the world we live in

24/7

People say fight, fight

We all die inside

We cry

But at the end it's alright

The End

MATEO T. GRADE 1

If I had a Pet!

If I had a pet,

I would like a turtle.

I will teach it how to hurdle!

I will feed him a big blueberry,

I will show him that I'm not scary.

I will teach him how to go for a jog,

I will sleep with him on his log.



**YARITZA A.
GRADE 2**

My Fish

I like my fish when they grow.
I see them hide in the plants below.

My fish like to hide, when they fight.
But they are always together at night.

They like to make a lot of bubbles.
But they also like to give each other
cuddles.

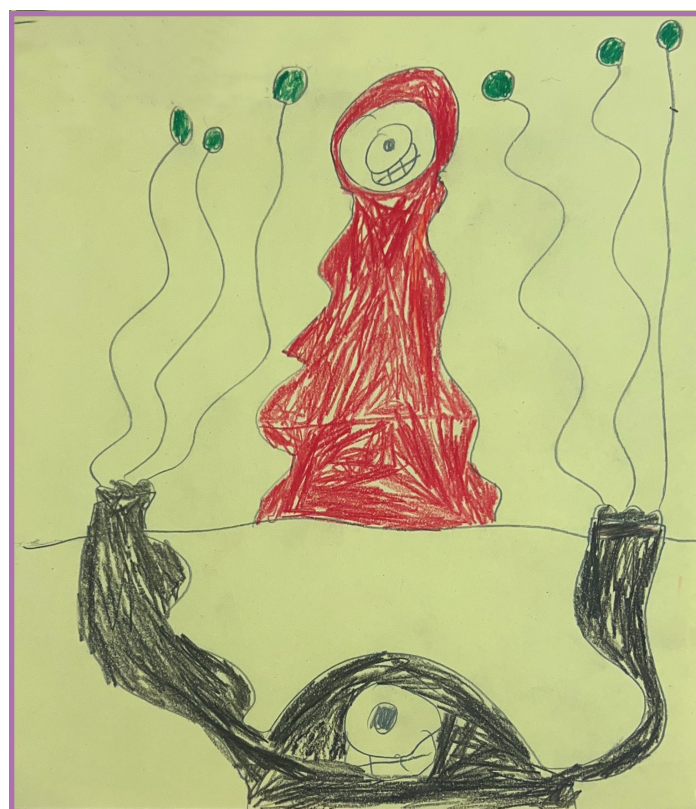
My fish is black and white.
And she likes her water just right.

My brother cleans the tank every week.
But we have to make sure there are
no leaks.

I love all my fish.
And in the water they go swish, swish.

**JOSE M.
GRADE 8**

A spooky, spooky night when all your
nightmares can come true.
Haunted houses, graveyards,
being cursed and eaten by a zombie.
Walking through a graveyard—wait,
what was that? A ghost?
No—just another vampire bat
Spiders! Cobwebs!
Lightning strikes, thunder rumbles.



**JOSHUA M.
GRADE 6**

Mystical landscape
filled with magical fun friends
enjoy your time here

ANALIA G.

All About Me

As I talk about myself I feel lonely.

Now I know I can't ride a bike in school, in the hallway.

As the teacher says "No, we don't have time," I feel frustrated.

Learning about myself sounds fun, actually. Why do I like Art so much?

Instead of working I want to go play or draw by myself.

Alone I think (and dream) about doing anything in the world.

Games make me feel like joy when I play them.



**OBEHI A.
GRADE 3**

My Grandma, My Joy

You bring joy to my world.

You make me the happiest girl!

Whenever we need your help,
you're always there.

To lose you, I couldn't bear.

You and I make a marvelous light.

When we're together we smile so bright.

Thank you for everything you do.

My life is superb because of you.

**ISRAEL P.
GRADE 5**

The Final Match

As the whistle blew,
the game felt like it was new.
I knew what to do.

When I got the ball,
I knew I couldn't look back
or I would lose track.

Open space I found
and I heard the cheering sound.
It was pretty loud.

Move on to the goal
and shoot the ball towards the net.
Last point I would get!

**AINSLEY B.
GRADE 5**

The Goat

The goat was trapped behind the door,
He was stuck but he just wanted more,
He shrieked and he cried,
But continued to hide,
If you listen closely
you can still hear him roar.

**AMEERAH A.
GRADE 4**

Where I'm From

I am from different kinds of clothes in every color of the rainbow,
from yummy, juicy watermelons and my princess backpack which I always held to school.

I am from elementary school.

(filled with friends who loved me and cared about me)

I am from my grandma's house

that place would shine like a rainbow with all of the people I love

I'm from Golden Morn and chubby,

from Rukayat and Akeem.

I'm from the Muslims and Lagos,

from eat more food and stop growing up and keep growing up

I'm from you're beautiful

you look like your dad.

I'm from Oyo States and Chicago,

kind people,

its skyscrapers are tall and beautiful

I'm from the time my mom broke her leg while she was going down the staircase

I am from it shined as bright as a rainbow it has beautiful tall buildings

**KRISSY M.
GRADE 4**

Mount Everest

So there was a storm and there was a helicopter and people were in it.

Soon, 3 minutes passed, and BOOM! They crashed.

But they had no water or food.

So they made a solo and sang to Mt. Everest.

After five weeks, they got done and started the dance.

A lot of people watched the dance.

It was never seen again.

Now they had to finish what they started.

They never got on a helicopter again.

Back Story: So 3 people got stuck on Mt. Everest and they're dancers.



**WYNTER K.
GRADE 4**

**ALANA R.
GRADE 2**

**KYLIE C.
GRADE 5**

Ice Cream

It's a delicious treat,
Ice cream is soooooo sweet,
It's too cold for my teeth
Not too cold to eat
Brings friends together
in rain or shine
Or any kind of weather

**SOMAYA R.
GRADE 5**

Strong Black Women

I want to be like Michelle Obama
because she is a role model.

I want to be like Maya Angelou
because she was confident.

I want to be like Rosa Parks
because she was brave.

I want to be like Harriet Tubman
because she was a leader.

I want to be like Shirley Chisolm
because she was a hardworker.

I want to be like Amanda Gorman
because she is innovative.

I want to be like Gabby Douglas
because she is artistic.

I want to be like all these strong women
because they are trail blazers.

Create a **VISUAL** that captures your tutoring experience.

How do you feel at tutoring?
Does tutoring make you feel...

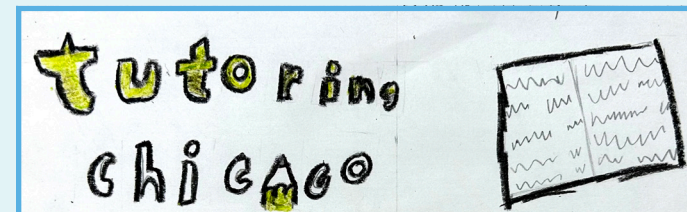
- powerful?
- excited?
- proud?
- happy?
- confident?

Capture your experience at tutoring in a visual or illustration!



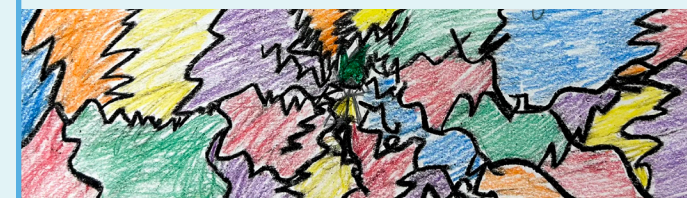
ISABELA T.
GRADE 2

I feel happy when I'm at tutoring.



BRIAN S.
GRADE 5

Tutoring feels helpful. At tutoring they helped me with my hand writing. I feel more confident and I can raise my hand more than I did before because I learned more about the subjects.



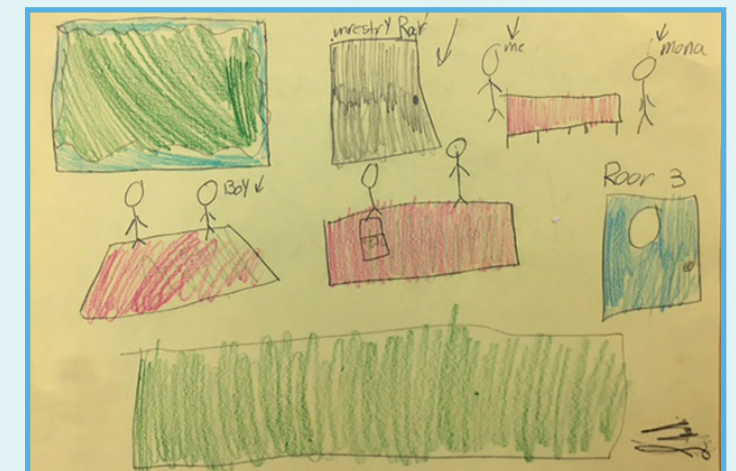
"Tutoring Chicago makes me feel happy."

Kenny S.



BELLA M.

Tutoring makes me feel happy and creative and they make me feel happy for myself because sometimes I get an award and sometimes we celebrate and play music.



LONDYN G.
GRADE 3

I love tutoring. It's the best.



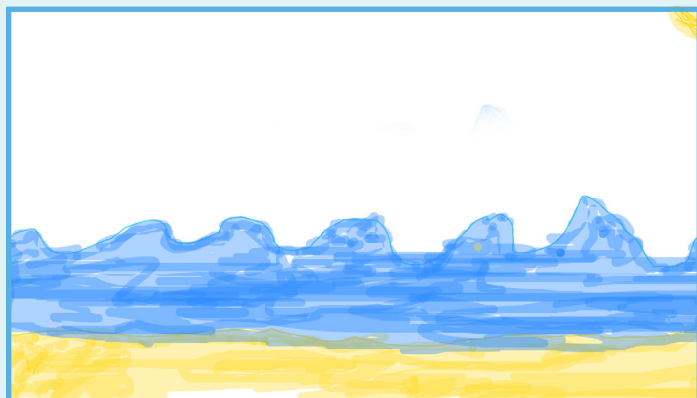
**SCARLETT R.
GRADE 5**

I drew a picture of a girl smiling because tutoring has helped me feel more confident in myself at school!



**AVA O.
GRADE 2**

My picture is about a Magic Tree House book. Reading it during our tutoring session makes me feel calm.



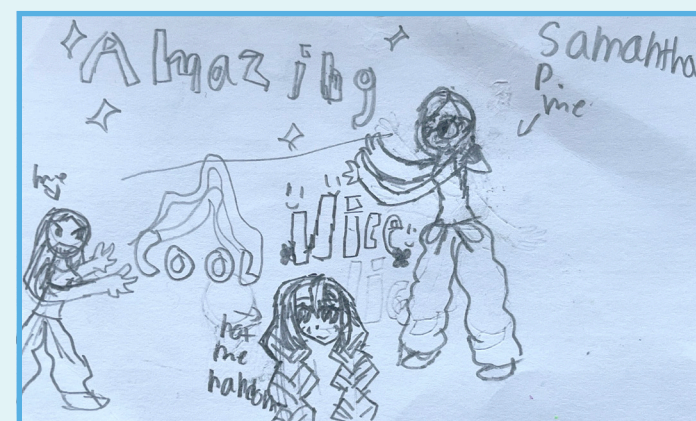
**SAVION W.
GRADE 6**

Tutoring makes me feel calm like a sea.



**DIONY R.
GRADE 4**

Happy
We have fun time.
I get to read.
We get to learn.



**SAMANTHA P.
GRADE 4**

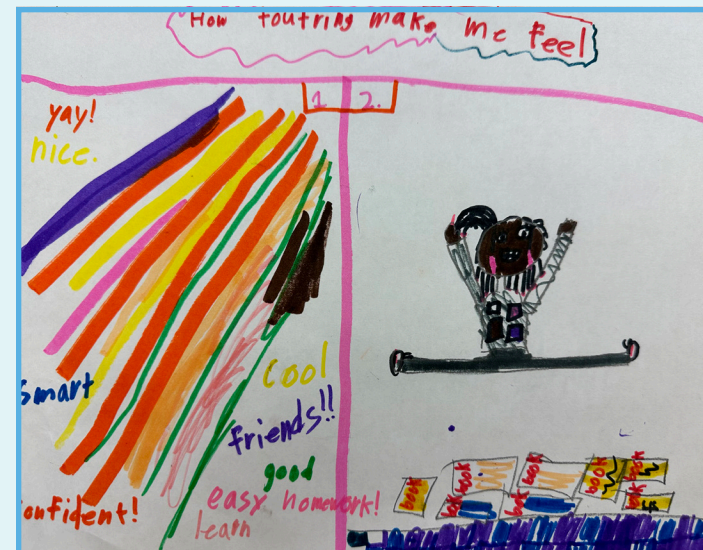


**LEA M.
GRADE 2**

I love my tutor Megan. She is very nice to me and we have fun together. I like that I get points and I can go to the shop for prizes. I like doing homework here with my tutor.

"I like doing homework here with my tutor."

Lea M.



**ZAAFIRAH J.
GRADE 3**



**EMY G.
GRADE 4**



**MALAYNA B.
GRADE 3**

Tutoring makes me feel calm.



**NICOLAS P.
GRADE 2**

Me happy at tutoring.



**YATZIRI D.
GRADE 2**

Tutoring makes me happy. Tutoring is so much fun because you write and you get to play Phonics Hero. My favorite part about tutoring is having fun. Reading and learning phonics are fun.

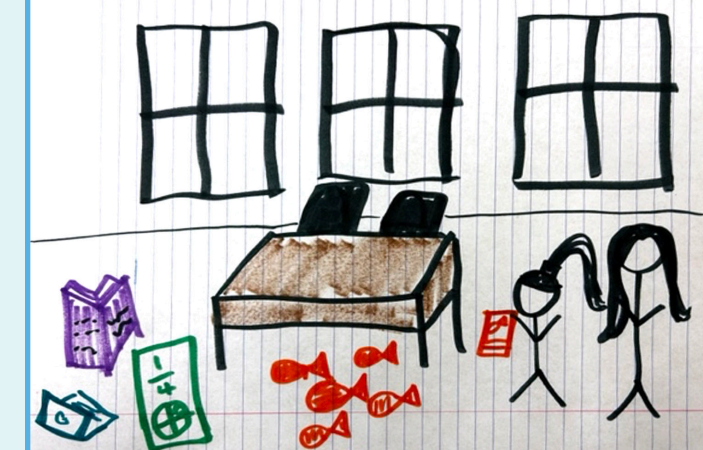


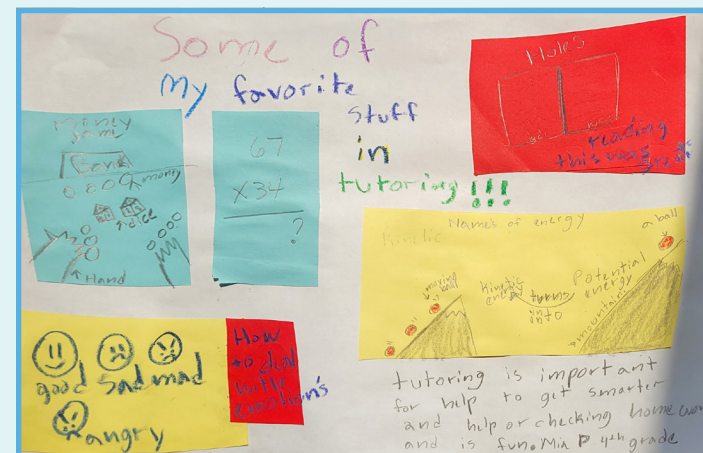
**SHIA S.
GRADE 5**



**MEGAN C.
GRADE 3**

Us, we both learn new things together forever.

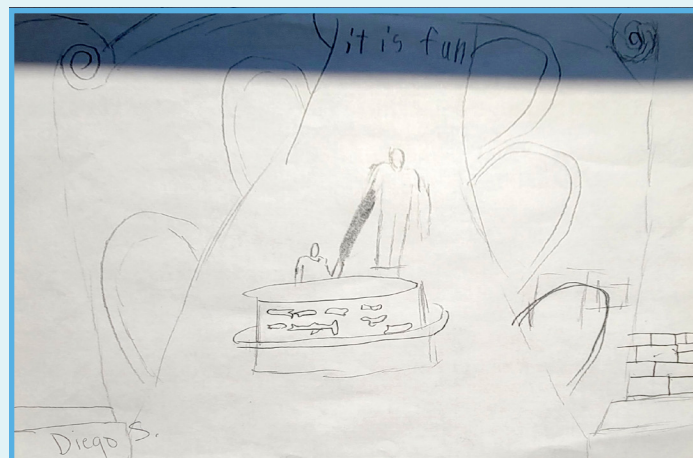




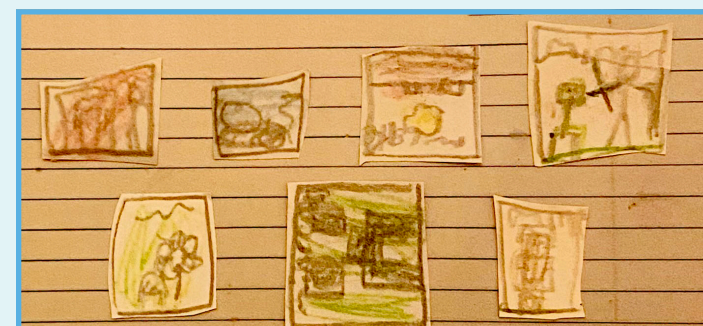
**MIA P.
GRADE 4**

Tutoring is important for help to get smarter and help or checking homework and is fun.

"Tutoring Chicago makes me feel happy."
Kenny S.



**DIEGO S.
GRADE 4**



**KENNY S.
GRADE 3**

Tutoring Chicago makes me feel happy. I'm happy because I can do phonics. I'm also happy because I can read with my teachers. These are tiny books.



**ALEXIA R.
GRADE 3**
I can do anything.

How Tutoring Makes Me Feel



Tutoring makes me feel good



Tutoring makes me laugh



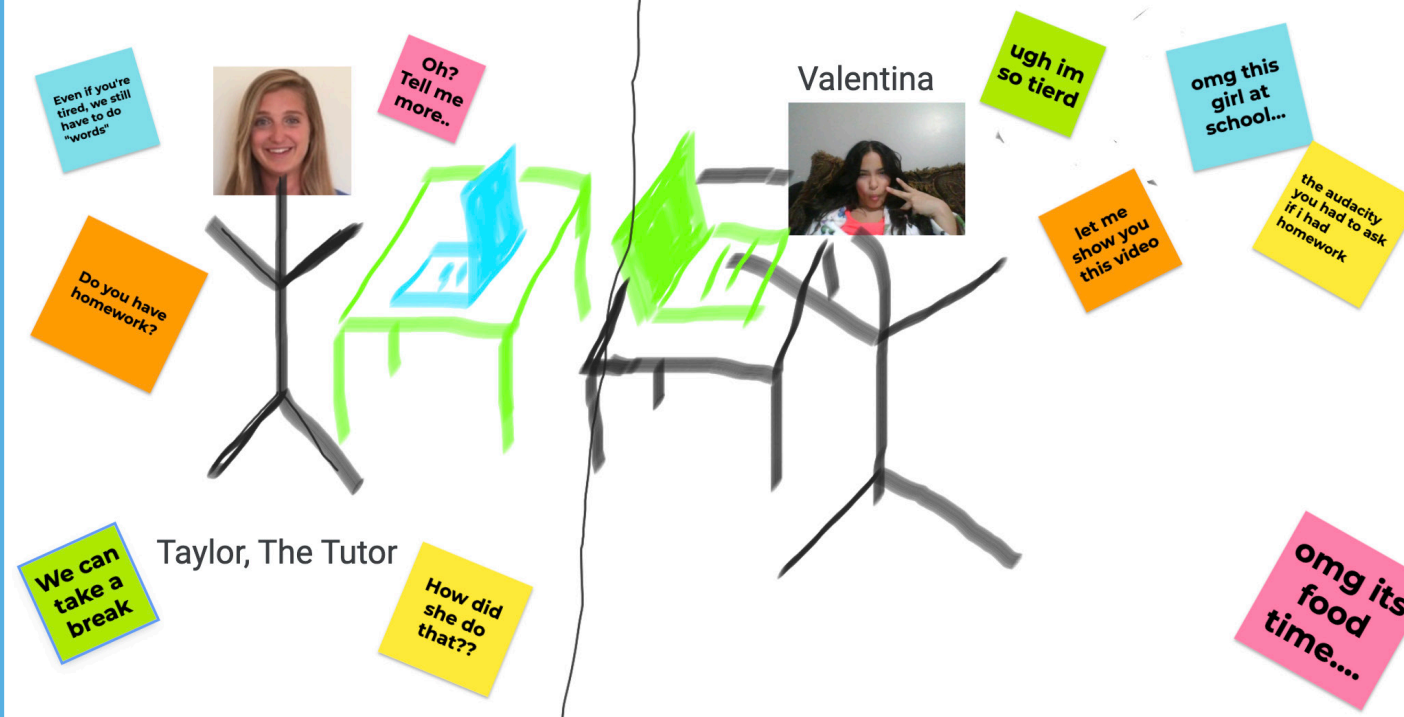
Tutoring is lit (fun and exciting)

Tutoring makes me think



**AIDEN S.
GRADE 9**

My Experience in Heaven



**ALENTINA R.
GRADE 6**