



# The Rust Foundation

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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 to Visit Jefferson Elementary

On Monday, March 15, Patricia Rust will visit Jefferson Elementary in Redondo Beach, California as part of their Literacy for a Better World Author/Illustrator Fair. Several schools in the South Bay region host four days of literacy and reading activities during their annual celebrations and Patricia is thrilled to continue to be a part of this empowering experience. Please visit [www.powerforkids.com](http://www.powerforkids.com) for children's artwork and poems from past school visits.

### Good People Doing Good Things

Foundation Board Member Bob Strock recently organized his UCLA class's 50th reunion on the heels of being a part of Beverly Hills High School's 75th anniversary. At both reunions, he shared his enthusiasm for literacy with lots of old friends. When asked why he's so passionate about children and literacy, he said, "Because my granddaughter, Taylor, loves to learn along with the King of Skittledeedoo."

### Senior Citizens Share Love of Literacy

The Rust Foundation has been asked by senior residences to come and read *The King of Skittledeedoo* to their residents. Maybe a good story is a good story regardless of your age. Consider them read to! Tarzana's Pacific Gardens even has a retired children's book author who plans to continue to read to seniors. If anyone would like to

The Rust Foundation

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

read to seniors, please let us know. Grandparents and grandchildren share a special bond.

### 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

The Rust Foundation continues to schedule "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.

### 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.

### 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](http://www.powerforkids.com) for updates as more information about this exciting event becomes available.

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### CHILDREN'S CORNER:

Kids! Send us your artwork so we can post it on the internet. You can mail your 8 1/2 " x 11" or smaller artwork to: The Rust Foundation, 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #924, Los Angeles, CA 90025 and we'll scan it, or email it to [pictures@powerforkids.com](mailto:pictures@powerforkids.com) and we'll post it. Please visit <http://www.powerforkids.com/kids/KidsWork.html> to see some of the artwork already posted.

This month's theme: Spring Break! What do you plan to do with your time off this spring?

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 – 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.

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### RECENT DONORS:

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

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### CHILDREN'S STORY:

## A Day with Dolly at the Zoo

By Patricia Rust

For Dolly Drum

Dolly helps out the zoo. She is a grown up who loves animals as much as kids. Every day, she says hello to her animal friends there. First, she goes to the Africa exhibit where Daisy the elephant trumpets a big hello. Dolly pats Daisy and gives her some peanuts. Daisy is really smart and can hold water in her long trunk when she wants to squirt Dolly to help cool her off. It makes Dolly laugh a lot.

Dolly liked to sing to the animals as she fed them. Today she sang about Humpty Dumpty who sat on a wall as she walked toward the habitat of the big apes called orangutans.

Mr. Dilbert, a big orangutan, must not have been in the mood to eat or listen because when he saw the primate gate open up for Dolly to come inside, he used his long arms to push the primate gate wide and run out. Dolly called out, "Oh, my! No, Mr. Dilbert no!" The other helpers at the zoo saw Mr. Dilbert making long strides out of his home, so they ran after him, but no one could catch Mr. Dilbert!

Then, some of the other monkeys saw Mr. Dilbert. They chattered and hooted to each other in monkey language. They probably said, "Oh, no, Mr. Dilbert is trying to get out again. Can't he just enjoy our home here like everyone else!" Mr. Dilbert must have understood the monkeys, because he stopped walking and he hung his head low.

Dolly took him by the hand and led him back to his place in the zoo. "Mr. Dilbert, I think I know what's wrong with you." Dilbert seemed to perk up. "I think you need a Mrs. Dilbert!" Mr. Dilbert's head nodded up and down as in yes, yes, yes and Daisy sounded her trumpet trunk as if to say, "What a great idea!" That was it.

So after that, the zoo decided to find Mr. Dilbert a mate. And when she arrived, Mr. Dilbert seemed to be the happiest animal there. Dolly hoped Mr. Dilbert and the new Mrs. Dilbert would be happy now. And they were, because neither of them ever tried to escape again.

The End

(from a forthcoming book by Patricia Rust)

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### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

- Founder, Patricia Rust, Author, Writer-Producer
- Treasurer, Bob Tessier, Attorney
- Secretary, Yfat Reiss, Attorney
- Member, Gary Credle, Executive Vice President, Administration and Studio Operations for Warner Bros.
- Member, Archie Purvis, President of Purvis Enterprises
- Member, Rich Longaker, Attorney
- Member, Bob Strock, Retired, Former Corporate Marketing Manager for Beatrice Foods
- Member, Daisy Dylan, Legal Secretary
- Member, Steve Binder, Producer

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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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