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Photography by Dick Baker, Colleen Johnson, Jamie Henke, and Odyssey Junior staff members
Emily Auerbach, UW Odyssey Project Director; Oracle Editor
Beth McMahon, Oracle Designer
Chris Wagner, Odyssey Junior Coordinator
emily.auerbach@wisc.edu; 608-262-3733
www.odyssey.wisc.edu
Odyssey Adventurers
When someone says food, I say chicken, but I don’t like it. My mom tried to make me eat it when I was six. I’ve never had a bite since. When I was nine, my mom surprised me and brought home chicken tenders. I loved them. They were crispy and the ranch put more flavor into it. But the silly thing is I still don’t like chicken. (Mari)

I came home from my first football game feeling like I just won a championship and I was kind of hungry. I knew I was going to get a lot of desserts, and since my favorite pizza topping was sausage and pepperoni I knew I was going to get that too. Each time I was starting to eat I was thinking about my friends in football over and over because I couldn’t have won by myself.

After the game, my family and I went to Pizza Ranch, a place I’d only been to once. I was thinking about how good it was the time I was there before. When I was thinking about what I was going to get, I was proud of myself and my team for winning. We won eight games that season and only lost one! (Jerry)

My favorite meal is pizza that my granny made for me because she puts lots of sausage and American cheese on it. I love how much pepperoni and sausage and cheese she puts on it. It smells like baking bread. I can see the steam rise and the gooey cheese. The crust is crunchy, and it tastes spicy and salty. I feel good when I eat it. (Angel)
I love to eat. Sometimes I just eat to eat. I love breakfast. Cereal is my favorite. I mix two cereals up sometimes for some reason, four bowls with milk. Rice Krispies and Fruity Pebbles—I eat them all. I usually eat pancakes, French toast, eggs and waffles, but my favorite is pancakes. I eat pancakes with my grandma or with anyone who is also a pancake lover.

My grandma is a very good cook. They’re big. My grandma makes the pancakes from the powder that she buys from the store. She makes them a golden color, and her pancakes are fluffy. When she makes them the good smell gets through under my bedroom door, waking me up from my deep sleep. The lovely smell is enough to make me jump out of my bed to the kitchen. I can eat three or four. They’re big. I like syrup on top or blueberry or strawberry syrup on top. Sometime when I make pancakes I put eggs on it. When I’m in my grandma’s kitchen, I feel comfortable and don’t worry about anyone else eating in the house. I don’t know how my grandma got to make such great pancakes. I wish one day I could learn to make such good pancakes. I only cook when I usually feel like it, but when I’m a grown man I will most definitely be cooking a lot for my wife and kids.

Food makes me happy and pancakes make me happier because they always remind me of my grandma. (K’Shawn)

On a Christmas day my mom, my stepdad, my grandma, my uncle, and I all were cooking a delicious Christmas dinner. We cooked and we cooked and we cooked, and finally it was night and we had finished! As we set the table listening to music it was time to eat!

We all grabbed our plates. We picked up the tongs and piled our plates with mashed potatoes, chicken, greens and all kinds of other things, but all of us had one empty spot on our plates. But then we all saw the yellow, sugar-coated, creamy cornbread sitting under the light on the stove. We all rushed to it. It smelled delicious, and it looked delicious. We saw all of the sugar dots dripping off of it from the heat of the oven. We all took a slice, plopped it onto our plates, and rushed to the table. After we ate all of our other food, we all took our metal forks and stuck them into the cornbread. I could see itty-bitty crumbs falling out of it. As I lifted it up, the yellow color was as if the sun was hiding under it. We all took a bite. . . . “EW! GROSS! DISGUSTING!!! THIS TASTES LIKE FEET!” I said. We all spat it out on the Christmas tree. As my dog came out from under the table, she hopped on the couch nearly tipping the Christmas tree over and ate the soggy cornbread chunks. But the only one who didn’t spit it out was my mother (A.K.A. creator of the cornbread. She picked up her cornbread with her fork and took a bite. She said, “Mmmmm, this is delicious! How can you all not like this?!?” We all sat there with a grin. THE END!!!! (Kamoria)
My favorite food is goulash because my birthday is in October when it's cold outside and the leaves are falling. It's cold outside, but I feel warm and fuzzy when my mom makes me goulash. I have always loved the taste of it. All of my family loves sweet potato pie for the fall. That was the first meal my mom made me when I was little. It has cheese, meat, noodles, and tomatoes. (Olivia)

We had a birthday party for my cousin at the Goodman Center. There was a lot of food there and it smelled really good. When I walked in, I saw clothes, shirts that they had made for him, kids, toys, and some other things. As for food, there were hot dogs, pizza, soup, and a whole bunch of stuff. The food was warm and my aunt made it. When my family comes together, they stay up all night and cook all the food together. The mashed potatoes were warm but not too hot, so they didn’t burn my tongue. They were the best mashed potatoes I can remember having. I ate a turkey Cobb salad, which had green peppers and fresh turkey slices. I drank both pink and yellow lemonade. Overall, I ate just the right amount, so I didn’t feel too tired afterwards. (Semej’a)

I went to Red Lobster. It took forever to get the food and when it finally came at first I tried the shrimp smothered in butter. There was so much butter that the shrimp looked like it was oozing butter. I didn’t want to taste it, but my mom made me because she spent a whole bunch of money on it. After I took one bite I almost hurled. It was so garlicky, so my mom said I didn’t have to eat it. Afterwards I tried lobster for the first time. It was really good! After my lobster I ate my crab, then the popcorn shrimp, then the asparagus. I was full, so I got a to-go box and shared it with my little brother. He didn’t want the shrimp either! (Tara)

One of my favorite foods is nachos, the kind my mom makes. She makes them with Doritos, cheese, lettuce, sour cream, tomatoes, and ground beef. She cooks the ground beef in a big pan, and once it’s all cooked she adds taco seasoning to give it flavor. I pour a big pile of Doritos onto my plate and then scoop the hot meat on top of the chips. I like to top my mountain of nachos with lettuce, sour cream, and hot melted cheese. (Niya)
Overture Center Trip

On October 4th, the Adventurers hopped on a yellow school bus headed downtown to the Overture Center for an evening of theater, thanks to the generous support of Theater Lila. Students were in awe as they entered the Overture Center, many for the first time. We squished into the elevator where Jessica, our leader, welcomed us to our creative space for the evening. Students remarked, “This is our room!?” and proceeded to quickly make it their own. We played a wide range of theater games to explore our voices, our bodies, and new ways of communication.

My favorite parts of the workshop were the collaborative challenges. It was exciting to see our group come together to create a working machine without talking or assemble as a bird that took flight before our very eyes. The evening culminated with short small group performances on the real stage! As a teacher, I was very proud that every student took a chance and transformed themselves into actors on stage that night. (Karen Dreyfuss)

Student quotes:

“This was the best night ever!” -Angel

“When can we come back?” -Tara

“I thought this was really fun.” -Jerry
ODYSSEY EXPLORERS
After reading the book, *Will Allen and the Growing Table*, by Jacqueline Briggs Martin, Odyssey Explorers wrote about their favorite vegetable and how they like to eat it.

My favorite vegetable is sweet potatoes, and how I like to eat them is in sweet potato pie and mashed sweet potatoes. Another one of my favorite vegetables is corn. I like to eat it on the cob and as popcorn.

(Sheari)

Carrots are my favorite vegetable. I like them because they are super crunchy. I only like them fresh out of the ground or from the store, not cooked or anything like that.

(Sidney)

My favorite vegetable is raw carrots with ranch dip. I like to have that for a snack.

(Javone)

My favorite vegetable is carrots. I eat them because they are good and good for you.

(Kyniah)

I love rutabagas because they are extremely healthy, and eating them makes me strong. I also really like cabbage because I like what they call them (a HEAD of cabbage). I also love cabbage because it builds a strong heart and lungs.

(Jordan)
My favorite vegetable is pepper. I like the ones that are not hot. I like peppers on pizza. (Julius)

My favorite vegetable is potatoes to be served as French fries. I love the outside of the French fries. I hate the mushy part. For the most part, I love them. (Carmella)

My favorite vegetable is potatoes. I like them as French fries, mashed potatoes, or hash browns. (Malaysia)

I love pickles because they are so good. (Kamia)

Corn is my favorite vegetable. I like it cooked. If I eat it on the cob, I throw away the middle because that is gross to me. (Cole)

My favorite vegetable is corn. It is the best. I like corn because it tastes good. Corn was the first vegetable I ever ate. (Kaleah)
Read to a Dog

Odyssey Explorers participated in Read to a Dog with the dogs from the Alliance of Therapy Dogs, Inc. Then they each made up a story starring one of the dogs. Next week, they will have the opportunity to read their stories aloud to the dogs and their humans. Each Explorer will have two copies of their storybook, one to take home and one to give to the dog and its owner.

When Tucker Got Lost

Tucker is a four year old Black Labrador. His favorite food is peanut butter.

One day, Tucker went on a walk. He ran so fast that he got lost. Nicole, Tucker’s mom, found him and saw that he was scared.

Nicole hugged Tucker and picked him up and went home. Tucker was hungry and ready to eat. Nicole said, “Time to eat!”

Tucker was happy to be home with Nicole. (Kyniah)

The Lost Dog

Tucker is a black Labrador, 3.5 years old. Tucker likes to eat peanut butter. Tucker’s favorite activities are running, hiking at the farm and helping in the kitchen.

One day, Tucker ran away for a week. He went to his next door neighbor’s house because he got in trouble with Nicole, his owner. He was biting up her shoes and clothes and got in trouble.

Nicole was disappointed in herself. She looked for him. She heard him bark. She knocked on the neighbor’s door and said, “Is my dog here?”

Tucker barked again and ran to Nicole.

She said, “Let’s go home.”

Tucker was happy to see her again. (Malaysia)
**Tucker’s Adventure**

Tucker is a black Lab. Tucker is four years old. Tucker loves peanut butter.

One day, Tucker went on a walk. He played with all of his friends at the park. They were playing tag. Tucker ran so fast that he ran into a dog trap and got taken to another continent (Asia).

Tucker’s owner, Nicole, realized that he was missing. Tucker had a friend that went on a trip to Asia, and Tucker’s friend found him and told his owner. His owner couldn’t understand what his dog was saying. The dog ran outside to the place he had found Tucker. They found Tucker.

They called Nicole, and she said, “Take him with you to your house in Asia and then take him with you when you come to Madison, Wisconsin.”

Three weeks later, Tucker, his friend, and his friend’s owner arrived at Tucker’s house, and Nicole said, “Thank you!”

After that, they went to the park and played tag, but this time, Tucker did not run super far but he still ran really fast but stayed on the playground.

After that, they had a party at Tucker’s house. The people who came to the party were the people who saved him. However, that is a different story... *(Alan)*

**Run Around**

Tucker is a Labrador dog. Tucker loves peanut butter. He is very hyper and funny. He never stops wagging his tail.

One day, Tucker ran over the rainbow. He didn’t like it there. He won’t go there again because the rainbow didn’t let him run on top of it. The rainbow thought Tucker was too heavy.

Instead, Tucker went to the store to buy some peanut butter. *(Cole)*

**The Lost Dog**

Tucker is a black Labrador. He loves to eat peanut butter. He loves to eat and hike.

One day, Tucker ran into the woods. Nicole, Tucker’s human mom, ran out of the house to go look for Tucker, but Tucker was nowhere to be found. She ran into the woods and kept looking for two days with no water or food. Nicole was sad, hungry and thirsty.

The third day, she found Tucker. He ran into her arms and licked her for five minutes. Then, they went back home. They had a “happily ever after” together. *(Sidney)*
Danny, the Superhero Dog!

Danny is a good dog. He is a Rough Coat Collie. This is his story.

Once upon a time, there was a dog named Danny. Danny was a hero. Danny jumped from a helicopter into the sea with other dogs to save some people. The people were in the sea because they had jumped out of a plane in a storm. He found that there were other dogs in the sea, but he didn’t really know he was in the sea.

Another day, Danny dug a hole that was really deep. He dug so deep, he found the sea! Once again, Danny jumped into the sea to save people. He saw his other friends there, too.

Danny was in the newspaper because he saved people. (Alex)

Danny, the Adventurous Dog

There once was a dog who was adventurous. His name was Danny. He loved reading.

Danny’s best friend was Dan. They both loved going to the mall and to the pet store. But one day, Dan moved. Danny was sad. They still saw each other at the mall and pet store. Dan would always visit Danny. Danny would always visit Dan.

One day, Dan told Danny he loved roller coasters and invited Danny to go on a roller coaster ride with him. Danny said, “Yes.”

Dan said, “Let’s go! What are you waiting for?”

Danny said, “I’m scared.”

Dan said, “Why?”

Danny said, “The roller coaster might be high and fast!”

Dan said, “O.K.”

So, for the rest of the week, they went to the mall and the pet store. (LaNiyah)
The Fish Dream

I am Danny! I am six years old, and I am a superdog! I am rough, and this is my story.

So, I was swimming at the beach, and I saw a supercat fish. At first I was scared, but then she told me her story. To make a long story short, this is what happened. She met a fish with super powers, and the fish turned supercat into a fish! So now I think, “Will the supercat fish turn me into a superdog fish?”

Oh, no! She did! I am a superdog fish, but... Now I am hoping someone will save me.

The next morning, I woke up, and I was in the bathtub in my human’s house. But I was not a superdog fish! It was just a dream!!! I am safe, and I am so happy. Thank you for listening to my dream. (Carmella)

Harley’s First Space Trip

Harley is a Shih Tzu dog. He will be five years old in December. Harley loves playing with toys, riding in the car, and shopping.

Harley went on a spaceship. He went to the space station with his owner, Lois. However, Harley got off his leash and ran into another spaceship!

Harley had lots of fun on the spaceship. Harley also found a Play Station in the spaceship. The game he played was called, “Mario.” Harley found another cool game called “Red Blue Purple Peacock.”

Harley took the spaceship back home. He went on TV and told everyone about his trip. (Carlyle)
Harley's Life

Meet Harley! He is going to be six in the fall. Harley loves to play football. Harley is also handsome. Harley likes to swim.

Harley is a superdog who fights crime with his super powers – with his freeze breath.

Harley likes to collect rocks. One day, Harley went to collect rocks. Then, a tornado came. Harley got stuck in the tornado! Luckily, another dog saved him.

Harley was happy. (Javone)

Harley Takes a Boat-ride Trip

Harley is a dog. He will be five years old in December. Harley loves frozen Peanut Butter Kongs.

Harley went on a boat ride with me. He jumped in the water. He swam fast. He swam a little too far. He got scared.

So, Harley swam back and jumped into the boat. Then, he took a ride with me in the boat. After that, Harley and I went home. (Jayden)

Harley's Adventure

Harley is a five-year-old Shih-Tzu. He likes riding in cars and bike cars.

One day, Harley was riding in the car. Then, he got out and was struck by lightning and turned into a human! He got powers including fire powers and super speed so he can run really fast. Harley, then drank a special potion and turned invisible. He could also jump really high. He did flips all around.

Later, he accidentally drank a different potion and turned back into a dog. At the end, he felt better and said he was happy that he was a dog again! (Truth)
Rocky, the Cool Dog

Rocky is my friend, and he is cool. Rocky and I play a lot. We do a lot together. Rocky loves dog biscuits. He is a good dog, and his mom loves him, too.

Rocky and I went on a car trip to Chicago. It was so much fun. When we got there, we stayed in a hotel. We played fetch in the back.

Then we went back to Wisconsin. I got to feed Rocky when we got home. It was a great trip! (Jordan)

Rocky’s Friend, Clifford

Rocky is seven years old. He loves to eat and go on walks.

When Rocky was born, he was a tiny dog. Then he grew and he got medium-size. Then, he got even bigger. He could still go through the door.

He went outside and played with his friend, Clifford, the big red dog. (Erick)

The Book about Paisley, the Reader

Hi! I’m Shuan, and this story is about Paisley. Paisley is a two-year-old dog. Paisley loves eating and hiking. She also likes Clifford, the big red dog. Paisley loves people.

Paisley ran out of her house because she heard on the phone that there was someone who needed help. She ran to that address and helped the child so he could read smoothly and without stuttering. She snuck back into her house through the dog door. She barked, but no one answered. Paisley went outside to her doghouse.

When Morgan, Paisley’s human, got home, she called Paisley. Paisley was on a walk. On her walk, she saw owls, wolves, coyotes, and she found a carrot. Actually, she found 32 carrots! When Paisley got home, she told Morgan all about her day. Morgan was proud of her. (Shuan)
Paisley in the Snow

This is Paisley. She is two years old. Paisley loves snow!

One day, Paisley dug a hole for a home. She made a fortress. She loved fortresses because they made her feel safe, and she was kind of cold.

She dug a whole bunch of holes. Then, she went the other way to make more holes. She dug holes into her walls at home. She got snow all over herself!

Morgan, her owner, loved her and was glad Paisley was a dog at home. **(Julius)**

Who am I?

I am Paisley, the goldendoodle. I’m two years old. I love sweet potatoes, carrots and peanut butter. I am a lovely, hiking dog.

I love adventure. So, one day I went hiking. I decided I was going to climb Mt. Everest. If I was going to climb, I needed to pack a lot. Finally after three days of packing, I was ready.

It took three days to get up and down the mountain. When I was done, I had a nice warm cup of hot chocolate. **(Sheari)**

Paisley’s Story

My name is Paisley, and my friends’ names are Smoke, Kimari, and Clifford. Clifford is a big red dog. Kimari is a human, and there are four people in her family plus the fifth member, Smoke, the dog.

Clifford has a human friend named Emily Elizabeth. I have a human friend named Morgan, but I call her, “Woof! Woof!”

Morgan gives me carrots, peanut butter and SWEET POTATOES for lunch and dinner. (Sorry, I’m just so excited about SWEET POTATOES!)

I love snow and swimming and more activities.

Clifford and Morgan command Smoke and me to sit and stand and do other tricks. We do so well that we enter a Dog Show! Smoke and I each won a chewy toy! **(Kimari)**
The New School

Roxy is a four-year-old black Lab. Roxy loves going for long walks. She likes swimming and wearing costumes for holidays. Roxy loves doing tricks, including saying her prayers, and waving bye-bye and peak-a-boo. Her favorite book is Biscuit Loves the Library.

One day, Roxy went to Walmart. She was in a cart and her mom was pushing her. She saw some yogurt. Roxy jumped out the cart and got the yogurt and put it in the cart! Then, she got six more. Her mom said, “Thank you for the yogurt.”

Roxy was so smart that she started going to dog school. She plays at gym. She has two best friends, Jemire and Olivia. They play tag.

Roxy learns new tricks at school every day. (Kaleah)

Roxy, the Funny Dog

Roxy is four years old. She loves going for walks and swimming. She also loves biscuits.

One day, Roxy went on a car trip. The car trip was five hours to Michigan. When they stopped, Roxy saw a cat and ran towards it. The cat ran away.

It was late so Roxy and Judy, Roxy’s owner, washed up and watched TV and went to bed. They woke up very early the next morning. They went back to Wisconsin.

When they got back to Wisconsin, they went on an airplane ride. Roxy did not like the airplane ride because it was so high. Then, they came home, and Judy fed Roxy. Judy and Roxy were glad to be home. (Kamia)
I am currently in my second year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I had a great first year ending with a high GPA and met a lot of new and supportive people. Now that I am in my sophomore year, I have a better understanding of what I want to go into. I have decided that I want to go into law and major in Political Science with a minor in Criminal Justice and African American studies. My career objective after completing law school is to successfully secure a job at a law firm to eventually becoming partner or work as an attorney general in the U.S Department of Justice. My long term goal is to eventually serve as one of the nine Supreme Court judges and make decisions that could make a huge impact in America. Even though my first year entailed a rough transition, I am still happy I decided to stay at UW and did not give up on myself. Overall, I think attending college was one of the best decisions I have ever made and I know that it will help me prosper in the long run.