

# Grade 5 Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Place (tied), Overall Winner: Enakai Makino, The Perspective

1<sup>st</sup> Place (tied): Harriet Nelson, Monsoon

2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tied): Samadhi Valdez, purple prickly pear

2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tied): Braylon Doshier, Desert Dreams

2<sup>nd</sup> Place (tied): Hayden Baltrus, What It Means

3<sup>rd</sup> Place (tied): Sophia Garcia, desert marigold

3<sup>rd</sup> Place (tied): Mia Ramos Duarte, Egret

3<sup>rd</sup> 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

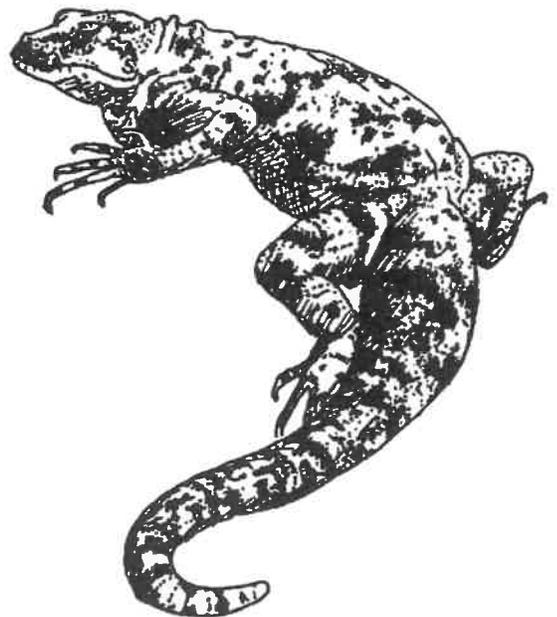
HM: Becca Kerns, Desert Life

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,  
It 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*

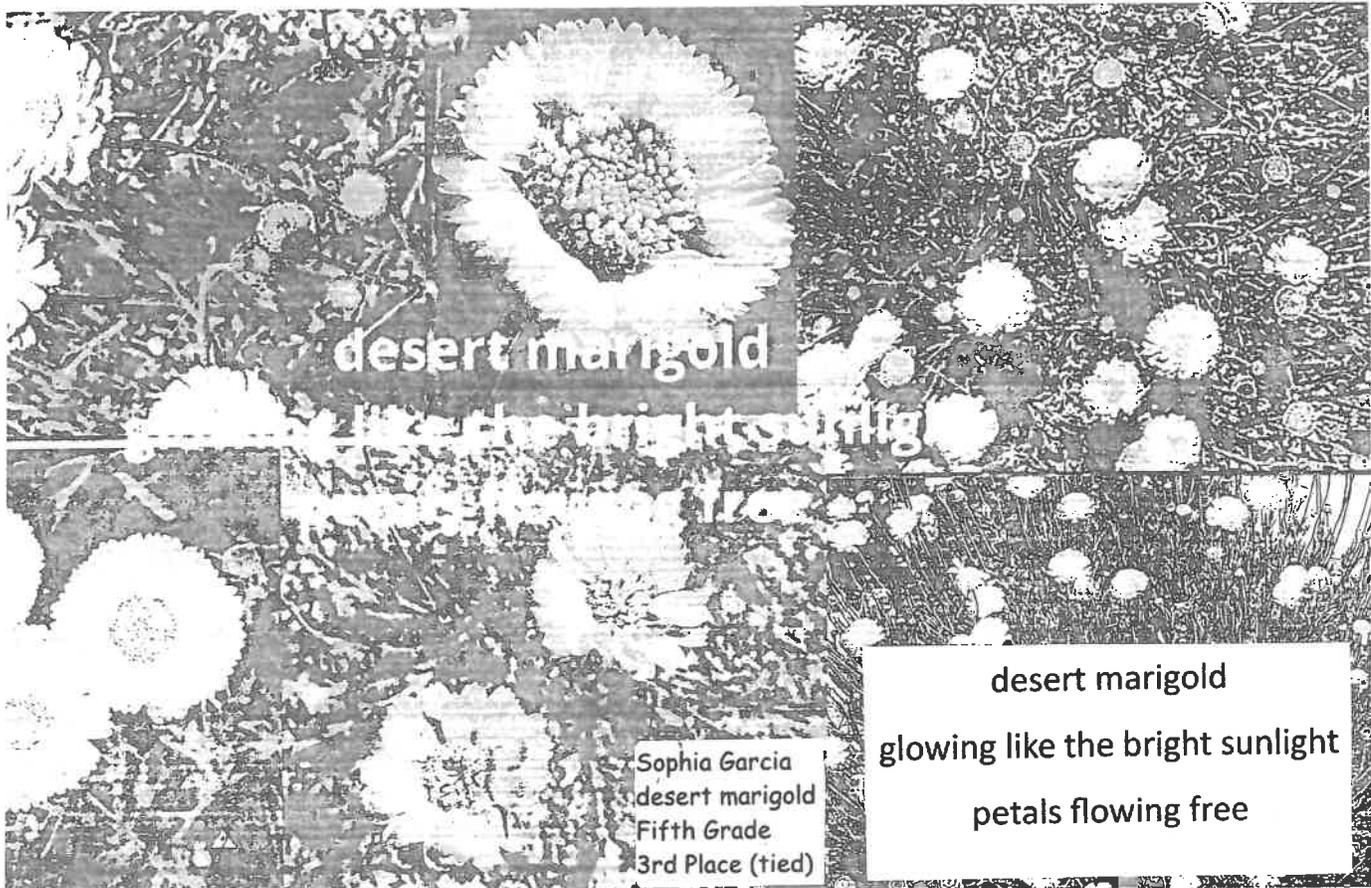
Braylon Doshier  
Desert Dreams  
Fifth Grade  
2nd Place (tied)

*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

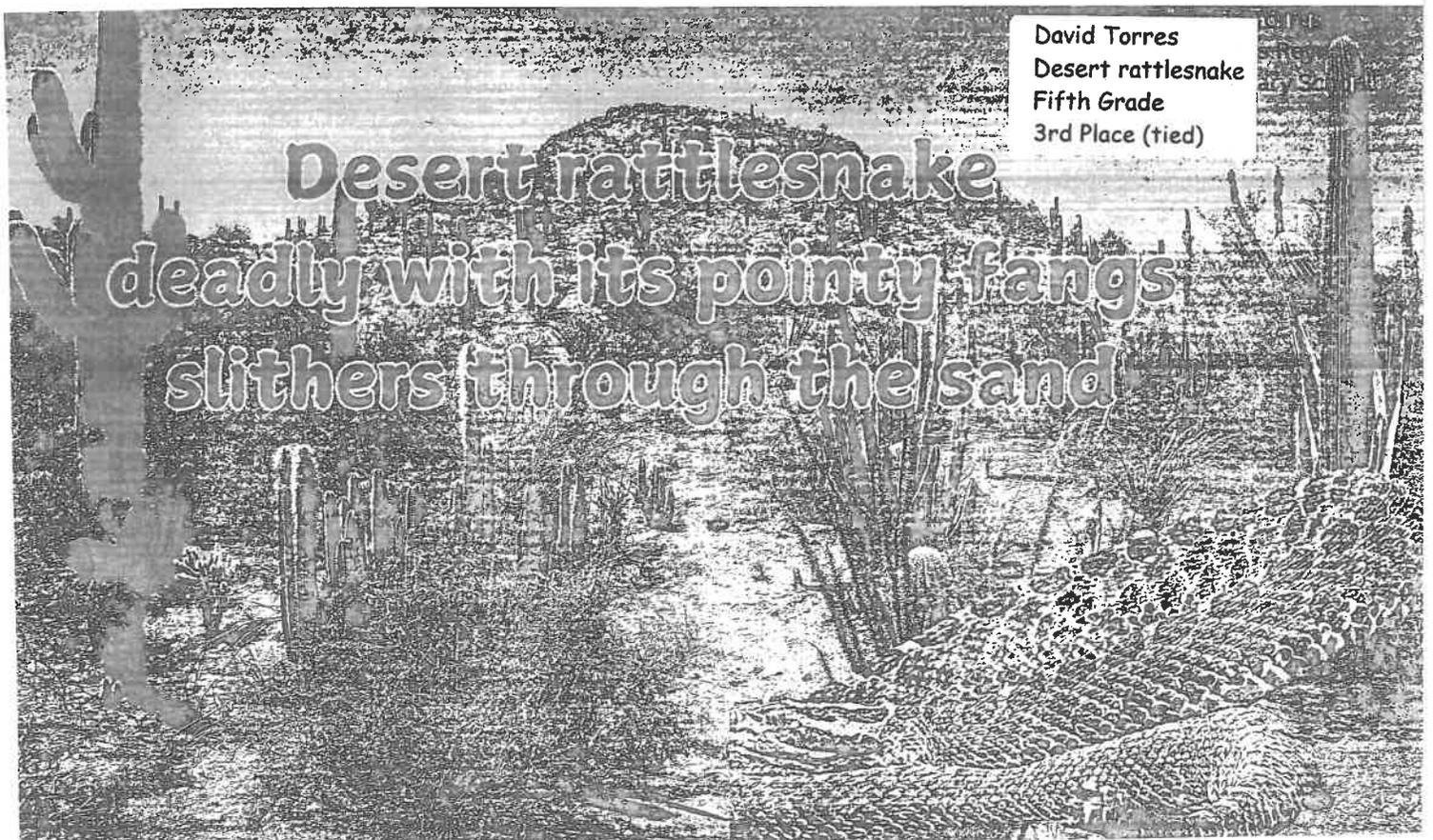
By: Mia Ramos Duarte

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

Maya Garcia  
Untited  
Fifth Grade  
Honorable Mention

Vibrant flowers all around,  
Quaib 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

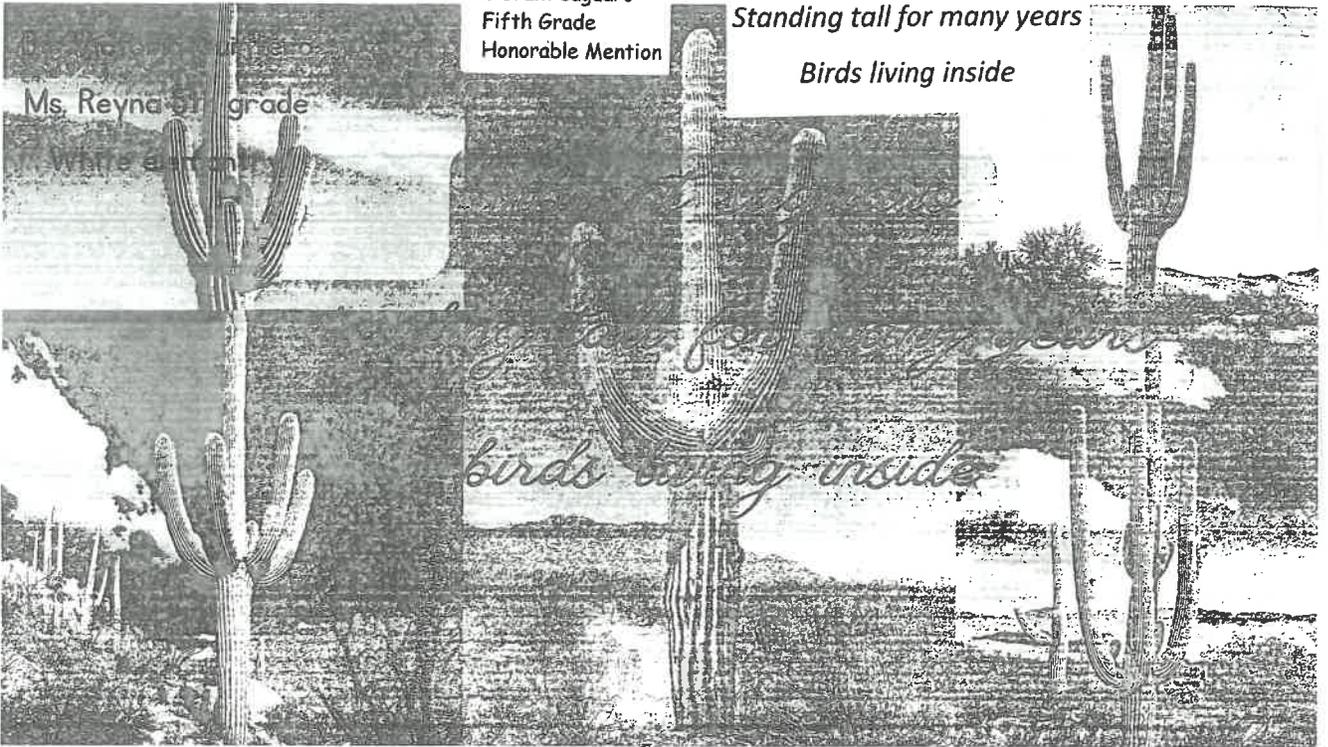


Victoria Quintero  
Vibrant saguaro  
Fifth Grade  
Honorable Mention

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

Jayla Nelson  
Dawn in the Desert  
Fifth Grade  
Honorable Mention

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

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 darkne  
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

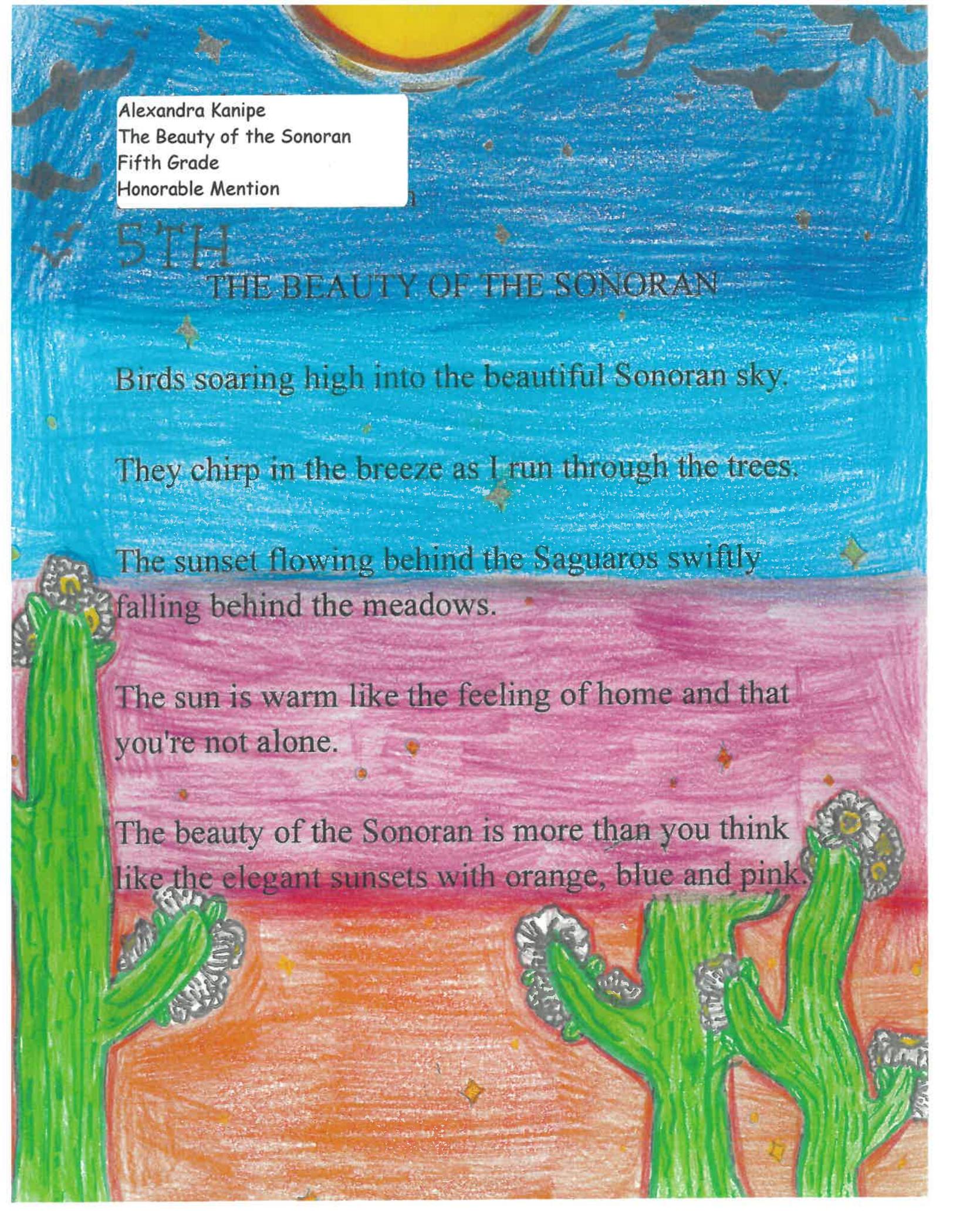
Old, grand history, important to natives

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

5<sup>TH</sup>

## 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.