

The Meaning of Home



“Home” can mean many things to many people.

The Meaning of Home contest invites Grade 4, 5 and 6 students across Canada to submit a poem or essay about what home means to them. The winner gets to direct \$50,000 to build a Habitat for Humanity home and \$1,000 for their school.

Genworth Canada

Genworth enables homeownership and promotes financial literacy. \$5 is donated to Habitat for every entry. Last year’s contest received 9,376 entries. Visit us at www.meaningofhome.ca/.

Habitat for Humanity Canada

Habitat is a non-profit organization that builds affordable housing and promotes homeownership. Many hardworking families have to make tough choices between paying for rent, food, childcare or heat. Families volunteer 500 hours of “sweat equity” towards the construction of their own house.



***Shelter. Comfort.
Family.***



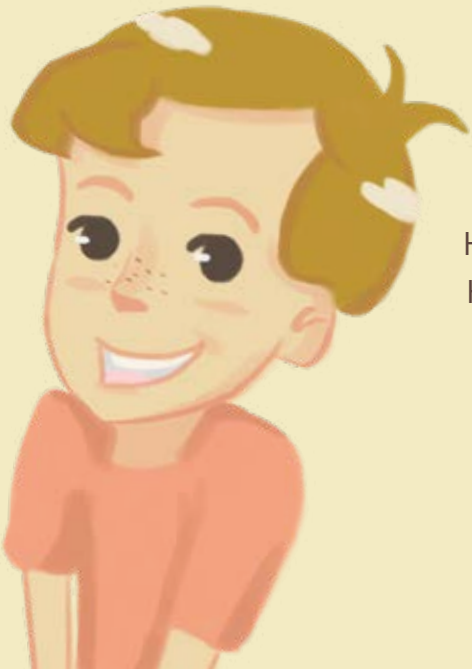
A Home Is...



Kaedan
Grade 6
Salmon Arm, British
Columbia

Home is happy,
Home is for family
It's where you feel safe, it's where
You take your first steps and make memories
Where love is on a flow,
It's where you grow
Somewhere you feel welcome
it's where your friends come
Home is warm like wool
Home isn't cold like the north pole
Home is not perfect, it's imperfect

But it's magnified like a unicorn
Where you feel true,
Home is where we help you
Where you're safe from the world
Where you learn your first words
Home is where you play
Home is where you spend your day
Your family helps
with things that are tough
Home is where you take your first breath
In the end home is a happy place.



What Home Means to Me

Home is a place,
To keep me safe.

A home is a shelter,
A place where we can be together.
At home we are safe forever,
Cherishing all are memories we've made together!

At my home, I can lay my head,
On a fluffy pillow in my bed.
My home is a place that I love to stay.
My home will never lead me astray.
Like the sun, its joyful loving rays,
Make me want to never go away!

My home is filled with love and care,
Something every family has to share.
The love we have
Is far beyond compare.

So with that said,
I will never ever dread
Going back home maybe even just to go to bed.
Because I know that I will never,
Ever, ever be alone.
At my sweet, caring, loving home.

Jasmine
Grade 6
North Battleford,
Saskatchewan



As I enter my home, I am welcomed by the aromatic scent of mom's cooking. There are rooms full of laughter. For many, home means the coziness of a warm bed on a chilly night. Home is a place where memories are made, dreams are created, and hopes are shared with family. When I hear of home, it does not mean a specific place because it's simply a space where you feel comfortable, secure, and untroubled. Home doesn't need to be large or spacious, just enough to let anyone have big dreams.

It is a place where you turn dreams into reality, hopes into plans, and it is timeless because we fill the time up with creations and ideas. Home is where we learn about morals, the differences are between easy and right, and where we learn, create, and find ourselves. A home is where we discover new things and make great memories with our loved ones. Home is where our imagination runs free, our nights are hectic with fun, and our days are filled with exploration. This is where we all begin and end our days, a place with happiness, warmth, and endless dreams.



**Meaning
of Home**

Ngan
Grade 6
Mississauga,
Ontario



It's like being wrapped in silk
It's soft and soothing
Of course your parents will be there
They look after you and they care

Feeling like you are home is a blessing
A very rare and lucky thing
It probably can happen only with one
Because to you, your house is second to none
Because your house is YOUR home



Without my home it would be so depressing
Like a river if all the clear water was missing
To me, home is where we build our braveness
Because it is our home and it is part of us

I hope to win so you can have a home too.

**What is a
Home?**

Nelly-Anne
Grade 6
Levis,
Quebec



Book Illustration by Terry Nillo