



Power for Kids, Inc.

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Power for Kids, Inc. helps children by encouraging literacy and a lifelong commitment to reading.

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Edited by: Patricia Rust, Founder, and Aryn Kennedy

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IN THE NEWS:

Rust Foundation Becomes Power for Kids, Inc.

In order to keep our name in tune with our mission, The Rust Foundation has decided to change our name to Power for Kids, Inc. Read more about the change in the May edition of the newsletter that will be mailed to your homes.

Royal Reader Published in Los Angeles Times

Royal Reader Gustavo Mora recently submitted a joke to the *Los Angeles Times*' Kids Page and saw it published. To submit a joke, book review, or drawing, visit www.latimes.com and click the Kids Page link. Remember, Power for Kids also publishes your jokes, stories, and pictures. Visit www.PowerforKids.com for info on submitting. Patricia Rust continues to have stories on the *Los Angeles Times* kids page.

Major Fundraising Drive Getting Under Way

The Rust Foundation will soon begin a fundraising drive. Past contributors and those who have expressed an interest will receive solicitation letters in the mail. We hope to surpass last year's returns and will use the funds to expand the "Royal Readers" program. With budgetary cutbacks hitting schools across the country, the need for literacy programs from outside sources has never been more urgent.

Still Scheduling School Visits for 2004

Power for Kids

12021 Wilshire Boulevard, #924, Los Angeles, CA, 90025, USA

Tel: 310 281-3332 Fax: 310 445 3251 E-mail: patricia@powerforkids.com

Please visit our web site at www.powerforkids.com

The Rust Foundation continues to schedule "Royal Readers" program presentations for summer and fall 2004. Patricia Rust is also available as a motivational speaker. If you would like a brochure about the presentation for your school, please call (310) 281-3332 email aryn@powerforkids.com and leave an address where we can send it.

Signed Copies of *The King of Skittledeedoo* Are Still Available

The King of Skittledeedoo is a wonderful learning tool for every child in your family, or your friend's family. It will help motivate your young students to read, read, read. A limited number of signed copies of *The King of Skittledeedoo* are still available. To order your copy now, visit www.powerforkids.com and click the "Buy" link at the top of the page.

Rust Foundation Plans Theme Party

The Rust Foundation is planning a theme party to be held at the Magic Castle in Hollywood because reading is magic. Watch this space and check www.powerforkids.com for updates as more information about this exciting event becomes available.

CHILDREN'S CORNER:

Kids! Send us your short stories so we can post them on the internet. You can mail your written story to: Power for Kids, 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #924, Los Angeles, CA 90025 and we'll scan it, or email it to pictures@powerforkids.com and we'll post it. Please visit <http://www.powerforkids.com/kids/KidsWork.html> to see some of the artwork and stories already posted.

This month's theme: April Showers! What do you like to do when it rains?

This and other children's contributions can be seen at www.PowerforKids.com.

DONATION CAMPAIGN:

The Rust Foundation Needs Your Help

It's the time of year to create tax write-offs and get kids excited about reading! As part of our continuing efforts to ensure that all children at risk for illiteracy have access to copies of *The King of Skittledeedoo* through their libraries and classrooms, and to make schools aware of the powerful tools offered through our website at www.PowerforKids.com, we need to send mailings to schools, increase the number of our school visits, print additional copies of *The King of Skittledeedoo*, manufacture literacy kits, and train literacy volunteers to create a national Royal Readers network. But we can't do it without you. We need funding to continue our imperative work.

Your donation of \$30 provides a child with a book and a Royal Readers learning kit. Your donation of \$100 sponsors a classroom visit.

Your donation of \$500 sponsors a school visit with books donated to each classroom and the school library.

We also offer membership levels:

Silver club:

\$500-\$1000 – you will receive a signed copy of *The King of Skittledeedoo* and the link of your choice, either to your company or another organization with which you are affiliated, will be added to our website.

Gold club:

\$1000-\$5000 – you will receive a signed copy of *The King of Skittledeedoo* and your website banner link will be added to our website.

Platinum club:

\$5000 and up – you will receive a signed copy of *The King of Skittledeedoo* and your company logo will be featured prominently on our website, and your company link will be included in this newsletter.

Tax-deductible donations are now accepted online. Please visit

<http://www.powerforkids.com/parents/contacts.html> and click the “Make a Donation” link.

You can also mail your check or money order to:

The Rust Foundation, 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #924, Los Angeles, CA 90025.

If your employer offers a donation-matching, or employee-donation program, we are eligible to receive funds through it, as an educational organization. Please contact your human resources department for more information.

RECENT DONORS:

This space will soon be filled with the names of our generous 2004 donors. Thank you in advance.

CHILDREN'S STORY:

Jackie Goes Parasailing

By Jackie Rust and Patricia Rust

Jackie the Angel was cruising on high. Life was looking up. She had rescued some kids' kites from becoming tangled and ruined and decided to lay back on some pillowy clouds and take a much needed rest. Aah, the clouds softly cradled her wings, halo, and tiny angel body. She was ready for a good nap.

Just then, she heard a noise, opened her eyes, and saw the biggest balloon she had ever seen! It was as big as an airplane and a person was hanging down from the giant balloon. Jackie got into her action mode right away because clearly this person was in big trouble! Or so she thought...as she flew closer to the balloon, she could see a man laughing!

"Maybe he's crazy," thought Jackie, who couldn't figure out what else he could be. Then she heard the man say, "This is more fun than anything in the world!" Fun! He had used the word "fun." Ready to rescue him, and fly him to safety, now Jackie was confused. So she landed on top of the balloon to investigate.

Believe it or not, the balloon was attached to a boat that was making the balloon fly through the air with the man hanging down from the balloon. He was strapped in, but it still looked pretty scary. Was this a new way of getting from place to place? It wouldn't be a good way if you could only take one person at a time. What was going on here?

A man attached to a giant balloon being pulled by a boat was the weirdest thing Jackie had ever seen. And she'd seen a lot of strange things, like the time she saw a pink gorilla. After seeing this strange boat/man/balloon contraption and trying to figure out how she could help, she decided to watch for a while and see whether she could better figure out the situation and be of help.

She flew around the balloon, around the man, and around the boat. She saw that the boat was coming to a dock and she ducked and then carefully flew alongside the balloon. "Parasailing is great!" exclaimed the man who, once they were docked, got out of the harness that looked like something you would strap on to go on a swing set.

"Parasailing! What's that?" Jackie wondered. Then she watched as the wife of the man who had been up in the air strapped herself to take a ride. Jackie followed them up and out over the ocean and all she could think was, "I guess I'm pretty lucky to be an angel because for me flying is a whole lot simpler."

Have you ever flown in a jet or airplane? Did you like it? Please let me know.
Happy skies from Jackie the Angel.

(from a forthcoming book by Patricia Rust)

To read more Jackie the Angel stories, visit www.JackietheAngel.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Rust Foundation is guided by a dedicated group of professionals and community leaders:

Founder, Patricia Rust
President, Mark De Fries
Treasurer, Bob Tessier
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Member, Gary Credle
Member, Archie Purvis
Member, Rich Longaker
Member, Bob Strock
Member, Daisy Torres
Member, Steve Binder
Member, Lee Gaither
Member, John Lazares

RUST FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT:

The Rust Foundation helps children by encouraging literacy and a lifelong commitment to reading.

The Rust Foundation is a grassroots literacy organization whose aim is to educate, motivate, and excite elementary school children to the wonders of reading at an early age. We believe that by reading to a child, helping one child at a time, we can stamp out this problem. Our organization's "Royal Readers" program provides books, interactive reading sessions, and educational activities for children at elementary schools across the country. Our "Create-A-Book" program empowers children by helping them write and bind their own books.

Our motto is Live, Laugh, Learn

Helping Kids Become Royal Readers!

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