

Being Christopher

a study in

Poetry * Space * Stories



illustration by Jude Shingle 2012

written by the Our Lady's Christian School 2014-2015 3rd Graders

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Preface



Being Christopher is more than an original book of poems and stories written by the Our Lady Christian School's third graders; it is a book about how these young authors *became* Christopher and opened their eyes to the "hundreds of stars sparkling from Perseus," as they explored space, technology, and poetry. Their writings are born from the knowledge they acquired by stepping inside *Christopher Counts The Constellations* and discovering, with a new set of eyes, how vast our universe is and how they, as individuals, are essential to its immensity and mystery. To quote Carl Sagan, "We are all made of star stuff," and that is what these students are: star stuff illuminating our every day world, shedding light in corners, and listening to sound of their own voice, as they recount their adventures.

I would like to thank the OLCS third graders for their courage to mount Pegasus and soar into unknown territories; Mrs. Becke Lascoula and Mrs. Rose Girard for their willingness to be guides on this new adventure; Mr. Nemenz, principal of OLCS, and Mrs. Jennie Hagerty, Director of Development, for opening their doors and allowing their students to don capes and wings. Finally, I especially want to thank my Co-Creator, Steve Carpenter, and our college interns/collaborators, without whom this program would not have been possible.

-- Mary Arete Moodey
www.marmooworks.com

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Bedrooms Can Be Planets

A Study of Metaphor & Simile

Christopher's room looks like Earth. Its walls are blue. His blanket is green like grass. -- Marc D.

The snake is like a lollipop. It's coiled in a circle. -- Ben M



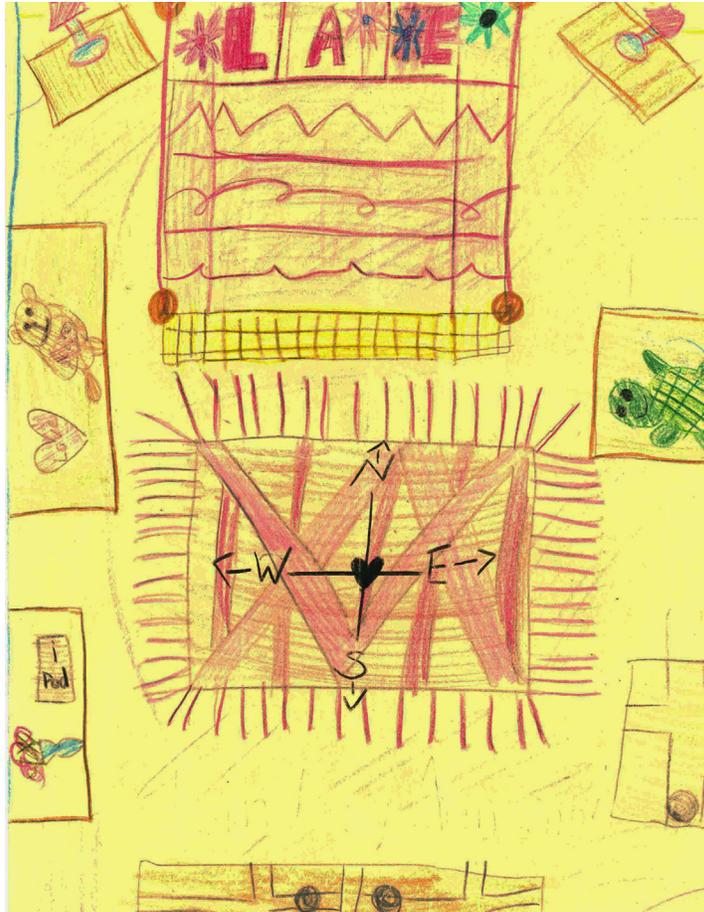
Illustration by Jude Shingle © 2012

Christopher's toy snake is like a black hole. It's dark and round. If the snake bites, you'll never come back. -- Lauren R.

Christopher's walls are like gravity. If they weren't there, his room would collapse. -- Ben M.

The bedframe is as hard as a rock. -- Emma B.

The pillows are big like craters on the moon. The blanket is like a spaceship floating in space. -- Lindsey A.



map by Lindsey A.

My mattress is like a rocket. It makes me feel like I'm launched into space. -- Eddie D.



illustration by Bree D.

My lamp is as bright as the sun. -- Bree D.

A Series of Similes by Timothy

Timothy runs as fast as lightening.

Timothy jumps as high as a kangaroo.

Timothy throws a sword as long as a giraffe's neck.

-- Timothy S.

Being Christopher



Christopher Columbus The Constellations
© Mary Anne Meeley 2012
Adapted by Nick Kalmar

Illustration by Nick Kalmar © 2015

I am Christopher. I am a girl, not a boy. I have a telescope. I have a cape. I have a sword. I am on Pegasus, flying in the sky going to Mars. After Mars, we are going to the moon. Off we go!

-- Emmily H.

I'm Christopher. I always count the constellations before I go to bed. My mom called me and she said, "It's time to go to bed."

I ran into my room. I got my PJ's on and ran to my window and said, "Pegasus!" But he did not come. Then, I jumped out my window to find Pegasus. After walking a couple of blocks, I finally found him.

I jumped on him and we went into space. First, we went to Mars. But we did not land on Mars. Then, we went to the moon. We collected moon rocks to bring back to earth until it was time to go back to Earth.

-- Anna P.



Illustration by Jude Shingle from Christopher Counts The Constellations

When I look outside my window I see a bunch of stars. And I wonder how much there are. Are there a googolplex -- or even more? Then, I saw a constellation, Orion with his big sword.

-- Eddie D.

I am Christopher looking out my window. I can see more than a dozen constellations. I can see through my telescope. I can see Orion, Pegasus, Perseus, and more. I thought I was fighting Orion and Perseus while riding on Pegasus. That was the best imagining I ever had.

-- Vanessa M.

My name is Christopher, and I have a story to tell you. I go on adventures all the time -- not the kind you would think of.

One time, I looked out my window and saw the constellations. One of them was the hunter, Orion. He was fighting the bull, and the bull was going for him.

Another night I was falling asleep. Then, KABOOM BANG CRASH! I did not know what was going on. Right after, I heard another noise. It sounded like a horse. I looked out the window, and there was a horse. It was Pegasus! He looked like he wanted me to ride him! I hopped on him, and we took off!



It was so fun! We soared through the sky, zoomed past Earth, and landed on Mars. There are so many ice caps on Mars. Pegasus took me back to Earth. He dropped me off in bed. It was really quite an adventure.

-- Lauren R.

I am Christopher riding all night seeing constellations everywhere I go, riding on Pegasus all night long. It's fun on Pegasus. It feels like we are traveling and when I look down, I feel I am going to fall.

-- Emma B.



Timothy S.

I am Christopher lying in my bed. I look outside my window. I see Pegasus in my window. I ask him, "Can you take me to look at the Eiffel Tower?"

He nodded, "Yes."

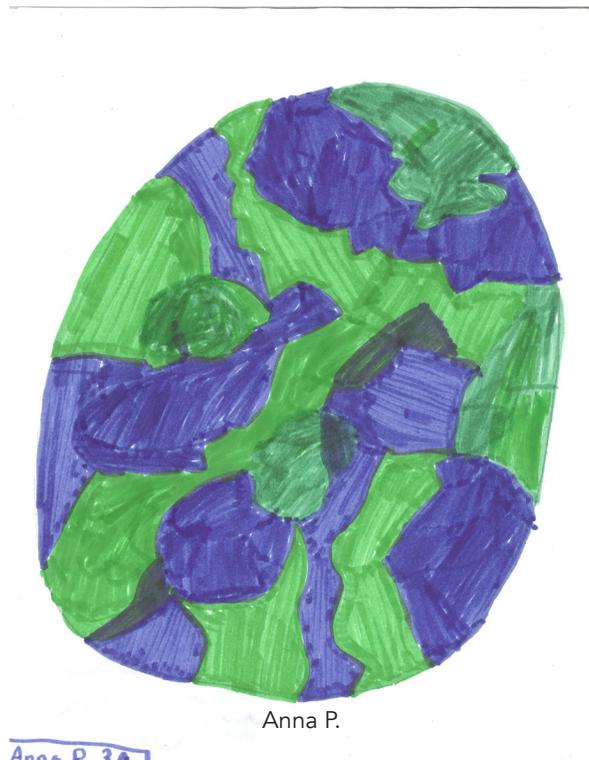
I got on him, and he took me to it. It was cool to see. Then, he took me home. On the way, I got a hamburger.

When I got back I thanked him. I thought it was a dream but it wasn't.

-- Quinn B.

I am Christopher. I use a telescope to look at the constellations. I ride on Pegasus to Mars. I go through ice caps. I see Perseus and his bronze shield with Medusa's head. I also see Orion. He is big and tall. I fly back to Earth, then go to bed; but, every night I look out the window and start all over again.

-- Grace G.



I am riding on Pegasus. I pass constellations like Corvus, Delphinus, Lepus, Hydra, and Leo. It is cool up here. I see planets, too. My favorite is Venus, and Jupiter is so cool.

-- Riley D.



Illustration by Jude Shingle © 2012

I am Christopher
the King of the Night.
I soar with Pegasus
through the dark night.
I fight with Orion
every night -- because
I am Christopher
the King of the night.

-- Olivia K.

I am Christopher riding
on Pegasus, zooming past
Cetus, the great sea monster
constellation, on my way to Mars,
the planet. I zoom through the
ice caps. Then, I go back home
and fly asleep.

-- Tyler G.

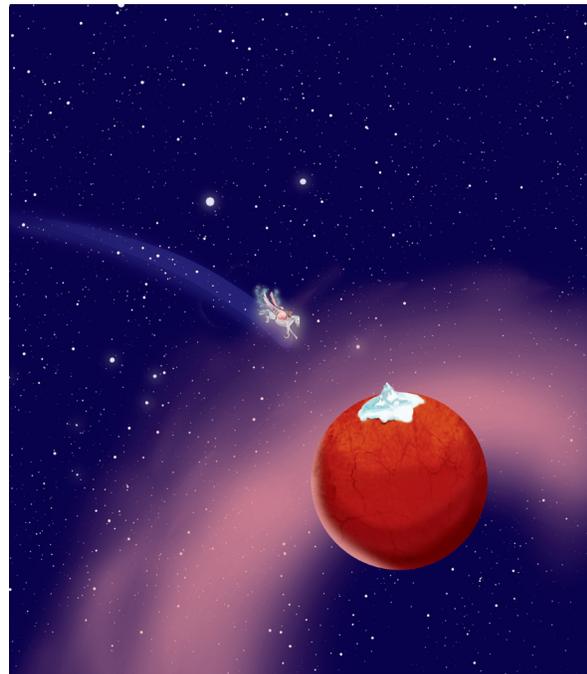


Illustration by Jude Shingle © 2012

I was sitting in my bedroom one night and I felt my body rising, and I saw Mars. It was scary to think I was on Mars. I could hear beating music and twinkling sounds.

I looked down and saw my home, and I said, "Oh, how I miss my home."

Pegasus flew up to me and I got on his back. He brought me to my house and I dreamed on.

- Micaela D.

Explore Space



Illustration by Jude Shingle © 2012

I looked out my window one night, and there was Pegasus. Pegasus took me high up to space. We saw over 100 constellations -- like Orion, Cassiopeia, Perseus, Pavo, and Draco. We went to Mars, Mercury, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto.

I fell asleep on Pegasus and woke up in the morning and was back in bed.

-- Quinn D.

Constellation Poetry



Illustration by Jude Shingle © 2012

Telescopium

I am a telescope --
gold shining
through the night.
I am a special tool
for royalty.
I am a gold harp
singing a lullabye.
I am a tulip
blooming every night.
I am as smooth
as a flower's petals.
I am a parrot
looking down on all children.
I am a bird looking at the stars.
I am joyful playing in the sky.

-- Anna P.



Microscopium

I am Microscopium, the microscope.
I am a red, black, and brown
violin in the night sky.
I am a microscope like a moon
shining where everybody can see me.
I am Microscopium, the microscope
shining through the night sky.

-- Emmily H.

Vela

I am Vela, a sail.
I have tons of stars
helping me guide
my way through the night.

-- Eddie D.

I am Pegasus flying to the moon.
I am no longer human.
I'm a horse with wings.
I am white but flashing blue.
The sound I make --
a bird flapping his wings.

I see all planets.
It feels amazing.
If I forget something
I fly and get it.

Human -- bye;
Moon -- hi!

-- Riley D.



Illustration by Jude Shingle © 2012

I Am A Moon

I am a moon.
I shine bright.
I guide people
through the night,
until they wake up
in the morning light.

-- Libby P.



Photograph by Mary Arete Moodey © 2015

I am a star.
I am the Queen of the Night,
so sweet, so bright.

Look how I light up the sky.
I am home.
I've been here for centuries.

-- Mia S.



courtesy of Central Educational Technologies

Monoceros

I am Monoceros.
I use my bright pink horn
to keep me safe.
I am like a harp
making music.
I am a piece of paper,
a letter every human
draws on me.
I am a crescent --
half eaten
half not.

-- Vanessa M.

I am Andromeda,
daughter of Cassiopeia.
Yellow stars cover me
like a dress.
I am as bright as the sun
shining down on the planets.
I am as shiny as a silver pot.

I am the wind blowing
the sound of trombones.

I am as powerful as an ostrich
crushing the bones
of its enemies.
I am as joyful as a miner
finding a bar of gold.
I am as dangerous
as an erupting volcano.

-- Seth B.

I am Andromeda.
I am as pretty as a red rose.
I am as shiny as a harp.
I am as bright as the summer sun.
I am as beautiful as a peacock.
I am as colorful as a cherry tree.
I am as happy as a person
who has found gold.

-- Evan S.



courtesy of earth/sky.org

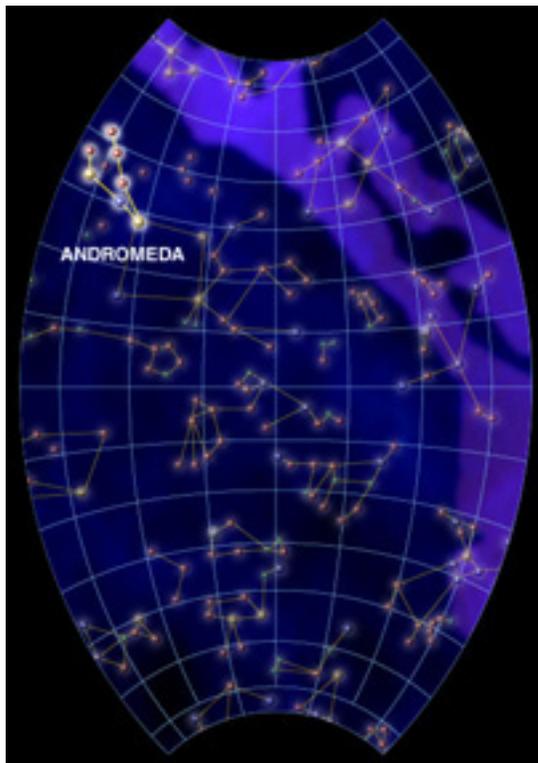


Image courtesy of Windows to the Universe

I am Andromeda,
daughter of Cassiopeia.
I dress in yellow stars,
so bright in the night.
I sound as lovely as a harp
singing a song.
I am as shiny as a crown
worn by a king
I am pretty --
a flower bud blooming
into a grown-up.
I am as beautiful
as a peacock
with its feathers fanned.
I am a colorful rainbow
arched in the sky.
I am a joyful --
a birthday with meteors
shooting everywhere.

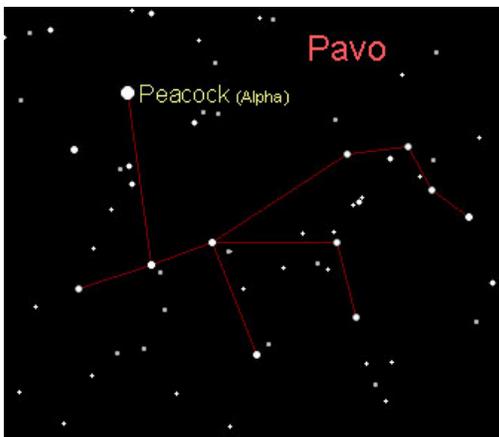
-- Max R.

Pavo

I am Pavo,
the bird of the night.
I am a flute
when my feathers
flutter in the wind.
I am a rainbow
when my feathers
shine at night.
I am a bush
when my feathers
puff out.

I am feeling joyful
and happy --
I am the queen
of the night.
I am so beautiful
when I flap my feathers.

-- Maddy P.



courtesy of www.pa.msu.edu



courtesy of wikipedia.org

Pavo

I am Pavo, the bird of the night.
I am pink and purple,
My feathers shine in the night.
I am a piano when my feathers
puff out at night.
I am a flower when the moon
shines on my feathers.
I am a diamond
when I shine in night the night sky.
I am as pretty as a peacock
shining above all hills.

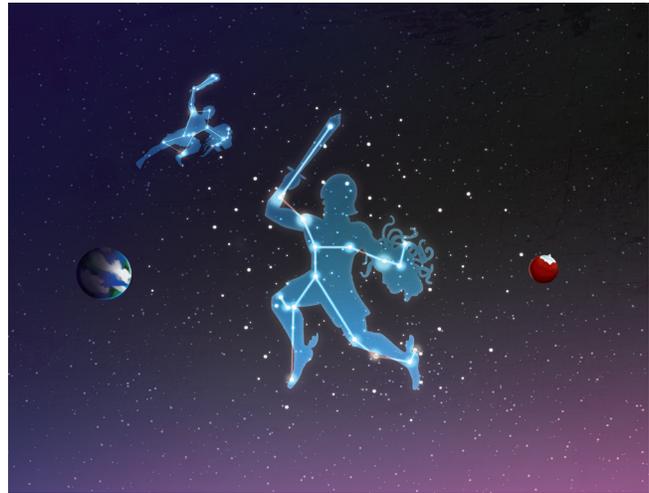
I am feeling joyful and powerful!
I am like a tree
when my feathers puff out.
I am the queen of all animals
and all constellations.

-- Quinn D.

Canis Minor

I am the lesser dog
charging at Perseus.
My fur is black and brown.
I watch for danger at night,
bark at the predators
crouching close.
I bark at a fox sneaking
near the house.
I am tough and mean.

-- Emma B.



Canis Major

I am the greater dog.
I follow the the hunter, Orion.
I go on adventures with him.
We travel across the Milky Way.

-- Libby P.



courtesy of NASA, ESA, & R. Humphreys

Massive Star VY Canis Majoris

I am Apus,
the bird of Paradise --
a pretty blue bird flying,
a blue bird with feelings,
a shining bird
everyone can see,
the prettiest bird
in nature.
I am a flute tweeting
through the air.
I am an airplane
flying past the moon.

-- Ally M.



courtesy of dailymail.com.uk ©AP

Tucana

I am Tucana,
the queen
of the forest.
I am a flute singing
when I fly.
I am a flower
sitting on a branch
at dawn. I sparkle
in front of the moon.

I am a toucan
looking down
on the little animals.
I am a pricker bush
with my pointy beak.

I am Queen of Tucans.
I feel like the brightest
star in the sky.

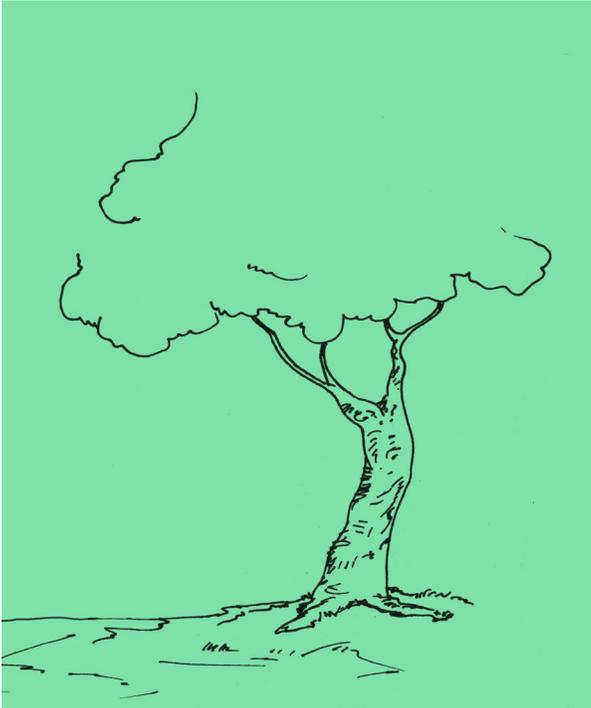
-- Gianna C.



illustration by Sam Moody © 2014

I am the Dove,
white with long tail feathers.
I am a white tulip --
as white as snow.
I am a silver flute
playing soft music.
I feel the wind
fluttering my feathers.
I am joyful
when I am with my friends.
I am shy
but I stand out for life.

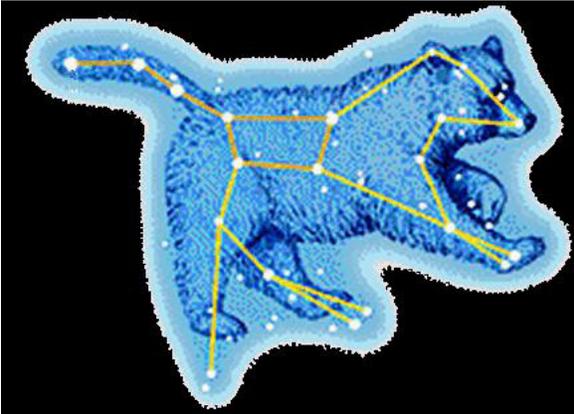
-- Micaela D.



Camelopardus

I am a giraffe
so tall
eating leaves
and grass.
I have dark brown spots
and cream skin.
My neck is as long
as a measuring tape.

-- Libby P.



courtesy of wikipedia.org

Draco

I am Draco.

My scales are green and purple.
I am a big fire breathing



Dragon, mean and strong
burying down cities.

I am burying down trees.
I am like a dead bush
with no feelings.

-- Ben M.

picture taken by ESA/Hubble & NASA. dwarf galaxy in Draco

Leo Minor

I am a lion
as strong as
two bears.

I am a drum
pounding
through the night.

I am hungry
ready to pounce
on any animal nearby.

I am a train
going as fast
as the speed of light.

I am a dandelion
growing so tall,
so thin.

I am gold --
my mane blows
behind me.

I am as beautiful
as a crown.

I am a tree.
I will stand as tall
as long as I live.

-- Mia S.

Serpens

I am serpens.
I slither as slowly
as a snail.
I am as green
as grass
and as slimy
as goo.

I have no friends.

A man sliced me
in half. Now,
I am alone --
the only constellation
cut in half.

-- Amelia L.



illustration by Jude Shingle © 2012

Cetus



courtesy of wikipedia.org

I am Cetus,
the greatest sea monster.
I am as blue and black
as a storming sea.

I am huge.
I am the fourth
largest constellation
in the sky.

-- Tyler G.



Illustration © 2014 The Constellation
Milky Way Society
www.milkywaysociety.org

© Nick Kalmar 2014

Hercules

I am the constellation
Hercules, son of Zeus.
I am the color orange
and wear it proud.
I am a rocket ship
soaring towards
constellations.
I am as loud as a crow.
I am a lion in the jungle.

-- Quinn B.

Baseball

I am Hercules
pitcher for the Milky Way.
My team's up to bat
and we're smashing stars.

Draco's up to bat.
He whips his tail
and the star flies.
Perseus is next.
He makes it to first.

Orion steps to the plate -
he's hit by a star
and walks to first.
Draco flies to third
and I'm up to bat
Bases loaded.

I swing the bat
like a bow and arrow
and the star soars --
past Jupiter, past Saturn
past Uranus, past Neptune.

I fly around the Milky Way
like lightning.
No one tags me.

I slide into homeplate
head first.
I high five
Draco, Perseus, Orion

Grand Slam!

-- Anthony I.



Venus fly trap

Vulpecula

I am a fox creeping
around cabins
when you are sleeping.

I am red like a heart
beating on the low keys
played on a piano.

I am a Venus fly trap.
Anyone who comes near me
won't be coming back.

I am a rock --
super hard and cold.

I am an eagle
looking down from a building.

I am poison ivy making you itch.
I am a tarachula,
creepy like a wild bear.

I am a shark --
very dangerous.

-- Isabella M.

Constellation Acrostics

Space

S is for the sun, a huge shining star
P stands for Pluto, a small, dwarf planet
A stands for the All the stars shining bright
every dark night
C stands for "constellations dusting the
darkening" night
E stands for Every planet circling the sun.

-- Olivia K.

Evan S

Eridanus is the sixth biggest constellation.
Virgo, the daughter of Demeter,
the goddess of corn
Andromeda, chained to a rock
Neptune made from swirling gasses

Scorpius stings Orion
Ice caps on Mars
Perseus killed the Gorgon, Medusa
Pluto, a planet a long time ago
Leo can be seen easily on spring
nights
Earth on which we live

-- Evan S

S stands for the Serpent coiled
into a ball.

T stands for the Tons of stars
in the sky.

A stands for Astronauts in space.

R stands for Rockets soaring into space.

S stands for the Sun burning in flames.

-- Bree D.



courtesy of NASA.gov

Marc

M is for Moon and also the Milky Way

A is for astronauts flying in

Rockets among

Constellations.

-- Marc D.

Grace

G stands for gravity flooding over planets.

R stands for the roar of a lion, big and loud.

A stands for Andromeda, the princess

C stands for cold like Pluto, the farthest
planet from the sun.

E stands for every planet flooding in space.

-- Grace G.

Cameron

C stands for constellations in the night sky
A stands for Andromeda chained to rocks
M stands for the Moon shining on the constellations
Earth among the constellations
Rider stands for the riding on Pegasus
exploring the solar system
O stands for Orion, strong and brave
N stands for the new moon up in the sky.

-- Cameron S.

Quinn

Quinn is in the spaceship going to
Uranus, a planet among a million of stars.
In space, there are more than millions
of stars,
Not one million stars are in space
Nine hundred million stars
might be in space.

-- Quinn B.

Libby

L stands for the bright lights in the sky.
I stands for the ice caps in space.
B stands for bright stars in the sky.
B stands for the beautiful constellations in the sky.
Y stands for you looking at the stars.

-- Libby P.

Timothy

T stands for the **T**elescope.
i stands for an **i**nfinite amount of stars.
m stands for **m**any planets
o stands for **O**rion
t stands for **t**housands of constellations
h stands for **h**undreds of astronauts
y stands for the **y**ellow stars.



-- Timothy S.

Tyler

T stands for Telescope
Y stands for the yellow stars in
Leo, the lion.
E stands for Earth
R stands for the Rider
flying above Earth, among the stars.

Tyler G.

Emmily



E stands for the **E**arth.
M stands for the Moon and
M stands for Mars.
I stands for the Ice caps on Mars.
L stands for the Light shining from
Yellow stars.

-- Emmily H.

G stands for Galaxy, Big & Wide.
L stands for Leo, the Lion.
O stands for Orion, wielding a sword.
R stands for the Rider, Riding on a horse.
I stands for Infinite stars.
E stands for Earth, the planet with people.
S stands for the Sun, Bright & Hot.

-- Ben M.

I like my name because it means
hard working. It is calming. I love my name:
Amelia

A is for Astronaut
M is for Mars
E is for Earth
L is for Leo, a Lion
I is for Ice caps
A is for Arcturus, a star.

-- Amelia L.

Izzy

Ice caps as slippery as ice
Slow as a slug
Amarzing Grace, amazing people singing
Bat man flying around the sky
Eagles flying in the summer sky
Lying in the sun on a summer day
Living creatures crawling around on the ground
Amarzing people in the world
doing amazing things

Izzy M.

Vanessa

- V** stands for Venus, the second planet from the sun.
- A** stands for All the planets around the sun.
- N** stands for Neptune the eighth planet from the sun.
- E** stands for stands for Earth the third planet from the sun.
- S** stands for the Sun shooting lava.
- S** stands for the planets Swirling around the sun.
- A** stands for Astronauts traveling around the planets.



<http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

-- Vanessa M.

An Animal Acrostic

Snail, tiny and slimy
Ostrich, tall and strong
Little and frightened
Alligator, big and scary
Rat, short and sneaky

Snake, long and scaly
Yak, hairy and heavy
Swan, white and fancy
Turtle, slow and steady
Eagle, fasy and busy
Maverick, loud and feisty.

-- Max R.

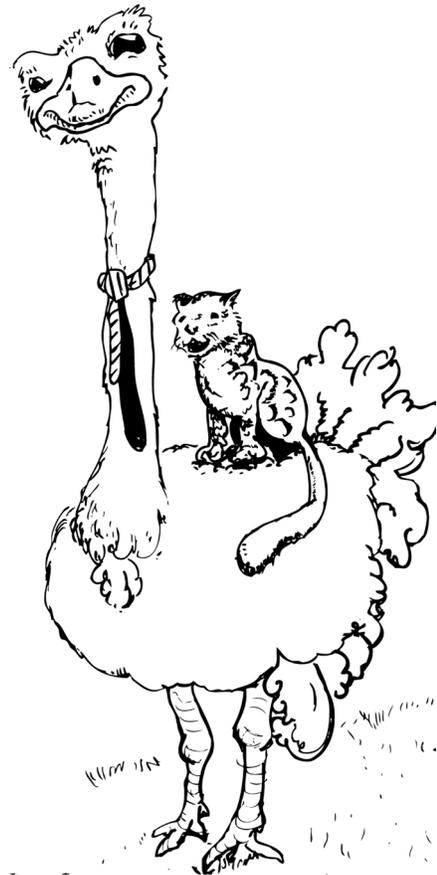


illustration by Sam Moodey © 2014

Prose Poems

Nighttime

I'm lying in bed during the night when the stars are shining bright. The big black sky holds up the moon, with the stars twinkling their nighttime tune. The world is dark and tired, and I am tired, too. My day is finally over. And, there's nothing I can do. I try to close my eyes and gently start to dream. I sleep 'til the break of dawn when the night sky has gone to sleep.

It's
start my
now, for I
nothing to
So, I hope
goes quick
Then, I
snuggle
snooze.



Christopher Counts The Constellations
© Mary Arzete Moody 2012
Artwork by Nick Kalmar

time to
day
have
lose.
my day
now.
can
up and

-- Lindsey A.

Ice Cream

Ice cream -- cold as snow cones holding up the ice cream. Every flavor in the world cold, freezing, smooth rainbow sprinkles. Epic flavor, awesome taste. Magic melting in my mouth.

-- Caroline Agresti

Outside

When I look outside and see trees, the sky, stars, and grass --
I think I'm lying on the grass looking at the sky seeing so many
stars, thinking *I am climbing the trees*. I love the outside.

-- Vanessa M.



Unless the
Stars Sing

I head into
my room
and go to
bed unless
the stars
sing ahead.
I don't know
what to
do but go
to bed. I
want to stay

up and sing along. Sometimes, the planets sing
along, too. Until tomorrow, I will shut my eyes and
go to bed.

-- Bree D.

An astronaut explores the planet [Neptune
is his rocketship], traveling around the universe,
heading toward the constellation, Orion, a hero
like Perseus, exploring the night sky flying to Mars,
where it takes two years to orbit the sun.

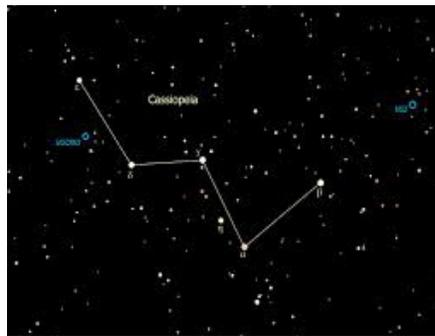
-- Seth B.

Original Constellations & Myths

The Myth

Angela, the angel, was called by Perseus. He told her to make Cassiopeia good. So, Angela went to the Kingdom of Zeus and into his castle. She asked Cassiopeia to start being nice, but Cassiopeia demanded that Angela leave.

A couple
Angela came
the same thing
until Cassiopeia
She demanded
Angela.



of days later,
back. She asked
over and over,
was furious.
that Zeus kill

Zeus did not want to kill Angela, so he sent her to the stars to be a constellation.

-- Olivia K.

Jazz



courtesy of wikipedia: Monoceros,
constellation near Canis Minor, the dog

One day, there was a big party.
A dog came in and started dancing.
The people said, "We should name
him Jazzy!"

Then, he became a star! But
then he died, so he is up in the stars.

-- Riley D.

Butterfly Maria

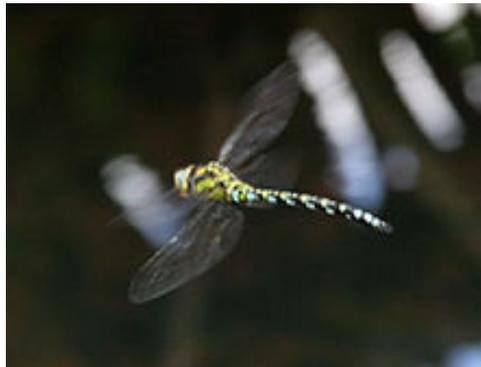
One day, Maria to fly somewhere so she flew from Erie to Mexico. When she was flying, people started talking about her. Then, a month later, people called her a constellation.



-- Anna P.

Dragonis the Dragonfly

One day, there was only one dragonfly flying past the mountain.

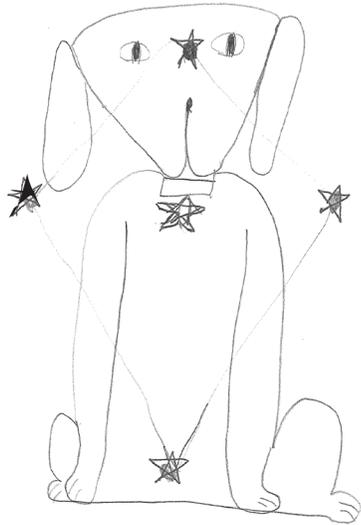


He saw a girl and landed on her. A minute later, the dragonfly started glowing and became powerful and beautiful. He felt like he was the King of Nature.

He was able to go wherever he wanted, even to the stars.

-- Allie M.

emma B. Tucker



Tucker is a hero for saving the lives of many children who needed medicine, because they were super sick from ebola. People sent planes, cars, and a train, but failed because of the weather.

So, they sent a group of dogs to get the medicine. It took them days. A wolf came and killed all but one, Tucker the Golden Retriever. He got the medicine, saved the children, and is now a constellation.

-- Emma B.

The Lucky Flower

Once upon a time, there was a queen of Hearts. She had a daughter named Rose. Rose was a princess. They were going to have a party with the villagers, but then a terrible blizzard came. Everyone went inside. The queen was the last one in.

When the blizzard was over, the sun came out and melted the snow. A flower grew. Rose saw the flower, and went inside, but the queen was coughing like crazy. The doctor said she might die. Rose ran outside and cried.

Rose saw that the flower was glowing. She picked it and placed it on dead grass. The grass started to grow.



the blizzard sun came out snow. A flower grew. Rose saw the flower, and went inside, but the queen was coughing like crazy. The doctor said she might die. Rose ran outside and cried.

that the flower was glowing. She picked it and placed it on dead grass. The grass started to grow.

Then Rose had a plan. She gave the flower to her mother. The queen became better, and they called the flower "the lucky flower" and made it a constellation.

-- Grace G.

Lyric Poems

not born from the stars

I am the rain.
I slide down trees
and soak into dirt.
I swim in the ocean.

People say I'm awful.

I have two friends at my side.
I tell Thunder
to shut off his music,
but he will not listen.
I tell Lightning
to shut off his lights.

Here comes the Big Bully --
his name is Sun.
He's bright and stands out
and wears no clothes.

Here comes Mrs. Rainbow,
tall and flowing in ribbons
sweeping me away.

-- Basil B.



<http://www.andrewdunnphoto.com>

I am a tree.
In summer
my leaves are as green
as four-leaf clovers.

In fall
my leaves are red
like roses
orange like peaches
yellow like lemons.

In winter
I have no leaves
I am bare.
My twigs
are as brown
as mud.

-- Libby P.

I go to sleep
I feel the fan blowing
on my head --
little ghosts playing
on my face.

I shiver under the covers.
I run to Mom.
She tucks me into bed.

-- Anna L.

Contributors

Caroline A.

Lindsey A.

Basil B.

Emma B.

Quinn B.

Seth B.

Bree D.

Eddie D.

Marc D.

Micaela D.

Quinn D.

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Anna L.

Amelia L.

Ally M.

Ben M.

Isabella M.

Vanessa M.

Anna P.

Libby P.

Maddy P.

Lauren R.

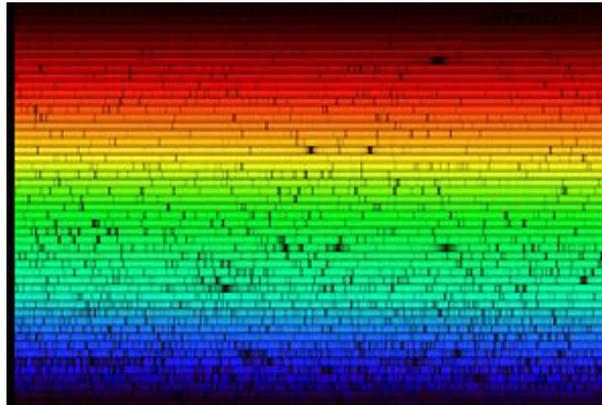
Max R.

Evan S.

Mia S.

Timothy S.

Like the sun, these writers, emit every color in the spectrum, illuminating our world with color, light, and beauty. -- MAM



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Solar_Spectrum_by_NOAO.jpg

Glossary of Terms: Poetry & Space



Examples are from Christopher Counts The Constellations by Mary Arete Moodey and the students' original work.

Alliteration: a series of words that begin with the same consonant or sound (e.g., hard c and k, soft c and s). "**C**hristopher **c**ounts the **c**onstellations."

Image: a word that creates a picture in the mind, e.g., "Draco's up to bat/he whips his tail/and the stars fly," taken from Anthony's "Baseball"

Figurative Language: using words and/or phrases that break from their literal meaning to create sensory imagery, mood, tone, rhythm, etc. From Anne L's poem: "I feel the fan blowing/ on my head --little ghosts playing/ on my face."

Lyric Poem: a poem expressing personal feelings/emotions; most often written in first person. See Basil and Anna L.'s poems, p.38.

Metaphor: a direct comparison between two **unlike** things (**Noun** is an **unlike noun**.) A metaphor can be suggested without being directly stated or extended. In Mia's poem, "Leo Minor," she compares the lion to a drum: I am a drum/ pounding through the night." The telescope in Christopher Counts The Constellations can represent journeys or new perspectives.

Pattern: a repetition of a phrase, sound, and or word. (The structure of *Christopher Counts The Constellations* is built upon repetition.)

Personification: giving an object human characteristics: ". . . when the night sky has gone to sleep," taken from Lindsey's poem "Nighttime," p. 32

Prose Poem: a work that looks like a story because it lacks specific line breaks, but contains poetic elements, such as repetition, rhyme, and figurative language. (pp. 32-33)

Rhyme: when ending words of two or more lines sound alike but begin with different syllables: life/strife; hound/sound. Rhyming can also occur within the same line; this is called internal rhyme: e.g., "so bright in the night" from Max's poem, p. 17

Rhythm: a pattern of stress beats in a line or measure

Simile: a comparison between two unlike things using like or as. (**Noun** verb like an **unlike noun**. Or, **noun** is as an **adjective** as an **unlike noun**.) For example, "weilding a **sword** as long as the **telescope** needed for spotting. . . " compares sword and telescope, two unlike objects; however, what they share is length. Or, "I am red like a heart beating" from Izzy's "Vulpecula," p. 25

Space/Science

Asteroid: a small rocky, body rotating around the sun

Asterism: a pattern of stars within a constellation

Axis: an invisible line around which the planet (or body) rotates

Comet: an object in space that has a nucleus (center) of ice and dust and, when close to the sun, a "tail" of gas and dust particles pointing away from the sun.

Constellation: a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern

Ecliptic (ecliptic line): an invisible line that shows the sun's path around the earth

Equator: an invisible line dividing the earth in half (the northern hemisphere and southern hemisphere)

Galaxy: a large area filled with gas, stars, dust, planets, and other spatial particles held together by gravity

Gravity: a force that pulls a body towards the center of the earth or any physical body (such as a planet) that has mass

Light Year: approximately 6 trillion years (5.88 trillion)

Magnitude: the measurement of how bright a star is. The higher the number, the younger (and dimmer) the star is; the lower the number, the older and brighter the star is.

Mass: a large body with no definite shape

Meteor: a small body of matter from outer space that looks like a streak of light when it enters the earth's atmosphere

Moon: the natural satellite of the earth, visible at night by reflected light from the sun (The planets in our solar system have at least one moon.)

Moon Phases: The shape of the sunlit moon portion of the moon as seen from the Earth (There are eight lunar or moon phases.)

Planet: a celestial body rotating around a star

Solar System: the eight planets and their moons orbiting the sun, along with smaller bodies, such as asteroids, meteoroids, and comets

Speed of light: how fast light travels, which is 186,000 miles per second

Supernova: a star that suddenly explodes (due to age, usually) and sends gas and dust particles (its mass) into space; brilliant in color