



# 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 CORNER:

**Kids! Send us your holiday poems!**

We're holding a children's contest. To enter, send your holiday poem or story to [aryn@powerforkids.com](mailto:aryn@powerforkids.com) or 12021 Wilshire Blvd. #924, Los Angeles, CA 90025. Your contribution will be posted at <http://www.powerforkids.com/kids/KidsWork.html>. To submit your own poem or story for our newsletter and website, send it to [aryn@powerforkids.com](mailto:aryn@powerforkids.com).

Each of three winners will receive copies of *The King of Skittledeedoo* and free passes to Disneyland, donated by Friend of the Board Richard Armstrong. Entries must be received by 12/15/2004.

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## CHILDREN'S STORY:

### One More Sleep

By Patricia Rust

Some days are pure fun days. Mark and his dad shot hoops and played "shark chase." Mark built a set of building blocks into a house. "That's the house I want

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to build for you when I grow up!" Mark's dad thought they should nail it together, then he hammered his finger by mistake. It really hurt, but they laughed because it was so funny!

"Tomorrow, I have to be away two weeks for my work, son."

"Daddy, I don't understand what two weeks means," said Mark.

So Mark's father lifted him up with only one arm and counted to fourteen. "Do you understand how many days two weeks are?"

"Why, sure," answered Mark. "Seven days in a week times two makes fourteen...like these blocks."

Mark's dad used the blocks to explain. "Each piece is like a piece of the year. The year has twelve months and there are usually four weeks in a month."

"I know that there are twenty-four hours in a day and sometimes I try to count the hours but then I lose track," Mark said.

"That's a little like how life works, Mark. We get busy and before you know it, two weeks have flown and we are together again."

"Dad, when I will see you again?"

"Let's say you hear one book every night before bed," said his dad.

"But sometimes I hear two or three books before I fall asleep!" Mark said.

"That gives me an idea. What if you count how many 'sleeps' until we are together?"

"Did you say sheeps or sleeps?" asked Mark.

"Sleeps."

"So if I count how many 'sleeps,' by the time I count down to one, we will be together?"

"Right!"

"Wow! I can't wait until it's one more 'sheep' I mean 'sleep!' Now can we play 'bucking bronco'?"

(From a forthcoming children's book by Patricia Rust)

See this story with it's accompanying illustration from the *Los Angeles Times* at [www.PowerforKids.com/kidsindex.html](http://www.PowerforKids.com/kidsindex.html).

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## IN THE NEWS:

### Power for Kids Sponsors Orphanage Fundraiser

Every year Sherri Murphy sponsors a fundraiser to support orphanages. Proceeds from this year's "Party with a Purpose," to be held November 20 at the Riviera Country Club in Pacific Palisades, California, will benefit the Vista Del Mar orphanage, which will receive a holiday party and presents for the children. For more information, to make a donation, or to attend the party, please call 800-923-4200. Power for Kids is proud to be a sponsor of this worthwhile event.

### Board Member Celebrated in New Film

An in-depth interview about the creation of the Z Channel with Power for Kids Board Member Emeritus Bob Strock is featured in a new film that did well in Cannes and is coming to an art house theatre near you. The film is called "Z-Channel: A Magnificent Obsession" and we are honored to have such a talent and visionary on our board.

### Non-Profits Still Struggling as Economy Improves

It's a challenging time for foundations and we are sorely in need of funding and do not have a person to fill out grant applications which we tried doing for a year to no avail. We see no other way to generate much needed funding at this time unless you or your company can make a generous donation. Please contact us for donation forms or visit [www.PowerforKids.com](http://www.PowerforKids.com) to make a donation.

### Royal Reader Earns Extra Credit for Reading

Taylor Strock, age 7, tackled a reading of *The King of Skittledeedoo* for an extra-credit assignment and then explained to her class why it's been her favorite story since it was first read to her by her grandfather.

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

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## DONATION CAMPAIGN:

### Power for Kids, Inc. 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

[www.powerforkids.com/parents/contacts.html](http://www.powerforkids.com/parents/contacts.html) and click the "Make a Donation" link. You can also mail your check or money order to:

Power for Kids, Inc., 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:**

We'd like to thank Board Member Yfat Reiss for her generous donation.

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**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
- Treasurer, Bob Tessier
- Secretary, Yfat Reiss
- Member, Gary Credle
- Member, Archie Purvis
- Member, Rich Longaker
- Member, Daisy Torres
- Member, Lee Gaither
- Member, John Lazares
- Member Emeritus, Bob Strock

Friends of the Board:

- Mario Celestino
- Richard Armstrong
- Drew James
- Sherri Murphy
- Lonnie Dilan
- Jackie Rust
- Colonel Douglas Trogstad
- Teresa Howard
- Steve Binder
- Mark Freeman

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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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This newsletter may be forwarded only in its entirety. If this was forwarded to you and you would like to subscribe, send a blank message to [subscribe-powerforkids@yahogroups.com](mailto:subscribe-powerforkids@yahogroups.com).