

ODYSSEY
ORACLE
JUNIORS



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Thanks to the following staff and volunteers of Odyssey Junior:

Odyssey Adventurers/Goodman Library, grades 6-12: Karen Dreyfuss, Mackenzie McDermit, Leigh Fredrickson, Scott Cooper, Lucia Chikowero '14

Odyssey Explorers/Space Place, grades 1-5: Christina Wagner, Marisol Gonzalez '17, Shannon Huberty, Max Lenz, Kay Kriewald, Joy Bally '17, Milli Lau '14, Guadalupe Tinajero '16, Ngina Ali '17

Odyssey Jumpstart/Head Start, ages 2-K: Cassie Cass, Wanda Carpenter, Tessa Foy, Erendira Giron Cruz, Arantza Giron Cruz, Mary Wells '07, Lilibeth Alvarez, Paula Noyce, Asha Green '17, Manuela Trejo (cook), Literally Arts (Jamie Henke, Jessica Courtier, Randi Neimeyer) and UW Office of Campus Childcare.

Guests: Tosumba Welch '13 (actor), Takeyla Benton '11 (We Write Too), Venus Washington (RU Fit), Will Glenn (Goodman South Madison Library), Field trip to Urban League of Greater Madison for Black Voices, kickoff event to Black History Month (Thanks to Michelle Bozeman '11 for the invitation!), UW Slow Food, Alliance of Therapy Dogs (Read to a Dog), UW Language and Speech (with Peg Rosin), Andrew Illene (artist), Dean Robbins (author, Margaret and the Moon).

Photography by Dick Baker, Colleen Johnson, Jamie Henke, Lisa Kjenvet, Madison Youth Choirs, and Odyssey Junior staff members
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ODYSSEY ADVENTURERS



VOICES

*We kicked off Black History Month with the Madison community at Black Voices, a poetry event sponsored by the Urban League. One of our very own students, Ashzianna, stood up and shared a Langston Hughes poem that night. We continued to hear strong voices with excellent guest speakers including Venus Washington, Tosumba Welch, and Takeyla Benton. Whether we were expressing ourselves through movement, music, theater, or poetry, we are discovering the power of our voices, individually and collectively. Thank you to the Adventurer students for taking chances this semester and expressing themselves in new ways each week. **(Karen)***



I would like to change how the President doesn't let people live how they want to live. I find it selfish because he doesn't want more people in the United States.

People should have the opportunity to live where they want. They aren't given a chance. The President needs to change the way he treats people.

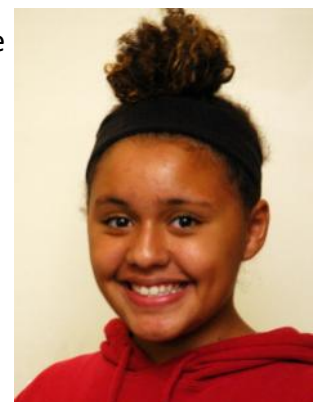
If I had a chance to talk to the President, I would tell him, "I know you're the President, but I have a few ideas. Let's talk about chances. Do you want to change the way you act towards people?"

People who live in this world would love to see a change happen because more and more each day, people get treated like nothing, like they don't belong. People need to show a big change in how they act around others, so if I had a huge chance to become a President, I would change the way people live and to get homeless people off the street. I would give them money to help them get back on their feet. I would definitely help other people and be right by their side. **(Semej'a)**



You should give to people and they will believe in you. You never know what people are going through, so always be kind and never say anything you can't take back. **(Angel)**

I love gymnastics because I can do flips and go on the beam and bars. Gymnastics sets away my stress. **(Kamoria)**





I am everyone.
 Latina
 Native
 White
 Irish
 Black
 Everyone.
(Kamoria)

Something that's very important in my life is my purpose. I believe that my purpose is super important because it determines the course of my life and helps me figure out who I am and who I will become in the future. I consider it an important thing also because it affects me and because it affects others who love and care deeply about me. I think my purpose in life is to show others new ways of accomplishing things for the better of our planet and our people and communities. **(Jocelyn/Jojo)**



I'm a new voice you've never heard before, but today I'll make sure you hear me. I'm tired of not being heard by the person in charge. I swear I'm screaming at the top of my lungs but no one can hear me. I want to be heard because there's someone out there who needs to hear my words. I bet there's a girl who's starving herself because no one took the time to tell her she was beautiful. I bet there's a boy out there considering to kill himself because no one took the time to ask him are you okay or get him help. I feel like I'm drowning and yelling for help but no one stops. I believe this is the generation that will change the world. I believe the people in my generation are the ones that are truly woke. I

believe that my generation has woke up from a deep sleep we have been in for too long and is finally seeing the wrong in the world and wanting to change it. My generation will be the ones to take it to the streets until we see a change. I believe women are the most powerful people I've ever met and I am proud to be a woman and I hope you heard me today. **(Olivia)**



Life is not fair when you have rules for everything. Like when your phone gets taken away from you for not doing something right. Or when you get punished for hitting someone back after they hit you. Or when you get a bad grade and you can't get those new Jordans that week. I argue to all you parents out there that you don't have to be so stubborn about what your kids do.

My pet's name is Smoke. I love Smoke because he always comforted me when I was down. Everytime he would see me leave, I would start crying. I love Smoke.

RIP Smoke. **(Mari)**



I love basketball because it's for anyone. I like the competition. I think it makes me a better person. Us teenagers, adults don't understand We wear shorts in the winter and coats in the summer We act different at home in front of our mamas than we would act fifty steps from our front door We don't have time for chores We have time to play Fortnite and 2K We just might even have lil girlfriends or boyfriends that we can swear we'll tell you about, but never do. **(K'Shawn)**

I love food because when I'm down it fills me up. When I'm hungry, I eat food and it makes me happy. Just like what everyone says, "you're not yourself when you're hungry" **(Ashzianna)**



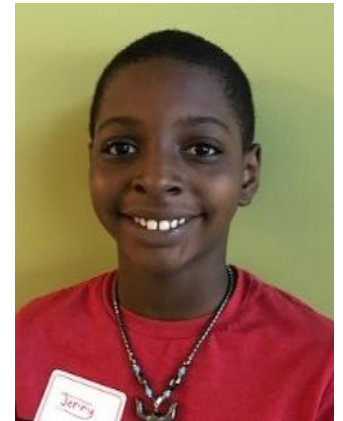
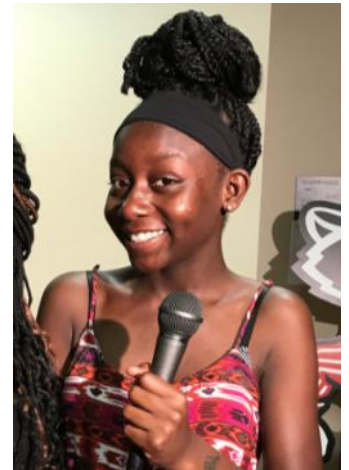
I love the color red because it's the color of blood, the very thing that flows through my veins and through my heart. **(Jocelyn)**

I love basketball. I play every day. I want to get to the NBA. I want to do what Michael Jordan has done. I want to continue his legacy. **(Jerry)**

I think that we shouldn't have guns or knives or violent TV shows. I wish there was no money in the world because the world would be better. I wish I could forage and build shelter and make clothes for myself without wasting anything. **(Tara)**



Dear Mr. Trump,
It would be amazing if you gave women and black people more rights. White people are treated better. Girls and women are not supposed to sit at home and think the man has more rights. **(Kamoria)**

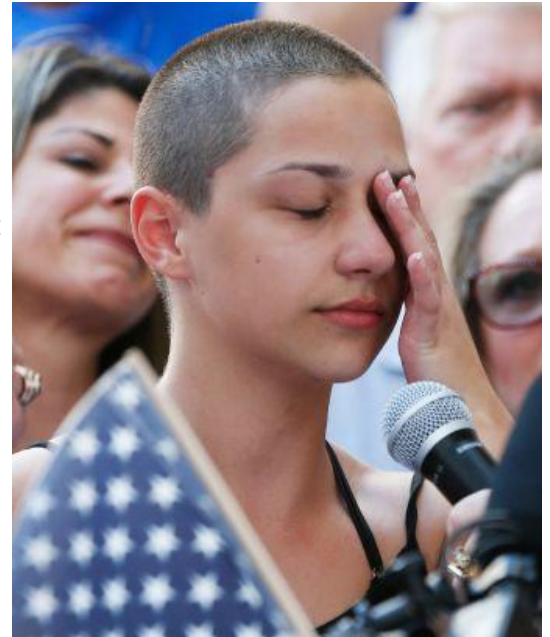


RESPONDING TO PARKLAND

After I heard about the school shooting, I was sad, but I was also in the middle because I really didn't know what was going on. I feel like the public shouldn't have victim shamed the shooter or the kids who were shot. I think the shooter's parents should have been there for him. It's not his fault because he's mentally ill. In the schools, I think if they notice a student is losing interest and has severe depression or anxiety, they should be there for that student. They should talk to them without shaming them and suggest therapists in the area. **(Olivia)**



We watched a clip from the news of a student talking about the shooting in Florida. Here is what I thought:



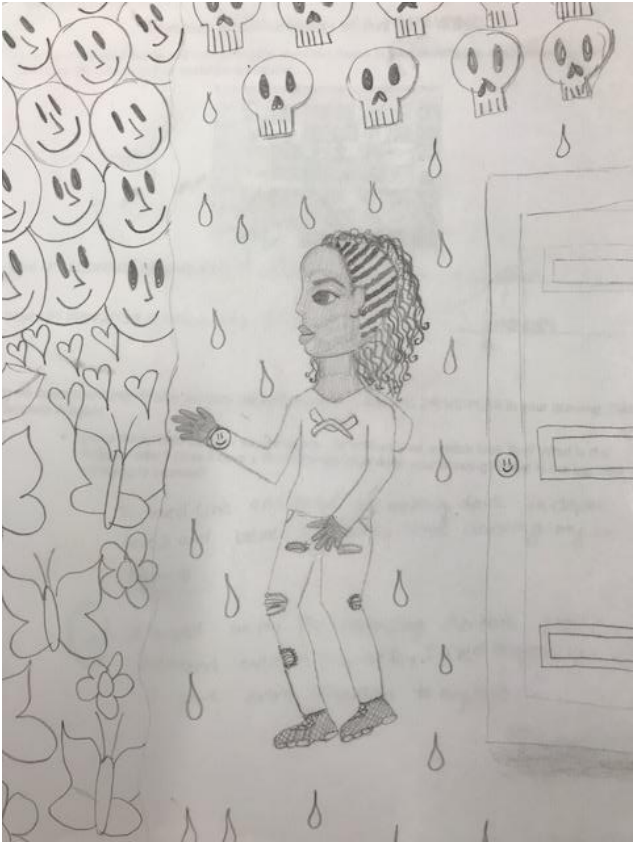
Obviously the student was a little mad and sad, at the beginning she was crying and at the end she was on the brink of screaming. Also she was mad at people, mostly at politicians and President Trump. But she had a reason. She figured out how much money the politicians were getting from the NRA. Our country could be using that money on kids' health, or solving mental illness. **(Jerry)**

I think it's scary to think about how this could easily happen at my school. I didn't know about everything, about how to get a gun and not having it to be registered, so I think it should be mandatory and should be a priority to have stricter gun laws. How many times do we have to protest about something or speak on something for people to realize it's a problem that needs to be fixed?

Everyone wants to be heard and we're all taught at a young age that we have a voice, but when nobody hears you, when do you stop talking? **(Niya)**



JOCELYN'S ART



ODYSSEY EXPLORERS



SCIENTISTS AND INVENTORS

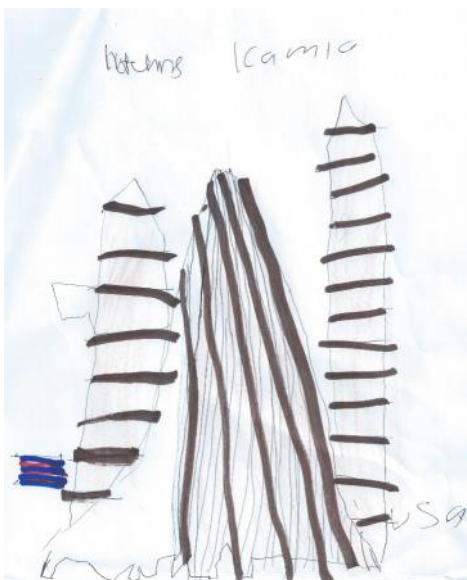
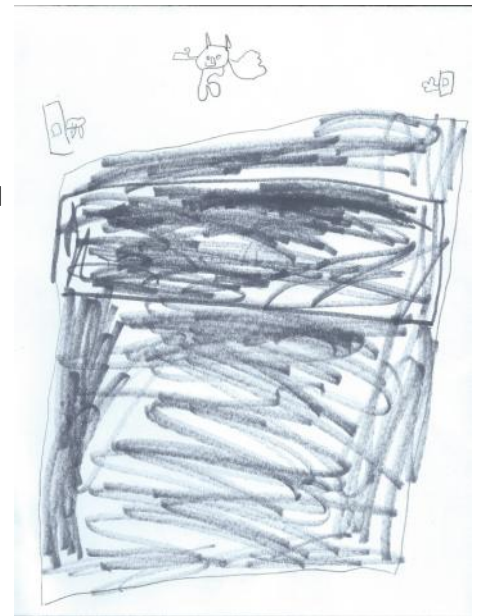
Kay Kriewald, Odyssey teacher and senior outreach specialist at the UW Space Place, challenged Odyssey Explorers to write about a scientist or inventor who is living today. First, each Explorer wrote down some things that he or she is interested in, such as football, music, dinosaurs, cell phones, dolphins or outer space. Then, we used iPads, Chromebooks, or books to find someone who does science or invents in that area. After that, staff and volunteers, including students from the Odyssey Adventurers, helped us write about our scientist or inventor. Kay will be framing our writing and putting it up as an exhibit at UW Space Place! We will also make each of our stories into a book that we can keep. Explorers were inspired by a visit from author Dean Robbins, who wrote the book "Margaret and the Moon" about Margaret Hamilton who developed the computer code that made it possible for the first astronauts to land on the moon and then safely return to earth

Larry Silverberg used mechanical science to figure out how to make the perfect free-throw shot in basketball.

I decided to find out more about him because I like to play basketball and I would like to learn to be better at it.

Larry Silverberg is a mechanical engineer at North Carolina State University. He had to figure out the math to come up with the formula for the perfect shot.

If I could meet him, I would ask him, "How did you figure out the perfect shot?" <https://gizmodo.com> (Parish)



James Lovell was born on March 25, 1928. He grew up in Ohio. As a child, he was interested in rocketry and built flying models. He went to school at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and then to the United States Naval Academy. He grew up to be an astronaut.

James Lovell was the first person to go to the moon twice and the first person to go in outer space four times. On the Apollo 13 flight in 1970, there was a serious fire on the spacecraft, and it could not land on the moon. James Lovell, his crew and mission control had to come up with a plan to return the Apollo 13 safely back to earth. Lovell is important to the world because he contributed to our knowledge of outer space and the moon.

I chose to write about James Lovell because I love space, and I hope I can go to the moon one day. If I could meet him, I would ask him, "What was it like up in space?" "How did it feel to be so close to the moon?" I would also like to know how many people have been to the moon and who put the flag on the moon. <https://www.biography.com> (Kamia)

I am writing about Lonnie Johnson because he invented the Super Soaker. He was born in 1949 and grew up in Mobile, Alabama. When he was growing up, he loved inventing things. He invented a robot.

He went to college at Tuskegee Institute and became an engineer at NASA where he designed a power package for the orbiter and probe called the Galileo.

However, when he was working in his own workshop, he came up with the idea for the Super Soaker. He had to find the right parts to make the Super Soaker. At first, he had trouble getting people to believe in his idea. Now kids everywhere love the Super Soaker water gun because it is super fun! If I met Lonnie Johnson, I would ask him, "How did you make the Super Soaker?" Whoosh! Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions by Chris Barton. (Cole)

Growing up in West Virginia, Katherine Johnson was always very good at math and had an intense curiosity. She started college when she was only 14 years old. She became the first African American woman to attend graduate school at West Virginia University at Morgantown.

She worked at NACA (National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics) as a "human computer," which is what the women who performed the complicated math there were called. She later worked for NASA as an aerospace technologist and calculated the trajectory analysis for Alan Shepard, the first American in space, in 1961. When NASA used electronic computers for the first time to calculate John Glenn's orbit around [Earth](#), they called on Johnson to check the computer's numbers. In fact, Glenn said he would refuse to fly unless Katherine Johnson verified the calculations.



Katherine Johnson had to overcome barriers of discrimination. You can watch a movie about her and other African American women who worked for NASA called, "Hidden Figures." Scholastic SuperScience (Ebscohost), Feb. 2017, Vol 28, Issue 5. (Kaleah)

Jake Vander Zanden is the director of the Center for Limnology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Limnology means the study of lakes. He was born in 1963 and grew up in Wisconsin. He received his PhD from McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Jake Vander Zanden is known for doing research on invasive species, climate change and sustainable fisheries. His work is important because lakes and fish are important.

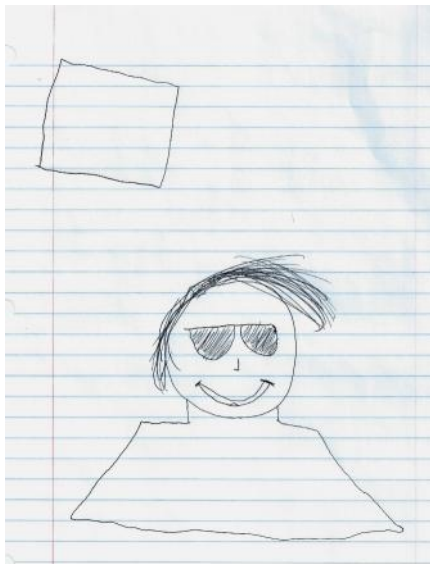
I chose to write about him because lakes are important to me. If I met him, I would ask him, "Why do you like your job?" <https://www.jakevzlab.net/> **(Alex)**

Yoshio Sakamoto is a game designer and producer. I chose to write about him because I am interested in video games and enjoy playing them with my friends.

Sakamoto was born on July 23, 1959 in Nara Prefecture, Japan. He went to college at Osaka University of Arts. As a child, Sakamoto was inspired by Nintendo's non-videogame toys. He started working for Nintendo in 1982.

Sakamoto is best known for inventing many Nintendo videogames such as Donkey Kong, Jr., Donkey Kong Circus, Wrecking Crew, and Super Mario Land 2: Six Golden Coins. He is co-creator of the Metroid Series.

If I could meet Yoshio Sakamoto, I would tell him that I love how he makes videos games for children and adults. https://www.mariowiki.com/Yoshio_Sakamoto **(Shuan)**



Alexis Rudd absolutely adores dolphins, and so do I! They are my favorite animal. The amazing thing about Alexis Rudd is that her research involves eavesdropping on dolphins and whales.

Rudd has a PhD in Zoology from the University of Hawaii. Her doctoral research uses underwater sound to study the distribution of dolphins and humpback whales around the Hawaiian Islands. Her work is important because she can help us see a dolphin or a whale and track them on radar. She uses passive acoustic monitoring for studying their movements. This information helps with conservation strategies for dolphins and whales.

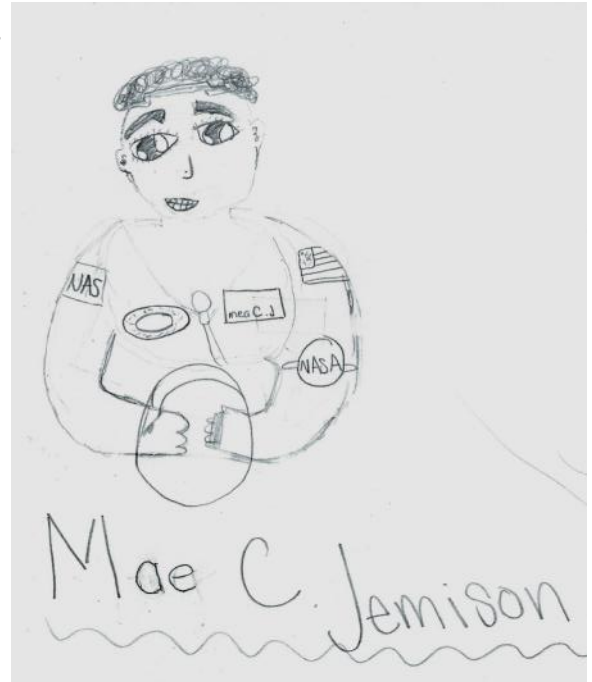
One of the challenges Alexis Rudd faces is how to protect and save marine animals. She is working on increasing communication between scientists and policymakers around conservation issues in Hawaii.

If I could meet Alexis Rudd, I would ask her, "When and how did you know that you wanted to become a zoologist?" <http://seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/alexis-rudd> <http://www.deepseanews.com/> **(Sidney)**

Mae C. Jemison is an engineer, a physician and an astronaut. She is best known for being the first African American woman to travel in outer space.

Jemison was born on October 17, 1956 in Decatur, Alabama but moved to Chicago, Illinois when she was three years old. She decided she wanted to be a scientist when she was in kindergarten and started high school when she was 12 years old. She received a degree in engineering from Stanford University and a degree in medicine from Cornell University. She worked in research, engineering and medicine.

Jemison was inspired to apply to be a mission specialist at NASA by Colonel Guion Bluford, the first African American in space. On September 12, 1992, Jemison became the first African American woman in space on the shuttle, The Endeavour. She was in space for 190 hours, 30 minutes and 23 seconds.



Jemison uses her knowledge in biology, medicine and engineering to help people in developing countries. She also runs a children's science camp for children from all over the world.

If I could meet Mae Jemison, I would ask her why she chose to be an engineer and what is it like to be an engineer because I would like to become a building engineer. <https://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/jemison-mc.html> **(Kimari)**

Aprille Ericsson is an award-winning aerospace engineer at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

Aprille Ericsson was born on April 1, 1963. She grew up living in one of the Roosevelt Housing Projects in Brooklyn, New York. She was the oldest of four daughters. She won second place in a science fair in high school and liked playing basketball.

After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Astronautical Engineering at MIT, Dr. Ericsson attended Howard University in Washington, D.C. She became the first African- American woman to receive a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at Howard University and the first African-American woman to receive a doctorate in engineering from the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

She was not able to be an astronaut because she had asthma and a knee injury. This disappointment did not stop Aprille Ericsson from dedicating her life to furthering space exploration as an aerospace engineer. She has won many awards, including the Washington Award in 2016. She is working on a project to bring samples of red dust back from Mars.

Aprille Ericsson works to inspire young people, especially women and minorities, to become scientists. I think she is an interesting person, and I would like to talk with her about what she is known for. www.obap.org/dr-aprille-ericsson **(Malaysia)**



Brian Lund is a pro-athletic trainer in football for Badger Sports Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. What does an athletic trainer have to do with science? First of all, Brian Lund has a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise and Sports Science from UW-LaCrosse and Master of Science degree in Kinesiology from Indiana University. Kinesiology is the scientific study of body movement. Brian Lund uses his education to help football players play better and recover from injury.

Lund grew up in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. He enjoys golfing, fishing, and smoking meats. He has worked his way to the Head Football Athletic Trainer for the UW-Madison.

I chose to write about Brian Lund because I am interested in football. If I could meet him, I would ask him, "What does it take to get to the NFL?" and "What famous football players do you know?"

http://uwbadgers.com/sports/2015/10/23/GEN_1023150831.aspx **(Jordan)**

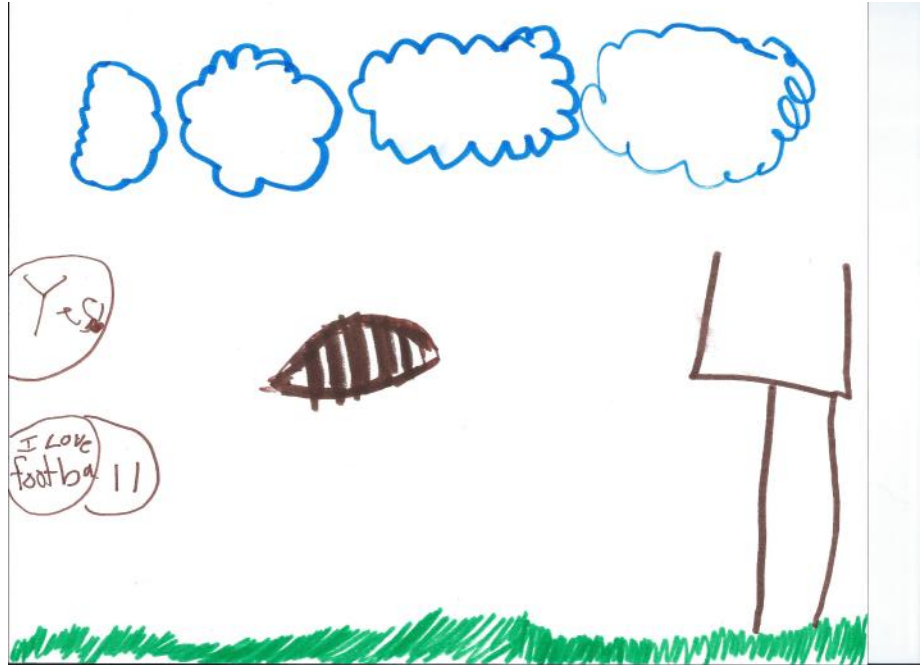
John (Jack) Horner was born in Shelby, Montana on June 15, 1946. He found his first dinosaur bone when he was only eight years old! He went to college at the University of Montana but could not finish because he had severe dyslexia. However, this did not keep him from going on to become a famous paleontologist.

In the 1970s, Jack Horner and his research partner, Bob Makela, discovered a nesting site of a newly discovered type of dinosaur that they called, "Maiasaura" which means "Good Mother Lizard." It showed that some dinosaurs built nests and took care of their baby dinosaurs. Jack Horner wrote a book called, "How to Build a Dinosaur." He was the inspiration for one of the characters in the movie, "Jurassic Park."

Jack Horner received an Honorary Doctorate of Science in 1986 from the University of Montana.

I wrote about Jack Horner because I love learning about dinosaurs. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_Horner_\(paleontologist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_Horner_(paleontologist)) **(Carlyle)**

K.C. Joyner is known as the Football Scientist.® He knows a lot about football, and he analyzes the games. He uses different kinds of statistics like TYPCA which measures total yards per catchable attempt. He writes about his methods and writes a Fantasy Football Draft Guide every year.



I chose K.C. Joyner because I am very interested in football and soccer. If I met K.C. Joyner, I would ask him, "Can I be on your football team?" I would tell him, "I want to be like you." www.thefootballscientist.com
(Javone)

Young Guru is a sound engineer for many famous recording artists like Jay-Z and Alicia Keys.



He was born Gimel Keaton in Wilmington, Delaware on February 12, 1974. When he was a teen, he taught African history classes at a community center; he was called "Young Guru," a name which he began using when he was a DJ in high school and which he still uses today.

Young Guru went to Howard University and also took a six-month recording course at Omega Recording Studio. He makes beats and sounds for musicians. He has been called the most famous and successful engineer in the history of hip-hop.

I chose Young Guru because I love singing and dancing to music. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Young_Guru
(Jayden)

Shane Chen is best known as the inventor of the first hoverboard called the Hovertrax. He was born on February 10, 1956 in Beijing, China. He went to China Agricultural University.

In 1986, Chen moved to the U.S. In 2003, he started a company called Inventist. He has invented electric skateboards, the Solowheel, which is an electric unicycle, and in 2013, the Hovertrax.

He has not made much money on the Hovertrax because many copies of his product have been made and distributed illegally out of China to the whole world.

I chose to write about Shane Chen because I think hoverboards are cool. If I met Chen, I would ask him how he made the Hovertrax and how can I build my own hoverboard. <https://hoverdna.com> **(Truth)**

Mark Ballora grew up just outside of San Francisco during the 1960s. He loved music, especially the Beatles, and going to Grateful Dead concerts. That is how he became interested in studying the science of music. Ballora has received degrees from UCLA, New York University and McGill University.

Mark Ballora is best known for his work with sonification, turning all kinds of information into music. He has used this method to create symphonies out of scientific data. In 2017, he received two \$50,000 grants to help marine biologists sonify data from deep in the ocean. This work is important because sonification can be used to improve our understanding of information in new ways in science and medicine.

In 2000, Mark Ballora joined the faculty in the School of Music and the School of Theatre at Penn State. He wrote a book called Essentials of Music Technology.

I am also interested in sound waves and music. If I met Mark Ballora, I would ask him "Why did you chose this job out of so many others you could have done?" and "Is what you do fun?" <https://adri.psu.edu/profile/mark-ballora> **(Carmella)**





Mae C. Jemison was born on October 17, 1956 in Decatur, Alabama, but she thinks of Chicago as her home because she moved there to go to Morgan Park High School. She went to Stanford to get her engineering degree and also completed the requirements for a major in African American Studies. She also went to Cornell University and became a medical doctor. Mae Jemison knows how to speak three languages besides English: Russian, Swahili, and Japanese. She loves dance and collecting African art.

Dr. Jemison has done research in engineering and medicine. She has done lots of computer programming. She was also a Chief Medical Officer in the Peace Corps and a General Practitioner (medical doctor).

She was selected for the NASA astronaut program in 1987. In 1992, Jemison joined the crew of the Endeavour and became the first African American woman in space. She worked on bone cell research while in space.

A challenge that Mae Jemison faced was to become a medical doctor as well as an engineer. <https://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/jemison-mc.html> **(Zarihana)**

I chose Jane Goodall because she studies chimpanzees in Africa.

Jane Goodall was born on April 3, 1934 in London. Her love of animals started when she was a little girl when her father gave her a chimpanzee stuffed animal. She went to Africa and worked with Louis Leakey studying primates. She went back to England and received her PhD from Cambridge University before returning to Africa to learn more about chimpanzees.

Jane Goodall is the only person who was ever accepted into chimpanzee society. She learned a lot of things about chimpanzees that no one ever knew before; she found out that chimpanzees use tools, eat meat and have similarities to humans in their emotions and relationships.

Dr. Goodall founded the Jane Goodall Institute in 1974 to protect chimpanzees. She is an activist who believes that animals should be treated with respect.

If I met Jane Goodall, I would ask her "How good are you with animals? Are you a scientist who works with chimpanzees?"

<http://www.janegoodall.org/> Jane Goodall by Emma Haldy **(Julius)**



Martin (Marty) Cooper is often called “the father of the cell phone.” He was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1928. He loved to take things apart and invent things even when he was a little boy. He received his bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in electrical engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology.

In 1954, he joined Motorola, Inc. and worked on the first portable police phone that came out in 1967... In 1973, Motorola installed the first cell tower, and Marty Cooper made the first phone call on a cellular phone.

Marty Cooper had to overcome the obstacle that many people didn’t believe the cell phone would be useful and thought it would be too expensive to ever be practical.

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/people/literature-and-arts/music-history-composers-and-performers-biographies/martin-cooper>

(Laniyah)

William Sanford Nye is better known as “Billy Nye, the Science Guy.” He was born on November 27, 1955 in Washington, D.C. His mother was a codebreaker in WWII and his father survived a prisoner of war camp in which he learned to tell the time by making a sundial. These things influenced Bill Nye’s life and work.

Nye went to college in mechanical engineering at Cornell University. He started his career at

Boeing in Seattle, Washington. He left Boeing to become a science educator in the entertainment industry. In 1993, he was given his very own show, “Bill Nye, the Science Guy.” He does wacky science and experiments and tells jokes while teaching kids and even adults about science.

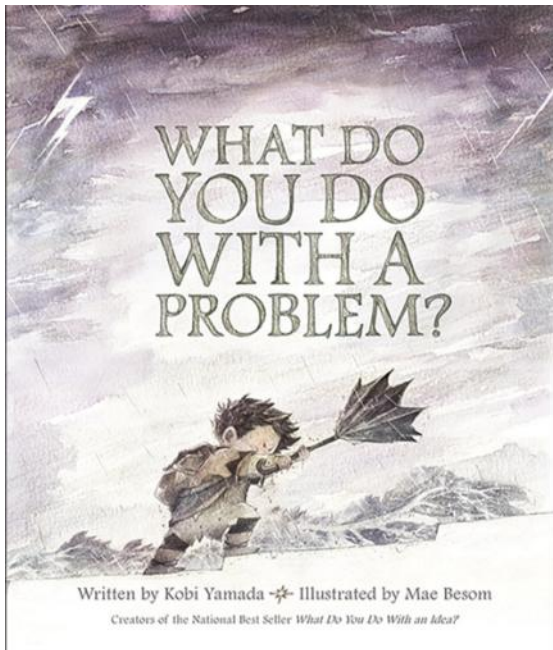
In 2005, Bill Nye became president of the Planetary Society. He made a sundial that was used on the Mars Rover Explorations. One obstacle Bill faced was that he applied to NASA to be an astronaut but was never accepted.

If I met Bill Nye, I would like to ask him, “How can I become a scientist?”

<https://www.famousscientists.org/bill-nye/>
(Kyniah)



WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A PROBLEM?



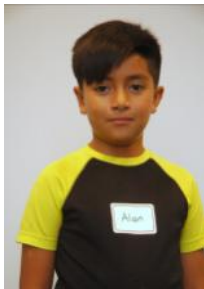
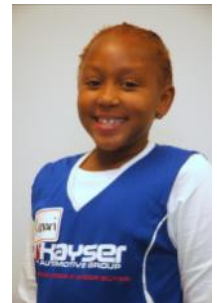
Assignment: Write about a time when you had a problem or a time you were brave (or both).



I was brave when my principal asked me to give a speech about our school. I was so scared because I was afraid if I did something wrong, all of my classmates would laugh at me.

(Kamia)

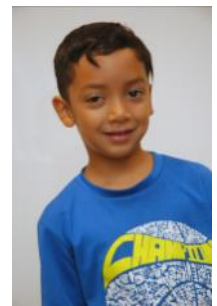
A time when I was brave was at Odyssey when I had to talk in front of people, but I got through the speech. I did it! One more time I was brave was when I danced in front of people. The time I had to do my very first basketball game and I had to go on the court, I was brave. **(Kimari)**



I didn't know what to do in my new school. I had to ask my friend to find out what I needed to do. Then my friend told me what to do, and I felt happy.

(Alan)

Problema: Mi problema fue cuando me fui a visitar California tenia miedo de la nueva escuela y los niños nuevos que tendria que conocer.
Solución: Mis padres me ayudaron a tener amigos y a pensar positivo.



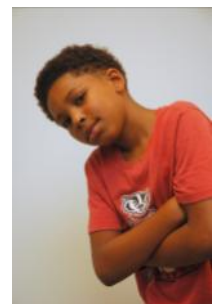
Problem: My problem was that when I visited California, I was afraid of the new school and the new children that I had to get to know.

Solution: My parents helped me to make friends and to think positive. **(Erick)**



I was brave when I gave my speech at Double Tree Hotel because there were a LOT of people there! At first, I was so scared, but when I got up to the podium, I realized that it really was not that scary. My speech was about all of the activities that I am in! **(Sidney)**

I was brave when I took my training wheels off my bike when I was five years old. **(Shuan)**





My friend didn't want to play with me, and at first I was mad. Then, I played with someone else. It felt good because I had someone to play with. **(Zarihana)**

One time I had a problem was when I fell on my bike with an ice cream cone in my hand. I still have the scar on my leg! **(Carmella)**

I was at school and I had trouble doing a math problem. I felt sad. I asked my teacher to help me. After she helped me, I felt very happy. I want to help other people in the future. **(Cole)**



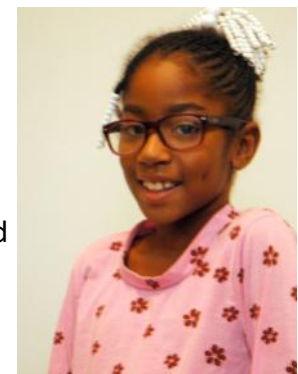
One morning, I felt mad because I couldn't get the bottle of milk out of the refrigerator. I asked my mom to help me. She helped me pour the milk on my cereal. I felt happy. I ate my cereal and milk and went to school. **(Jayden)**

I got bullied in school by my ex-friend. Bullying is mean. I walked away, and I felt sad because he made a bad choice. I was sad and mad, but I felt good about walking away. **(Parish)**



When my friend wanted to fight and hit me in the eye, I told her to take it easy and calm down. Then, we played Barbies and did not fight anymore. **(Laniyah)**

A problem we have at school is bullying. We should not bully because it hurts people's feelings. We should tell the person, STOP! Everyone is responsible for helping with this problem. **(Julius)**



Alan and Erik were in California during the first month of Odyssey Junior this semester. Alan shared some of his experiences about his trip with us.

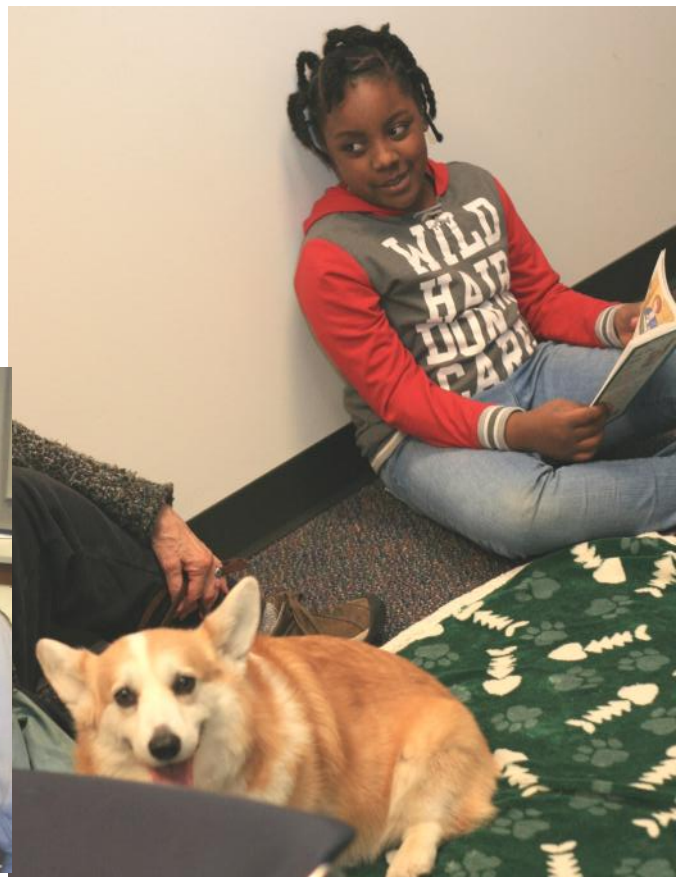
My Trip to California

It was really fun to go to California because of many reasons. One of the reasons is because I went in a car, and I saw lots of the country. Another reason is because I went to school in California and made many friends. Another reason is because I visited family. I also went to public parks and even Disneyland! I played basketball in my school, dodgeball, and games on the computer. I also read books, did math and drawing, and much more in my classes. **(Alan)**



My Fun Day

I went to the Goodman Center and sang and danced to "JuJu on that Beat." My friend danced, too. It was so fun! We all laughed.



ODYSSEY JUMPSTART



AFRICAN DANCING



We have learned five different African dance moves that we associate with five African birds that make similar movements. We strut like an Ostrich. Penguins flap their wings when they communicate, so we flap our arms like penguins. We wade through the water like a Heron, and pick up our leg like a Flamingo. The African Finch is the only bird in the world that sings and dances at the same time, and moves so fast that it also buzzes too. Emily's favorite bird to be is the Flamingo, and Nakayah likes to be the Ostrich because it flaps its wings. JT and Natayla like to be the Penguin because it waves its wings, and Jamyla likes to be a Flamingo. Jasmine and Izakias like to be the Finch because it

goes fast. Lauren likes to be the Ostrich, Isaac dances like a Woodpecker, and Journey is a Turtle in the African dance because she can!



“The drums of Africa still beat in my heart. They will not let me rest while there is a single boy or girl without a chance to prove their worth.”

~ Mary McLeod Bethune American Educator, Stateswoman, Philanthropist, Humanitarian, Civil Rights Activist, and advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Odyssey Jr. Jumpstart class has been learning about African drumming and dancing this year. We have been using wood blocks from the classroom, or our thighs, to tap out the beats. The children did a great job of learning the patterns and they perform them beautifully, but thighs and blocks don't have the same sound as real drums. Through the Gerald A. and Joyce J. Bartell Award in the Arts to Jamie Henke, the Literally Arts program was able to purchase a real Djembe Junior drum for each child to use. We played them for the first time in January and created some amazing sounds with our rhythm patterns!



What do you like about drumming?

Nakyiah likes it when we are patting the drums and then freezing our hands above the drums.

JT likes drumming in a circle and being the line leader.

Jamyla and Natayla both like dancing along with the drumming.

RJ likes the rhythms the best.

Jasmine likes the different beats.

Journey likes playing music.

Lauren likes drumming loud.

Isaac likes putting his drum down on the floor.



"My own hands can make the world that's in my mind." ~Langston Hughes

What do you like to do or make with your hands?



Edrease: "I like to make numbers with my hands." (holding up fingers for various numbers)

Jour'nee: "I like to make cookies that are for my Daddy, my brother, and my Mommy."

Azaekus: "I like to make a snowball and put snow on my face."

JT: "I like to race cars with my hands."

Nakyiah: "I like putting my hand in paint and then putting it on the paper."



Aria: "I like to make a snowball."

Emily: "I like to paint my hand."

JaZaya: "My favorite thing to make with my hands is a butterfly and a heart."

Malani: "I like painting my hands."

Issac: "I like making a dart house."

Jasmine: "My favorite thing to do with my hands is finger paint. I can make animals and use my fingers to make legs and arms and a head!"

Jamyla: "I can make a star."

