

How We Spent Our Summer Holidays..



by Prospects Literacy Association students

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Prospects Literacy Association

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by Prospects Literacy Students:

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foreword

The project was about writing. Writing in different places. Writing about different experiences. But before it could happen we needed some ideas. Where would these different places be? How would we choose them? Who would choose them? What would we write about?

As usual, the participants themselves answered the questions. You will find these answers in the following pages of this book, aptly entitled *How We Spent Our Summer Holidays*, for all of the activities took place in the summer.

It was a fun time for all of us. We visited the Edmonton Space and Sciences Center, the Valley Zoo and the Edmonton Police Department. Then, we returned to the classroom and did more writing.

This book is a compilation of our activities during that summer. It was written by adult literacy students at Prospects, and we hope you will enjoy it.

Happy reading!

Don Trembath

at the zoo



the zoo is a place

The zoo is a place to see all kinds of animals, like lions, tigers, bears, elephants, hippos and camels. If it wasn't for zoos, thousands of people would never see these animals, except in books, which is completely different. Many animals feel safe and secure in zoos and are alive today because of them.

Laurel Hubert



zoo dreams

I would like to be a sea lion and swim
in the pool all day and eat fish.

I would like to take home a monkey
and train him as a house pet.

Tim McCaskill



at the space & science centre



Things we know about space:

- you are weightless
- you can see shooting stars
- man has been there
- there are different kinds of rocks
- you have to be in good condition to be an astronaut (like in Apollo 13)
- there is a lot of technical stuff involved with the satellites
- you have to be smart to go to the moon
- there is moon dust on the moon
- you can see stars from the moon
- we have never been to any of the planets, just the moon
-

Things we know about science:

- you dissect frogs
- you work with beakers
- Galileo discovered the solar system
- Newton discovered the laws of gravity
- Benjamin Franklin discovered electricity
- H₂O is water
- chemicals are valuable to your lifestyle
- beans germinate
- science is a world that is never-ending
- science is a mystery



if

If I was an astronaut I would like to go to the moon and be the first person to step on the moon like Neil Armstrong, except that I couldn't be that anymore because he already did it.

Tim McCaskill

look up

Look up, what's that? Isn't it beautiful? The stars, the planets, our Universe. I've looked into the sky on many occasions but not once did I see what I saw on that starry night. Could I, should I even attempt to explain what I felt? What I saw? Other than just to say WOW, what a sight?

Candice Smuda

space and stars

On a calm summer night I look up at the sky and the sun has just gone down. I see the moon now, and a lot of stars. The planets are behind them. I believe this is the house of God, and I know He takes good care of us, and all that he created.

Palmira Baretta



at the police station



laurel & andy

The thing that impressed me most was the Bomb Squad. They have a robot called Andy that can do almost anything. It can go over snow, ice, rocks and water. It has two cameras, one in the front and one in the back, and a high voltage light that lights up everything. Andy takes black and white and coloured pictures. Andy can carry 200 pounds and pull up to 500 pounds. The police officer operating Andy is very cute.

Laurel Hubert



police story

I got to see the life of a cop who was on a SWAT team. We met up with him and toured around the downtown station as he told us of his magnificently dangerous job. To my amazement I found myself afraid for him, not wanting any one man to go through such events. He showed us his equipment and let us hold a gun or two. I found myself afraid to even be near them. I spoke to God just then to pray for such violence to just go away. Although I do know that just won't be so. My fear for the victims, for the heroes, just won't go away.

Candice Smuda



police story

If I was a police officer, I would apply for the easiest job and do my best at it so I wouldn't have to do anything else.

Tim McCaskill



911

The communication room is where the police take the 911 calls and and tell people that help is on the way.

Tim McCaskill



911

I am one of the survivors of Black Friday, July 31, 1987, the day the tornado hit Edmonton. I was leaving work with my crew of five men. We saw the funnel cloud. Our vehicles were destroyed. Everything around us was torn apart. When it was over, we hugged each other and cried. Nobody said anything. Then we called the police.

Joses Soares

911

I called 911 when my husband was very sick. The woman told me to stay calm. About two minutes later, an ambulance arrived. The next day, the woman called to ask me if everything was okay. I thought that was very nice.

Soon Nam Sabulka

at school



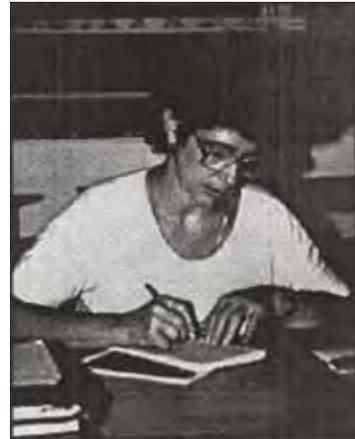
reasons to read

- The more you read, the more you learn
- To get ahead
- To communicate
- To work
- To drive
- To proofread what you've written
- To teach your children
- To find out what's going on in the world
- To read prescriptions
- To enjoy books



reasons to write

- It makes you want to look around and write about the things that are not getting better in today's world
- To help myself
- To help other people if they need any help
- To be able to communicate and understand better
- To not forget things
- To make your job easy and more interesting
- To make money
- I like to write what I remember about the old days so my grandchildren will know where grandma is coming from



I get frustrated with my writing when:

- I can't get it right
- I don't know what to say
- I have to write my friend in Egremont
- I have to think too much about my spelling
- I have too many cheques to write
- The sound of the words- doesn't match the spelling
- I want to write a word but I don't know how
- I am unsure of myself
- Someone says, "you could do better"



I like writing because

- I can do it myself
- It makes me feel good
- It helps me remember the past
- I can write my emotions out
- I enjoy it
- It relieves my stress
- I need the exercise
- It's my job
- I can make up stories
- It wins me praise and acknowledgement
- I can find out my mistakes
- I can write to my family back home in Jamaica
- I can help my children with their writing

