



# The Rust Foundation

501(c)(3) Not-For-Profit

The Rust Foundation 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:

### Patricia Rust Speaks to Women of Los Angeles about Literacy

On December 16, Patricia Rust joined the Women of Los Angeles, a division of W.O.M.E.N. Inc., at their annual holiday gathering at the Four Seasons hotel in Beverly Hills to speak about literacy. She reminded the members that they can help ensure that no child is left behind and can help children excel as they have.

### Remember to Call Bookpals

The Screen Actors Guild Foundation's Bookpals "Storyline" project is still going strong. Children can call their free service to here celebrities read children's stories. *The King of Skittledeedoo* read by Jo Ann Worley is among the selections you might hear. Visit [www.bookpals.net](http://www.bookpals.net) for local phone numbers. SAG members are encouraged to volunteer with the program. Patricia's children's stories appearing in the *Los Angeles Times* are also becoming available by phone. Each empowers kids! Check the [www.latimes.com](http://www.latimes.com) for details.

### Now Scheduling School Visits for 2004.

The Rust Foundation is now scheduling "Royal Readers" program presentations for 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](mailto:aryn@powerforkids.com) and leave an address where we can send it.

The Rust Foundation

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Please visit our web site at [www.powerforkids.com](http://www.powerforkids.com)

### King of Skittledeedoo to be Included at Babyzone.com

The "Celebration of Reading" page at the parenting website Babyzone.com will include a review and recommendation of *The King of Skittledeedoo* in their January children's books column. Click the "children's books" link to find it. The site is a treasure trove of information for parents.

### 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](http://www.powerforkids.com) and click the "Buy" link at the top of the page.

### Patricia Rust Contributes to Uplifting Anthology

Best-Seller Books has just released their new title, *Chopped Liver for the American Spirit*. It is a collection of true and inspiring stories from everyday people just like you, including Patricia Rust. Those who contribute \$25.00 or more to the Rust Foundation will receive a free copy while supplies last. Get yours today! Visit [www.powerforkids.com](http://www.powerforkids.com) for information on making a donation or to purchase a copy directly. The next book, *Chopped Liver for the Family Spirit* is currently in production and will feature Patricia Rust's tribute to Jules Engel

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### CHILDREN'S POETRY:

Kids! Send us your winter poems so we can post them in the newsletter and on our website. Visit [www.Powerforkids.com](http://www.Powerforkids.com) for the contact us link!

This and other children's contributions can be seen at [www.PowerforKids.com](http://www.PowerforKids.com).

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### 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](http://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 – your 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.

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### RECENT DONORS:

Special thanks to Florence Henderson and new Gold Club member SHS International for their generous donations.

We are pleased to announce the addition of Archie Purvis, former President of ABC, and attorney and child activist Bob Tessier to our Board of Directors.

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### CHILDREN'S STORY:

Letter to the Tooth Fairy

By Patricia Rust

Memo: Tooth Fairy

Re: Destructo Boy

From: Blake

Dear Tooth Fairy,

I am getting grown up and have all my permanent teeth and all, but I like to think of you as a favorite childhood friend. And right now, I need a friend. My parents don't seem to hear me when I say that Dylan has done it again. And I am saying it over and over again. Dylan has done it again!

I'm writing to you while I'm watching him. I'm not babysitting because he's not a baby anymore. I am destructo-boy sitting and I need help! He's not a baby and he's not a man so he must be a boy. But I'm a boy. He's nothing like me. For starters, he's really little. I'm nine. He's three. You'd think a three-year-old wouldn't get into so much trouble, but he's totally, absolutely out of control! There must be something you can do, like not bring him any money for toys when his teeth fall out. He breaks his toys anyway. That's why I'm writing.

I got a new bike for my birthday and I hope to one day be on the bike team and travel the world with lots of different speeds on my bike and take my bike to different countries so I can bike and see cool places.

But Dylan is the problem. I know he's little and stuff...but really, it's all just too much for one big brother to handle. I feel like I should take his baby blanket away and see how he likes it. He knows I'm writing to you. I told him. It didn't make a difference. He doesn't have to worry about the Tooth Fairy yet.

Oh, now Dylan is at it again! He just tore all the pages out of my comic book, leaving me with only the cover! What's the use of a cover with no pages inside! Yesterday, he took my favorite toy truck that I put on a shelf where he couldn't reach it, but he got it anyhow, and broke it. Last week I was building a house of cards and he kicked it!

But I was telling you about my bike, which I really like. I mean liked. Who knows how, but he took the spokes and bent them all out of shape. I can only guess what he was thinking. How can I make straight lines into curvy wavy ones? How can I create new shapes from my brother's bicycle spokes?

Anyway, that's what happened. I don't know why he does these things. My mom says that he is exploring his universe, but he is ruining mine. My dad says that he is defining himself, but I already know what he is: A PEST!

Please help.

Your friend,  
Blake

Kids: be sure to check next month's issue for the tooth fairy's reply.

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**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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