

*I speak freely and friendly and clearly...
Yearning for colors, for flowers,
for the voices of birds,
thirsting for words of kindness.*

DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

1946



Abby Morgan

I like to go to parks and go out to dinners with my parents. I like to snuggle with my mom. I like when my dad takes me out to get candy. My favorite color is turquoise. I'm five and a half. I love to eat pad thai. I'm good at climbing. I like to go to the park and to ASP. I used to have two pets, then I got guppies, then I got an albino fish. It makes me happy when my mom gives me candy. I feel sad when I don't get to stay up at night time.



Abby by Kenzie



Alexis Drake

I love to go to Dairy Queen after school with my mom to get an Oreo Blizzard. I like to go to the park with my dad. He pushes me on the swings. My brother, Hayden, and I like to play run and chase around the table. Hayden always wins. He's really fast! My favorite color is pink. I'm five years old, but my mommy thinks I'm six! I'm really good at riding a two-wheeled bike. I can go faster than anybody! I'm really good at riding on my skateboard. I like to play on the swings in the playground, too!



Alexis by Jillian



Alyssa Knoerle

I like to go inside the Eiffel Tower with my mom (not in the winter, in the summer.) I love to ride horses in Paris with my mom. It's awesome. I love to look at my dad's pictures of China. It's a big place! My dad's been to every city in China, I think! I love the picture he took in China of a sunset by the river. I'm really good at making masterpieces and that's why I like working hard in the Atelier. I felt sad when my hamster, Clifford, bit my finger because he thought it was a carrot. I love to play with friends that are nice to me!



Alyssa by Alexis



Benjamin Krieger

I like to go to the Magic House with my mom. I like to paint designs and colors with my dad. I'm good at doing somersaults on my bed. I like to be out on the playground at school riding bikes. I love to eat brownies—I make them with help from my mom; she says the ingredients and I put them in. I feel happy playing with my kittens; I play with them and pet them. I feel sad when I hear about people in my family or cats in my family that died.



Benjamin by Dylan



Chloe Hayes

I love to go to the park, birthday parties and the zoo with my mom. I like when my mom helps me on the computer and I like to sleep on her lap. I go to the fire station with my dad and play video games with him. My dad and I like to draw important things that need to be done. I'm going to start helping him design some things that he makes. I love to do artwork because it makes me think about things I like and new things I want to try.



Chloe by Abby



Chloe Peters

I like to watch movies and eat popcorn when it's girl night with my mom and my sister. I like to eat orange cream snow cones with my dad at Snowball. I like to play "snake in the grass" with my sister, Caitlin. She lets me play with her friends. I'm really good at running, coloring and doing cartwheels. Sometimes I run with my sister. We race to hug my dad. If I win, she gives me a piece of candy. She gives me candy even if it's a tie. Parties make me happy.



Chloe by Sophie



Colin Fitzgerald

I like to make chocolate chip and sugar cookies with my mom. I like to work down in the basement with my dad. I'm good at making crafts like ornaments. I like to work in the Atelier. I like to draw pictures of *Star Wars* in my notebook. I have two cats that I like to pet. My family makes me happy and I'm happy I have them. I like to learn new things like spelling and reading. My favorite books are about cars and ninjas.



Colin by Ronald



Dylan Wells

I like to play checkers and tic-tac-toe with my mom. I like to ride on my jet ski with my dad at our lake house and to go with him to baseball and football games. I'm good at playing baseball; I like being the catcher. My favorite colors are red and grey. I'm six and I like to play Legos with my brothers. I think it would be great to be in the 5th grade at The College School because you can catch Monarch butterflies. I love to eat salad. I wish I had a fish, a bird that talks, like a parrot, and a chinchilla.



Dylan by Benjamin



Elise Keller

There are three things I love to do: going bike riding, playing tennis and going over to my aunt's house to walk her dog, Molly. I also like to go to the park with my mom. I'm really good at tennis and can almost get the ball over the net! Sometimes my dad takes me to the Bread Co. kitchen to see all the supplies and give me a cookie. I like to help my dad at home when he makes chili. I can stir the chili and add the ingredients. I'm always a great girl.



Elise by Alyssa



Ella Hasek

I'm everybody's friend and my dog, Sadie, is wild and fluffy. She's crazy. Sometimes she can hurt you and scratch you. Sometimes she chews on my toys. I like when my grandma picks me up on Thursday and when my older grandpa takes me to the Science Center. I like to play with my dad and Sadie. One time we played together and she tackled me. My mom helps me do a lot of things in my room and she helps me with my summer book. I like to play games with my sister and my friends.



Ella by Elise



Ivy Fitzsimmons

My favorite food is strawberries and blueberries. I love getting hugs and kisses and tickle time from my mom. I like to eat Chinese food with my dad. My sister, Lily, and I have fun playing outside on our swing. I like to play with my friend, Lyndsey, who lives two doors down. I'm really good at drawing pictures of sunsets. When I see my mom by accident during school, it makes me feel happy. I like to spend time in the 4th grade room with Jillian—we like to hold Dobby, the chinchilla. He feels like hot air!



Ivy by Sophie



James Gillardi

I like to go to the train store and look at trains with my mom. I like to play with model trains down in the basement with my dad. We got train tracks for Christmas! I'm really good at riding my scooter. I like to play war with my dog, Lucy...I always win! I like to play with Legos at centers in the Kindergarten room. I like to do all sorts of cool stuff!



James by Jean-Martin



Jamie Seitz

My mom makes funny faces and it makes me laugh. I always see rainbows with her. I like to call my mom on her cell phone. She lets me make my own food and my favorite thing to make is sandwiches! I like to play video games and wrestle with my dad. I work on cool projects with my dad. I have fun playing Zingo with my brother. I'm really good at soccer and football. I love to play soccer with my dad and my mom.



Jamie by Tommy



Jean-Martin Gerchen

I like to ride my two-wheeler with my mom. All the colors are my favorite. I'm five. I'm good at drawing pictures of myself with 47 legs. I love to go to the Science Museum with my dad. I love to spend time on the playground riding on the 2-wheeled scooter. I love bagels. I love to eat them every day. I feel really happy when I'm with my mom.



Jean-Martin by Max



Jillian Bhuyan

I like to watch jellyfish movies with my mom. I like to play "polar bear" with my dad. My favorite colors are pink and blue. I'm six and I'm really good at jumping rope. I love to go swimming in the summer and I like to be outside at school. I like to collect stuff like acorns and leaves and rocks because they are really cool. My favorite food is spaghetti. I have a dog named Sam. My family makes me feel happy. I really like to play games like cards and tag and hide and go seek. I like to play with Sophie.



Jillian by Ella



Kenzie Akins

I like to play with my cat toys with my mom. My favorite thing to do with my dad is to jump on his big trampoline. Cheese and sausage pizza is my favorite food. Recess is my favorite time of day at The College School because playing outside makes me feel happy. I'm really good at jogging in Dave's gym class, too. I like to play the *Clifford* game on PBSKIDS.org and I like that I can go there all by myself.



Kenzie by Kristin



Kristin Belcher

My name is Kristin Semaj Belcher. My middle name is my dad's name backwards! I love to play hide and seek with my mom and my brother. I like to spend time with my big sister, Chanel. I love to go to Red Lobster with my dad. I think playing dress-up in the Kindergarten room is fun. I like to pretend to be a sister or a baby. I like to watch *Arthur* or *Cyberchase* on TV. Hugs make me feel really happy.



Kristin by Chloe



Max Heuer

I like to use blocks to build skate parks with my mom. I like to play Hot Wheels cars with my dad. My favorite color is turquoise, same color as Abby. I'm six. My favorite fruit is apples. I'm good at building houses with blocks. I like to spend time in ASP. I have six pets: two bearded dragons, two dogs and two frogs. What makes me feel sad is when I can't stay up until midnight.



Max Heuer by Max



Max Odell

I like to make books. I'm writing one now. When I'm at school, I like to work in the Atelier. I like to wrestle with my dad and I always win. I'm good at kicking balls and dribbling the basketball. I love to play kickball with Jean-Martin and Ronald. I like to play tug of war with my dog, Rufus: I won three times and lost three times. When guests come over to my house, I feel happy. I like going to my grandparent's cottage in Ottawa. Everybody should know that I'm really good at kickball.



Max by James



Ronald Wagner

I like when my mom gives me surprises. I like when my Auntie Stacey comes over. I like when my Mimi lets me jump on her bed and takes me to school. I love playing miniature golf with my dad. My favorite color is light red because you can hardly see it. I'm good at drawing Sponge Bob and houses and dogs. I love to play in my backyard. I have lots of balls to play with: volleyballs and basketballs and footballs. I love to eat bacon with my family and I love to play with Legos at centers in the Kindergarten room.



Ronald by Colin



Sophie Dehler

I like to play with my stuffed animals with my mom.
I love to bake apple crisp and blueberry pie with my dad.
I like to try to make my brother, Noah, laugh. I'm good at playing soccer. I like to draw in the Atelier. Ballet makes me feel happy and in June I will have a dance recital. I'll get to wear a pretty costume! If people call me names, I would feel sad. I would ignore them if they did that. I like dogs a lot and I'd like to get one!



Sophie by Chloe



Sophie Dickey

I like to bake chocolate chip cookies with my mom and I like to play catch with my dad. I love to play "fishy" with my brother, John. My favorite shirt is my favorite color, pink. I'm good at coloring hearts. I like to play house with Jillian. I like to spend time in the lighthouse in the Kindergarten room. My favorite food is chicken noodle soup. I feel happy when Jilly is around. Not many people know that my middle name is Rose.



Sophie by Ivy



Thommy Messmer

I like to play with my dog, Bailey. She doesn't bite anymore because she went to puppy school. Giving my dog kisses makes me happy. I like to plant tulips and thorn plants with my dad. One day, me and my dad grilled tomatoes. I like when my mom takes me to the toy store. I love to play with my Nintendo DS. I like to give my sister Isabel piggy back rides at recess.



Thommy by Jamie

Who am I? This question follows humans from cradle to grave as we seek to shape, deconstruct, and reform our identity. Our identity is comprised of the essential qualities that the sentient person has of him- or herself and can be expressed in self-assessments that involve physical, psychological and social attributes. These qualities are influenced by and, in turn, continue to influence the individual's attitudes, behaviors, beliefs, habits, and ideas.

Like Socrates, Plato, Locke, Hume, and James, this project of self-ness is a journey to the substance of the person that can endure throughout life regardless of the circumstances of a transient time and place. Jean-Paul Sartre describes this type of self-consciousness as being "non-positional," in that it is not from any location in particular but is from within the core of each person.

As the Atelierista, Liz was interested in understanding with the children an epistemological sense of personal understanding that is the core. Thus, the conversations mined times, events, and people that make us all happy. They explored tangible and intangible items that provoke myriad emotions. Equally, they acknowledge that

personhood comes with adversity and sadness. From these stories of self, the children created their identity in pen and pencil reflecting a sophisticated detailing that is parallel to their self-awareness that forms their true identity. As their portrayals of other classmates in clay exhibit, the awareness of self infuses their perception of everything including each other. Thus exploring the knowledge of self becomes another language for the child to create meaning and understanding of all life. As Daniel Dennett, contemporary American philosopher of mind and consciousness, noted:

People constantly tell themselves stories to make sense of their world, and they feature in the stories a character, and that convenient but fictional character is the self.

As you see, the work of story and identity lends itself to multiple understandings and offers both conceptual and practical attributes which, in richness and accessibility, will be appreciated by those who know and desire for more authentic and stimulating experiences with young children.

BRIAN D. CRISP, 2008



The College School

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Who we Are

R. Berger Archive

The College School