



# Belonging in Hackney

An anthology of poems


From the entries to the  
Hackney Future Poets  
Competition 2021

# Key stage 2 entries


- The playground at school
- This is home
- Hectic Hackney
- Four Quarters
- Hackney Marshes
- Hackney Street Art - MOREAPS
- Hackney Parks
- The Shooting Star Football
- Just Things in Hackney
- Football Football I Love football!
- London Fields
- Victoria Park
- Hackney Marshes
- Hackney Downs
- I Love Hackney
- Colvestone
- My Mosque
- Hackney Happiness
- My Old House
- Fantastic School
- Hackney Home
- Ice Rink
- Hackney is a hopeful happy home





# The Playground At School


 The school playground is a sea of voices, it is a zoo of hungry animals snapping their jaws open, ready to eat.


 The thumping footballs, the clattering hula-hoops, the plonking basketballs and the poofing tennis balls.


 Crying children, lonely children, bored children and the rest of them all.

 I feel as if I'm entering the land of words, shouts and mouths as well as earsplitting voices.

 Chaotic, Chaotic, Chaotic.  
Enjoyable, Enjoyable, Enjoyable.

 Cold, crunchy cement, bleeding, bright elbows and fussy, full children.

 Trees bowing down waving arms in the breeze, getting goose bumps and shivers from the cold.


 The games are as enjoyable as birthday parties and friends are as kind as heaven.

By Greta, year 5

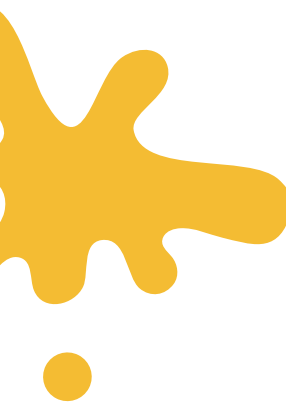
OLSJ. Y5. GB.



## Hectic Hackney



Eighty-eight languages spread throughout,  
Culture, colour without a doubt.



A colourful canvas we all paint together,  
Old Hackney rain: our own special weather.

Celebrations in calligraphy;

First black female MP,

Red buses drive down the street.

Carrying friends and family,

All in the heart of Hackney,

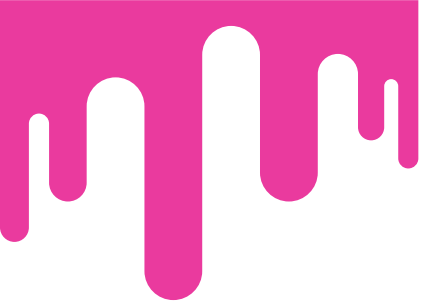
Yes.

All in the heart of Hackney.



By Cecilia Pakington





### This Is Home

An aroma of diverse delicacies accompany the air  
as garrulous groups roam the roads of the mysterious markets.

Hackney is a tapestry; our threads will cross each path.

A train shoots past like an arrow being violently released from the bow;  
the loud rattling sound vigorously vibrates the ground, making hearts  
pound in shaky ribcages.

Hackney is a symphony; our music fills the sky.

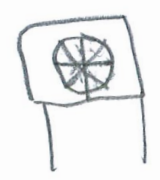
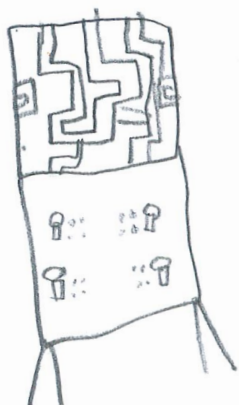
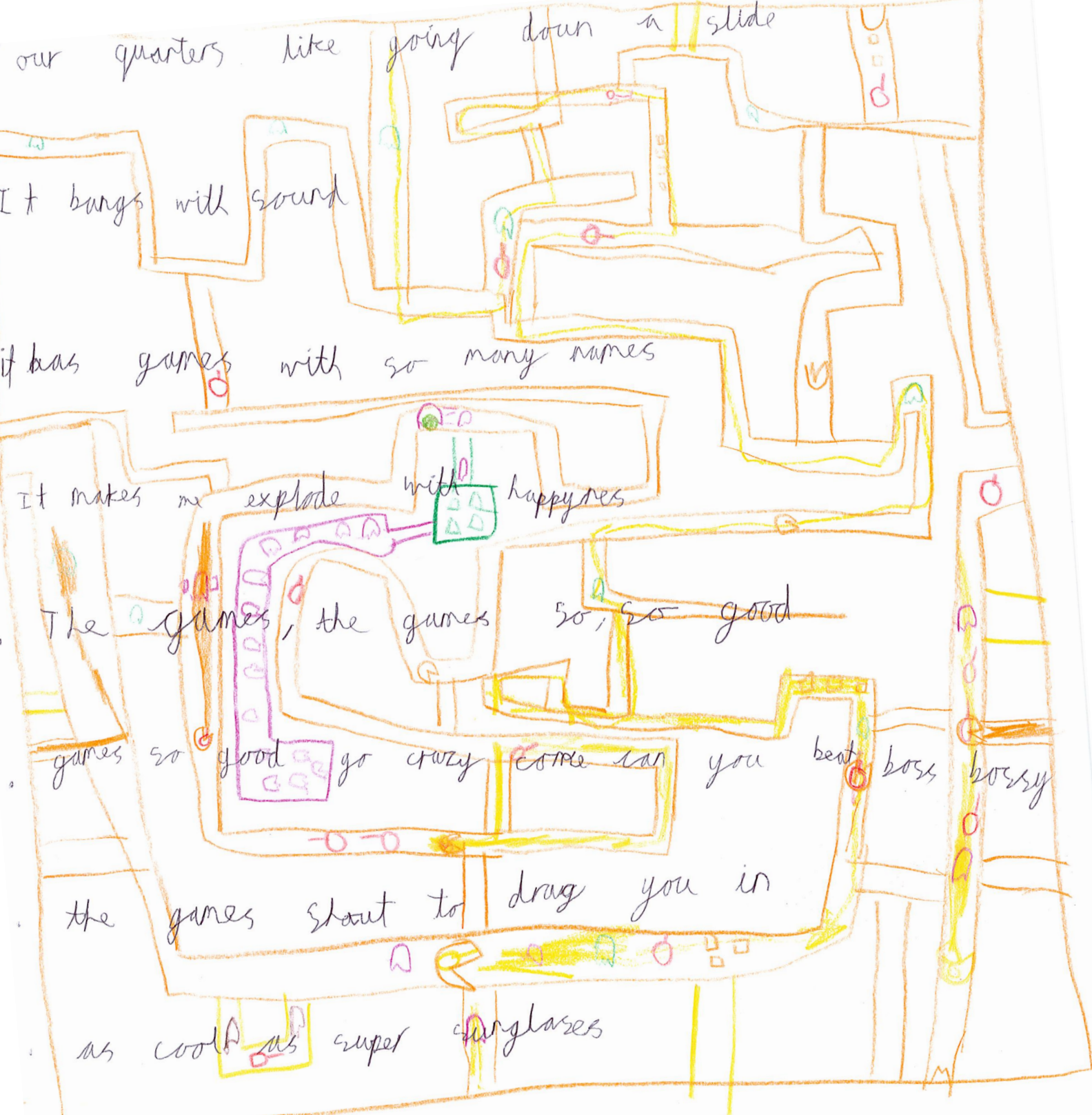
A stronghold of education, cheerful chatter from children packs the  
playground  
while lolling laughter fills the place.

Hackney is a canvas; our colours flood the street.

So get up, and soak it all in, because the clock is ticking.

This poem is ending, but our stories, our lives have just begun.  
This is Hackney. This is home.





# Hackney Marshes



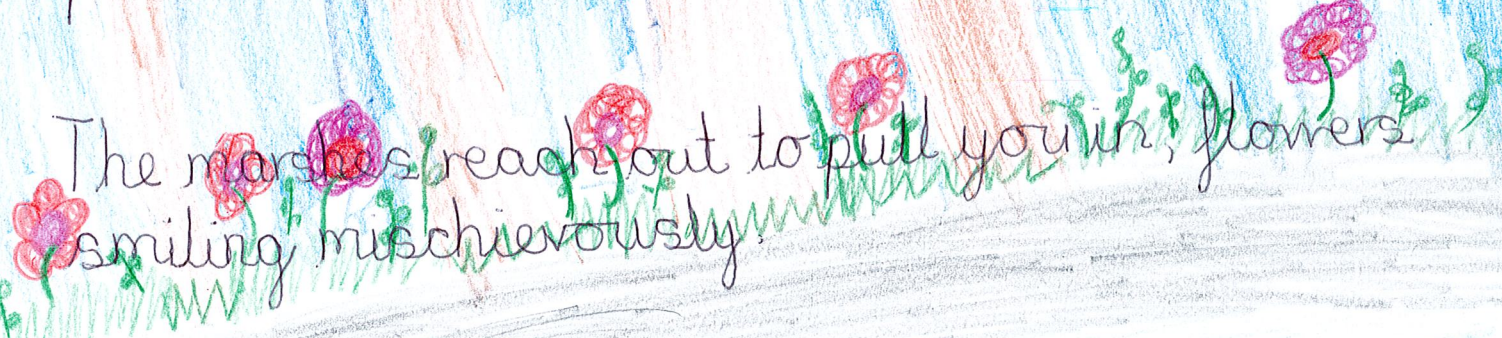
The marshes, are a rainbow of colours,  
Full of barking and laughing.

Stinging nettles, nestled in petals,

It makes me grin and grin with delight.

The marshes, the marshes, the Hackney marshes,

It has green grass and running rivers, piles of  
pebbles can be seen.



The marshes reach out to pull you in, flowers  
smiling mischievously.

The marshes are full of towering trees, like an  
umbrella in the rain or a shelter from the sun.

by mahir  
Year 6

## MORE RAPS

Ibn Umar

Hackney street art is a vibrant sun,  
Everywhere spray,  
Everyone this is so much fun,  
Police officers are mad,  
You stop, you stop, you stop,  
Swift, sneaky, sly,  
The walls have eyes,  
Hackney street art is vibrant as the sun.

JOSEPH COELHO



The background is a vibrant blue sky created with thick, textured strokes of blue crayon. In the top right corner, a bright sun is drawn with yellow and orange rays. Several white, fluffy clouds are scattered across the sky, each outlined with a dark, sketchy border. At the bottom of the page, there are simple drawings of playground equipment: a grey slide on the left, a black horizontal bar in the center, and a red and black structure on the right. The overall style is that of a child's artwork.

# Hackney Parks

**Hackney parks are adventures**

**The screams and shouts of children**

**The playground, filled with sound**

**My heart sings with pleasure**

**The parks, the parks, the parks**

**Surrounded by slippery slides**

**The gates call you in**

**As enjoyable as a vacation**

*By Ayasha Ahmed*

06

by Olive Hackney  
School Year 6



# The Shooting Star Football, Fun Football ☺



The football is a shooting star going from one place to another

It sizzles in the air

Football is always a yesball

It lightens my heavy feelings ☺ and fly's away with them

Football, Football, Football; oh Football

Fun flying football

It dances and sings in the air

Football is like a meteor falling down from space



Drawn by me ↴

↴ Poem made by me

Year 6

M1

1 Furaan Rahim

Olive Hackney



### Just Things in Hackney

Everything has a back story, good or bad...

In Hackney, not everyone has a mum, not everyone has a dad.  
 But everything speaks so quietly if you just take time to listen,  
 Some with dull colours, others are bright and glisten!

The hum of my surroundings when I find things on the floor,  
 Is just like the merry sound of children marching through my school's door,  
 Marching, marching through my school's door.

But when I pick things up off the ground, immediately I know their story,  
 I find them while I am walking through my territory.

I have found fifty pence, rock n' roll ribbons,  
 Precious pines and terrific train tickets from my tiny corner of Briton!  
 All these things become my friends and stick with me till the very end.

Whizz, wee, whoosh, whippy, I've found so many things,  
 Oops oh no, oh no, I've got to go, I hear the school bell ring!

By Maya Malik





## **Football, football, In Hackney, I love Football**

The ball is round and hard like a juicy red apple from London fields Sunday market.

The patches on the ball are all the people of different cultures that live in Hackney and play happily together.

Although this ball is hard, with one hard kick it makes a loud slap, smack, swoosh, bang, crash dive into goal hitting the crossbar.

Mr Referee with a glare, gives out a red card to a player on a tackle, which was hard.

In Hackney, football makes me so happy, but sometimes when I fail, I change to upset and frustrated.

I love football, I love football, I love football, I do love football.

Football is fun, friendly, fierce, fabulous and fulfilling.

When the ball strikes the goal, the crowd erupts with loud roaring and cheering.

In Hackney, football is my favourite thing to do, to watch and play bringing people together!

**By Levi Elijah Gill**

## London Fields

The London Fields is strands of hair.  
When taking a stroll, a gust of wind wooshes past me.  
The fields has clean air, I see green everywhere.  
The sound of rustling leaves fill me with glee.  
Fields, fields, fields it's London Fields!  
Chattering children surround me like buzzing bees.  
All the trees, dancing in the breeze.  
In this place, you can be as adventurous as your heart pleases.



OLST

By Chloe N. Yr 6

A child's drawing of a park scene. Two trees with green foliage and brown trunks stand on either side of a path. The path is drawn with two lines curving away from the viewer. A yellow sun is in the top right corner. The background is a light green wash.

# VICTORIA PARK

Kofi Bah

Victoria Park is a cheerful heart  
Enthusiastic dogs chase their tails  
Rhythm with rhymes, you can hear beautiful  
chimes.

The fresh air makes everyone smile.

JOY! JOY! JOY!

Predatory pests spoil neat nests.

While bikes race over curving concrete,

Entertaining birds chirp as clear as a melody.

# Hackney Marshes

Mercedes Maughan

Supporters shouting loudly from the sidelines

Wide open goals between up-right poles

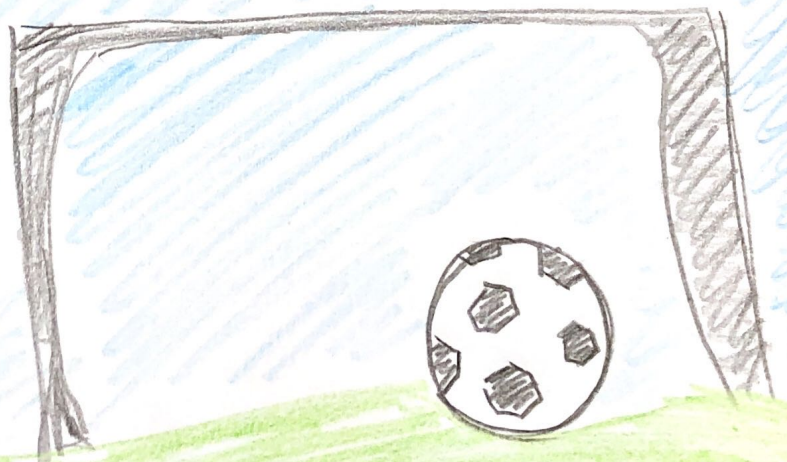
Happy that this is my home

The Marshes ...The Marshes...The Marshes.

Relevant roles placed in the correct positions

The Marshes scream while players rip up the grass

Grass as green as an emerald catching the sunlight.





# Hackney Downs.

Hackney Downs is Only one of Hackney's

Wonderful Parks!

You're likely to have a lark!

All of the lovely trees and Pollinating bees.

WHEEEE! you will say as you ride your bike or  
hike when you're taking a hike.

You can have some fun while you have a fun!

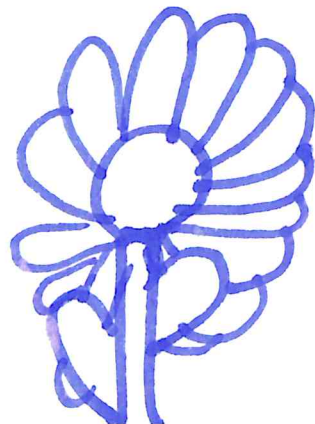
When you swing you can go high and touch  
the sky!

My favourite thing to do here is ride my bike  
because it makes me feel full of joy!

Like I said Hackney Downs is only one of  
Hackney's wonderful Parks!

Willow B. Pary  
age is 8

Baden Powell Primary School







M = The Sun is a firefly lighting up the dark, blue sky.



O = You can hear the sizzlings from everyone's pans, cooking up a delicious dinner.



R = Hackney Downs Park is amazingly fun but don't throw bark, and don't stay up when it's dark.



E = Hackney always cleans and dries the tears from eyes.



R = I love Hackney, I love Hackney, I love Hackney, it's very busy and interesting.



A = The great, green grass wrapping the floor enjoying the heart-beat of the children playing, running, jumping and skipping.



P = Hackney is a disco-ball ever partying all day and night.



S = Hackney is as huge and appealing as the big ben, catching everyone's eye.

I love Hackney,  
The Sun is a fire fly,  
lighting up the dark, blue sky.

Hackney Downs Park is my favourite part,  
It's amazing but don't throw the bark,  
and don't stay up when it's dark,

The great, green grass,  
wrapping the floor, enjoying  
the heart-beat of the,  
children playing.

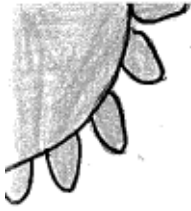
When I'm upset I know what to do,  
Hackney always dries the tears from my eyes,  
so I should never feel down.

Hackney is a disco-ball,  
party all day and night.

You can hear the sizzling,  
of everyone's pans cooking,  
some delicious food.

I love Hackney, I love Hackney,  
I really love Hackney,  
it's amazing with everything to do.

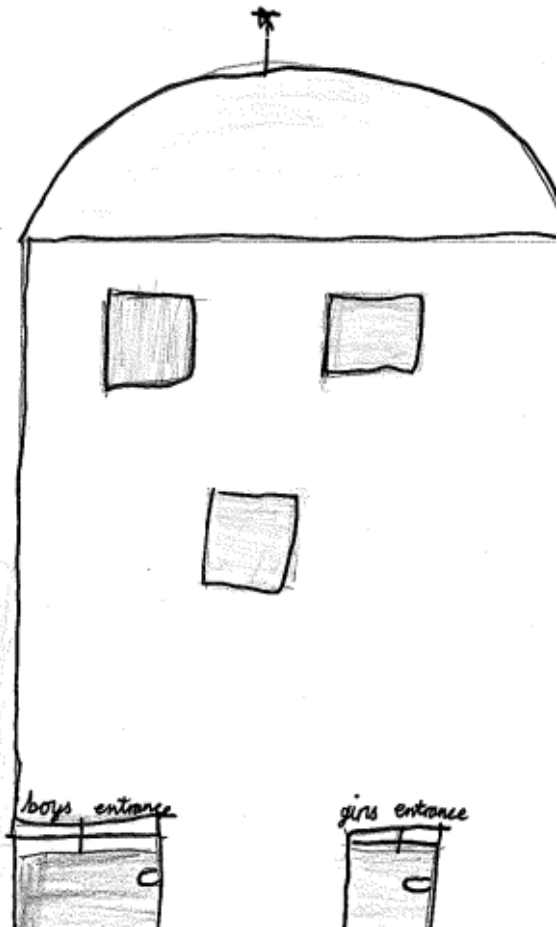
Hackney is amazing as,  
huge and appealing as  
the big ben catching,



My mosque stands proud and tall to guard the road.  
 The doors creak in a spooky way.  
 We come to mosque but first we have to put on our other sock!  
 When we are at mosque we feel comforted and peaceful.  
 We learn Arabic, we learn Arabic, we learn Arabic.  
 The magnificent, marvellous mosque.  
 The mosque stands proud and tall over all of us.  
 The mosque is as brave as a lion.

What I do at mosque...

Read the Quran



# HACKNEY HAPPINESS

In Hackney support hugs you like a mother and a child.

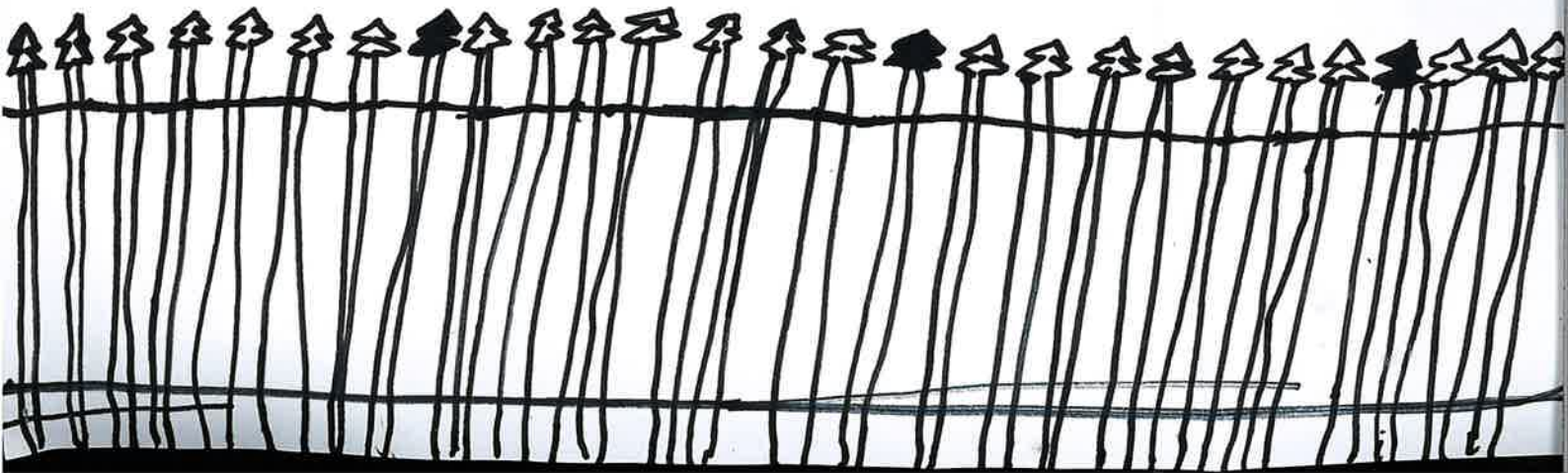
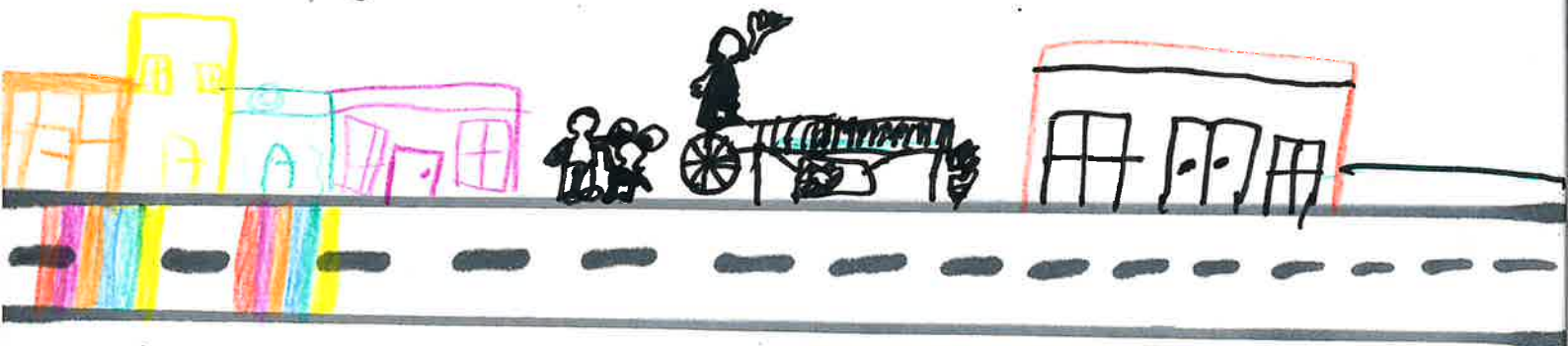
I hear the tapping of shoes moving as they read the news.  
Going to the park, where should I start there's a nice cage but not  
today I'll go to the playground instead.

Oh such joy fills my head.

Going to church street, where should I start there's nice cage but  
not today I'll go to Dot Dot instead.

Fantastic fun with friends, good times never ends.

The park says hello and asks me in, how could I ever say no.  
Living in Hackney is like living in a cloud of happiness.



# MY Old House

By Iffah.  
of

My old house is like a warm blanket of love tucking me into bed at night.

My sister is a busy bee on her homework and she will not stop until she gets it right.

My house ~~is~~ fills my heart with happiness.

At night my bed is warm, my bed is cosy, my bed is snuggly.

My mum is a working woman trying hard to look after me day and night.

My mums food is a spicy volareoster



## Fantastic School

There are busy bees learning behind every door,

Pencils making scraping noises on every piece of paper,

Sometimes lessons are fun and that makes me want to run,

School is my happy place allways up never down we have so much fun

School, School School,

Allways asking for afters, yum, yum, yum and yum,

Makes your brain pop like a bomb,

As fun as a gun pair,



# My Hackney Home

Busxy bees in the kitchen.

When I sing I sing it loud and proud.

When I hear my brother snores it is like a dinxosor,

which I adore.

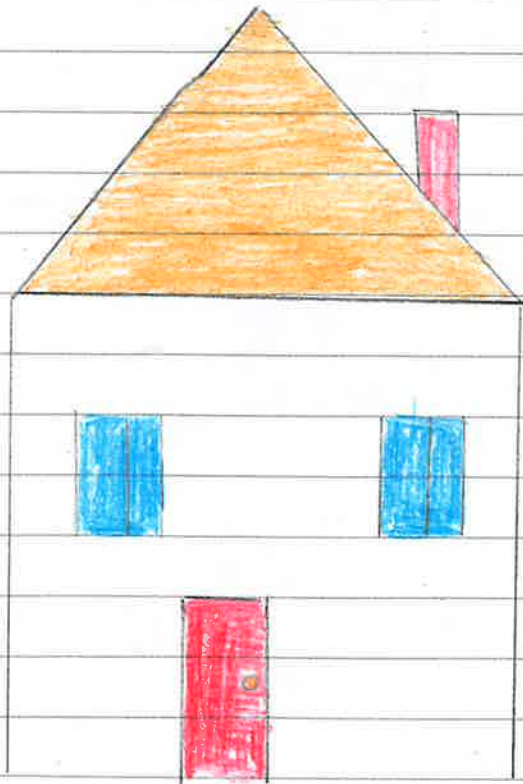
My home is my belonging it fills like togethones.

Play play play I play all day.

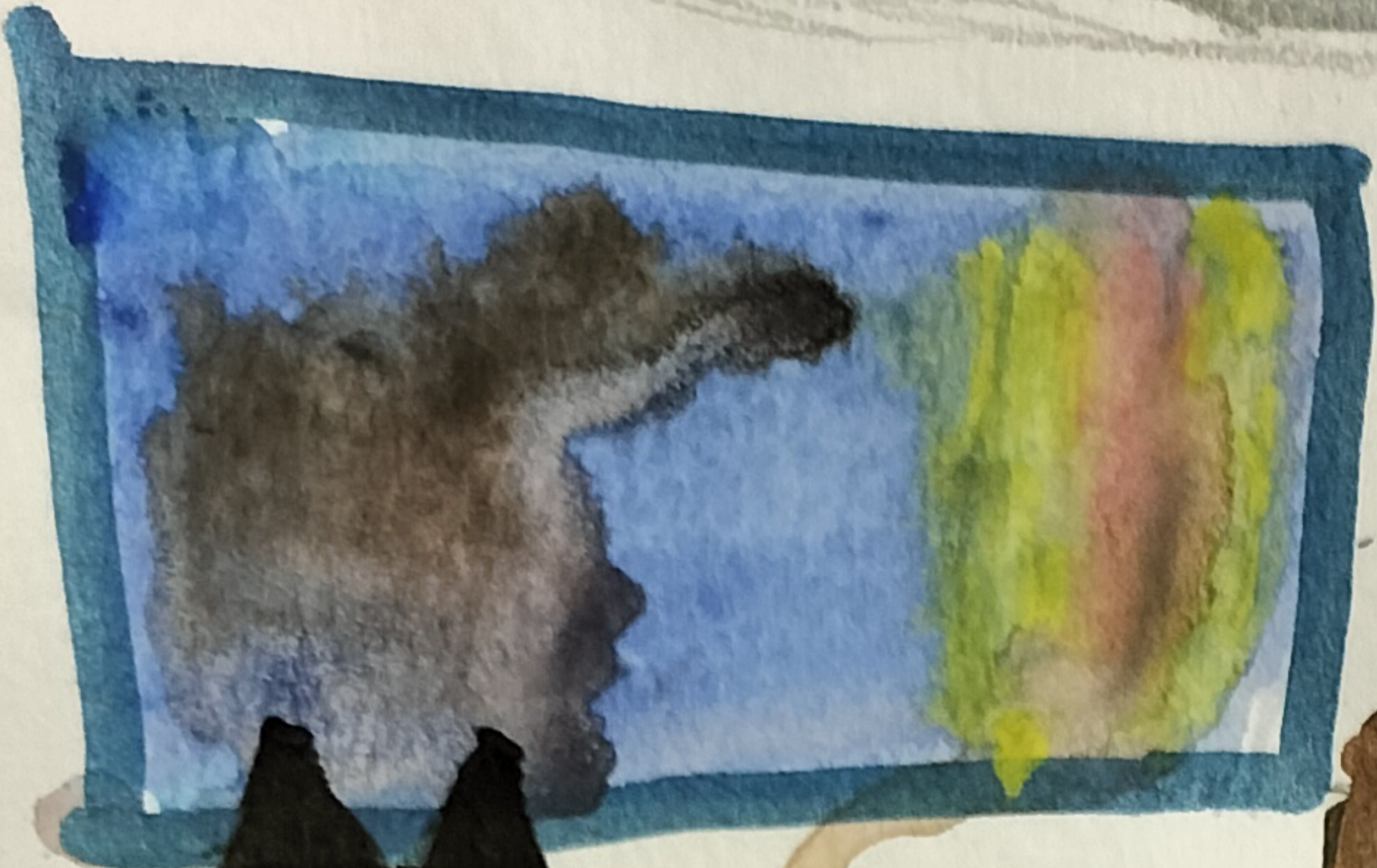
My brother is as lowd ~~as~~ like lions.

Behined every door there is a flood of fun.

~~Stairs~~  
~~Sters~~ <sup>Stairs</sup> as steep as a ~~mountain~~ mountain.



Home



M

The ICE IN MY DRINK IS as cold as north pole.



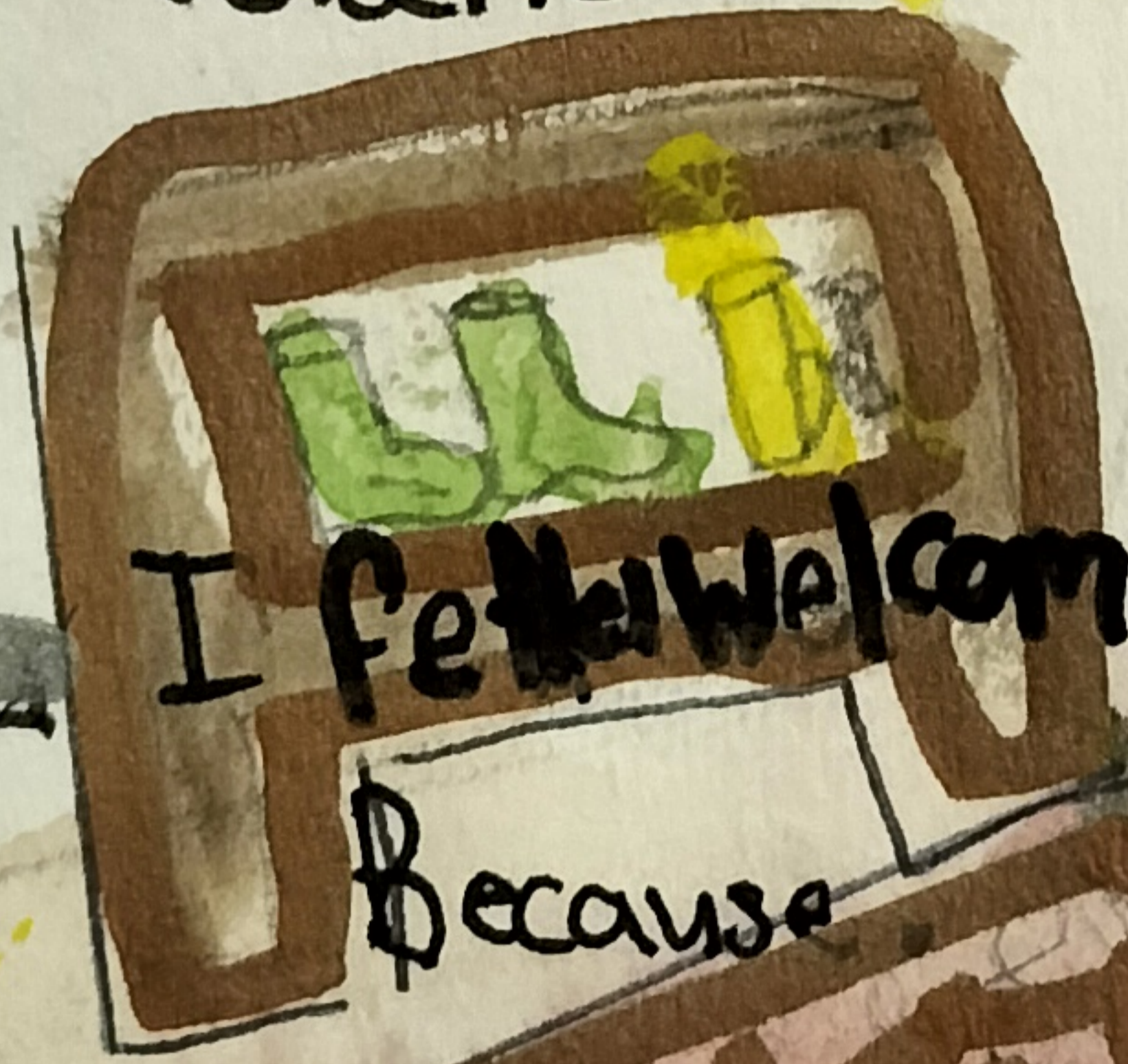
O

My sister banging on the door "BANG BANG"



R

Noise here and there noise is everywhere.



E

I feel welcome I feel loved I feel safe just because

R

My baby sister crying and crying all night.

A

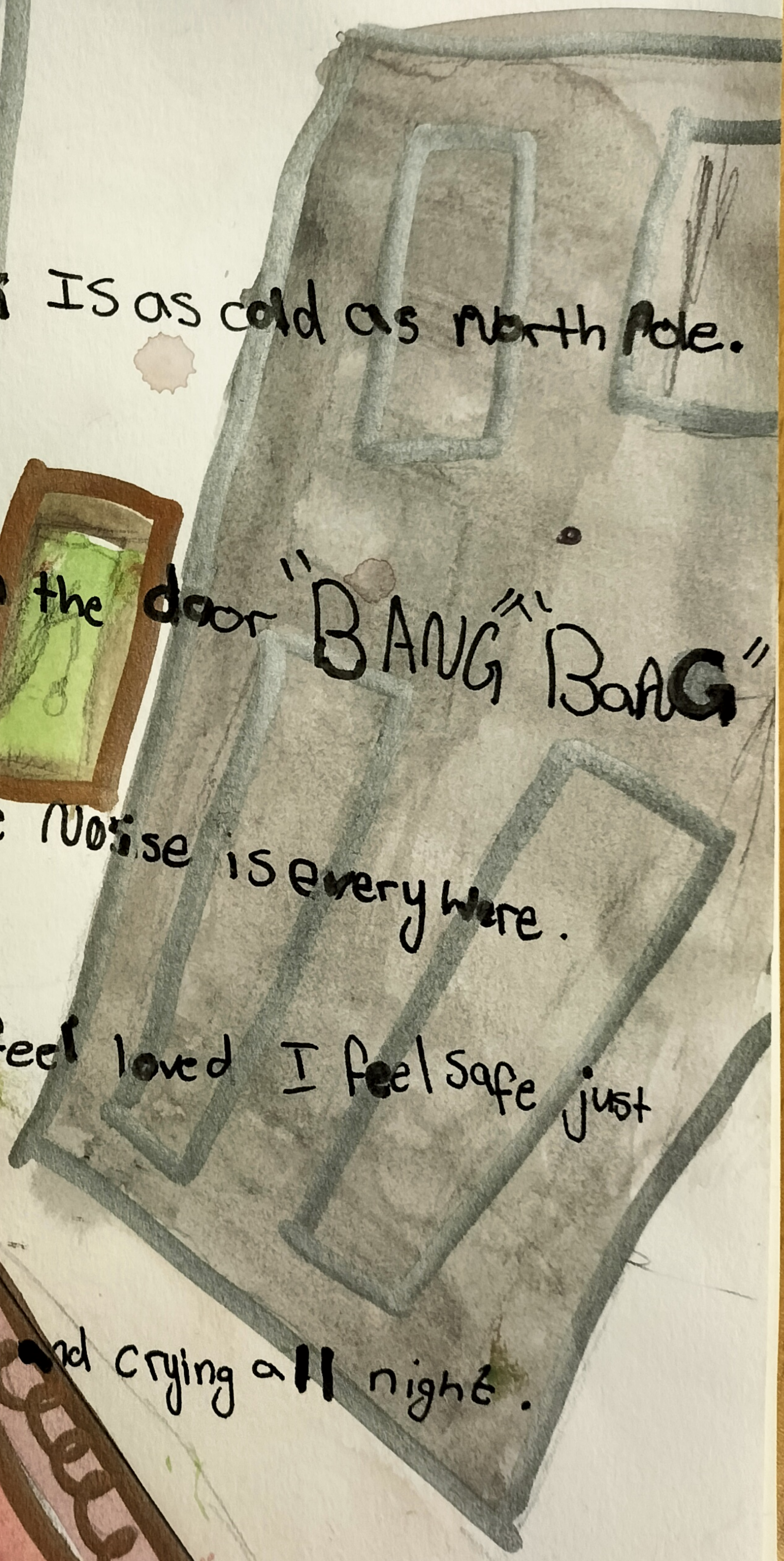
The smooth, scrumptious Soup is waiting for me on the table.

S

The tv chitter, chatting as I speak.

S

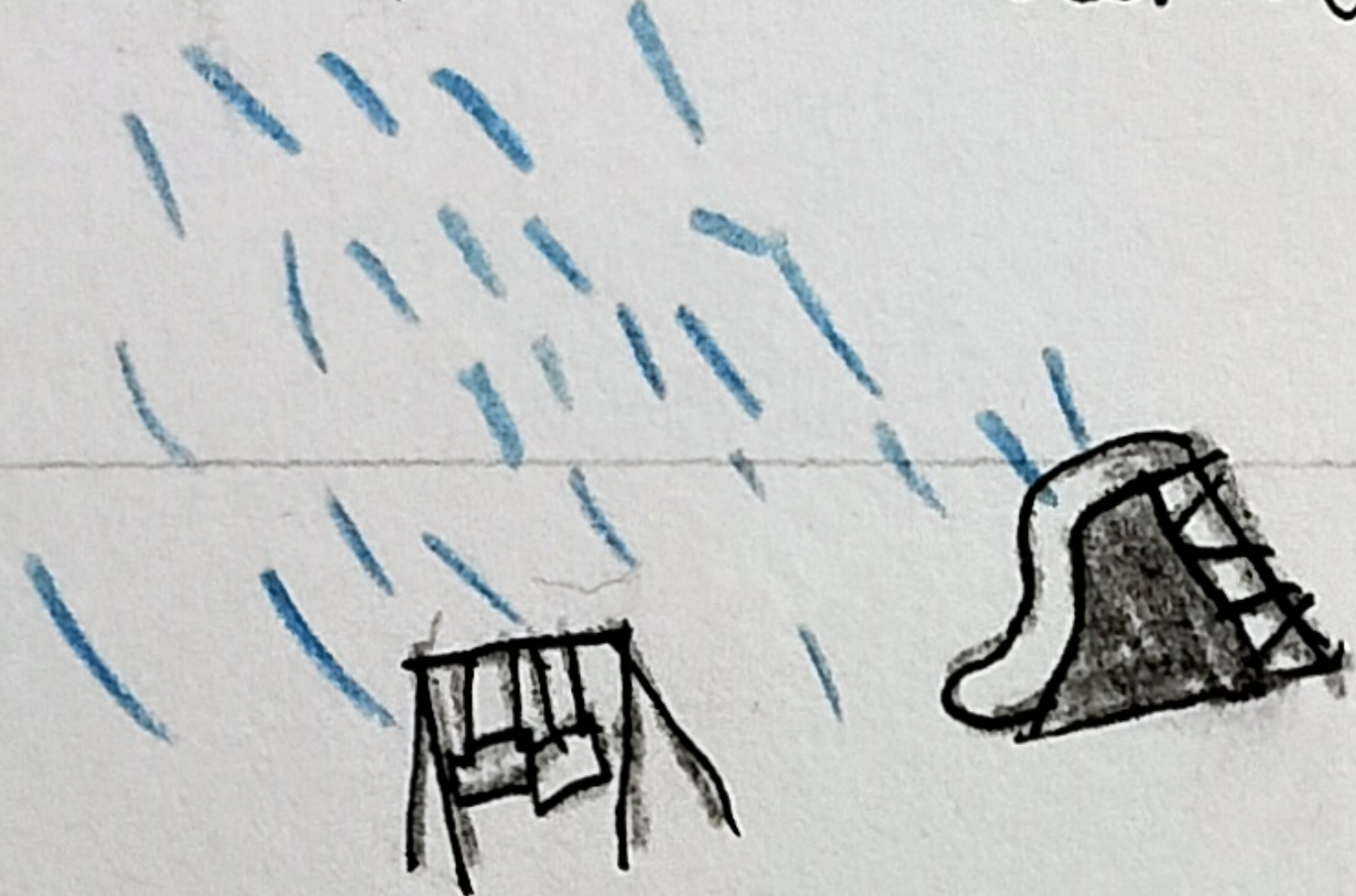
My bed is as soft as a cloud.



The sun hovers over Hackney: a raging ball of fire.



The rain sauntered 'pitter patter' on the Hackney playground(s)



I love to go to school,

on Thursdays we go to the swimming pool.



I am so jubilant, playful, cheery when I'm at the playground.



Scribble, Scribble, Scribble goes my pen as I am writing.



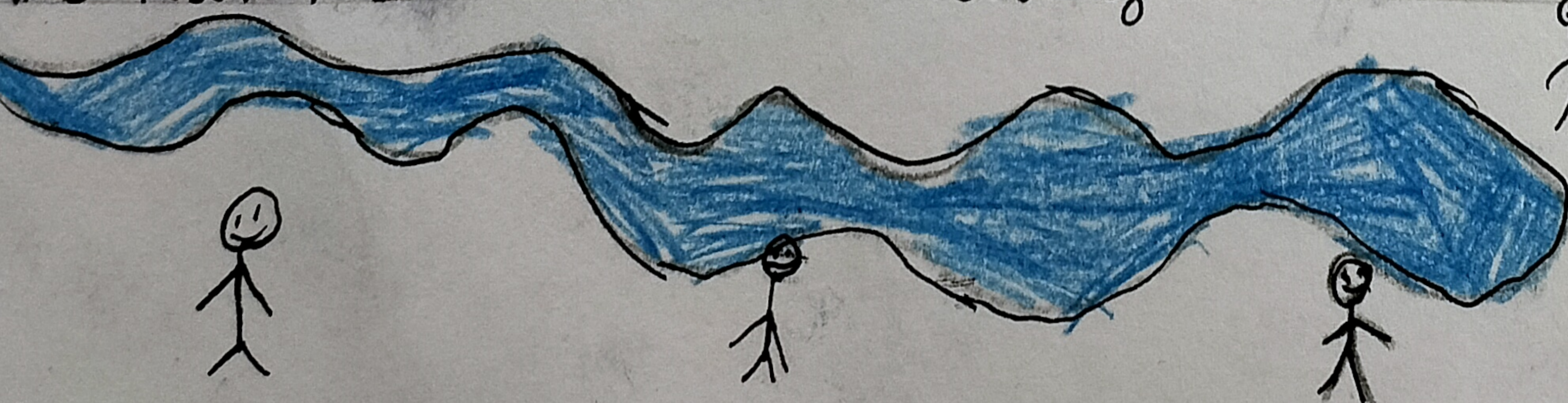
# HACKNEY IS A HAPPY, HOPEFUL HOME



On a sunny day, the Hackney marshes call my name.



The River Lee is as beautiful as the Nile!



Bye, Aron Iwinski - NOV



# Key stage 1 entries

- Clissold Park
- The Market
- Clissold Park
- Springfield Park
- The Library
- Farm
- Mango on Mango
- Yum
- The Pool
- Hackney Downs
- Clissold Swimming
- Rock Climbing Club

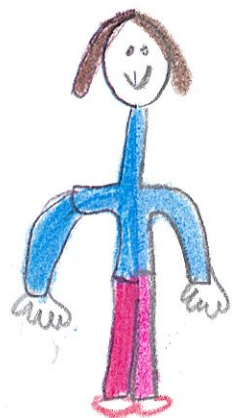
# Clissold Park

The park the park the park

I am happy when I am in  
the park.

deer dandelions daffodils

my dog barks in the dark  
park.



OLSJ. E. L. YI

Bu Fmilu Year 1

# The market

The market The market

I feel happy when people give me fresh food.

I see blue bags and a bunch of bananas.

Buy a carrot and a Parrot.



OLSJ. VI. C. O.



## Clissold Park

Clissold Park.

Clissold Park a lovely place to play.

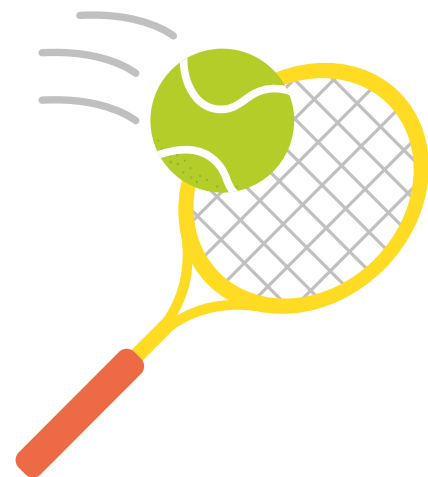
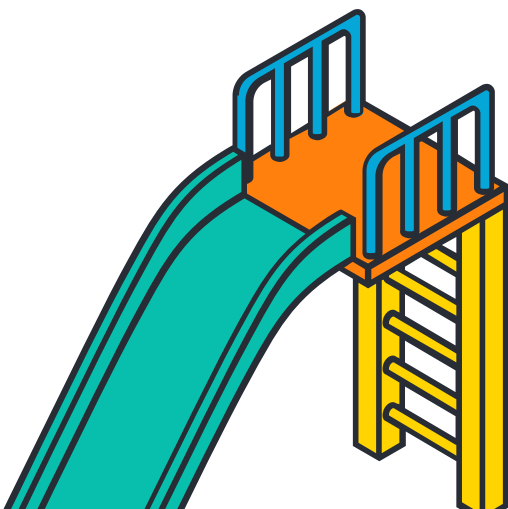
You can play terrific tennis and fantastic football and in  
the pool!

Lovely laughing in the playful playground.

Oh what fun we have!



Year 2





## Springfield Park

Springfield Park is a lovely place with lots of trees and sensitive flowers, it's like the 'Lungs of the City'.

It has sweet smelling flowers and plenty of trees to give us oxygen

We enjoy all the nature such as ponds, canals, birds and the bees

Oh what a grand, glorious, gorgeous, green space we have.



Springfield Park has lots of ducks and birds which make the noise Quack! Quack! Tweet! Tweet! all day long.



It's where we eat, meet and greet.



Oh what a special super outdoor space to be in.

Springfield Park is beautiful and stunning as a dazzling, colourful, butterfly

The sun's rays are as warm as a blanket and as bright as light.

Oh what a marvellous, mature, magnificent open space to stride in.




Don't forget the recreational activities, tennis courts and lots of climbing frames.



Springfield park is the perfect place in Hackney and I love to call it MY gracious park.

by Saffiyah Hussain  
Olive Hackney School Year 2



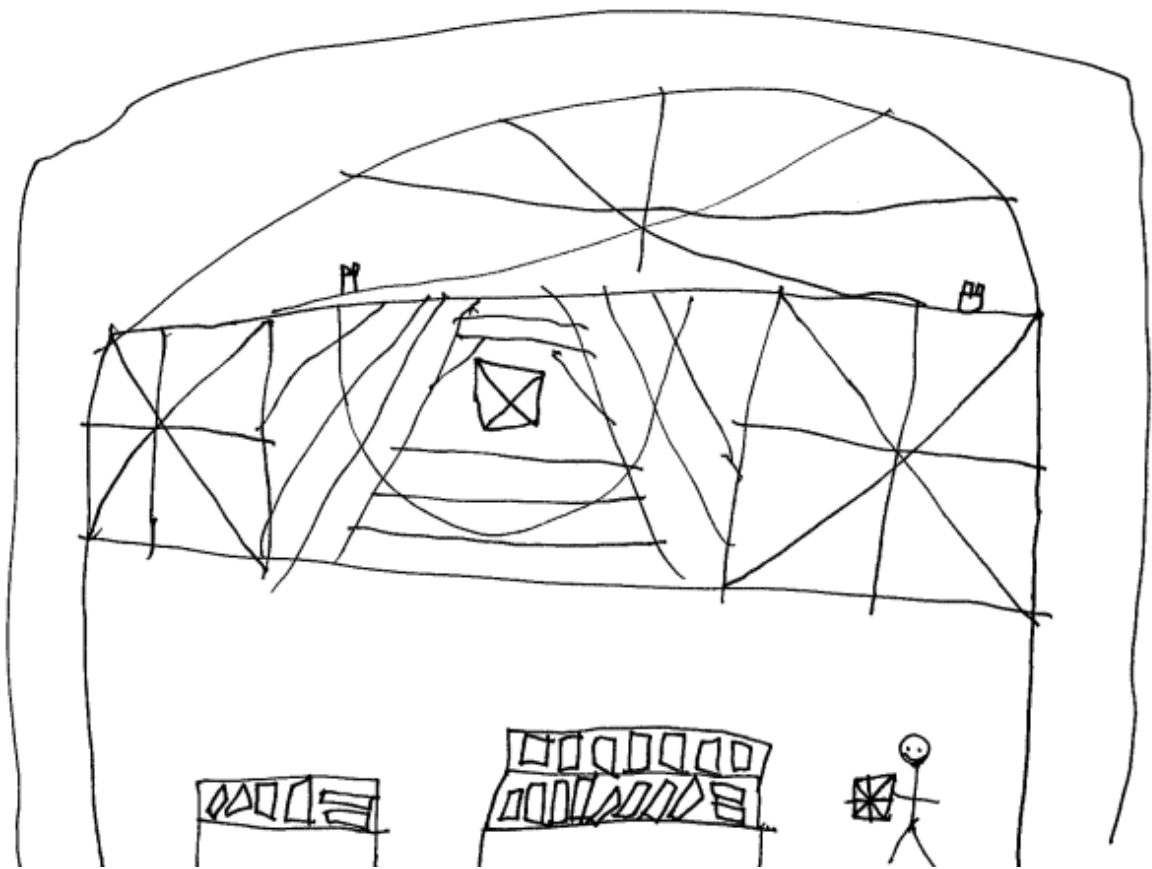
# The Library

In some of the books there are weird crosses.

It makes me feel calm and relax.

Boring books bring balance.

The Library the Library the fantastic  
Librarians.





# FARM

by Sumayyah Sidgot  
Year 2 Olive  
Hackney School

M The farm is a basket of eggs.

O Moo, cheep, quack, cluck go  
the animals!

R The farm has a barn.

E What an exiting place!

R Fun, Fun, Fun!

A Amazing animals and friendly  
farmers working hard.

P The Stabells sit in the farm  
all day and night.

S The farm is as happy  
as a lake.

~~Mango, oh mango~~

The ~~mango~~ is the big orange sun

M

It squishes in my hand "squish"

O

A ~~mango~~ makes me tango

r

It makes me happy when I eat it

e

~~Mango, oh mango~~ I love you so much ~~mango, oh mango~~ I love you so much

R

A majestic, magnificent ~~mango~~

A

A

The ~~mango~~ stood up waiting for me to eat it

P

The ~~mango~~ is as ripe as a clean yellow banana

S

□ Poojayan H

~~Year~~ ~~2~~

Oliver Hackney School

Year 2



Thursday 18th November 2021

LI: To write about our favourite place.

The tea room is nice  
The delicious food  
is fantastic good  
~~eat~~

The yum shop is fantastic  
yum yum yum yumini  
tummy

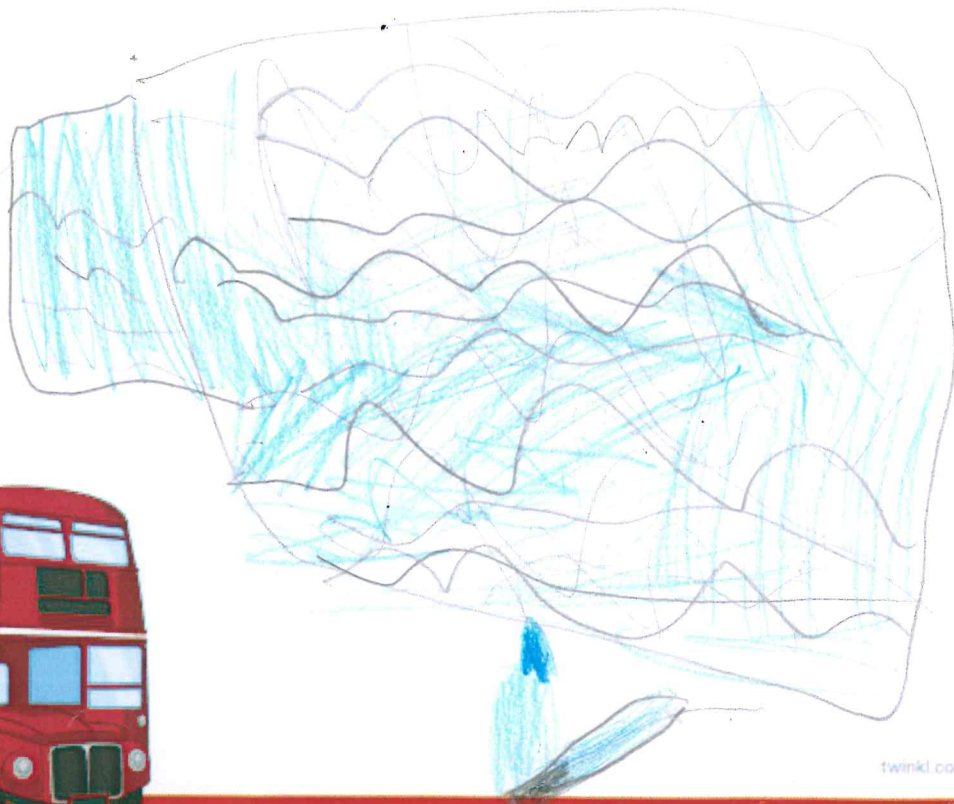


Thursday 18th November 2021

LI: To write about our favourite place.

The Pool Look's Like the sky  
and the sea The Little Pop  
and the sea and the chare  
the ocean and the sop  
and the tisnoo the pen is well  
and the big chare

b

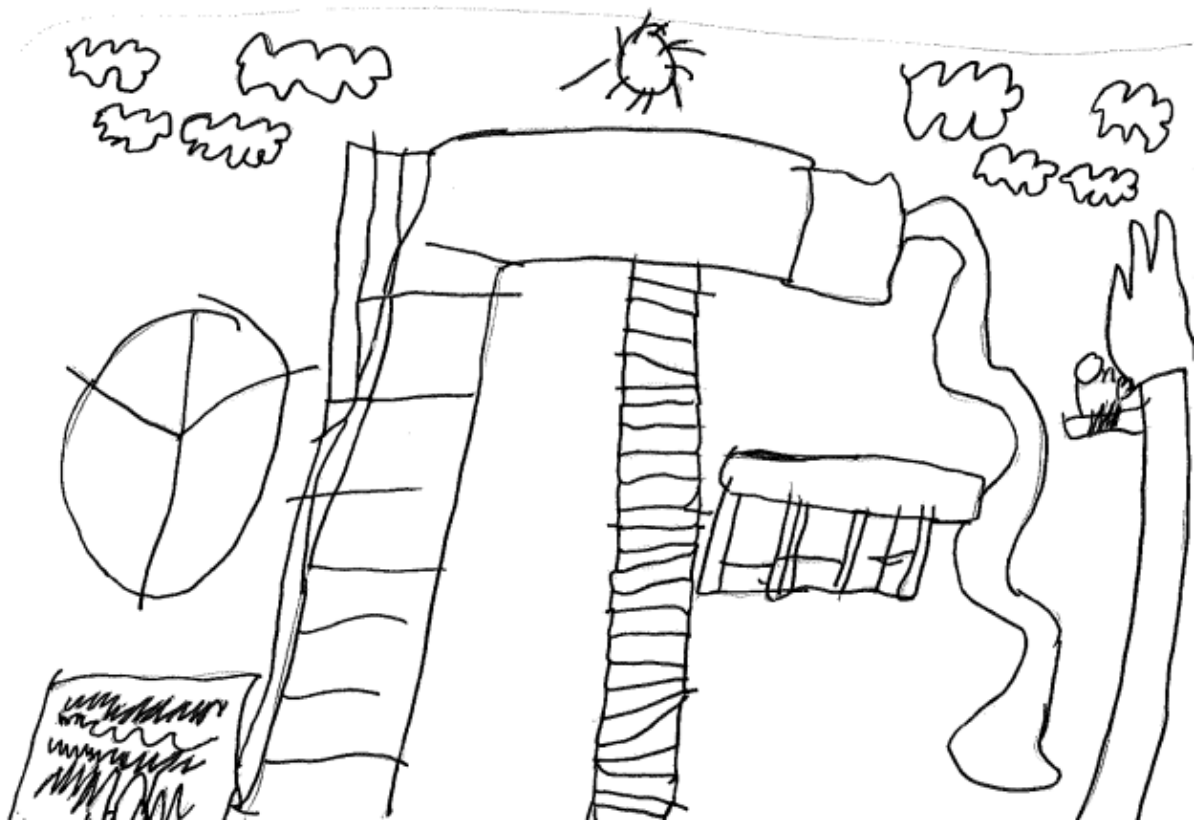


✓  
⑤

# Hackney Downs

Hackney Downs has no clouds or bounds.  
It makes me feel excited because I get  
to play on the swings, slide and  
climb the ladder.

I can slowly slip down the shiny slide.  
The park, the park, the amazing park.



Clissold Swimming by Taiden

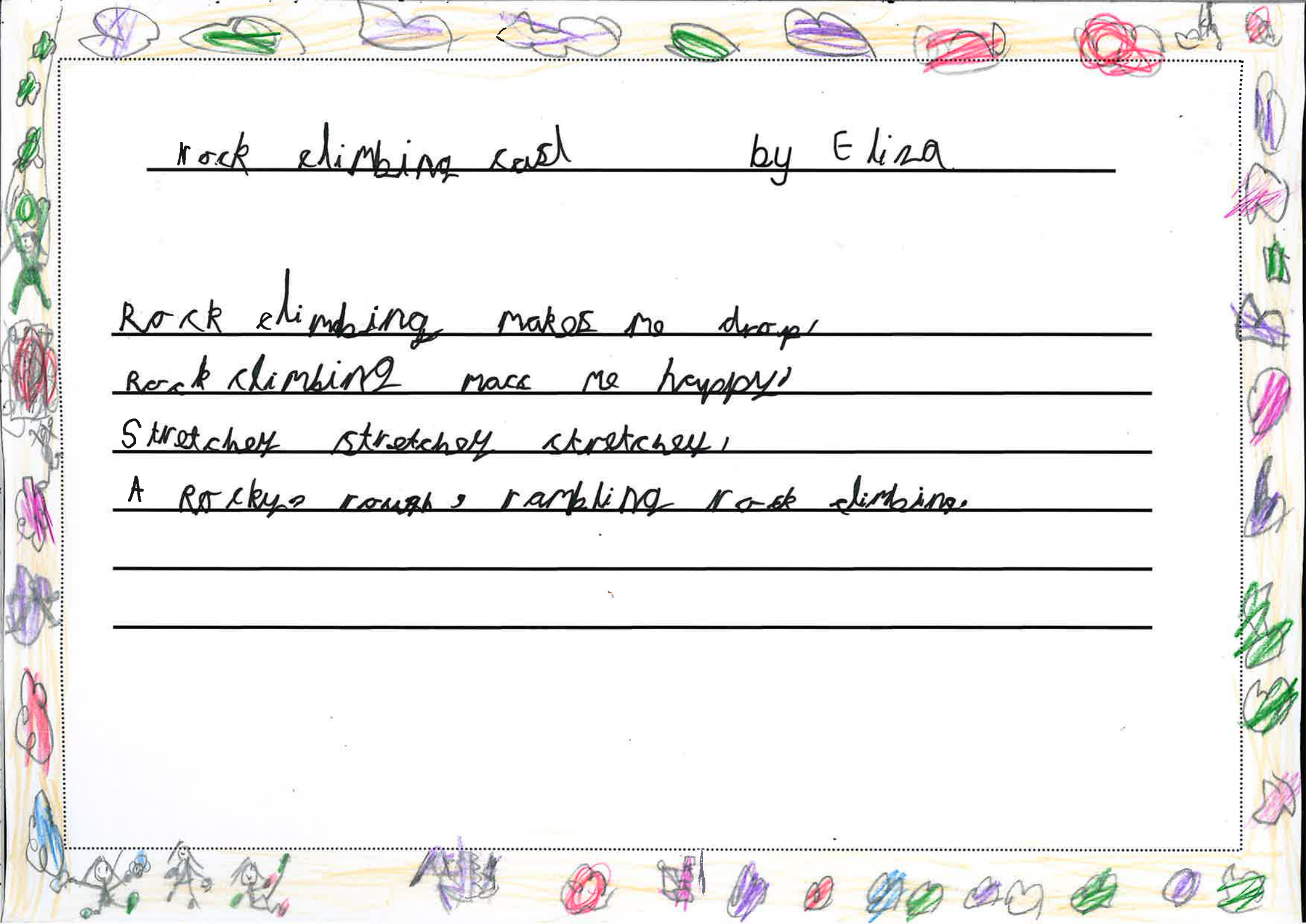
Clissold Swimming Pool is

so cool,

Splash punching water,

Water, water, water

Water is wet and wonderful!



rock climbing east by Eliza

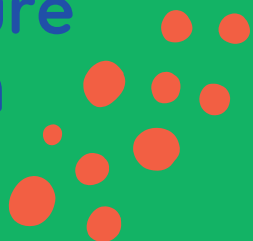
Rock climbing makes me drop!

Rock climbing makes me happy!

Stretchy stretchy stretchy!

A rocky, rough, rambling rock climbing.

**This anthology was  
created from the entries  
to the Hackney Future  
Poets competition**



**With thanks to the following  
schools for their participation:**

**Our Lady and St Joseph's Primary school  
Colvestone Primary School  
The Olive School  
St Dominic's Primary School  
Mossbourne Riverside Primary Academy  
William Patten Primary School  
Betty Layward Primary School  
Harrington Hill Primary School  
Daubeney Primary School  
Baden Powell Primary School  
Wentworth Nursery School**

