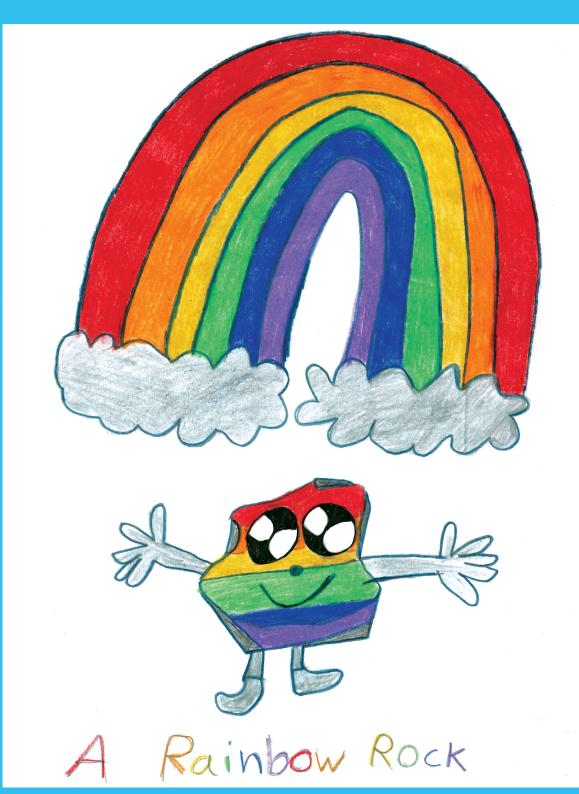
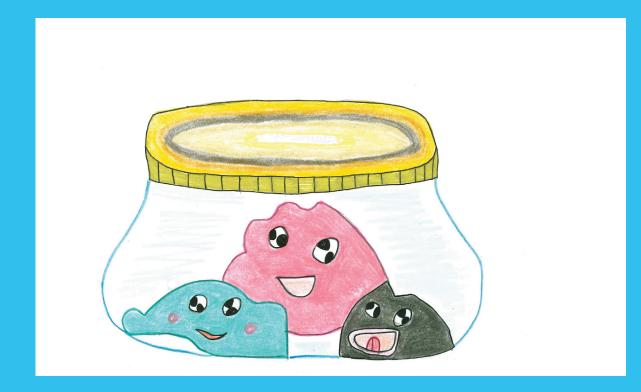
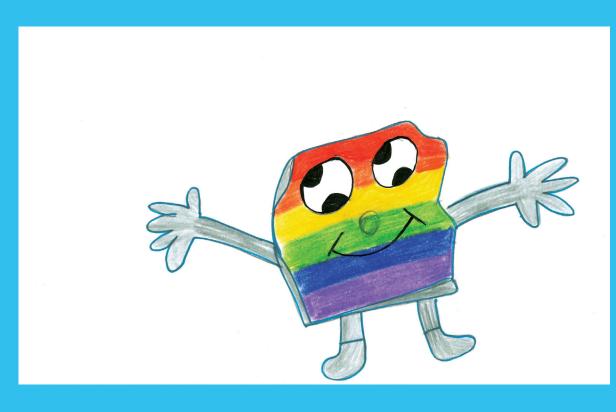


SECOND GRADE: 1st Place "A Rainbow Rock" by Ivan Coral Academy of Science









Once upon a time, there were rocks in a jar. They were carefully collected by a boy who loved them all. Quartz was pink, Obsidian was black, and Turquoise was turquoise. They were happy to be together, until...Crash! Bang! Thud! A big rough rock fell on them. Right into the jar! "How ugly!" said Quartz. "How rude!" said Obsidian. And Turquoise just turquoisily turquoised.

The new rock was not pink, it was not black, and it was not turquoise. The boy painted it red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. It was a beautiful rainbow color, but the other rocks did not like it.

"Rocks like you don't exist!" said Quartz.

"What are you doing here?" asked Obsidian.

"Turquoise out of here!" yelled Turquoise.

The rock was sad. Was it his fault he was so different? One day, the boy was playing in the gazebo with his rocks. The rain came and went away quickly, but something wonderful was left in the sky; something Quartz, Obsidian, and Turquoise had never seen before.

"What a beauty!" said Quartz.

"What a miracle!" said Obsidian.

"What a turquoise!" said Turquoise.

The rainbow rock looked at the sky. He saw a wonderful arch of colors. Then he looked at himself. What a surprise! They all were on him in the same order.

"I am a rainbow! I am a rainbow!" proudly shouted the rock. The other rocks were amazed.

"No, you are a rock from the sky!" said Quartz.

"No, you are a tiny rainbow on the ground!" said Obsidian.

"No, you are a WONDER!" said Turquoise.

The rocks hugged each other.

They began to live peacefully in the jar, until...



