



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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IN THE NEWS:

Power for Kids Welcomes Wallis Annenberg to the Board

Former *TV Guide* editor and legendary philanthropist Wallis Annenberg has generously agreed to become the Vice President of Power for Kids. We are thrilled to welcome such a powerful force in the non-profit world to our organization and look forward to working with her to expand our success. Already she's taken the organization to new places and exposed us to powerful government figures. With the help of the Annenberg Foundation, Power for Kids will soon be able to publish the Spanish language version of *The King of Skittledeedoo* and the English versions of its two sequels. We will also be able to distribute our long-awaited video to schools in need.

Women of Los Angeles Luncheon to Feature Power For Kids

At their May 24th 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. Dr. Pamela Peeke, the luncheon keynote speaker, will discuss women's health and fitness. For ticket information, go to Womenof.org.

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.

Children's Contest Extended

Power for Kids

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Please visit our web site at www.powerforkids.com

Come one, come all to enter the children's contest. All entries will be featured on our website and the winner's work will be included right here in the newsletter. The contest ends on June 1, so scroll down and get to work on "What Am I?"

AngelCruise Still Accepting Reservations

To continue her efforts to support Power for Kids and spread its message of literacy for all, Patricia Rust has agreed to participate 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 http://entertainment.polo.com/magazine/editorial/sp05/tahiti_spas.asp.

Art Show to Benefit Power for Kids

The artwork of Jackie and Patricia Rust is on display at the LA Farm Restaurant in Santa Monica through June 11. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Power for Kids. The restaurant is located at 3000 Olympic Blvd. in Santa Monica, California. Call 310-449-4000 for reservations. Lunch is served Monday through Friday 11:30-2:30 and dinner is served Tuesday through Saturday 5:30-9:30. To view the artwork on display, visit www.powerforkids.com/jackie

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.

The King of Skittledeedoo Needs a Spanish Poet

Now that we have the funds to publish a bilingual version of *The King of Skittledeedoo*, we are in search of a skilled translator/poet who can turn the magical verse into a delight for California's many Spanish-speaking students. They, too, need this powerful tool in order to become literate in both Spanish and English, an important skill as we move toward a global economy.

CHILDREN'S STORY:

Invisible

by Patricia Rust



It was another rainy day and my little brother was bugging me to play with him.

“No, can’t you see I’m reading a book?” I asked.

Then he asked whether we could make up a game together and play it. I thought it might be a fun idea, mainly because he was bugging me, and if I could come up with an idea that might get him to play without me for awhile, I could finish reading my new favorite book.

I looked at the rain softly falling outside and knew that this could be a very long day. The rain made the normally strong trees look so soft and gentle, almost as if their normal vivid colors of apple green, maple yellow, and pine green were disappearing into silvery cool icy shades, almost as if you could see right through them! Watching the rain fall onto the trees gave me an idea.

“Okay, let’s play pretend and you will be invisible. Wherever you are and what ever you are doing, you will be invisible. That means no one can see you no matter what.” My brother smiled and seemed to like the idea very much. I thought I was pretty smart and went back to my

reading.

“But how do we play?” asked my brother, slightly confused about how to pretend to be invisible.

“Since I can’t see you, I can’t hear you, and because I can’t hear you, I can’t answer any questions. I can say that you are now invisible, then, later, it can be my turn to be invisible.”

“When?”

“I can’t hear you because you are invisible.”

“But invisible means you can’t see me. It doesn’t mean you can’t hear me, or smell me, or feel me.”

“Yes, it does,” I told him.

“Then why did you just answer me if you can’t hear me?”

“Because you spoiled the game and now we will have to start all over. As of this minute, you are invisible. Starting now.”

“But wait,” said my little brother. “When will you be invisible?”

The real answer would have to be when I finished my book, then I would take a turn at being invisible. “After you’re invisible,” was all I said for now. I went back to reading just as though my little brother was really invisible. He still looked confused.

Then, he must have had an idea that was pretty good for a little brother. He started tickling me and as much as I do not want to admit it, I am very ticklish. But because I had told my brother that he was invisible, I had to pretend not to be ticklish which is really hard to do. I tried to swallow and hold my breath and do everything not to laugh.

It was too late. My invisible brother had made me laugh and my tickle laugh came out so loud and funny that I finally just gave up and tickled my “pretend” invisible brother right back.

(from a forthcoming book by Patricia Rust. Illustration by Reuben Munoz for *The Los Angeles Times*. To view the story online, visit www.powerforkids.com/stories/invis.html)



CHILDREN'S NEWS:

Can You Be Invisible Too?

When we say something is invisible, we might mean two things: either we can't see it or we can see through it. The air is invisible, but a piece of glass is transparent. If you look hard, you can see the glass in a window because you can see light reflecting off the surface. Light bouncing off an object is what makes it either invisible or transparent.

To learn more fun facts about invisibility and transparency, visit <http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/articles/20040728/SciFiZone.asp>.

CONTEST:

Special note: contest deadline extended to June 1.

What am I?



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What do you think this is a picture of? Email your best guess and a story or picture of your own 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 guess, story, or picture to aryn@powerforkids.com or 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #924, Los Angeles, CA 90025 by June

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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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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