

“All Dried Out”



Mariah Gorham
Nine-years-old
Gilbert, Arizona

It's obvious when first speaking with Mariah that there is more to her than initially meets the eye. Beneath her soft, playful voice resonates a young girl who dreams of being in the public eye. She looks up to Ashley Tisdale, teen icon, in hopes of one day being an actress or a fashion designer...but then again, maybe both. At age 9, Mariah likes talking on the phone (like mother, like daughter), having sleepovers with her best friends, Adrianna and Kathy, The Boxcar Children book series, ballet, and having family time. Mariah enjoyed her time in the process of making “All Dried Out” and now realizes that “water isn't going to last forever.” Mariah also understands that “kids will get ideas from reading our book and can learn about water conservation.” Mariah's mom, Kristina, boasts about how great of a job everyone did in planning and implementing this project. She enjoyed watching the children bloom with creativity and humbleness. Kristina loved watching Mariah's instilled sense of pride, while Mariah's face shined whenever her ideas were selected for the story. “Even the meek children came out of their shells, and watching them light up, that in itself was a cool thing to witness,” Kristina recalls. “Both she and I are so excited about this book and cannot wait to see the final product,” Kristina said with a grin.