



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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CHILDREN'S STORY:

Jackie Learns from the Firefighters

By Patricia Rust



Jackie loved being in the city and doing loop-de-loops through the thick air. She loved watching the sidewalks fill with people who were bundled up and moving fast as storm clouds. “Where are they going?” she wondered, “and what’s the big hurry?!”

Jackie missed her best friends and the beach. She decided to go tell them about the adventures she had enjoyed in the big city. She flew up high and away until she looked down and even the big buildings looked like tiny grains of sand.

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

When she arrived at the beach, her best friend, Doowee Dolphin, the fastest swimmer in the sea, was sipping a smelt smoothie in a coconut cup. He was leaning back and enjoying the warm salty water and tradewinds that blew this time of day. “Life is good,” thought Doowee as Jackie the Angel cruised by and tickled him with her feathered wings.

“Coochi coochi coo,” teased Jackie and to her surprise Doowee flipped high out of the water and spun around ready to poke her with his rostrum just like he would do to a shark that attacked him.

“Hey, what’s the big idea, Jackie? I thought you were a shark.”

“Do I look like a shark?”

“You do look kind of gray.”



“I’ve been in the city...” but before Jackie could tell Doowee anything, Doowee told her he had a big surprise for her. He had convinced the Flying Penguin Brothers to come and sing with Doowee’s Dowop band.

“The penguins sing, ‘Do wop she bop’ while I dance in the water. We could take this show on the road!” Jackie continued to listen while she steadied herself in the currents of air around her.

Doowee was so excited to have Jackie back at the beach. “Let’s be a team. You fly while I jump and flip.” Jackie wasn’t quite ready for this much activity after her visit to the city, but she went along with Doowee and his idea of fun. The penguins were on a small boat and one penguin started the boat’s engine by pulling a rope and then the boat did circles while Doowee leaped and Jackie flew. “Do wop she bop,” came the sounds and Doowee’s face was all smiles.

Jackie’s was not. “Stop!” she screamed. “The boat is on fire!” The penguins ran from side to side having no idea what to do. Jackie’s wings only fanned the flames and made them bigger. Then Jackie remembered the brave firefighters who put out the fire in the big city.

“Doowee!” cried Jackie, “Squirt water at them! With your blow hole Doowee didn’t take time to think. He acted. Soon, he was using his dorsal fin to splash water on the terrified penguins. Before long, the fire was out, but Doowee kept squirting water because he had done such a good job he wanted to make sure the fire was all gone and that the penguins stayed wet and safe.

When the disaster was over, Jackie asked The Flying Penguin Brothers, “Why didn’t you jump out of the boat and into the water?”

“We can’t swim!” they answered. By the look in Jackie’s eyes, they were in for more than just a swimming lesson.

“I think I’ll teach you to fly, too!” exclaimed Jackie. “At least I can try.”

Have you tried anything that was hard for you to do this week?

Jackie sends you a big angel hug!

(from a forthcoming book by Patricia Rust. For more Jackie the Angel stories, visit JackietheAngel.net)



CHILDREN'S NEWS:

Penguins

You might be surprised to learn that not all penguins live in the south pole. Some penguins can be found in tropical regions south of the equator! While you usually see black and white penguins at the zoo, penguins can also be brown or bluish-gray. None of them can fly, but they are all very good swimmers. For more information about the various species visit this site:

<http://www.adelie.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/>.

SUMMER STORY CONTEST:

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 story about your favorite thing about summer to contest@powerforkids.com or 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #924, Los Angeles, CA 90025 by August 1. All answers will be posted at <http://www.powerforkids.com/kids/KidsWork.html> and some will appear in the August newsletter along with the winner's guess.

IN THE NEWS:

Books for the Deaf or Blind

Following her recent visit to the John Tracey Clinic, a Los Angeles center for deaf children, Patricia was inspired to make *The King of Skittledeedoo* accessible to two needy child populations: the deaf and the blind. She is researching ways to publish the book in Braille for blind children and to communicate the story to deaf children too young to learn to read, but still in need of literacy education. These editions will be in addition to the third English edition and the new Spanish edition currently in the works.

Children's Contest

The deadline for the summer contest is approaching. The winner will receive a family portrait sitting and hand-printed 8X10 valued at \$200 from professional photographer Lee Brubaker. To enter, write a story about your favorite thing about summer and send it to contest@powerforkids.com.

Spanish Poet and Translator Sought

With plans for the Spanish language edition of *The King of Skittledeedoo* moving forward, we are in need of a Spanish-speaking poet to translate the English text into something equally lyrical and magical. Please call 310-281-3332 or email Aryn@powerforkids.com if you or someone you know might be able to help.

Children's Submissions Welcome!

Please encourage the children in your life to send us their stories and artwork for inclusion in our newsletter, on PowerforKids.com, and in future newspaper publications.

Chopped Liver for the Loving Spirit Available Now

The third book in the *Chopped Liver* series is now available. Buy one for everyone on your list. In this edition, Patricia Rust honors philanthropist and spa and health pioneer Deborah Szekely. Buy your copy today and share it with those close to you. Signed copies are available at www.powerforkids.com/book/buy_book.html.

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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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