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### Preface

This book is dedicated to the students of Grade A Plus. We could not do this without their hard work and dedication.

We would also like to thank the parents and family leaders who ensure that our youth have the resources they need to be successful.

The goal for the writing center is to encourage and uplift the stories, experiences, and creativity all of our students have within them.

Guiding our young scholars with creative writing prompts, we ask them to share their opinions, thoughts, hopes, and ideas with us in a direct way.

They work closely and elaborate with their tutor, and practice their literacy modalities (writing, speaking, listening, and reading) to accomplish their tasks! We encourage our students to practice these many modalities, as they can feel pride and gain confidence expressing these in their everyday lives.

We always encourage our students to write how they want to express themselves. This includes, but is not limited to, language, dialect, and discourse.

There is no "right way" for our students to write creatively! This book is a culmination of not only the hard work our students have spent with their tutors, but the fun we have had as well. We learn and grow alongside them. We gladly thank our tutors for supporting our students every step of the way!

Enjoy!

### **Our History**

The Writing Center began under the supervision of Elana Erickson in 2019, a COE college student volunteer interested in helping students in the community. The students focused on using different prompts, letter writing, and free writes at our in-person site.

During January 2020, the Writing Center took on new leadership under Lexie Freese, a COE college student assigned for one year of service and was assigned to serve as the current Director of the Writing Center. As Grade A Plus transitioned into online services due to COVID-19, the Writing Center evolved even further to include different modalities of literacy. Students gained more technological experience writing online, instead of traditional pencil and paper. This allowed our students to prepare for the future of online schooling and writing itself.

The Writing Center is where many Grade A Plus students come to practice their writing skills while on expressing themselves on paper.

In each session, students have the opportunity to choose a prompt to write about or create their own stories.

### **Our Goals**

At The Writing Center students are inadvertently learning to using their weekly assigned vocabulary words, build on their grammar and language arts skills and express their true voices.

Writing Center Goals:

Students feel comfortable to express themselves creatively

Students use literacy skills like reading, speaking, and writing

Students pursue writing interests and work through the editing process Students tell their stories in a multitude of ways.

### How The Writing Center operates:

On a daily basis, students have the opportunity to express interest to their tutor to come join the writing center. The Writing Center is essentially a break out room that the students and their tutor join in order to be assigned a Google Doc to work on during their 50 minute session.

Each student is given an individual writing document so we can track their progress over time, and they have the option to freelance, answer a prompt, or participate in our Social Justice & Culture Book Club.

Students are always encouraged to come up with their own creative writing stories, but the prompts provide a guide for students to choose from and complete with a tutor.

The Social Justice & Culture Book Club offers an opportunity for students to read and write about different cultures and topics!

At the end of the session, students are encouraged to share and discuss what they enjoyed most about writing their stories.

### \_\_GRADE A PLUS STUDENT STORIES\_\_\_\_\_

### The New Family

## By Jayceon W.

I fly to outer space in my own spaceship, a maroon color that is a mind-connected and controlled spaceship that through connected neurons stickers pilot the ship. My mind takes me far past the solar system. The ship gets lost in the universe, by going through a black hole, and I came across an unknown planet that I named Jayceon's Platoon.

The planet's atmosphere changed colors. It changed color based on the inhabitant's collective moods. Red meant they were mad. Blue meant they were sad. Orange meant they were surprised. On the day that I crash-landed the atmosphere was a red color, because the aliens did not like that I had landed on their plane.

I crash-land on this planet, landing in the middle of an alien town. I saw aliens living on the planet. The aliens were mad human-like creatures, but talked in a different language, and had bigger heads and smaller bodies than Earth humans. They survived off of rock particles in order to survive the planet's environment longer. In fact, I tried these rocks and they tasted like rubber. They lived in a technologically advanced society, much more than ours. Their houses were robot-like, with mind-reading machines. These aliens were able to figure out our language by reading my mind.

They had no name for their planet, and allowed me to name it, so I called it Jayceon's Platoon. They took me in because I was lost, and I was appointed their leader when I started teaching them my ways. While trying to fix my ship, they taught me their ways and I described my home planet. When my ship was rebuilt, with their help, I was able to go home, but when I tried to take off I crashed-landed again. They continued to take me in, and they eventually became my family.

### Invasion

### By Andrew I.

When humans started exploring other planets that seemed life-supporting they expected to find bacteria and other microorganisms, but they found a species that was highly advanced and had the technology that allowed them to also travel to other planets. When humans came into contact with the aliens, the aliens didn't attack until one of the humans started approaching them, the alien used a laser and turned the human into cheese. The humans started retreating to their spaceships but the aliens didn't chase them, instead they started getting into their own ships and flying after them.

The humans were zooming out of the planet but the aliens followed and that led the aliens to earth. When the aliens landed on earth they instantly turned everything to cheese. The humans started attacking the aliens and shooting them but the aliens weren't harmed, so the humans stopped trying to attack them, but instead started looking for a new weapon. The aliens were turning the planet into cheese and all the plants were dying because the ground was cheese. The humans could only sit there and eat the cheese because they couldn't find a new weapon.

Humans started evacuating and finding a new planet because earth is a lost cause now. When the humans were traveling to find a new planet they came across a species that turned cheese into dirt, the humans saw this when the new creatures ate cheese off the humans spacesuit and spat out dirt. Humans started returning back to earth with the new creatures, the creatures quickly turned everything back into dirt and humans just replanted stuff. The aliens that caused all the problems fled back into the cosmos.

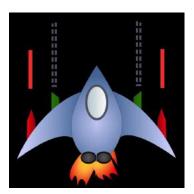
The humans released the creatures back into their homes and a new law was required that cheese is now illegal. The aliens weren't finished turning things into cheese yet so they started turning the sun into cheese, the aliens encountered a problem when the cheese disintegrated. The aliens had to come up with a new stronger cheese, they mixed multiple cheeses and they created a super cheese that was called blue cheese. The aliens started covering the sun in the super cheese, the planets in the solar system started freezing and the earth became uninhabitable, the humans found the creatures that turned cheese into dirt, but they couldn't change blue cheese.

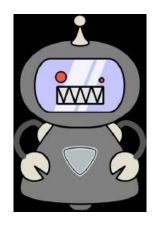
The humans set up a meeting with the aliens to try and persuade them into undoing the cheese turning. The aliens showed up along with the leader of the cheese rebellion. The alien's leader started talking about the benefits of cheese but the humans started ambushing the aliens and trying to take the technology to revert cheese. The aliens started overpowering the humans but a guy grabbed the laser and turned everything back into their original state. The aliens were imprisoned and the guy who saved the solar system from cheese was crowned a hero.

# Our Writing is out of this world

# By Ali

I would want to see if I can fly back to earth without a spaceship. I want to see if my brother and my sister can fly back to earth. Maybe there are aliens in space. I would go to the sun and see if there are sun aliens. I will make a new game on the moon. My game is called airball. I would play airball with the aliens. I would bring food in my helmet.







# Aliens at twilight

### By Ms. Lexie

As I ride my bike to school, I look up to the clouds. Looking for the normal gray sky, instead I noticed Toy Story styled clouds, and in them I was surprised to see what I did. Shaken, I gripped my handlebars and mentally prepared myself for what this day would bring.

Was it in the news already? What have my friends seen? What does he know? Will Mr. Molina still give us our biology test?

I ride faster, and notice a presence by my side. Swiftly, I decide that I don't want to look at him. I see enough of him as it is. I keep my head straight and pedal even faster, even though I know he is no match.

"Slow down," he whispers. I sigh the heaviest breath I have let out in months, and turn to meet him.

He looked worried, a deep crinkle on his perfect skin. I gulp.

"What are you doing? Following me?" I ask. My bike almost hits a rock as I fly down the road.

"Don't be like that, Bella. You know it's not safe to be alone right now," he shouts at me.

I turn to make my point known to him.

"They're here, Edward! Why can't you just accept our fate? Because you can't die? Is that it?" I huff out.

He won't even change me when it's the end of the world as we know it. He can't even look at me.

He rushes, "You know that's not what I want! I can't help that aliens want to end your life more than I do."

# Prompt #11 - Write a story about flying out of space and discovering a new planet

# By Angela I.

I went to space and found a planet called Chicken rooster. It is purple, white, orange, and cyan. The veggie roach grows on the planet. There are Starfish on the planet and a four-headed wolf that has 10,000 legs. It snows a lot on this planet so it freezes the ocean. That's where ice monsters come from.

This planet has 3 moons, their names are: potato, radish, and coconut. It grows tall moss trees and rock elephants. The moon potato is tan colored, it grows sweet potatoes and normal ones, it has 400 waterfalls and it has ice groundhogs.

The next moon Radish is a purple moon with red rocks, it has 100 unicorns and 1200 moss cats, it also has water dogs, and a cow bear it is 40 degrees on this moon no matter what.

The last moon, coconut, is white and it has floating rainbow rocks, it has dancing cats and singing cows, it has purple trees with unicorn ants on the trees. It has a lot of poison storms. Everything on the planet has adapted to the storms. Sometimes the singing cows explode. Chicken roosters are a very cool planet and they have weird moons.

# A dialogue between aliens and humans

By Ali

There was something that no one knew. It came from someplace in space. Maybe it came from a black hole it could be an alien because it is green.

One knows about the aliens in the invasion! Wait for a second aliens invasion we need this in invasion!!!!! Ahhhhhhh!!!

I said it is not an alien invasion because they did not come to earth to cry. Let's hear from the aliens.

Alien: We want to play with humans, not by ourselves.

Humans: We will play with you aliens. Play 1:00-3:00 playing 3:00-8:00, playing 8:00-9:00 playing 9:00-1:00

Aliens: Ok that was fun!

Humans: Push!

Aliens: Hey we are under attack by robots. When robots battle, what do you do?

Humans: We will do the thing we did when we thought it was an alien invasion. We are under attack!!! wow!!

We went to a new world called a black hole. Then I found out that they can't grow my plants. Then they moved to a planet called Earth. The aliens said okay I don't care I don't need to eat. Then they went to a planet called Earth that had everything the star blew up and then turned into a sun that's what the aliens told me. Well, time to go back to Earth. Wait! A second robot is still attacking Earth!

Wow! Is that Earth? It's a snowball!

Aliens: I have bad news and good news. The robot invasion has a stop.

The bad news is that we can't go to earth and the robots need help.

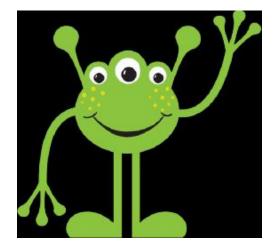
Human: We will go to earth and get the robots.

We got to go to the most robots that found a place on the earth.

They saved the robots and got stuck. What's that it a fling man

There on the fluffy with horns animal. Wow.

The avatar said will save you.



**Epecial Thanks:** GRADE A PLUS TUTORS

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