

PORTFOLIO COVER PAGE

Included in John's portfolio are the following:

- 1. "Are You Ready for Beast Academy 5A?" Pre-Assessment.** John completed this pre-test for Beast Academy's 5th grade curriculum in September 2018 when he was 8 years old and beginning 3rd grade. Beast Academy is a curriculum designed for math-talented students by Art of Problem-Solving. John completed the pre-assessment independently and within 20 minutes.
- 2. Animal Report.** For part of his 2nd grade science curriculum, John had to write an animal report. John has been fascinated by marine biology since he was little. He chose to write about *Rimicaris hybisae*, a type of shrimp that has adapted to live around deep sea hydrothermal vents. John learned about these creatures through one of the talks we attended at a nearby aquarium. John's dad helped him locate some additional information about *Rimicaris hybisae* on the internet, but John completed the report independently.
- 3. Letter of Recommendation.** This letter was written by John's 4-H Club Leader. John has been working in the area of forestry. His Club Leader can speak to John's knowledge and abilities in science specifically.
- 4. Museum Video.** We uploaded this as a private YouTube video which can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/xxxxxxx>. John has collected rocks for many years. He started creating a "museum" in his room for his rock collection after a visit to a natural history museum in summer 2017. This video was taken on October 2, 2018. This is John's "short" tour. He also has an extended "expert" tour. John's aunt works at a museum. She helped him think about how to organize his museum and taught him how to write labels. She also explained how she gives museum tours. While John has emulated her in many ways, the content of his tour is based on his own reading about geology.
- 5. Smythology book.** This is an excerpt from an ever-evolving book of myths that John writes. John is really interested in mythology and folklore, but he is often frustrated when there isn't enough detail or when he thinks there could have been a more interesting twist in the tale. Thus, he wrote these "better" myths. He has been working on various parts of this book since roughly January 2017, after his grandmother gave him an American folk tale collection as a present. I tried to select some of the stories that I knew he had worked on more recently. Thus, most of these are from 2018 when he was 8 years old and in 2nd and 3rd grade. He was delighted when he figured out the clever title of the book, which is a play on our last name. These are all his stories, with very limited input from anyone else. He often dictates to me but reads over my shoulder as I type to make sure that I'm accurately recording his words.
- 6. Family Newsletter.** John has been creating a fairly regular family newsletter to send out to extended family members for about a year now. This is his Summer 2018 issue, written when he was 8 years old and between 2nd and 3rd grade. He wrote all the articles himself. I provided some help with spelling and punctuation. He designed the layout himself using Microsoft Publisher.