



WRITERS CONTEST

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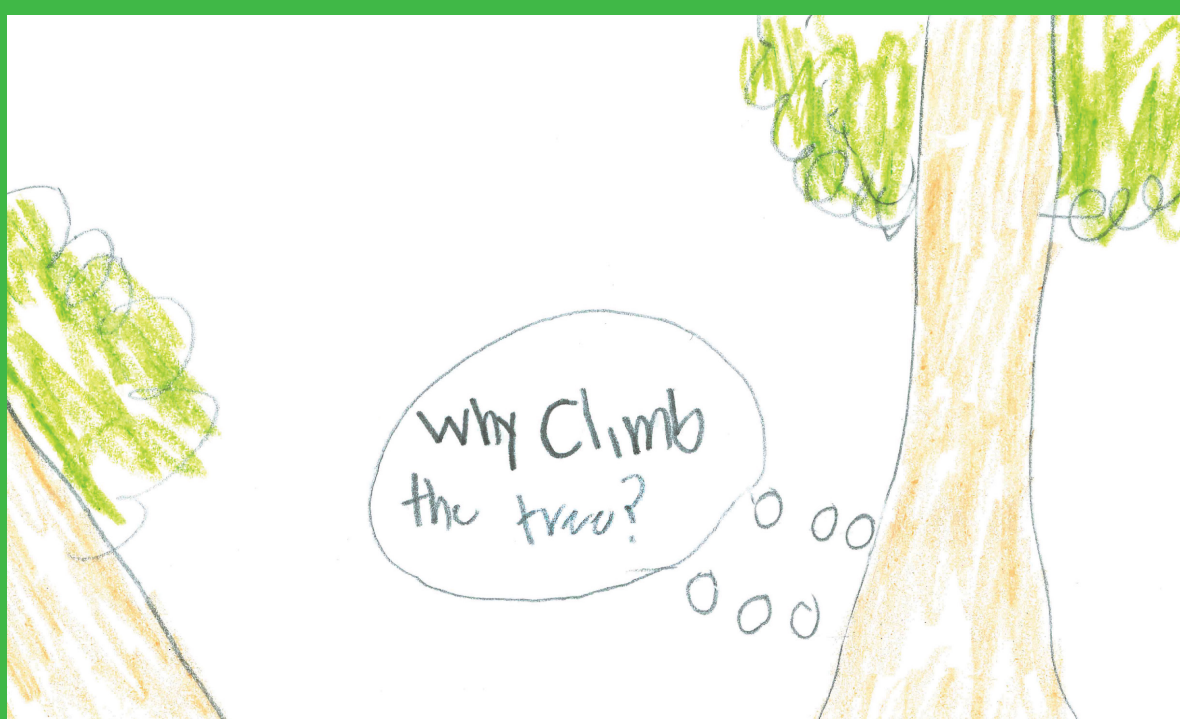
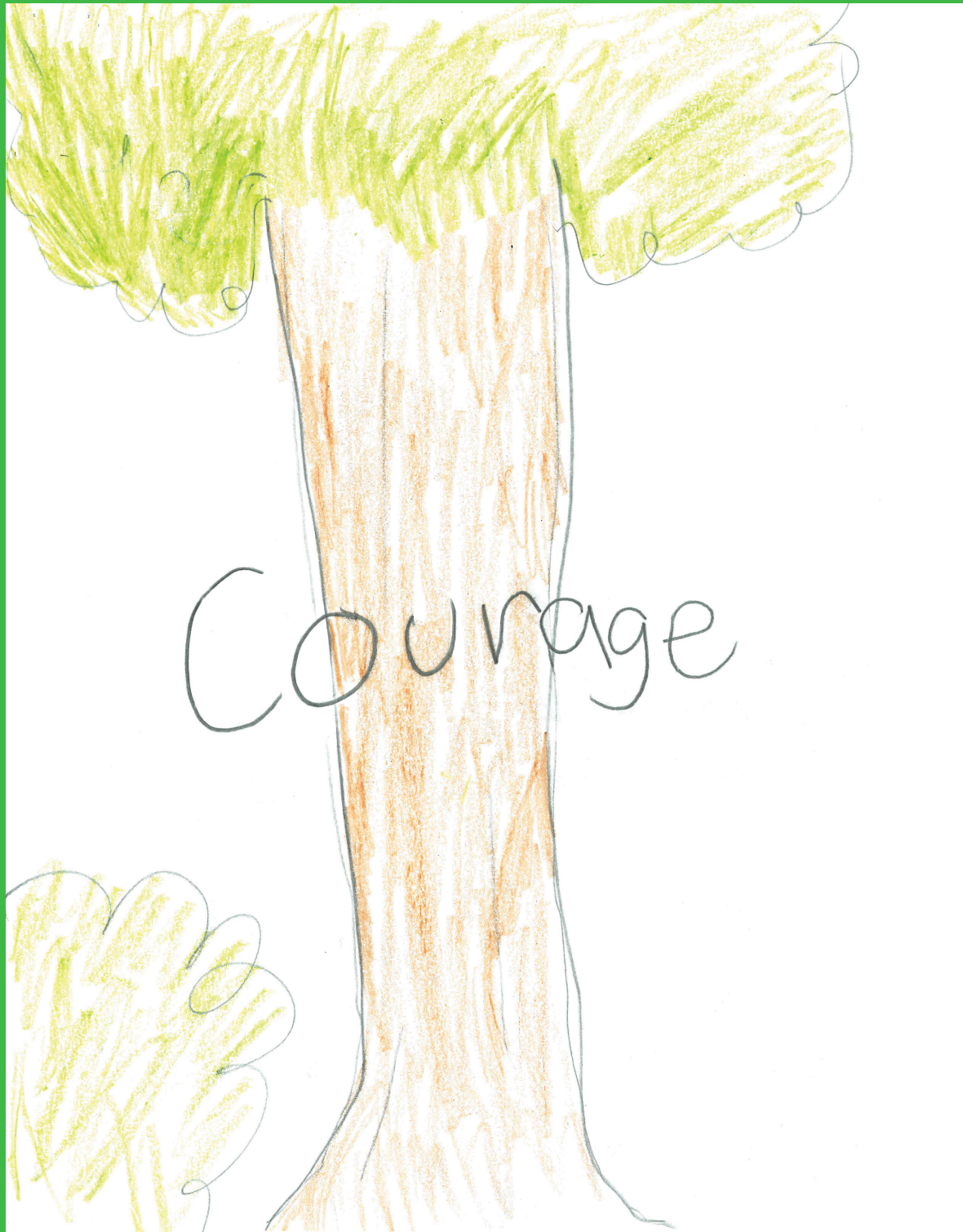
PBS Reno

2025

THIRD GRADE: 2nd Place

"Courage" by Grant

Roy Gomm Elementary School



In a quiet forest, there lived a little bunny named Benny. Benny loved hopping through the grass, sniffing flowers, and playing with his friends. But there was one thing he always dreamed of doing—climbing the Great Oak Tree.

The Great Oak Tree was the tallest tree in the forest. Its branches stretched high into the sky, and Benny wondered what the view from the top would be like. "Someday," Benny whispered, "I'll climb that tree."

His friends, Sage the squirrel and Ivy the rabbit, didn't understand. "Why climb the tree?" they asked. "We have everything we need here. The forest is safe and beautiful." But Benny wanted more. He wanted to see what was beyond the trees, beyond the hills.

"Someday," he told himself, "I'll climb that tree." One sunny morning, Benny stood at the base of the Great Oak Tree. The tree was so tall, its branches seemed to touch the clouds.

Benny's paws felt nervous, but he knew it was time. "Today is the day," Benny said with a deep breath, and took his first step onto the tree trunk. He reached up and grabbed the rough bark with his paws.

The climb was tricky. The branches swayed, and they were slippery. Benny's heart raced, but he didn't stop. "I'm brave," he said. "I can do it one step, then another." Benny kept going, feeling stronger with each climb. The wind tickled his fur, but he was determined.

At last, Benny reached the very top of the Great Oak Tree. He looked out over the forest and smiled. The world below looked so small, and Benny felt proud and happy. "Courage," he whispered, "is taking the first step." Benny knew that when you're brave enough to try, anything is possible.