

POEMS

The Bay Area Writing Project's Young Writers' Camp (<http://www.bayareawritingproject.org/>), for students entering grades 4-8, came to Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School for three weeks this summer. The hours of writing culminated in a public reading by the youthful authors of their own work at the Storyteller in Lafayette. We invited the writers to send us some of their creations— we hope you enjoy these two poems by elementary school students:

I Am

By Addison Naton

(The first two words of each line were provided to the writer)

I am cool

I wonder what would happened if I was a squirrel

I see my friends around me

I hear my family telling me I'm special

I want my family to love me

I am myself

I pretend I am a warrior

I feel that I must right the wrong

I enjoy to play with my family

I like to see who I love happy

I respect all people

I am myself

I understand war is evil

I say we should stop war

I dream that I can make a difference

I try to make people respect Earth

I hope war stops and Earth gets cleaned up

I am myself

Beach

By Ava Tajbakhsh

My special place is the beach

The sun in my hair, the sand on my feet

I lay on a towel, getting a tan

I run in the water again and again

I swim with the dolphins

(yeah, I wish...)

I'm lucky if I see a fish!