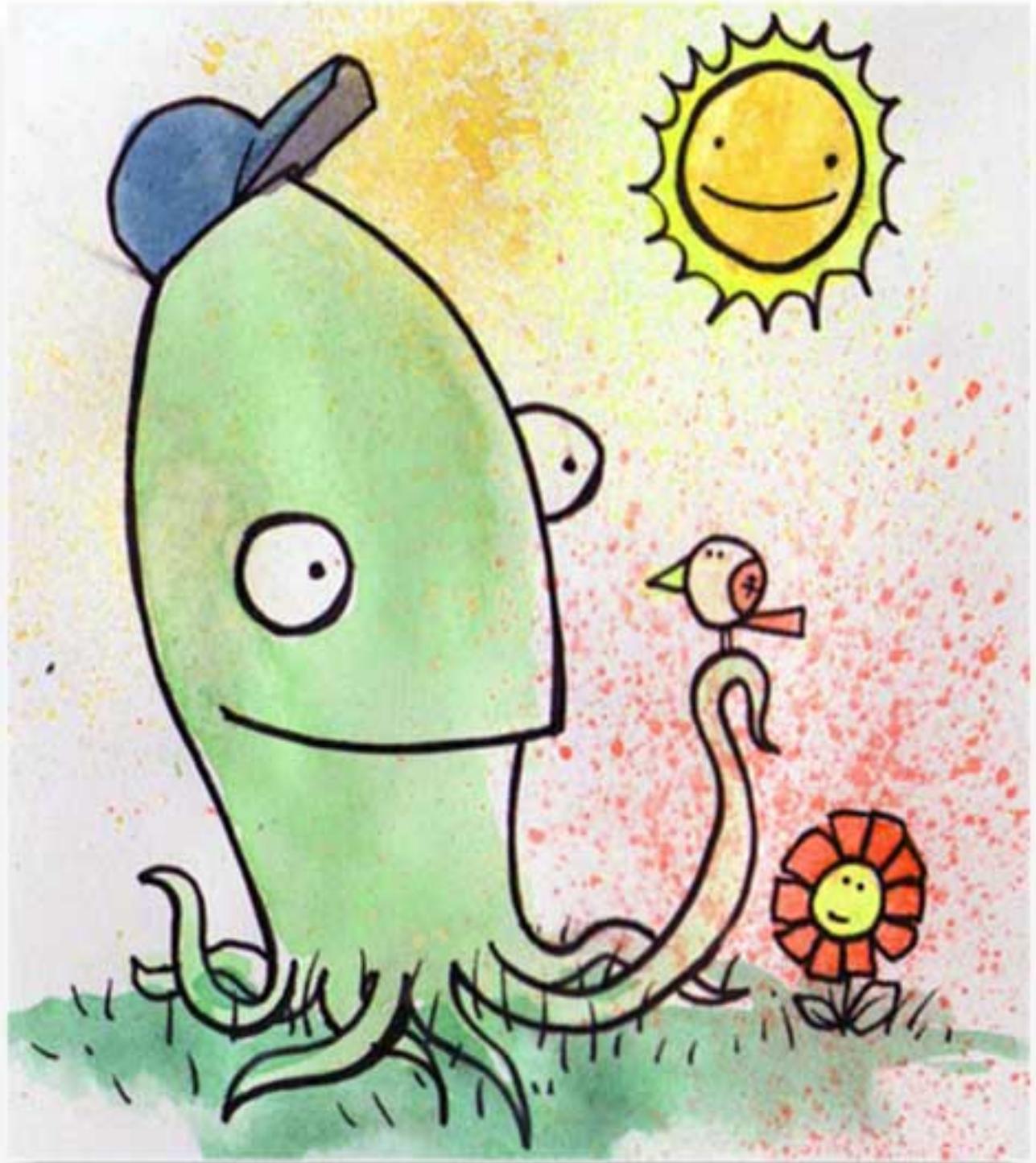


May 2015



**Home Instruction Teens**

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***JUNE GRADUATION ISSUE DEADLINE:***  
**May 22, 2015**

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\* Special thanks to Michael Bollati, Robert Oliver, Pam Sanzaro & Candice Sorensen for all their help in producing this magazine

**Attention:**  
**8<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
**June 2015 Graduates**



If you'd like your picture and brief  
biography included in the  
**JUNE HIT GRADUATION ISSUE**,  
send photos and bios to  
[\*\*hitmagazine@aol.com\*\*](mailto:hitmagazine@aol.com)

**Deadline: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

# REFLECTIONS

## **Animal Testing**

**By Danielle Fendrich (Grade 12, Manhattan)**

**Teacher: Felicia Kliments**

There is nothing new about the uncanny abilities of animals. People have noticed them for centuries. Millions of pet owners and pet trainers today have experienced them personally. But at the same time, many people feel they have to deny these abilities or trivialize them. They are ignored by institutional science. Pets are the animals we know best, but their most surprising and intriguing behavior is treated as of no real interest. Why should this be so? What are the implications of this intelligence?

One reason for institutional science's lack of interest is a taboo against taking 'pets' seriously. This taboo is not confined to scientist but is a result of the split attitudes to animals expressed in our society as a whole. During working hours we commit ourselves to economic progress fueled by science and technology and based on the mechanistic view of life. This view, dating back to the scientific revolution of the seventeenth century, derives from René Descartes's theory of the universe as a machine. Though the metaphors have changed (from the brain as a hydraulic machine in Descartes's time), life is still thought of in terms of machinery. Animals and plants are seen as genetically programmed automata.

Meanwhile, back at home, we have our pets. Pets are in a different category from other animals. Pet keeping is confined to the private, or subjective, realm. Experiences with pets are kept out of the real, or objective, world. There is a huge gulf between companion animals, treated as members of the family, and animals in factory farms and research laboratories. Our relationships with our pets are based on different sets of attitudes, one-on-one relationships rather than traditional approaches encouraged by science.

Whether in the laboratory or in the field, scientific investigators typically try to avoid emotional connections with the animals they are investigating. They aspire to a detached objectivity. They would therefore be unlikely to encounter the kinds of behavior and apparent consciousness that depend on the close attachment between animals and people. Ask any first time dog owner and they'll go on and on about their experience, their amazement, and affection for the furry friend.

Now, imagine a cold dark room with cages lined against the walls. The sounds from the creatures echo throughout the building as if the entrapped animals are able to sense their fate. Lying on a table are several dogs strapped down with tiny cups attached to their bellies. The cups are filled with some brand new topical crème, but its still in its initial stages. Some of the dogs have welts alongside in a ring around the cups, from constant exposure. Some are bleeding, and leaking puss, while others simply have blackened skin, where the skin has died. These dogs go through enormous amounts of pain, these common procedures are considering some of the more humane methods. Even so no painkillers are administered. The cost is too high. These animals are one of thousands though, they, along with others are being used for scientific experimentation.

In a book by Dr. Michael W. Fox, "Inhumane Society: The American Way of Exploiting Animals, Dr. Fox estimates that twenty-five to thirty-five million animals are used in the United States each year for laboratory testing and research. Research involving such tests as these on animals is unnecessary and cruel. More humane methods of research need to be employed. Testing on animals in order to create a cure for AIDS is one thing, but testing on animals for human vanity is another. Dogs, chimps, and even rats are highly intelligent creatures that form complex social bonds across species division, subjecting them to unimaginable degrees of torture for cosmetics or commercial research is shameful, and utterly disgusting. Those with personal experience might site a dog's conscientious and affectionate demeanor or the obvious intellect and cross species intellect of the chimps who can learn sign language, or even the adorable and complacent attitude of the rabbits but this is all wrong. These are the erroneous to the situation and plainly demeaning, the only question animal activists and the public should be asking is can they suffer? Can they feel pain and fear and agony?

The answer is yes, regardless of how similar their brains are to ours, yes even dogs, their body is wired with the same chemicals and neurons and pain cells humans share, to ignore this would be unacceptable.

Over 100 million animals are burned, crippled, poisoned, and abused in US labs every year. Cosmetics like toothpaste and mascara are typically tested on rabbits and guinea pigs. In 2010, Minnesota used more cats for testing than any other state (2,703), New Jersey used the most dogs (6,077), and Massachusetts used the most primates (7,458). Each of these estimates is exuberant in and of themselves when combine along with the thousands of others the numbers become sickening. If your wondering how can you possible help prevent this, you can. Communicate the truth about animal testing, donate and show others you support the cause, they will in turn tell others, or get involved with signing petitions or even volunteer at local shelters where many animals are abandoned after failed research. No cause is to big that a small gesture will go unnoticed; one gesture is all that's needed at times. One gesture from every person could end it forever. Ignorance is the enemy here; consistent communication is your ally.





**Student's mom wrote this  
on her 18th birthday....**

**By Rosana Quinones (Korii Ann Reyes' Mom)**

**Teacher: Monet Dunham**

When I got pregnant 18 years ago, I wanted a girl. A little girl I could treat differently than I have been treated my entire life. One I could dote on and hopefully we would like similar things in common, say I love you and hug all the time. Nothing like my life as a child, but show so much love it would probably be unbearable for her. I knew God would give me a beautiful little girl. He did. But I lost her within two weeks of life, she died while I was getting ready to do another 20 hour day by her side at the hospital, as I did for that month in NICU. She died. The doctors brought her back to life. When I went to see her I fainted, when I saw her not moving and all those tubes. I thought no, please no. My baby wasn't the same little girl anymore from that very moment. My baby wasn't the one I expected to go home with as they made lightly of all her upcoming disabilities. The constant crying, the poor eating, the constipation, not picking up her head, or hitting her goals, not looking at me as she once did. All the doctors directed this to her being a preemie. Trying to find the right doctors that could understand my dilemma. My concern as a Mother (I was now was reading up on disabled infants, **DISABLED**), no one could make this feel better. I didn't cry. I didn't anything, I tried not to feel, but do my best for her. I tried day by day and my mother wasn't there, my sister was pregnant, and my sister in law also busy. They helped when they could, but all was on me and when her dad could help me. Her father worked nights and helped when he could, but 3 to 4 hours' sleep does not make a sane woman. I didn't tell anyone, no one really listened when I did. But when I looked at her, I loved her so much. I got my daughter. This is the Angel - God sent me. For every year I am blessed.

From ages 1-4 years, it was easy to see she wasn't like the others. It was easy to see she didn't sit up straight, talk, walk and hug me. Although I would dream of hearing her little footsteps coming to me so vividly. It was hard when I passed schools and saw all the little girls running around her age and she never would, but I had hope, maybe. In my heart of hearts, I knew she would not. It killed me each time, to admit it to myself. She taught me, she could learn. She learned her name at 6 months old, Korii Ann. I would press on her, Korii Ann, press her little hand on me, Mami. She learned pick up your head when I told her to whether she was tired and threw it forward due to her tonic neck and couldn't hold it up anymore. It took a month for both these personal goals, but she learned. The smile I received each time, made my day. Other tasks came with more work, putting her at age 2 to sleep alone. Two more sleepless months, but she did it. She learned who Victor is when I called his name and she would jump in her chair with joy for her Daddy. Creating weird soups, she loved to increase her appetite, learning what she liked to eat and didn't like to eat. It wasn't easy going to the park and other children asking what is wrong with her or is she different? But questions were always welcomed and some of these children would then talk about their families. I was told about their grandparents/uncles/aunts/parents in wheelchairs, but my daughters' wheelchair was cooler, of course children mesh it altogether. But what I have never liked are the adult stares, fake smiles and the say nothings, but I feel sorry for her, just not with words. I can answer any questions. For every year I am blessed.

From age 5-10 years, many things happened. I made two good friends online, who were also in my predicament. We as mother of special needs children needed one another at this time. I helped as much as I could and they helped me in turn. She graduated Helen Keller School for the Blind, and this school is one of the best and top notch schools for children like mine and more severe. She did excellent in that school environment. And yes, there are children more severe than her. Autistic, severely blind, mental retardation, genetic disfigurements or genetic altogether. Some always in the hospital and some who go to meet God way too early. She was operated on her hip dysplasia which was the

worst for her and us taking care of her. Yet with time, she tolerated the pain as she still does. What is she teaching me? Don't complain, because **YOU** can handle it Mami! At this time, she would never return to a school environment and remain at home safe with me. It would become more work, but a relief. A child that cannot talk and tell you this or that was done is safer at home. Yet, a bigger event was awaiting to come center stage in my life and slap me in the face, my sisters passing. For every year I am blessed.

From age 10– 18 years, a child that clearly has personality and has us wrapped around her finger. For every cough, for every whimper, for every fever, illness, for every smile, peek, giggle, ahhhh, oooo, discomfort, call me from afar, I know them all. Even when she began calling her father, Oompa. Her love for him is undeniable, but with age she understood more of what we would say to her. Tantrums, and me saying NO, your too pretty to cry like that for no reason, she peeks, keeps going or stops and smiles. She understood whether or not she wanted to work, anyone touch her for therapy, and she understood she has a voice and opinion. She knows who loves her and who is just there. I have been fortunate that when I lost my sister so early in her life, she had several more aunts to be around her to step in and be my adopted sisters. One in particular will drop everything to help me. Thank you. They do not see any differences in all of her deformities. They do not pity her for her differences. Her small body, her small head, her eye that turns sometimes, her severe scoliosis, her hip dysplasia, her twisted body, her cortical blindness, her frequent seizures, her tonic neck, her bent hands and her twisted feet. All these hurt her so much, so many changes with her age, her body is growing, it is just growing wrong. But I need to take a page from her book. She cries for that moment, wants to be left alone. Then she calms herself and wants you back around her and accepts you with a smile. As a mother, I see it, but the admiration I have for her is overwhelming. You all accept her for who she is and all the love she has to give. These people who can oversee the deformities, see her, see past all of that. This wonderful woman came into our lives when I so needed someone I could trust with my daughter. She came in like a Guardian Angel to make sure when and what I slacked,

she got and so much more with keeping me rooted and helping me endlessly with her. She adores her like her own and for every comment she makes, I always know it is in her best interest. For every year I am blessed.

**My daughter knows who loves her**, and when she sees down to your soul, who you are. You will fall in love with her. I have seen it. I have told people, she will make you fall in love with her. No words need to be spoken, she just has that affect on you. I think it is her innocence, the pureness of who she is. She doesn't lie, doesn't steal, doesn't sin, she doesn't wish harm on anyone. She is an Angel on earth. I have witnessed it, have felt it, all the love within her. Something so pure, can give all the love she has when you deserve it. She has to share it with you. She doesn't ask anything from anyone, except love me and take care of me. She knows who is phony and doesn't deal with you too easily. I actually like that. For every year I am blessed.

My daughter, who has given me strength and I will never bring a problem to her, or bring negative vibes to her as she picks it up so quickly and it dampers her mood. She loves all types of music, loves her favorite movies. She changes her mind as young teenagers do. I feel I am not the perfect Mami for I am not. Many things I could have done differently, but this path was chosen for me. I am not sure of a lot of things, I have to accept and move forward. As many of you live through your lives. I see everything I will not have and I will miss that. No first crush, no boyfriend, no getting grounded, no wedding, and no grandchildren, nothing normal parents would want from their child. She could pass away young. This is my life. This is her life. But I, as her Mami, have accepted all of it (somewhat accepted). No choices. She has me and I her till the day one of us departs. For every year I am blessed.

So now you know my daughter, my sweet little Angel. I try and remain calm and when I am not I walk away for fear she could feel what I am feeling, all of my fear for her and for me. My love for her it exudes when I am around her. Sometimes, Mami is tired and she is like its okay Mami and stays quiet, other she is full of giggles when her breathing allows her to laugh freely. We are bonded with our love. She is giving me 18 years of joy. I wish I could say give me another 80. For every second of every minute of every hour for every month which rounds into the year, I have found my first real love. This is why I am blessed for every year.

I want to thank you all for loving her, whether you met her not. I thank you for being in her life. You are all incredible people in her life and thank you for loving her as you do. She feels the love...



**Mami to Korii Ann,  
Rose 4.15.15**

**From the day she was born till eternity,  
my First Real love!**



**Why I fell in love with this tiny face...**

# POETRY PLACE

## Fire

By Leo Daniel Conors

Teacher: Mr. Fisch

Life is a fire, a burning light.

But it only burns one lonely night.

Creak! Gargle! Churning.

There's a new fire burning.

One lonely flame, feeding on the wood.

Growing larger and larger, expanding like it should.

Paper, logos, fuel and oxygen.

This fire's life has just begun.

As the sun sets, and the stars come out.

This fire's going to last long, without a doubt.

The clouds clear away, and the sky is clear,

The focus of the night wasn't up there, it was here!

As the fire grows larger, the hungrier it is,

Throw in the paper, the coal, the twigs!

Burning, Burning, Burning

Crackle! Pop! Simmer!

The fire burns thinner.

Dying out within the night,  
The flame is gone without a sight.  
With no more fuel and no more wood,  
The heat is low unlike it should.  
Wind blows the smoke away  
Leaving nothing but sparks astray.  
As the sun rises the heat is replenished.  
The disaster is gone and the night is finished.  
In the morning nothing is there,  
Except the memory and the despair.

We said our final goodbyes and it was done.  
Our journey together was good, it was fun.  
I walked away, a tear in my eye,  
I wished I could say, just one more goodbye.





## **Swing**

**By Alyssa Pascalli (Queens)**

**Teacher: Kiran Kumari**

I'm swinging real high up in the sky  
Like I am flying to the sky

As I am swinging on my swing the invisible ghost  
I imagine blows my hair and turns it into knots.

The tree rocks like a rocking chair  
As if the tree is dancing with the wind.

As my feet turn into brakes  
My feet stomp to the ground like a rumbling earthquake.

As my swinging day is done for the day  
The swing stops moving as if it is dead  
Like as if a heavy object needs to  
Weigh it down to make it move.

# BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL

## **Life After Graduation**

**By Danielle Fendrich (Grade 12, Manhattan)**

**Teacher: Felicia Kliments**

With the difficulties new college graduates face repaying student-loan debt (now a cumulative \$1 trillion in the United States) making daily headlines, it's only reasonable to ask if the cost of higher education is worth the potential reward of a bigger income. After all, two of the richest men in America, Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates, don't hold college degrees. Granted, both of them put in time at Harvard, but neither actually earned a diploma. You could, in fact, argue that they got their training on the job at Facebook and Microsoft, respectively, even if those are companies of their own founding.

The traditional route to career success follows a pretty straight academic line: hard work in elementary school, followed by hard work in high school, followed by hard work at the best college you can afford. Vocational education, on the other hand, is often treated as a consolation prize -- the second-best option for the second-best kids. But for a new generation facing rising college tuitions and high post-graduate unemployment, old-fashioned vocational studies might offer the best chance at a solid career and a lifetime free of debt.

But what about learning on the job: Isn't real-world experience preferable to an academic education anyway? On-the-job training is often free -- or you may be paid. Even when you're not paid, it's a lot less expensive and usually takes less time than attending college. Unfortunately, many formal training programs have fallen victim to corporate spending cuts, although there are still fields where hands-on training is available.

Industries in which guilds and unions dominate, such as construction trades like

plumbing, carpentry and electrical, traditionally have had apprentice programs as a means to entering the business. All three major unions for electricians, for example, offer paid apprenticeships with on-the-job and classroom training. Similar is training for the growth fields of telecommunications installers and green-energy technicians. These are not casual commitments, though: All of these industries require at least 2,000 hours of on-the-job learning, with some requiring as many as 4,000 to 6,000.

In fact, the U.S. government has recently put a focus on high-tech apprenticeships as a fast track to a middle-class paycheck, with the Department of Labor pledging \$100 million for grants to develop public-private apprenticeship programs in biotech, healthcare, information technology and high-tech manufacturing. Programs resulting from that funding should start appearing over the next few years, all around the nation.

According to a recent survey, 50% of recent college graduates are unemployed or underemployed; many, in fact, are resorting to the kinds of entry-level jobs that they went to college to avoid. In a recent Chronicle of Higher Education article, economist Richard Vedder tried to explain why: He sees America as facing a glut of college graduates, as the supply of people with high priced degrees exceeds the demand for them. Noting the large number of college grads occupying manual labor positions, he argued that their average wages -- which dropped by 4.17% between 2008 and 2010 -- were likely to continue to fall.

Meanwhile, things are looking up for skilled workers, demand for whom remains strong. As a recent CareerBuilder survey reported, 40% of employers complained that they were unable to find sufficient skilled workers to fill their available positions. This is particularly striking in manufacturing, where employers are heavily targeting foreign workers and military veterans to fill open positions. For students who can get into the programs that prepare them for such jobs, the employment future could be promising.

Not surprisingly, the demand for skilled workers has driven up their wages. According to a 2012 study by Georgetown University's Center for Education and the

Workforce, 39% of men with an educational certificate earn more than men with an associate's degree, and 24% earn more than men with a bachelor's degree. For people in a STEM field -- science, technology, engineering or mathematics -- things are even better. According to another study by the Center, 63% of STEM workers with associate's degrees make more money than the average person with a bachelor's degree in the humanities or social sciences. Similar discrepancies exist across all levels of educational attainment, suggesting that what a student studies may ultimately matter a lot more than how long he or she studies it.

As demand for skilled workers has risen, so has enrollment at vocational schools ... and the tuition of many programs. Even so, trade schools and community colleges can be a bargain when compared to traditional four-year colleges. According to the Department of Education, the average cost of a year's tuition, room and board at a four-year college is \$20,986; at a two-year school, it's only \$8,451.

What really matters is to follow the demands of your personality. If you have an academic bent of mind, you're better off in a traditional college. If however, your main focus is to specialize in your vocation and land a job, a trade school is by far the best bet.



# What to do After High School

## CAREER EXPLORATION

Not everyone goes to college. What are some of your interests and talents?  
During junior and senior years you should be thinking about  
what comes after high school.

For excellent information on careers, here are some  
websites you might want to look at.

Occupational Outlook Handbook

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

Career Exploration

<http://www.bls.gov/k12/content/students/careers/career-exploration.htm>

<http://www.careeronestop.org>

<http://www.careeronestop.org/StudentsandCareerAdvisors/StudentsandCareerAdvisors.aspx>

[http://www.careeronestop.org/TridionMultimedia/WMNM%20FINAL%20JAN%2007%202013\\_tcm24-13704.pdf](http://www.careeronestop.org/TridionMultimedia/WMNM%20FINAL%20JAN%2007%202013_tcm24-13704.pdf)

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[Employment & Training Administration](#),  
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**Please send articles with your reactions, interests and opinions about what you'd like to do after high school!**

If you are graduating in June,  
you may be thinking about taking the SAT.

For information, go to:

<http://sat.collegeboard.org/register/sat-dates>

# U.S. SAT Registration

[Register](#)

Find dates and registration info for testing in the U.S.

**Next Tests:**  
11/8 , 12/6

Deadlines expire at midnight, EST (U.S.).

[Print All U.S. Test Dates](#) | [View International Test Dates >](#)

SAT Date	SAT Subject Tests Available (Find Dates)	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline ?		Deadline for Changes ?	Status
			Mail	Phone/Online		
<b>Nov 8</b>	<a href="#">▶ Subject Tests</a>	Oct 9	Oct 24	Oct 28	Oct 28	<a href="#">Waitlist Request</a>
<b>Dec 6</b>	<a href="#">▶ Subject Tests</a>	Nov 6 <a href="#">Send Reminder</a>	Nov 21	Nov 24	Nov 24	<a href="#">Register Now</a> 4 days left
<b>Jan 24</b>	<a href="#">▶ Subject Tests</a>	Dec 29 <a href="#">Send Reminder</a>	Jan 9	Jan 13	Jan 13	<a href="#">Register Now</a> 57 days left
<b>Mar 14</b>		Feb 13 <a href="#">Send Reminder</a>	Feb 27	Mar 3	Mar 3	<a href="#">Register Now</a> 103 days left
<b>May 2</b>	<a href="#">▶ Subject Tests</a>	Apr 6 <a href="#">Send Reminder</a>	Apr 17	Apr 21	Apr 21	<a href="#">Register Now</a> 155 days left
<b>Jun 6</b>	<a href="#">▶ Subject Tests</a>	May 8 <a href="#">Send Reminder</a>	May 22	May 27	May 27	<a href="#">Register Now</a> 187 days left

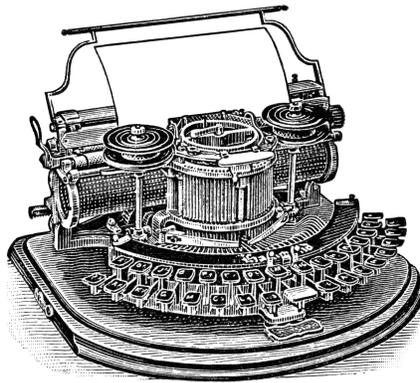
# HIT / HI KIDS

**Home Instruction Teens Magazine**

**Home Instruction Kids Magazine**

*These magazines are written by Home Instruction students for Home Instruction students. They provide an opportunity for students to communicate and share ideas.*

**All students are invited to participate in the production of these magazines.**



**HI KIDS is for elementary students and**

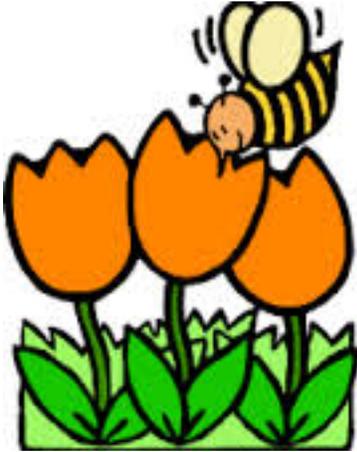
**HIT is for secondary students.**

**You don't have to be a great writer to be involved.**

**There are all kinds of things that will help in the production of each issue.**



**You can send us:  
PLEASE SEND US:**



drawings  
photography  
puzzles  
jokes  
riddles  
poems  
stories  
movie reviews  
book reviews  
video game reviews  
sports review



whatever you would like to share.

*We need staff members who would like to work at home helping to put the magazines together every month. We will ask you to do a little typing and to feel free to share any ideas you have to improve our magazines. Frequently we are able to arrange for our secondary students to get school credit for their work on the magazine. If you would like more information about becoming a staff member, email us at:*

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or

**[HIKIDSMAG@AOL.COM](mailto:HIKIDSMAG@AOL.COM)**

If interested, please e-mail us at:

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[www.homeinstructionschools.com](http://www.homeinstructionschools.com)



## Home Instruction Schools

NYCDOE District 75/ Citywide Programs

Ramona Pizarro, Principal

3450 E Tremont Ave  
Bronx, NY 10465

Phone: (718) 794-7200

Fax: (718) 794-7232

Home

Sites (Contact H.I.)

Teachers

Students

Parents

**PARENTS: Please be advised that all students have been returned to their school of affiliation. If your child needs Home Instruction Services for the upcoming school year, you will have to submit an application for Home Instruction with an updated medical.**



### How To Apply For Home Instruction

In order to request Home Instruction Services the parent/guardian will need to notify the school's guidance counselor and work with the school of affiliation to submit the following documents (**High schools students also have to submit permanent record and transcript**):  
**NOTE: Social Security Number is not required for HIPPA**

[Home Instruction Request Form](#)

Schools of affiliation are responsible for P.E. Modules  
P.E. IS NO LONGER WAIVED  
[Click here for more information](#)



## DOE WWW PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

I hereby give permission for my child's photograph, artwork, poetry or other work produced in conjunction with a school project, class or extracurricular activity, to be put on the Department of Education's World Wide Web (WWW) site, in accordance with the policies set forth in the DOE's Internet Acceptable Use Policy.

I understand that the information to be posted does not include information from my child's academic, guidance, permanent or cumulative record (i.e. grades or attendance records). I also understand that the information to be posted does not include other personal identifiable information such as my child's address, phone number, or social security number.

I hereby give permission for my child's photograph, artwork, poetry or other work produced in conjunction with a school project, class or extracurricular activity, to be printed in **HOME INSTRUCTION TEENS (HIT)** and/or **HOME INSTRUCTION KIDS (HI KIDS)** magazines.

**Name of Student** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**This document is to be sent to and retained by the school.**