Our Stories

Fall 2017
Literacy Clinic
University of Northern Iowa
Fall, 2017

Dear Families and Students,

In this anthology, you will find a collection of student initiated writing. We asked students to select an original piece of writing that they would like to share with others. Publishing written work to share with an audience is an important piece of the writing process.

We are proud to share the stories, poems, thoughts and informational pieces from the Fall 2017 group of students who participated in the afterschool sessions. Each Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, University of Northern Iowa teacher candidates with a special emphasis in literacy had the opportunity to work with students at Sacred Heart Elementary School to learn more about reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking together. The students have all made progress in their goals and we are grateful for your support. This program is possible because of the partnership between the participating children, their families, the school, and UNI students.

Please enjoy the selections. We hope you read them often.

Thank you,

Sarah Vander Zanden, PhD
UNI Literacy Clinic Director
Literacy Education
University of Northern Iowa
Dear Dyana,

What is your favorite part of clash of clans? My favorite thing about clash of clans is doing the events because you can get free gems when you complete the events.

Why don't you play clash of clans often? We can play and attack each other's bases.

Did you know that Marko joined my clan? We are going to attack each other's bases, and have fun! Hope you can play clash of clans more, so all of us can play together.

PS. My favorite part of reading clinic is getting snack and eating them. Also playing games on the I-pad.
Adventureland By

When we first got to Adventureland, there were a lot of cars. Then we got our wristbands. We got into Adventureland, and there was food and rides. It was loud and there were a lot of different rides. Then we rode a ride that went up and down. Then, we ate lunch. I had cheese pizza, it was delicious. We looked at roller coasters. I was too scared to go on them, but my sister, mom, and brother rode them. We decided to leave because we rode all the rides. It was a fun day at Adventureland.
The Party

One day, I went to the supermarket and bought a lot of things. I got a cake and a party hat. I bought them because I am having a Halloween party.

At my party, I will have presents for everyone and a chocolate fountain that everyone can eat. Everyone will love my gift because they have candies and costumes. We will dance and play games too!

My friends Dway Meh, Maria, and Marita will be there. I think Dway Meh will have a dog costume and Maria will have a cat costume. I think Marita will have a butterfly costume. With my friends at the party, I will have the best time ever!
The Bad Cat

Once upon a time a bad cat was rude, and it was owned by Kate. They will make pie to put everywhere and they like to trick people because no one wants to eat their bad food. They put pop, water, and blueberry apple in it. Then they walk home to get more pie. Then they went to someone's house and the mall and the school and the park and a party. They have pizza at the party. They take the pizza and put the pie where the pizza was. Then they take the food like blueberry and chocolate ice cream from the store. They also take a lot of bad pie into the store, so everyone will have pie for days!!!!
My Puppy

Genre: Nonfiction, Personal Narrative

She was my first pet. I was four years old. She was fluffy. She had a lot of energy. She love to eat my hair in dog food. She smell so nice like butterfly in the noon. After seeing her, my brother said that he wants a puppy but mom said to do his homework. I told mom, “I won’t come out of the closet unless we get a puppy.” I got my puppy after Mom said yes on my birthday. She was new but so cute! But she barks a lot like a Roster. She look like a white and black hamsters.

One years ago she started to not want me to leave the house. She will pull and bite so I just trick her.

When I go home she will be crying I went to school but I thought how would she stop waiting for me. I call the trenur of dogs and help her now she happy.

She love my brother and me. She love me more I can tell. Jk I don’t think she does so I try so hard to get her to like me more. In the end of my day I still love my puppy.

The end
Today I was so excited because we were going to Adventureland. Every August we go there. It was so long to get there, and then we got there at 7:00 and we were all excited. They wanted to get on a lot of rides and then we entered. Next we got on a lot of rides then it was getting morning and then we went to The Monster. We were in line it was so long and I was so scared then Dull; my aunt's boyfriend said "I'll go on the ride with you so do not be afraid." My brother, Jesus, Claudia, Amendo, and my aunt went on the ride. Then it was our turn we got on then my aunt's boyfriend said "it will be all right." We were going up on the hill, and then I closed my eyes. We went down the hill I was so scared, then it went in loops. At first it went in a big loop then it went in loops, then I was saying "this is so fun," then it was all over. Last I was so happy and excited then I saw my mom she was going in line to go on the monster then I went to her if I could go on with her but she said "No because you are going to get sick." Then I said "ok." I went to get some water.
New York is the best place to visit. First, as I strolled New York City I ran my fingers along the rough side of the Empire State Building. Next, we went to Dairy Queen to taste the sugary desserts. Then, we were in the Square and we saw a Christmas tree froze. And then, it sounded like children laughing and clapping at the Santa play. Finally, I smelled the wind blowing and I thought Christmas is over. You can come visit New York whenever you want.
Helping Each Other

At reading clinic we went to Rosilay’s room. I saw Ms. Mallo, Ms. Jones, and Rosilay. First, we played Chicktionary. Then, I was the teacher. I felt excited when I was the teacher. When I was the teacher, I helped Rosilay by asking her questions. I read a book called Horses. I liked being the teacher. On the next day, Rosilay was the teacher. Rosilay helped me by asking me questions. We had a lot of fun together.
If You Give a Dolphin a Cupcake

If you give a dolphin a cupcake he might jump up and down in the water. He will ask you for a glass of milk and he will probably ask you for a green striped straw. When you give him the milk with his striped straw he will ask for a napkin. After you give him the napkin he will drink all of his milk, wipe his mouth, and then ask for some more yummy treats. Once you give him some more treats he will get full. When his tummy is full he will spin in circles and start to jump up and down with excitement all day until he gets tired.

The End
Dinosaurs

A long, long time ago, there were dinosaurs that roamed the Earth, and there were snakes too. The biggest dinosaur was the Tyrannosaurus rex, and it was the king of the dinosaurs. There were lots of kinds of dinosaurs too. There was ice, water, fire, grass, and more. There were lots of people later. They were called cavemen, they knew how to hunt, and they only had a big, fat stick that they killed their food with. There was a meteorite that hit the Earth, and the dinosaurs got extinct. There are bones of them now. Now, scientists are finding dinosaur bones. So, they put them in the museum, so people can see them.
Guessing Game

Every day, Ms. S. and I pick who will pick me up. We still try every day. Ms. S voted my dad and I voted my mom, but nobody won. It was a tie! When I walked to the car, my mom and my dad were there! If I am the winner, Ms. S. gives me an extra break. Ms. S. won ten days. I wish that I could win because I want an extra break! If I win and I get an extra break, I would play games like Hedbanz!
Why I Read:

Reading is good for you because it helps you get smarter. I started reading in 3rd grade. It was not easy at first, but I kept reading. I like reading clinic because you can read books about things you like and play fun reading games. Reading helps you to become smarter and know more about a lot of different things. If you read a lot when you’re a student, you will grow up to be a good reader. When you teacher is reading you can help him or her by using different strategies that you have learned. Reading is important to everyone and you just have to find something that you like to read about.
If You Give a Dog a Treat

If you give a dog a treat,
  He will get thirsty.
When you give him water,
  He is going to need to go to the bathroom.
  We can let him outside to play,
  But he will chase the squirrel.
  I will run to chase my dog,
So I am going to get tired of chasing my dog.
  I ran so much I will need a drink.
  I saw my dog so I am going to pull him in.
  My dog came inside so he will want treat.
The Adventure in the Great Barrier Reef in Australia!

Ms. A and I were at the Great Barrier Reef, Australia. We saw fish. Some were orange, camouflaging, and one with lots of colors. I heard bubbles and whooshing sounds from the surface!

The corals have different colors like green, yellow, brown, and white. It was cool! I saw a fish right beneath me. I heard bubbles popping and saw fish swimming up the surface.

I hate the rocks! Some felt sharp, and some were soft but still I hate the rocks. I think I’ve just seen a shark! Yes, a shark but I’m not sure. But I did not escape because I want to see more. The shark was a dolphin. I ride on it and had so much fun!
All About Elephants

Elephants are animals that help our environment. There are a lot of elephants that are different from each other. African elephants live in Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asian elephants live in southeast Asia. Elephants are very strong, because they can give people rides. Elephants weigh 9,000 kg.

Elephants’ tusks are made of ivory and are really strong. They are hard like a diamond, because you can’t break them. People kill elephants because their tusks are worth a lot of money. There are 4,000 elephants dead from people taking their tusks and selling them. You might get arrested for killing elephants, because it is illegal.
Dyabla’s First Soccer Game

There was a boy named Dyabla, he was born on April 17, 2010. He was 7 years old. Dyabla loved playing soccer. He was on a team that was called The Stripes. One day, his grandma told him he was going to be the greatest soccer player. Dyabla had his first soccer game; each team had 7 players.

Dyabla was doing different tricks and he scored the first goal of the game. It was 1-0; Dyabla’s team was winning. Dyabla’s goalie was messing around and a rival player kicked the ball straight at the goal, but Dyabla blocked it with his chest. The rival team was close to Dyabla’s goal and they made a goal. It was now one to one. The soccer game was 20 minutes in.

Dyabla was trying so hard to make a goal, but he couldn’t and wasn’t passing the ball to his teammates. Dyabla knew he couldn’t do it on his own so he started passing the ball to his teammates. Now his teammates were doing all kinds of tricks and they still couldn’t make a goal.

The game had 12 minutes left. The rival team was going to make a goal, they kicked and the goalie blocked the ball and smiled at Dyabla. It was getting stormy and the soccer game only had 6 minutes left now. Dyabla was doing all kinds of tricks and passing the ball to his teammates. 5 minutes later they still couldn’t make a goal. Dyabla kicked the ball and there was 10 seconds left. The ball was 6 inches away from the goal. AND THE GAME HAD 5 SECONDS LEFT! They scored and everybody on The Stripes team started cheering.
In my family I have 6 people. My family members are Dad, Mom, Dylan, Andrew, Blake and me. Fun fact my Dad and my older brother have the same name. One more fact in my family we have red hair like my grandpa, me, Dylan and more. My Dad is the oldest in my family then Mom. My older brother is Andrew. My second brother is Dylan and then me Haylee. Then Blake my little brother who is a baby.
How to Draw a Dog

Woof, woof! Are you ready to draw a dog?! First, you get a piece of paper. Second, you grab a pen or a pencil. Then you put your pen or pencil on the paper and draw a head in the middle of the paper. Next you draw a body right by the head. After that, you draw 4 feet on the bottom of the legs. Then you draw a tail on the back of the dog. Next you draw two eyes right on its head. Then you draw a nose on its head. Next you draw a mouth on its head. Finally you draw hair. Now you can tell your friends!
Pikachu and the Play-Doh Mess

Have you ever had a mess when you came home? Pikachu did. Once Upon a time it was a pretty day outside. Pika Pika and there is Pikachu coming home from his work so he went inside and he saw a big play-doh mess and Pikachu was asking. “Where did this come from?” Pikachu thought that he was just seeing things because he was so tired. OH NO, my white rug! Now I have to get a difference one now.” He was so sad and he called Eevee to come over and find this weird mess. “Hello Eevee, what are you doing? You need to stop because when I went home I saw a big play-doh mess. Can you help me please Eevee,” Pikachu called.

20 Minutes Later

So they tried to solve the problem but it did not work. They tried and tried and TRIED so hard, but they found nothing and they said, “This is never go to be solved and we have to find something,” Pikachu and Eevee said. And they saw something on TV but they said, “We have found nothing about this problem.” The person on the TV said. “Oh my gosh how do they know about this problem I’m having,” Pikachu yelled. “It’s okay just breathe,” said Eevee. “Okay let go to the pokemon school and see if Ditto is there.

5 Minutes Later

“Hey Ditto did you go to my house and get out play-doh and made a mess,” said Pikachu upsetly. “No I didn’t do it.” Ditto said to Pikachu. Then they went to Jigglypuff’s house my sister we get there “Hey Jigglypuff did you go to my house and make a play-doh mess.” Pikachu said madly. “No I didn’t do it,” said Jigglypuff. “Oh you might be lying,” Pikachu said very upset. “It was not me!” said Jigglypuff. Eevee didn’t want to be apart and she said, “Quiet!!!” And everyone stoped it’s not her so they went home and then Pikachu saw his dog, Max and he had play-dog on his and he just laughed. He turn on the TV and he saw Max on there and the person on TV said, “We found this dog and we couldn’t find the house, so when he saw his owner house he barked, and he got home safely. Yay!

THE END

Thank you
Fishing in Thailand

When I was in 1st grade I went fishing with my cousin. My mom said, “we have no food you have to go fishing to have food”. Me and my cousin went fishing with baskets. The baskets looked like a backpack, and we wore them on our backs.

Next, we ran towards the lake. There was a garden along the way and it looked like it was as long as a football field! When we got to the lake there was lots of people. It looked like all the people that are at the soccer field!

Before long, I caught lots of fish and crabs in the basket. I caught the fish with my hands. The fish felt very slimy and slippery. It was hard to hold! Some of the fish were as big as my foot! Finally, I went home with my cousin. My mom cooked the fish and crabs. At night time we ate together. It was the best fishing ever!!
Goku and Vegeta Fight Naruto and Kakashi

Goku and Vegeta got lost on a different planet that had a waterfall and two big statues of Naruto and Kakashi. The statues were copy of the human Naruto and Kakashi. They heard a sound from the trees. Then they met Naruto and Kakashi.

Then Naruto and Kakashi asked to have a battle. Goku and Vegeta said ok and they both do super saiyan blue. Naruto became a big orange fox. They were fighting to see how strong Goku and Vegeta are.

Goku is fighting with Naruto and Vegeta is fighting Kakashi. Goku and Vegeta became super sayian blue again. They made a big hole in the middle of the forest. They destroyed the statues.

Goku and Vegeta did the fusion and became Gogeta. Then they became Gogeta super saiyan blue. They are fast to dodge Naruto and Kakashi's punches. Gogeta teleports to Naruto's back then punch him but Naruto blocks it. Gogeta was holding a ki blast so Naruto hits the dirt and made a big hole. Then Kakashi punches Gogeta and Gogeta did kamehameha. Kakashi and Naruto said they give up to themselves. They know now to never fight Goku and Vegeta.

When they got done fighting Goku and Vegeta flew to autospace to find their planet. They saw their planet and flew there. Goku and Vegeta return by themselves. Then they ate a lot of food at their planet.
I love crocodiles and alligators

Would you like to learn about alligators and crocodiles? I have a lot of facts for you!

Alligators have a wide and broad mouth at the tip, their teeth don't show much. Alligators are mostly black in color. Alligators live up to 30 to 50 years and weigh 500 pounds.

A crocodile's mouth is rounded. Crocodiles live in fresh water. Crocodiles are tan and brown in color. Nile Crocodiles can live to 70 to 100 years and weigh up to 500 to 1,200 pounds.

Both Alligators and crocodiles live in Southern Florida. It is the only place they live in together. They are both active at night. Both of them burry their eggs in mud or dirt. They are both reptiles because they both have tough scaly skin and are cold blooded.

The end.
Haunted House

There once was a haunted house. There are lots of scary stuff in the haunted house. One of them was a witch. There was lots of cobwebs. There is also a lot of old stuff. In the haunted house there is lots of dust. Ghost were living in this house. The walls and some floors were broken.
Henry's Walk

My story is about Henry and the dog. Henry went on a walk one day and he met a scary, big dog. He needed to get around the dog because he was walking home. But Henry was stuck because he was scared of the big dog. Henry brought the dog a treat so he could walk. Then Henry was able to pass the dog and go home.
Flag Football

We were playing flag football. We were playing by the Buck's stadium. It was sunny and warm. This player had his flags pulled. My friend Tanner gave him a wedgie. His dad talked to him and he was mad. I was laughing and then practice was over. After that, I saw my friend Brandon. Me and Brandon played football. It was a funny day!
If I had a Dog

I want to get a puppy for a pet because it’s so cute when it uses the cute eye. I’m going to the park every day, give it healthy food everyday, and give it a walk. Maybe I’ll buy it a dog house.
Henry the MEGA Superhero

Henry the MEGA superhero was powerful. Henry was a good guy. Also, Henry could save people. One time there was a villain named Spiderman. Spiderman was bad because he stole gold. Then he stole 1 million pieces of gold. He was caught. The superhero named Henry the Mega Superhero caught him! Henry was mega because he had power. He has fire in his hand and he can fly. Also, he is invisible. He was saving people from falling or burning. The villain could steal peoples stuff. The people would be mad. Then Henry is going to save the people. Henry knew how to fly to the moon. Henry took the villain to the moon and left him there. Then he went back to Earth and gave the people their stuff back. The people were so happy! The End!
Rapunzel and the Brave Man

Once upon a time a beautiful princess lived in a beautiful castle with nice animals. The animals kept her safe when she was in danger. Once the king told his daughter ‘hi my little beautiful daughter are you ready for some men’. Then she says ‘oh yes i’m ready I have to pick a gentleman right’. Then the king says ‘oh yes this better be great’. Then all of the men in the village went to the castle to get a beautiful princess, her name was Rapunzel. They only had 24 hours until the princess falls asleep. Rapunzel was bored until the next day she went to the woods with her horse. She saw a man with white blue eyes, she thought he could be her prince. Rapunzel went close to him and said ‘hi you look tired’. Then he said ‘oh because I was chopping woods. I said to the man ‘what’s your name? Then he said ‘oh my name is Flynn Rider I’m looking for a princess.

Rapunzel was thinking about if he could like me, but he just asked questions about the king and the queen. Then Rapunzel went to Flynn Riders house. When I went in the house it was made out of wood but inside it was organized. It was beautiful. We talked for an hour it was amazing when we finished talking I rode my horse and I went to the castle. Then I told my dad ‘dad I think I found a man’. The next day he asked Flynn Rider if he could go to the castle so the king would decide if he’s good or not. So Rapunzel and Flynn were riding the horse to the castle. Flynn was scared he thought the king would be mean so he just prayed for the king to be nice to him. When they arrived to the kings room he was shocked cause he didn’t want to be shy. So he relaxed for a minute so he asks lots of question like, how old are you? So the king said ‘yep that’s a good man for you’. In September they got married and got one beautiful kid.

They Lived Happily Ever After!!!
The Sleeping Princess

Once there was a princess who lived in a castle and she saw some flowers. She went to pick the flowers up. She grabbed a basket and went to pick up the flowers. She made a flower crown to show her mom and dad, the queen and king. Then she saw a flower that was different and she picked it up. She smelled it and she felt dizzy. She fell asleep. Then she laid there until someone woke her up.

“Our daughter has not come back yet. We should look for her,” the queen said sadly.
Then they got some knights to help them find their daughter. They started to search and look for their daughter. They took her home and put her in bed.

“How did she fall asleep?” asked the king.

“Maybe she smelled some flowers or one flower. Maybe one flower was different. Then she picked it up and smelled it. Then she fell asleep,” the queen answered.

“Let’s go find some spell books to read and make the spell before midnight,” said the queen.

“Yeah, let’s go find it while she is in bed,” answered the king.
Then they started to search for the spell book. They couldn’t find one spell book at all.
So they asked a person to help them. The person was a wizard that was really old. He had a spell book about a flower that can make you fall asleep. They tried to make it but it couldn’t be made.

“Let’s go find a book that talks about who can make a potion,” said the king.
They found it easily this time because it was at the bottom. It read, “only someone who is smart knows the spell,” the queen said loudly.

Boom! There was lightening and thunder. Knock. Knock. The queen and king knocked on the door. The door opened squeakily like a mouse.

“What do you want?” a voice asked them.

“Do you know how to make a potion?” the king asked scaredly like he was going to freak out. He screamed like a mouse. Then hid behind the queen.

“Can you come out?” the queen asked.

“No!” he yelled at her.

“Okay,” she said sadly.

“Fine I’ll help you but you need to make a deal with me,” he said scaredly.

“What about this, you wake our daughter and you can have our gold,” the king answered.

“Deal,” he said.

They went back and got started with the potion. They put it on the princess and she woke up like she never slept before.
Once upon a time, there was a monster next to Paloma and Ms. Bode’s houses. The monster was full of different colors such as green, blue, orange, purple, and yellow. So, he knocked at Paloma’s house. Paloma answered the door and said, “Hello there. What’s your name?” Scrible said, “My name is Scrible.” Paloma asked Scrible if he wanted to go to Ms. Bode’s house. Scrible said, “Yes.” So, Paloma and Scrible went to Ms. Bode’s house. When they go to Ms. Bode’s house, they knocked and she invited them in. Ms. Bode had food and offered it to them. They ate pizza and had ice cream for dessert. Then they hugged each other as they said their goodbyes.
There was a businessman and he was named George. He was on a vacation. A group of monkeys threw rocks at them because they went through the monkey’s territory. George was separated from the group. George didn’t know where he was and he had broken one of his legs. After hours of adventuring through the jungle he had come across a bridge. The bridge looked like it was hundreds of years old. He had seen something shiny and he was just too curious of what was across the bridge. After crossing the bridge George saw a golden pyramid. “This must be a dream!” George had been so surprised he just couldn’t breathe.

Then George started to climb up the pyramid. When George finally got up the pyramid he accidently tripped on a rock, sliding into the bottom of the pyramid, screaming, “Ahhhh!” George was teleported to another dimension. Boom! “Where am I?” George thought to himself. Little did George know he was in another world!

George found a bird and found a kid in a burnt down village.

George traveled with them to find his way back home! When they were hungry they would eat berries and hunt down many animals and other things. After days of traveling they found the same pyramid and they jumped in together. Then they were not traveled to the world they wanted to be in. Instead, George and his “pals” had to face many challenges. Finally, they found the portal. Then they were traveled back to Earth. The End!
All About Me

This book is about me going to baseball and the candy shop and all my friend's house. I like to play with my friends. I like baseball. I got a candy from Snow Oo. Enjoy reading my book that I have fun with my friends in.

I like to play with my friends. They are nice. We could have sleepover. We would all have sleepover and go shopping with our friends.

I like baseball. It is cool. Baseball is just like kickball. I'll get a medal. Baseball is cool because when you look at it, it's just like kickball and we get a medal.

I got a candy from Snow Oo. All of us went to fall festival. Snow Oo was kind. We explored to the bouncy house. I got a candy from Snow Oo she was kind, and we just explored around the bouncy house at the Fall Festival.

Have fun with your friends! I really like to play with my friends. Baseball is a sport like people used to play. Snow Oo gave me a candy. Do you ever play baseball with your friends?
Don't Let the Pigeon Ride the Car!

Don't let the pigeon ride the car!

Can you watch my car? Thanks!

Hi my name is Lau Ree.

Hey can I ride the car?

I won't let the pigeon ride the car.

I'm back! You didn't let the pigeon ride the car.