

Grade 5 Winners

1st Place (tied), Overall Winner: Enakai Makino, The Perspective

1st Place (tied): Harriet Nelson, Monsoon

2nd Place (tied): Samadhi Valdez, purple prickly pear

2nd Place (tied): Braylon Doshier, Desert Dreams

2nd Place (tied): Hayden Baltrus, What It Means

3rd Place (tied): Sophia Garcia, desert marigold

3rd Place (tied): Mia Ramos Duarte, Egret

3rd Place (tied): David Torres, Desert rattlesnake

HM: Maya Garcia, untitled, Aubrey Mettenburg

HM: Katrina McRae, untitled

HM: Victoria Quintero, Vibrant saguaro

HM: Mageed Sawaya, bobcat running fast

HM: Alexandra Kanipe, The Beauty of the Sonoran

HM: Jayla Nelson, Dawn in the Desert

HM: Jayden Soto, Sunset

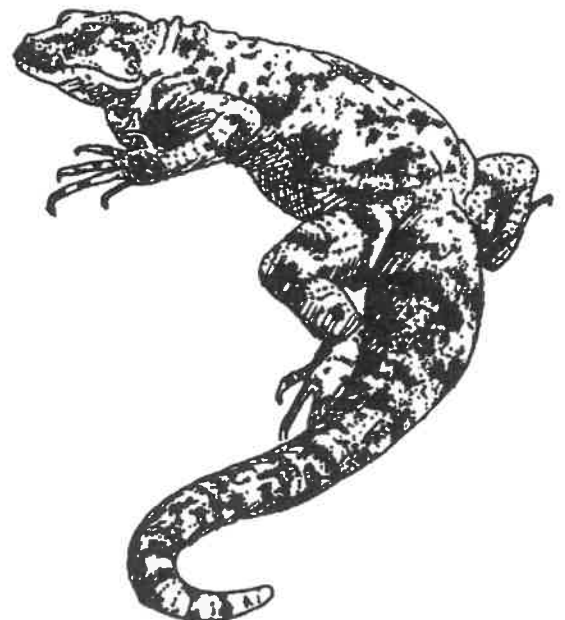
HM: Becca Kerns, Desert Life

HM: Logan Romero, The Desert Thrives

HM: Jazz Valenzuela, What You See On The Magical Mountain

HM: Wallace Carlisle, saguaro acrostic

HM: Jessenya Whitley, saguaro acrostic



The Perspective

High above the dry desert earth,
Flew a Peregrine Falcon on the search.
The Falcon was looking for some yummy food,
For he was in a hungry mood.
Then the Falcon spots his prey,
He can see his food from a mile away.
Down below in the grass is a little critter collecting litter.
The Packrat is looking for things left behind,
Like a toy, a keychain, or a dime.
Not much further in the grass is a rattlesnake.
The snake is also looking for a bite to eat.
It senses you from your heat.
One bite and you'll be dead in a heartbeat.
While the packrat was sniffing a piece of moldy meat,
The Rattlesnake slithered up behind it.
Up above the Falcon prepared to dive.
3...2...1 the Snake struck, the Falcon dove.
The Snake got the Packrat's head,
The Falcon got its behind.
The Falcon and the Snake fought for their prey.
It was like a match of tug of war.
Then the Snake let go and bit the Falcon.
The Falcon lay dead.
The Snake, filled with pride on his victory,
Rewarded himself with a delicious dinner.

Enakai Makino
The Perspective
Fifth Grade
1st Place (tied)/Over

Monsoon

As I walk hidden paths
Desert winds flow wild
Cacti grow free
As clouds gather over horizons
Light rain falls
Permitting us to grow
Wild and free

Harriet Nelson
Monsoon
Fifth Grade
1st Place (tied)

Samadhi Valdez
purple prickly pear
Fifth Grade
2nd Place (tied)



What It Means

They say home is where you hang your hat,
Where you are safe when you are alone,
So don't cut down the cacti,
Because the Pale Verde is my friend,
And where the horizon meets the sand is my home.

And truly I can understand native flooding eyes,
filling them with ambition,
But where the quail runs and where the coyote cries,
Is not built for such a vision.

Oh, what luck I have to live in such a cactus-filled
pleasure.

So please, tough men, working men, tired men,
Please do not destroy my desert.



Hayden Baltrus
What It Means
Fifth Grade
2nd Place (tied)

Hayden

Desert Dreams

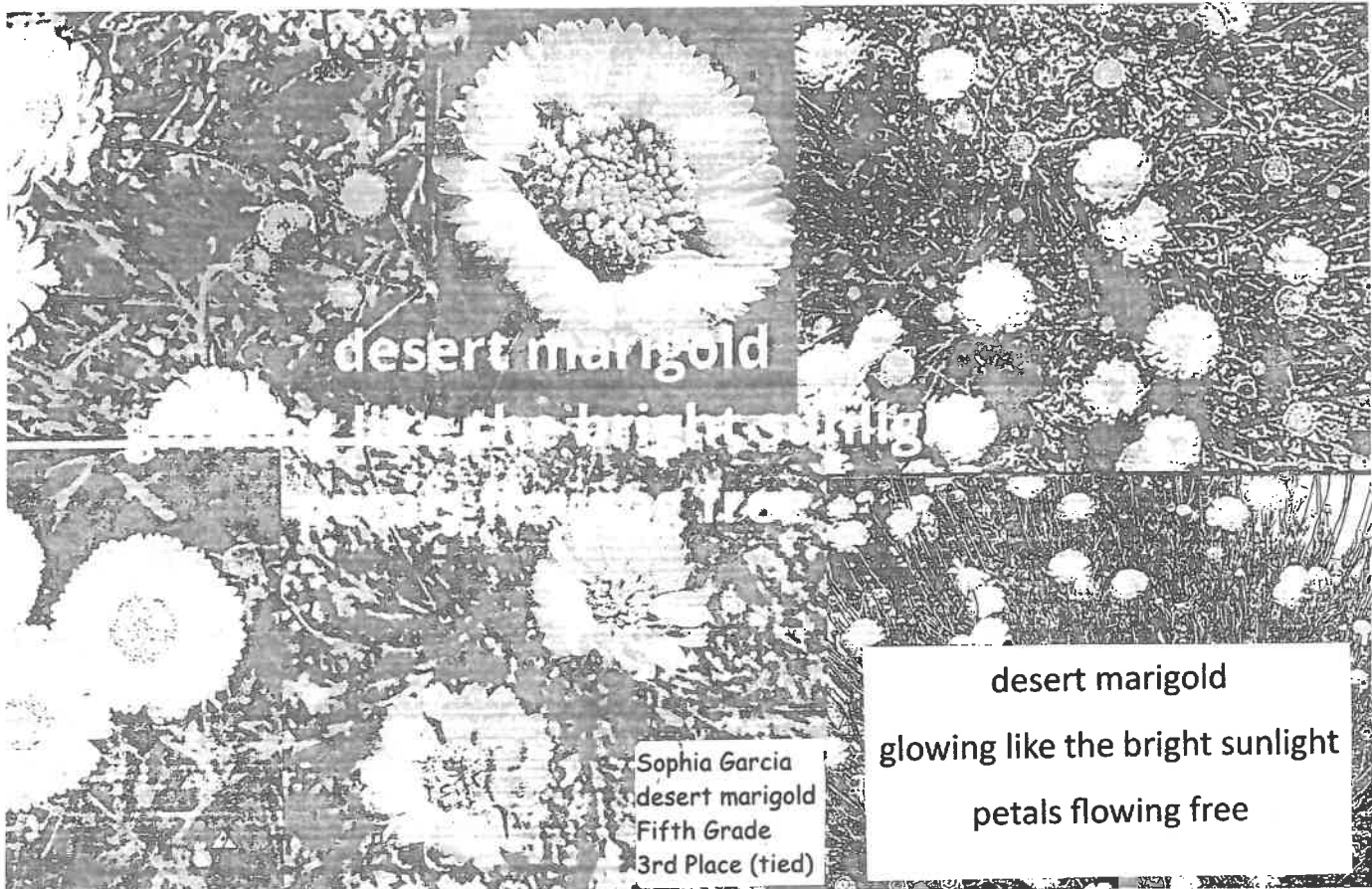
Braylon Doshier
Desert Dreams
Fifth Grade
2nd Place (tied)

*The sunbeams dance on golden sand,
A gentle breeze across the land
Cactus flowers bright and small,
Standing proudly, brave and tall*

*Tiny lizards quick and neat,
Darting with their busy feet
The desert birds with songs so clear,
Whispering secrets far and near*

*At night the stars begin to gleam,
A desert sky a lovely dream
The moon shines down a silver light,
Making everything soft and bright*

*The desert sleeps so calm and deep,
While gentle breezes softly creep
A peaceful place, so warm and grand,
A magic touch upon the sand*



Egret

Gorgeous Angelic

Swimming Floating Catching

Gentle as a feather

Bird of a rippling pond

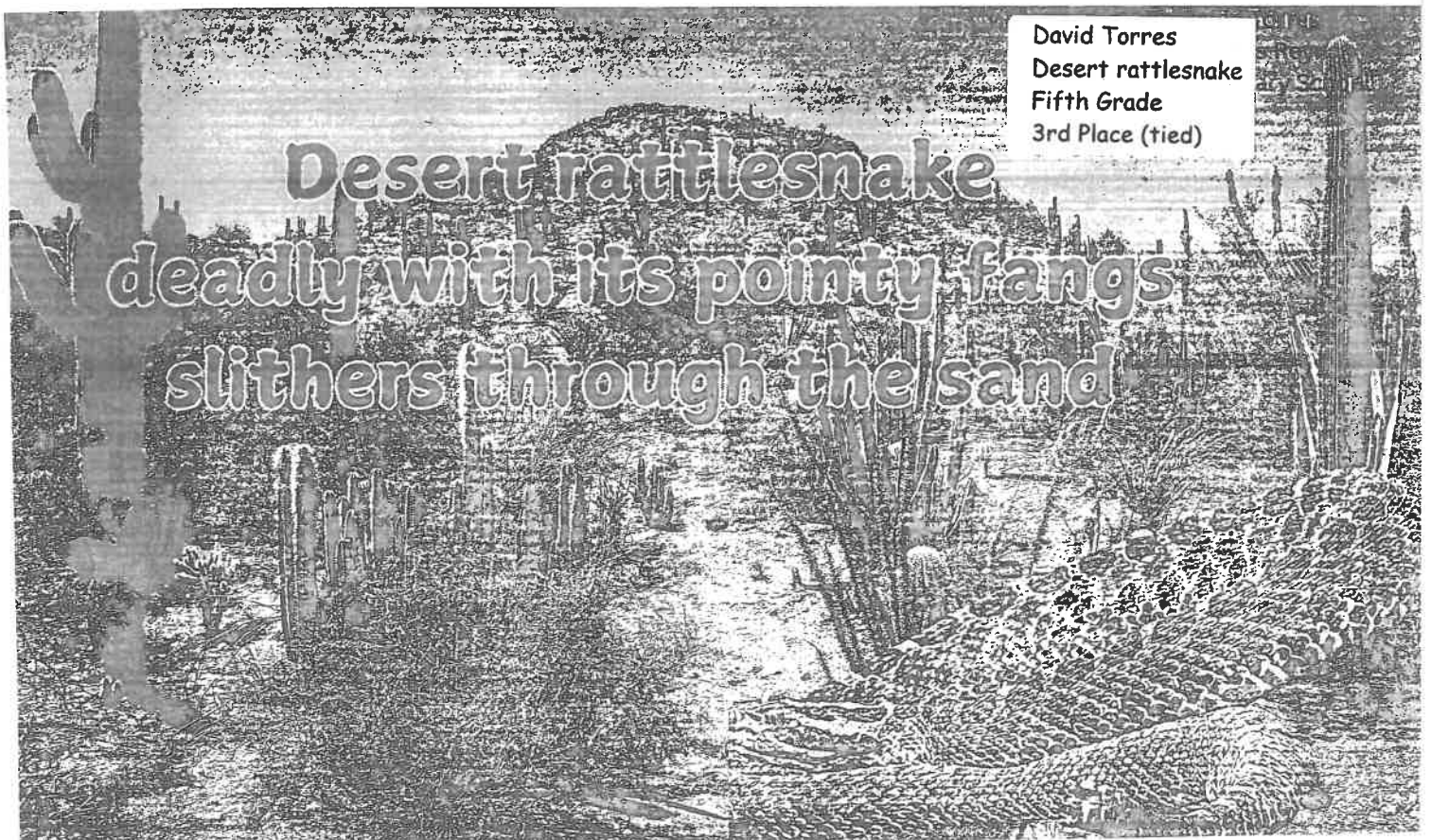
By: Mia Ramos Duarte

Mia Ramos Duarte

Egret

Fifth Grade

3rd Place (tied)



A cool breeze,
Warm sunlight shining down
Gently swaying trees,
A nice day away from town

Vibrant flowers all around,
Quails scattering about
Listening to the song bird's sound,
Each tall tree was once a sprout

The Desert, our home
Where the desert creatures roam

Maya Garcia
Untitled
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

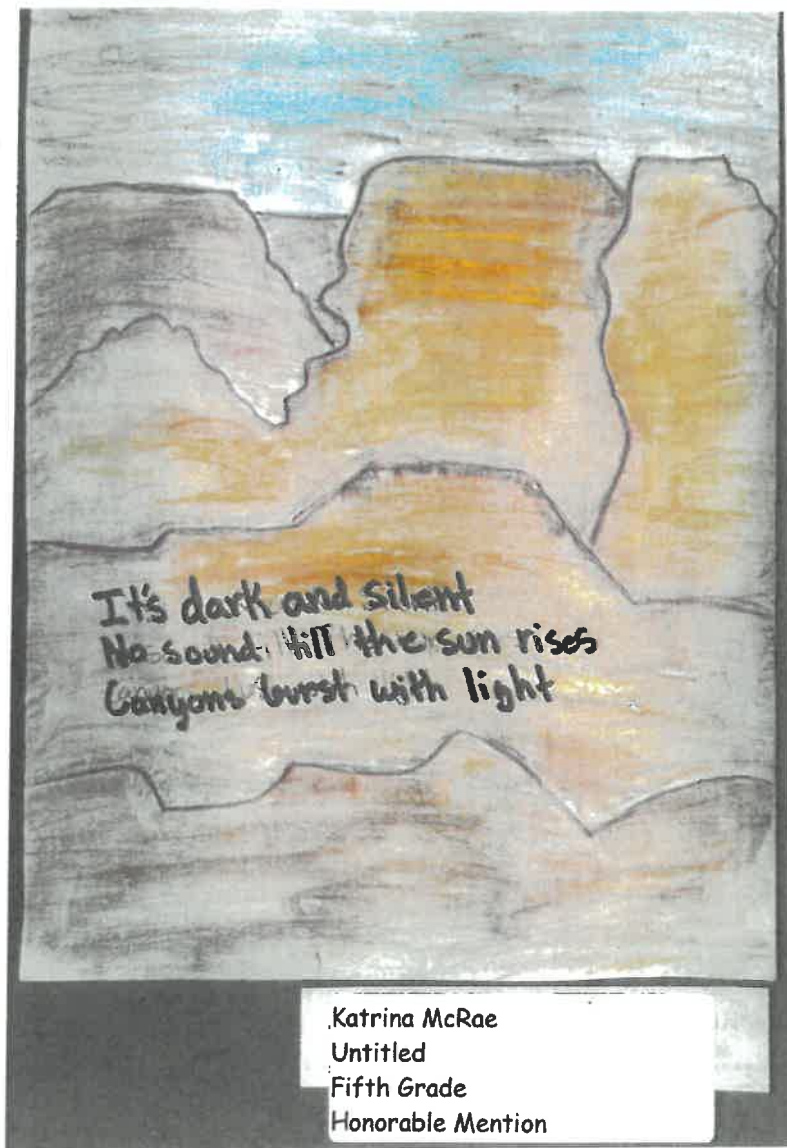
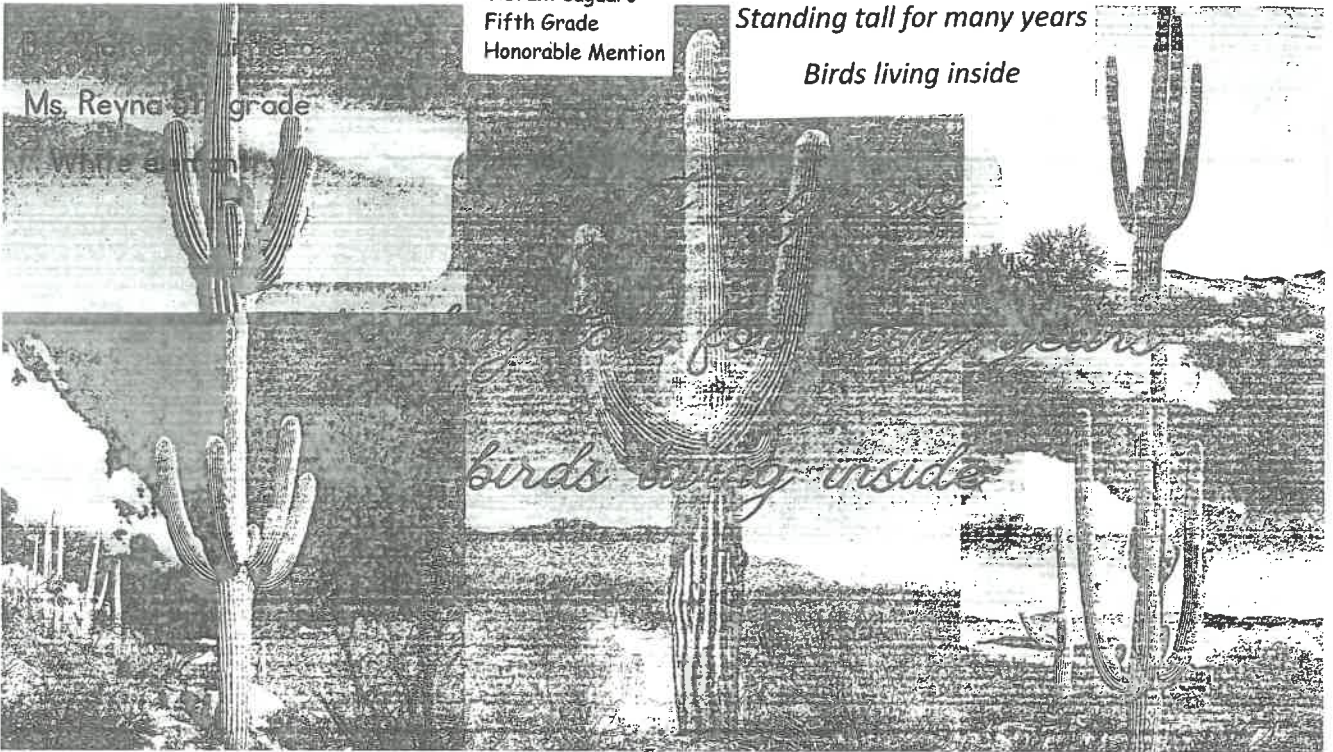


Victoria Quintero
Vibrant saguaro
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Vibrant saguaro

Standing tall for many years

Birds living inside



Katrina McRae
Untitled
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Jayden Soto
Sunset
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Sunset

Brilliant majestic

Stunning dazzling drizzling drops

Colors bursting in the heavens

Twilight

By: Jayden Soto

What You See On The Magical Mountain

When you go up "A" Mountain, what do you see?

You see the beautiful Tucson city lights that look like little stars

You hear the squeaking of the rock squirrels, and the songs of the songbirds

And see the different shapes of clouds that look like cotton

You see the white "A" that you can climb and play on, to see the view of Tucson

You also hear the flapping of the butterfly wings, and see the lizards around you

You see the ladybugs on the trees about to fly off to your hand

Now, go to "A" mountain to see this beautiful land!

Jazz Valenzuela

Jazz Valenzuela
What You See On The Magical Mountain
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

The Desert Thrives

***The desert thrives with life
At night and in the day
Animals drinking from the stream
Eating from the bug filled sands
The green cactus
The birds inside nesting
The desert thrives
Both day and night.***

Logan Romero
The Desert Thrives
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Super Plant

Dawn in the Desert

The sunsets paint the sky
So vivid to my eye
The animals I can see
Such as a coyote
So many things you can see
So come look at the desert with me

A home for animals

Green giant

Unique in many ways

A one in a million

Reaching high to the sky

Only in the desert terrain

Jayla Nelson
Dawn in the Desert
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Jessenya Whitley
saguaro acrostic
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Desert Life

*Birds start their cry
As morning light spreads over cacti
Animals begin to stir
And nocturnal hunters curl up for slumber
While the beautiful morning sky
Shines bright over the buzzing desert*

*Sun hanging high in wide skies
Squirrels dance in the sand chasing each other
Rattlesnakes slither
Through harsh undergrowth
Their rattle dangerous and threatening
Hot evening in the desert*

*Night chases day
Stars twinkle overhead of cacti
Nocturnal animals begin their hunt
Danger is thick in the air for prey
They scurry to find their fill,
Unaware of the hunters
Whose bright eyes cut through still darkness
This is life in the desert!*

Becca Kerns
Desert Life
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Sweet Filling, & Beautiful Red Fruits

Arms sticking out; resembles a human

Great, Beautiful Flowers

Uprooting as part of the life cycle

Amazing, Brilliant Water Storage System

Rare; grows only in the Sonoran Desert

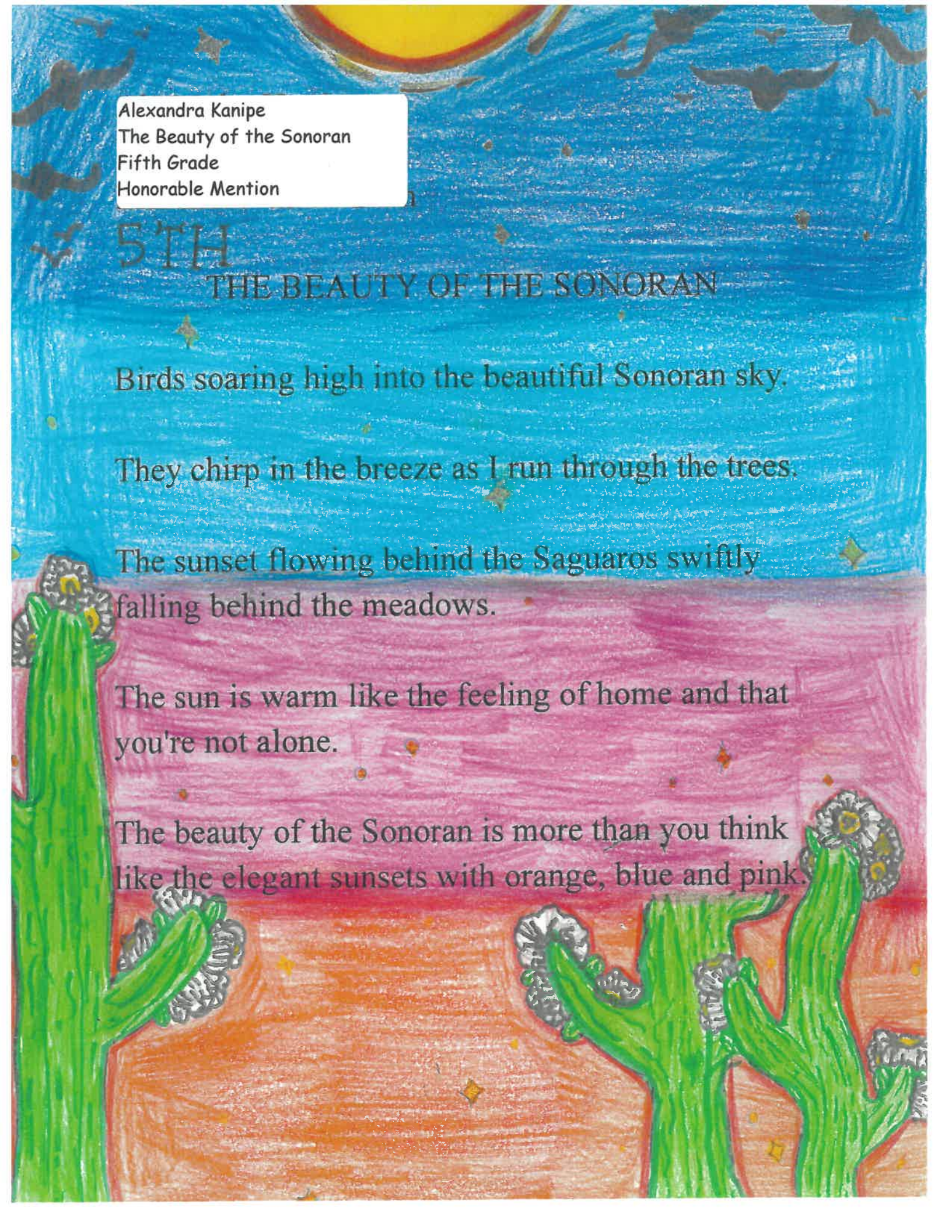
Old, grand history, important to natives

Wallace Carlisle
saguaro acrostic
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

Mageed Sawaya
bobcat running fast
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

*bobcat running fast
quietly hunting sweet food
quick and dangerous*





Alexandra Kanipe
The Beauty of the Sonoran
Fifth Grade
Honorable Mention

5TH

THE BEAUTY OF THE SONORAN

Birds soaring high into the beautiful Sonoran sky.

They chirp in the breeze as I run through the trees.

The sunset flowing behind the Saguaros swiftly
falling behind the meadows.

The sun is warm like the feeling of home and that
you're not alone.

The beauty of the Sonoran is more than you think
like the elegant sunsets with orange, blue and pink.