



The Children's Rights Interest Group of Niagara

Sample 2008 National Child Day poem submissions

Her Rights

Carolyn
Bertie School, Gr. 8

She had thin clothes and holes in her socks,
No home, no family, just her cardboard box.

Why doesn't she know the rights she has?
About all the things children are allowed to have?
Like a home, clothes, and clean drinking water.
She's entitled to this, she's someone's daughter.

Without a say in anything for herself,
She had to put her childhood on the shelf.

Of all children she is but one,
Suffering together in need of someone.

What a waste, maybe she's capable of a lot but has no
chance to show it,
She could be somebody that makes a difference,

She deserves her rights.

Being Free From Harm —Our Right To Protection

Johnathan
St. Theresa, Gr. 6

We have the right to stay out of trouble,
To be free from harm.
We have the right to be safe and to stay safe.

Children have voices to be heard,
Children have feelings just like everyone else,
Children are unique in their own ways,
Children shouldn't be pushed around,
Children have the right to protection.

Will They Remember Me?

Ashley
Lakeview, Gr. 7

As the sun beats down
Blistered hands
It's heavy
Holding my heart in my hands
Surrounded
By sand
An abandoned island
Alone

Like a bird
No guidance for direction
Destination unknown
Forgotten

Beneath the shadows
A light
Waiting to shine
Stars in the sky
Relieved

The sun beings to fall
Like the petals of a flower
Painting a picture in the sky
Free

Does anyone hear our crying?
Or are we lost
A ship at sea
Waiting

Will they remember me?
Why would they?

I was a child
Seeking love and protection
The light at the end of the tunnel
Which I have found

Untitled

Alisen
Lakeview, Gr. 7

A foot needs a sock
To keep it safe,
To keep it warm.

They both need a shoe
To shield them from the harsh conditions,
To grow in until it's time to go.

A child needs its family
To keep it safe,
To warm its heart.

They both need a home
To shield them from the harsh conditions,
To grow in until it's time to go.

We are Very Lucky

Caleigh
Caistor Central School, Gr. 5

We are very lucky
Not to work all day.
We are very lucky
To know how to spell.
We are very lucky
To go to school every day.
We are very lucky
To know we are protected.
We are very lucky
To think everything will be better.
We are very lucky
To eat and drink happily.
We are very lucky
To have a home in which we live.
We are very lucky
To know we are safe.
We are very lucky
To be Canadian!

Enjoying Freedom

Adrian
St. Theresa, Gr. 4

Freedom is great I say.
It makes me happy to play.
With my freedom today.
It makes me say hooray!
I say hooray because
It's great to be safe another day
After school,
I feel like I rule.
It's great to be safe at school
And play.
To be safe.
I don't run away and I listen to my mom and dad.
To be safe for another day.

Child Youth Poem

Kerin
St. Theresa, Gr.7

Who am I?
Who are you?
We belong to this world too
So does that little boy
Without protection, only a toy.
I weep for him, without a home
On his own to wander and roam.
That little girl too,
Without a shoe
To run from a criminal.
This has to STOP
This cruel world of ours
All the little children, without any power.
Help me: help you, little children too,
Because there's a lot left we can do.