

TRUNK NEWS

news from the trunk

Thursday, October 6, 2011

PREPARING FOR PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Tuesday, October 11, 2011



International Potluck Dinner

Thursday, October 27, 2011 from 7:00 am



Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,
It is that time of the year for Parent Teacher Conferences, and I know that this day is a wonderful chance to celebrate each student's successes and also an opportunity for parents, teachers and students to once more engage in an open dialogue aimed at helping every student to reach their full potential.

As a longtime educator it is also an opportunity for me to reflect upon how these conferences have changed throughout the course of my career. I remember as a young teacher, talking to parents about their children on a relatively simplistic level, namely; "this is how your child is and this is what he needs to do to improve". Back in those days this was all the information that teachers shared, and in most cases, the only information that parents really wanted to hear. In these more enlightened times, the emphasis is on sharing ideas and strategies while placing the education of each child into its proper context namely a partnership where parents, teachers and students all take ownership of the learning process.

Conferences, nowadays, are a stream of questions and answers. Our teachers are happy to share information relating to our academic program and the types of work being presented in our curriculum. They can share information relating to standards and explain how students are challenged at a level appropriate to their ability and skills. Additionally, they can outline the different forms of differentiation taking place within each class and how this positively affects all of our students. They will walk parents through the information that we have on our Moodle website and the ways in which parents can access these pages. They will share with you some of the exciting projects taking place in the school such as the introduction of I-pads in the elementary school or our pilot one-to-one computer program in Grade 9. They can relay the various strategies that they are using to reach each learner and outline ways in which parents can support these strategies. They can explain some of the extension activities that are available and the ways in which students can access these as well as other self study activities. Most importantly they can explain some of the simple communication methods that we have at the school which allow parents the chance to check in regularly with teachers as a means of addressing any issues quickly.

In a nutshell, I encourage parents to ask lots of questions throughout the conferences because we have a lot of really great answers to give!

Our conferences are a wonderful time to touch base throughout the school and a chance to not only learn about the progress of our children, but also an opportunity to learn more about the school and to truly appreciate the time and effort that we collectively put in towards making KAS the best school in Sudan.

Have a great weekend, and I look forward to seeing you all at the conferences.

Letter from the Ben Vobrosky, Elementary School Principal

Parent Teacher Conferences have arrived! You have received invitation for parent teacher conferences and the teachers at KAS are looking forward to seeing you! Before attending parent-teacher conferences next Tuesday, here are a few suggestions to help you prepare your parent-teacher meeting:

- Introduce yourself to the teacher, and let the teacher know where you can be reached. Email is often the most convenient for both parents and teachers so make sure your email is up to date.
- Sign into Moodle and see what is happening in your student's class.
- Develop 5 Questions Specific To Your Child.
- Make a list of positives and negatives your child is having.
- Say a few words about your child's special interests and positive qualities.
- Ask questions. What is the class going to cover this year, and how can I help? What can we do at home to help?
- Remember to take notes and discuss them with your student.
- Volunteer to help out. Let the teacher and the principal know when you're available. You could help chaperone or organized a field trip, be a guest reader, or be a classroom parent. But don't bite off more than you really have time for. Be consistent. Be someone the teacher can count on.

We look forward to seeing you at Parent Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, October 11th.



KAS Drama Group

I would like to take this opportunity just to let you all know what the Drama Group has been up to since the beginning of the school year. We've been working very hard focusing on: drama techniques, Shakespeare, theater and staging a performance, including key concepts such as intonation, adaptation, improvisation and visualization. While Shakespeare isn't everyone's cup of tea, it has to be said that I'm impressed by the way the group has endeavored to get their heads around the somewhat archaic yet eloquent language of some of his most famous works. Over the last couple of weeks we have been looking at the rhetoric of persuasion in Julius Caesar. On a lighter note we have worked tremendously hard to spoof, satirize and ridicule the words of the Bard, our most humble apologies Sir! The students have a short sketch prepared for the Pot Luck Dinner entitled, "Lamease Hasn't Got Talent", in which you will hear us spoof Shakespeare and see us at our most colorful and crazy best.

A few weeks ago, Mr. Hughes, our Superintendent threw down an unusual challenge when he asked us to combine Math and Drama and work towards staging a production. This is a challenge that the group has risen to with a little help from Miss Meghan who kindly loaned us the story "Math Curse" which has inspired us and given us some great ideas, thanks Meghan. So we now have a blueprint of sorts for the first KAS Math/Drama production which will be staged towards the end of this year and we're all very excited about it. Talking about "Math Curse" how about Macbeth's Math Curse?

Are these equations which I see before me? To be completed for homework? Come let me solve thee. I understand thee not, and yet I had to complete thee for today's math quiz. Art thou not, fatal vision, insensible to the workings of my brain and to sight? Or art thou but a math curse of the mind, a complicated creation. Proceeding from my heat oppressed brain. It was explained to me clearly and with pages upon pages of examples, But did I listen? Did I heed the words of wisdom? If I don't get it this time, I'll be made a fool in front of all the others. I go, recess is over, the bell invites. Hear it not, for it is a knell. That summons me to get it down or hell.

Mr. Michael

A Message from the Grade 3

In Grade 3, we have been reading a Judy Blume novel called The One in the Middle Is the Green Kangaroo. It's a story about a boy named Freddy Dissel who feels left out because he is the middle child. In the novel Freddy finds the perfect way to show he's special!

One of the strategies we have been learning about is making connections. We have been learning about making text-to-text connections and text-to-self connections. In Writing, we have been learning to write strong paragraphs. Our most recent writing activity was making text-to-self connections between Freddy and ourselves and writing a paragraph about the similarities and differences. Please check out the Enewsletter to view all student's work!



Arabic is cool!

أنا أحب اللغة العربية

Last week as a kick off for the "Arabic is cool!" campaign, grades 1 and 2 went around KAS and practiced a little Arabic. They were interviewed by some awesome Arabic speaking staff, a big thank you to Ms. Shalash, Ms. Youstra, Ms. Hope and Mrs. Boutros. Our students had a great experience and were rewarded with prizes that were motivational! Students were to answer two questions in Arabic:

What is your name? (Ma esmok?)
How old are you? (Kam omrok?)

ما اسمك؟
كم عمرك؟

Our KAS students were amazingly good, they had fun and they learned that Arabic is cool!



Healthy Adolescents

40 Developmental assets for adolescents ages 12-18 can be found at www.search-institute.org/syste/files/40AssetsList.pdf

This week, we'll look at number 8 "Youth As Resources -Young people are given useful roles in the community". At school, we see demonstrations of this in our student council and in our community service learning class, and in our classrooms, with the various responsibilities students are given from day to day. Outside of school, hopefully every student has a responsibility or job of some sort. Making your sons and daughters part of the process gives them ownership and a role to play. For example: include your sons and daughters in planning family trips. Maybe they could be responsible for searching for good flights online for the family. If a relative is going through something, maybe your child's responsibility will be to give that person a call each day and update the rest of the family. When you do ask for your child's help with responsibilities, ask "Will you" rather than "Can you" or "Did you". You'll be surprised at how well "Will you" is received compared to the other options.



MR. HOVDE'S
AMAZING



The MS/HS Math Contest **winners** enjoying their Pizza Party on October 3, 2011. Absent from the picture was Tala Musallam, Grade 8.



Here are the **winners** from last week: Hassan Grade 1, Maellia Grade 2, Hazim Grade 3, Hafizi Grade 4, Ali Grade 5 and Noah Wolf Grade 6. There were no correct answers to HS math question.

Messages from the PE Departement

Changing Rooms

Our new changing rooms are finished! Everyone can use these changing rooms before and after P.E. class to change and freshen up. However, to use the showers after class will require permission from Mr. Kirby. He will decide what classes are responsible enough to quickly use the facilities and be on time for the next class. This will start next week.

Basketball News

Recently in basketball, the U18 girls played against Al-Jazeera International Academy and won 38-0! Also, on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 the boys teams hosted Unity High School. The first game between the U18 boys was very close. KAS ended up losing by only one point, 33-32. The U14 boys also played a good game, but ended up losing 56-8. There are many more games this month, so let's cheer on the KAS basketball teams.

Adult Sport Schedule

Sunday: Volleyball, Soccer
Monday: Flag Football, Basketball
Tuesday: Ultimate Frisbee, Basketball
Wednesday: Touch Rugby

Please remember that games can start at 5:00pm but should be finished at 7:00pm. The only sports that will have equipment provided are flag football (flags) and volleyball (two balls). All other sports require the participants to bring their own equipment. See you there!

Message from the PTA

Dear Parents and Teachers,

Last Thursday The PTA Bake Sale was a big success! We would like to thank everyone for the delicious contributions which made our day very sweet.

The PTA committee
Email: pta@krtams.org



Elementary School Math problem:

Grade 1: Mr. Kirby has five baseball gloves. He needs 11 more so each teammate can have one. How many players are on the team in all?

Grade 2: Ms. Greenall had 34 pieces of gum. She gave one piece to each of the 13 students in Grade 2. How many pieces of gum does she have left over? Write the number model. What is the unit?

Grade 3: Write two addition facts and two subtraction facts using the numbers 17, 8, and 9.

Grade 4: __, __ 9, __ 3 Fill in the blanks (using the instructions below) to complete the number.

- Put an 8 in the tens place.
- Put a 4 in the millions place.
- Put a 3 in the ten-thousands place.
- Put a 2 in the hundreds place.
- Put a 0 in the hundred-thousands place.

Grade 5: __ 9, __ 20, __ Fill in the blanks (using the instructions below) to complete the number.

- Put a 5 in the tenths place.
- Put a 3 in the ten-thousands place.
- Put a 2 in the hundreds place.
- Put a 7 in the hundredths place.
- Put a 4 in the hundred-thousands place.

Middle School Math problem:

If a hen averages laying an egg and a half in a day and a half, how many days will it take 18 hens to lay 18 eggs?

High School Math problem:

If the average of 8, 12, x, and 10 is 9, what number must x be?

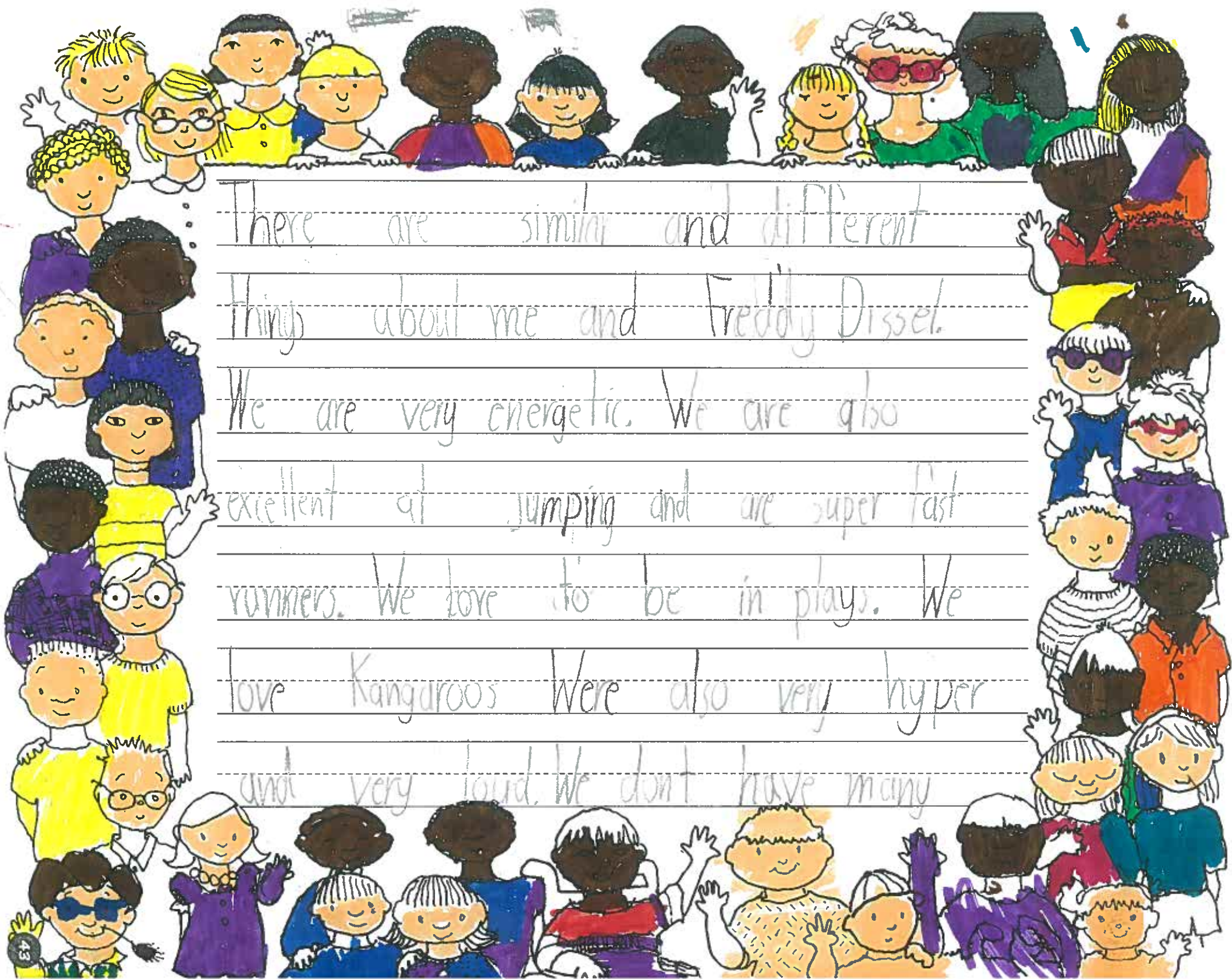
Solutions from the last week: Grade 1: $3+5=8$, **Grade 2:** $12+2=14$, paintbrushes, **Grade 3:** Answers will vary, **Grade 4:** d, trapezoid, **Grade 5:** 1, 2, 3, 6, 9, 18, 27, 54, **Middle School:** 97, **High School:** If all sides are 50 ft the area will be maximized at 2500 square feet.

Circle one:


✂ High School Middle School Elementary School

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Answer: _____ ✂



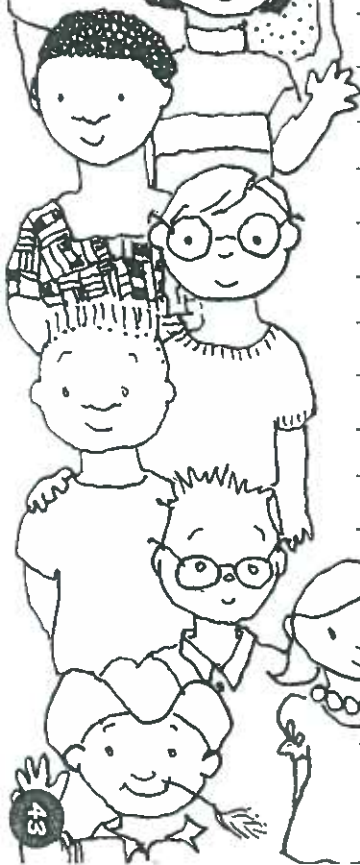
There are similar and different
things about me and Freddy Disset.
We are very energetic. We are also
excellent at jumping and are super fast
runners. We love to be in plays. We
love kangaroos. We're also very hyper
and very loud. We don't have many

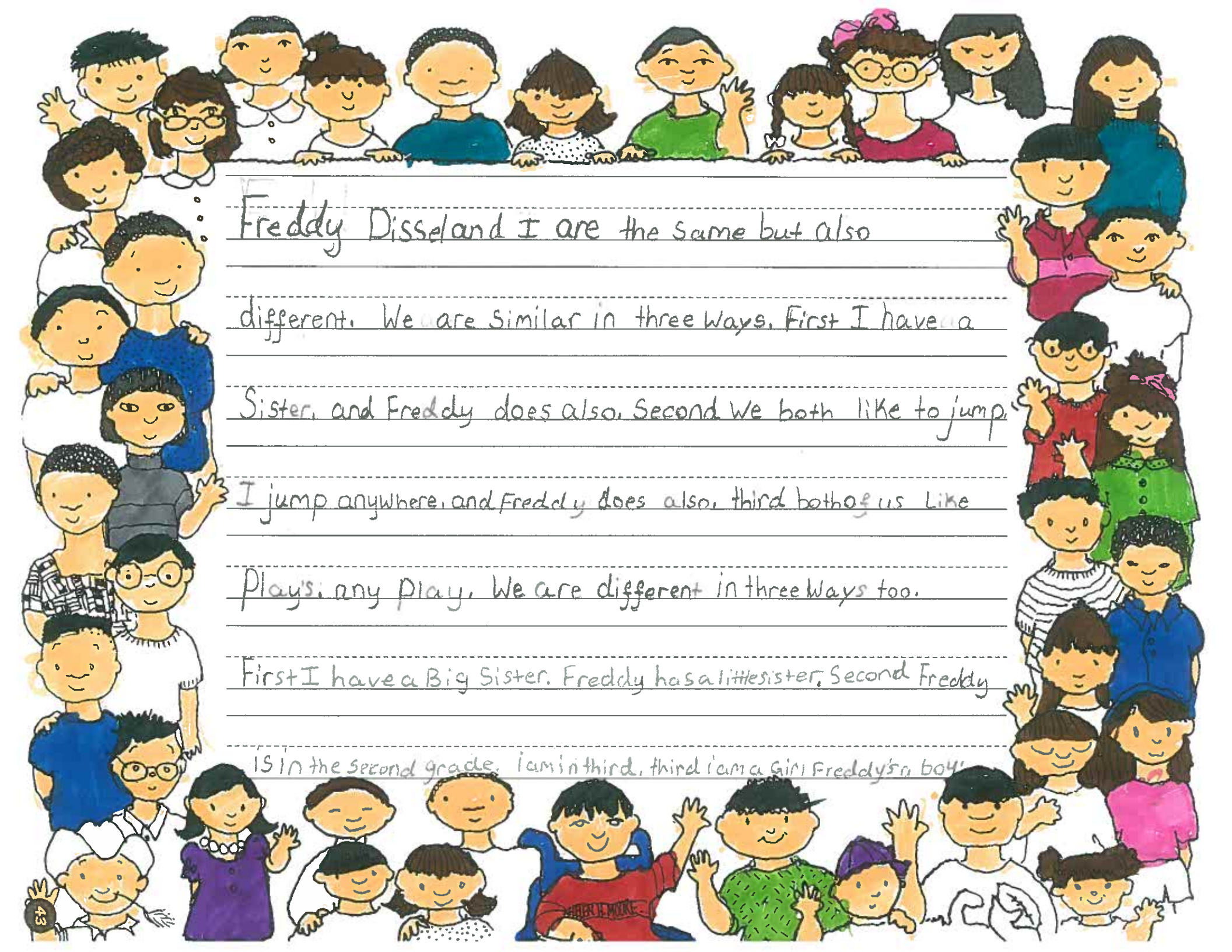


differences. differences are I am a lot

older. I have an older sister. I have three

brothers.





Freddy Dissel and I are the same but also

different. We are similar in three ways. First I have a

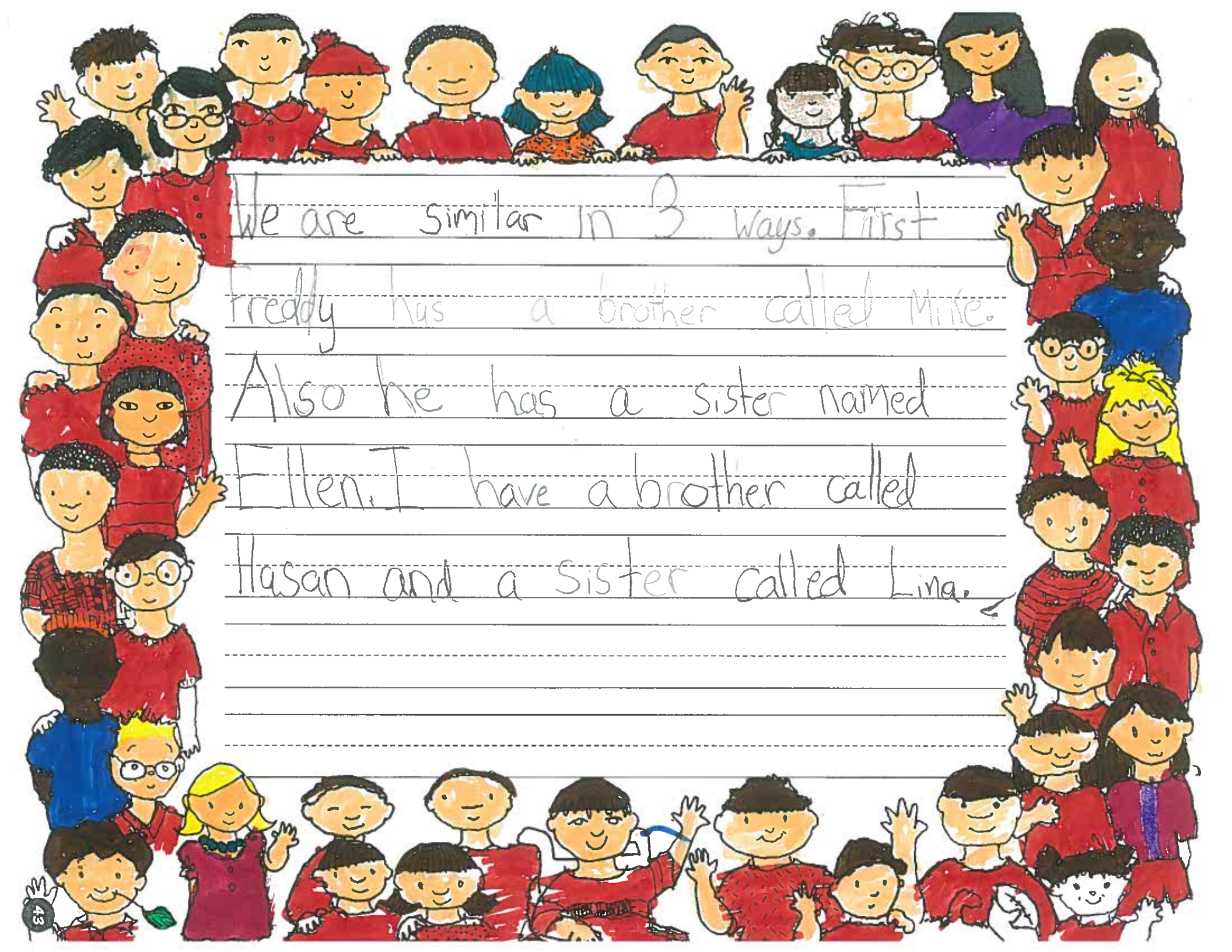
Sister, and Freddy does also. Second we both like to jump.

I jump anywhere, and Freddy does also. Third both of us like

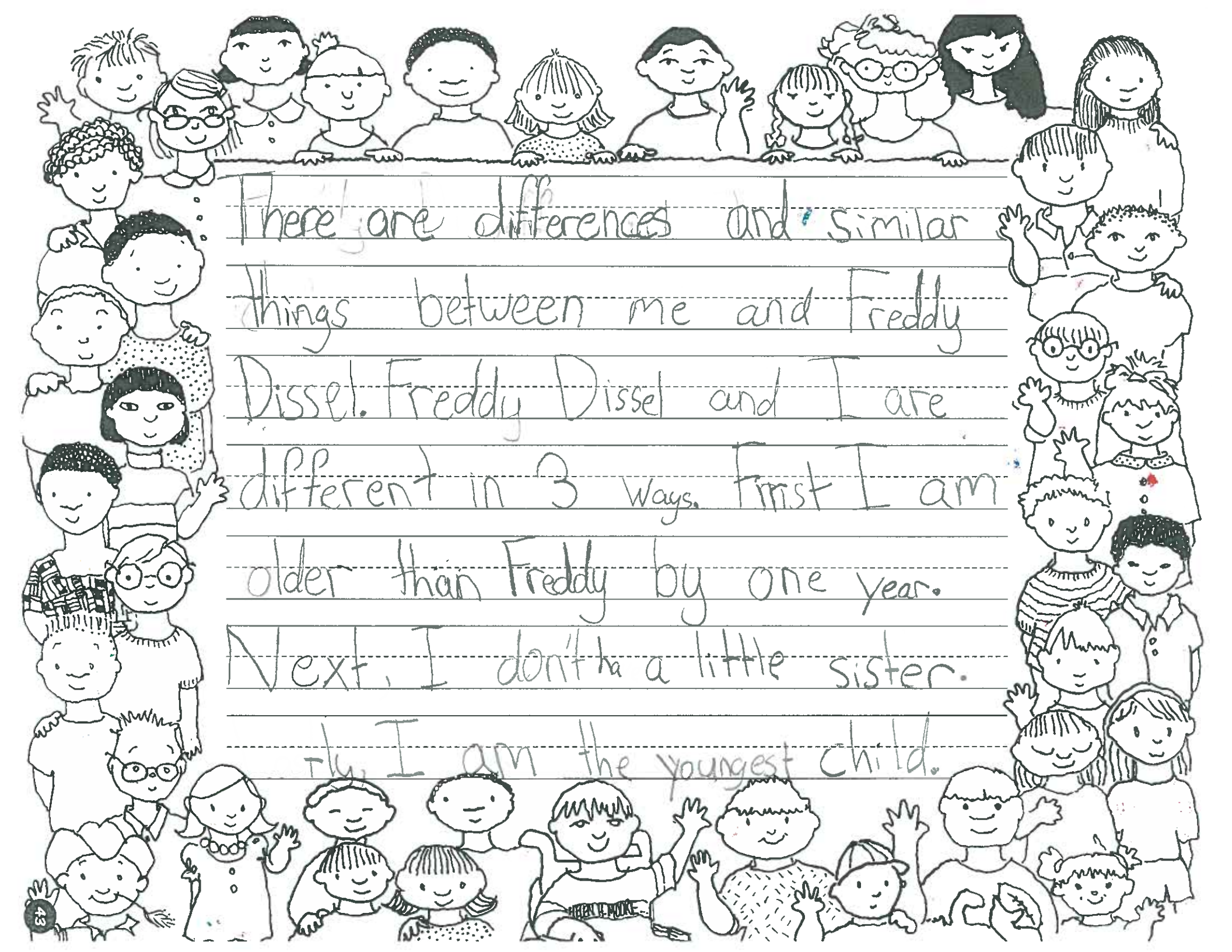
plays, any play. We are different in three ways too.

First I have a Big Sister. Freddy has a little sister. Second Freddy

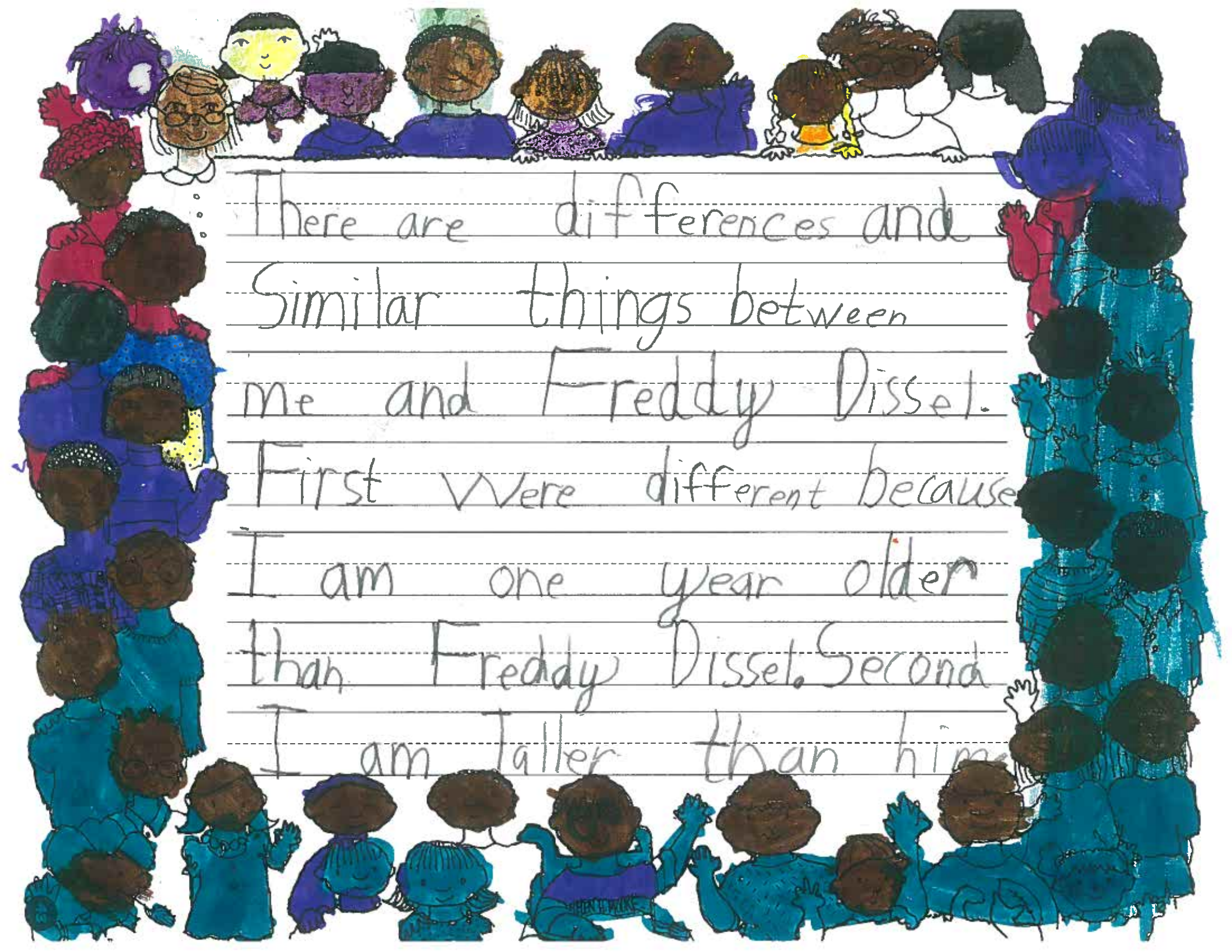
is in the second grade. I am in third. Third I am a girl Freddy's a boy!



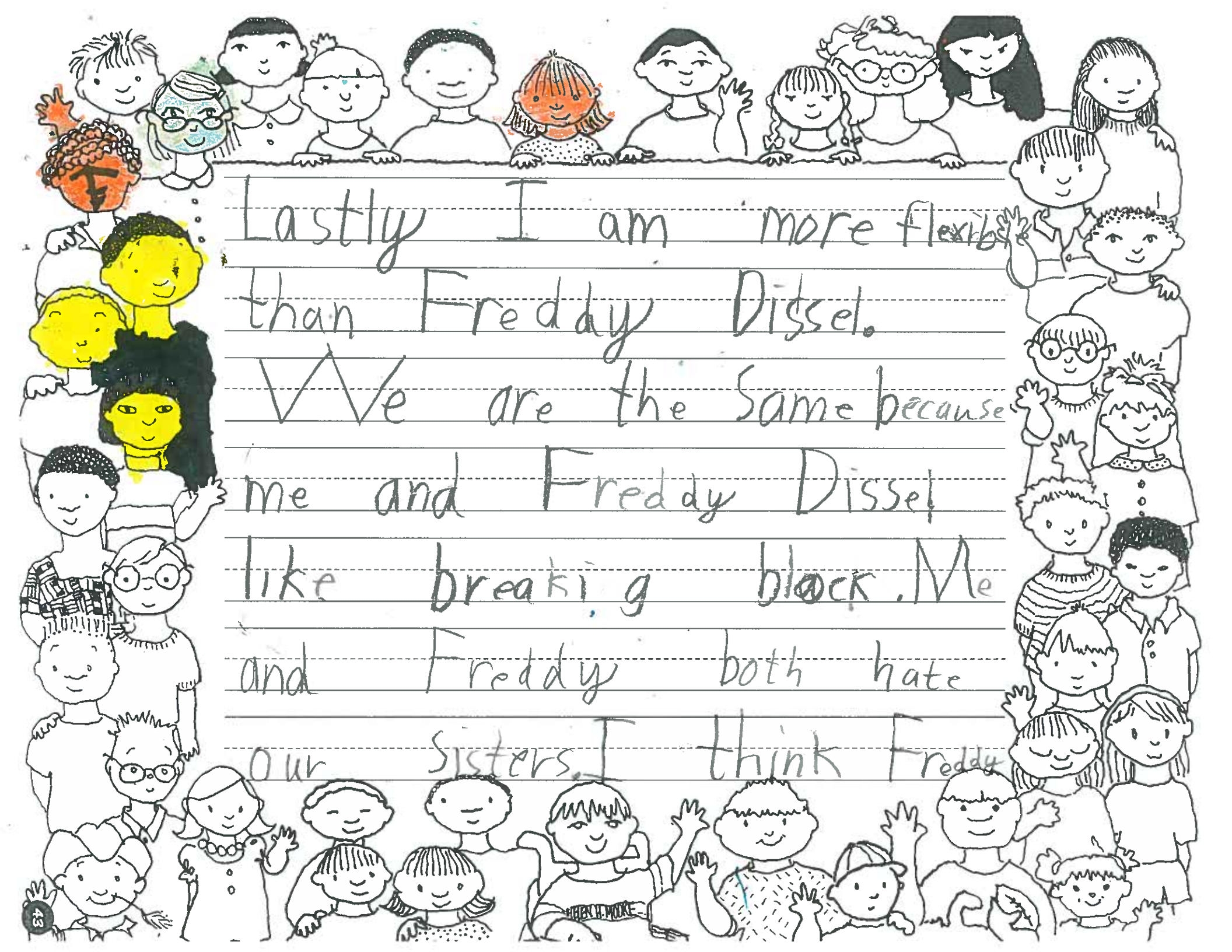
We are similar in 3 ways. First
Freddy has a brother called Mike.
Also he has a sister named
Ellen. I have a brother called
Hasan and a sister called Lina.



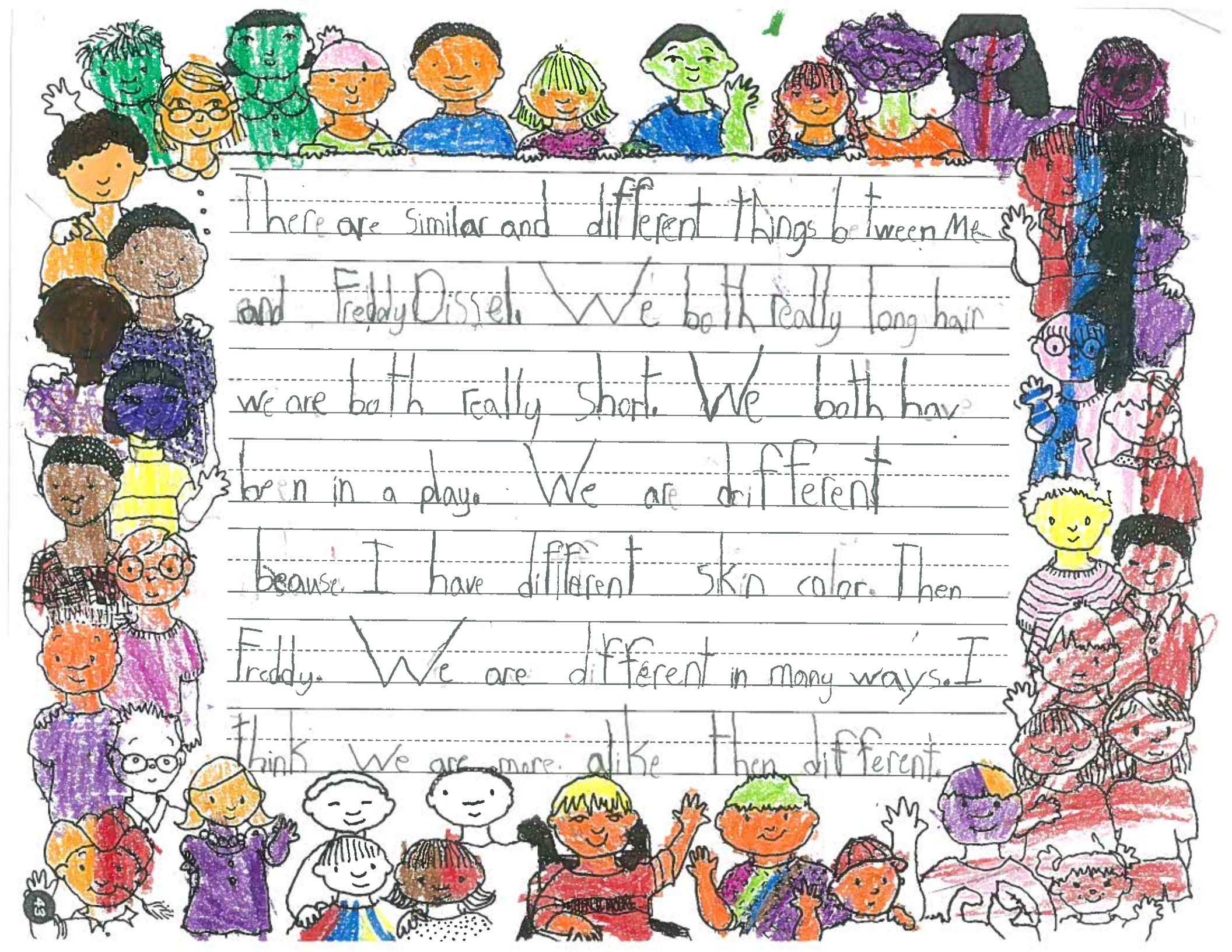
There are differences and similar things between me and Freddy Dissel. Freddy Dissel and I are different in 3 ways. First I am older than Freddy by one year. Next, I don't have a little sister. Finally, I am the youngest child.



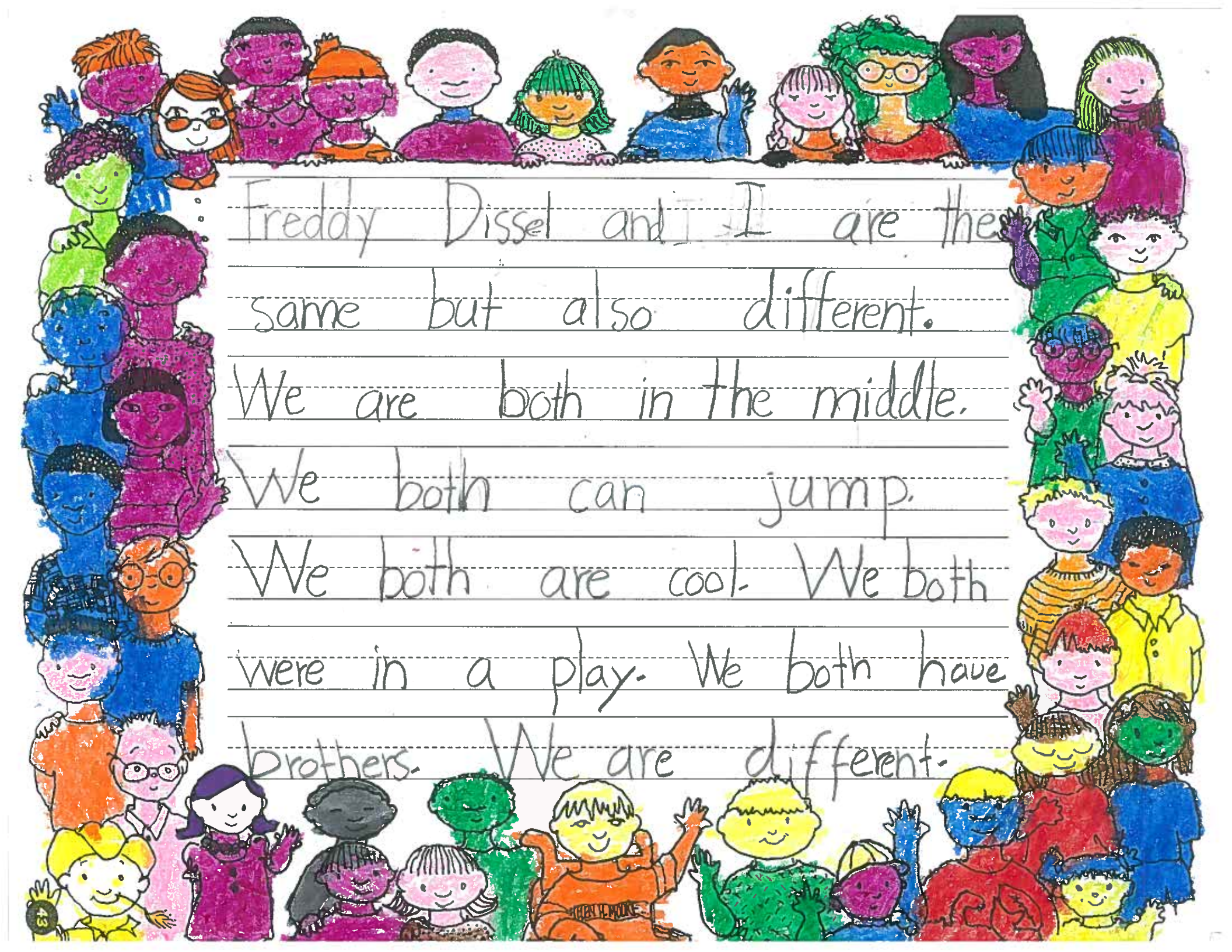
There are differences and
similar things between
me and Freddy Dissel.
First we were different because
I am one year older
than Freddy Dissel. Second
I am taller than him.



Lastly I am more flexible
than Freddy Disset.
We are the same because
me and Freddy Disset
like breaking blocks. Me
and Freddy both hate
our sisters. I think Freddy



There are similar and different things between me and Freddy Disset. We both really long hair we are both really short. We both have been in a play. We are different because I have different skin color than Freddy. We are different in many ways. I think we are more alike than different.

A large group of diverse, colorful cartoon children surrounds the text. They are drawn in a simple, friendly style with various skin tones, hair colors, and clothing. Some are waving or smiling. The children are arranged in a border around the central text, with some appearing to peek over the top line and others from behind the bottom line.

Freddy Dissel and I I are the
same but also different.

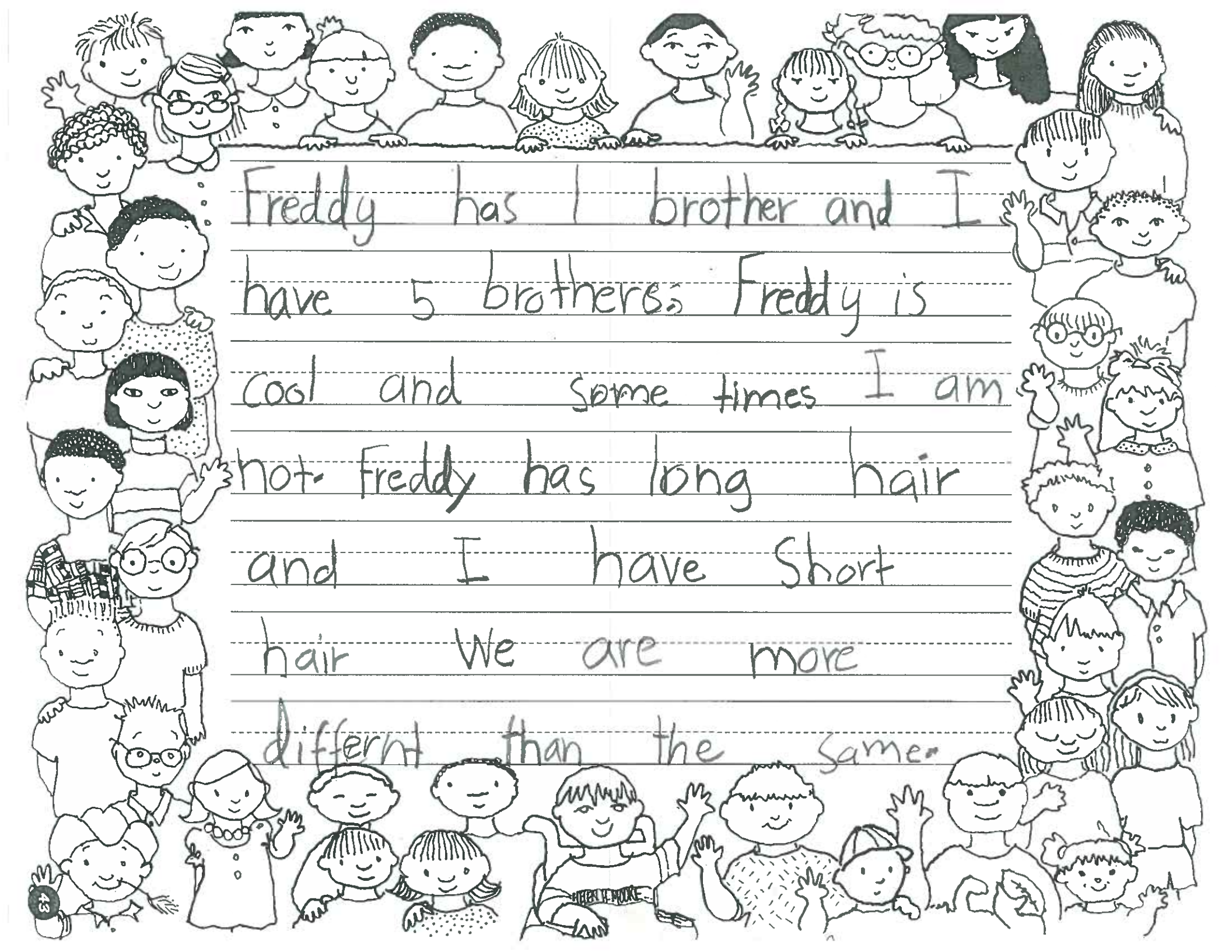
We are both in the middle.

We both can jump.


We both are cool. We both

were in a play. We both have

brothers. We are different.



Freddy has 1 brother and I
have 5 brothers. Freddy is
cool and some times I am
not. Freddy has long hair
and I have short
hair. We are more
different than the same.

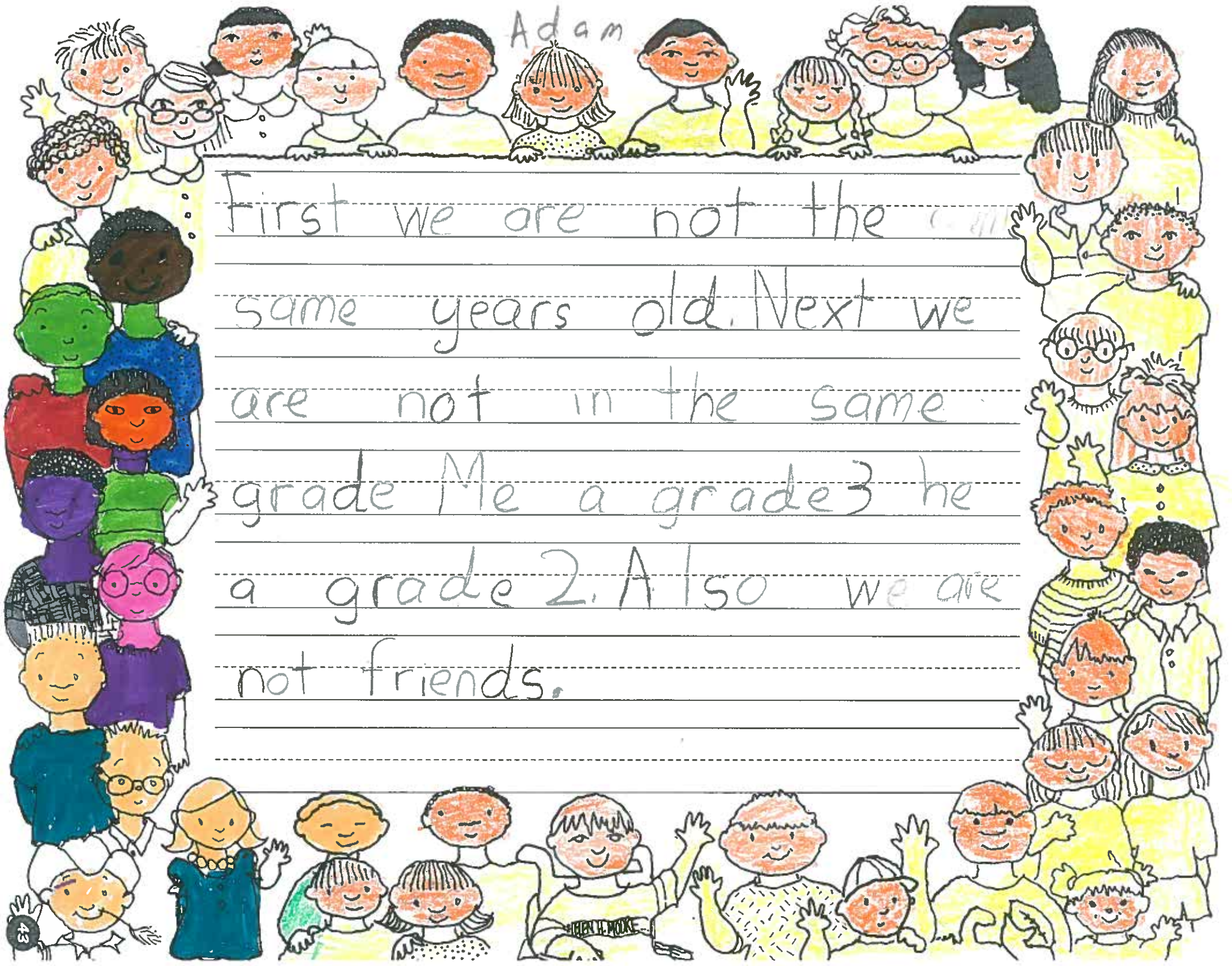
A large group of diverse children, mostly wearing green clothing, are drawn around the text. Some are waving. One child at the top is labeled 'Adam'. The children are of various ethnicities and ages, creating a multicultural scene.


Freddy, Dissel and I are
the same but we also so different
First we don't have our
rooms. Next we're both
in plays green kangaroo. Also
we like to jump at home
We are different in 3 ways.

Adam

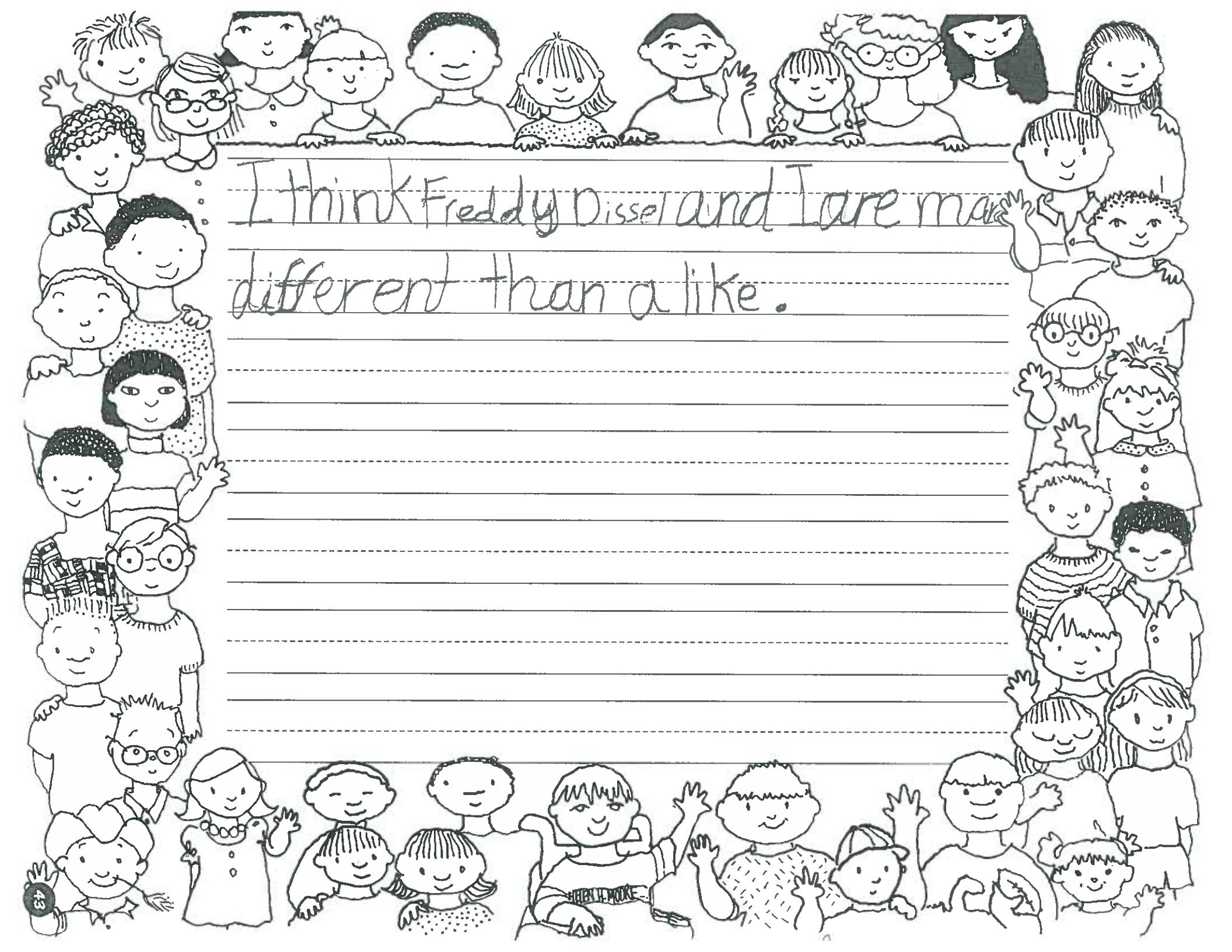
Adam

First we are not the
same years old. Next we
are not in the same
grade. Me a grade 3 he
a grade 2. Also we are
not friends.

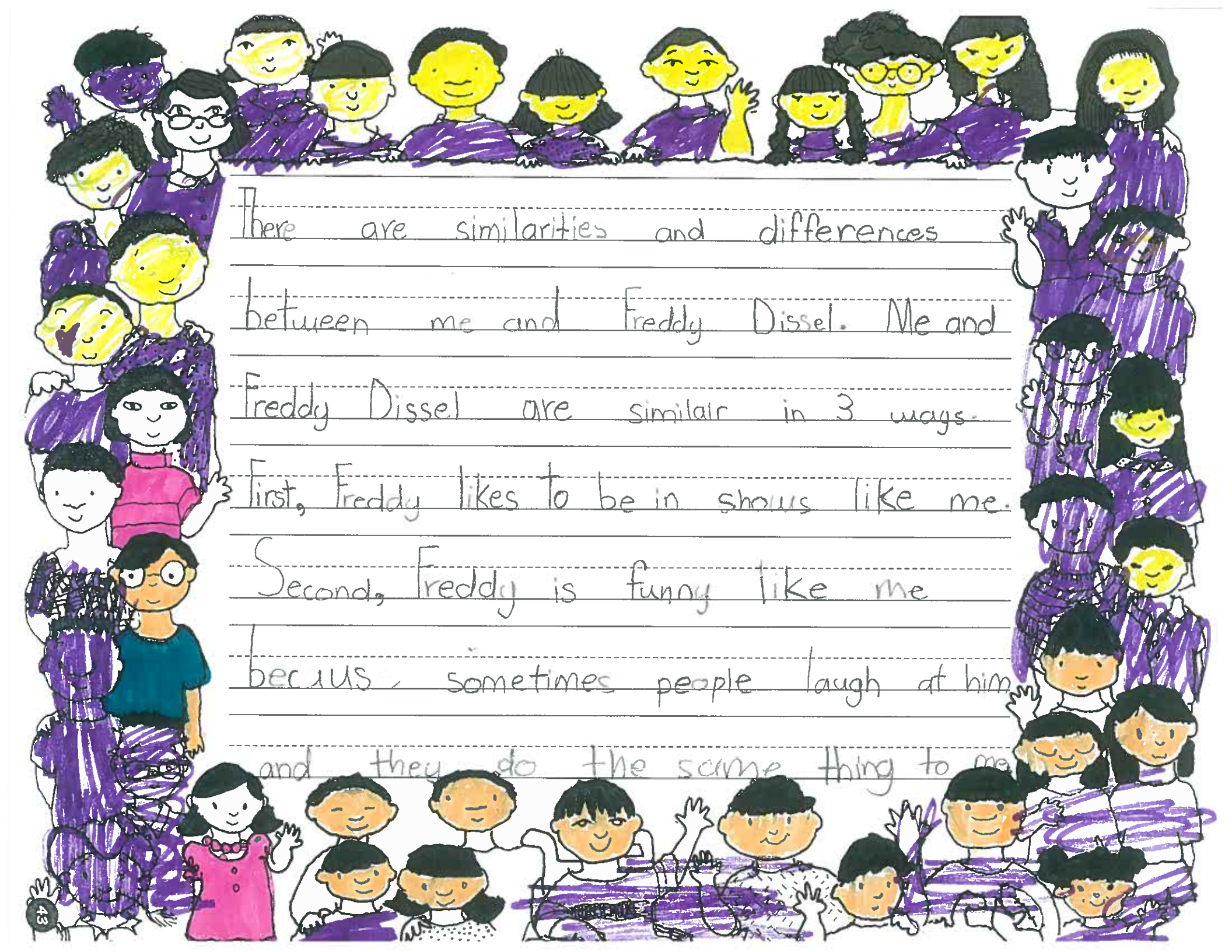




I and Freddy Disrael and I are
different. We both like to jump
a kangaroo. we like to be in the park.
We like to go to school. The different
are I have older sisters and brother
I am a girl and he is a boy. I am 9
years old. He is 7 years old.



I think Freddy Dissel and I are more
different than alike.



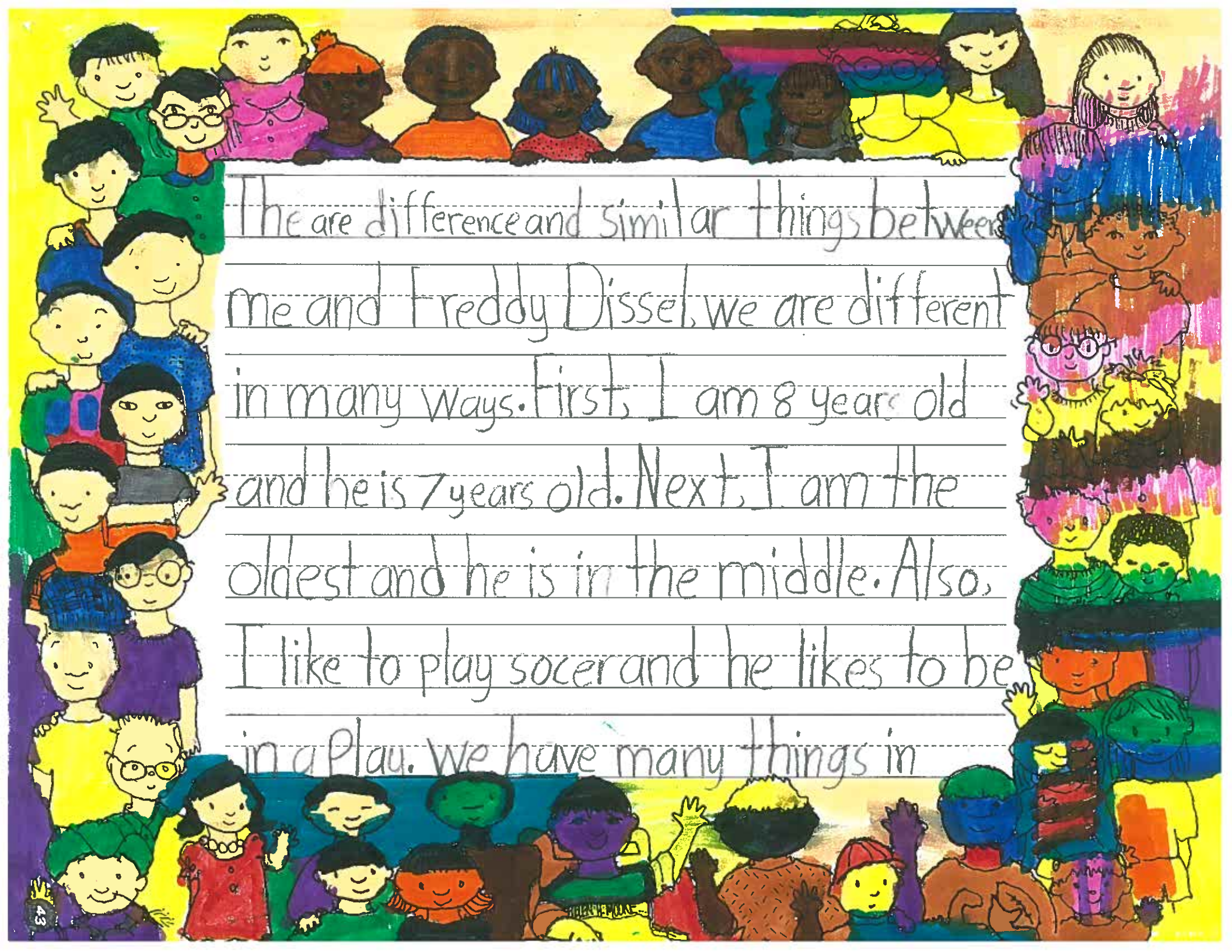
There are similarities and differences
between me and Freddy Dissel. Me and
Freddy Dissel are similar in 3 ways.
First, Freddy likes to be in shows like me.
Second, Freddy is funny like me
because sometimes people laugh at him
and they do the same thing to me.



Third Freddy can jump like me.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line. A purple number '7' is written on the left side of the first line.





There are difference and similar things between me and Freddy Disset. We are different in many ways. First, I am 8 years old and he is 7 years old. Next, I am the oldest and he is in the middle. Also, I like to play soccer and he likes to be in a play. We have many things in



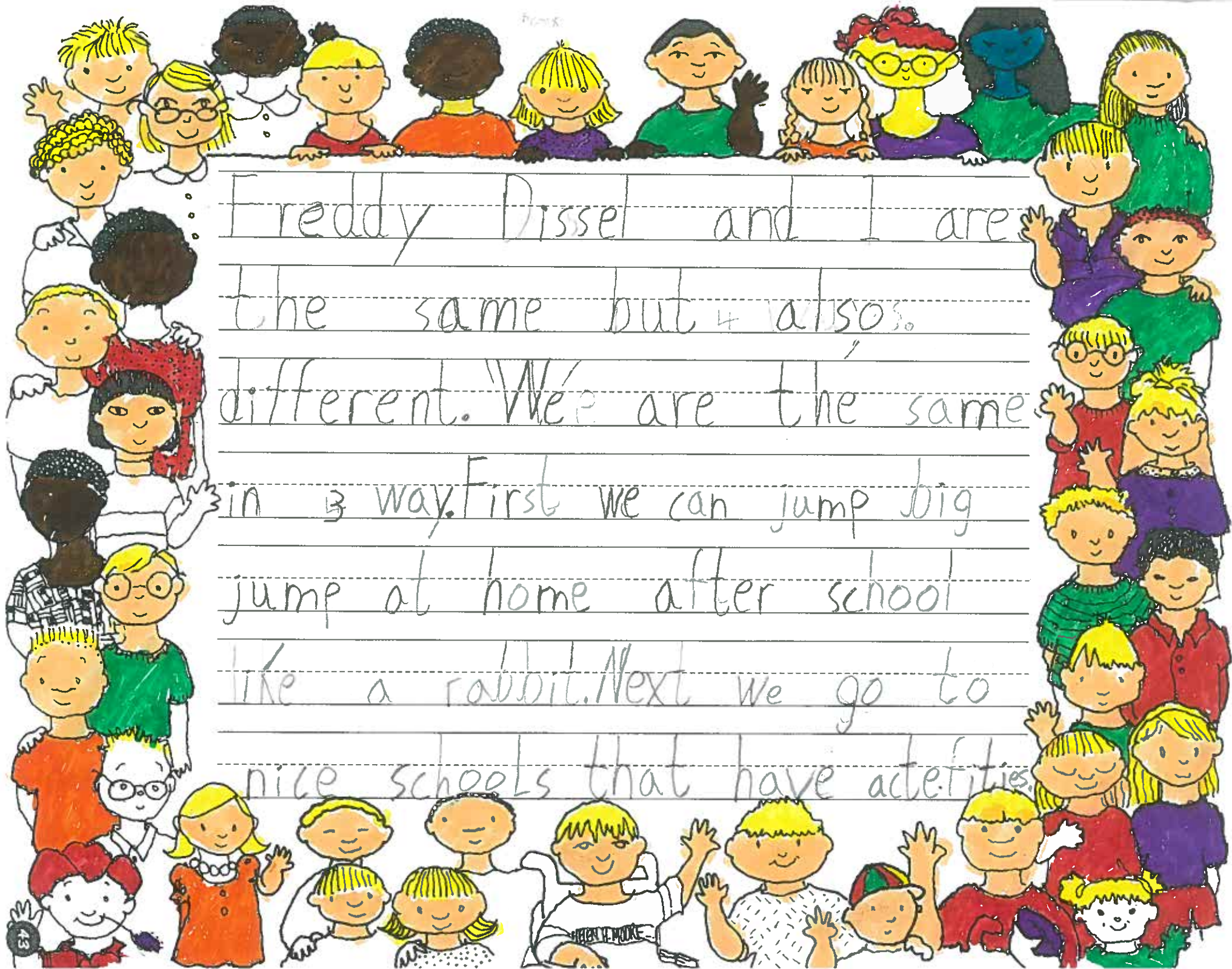
Common. First we both have brothers.

Next, we both share a room with our

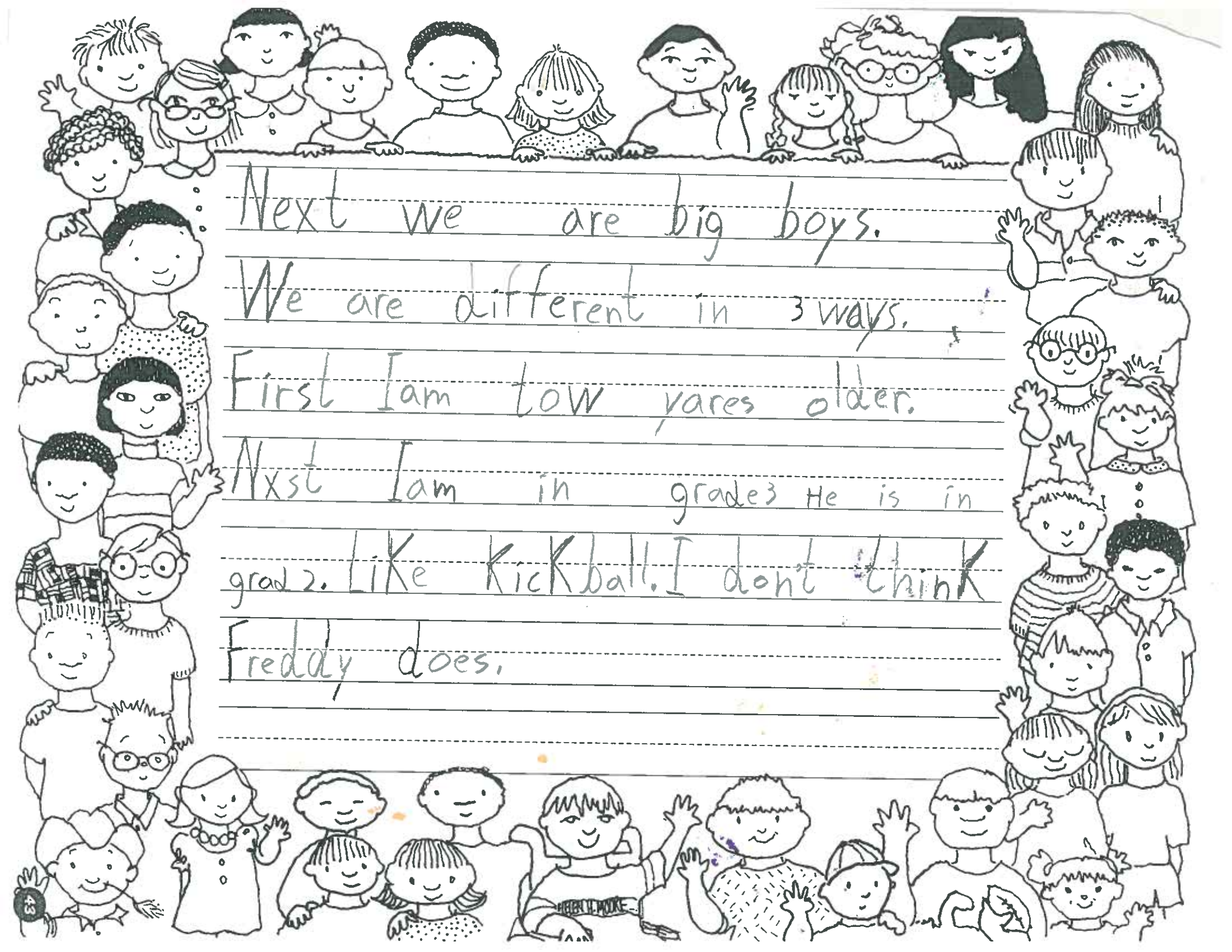
brothers. Also, we both like the green

kangaroo.





Freddy Dissel and I are
the same but 4 things
different. We are the same
in 3 ways. First we can jump big
jump at home after school
like a rabbit. Next we go to
nice schools that have activities.



Next we are big boys.

We are different in 3 ways.

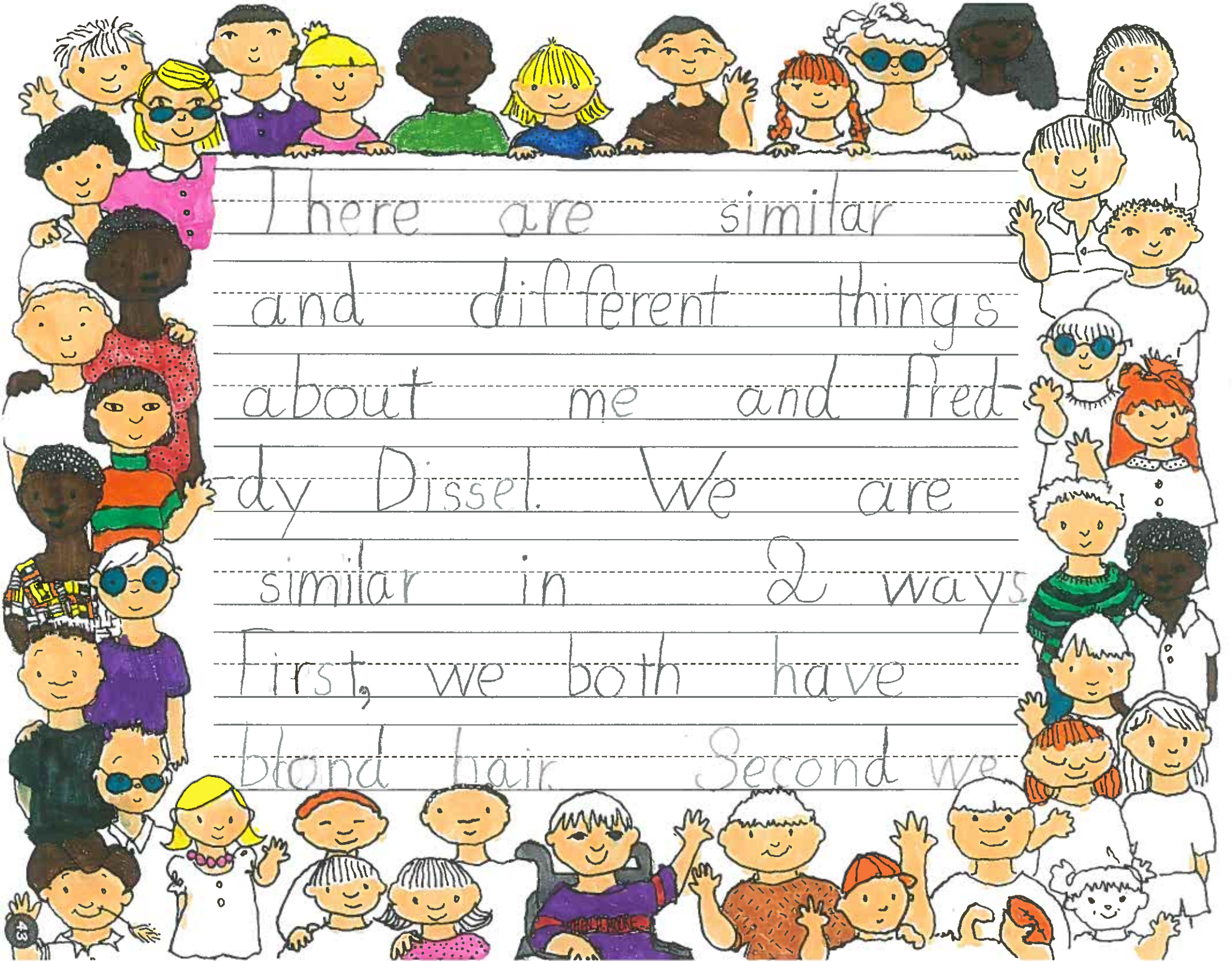
First I am low years older.

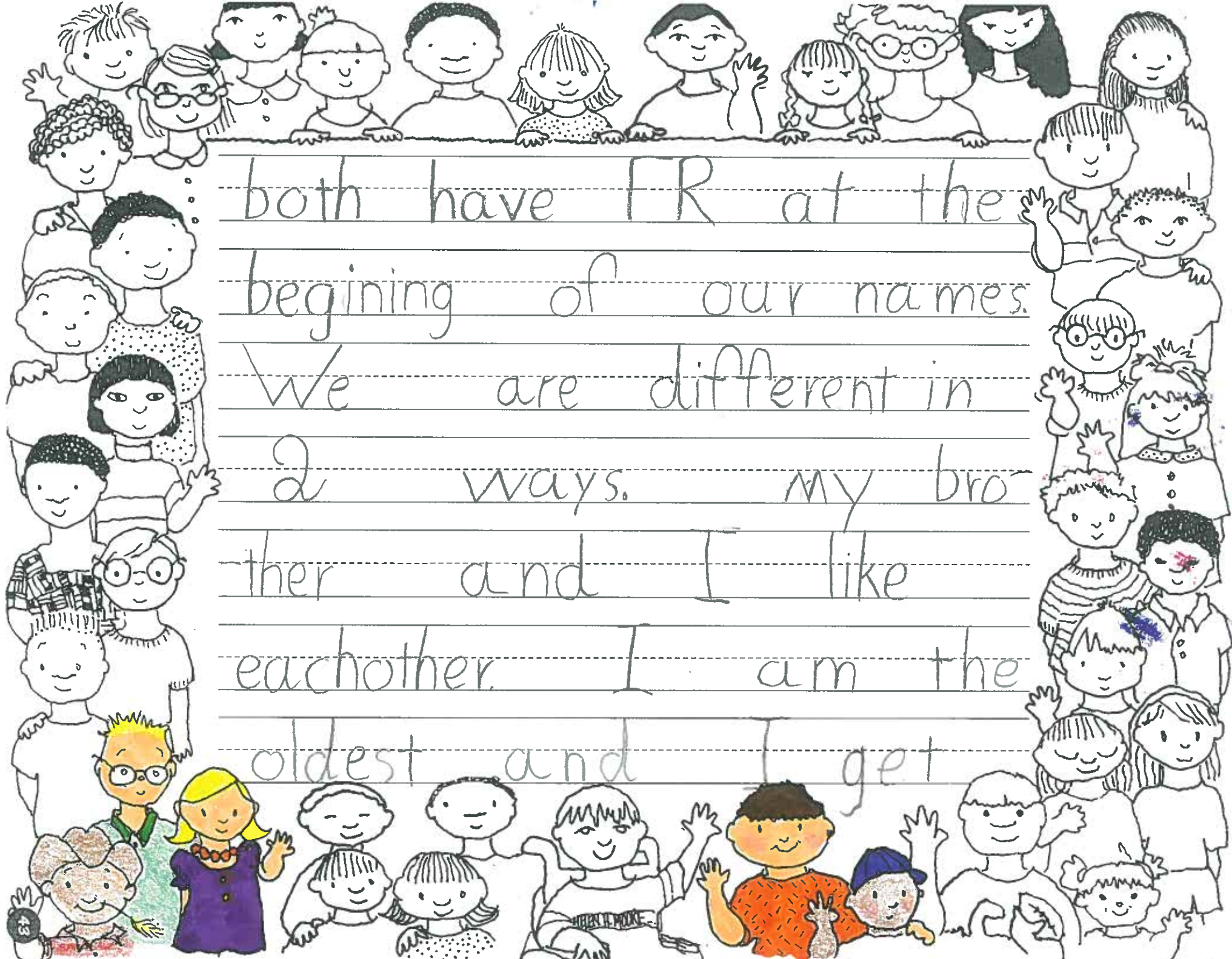
Next I am in grade 3 He is in

grade 2. Like kickball. I don't think

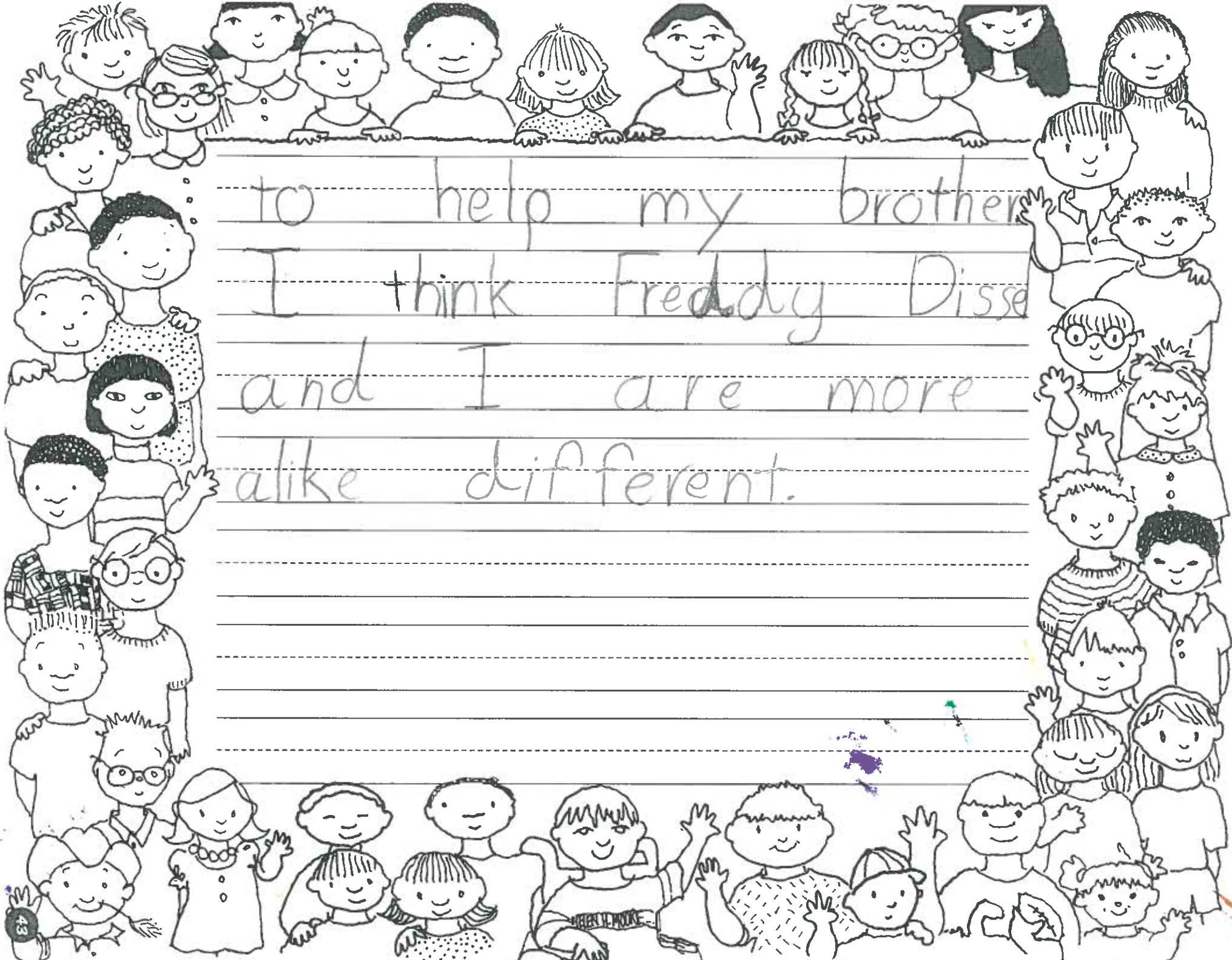
Freddy does.

Here are similar
and different things
about me and Fred
dy Dissel. We are
similar in 2 ways
First, we both have
blond hair. Second we





both have FR at the
begining of our names.
We are different in
2 ways. my bro-
ther and I like
eachother. I am the
oldest and I get



to help my brother
I think Freddy Disse
and I are more
alike different.