

# FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU

JULY/AUGUST 2024



COME  
and PLAY  
*with* **Siena!**  
SHE'D LOVE TO  
MEET YOU!

WHO'S  
GAME?

TALKING  
ABOUT YOUR  
FAVORITE  
WAYS TO  
HAVE FUN  
TOGETHER!

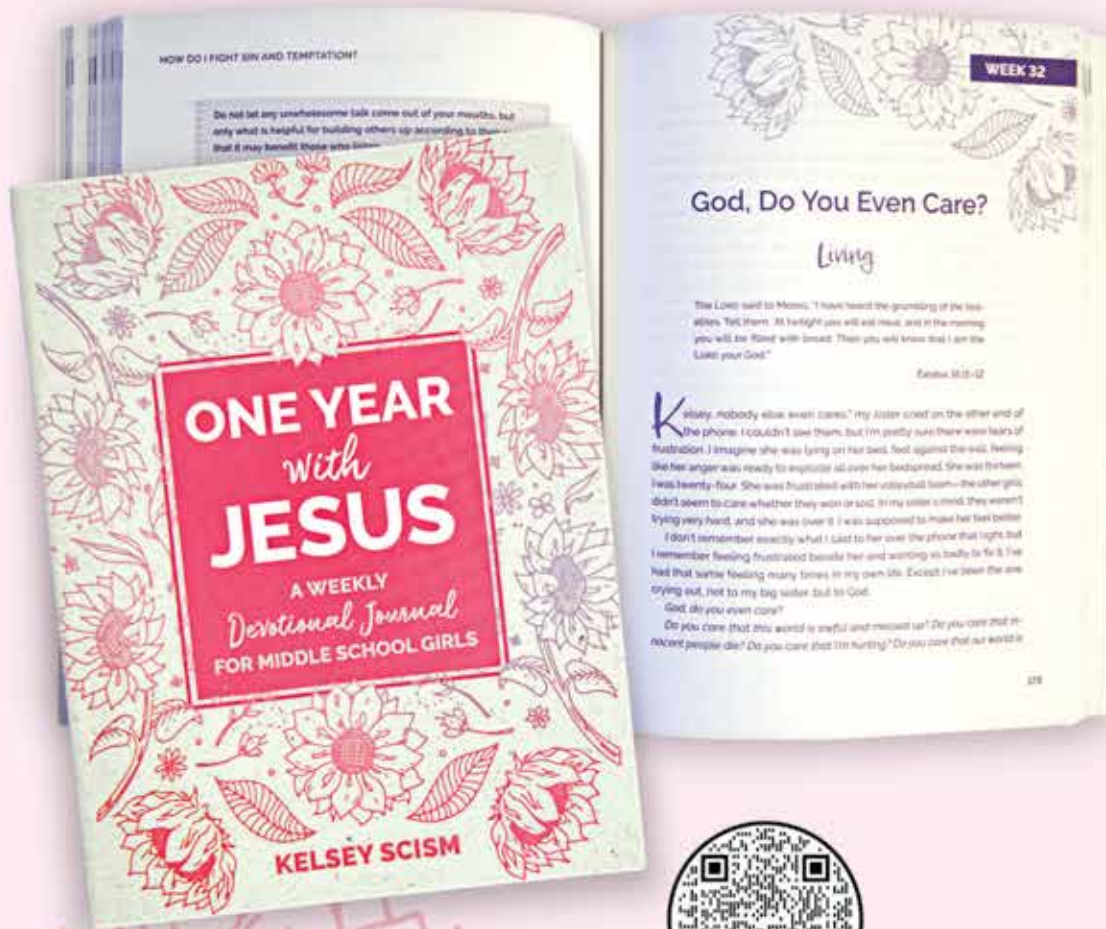
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THROUGH EACH WEEK OF  
THE YEAR.

for **GIRLS LIKE YOU**

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hello **FRIEND**

## HOME GAMES

*So I recommend having fun, because there is nothing better for  
people in this world than to eat, drink and enjoy life ...  
and experience some happiness along with all the  
hard work God gives them under the sun.*

ECCLESIASTES 8:15

Growing up as four sisters means you can pretty much always find someone to play with when you're in the mood for a game. So, this **FUN AND GAMES** issue is a great way to discover new games to play, share memories of favorite games, and learn more about why playing games can actually be more than just fun. Playing is good for our mind (gets your brain working), body (gets your heart pumping), and soul (gets your joy jumping)!

Our family loves playing the board game Taboo! It's a game where you divide into teams and your team has to guess the word on your card by you giving clues without saying the five taboo words. And, of course, those are the five best words to use to get a correct guess! It's our favorite game to play with guests, and it will help you get to know someone really fast!

One thing you should know about me is that I often got in trouble for "playing too much" growing up. What can I say though? I LOVE playing! Some of my favorite games to play growing up were Uno, Monopoly, and Sorry! I also had an unhealthy obsession with pranking people and playing tricks. *Whoops!* However, as I've gotten older and my character has matured, I've learned the balance of fun and games. I've learned that God loves to have fun. **He is the God of joy!** He loves our laughter and imaginations and I think He definitely smiles on us when we gather around the table and play games with one another.

As you continue to grow up, don't lose that fun! It's good to keep youthful game time alive, as I truly believe it helps us tap into the joy of the Lord!

*Alena Pitts*  
**AND YOUR FRIENDS at  
FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU**



FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU

July/August 2024

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Come & Play

Siena Kelm loves to play games, especially with her friends and family! Get to know all the fun ways she's discovered you can make any day special with some playtime together!



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IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES

You share your favorite games—and let us know the ways you like to play.

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Everybody Wins!

Ellie Anderson thinks that the games we like to play are as unique as our personalities! Here she shows us four popular games that everyone will love to play—and as you do, learn more about yourself and others!

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SPrinkles

SPRINKLE JOY. SPRINKLE FUN. SPRINKLE BEAUTY.



ZIPPING BY!

I went ziplining with my family in Costa Rica, but my mum and biggest sister were too scared to do it. It was really fun, but scary because I had never been ziplining before. It was nerve-wracking rappelling down a huge tree. I reeaally liked it and Mum and Dad were very proud of me. God gives me lots of courage to do hard things and this was one of them.

**Annabelle, 8**  
(from New Zealand!)



A DAY AT THE MUSEUM

This summer, I went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City! It was really cool (but sometimes I got bored because I'm just a kid). This is a picture of me and Mada. She's 9 years old and so am I! My mom said her confidence reminded her of me. I like that she's sassy and looks like me! If you go to the Metropolitan Museum, you will love her! ("Mada Primavesi" by Gustav Klimt)

**Sal, 9**



WHAT A CATCH!

I think when you might be scared about doing something new, try it, you may like it! The Lord is always watching you and making sure you are doing great no matter what! The Lord will help you forever and guide you through your life. At family camp, my friend and I went out on a paddle boat and caught a largemouth bass all by ourselves!

**Ana, 8**



BEACH DAYS

I love going to the beach! While in Florida with my cousins we watched the sunset on the beach! The sunset was so beautiful that it inspired me to make this pastel drawing.

**Zoey, 11**



## SISTERS, COUSINS, FRIENDS!

I love my cousin very much and she is like my baby sister! Her name is Katherine and she's 2. She calls me "sister cousin." We talk on FaceTime very often and our moms (who are sisters) make sure we see each other every week. We also usually go on vacations together and THAT is always so much FUN!

**Esther, 8**



**LOL!**

I love to play the bass guitar, bake, dance, and all things art! Here are two of my favorite jokes—I like them because I think they are clever and silly. I love to make people laugh and smile!

**What do you call the Terminator after he retires?**

The ex-terminator!

Knock knock.

Who's there?

Knock knock.

Who's there?

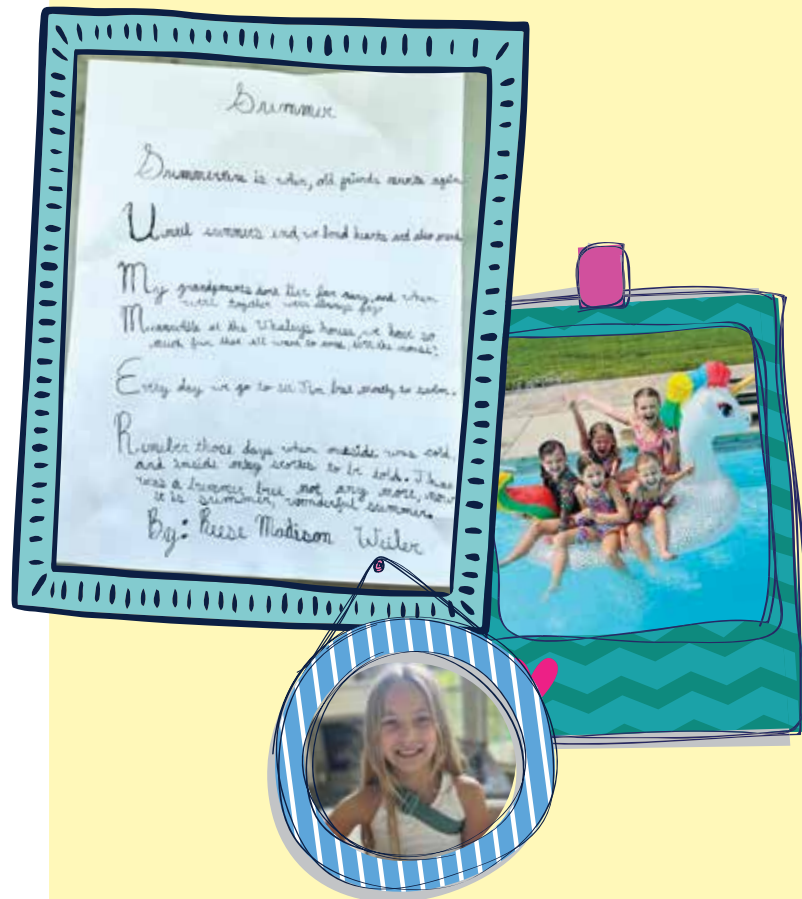
I already told you my name is Knock knock!

**Ellie, 13**

## SUR-PIES!

I drew this picture of an apple pie because my dad's birthday is in the summer, and for his birthday we had apple pie! My friends who also read **FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU** are Nadia, Ella and Claire.

**Loreli, 9**



## WONDERFUL SUMMER

I wrote this poem about summer and my best friends, the Whaleys (and their dad Tim!) who live down the street! We do True Girl Bible studies together and love hanging out!

**Reese, 10**



## DANDELIONS

One day my sister Susanna went to the park. I'm homeschooled, so I stayed home doing schoolwork. When Susanna came back, she had a fistful of dandelions that she had picked. Instead of eating them like an average toddler would, she gave one to my newborn baby sister, Chaya! Dandelions remind me of new life, and Jesus' resurrection.

**Sarah Grace, 10**



## O, SAY CAN YOU SEE

I love to paint, and my favorite holiday is Independence Day, July 4th! I love to soak up outdoor art time together with my hound doggie, Patsy Cline!

**Lola, 8**



## WILDFLOWER SISTERS

We make resin hair clips, dried-flower headbands, and hand-sewn scrunchies and sell them at local art shows

and fairs. We named ourselves "Wildflower Sisters" because we really like flowers, and we get them from our backyard and a local farm. We made ice cream and popsicle resin hair clips for this summer! We love seeing our friends and family wearing all of our products.

**Nailah, 11 and Billie, 8**



# SPRINKLES

SPRINKLE JOY. SPRINKLE FUN. SPRINKLE BEAUTY.



## STANDING TALL

I love gymnastics! In the summer I practice it in the grass and on my outdoor balance beam that my dad made for me. I practice on the bar, too, and my dad is planning to make one for me at home.

**Evelyn, 8**



## THIS IS ME (AND CHARLIE!)

This is me and my 8-month-old puppy, Charlie! My drawing is called "Summer Sunrise" and I drew it with colored pencils. I love reading about girls like me in the magazine, and the jokes are great! My favorite part about summer is swimming. I love Jesus, reading, playing with Charlie, dancing, drawing, and going camping! I have one brother and two sisters, and I'm an American Heritage Girl in Troop TX-5160.

**Rachel, 11**



## BEAUTIFUL THINGS

I absolutely love FOR GIRLS LIKE YOU magazines! I'm always looking forward to getting a new one. I painted this picture to remind me of how perfectly and beautifully God creates things.

**Elena, 11**



## SUNSET SURPRISE

I chose a sunset landscape because it makes me feel calm on the inside. At my house we have beautiful summer sunsets and I wanted to try to capture what I saw. It's amazing how God created something so beautiful for us to see and enjoy!

**Emery, 9**

## A POEM

**My Tenth Birthday**

Sounds like laughter and splashing in the pool,

Smells like salty water in the room,

Looks like red and blue presents on the table,

Feels like confetti and joy in the house,

Tastes like silky strawberry cake.

**Abigail, 10**



I AM

ADDY

14 years old  
Honest. Diligent. Kind.

I love to read!

With my sister on the set of Camp Hideout!

I always remember when I won my first 1st-place ribbon with Posh in a hunter competition. We had worked so hard for that!

A family adventure in Italy!

## A GIRL LIKE YOU

**Do you know how your name was chosen?** My mom always wanted a daughter named Addy, and my dad chose my middle name, Rose.

**Tell us about your family.** I am the oldest of four kids, so I have three younger siblings (Lilly-13, Maya-11, and Colin-7). We are a family of YouTubers, and many people have enjoyed watching our family's adventures on our channel, [Tic Tac Toy Family](#).

**Tell us about your pets!** We have a family dog named Sandy. She is a hound dog mix that we adopted from a rescue. I also have a horse named Posh, whom I ride in horse competitions.

**What are your favorite hobbies?** I spend most of my free time horseback riding. I am an English rider and compete in hunter competitions. I also spend a lot of time reading books and growing my book collection.

**What do you want to do or be when you grow up?** I would like to continue my career as a YouTuber or have a career in the equestrian world so that I can continue working with horses.

**What is something you want all girls to know about God?** God has a purpose for your life and uses young people for His kingdom work. In fact, Jesus' disciples were likely teenagers!

**What are three things you are grateful for today?** My family. God's grace. My barn community.

**What is something that nobody would ever guess about you?** I like to watch F1 Racing on the weekends with my dad.

**Do you have an unusual talent or ability?** I am somehow able to fail at making pretty much any recipe I attempt in the kitchen!

**What has God been showing or teaching you lately?** When I am feeling worried about something, God invites me to give my worries over to Him. I can hand them over to Him through prayer, and I know that I can trust Him with the situation.

**What is one of the coolest things you have ever done?** My sister and I got to be in a movie called *Camp Hideout*. It was a lot of hard work and long days, but it was incredible to finally watch the movie in the theaters!

## FIVE FUN FACTS ABOUT ME!

1. I spend as much time at the barn as I possibly can.
2. My favorite F1 racer is Lando Norris.
3. I have been learning Spanish for the past five years.
4. I love collecting and displaying all the books I've read.
5. I love to sing in the shower.

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FUN (AND GAMES!)?

Every now and then, my barn community gets together for a gathering at our barn. The kids all like to turn the horse jumps into hurdles! We take turns running around the arena and jumping over the poles to see who can get through the course the quickest! And I like to do the daily Wordle. My family and I also love to play Ticket to Ride and Catan together during family game nights.

## FAVORITES!

**Color:** Green

**Song:** "Praise" (Elevation Worship and Brandon Lake)

**Book:** *Lunar Chronicles*

**Food:** Steak

**Thing To Wear:** Lululemon anything

**Class in School:** Language Arts

**Bible Verse:** Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!** We'd love to showcase your paintings, poems, songs, stories, drawings, photographs, anything! And we'd like to see you! Email your entries and photo to [sprinkles@forgirlslikeyou.com](mailto:sprinkles@forgirlslikeyou.com)!



# GOD'S girl

DEVOTIONALS & MORE TO GROW YOUR FAITH

WYNTER'S WORDS



## PLAYING BY THE RULES

Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God—what is good and well-pleasing and perfect.

ROMANS 12:2

Have you ever been to overnight camp? Every year my daughters go to one for an entire week. That's an entire week without me telling them what they should or shouldn't do! Of course, counselors are there with rules to help guide them, but they still have more freedom than usual. For example, they can decide how many popsicles or how much candy they should buy at the camp store after dinner. They can also decide whom they want to spend time with, what conversations they want to participate in, and whether they will go to bed early or stay up all night.

Every night, the summer camp puts on different activities. My girls' favorite nighttime event is the buffalo hunt. They basically put on a bathing suit and jump into a pile of mud. I think it's pretty gross, but they seem to love it! Now, imagine how yucky they must be after playing and splashing around in mud for hours. You can no longer see the color of their bathing suits, their hair, or even their skin. All you see is mud everywhere! It would be impossible for anyone to stay clean after spending so much time in that pool of brown goop.

Mud isn't harmful—it can easily be washed away. But some influences in life can't be washed away so easily. That's why parents and camp counselors and teachers are in your life—to help monitor or watch over things that will influence you. That may not always feel like a good thing, but it is. It means people love you enough to care about what goes into your heart. And their care will help guide you to make good decisions while still enjoying the fun things in life, like summer camp and swimming in mud—especially when you have more freedom than usual!

But there is something even better than monitoring by counselors and parents. And God wants more than your will. He wants your mind. He wants you to know that there is power to change the parts of you that aren't like Him when you give your full mind to Him. As you give Him your mind, He will give you His power to change. When He renews your mind, His goodness and perfect plan for your life are sure to follow!

From *I Am Yours* by Wynter Pitts.  
Courtesy of Harvest House Publishers.

DEAR God.

I am grateful for the people You've put in my life to protect me and keep an eye on the things that influence me. But Lord, I want more than monitoring. I want You to change my mind when it thinks differently from Yours. And I want You to give me the power to live a life that seeks Your will over mine. Help me to see Your mind in Your Word and as I seek You—and give me power to change!  
In Jesus' name—AMEN

# GO Girl!

WITH JACKIE MARUSHKA



GO Girl!

## READY SET... GO!

"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands."

ISAIAH 55:12

I have such wonderful memories of summer play when I was a kid growing up in New Mexico. School was out and that meant my cousins from California would be coming to visit!

One summer, when I was 11, I remember waking up early and walking to Grandma Sylvia and Grandpa Mike's house to see my cousins Sylvia and Carlos, who had arrived.

We'd all sit down to have breakfast as a family and after we helped pick up and wash the dishes, we were usually excused to "go play outside."

With our play clothes on, we'd calmly walk to the white kitchen door and quietly open it, then slowly push the creaky screen door with the hook latch ... and then it was GAME ON!

We all ran as fast as we could until we got to the creek on the edge of Grandma and Grandpa's property.

It wasn't an official race—we didn't have any kind of audible signal—but in our minds we all heard: "Ready. Set. GO!" and so we did!

Once we got to the creek, we would play hide and seek, build forts or pretend we were explorers in a foreign land. We would play until we'd hear Grandma say, "Come in, kids! It's time for dinner!" And just like that ... we were racing again, this time, back to the kitchen's creaky screen

door, the bathroom to wash up and then, the dinner table where Grandma's red chile and beans with tortillas waited for us.

After dinner, someone would come up with a game to play. We didn't have board games or even cards but we made do with our creativity. For example, we'd have competitions about who could find the prettiest rock and then at night we'd have a "rock pageant" and the most unique rock would win. We'd also play hopscotch but instead of chalk on concrete like kids in the city might do, we would find random sticks on the orchard floor and draw hopscotch lines in the dirt OR maybe we would draw lines in the soft earth and play many rounds of tic-tac-toe using our "pageant rocks" as markers.

As I grew up and got to know people from all over the world, I learned many people had very different games they played—from racing, to pretending to be characters from movies and exploring uncharted worlds, to simple games made of rocks and sticks. The best thing of all is that not all games cost money. And the best games bring people together and fill our memories with laughter and joy.

I wish this for you and your family as you spend time together—not just this summer, but all year long!







What did the  
baseball glove  
say to the ball?  
Catch you later!

What do kids  
play when they  
can't play with a  
phone?

Bored  
games!



WHY COULDN'T  
the pirates play cards?

They were all standing on  
the deck!



Why is  
a leopard  
so bad at hiding?

Because he's  
always spotted.

Why are  
cats so  
good at  
winning video  
games?

Because they  
have nine lives.



What is a dog's  
FAVORITE TYPE  
OF PIZZA?

Pupperoni!



What did one block say  
to the other WHEN HE WAS  
READY to leave the party?

"LEGO!"



What's a TORNADO'S  
FAVORITE game to play  
AT A PARTY?

Twister!



HOW DO DUCKS  
CELEBRATE JULY 4TH?

Firequackers!

Where  
do cows  
go for fun?

The  
moooooovies.



What did  
the horse say to  
her best friend?

"Hay Girl!"



And here's  
one from  
Emilee:

SEND US YOUR FAVORITE LOLS! What jokes make you laugh? Have a great riddle to stump us? Have you drawn a cartoon you'd like to share? Anything funny at all—we want to hear from you! Email [LOL@forgirlslikeyou.com](mailto:LOL@forgirlslikeyou.com)!



TRUE girl

WITH SHANI MCKENZIE

## NERTS FOR THE WIN!

Get in on the fun! Here's how to play Nerts:



- Each player gets a full deck of cards (minus the jokers).
- Each player deals 13 cards into a Nerts pile, with 12 face down and 1 face up.
- Players start with four work piles, each with one card.
- Players build foundation piles in the common area, starting with an ace and playing the next highest card of the same suit.
- The player with the king of a specific suit puts it on the pile facedown, which signifies that suit is done.
- Players pull three cards at a time from their deck.
- If a player can't go, they pull another three cards.
- Players put aces up in the only area where both players can use the same piles.
- The first player to get rid of their Nerts pile ends the round and yells "Nerts!"

Have fun!

My family LOVES games! Card games, board games, word games ... you name it. But one of our absolute favorite games is Nerts! Three years ago, my brother-in-law and his family came to town and taught us this game, which eventually became the official bonding game of our household. People who visit our home are always invited to play. It has become a tradition.

**You want to know why we love games? Because they bring people together.** Acts is one of my favorite books of the Bible because so much of it is about community. Acts 2:44 says, "And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had." God's people gathered together all the time to worship and pray, but they also ate together and shared property and belongings.

**That's how God wants us to live—in fellowship with Him and one another.** Even when we're having fun, it should be to the glory of God. Nerts is one of things that helps my family do that. We travel with our bag of card decks so we're ready for an impromptu game at any time! Not only does it get children and adults laughing together, but it helps us start some pretty cool conversations. We've even wrapped up an evening of family worship with a fun game of Nerts!

Whether you're hanging out at home or headed to a cookout, try pulling out a few decks of cards and enjoying a game of Nerts. **I promise, you'll make countless memories, and the fun will be endless!**



TrueGirl

Dannah Gresh is the founder of True Girl. She's written more than 20 books for girls and moms. Find out more at [mytruegirl.com](http://mytruegirl.com).





# Come AND play!

**EVERYTHING'S A-OK**  
with **SIENA KELM**, a miracle  
baby grown into a bubbly  
8-year-old who loves  
games and fun  
with her friends  
and family!

## A NOTE FROM MOM

**SIENA** has been a miracle since I found out I was pregnant with her! At age 46 getting pregnant was a surprise, and although nervous, we joyfully made it through the first three months. However, at 17 weeks we found out Siena was really small and not growing like she should. We did lots of tests, and thankfully all of those came back normal! So, we had to wait and pray for God to help her grow. When she was 29 weeks, they discovered I needed an emergency c-section, and at 5:01pm on February 15, Siena was born weighing just two pounds, six ounces! She was miraculously breathing on her own, and the nurses immediately described her as "feisty," a positive thing in the NICU, but she had a long way to go before being able to come home. She spent 75 days in the hospital. There were lots of scary ups and downs, but we were finally able to bring her home when she reached five pounds and could take a bottle. Although we were home, Siena was born with a small hole in her heart and she still had to have regular appointments with heart doctors until God closed it completely when she was around 7 years old. She also needed to wear a "helmet" for many months to help the shape of her head develop correctly, and ankle braces to help her feet learn to step in the right direction. She started wearing glasses when she was 1, and had a surgery to repair an interior cleft palate due to her being born so early. She is now 8 years old, loves Jesus, and is excelling in every way. Siena truly is a walking, breathing example of God's mercy, compassion and grace. He truly did more than hold her and help her grow—He has worked miracle after miracle in her short life already, and I know He has amazing plans for her future!







MEET

# Siena

SIENA, 8  
Funny.  
Kind.  
Creative.

## MY NAME

My parents named me after a place they visited in Italy, called Siena. My middle name is Rousseau—that was my mom's maiden name.

## MY FAMILY

My mom and dad are loving! My dad wakes me up each morning with a funny game he made up called "little worm and buster," and sometimes he makes my favorite food, his fish recipe, and the best chocolate-chip cookies ever! My mommy helps me cook lots of things, reads Bible stories and other books with me at bedtime, and puts me to sleep with "huggie bear and tickle bear" each night!

I have two older brothers: Quinn, 17, likes video games, and he taught me how to play Minecraft! And Zander, 15, likes anime, football and he helps me make forts—and he likes watching puppy movies with me!



## MY PETS

We have a cavapoo named Chief and a vizsla black lab named Arnold. I also found a baby bunny in our yard, and my mom and dad decided I could keep him! I named him Biscuit.

## MY HOBBIES

Playing Barbies, playing with puppy, going to school, coloring, painting, and creating new things, like the doll backpack I made out of a plastic crayon box!

## WHEN I GROW UP

I want to be a veterinarian for puppies, a dancer, or a singer!

## I WANT ALL GIRLS TO KNOW

That God is always there for you, you can trust Him, He loves you, and is with you no matter what.

## MY UNUSUAL TALENT

I can do fun stuff with my tongue, and I can do a turkey call that my family loves.

## MY HAPPY PLACE

Is with my family.

## ONE OF MY FAVORITE MEMORIES

When we went to Yellowstone! We had all sorts of adventures and so much fun. We went hiking, rode on a gondola that went up in the sky, up to a restaurant—and one of my brothers was so funny because he was freaking out when it made a creaking noise, and my mom filmed it and put it on Instagram!

## ON MY BUCKET LIST

I really really want to go to Dave & Busters again!

## GOD HAS BEEN TEACHING ME

How to love others.

## COOLEST THING I'VE SEEN AND DONE

Yellowstone! And all the geysers and whitewater rafting!





# FAVORITES

**Color:** Blue

**Song:** "Pure Imagination" and "Hat Full of Dreams" from *WONKA* movie

**Book:** The Bible, *Green Eggs & Ham* and all the Mo Willems books

**Food:** Mac & Cheese

**Thing To Wear:** Gold Hinge skirts

**Class in School:** Bible and math

**Bible Verse:** John 13:34

"A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

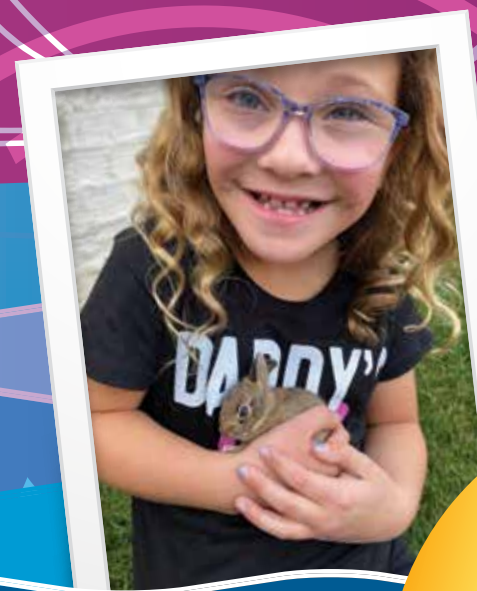


## 5 FUN FACTS about me!

1. I love puppies.
2. I love wild baby bunnies.
3. My fave TV show is *Pup Academy*.
4. My favorite movies are *WONKA*, *A Dog's Way Home* and *Benji*.
5. Jesus did a big miracle in me. When I was born I was only as big as my mom and dad's hand. I was supposed to be born in April, but if my mom and dad and the doctor didn't choose for my birthday to be February 15, I could have died. So I was born February 15! This showed God's unfailing love to my heart!



Fun at the pool with my best friend Margo! We love to do everything together. I call her my BFFAT—that means Best Friend Forever Always Together!





# I'm game!

These are some of my favorite things to play! And my favorite people to play with are my mom and dad, my brothers, my best friend Margo, all my other friends ... and I can even have fun if I'm alone! I also like to make up games for everyone to try, and I especially love to make up all kinds of worlds for my Barbie to be in. I feel like I'm doing all the exciting things she's doing in my imagination!

**PUPPY FUFFLE** – I like this game because it's about puppies, but also that it's a four-player game you can play with friends or family.

**DICE MATH GAME** – My nana got me this game, and I like it because it helps me with my math, but it's also a lot of fun. I have played it with my nana and Auntie Crystal the most!

**TIC TAC TOE** – This game is fun because you can play it anywhere! On your parent's phones, on paper when you're at restaurants, on a plane ... anywhere!

**BARBIES!** – I like playing with my Barbies because I get to play like they're doing lots of things—like having birthday parties, camping, playing with animals on a farm, swimming, cooking, going to an ice cream place, and all kinds of things! I once set up lights and music in my room and made my Barbie have a music concert. My mom came to watch!



I like to watch movies. And I have to have popcorn! I can't watch a movie without it!



I love it when my friends come over to play—and I especially love to make everyone hot chocolate!



Margo and my neighborhood friends, Eva and Elise, and I made our own Lemonade Stand. We sold cupcakes too!



I love to play when we go to the beach—I swim with my boogie board and go fishing with Dad—and we love to play The Game of Life in the evenings!



It's fun to play video games with my brothers!



# It's all **FUN** and **GAMES**

A LOOK AT ALL THE WAYS **YOU** LIKE TO PLAY!  
Readers share their favorite games and  
playful activities. Maybe you'll  
discover something new to  
try yourself!



**EVIE**, 12

Some of my favorite games are Camel Up, Hand-To-Hand Wombat, Dutch Blitz, Saboteur, Qwirkle, Dominion, Splendor Duel, and Codenames Duet. I love playing games with my family and friends.

**When I grow up, I'm going to own over 100 games so people can come to my house and have fun!**





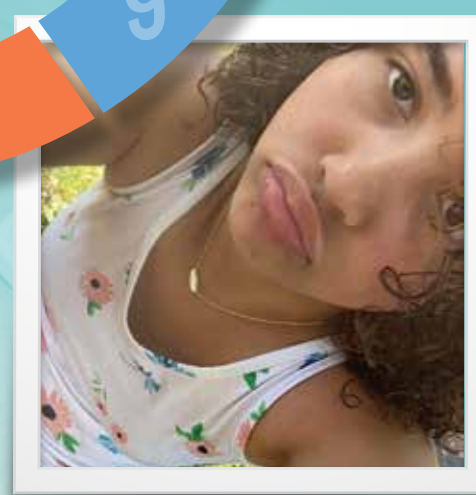
CLAIRE, 10

One of my favorite games to play is Frisbee with my dad. I recently found out that I like playing it! Another game I like to play indoors is Ticket to Ride with my family.



ADDISON, 12

I am the oldest of five girls. I play the piano and am learning "Clair de Lune" and the "Maple Leaf Rag." I also like crochet but don't do it as often as I'd like. We are homeschooled and we love it so much! I also like growing hollyhocks—like the ones behind me in my photo!



ISIS, 12

My favorite game to play is mermaids in the pool. I like to play it with my best friend, Evelyn. It's so fun to let loose and just have fun after a long day of school.



MERCY, 9

I have fun playing a game called Spy Alley with my family (my dad, mom, sister Haven and brother Titus). I like it because we get to pretend to be spies from different countries. We like to use accents while we play, and we laugh a lot. I really like our family game nights.



My 14-year-old brother made a tent for us out of sticks and sheets

## sisters

ANNA, 14

For fun I like playing soccer. I played on a team for three years. We were undefeated! I also enjoy drawing. I like to have adventures whether I'm making an obstacle course in the backyard for us all, creating my own recipes, or finding ways to serve my family in a way I never have before. Helping is fun to me! I have eight siblings and enjoy playing Uno with them and my parents. My 2-year-old sister Charity and I have a blast together.



LYDIA, 12

### My Fun and Games List

1. Praise Dance
2. Bake treats (especially cookies) with my 6- and 8-year-old brothers.
3. Follow along to drawing tutorials.
4. Play Quick Cups
5. Do puzzles
6. Do word searches
7. Read books
8. Watch TV with my 6-year-old brother.
9. Play with my friends in the neighborhood.
10. Go swimming.
11. Travel



ELISABETH, 10

There are 11 people in my family, so we like to find fun things to do together and alone. I like to sing, dance, and I love being with my relatives. I have five brothers and four sisters. My favorite games to play are Game of Life, Hungry Hungry Hippos, and Hoot Owl Hoot. I usually play with my siblings. I really want to learn how to play Monopoly!



We made a balloon castle out of boxes, sheets and balloons!



NOELLE, 10

My friends and I love to do origami. We did a class project for Mother's Day, and we learned how to make origami paper flowers. I also like to fold paper stars. My friends and I spent hours making them the other day and then gave them away to people we met.



LORELEI, 11

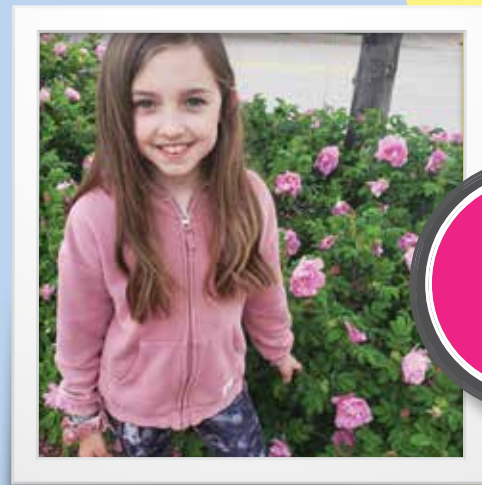
I enjoy playing all sorts of games with friends and family. My mimi and I love to play rummy together. We go out onto her porch and spend a lot of time together as we play cards. Games are so much fun in my family!





KATELYN, 10

My family and I like to have game nights with our family every other month. I love playing games like Clue and Uno. I also have a hammock and gymnastics equipment (I am a gymnast!) and I love playing/practicing on that. At recess, I do the bars and talk with my friends for fun.



ADINA, 10

My favorite games to play include Sushi Go, Speed, and two-person 500. And my favorite person to play games with is my dad.



VALENTINA, 11

I love to play Battleship with my mom! My awesome aunt gave me this amazing game for Easter and we've been playing it ever since! I play Guess Who with my brother Antonio every night before we go to bed and it's soooooo fun! I love playing Super Mario Life with my dad, and we all play Clue, Jeopardy, Apples to Apples: Bible Edition, Kids Create Absurdity, Risk, and Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza as family games!



ELLIANA, 13

I love to play games, especially with my family! I have three sisters so there's always someone up to play a game! Sometimes we play different kinds of tag or cards or board games. Every Friday night that we're home we have family game night too! Games make everything more fun!



ELEANOR, 10

I love to run! Every summer my family and I participate in track meets with my brothers, cousins, aunts, uncles, even friends! My favorite races are the mile and the 4x100 relay. The track meets aren't about winning, it's about trying your best, having fun, and keeping your body healthy!



REU, 12

My family loves games! For Christmas, I got a Monopoly game with the theme of Monterey Bay Aquarium (located in California). We've been playing it a lot. My favorite property is the Southern Sea Otter because I love otters! Playing games and spending time with my family make me happy.





ELLIA, 10

Something I like to play with my family and friends is Jumpsies. It combines hopscotch, jump rope, and cat's cradle. There are two enders who hold the rope and a jumper who jumps. I really enjoy playing this game, so I drew this picture!



AYLA, 9

This is how I make fun a part of my life. We live next to a field, so in the fall when the harvest is done, we run and pick up the leftovers. In the winter we go sledding behind our house. In the summer we pick strawberries from our garden. Lastly, in my favorite part of the year, spring, that's when we go on the trampoline when it's raining—it's so fun! I find fun for every season of the year!



RUTH, 10

I'm really good at making up games. Once while my brother was doing homework, I turned cardboard boxes into boats to play with my youngest brother. I also love board games like Monopoly and Guess Who. My favorite is imaginative play with my best friend!



## GAMES ARE A SUPER WAY TO GET TO KNOW YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS BETTER—WHILE HAVING A TON OF FUN IN THE PROCESS!

Think of how you might describe yourself. I describe myself as a 14-year-old who loves to be around people and loves to skateboard, dance, sew and write. But maybe you don't like any of those things.

The things we enjoy make us unique.

Take my sister and me for example. I love to be around people, so I have an extroverted personality. My sister is someone who doesn't always enjoy hanging around a lot of people, so she has an introverted personality. We are so different from each other even though we're related! Just the same, I might like to play Mafia, but you might prefer to play Apples to Apples. I like to dance, but maybe you like gymnastics. I like to write, but maybe you like to read.

While it's cool to have different likes and interests, it's also cool to enjoy the same things! It helps us relate to one another.

Just the other day, I was talking to a random girl I met at a donut shop about ballet because we both had that in common! I asked her what her favorite step was, where she took classes, and what show she was in. I was able to relate to her because of our common interest.

Our interests, likes and preferences make all of us unique. But they can also help us relate to people and make new friends!

The next time your friends come over, or you're in charge of games for your youth group, here are four fun games that are super popular. You can't go wrong with any of these choices. Have a blast as you get to know others better over a hilarious game!

—Ellie Anderson

## FUN GAMES FOR TWEENS!

### MAFIA

You can play this game with cards or there's a move-around version. In either one, everyone is trying to figure out who the mafia is. The mafia get people out discreetly to keep their identity a secret. Everyone else tries to discover the mafia!

### TACO, CAT, GOAT, CHEESE, PIZZA

This is a super simple, hand-slapping card game! It requires good hand-eye coordination and not being afraid to do silly motions when a special card comes up. The first person to get rid of all their cards and slap a match correctly wins!

### APPLES TO APPLES

This game is a game of crazy descriptions! Everyone takes turns being the judge. The judge says a word and definition on one of the green apple cards. The other players match the definition with the words on their red apple cards as best they can. The person with the most green apple cards wins!

### DO YOU LOVE YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS?

In my youth group, this one is a classic! Everyone sits in a circle with one person in the center. Everyone asks the person in the middle, "Do you love your brothers and sisters?" The person then says something like, "Yes, except the ones wearing hats." Then everyone wearing a hat must get up and move to another chair as fast as they can. The person in the middle moves too, so whoever doesn't get a new seat becomes the new person in the middle! This game is always pure chaos, and we love it.





# COURAGEOUS girls

WITH TERRA MATTSON

DEAR  
TERRA,

"What was your favorite  
game to play when you  
were my age?"

LOVE,  
JANE, 8

## PLAY TIME

When I was a little girl, I loved to sing and dance. Before there were smart phones and social media, my

Play helps us love and be loved. Play helps us not take ourselves too seriously and learn how to relax, laugh, and enjoy all of creation. One of my favorite psalms says, "Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart." PSALM 37:4.

God invites us to **ENJOY. DELIGHT.** There is so much God shows us about Himself and who we are when we play by ourselves (color, sing, dance, imagine) or with others (play house, create movies or music videos, play board games.) As you get older and begin to become an early teen, it's easy to let go of imaginations, thinking you're too old to play. Don't let life get too serious where you put aside delighting in the Lord. A Courageous Girl knows how to play and learns how to delight in the Lord.

## JOURNAL PROMPTS

Here are some questions to help you discover your favorite way to play:

What makes me feel most alive?

When do I laugh the most?  
What am I doing and how can I make this part of my daily and weekly life?

In what games or type of play do I find myself feeling closest to God or others?

Who do I enjoy playing with the most? Which friends? Which family members? And why?

Challenge: Invite one of your parents or caretakers to play with you and tell them that this is one of your favorite ways to be with them. Help them remember what it's like to enter into play and draw closer to you and to God.

Have fun, Terra



courageous girls  
ROOTED IN GRACE

Terra Mattson is a counselor, author and founder of *Courageous Girls*. To learn how to be a Courageous Girl and start your own group, ask your mom or caregiver to go to [mycourageousgirls.com](http://mycourageousgirls.com) or have her read Terra's book, *Courageous: Being Daughters Rooted in Grace*.

# faith SERVICE. FUN.

WITH AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

FAITH. SERVICE.  
FUN.

## A TIME TO PLAY!

"The streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets."  
ZECHARIAH 8:5

**OUR CREED:** "As an American Heritage Girl, I promise to be Compassionate, Helpful, Honest, Loyal, Perseverant, Pure, Resourceful, Respectful, Responsible and Reverent."



meet  
**EMMA.**

a Tenderheart from Troop NC1130 who enjoyed an empowered girl moment when she hit the archery target for the first time at Spring Camp! And went on to earn her Archery Badge!

**FAITH:** Read about God's promise of the joy in His Kingdom! In the Bible, play is often used to represent joy—both in our lives now, and in our forever with Him!

## BADGES

### TOYS & GAMES BADGE

Children all over the world have played games and owned toys since history was first recorded. The types of toys have varied, and the kinds of games have changed as civilization has evolved. American Heritage girls can earn the TOYS & GAMES BADGE by learning about and playing games from other times, places and cultures!



## MORE THAN GAMES

**Troop TX0334**, located in San Antonio, Texas, near the Mexican border has many Hispanic families, and this past Easter shared a Cascarones project to honor Christ's Resurrection! (Cascarones are a common way that Hispanic families celebrate Easter!) The Troop made a whole morning of the process, from hollowing out eggs to fill with confetti, dying them vibrant colors, learning the significance of Christ's empty tomb, and cracking the cascarones over each other's heads. You read that right! It was a fun way to end the celebration! And part of the tradition!



## WORD SEARCH

How many games can you find?

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| A | M | U | S | O | P | R | P | M | B | A | S | D | I | F | G | A |
| N | S | O | F | O | H | Q | U | Y | K | C | M | K | T | R | H | E |
| L | C | W | L | N | R | U | N | E | Z | W | K | O | O | E | U | J |
| P | H | O | P | S | C | O | T | C | H | A | R | A | D | E | S | L |
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| G | O | R | E | S | O | K | S | M | O | N | P | L | W | D | R | T |

CHARADES  
FREEZETAG  
GOFISH  
HIDEANDSEEK

HOPSCOTCH  
ISPY  
MUSICALCHAIRS  
ROCKPAPERSCISSORS

SCAVENGERHUNT  
SIMONSAYS  
SPOONS  
UNO



AMERICAN  
HERITAGE GIRLS  
FAITH | SERVICE | FUN

Looking for a community of faith, service, lots of fun—of girls just like you? With your parents' help, go to [americanheritagegirls.org/find-a-troop/](http://americanheritagegirls.org/find-a-troop/) to get connected. We think you'll love who you find!



## Water Bottle Clock

This summer, you're going on a magical adventure, collecting memories like treasures. You'll save maps, tickets, favorite recipes, or letters from camp to craft a special clock ... a timekeeper of your summer fun.

Each glance at your clock will whisk you back to those sunny days and joyful moments, keeping your summer memories alive forever. Remember, "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy." (PSALM 16:11) When we stay in the presence of God, there will be JOY!

### SUPPLIES

Battery Operated Clock (Walmart or IKEA), Paper Memories of Your Summer: maps, tickets, napkins, letters from camp, favorite recipes, or magazine pages that represent you (Hint: **For Girls Like You!**), Glue, Foam Brush, Water Bottle, 2-inch Styrofoam Ball, Paint, Q-Tips, Scissors, Hot Glue Gun and Glue



1. Cut your water bottle 1/3 from the top. Now cut "petals" up to the top of the bottle. Experiment with different petal lengths and think about having two layers ... all flowers are different!



2. Paint ONLY the outside of your flower with acrylic paint. Let dry. Tip: You can use a hairdryer to speed up the drying time.



3. While drying, gather your summer paper memories and collage them onto your clock.



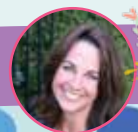
4. Cut your Q-Tips in half. Paint your styrofoam ball and tops of the Q-tips.



5. Once dry, flip over the water bottle and press open the "petals" of your flower. You will see the shiny side! Glue the ball in the middle of your water bottle and add the Q-tips.



6. Glue the flower to the middle of your clock. Enjoy reliving your favorite summer memories every time you check the time!



Visit [thouartexalted.com](http://thouartexalted.com). Thou Art Exalted, founded by Annie Pajcic, combines art and God's Word online and in every issue of **For Girls Like You!**



## STEMgirls

SCIENCE FUN WITH THE DENTON DUO

Lydia and Bethany

## IT IS ROCKET SCIENCE!

So I run straight toward the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above.

PHILIPPIANS 3:14

If we told you that two straws, some tape, a sheet of paper and a recycled plastic bottle would give you an afternoon of fun, you might not believe us ... but it's true!

Here's how to make a great rocket and rocket launcher using recyclables from around the house!

### YOU'LL NEED

- Recycled plastic bottle (you'll need to squeeze it, so soda or water bottles are a great choice)
- Two straws (one smaller one that can fit into one larger one)
- Tape (we used clear scotch tape)
- Paper (optional—for the nose and fins)

### HERE'S HOW

Open and rinse the bottle. Put the smaller straw inside the bottle and leave about 3 to 4 inches poking out. Secure the straw with tape and cover up the rest of the bottle opening with tape. You want to form a good seal so that all the air is forced to leave through the straw. (Give a few test squeezes to make sure the air is coming out of the straw and isn't leaking.)



Take the large straw and cut it in half. Fold over one of the ends and tape it shut. Again, we want this to be airtight. Check to make sure no air can escape the straw by giving it a little puff of air.

Now for the fun part! Add a nose cone, fins for the rocket, and decorate it with Sharpies. This is your chance to really make the rocket your own—long or short? Color? Number of fins? A fun name? We named our rocket LB Melvin after Lydia and Bethany, and Leland Melvin, an astronaut we know who lives near us!

Now that your rocket is complete, slide the larger straw rocket onto your launcher and give a little

squeeze of the bottle. The rocket should launch up in the air.

### WHAT'S GOING ON?

While you are having fun launching your straw rocket, you are also demonstrating two of Newton's Laws of Motion:

"An object at rest wants to stay at rest until some outside force acts upon it."

"For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction."

As you challenge yourself to get your rocket toward the goal, remember that we are a lot like the rocket. We may set ourselves up and think that we're in the perfect spot to reach our goal, but something comes along to knock us off course. Maybe a huge pounding force sends us reeling much farther than we intended, or we don't have enough force to get going and launch to the next step. Maybe a cross breeze blows us off course. Just like we can pick up our rockets, make adjustments, and try again, so it is with God. You have never gone so far off course that He can't bring you back on track. You might have to reset and start over and try again, but the goal, loving and serving God, doesn't change or disappear.

### TRY THIS FOR FUN

**Get creative.** Challenge your friends to a straw rocket design contest, and then have rocket races! You can change the speed of your rocket—the faster you squeeze, the faster and farther it will launch. (Bethany figured out that if she used a bendy straw on the launcher, she could bend it to launch her straw when she laid the bottle on its side. Rather than squeezing it with her hands, she pounded it with her fist on the counter. It went so far because she had a much bigger force!

**SAFETY FIRST:** Remember... never point the straw rocket at anyone. The goal is to launch the rocket up in the air or at a target—never at someone or something that could be hurt!



BEFORE YOU GO

NEHEMIAH 8:10  
The **JOY** of the **LORD** is your strength.

IN EVERY JOB that must be done THERE IS AN ELEMENT OF FUN, You find the fun and **SNAP**, THE JOB'S A GAME!

MARY POPPINS

A **LITTLE NONSENSE** **NOW AND THEN** is cherished by the wisest men.

ROALD DAHL

It's the things we play with and the people who help us play that make a great difference in our lives.

MISTER ROGERS

I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 3:14

IT IS A **HAPPY** TALENT to know how to play.  
RALPH WALDO EMERSON

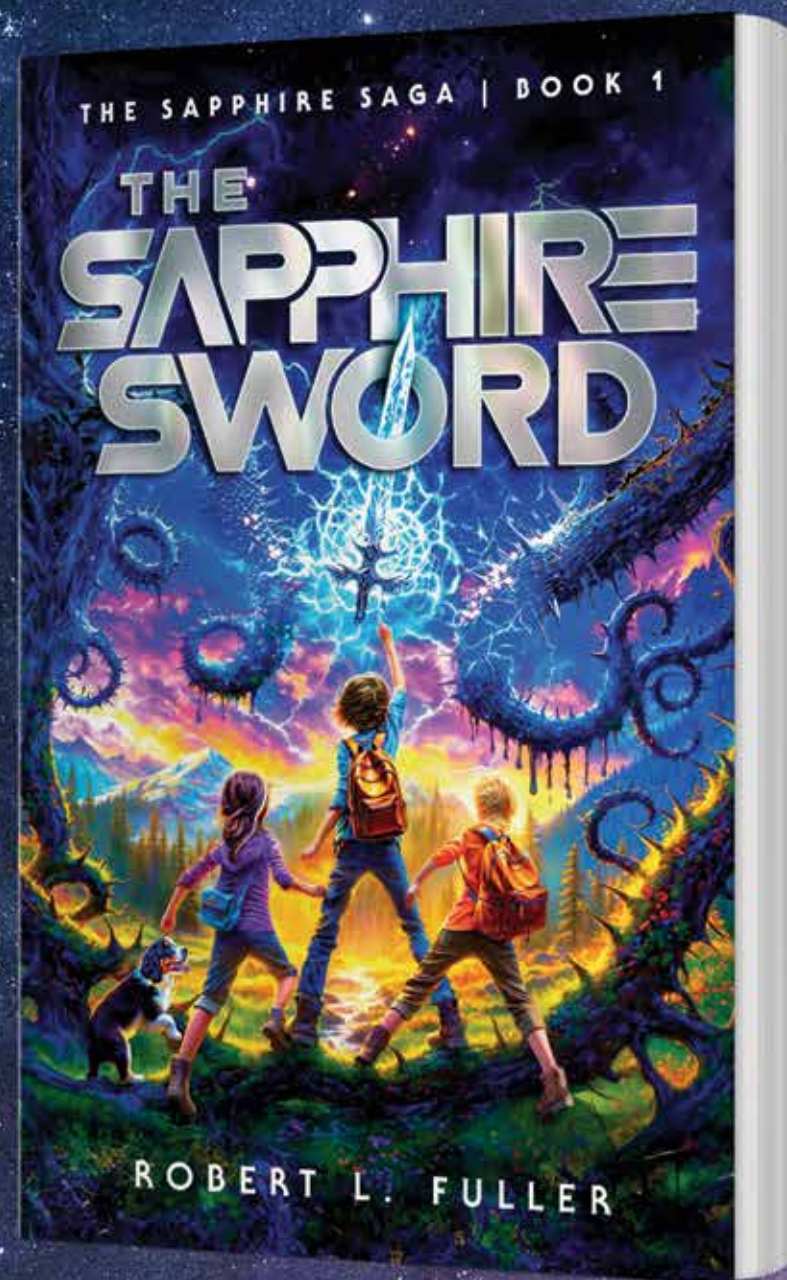
At the end of the day, IF I CAN SAY I HAD **FUN**, it was a good day.

SIMONE BILES

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? **SO RUN THAT YOU MAY OBTAIN IT.**

I CORINTHIANS 9:24

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