



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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CHILDREN'S STORY:

Salmon Fly: Beauty and the Beast of the Insect World

By Patricia Rust

Did you know that there is a special kind of fly that lurks in disguise under the water for up to five years until it hatches into a giant fly?

On the Triple Creek Ranch in Bitterroot Montana, people who love fishing come from all over the world to find this fly so they can put it on their fishing poles as bait for trout and salmon. Before the salmon fly becomes a really big fly, it looks like a monster in a hard casing that reminds me of a rhinoceros and a space ship combined. This bug may look like a monster, but after it becomes a fly, it looks like sweet food for trout and other fish! Salmon flies are to trout what chocolate is to us!

First the bug is a beast, then a beauty, then a fly. The larvae begin life in a cocoon-like casing for four to five years. They live at the bottom of Bitterroot streams and so far they are not

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known to be elsewhere. They like it here where the water is pure. The area is protected wilderness so the water stays clean and the animals are free to roam. The salmon flies have a good life here in Montana, and in human terms, they would just about be ready for kindergarten when they hatch!

When the flies hatch, they push out of their casing and emerge as nymphs. The process is called metamorphoses, which is a great word.

I've never seen a fly as big as the salmon fly. If you put a salmon fly next to a dollar bill, it covers one third of the bill. Now, that's a big fly! In this case, it's also a very strong fly. It can hop up a tree as far as fifteen feet right after it has become a nymph! Then the nymph grows into a fly complete with wings and big eyes.

Fishermen and women need to catch these flies in order to use them for bait. This is a lot of work but the fishermen and women think it's worth it. They put the flies at the end of the reel and with a flick of their wrists, cast the salmon flies back into the stream while the fish decide whether to take a nibble. If a fish takes a salmon fly as bait, the fisherman reels in the fish with his rod and reel, and the result just might be dinner.

The fly becomes food for fish and the fish becomes food for fishermen. Some fishermen like to catch fish then throw them back in. This is called a Catch and Release program, which is a nice way to leave lots of fish for the bears. Animals need food to thrive and the salmon fly is part of this important process. Imagine what it might be like to first live under water, then jump up a tree, then become a fly who wants to escape from the jaws of a fish!

(Copyright 2005. From a forthcoming article by Patricia Rust)



CHILDREN'S NEWS:

Salmon Fly Photographed!



This is a picture of a real salmon fly. Amazing, huh? What are some other unusual creatures you've seen pictures of?

CONTEST:

What am I?



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What do you think this is a picture of? Email your best guess to contest@powerforkids.com. The winner will receive a family portrait sitting and hand-printed 8X10 valued at \$200 from professional photographer Lee Brubaker. To be eligible to win, be sure to send your spring poem or story aryn@powerforkids.com or 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #924, Los Angeles, CA 90025 by May 1. All answers will be posted at <http://www.powerforkids.com/kids/KidsWork.html> and some will appear in the May newsletter along with the winner's guess.

IN THE NEWS:

Power for Kids Visits Ramona School

Literacy volunteers Terry Brown (an actor and a member of SAG's BookPals program) and Brad Sorenson (an inventor) visited Ramona School in Hawthorne on Thursday, March 24 as part of their literacy week. Terry and Brad presented five exciting readings of *The King of Skittledeedoo* and incorporated their own areas of expertise. Terry regaled his First, Second, and Third Grade sessions with various voices and actions while Brad encouraged Kindergarten groups to think of toys they'd like to invent. The students are hard at work on their entries for the story contest, which is open to all who read this newsletter. The winner's work will be published on www.powerforkids.com and in our next newsletter.

Juke Joint Festival Features *The King of Skittledeedoo*

The Juke Joint Festival in Clarksdale, Mississippi is part Blues festival part town fair and this year Power for Kids is thrilled to be a part of it. We've donated several copies of *The King of Skittledeedoo*, which will be sold to raise funds for this important arts heritage festival. For more information about the event, visit www.jukejointfestival.com.

Patricia Rust Expands Horizons to Support Foundation

To continue her efforts to support Power for Kids and spread its message of literacy for all, Patricia Rust has embarked on new projects, including writing feature travel articles for Polo.com's online magazine, and participating in AngelHaven.com's upcoming AngelCruise. For more information about this exciting Alaskan cruise scheduled for Sept. 10-17, 2005, visit AngelCruise.com. If you've always wanted the inside scoop on visiting Tahiti, checkout Patricia's article at entertainment.polo.com/magazine.

The King of Skittledeedoo in Spanish

Power for Kids is in search of donors to support a Spanish-language printing of *The King of Skittledeedoo*. Many children in California's school speak Spanish as a first language, so a Spanish-language version of our book would be a powerful tool in helping them become literate not only in Spanish, but bridging the gap to becoming literate in English as well.

Women of Los Angeles Luncheon to Feature Power For Kids

At their May 18th luncheon, Women of Los Angeles will feature Power for Kids as one of the six charities selected to receive support from their Non-profit Alliance. Power for Kids is honored to be a part of this powerful group. The luncheon keynote speaker will discuss women's health. For ticket information, go to Womenof.org.

Newsletter Sponsors Sought

In our continuing efforts to improve the newsletter, we'd like to establish a monthly postal mail version featuring a full page of children's activities. In order to fund such a mailing, we need one or more sponsors who can provide the \$1500 per month

necessary. Please contact us for at 310-281-3332 for more information about how you can sponsor one or more issues of the newsletter.

Chopped Liver for the Family Spirit Available Now

The second book in the *Chopped Liver* series is now available. Buy one for everyone on your list. Patricia Rust contributed a tribute to legendary animator Jules Engel. Like *Chopped Liver for the American Spirit*, the book is a collection of uplifting stories written by regular Americans. Buy your copy today and share it with those close to you. Signed copies are available at www.powerforkids.com/book/buy_book.html. Patricia has also agreed to participate in the next *Chopped Liver* book with an article on Golden Door founder Deborah Szekely. Watch this space in future newsletters for more information.

Signed Copies of *The King of Skittledeedoo* 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 and makes a wonderful holiday gift. 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.

RECENT DONORS:

Power for Kids would like to thank Terry Brown and Brad Sorenson for contributing their time and energy at the Ramona School.

If you would like to donate, please visit powerforkids.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Power for Kids, Inc. is guided by a dedicated group of professionals and community leaders:

- Founder, Patricia Rust
- President, Mark De Fries
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POWER FOR KIDS, INC. MISSION STATEMENT:

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

Power for Kids, Inc. 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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