



GUIDELINES AND READING

RULES: 2012 CELEBRATION OF *STORMY, SILLY TALE CONTEST*

HOW TO ENTER?

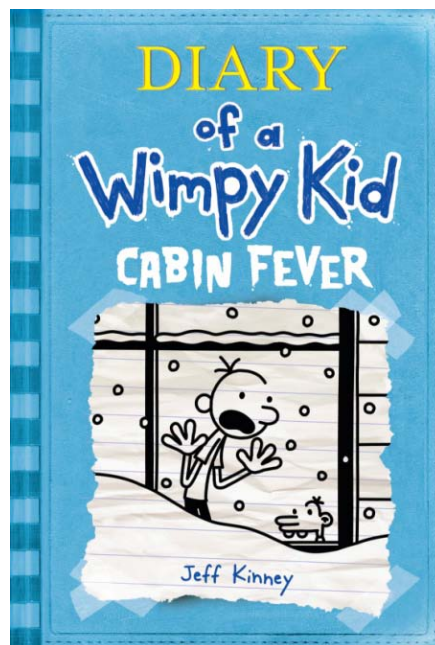
Students in grades 4-7 from the Florida counties/school districts of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee, may participate by entering either **an entertaining short story with simple illustrations or a comic strip:**

In his recently released book, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever*, you find beloved character Greg Heffley snowed in for the holidays and laugh out loud at the family chaos the snowstorm creates.

In our own Florida-style contest twist, this year students in Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Hendry and Glades counties (grades 4 - 7) are invited to participate in the Celebration of Reading Student Writing Contest basing their work on a funny story involving Florida's own storm season....from tropical storms to hurricane watches, this state has its fill of weather madness.

All entries must be electronically sent to Contest@VolunteerUSAFund.org OR postmarked no later than the **deadline of Wednesday, January 18, 2012** to:

Volunteer USA Foundation
Attn: COR2012 Writing Contest
516 North Adams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301



WHO WINS?

A panel of educators and staff at Volunteer USA Foundation (VUSA) will read and review all entries and select a total of 15 winners. All winners will be notified by their teacher by January 27, 2012. Names of winners will also be posted on www.volunteerusafoundation.org website.

PRIZES?

Contest winners, accompanied by their parents, will be recognized at a special VIP breakfast, sponsored by Public Risk Insurance Agency of Brown & Brown, Inc., to kickoff Volunteer USA's 12th Celebration of Reading event on February 17th, 2012. Celebration is an annual event hosted by former Governor Jeb Bush and his family to support successful family literacy programs in the southeast. The students will be Kinney's guests of honor at the Celebration breakfast and have the opportunity to visit with the entertaining author and share their winning submissions.

NOW FOR THE FINE PRINT...

Students from the Florida counties/school districts of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee, in grades 4-7 may participate by entering in only one of the two options. Entries must be original work created by students. Adults may be consultants only. The selection of subject matter and writing must all be done by the student(s).

- **Only one entry per individual is permitted.**
- **Deadline for all submissions is Wednesday, January 18, 2012.**
- **Winners will be notified by their teachers by Friday, January 27, 2012 during Florida Literacy Week!**

Contestants agree that VUSA may photograph and film them, publish their written entries, name(s) which may be used in future advertisement campaigns and/or marketing materials that may be on the web, in an article, in a press release or announcing the winning entries or describing the contest. Parents will be asked to sign a release form granting permission for their student winner to be named on press releases, photographed and filmed. Volunteer USA Foundation is not responsible for any lost, delayed, damaged, misdirected, or illegal submissions. Entries cannot be returned. VUSA may disqualify any entry based on content and/or production.

BE CREATIVE!

Submit work that would be of interest to other readers your age. Does it present a message in a creative or entertaining way? What makes it compelling and unique? What about it would make students want to read the author's book or book series? While it is acceptable to have adult guidance and supervision on the project, the project should be BY students FOR students. Adults must be consultants only. Do not use any copyrighted material or images.

Questions? Contact: Carolyn Vega-Melendez at 850.559.2208 or via email at Contest@VolunteerUSAFund.org. For more information about our nonprofit efforts, please visit www.volunteerusafoundation.org and www.celebrationofreading.org.

PARTNERS:

Volunteer USA Foundation's Celebration of Reading, Public Risk Insurance Agency of Brown & Brown, Inc., Collier County Education Foundation, Author Jeff Kinney, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Just Read, Florida!, Comcast.

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