#### The Amazing Pumpkin

By Brianna Smithwick
Turtle Creek Elementary STEAM Academy

When I was six, my mom and I started to plant pumpkins. We would watch them grow indoors. Sometimes it seemed as if they were growing bigger every hour! I remember doing a puzzle one day and by the time we were finished, the pumpkin plants looked bigger! Then, we would plant them outdoors. They would grow big and fast, huge and tall. The pumpkins were very fun to watch, and they continued to grow right in front of our eyes.

Every year, my mom and I continue to plant pumpkins. These days, our pumpkins grow so fast that they need to be picked a month early. We carve them into jack-o-lanterns for Halloween and bake the seeds. Sometimes we bake them into pies for Thanksgiving. I love pumpkins because they have it all! They are healthy, they have flowers, they come in many pretty colors, you can eat the seeds, and turn them into pies. What more could you want from a vegetable as amazing as the pumpkin?

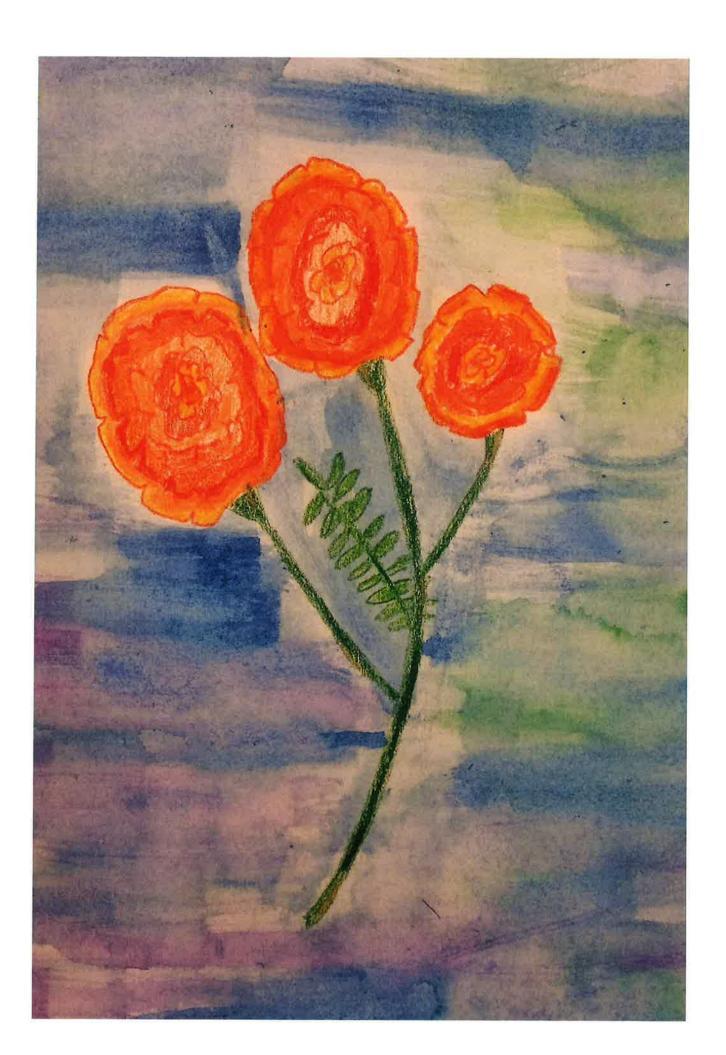


### The Big Marigold Bush

# Charlotte Kovach Grade 5 Turtle Creek Elementary STEAM Academy

My mom and I plant marigolds every year. I love planting with her. On our deck, there is a small container that contains marigold seeds. I always wondered why we had so many marigold seeds, and out of all flowers why marigolds? So, I asked, "Mom, why do we have so many marigold seeds"? She told me that they were my great grandmother's seeds, and had been passed down to her mom, and then her. That was in summer, now it is fall.

The marigolds we planted in the spring had overgrown into several big, pretty bushes. I went to a pumpkin patch and saw some marigolds on the way there. They were so small that I thought they were a different kind of marigold. Then, I saw some at the pumpkin patch. They were slightly different from the ones I saw on the way there, but they were still so small! When I got home, I looked up marigolds on the Internet and in almost all the pictures the marigolds were small. I realized that not only were our big, beautiful marigolds our marigolds, but they were special. I am so happy because my mom told me that I will be the next owner of the marigold seeds.



#### Michigan Days

#### Adrienne Morgan

One warm summer day, in Michigan we were walking around the green lawn and suddenly, right in front of me was a big pear tree. The tree's arms stretched up to the sky. The pears looked so sweet and vibrant. The colors were light, yet bright to my eyes.

My mom, my brother, and I started walking to the big pear tree. The second we picked a pear and bit into it, I suddenly got very happy. The pear was the juiciest thing I had had all day. It was as juicy as a ripe watermelon. Finally, the day ended and we went inside. What a great Michigan day, thanks for a juicy pear and a beautiful pear tree.



## The Woods So Beautiful

Riley Matson Graham

Oh the woods so beautiful The trees stand tall

And the colors stand out in a crowd

A long path out deeper

Oh yes the woods so beautiful

My sister and I would play in the woods in all the seasons. In winter we would slide down the steep slick hill that led down to the path

whoosh

We would go all morning before school we would be devastated when our mom said to come in.

In the spring sometimes we would go down in the woods and go down to the little creek at the middle of the woods. It looked like a valley in the middle of nowhere. One time we found a big purple ball that we brought back although our dog popped it.

POP and it was loud!

In the summer we would walk through the woods to clear our minds.

In the fall we would take a long rake like my mom's big black rake. Then we would reach far down and pull up.

ugh we said as the leaves came up and we would rake them into a pile. Then, the best part, jumping in the leaves. It was so fun, as fun as a birthday party.



The woods was always a good woods to play in, jump in the leaves, slide down the hill, go down to the creek and just take walks to clear minds, and find a purple ball that your dog pops. Oh yes, the woods so beautiful.



#### Leaf and Oak

By: Eric Walters and Tony Griggle

We were moving houses to a town in New Jersey. I was quite sad, but I was excited at the same time. When we were done packing our things, we drove off to our new house. I looked outside and saw a big, lush tree. I really wanted to climb to the top, but I decided to wait until It was 6:00 am in the morning.

When the time came, I went outside to climb the huge tree. I tried over and over to climb it. My arms ached. I tried my best and eventually, I reached one the lowest branch of the big tree. "Now I know how to climb the tree," I whispered to myself. But all of a sudden, my parents yelled, "Get inside for breakfast Eric!". I knew though, that I would have to reach the very top soon. The next day, right when I got home from school I started working to climb the tree. I tried nearly all day, and even skipped dinner. It was 5:00pm. Eventually after trying all day, I reached the top of the tree. I looked around at the neighborhood below me.

The next day, I told my parents and they were proud of me for facing such a challenge. I was too. And since then I've loved the tree. The next day I kept trying to conquer the tree multiple times. But that was the only time I conquered the tree.



#### **Sunflower**

A couple years ago my grandmother got us tickets to go to a sunflower exhibit, now every spring we plant sunflowers. In 2020, when the pandemic started, my grandma really got into gardening. In May, when the pandemic lifted a bit, she got me and her tickets to go to a sunflower exhibit. She was so excited and so was I. In the class they gave us tips and tricks to help our sunflowers grow and now she made it a tradition for us to plant sunflowers every year in a gorgeous flower field.

By: Savannah Mastromonaco & McKenna Puskar 5th Grade



Leela Norman Grade 5 Edgewood Elementary Steam Academy

#### Huckleberrys Are Griffritate

I love Huckleberrys
They are my favorite fruit
I pick them every summer vacation
They are a sensation

My whole family loves them
My brother is named after it
Huck is his name
It is famous in this fam

I love to pick and eat them They are so delish They are my favorite dish



Mitlower Gorden-34 Adelaide B. Scott, Second grade period Steam. Academy 1 make bees happy



