

1ST PLACE

“Who Are We?” by Brenan Poff, 6th Grade

We grow with you,
We make memories with you,
We cry with you,
We play with you,
We share with you,
We have fun with you.
Most of all, we give love to you.
Who are we?
We are the animals that give you life.

2ND PLACE

“Fido” by Elliot Shadle, 7th Grade

A little brown blur
Darting throughout the cage
With fluffy soft fur

This dog needs a home
So I took him home, no cage
Running through the grass

Sprinting, howling dog
Just a puppy, he is very young
He is filled with joy

But he spreads it to
With a heart full of pure love
He brings happiness

He is getting old
He is full grown and active
He still gives joy

He is older now
As the brown turns to grey
He no longer runs

He is very slow
There is still love in his heart
He still spreads his joy

He is getting sick
With one last look of joy, we
Say our last goodbye

He no longer runs
Howling, sprinting through the grass
But his joy lives on

In one life a dog
Gave me memories filled with joy
This dog added life

3RD PLACE

“The World’s Most Precious Prize” by Cara Couch, 6th Grade

A dog snoring on your lap
A cat as soft as a pillow
A light-feathered bluebird singing under a willow.

A hummingbird flutters her wings
She dances on the rose
And softly she sings

What we don't realize
Is right before our eyes
The beauty, the wonder
Of these animals, our prize.

They expand this universe
Pour beauty into our life
Their calm presence and soft, sweet touch
Demolishes all our strife.

So what I would advise –
Is to open your eyes
To the natural peacemakers
And this world's most precious prize.

HONORABLE MENTION

“A Girl’s Best Friend” by Melissa Meng, 8th Grade

Loud, eerie silence,
Fills my ears,
And haunts my soul,
Creeping nearer and nearer.

I stand alone,
Stone cold,
Lifeless,
Forgotten.

A sharp bark rings,
Distant, yet near.
Blurs of gold dash,
Tags jingle.

Nudging me on,
His presence, rejuvenating.
Embracing and warm,
The void shatters.

Colors burst through the room.
Reds dancing with blues,
All in unison,
In perfect harmony.

Silence flees,
Fur nestling in my lap.
Intoxicating tranquility,
We are one.

HONORABLE MENTION

“Animals Add Life” by Ella Hopkins, 6th Grade

Animals add life,
which is a delight.
They open up eyes,
to the light.
So hold on tight,
to the ones that are kind,
because those are hard to find.

Animals add life to those dreary days,
They add life with their sneaky ways.
Which has an effect of you being gay.
You can hug,
Or get snug,
either way.
They are supportive,
which keeps you from being assertive.

Animals add life didn't you know?
My grandpa had a dog long ago.
The dog was blind and could not see.
However she was the best dog to me
On a dreary and lonely day,
Bitsy would take all the blues away.

Animals add life
which is a delight.
They open up eyes,
to the light.
Hold on tight,
To the ones that are kind,
Because those are hard to find.