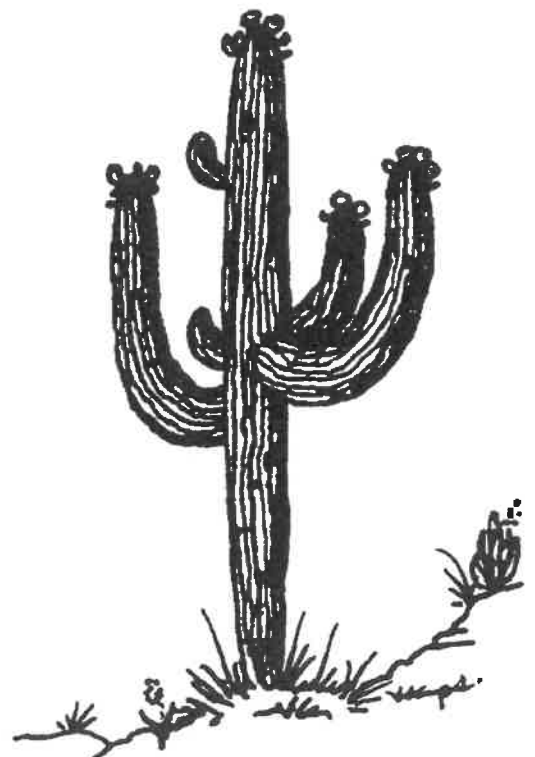


# Grade 3 Winners

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, **Overall Winner**: Aurelia Neils, Ribbons of Green  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tied): Jacob Lopez, Mighty Saguaro  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tied): Oliver McLaren, The Amazing Sonoran Desert  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tied): Xin-Yang Saoirse Chen, Best Desert Ever  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place (tied): Vianey Ramon, Desert Rain  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place (tied): Brooke Clarke, untitled  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place (tied): Gabriel Bauserman, untitled  
HM: Hensley Ann Medivil, Wildflowers  
HM: Katalina Tona, The gray fox  
HM: Acelyn Crawford, Hot Hot Heat  
HM: Pavishna Oggu, Saguaro Cactus  
HM: Eli Riffle, The Desert  
HM: Citlalic Martinez, Desert Rain  
HM: Jose Evans, The Rain in the Desert  
HM: Ellie Kreidler, Morning and Night in the Desert  
HM: Evelyn Marascalco, Monsoon Season is Here!  
HM: Jackson Engblom, Giant Saguaro  
HM: Chase Potter, Sonoran Haiku  
HM: Lily Zerth, Sonoran Haiku  
HM: Teagan Lane, untitled  
HM: Kenia Vasquez, Mighty Saguaro





## **Ribbons of Green**

Majestic cottonwoods show love with heart-shaped leaves  
Casting stunning shade when the sun is high  
Willows are best-friend sisters  
Together they form ribbons of green along the riverbanks  
Riparian radiance  
These are the veins of the desert

Animals are magnetic to the sense of water  
Birds migrate through these corridors  
Tiny hummingbirds to great blue herons  
Kaleidoscopes of flapping wings  
Garter snakes flick bright red tongues to taste the wind  
Mud turtles wander under the water  
Chubs and topminnows show aquatic acrobatics  
Toad tadpoles pepper the shallows  
Pumas silently stroll in the shadows  
Deer bound away in wisps of white

Each plant and animal is important  
Everything is connected  
Water is the essence of all  
This is most evident in the thirsty desert, where every drop is wanted  
Our future depends on each other  
Rivers are precious  
Water is Life.

# Mighty Saguaro

Sharp spine      red fruit  
building roof    sheltering birds    giving food  
Old as my ancestors  
Famous cactus

Jacob Lopez  
Mighty Saguaro  
Third Grade  
2nd Place (tied)

## The Amazing Sonoran Desert

Slithering rattlesnakes quietly shake their rattles  
Owls hoot at midnight  
Night time sounds scarily call out  
Old as famous rock paintings  
Rocky mountains that are beautiful  
Animals all around  
Night Time predators hide in the dark to catch their prey

Doves call out at daybreak  
Eagles fly overhead  
Scorpions that have sharp stingers  
Everything is beautiful  
Remarkable ecosystem  
Terrific sunsets

Oliver McClaren  
The Amazing Sonoran Desert  
Third Grade  
2nd Place (tied)

## Best Desert Ever

Birds soar high in my skies,

Everywhere, there are animal cries.

Saguaros and cacti grow up tall,

Their arms and pads stand stiff, that's what I saw.

Desert flyers run and swoop,

Each of them has their own coop.

Saguaros are great places to hide,

Even owls peck their way inside.

Reptiles scamper and rest in cracks,

The other creatures tramp in packs.

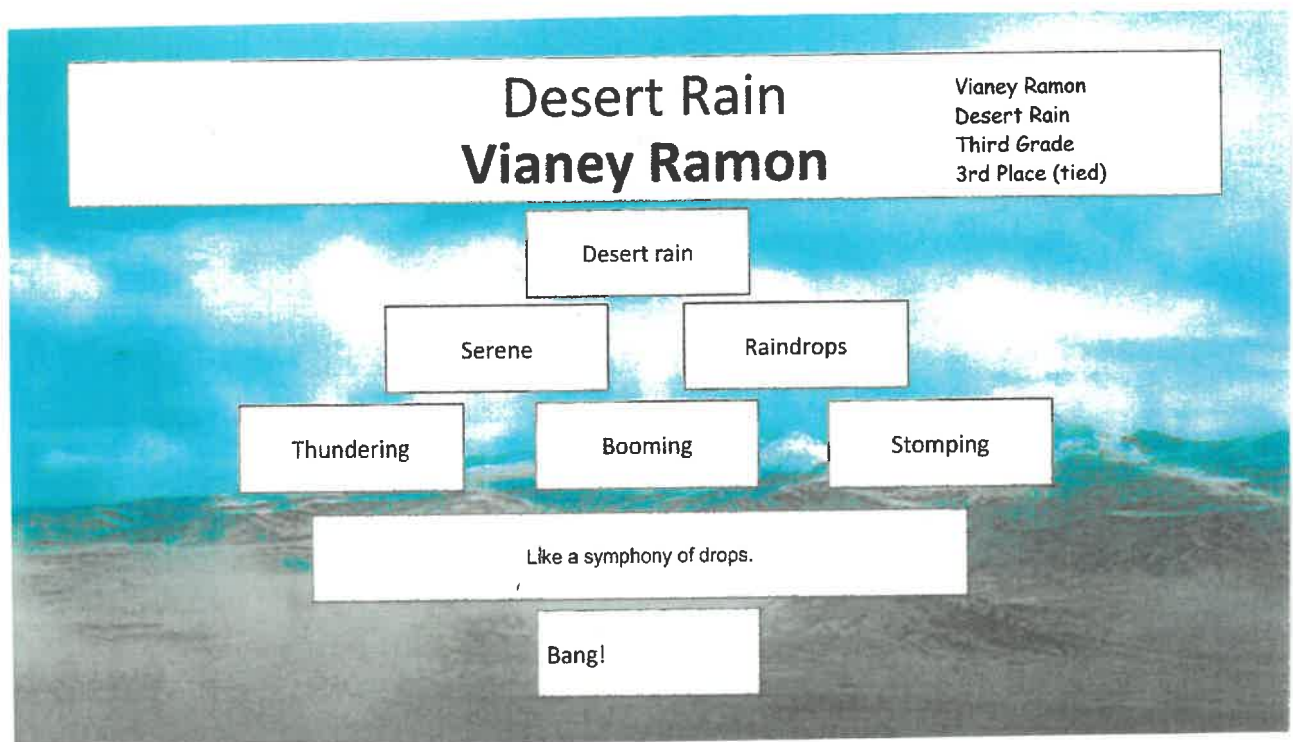
Every day, I hope people sweetly care,

Visitors come exploring here and there.

Even I, the Sonoran Desert, can feel danger,

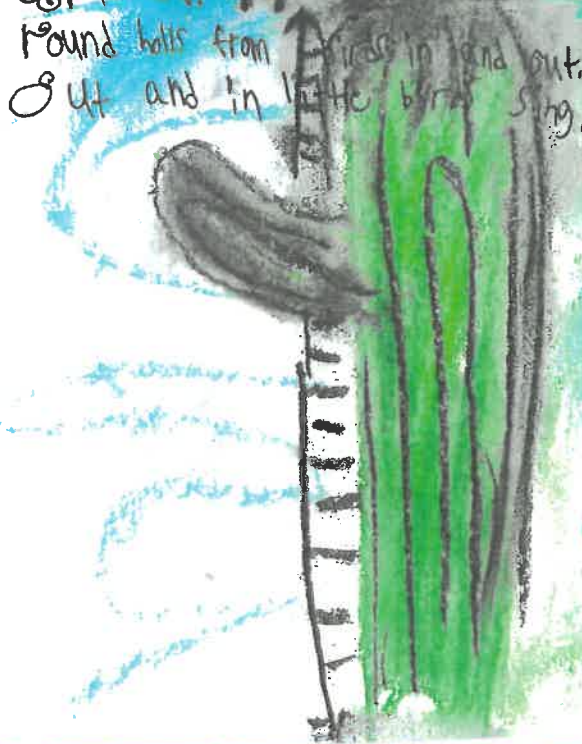
Really, thank all the helpful rangers.

Xin-Yang Saoirse Chen  
Best Desert Ever  
Third Grade  
2nd Place (tied)





Strong and sturdy.  
 animals love you.  
 growing all the time  
 under a arm goes a cactus.  
 art can be fun you.  
 round holes from birds in and out.  
 Out and in little birds sing.



Brooke Clark  
 Untitled  
 Third Grade  
 3rd Place (tied)

By Brooke



Gabriel Bauserman  
 Untitled  
 Third Grade  
 3rd Place (tied)

the moon is  
 gleaming the dark  
 night is peaceful  
 the cat is  
 purring

-Gabriel

Title: HOT HOT HEAT

Hot hot heat

Weeds grow sometimes they die  
native plants thrive

Dry dry desert

Lizards

snakes

gila monsters

Scurry for shade

Hot hot heat

Brings rain showers

With joy and life

Creatures rejoice

Plants flourish

Dry dry desert

Very hot

Winters approaching

Plants shrivel

Creatures hide

The desert is full of life and death

Acelyn Crawford

Hot Hot Heat

Third Grade

Honorable Mention

The gray fox

The gray fox sleeps cuddled with his family  
when it gets dark the gray fox leaves his den  
hunting rabbits, rodents, insects, birds, lizards and snakes  
blending in with the dark

he climbs a tree

using his eyes to spot his prey

he sees a big fluffy bunny

he jumps out of the tree to catch dinner

And goes home to share with his family

Katalina Tona

The gray fox

Third Grade

Honorable Mention

Wildflowers

Wildflowers smell like perfume

yummy, yum, yum`

They taste like honey sticks

they taste good

That's what I heard

And if you are quiet enough then you can listen to the breeze

the wildflowers whispering,

they feel like a soft pillow,

you could sleep on it

but don't,

you will fall asleep right away

Bright yellow like the sun,

so beautiful you can't resist them

Hensley Ann Medivil

Wildflowers

Third Grade

Honorable Mention

# The Desert

Eli Riffle  
The Desert  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention

The wind blew on the hot ground.

A coyote hid behind a cactus  
waiting for a rabbit

The rabbit hopped and hopped

The coyote waited and waited

Until!

Attack!

Under the moon the coyote had a  
full belly

## Saguaro Cactus

I am a tiny seed taking about  
25 years to sprout.

I am 5-7 inches tall but 30 years old.

In the summer, I blossom beautiful flowers.

In winter, I stand still like a warrior.

As days, months, and years pass,

I become a tall cactus weighing a huge mass.

But now that I'm a 150 years old,

I will dry up and become a home.

Now the seeds in my blossoms roll out,

and become more tiny cacti

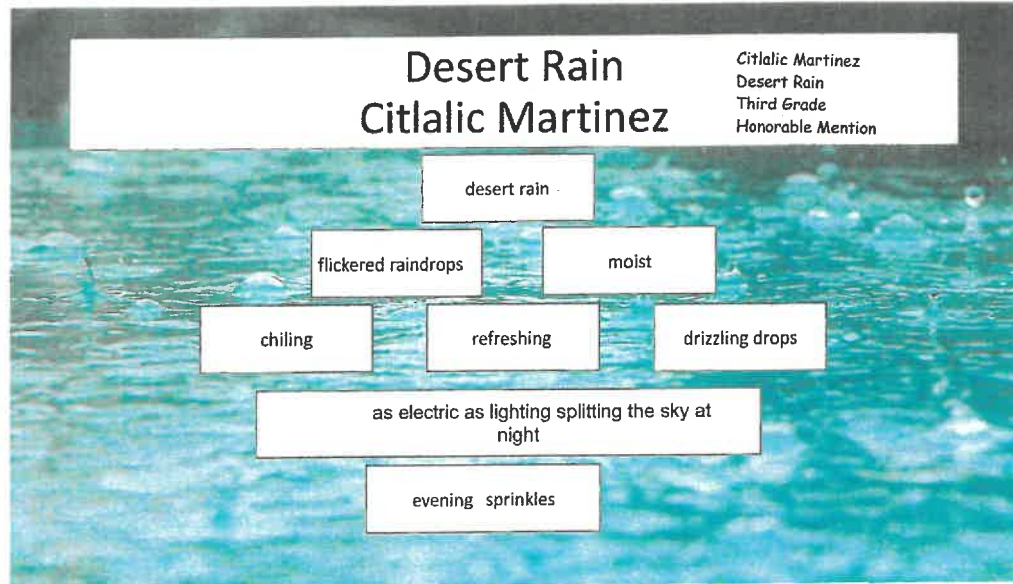
I am a tiny saguaro cactus.

Pavishna Oggu

Pavishna Oggu  
Saguaro Cactus  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention



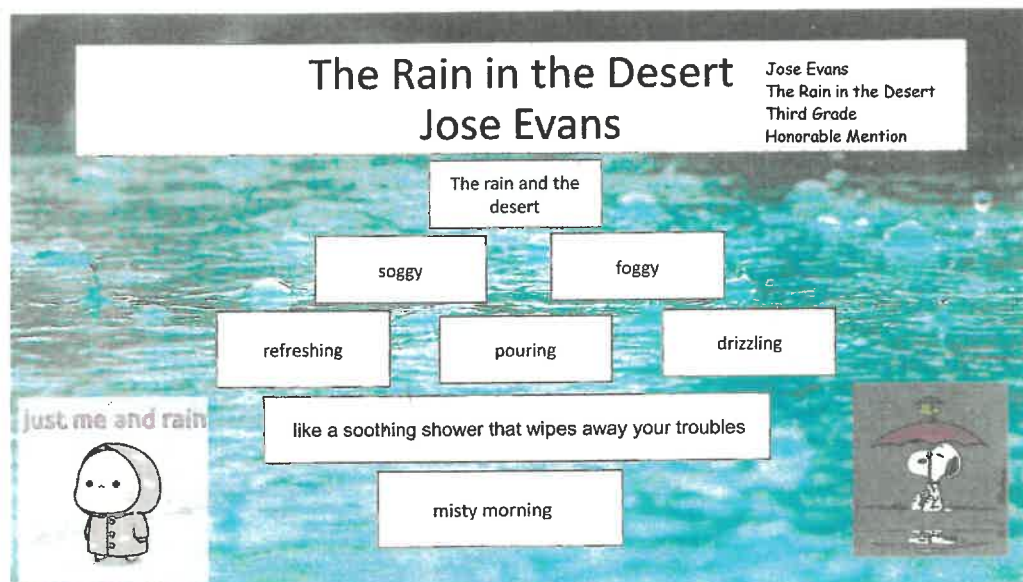




## ***Giant Saguaro***

***The saguaro drinks the rain  
And soaks in the sun rays  
It gives the birds a home  
Protects them from the storm  
It takes the nutrients from the soil  
And when all is absorbed  
A beautiful flower appears***

Jackson Engblom  
Giant Saguaro  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention



## ***Morning and Night in the Desert***

***Birds singing  
Gila monsters sleeping  
Rattlesnakes hissing  
In the morning sun***

***Birds hiding  
Gila monsters find cover  
Rattlesnakes shelter  
In the rain***

***Birds sleep  
Gila monsters hunting  
Rattle snakes slither  
In the night***

Ellie Krieder  
Morning and Night in the Desert  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention

Sonoran Haiku

This Sonoran life

Elf owl eats bugs in the night

He nests on cacti

by Lily Zerth

Lily Zerth  
Sonoran Haiku  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention

***Monsoon Season is Here!***

***Boom! Boom!  
Drip, drip, splash  
Rain crashes on the ground  
Monsoon season is here***

***Here and there  
Water hits the ground  
Jump in a puddle  
Have some fun!***

***Sun comes out  
Forms a rainbow  
Rain stops  
Monsoon season is here!***

Evelyn Marascalco  
Monsoon Season is Here!  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention

Sonoran Haiku

This sonoran life

rattle snake signals danger

speedy coyote

Chase Potter



Chase Potter  
Sonoran Haiku  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention

3rd Grade Kenia Vasquez  
mighty saguaro

tall cool  
providing us water  
making syrup,  
giving us food

as tall as a building  
famous cactus

Kenia Vasquez  
Mighty Saguaro  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention

Across the desert

Roadrunners run  
in the sizzling Arizona heat  
Zoom! Zoom! See them go  
Off to find something to eat

Nearby  
A Saguaro

Teagan Lane  
Untitled  
Third Grade  
Honorable Mention