

SUMMER 2023

***NYE TIMES***



\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

New York Edge @ \_\_\_\_\_ (school #)



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Greetings Campers!

*Welcome to The New York Edge Journalism Project!*

The purpose of this activity book is to guide you in the creation of a newsletter in which to document your experiences this summer.

Basically, you will work with your group twice a week to create the different parts of the newspaper. You will have pages to work on (which you can tear out at the end) AND pages where you will put your final drafts and keep for when you're an old lady/man and you want to show your grandkids what you did in 2023!! (or just show your parents! 😊) You'll notice that the pages you keep are the only ones with page numbers on them.

This is what you'll do...

<b>Week</b>	<b>Journalism Project Activity</b>
1	Interview
2	Poem
3	Music Review
4	Sports or Arts Column
5	Advice Column
6	Op Ed
7	Publishing party

Hope you have fun!

*Ms. Lianne*

The New York Edge Literacy Department



## Week 1: Interview & Write an Article About Someone You Admire

What	Needed
<p>You'll interview a person you admire &amp; write up it up.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A person to interview</li> <li>➤ List of questions</li> <li>➤ Interview &amp; final draft page in this booklet</li> </ul>
<p>Day 1</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Choose a person you admire. They might be a family member, a friend, or any other person you respect and inspires you.</li> <li>2. Read the interview questions and write down any other questions you want to ask. Bring the questions with you when you interview.</li> <li>3. Be prepared to take notes when you interview.</li> <li>4. Do the interview. (You may not be able to do this during program time but you must bring back your notes to write it up.)</li> <li>5. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.</li> <li>6. Do your exit ticket to document learning.</li> </ol>	
<p>Day 2</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Re-read your notes and write up the article about the person you interviewed. Use complete sentences and punctuation. You must write a paragraph with at least 5 sentences.</li> <li>2. Exchange articles with a peer: check each other's work for spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.</li> <li>3. When you get your article back (with possible corrections) write the final draft on the page titled <b><i>A Person I Admire</i></b> (page 1).</li> <li>4. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.</li> <li>5. Do your exit ticket to document learning.</li> </ol>	



First Draft/Notes

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of person you interviewed)

by \_\_\_\_\_  
(your name)

1. Where were you born and in what year? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Who are your people? (community, family) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Tell me about something you do really well. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is a good leader like? What makes someone a good leader? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What suggestions would you have for me if I wanted to be a leader. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

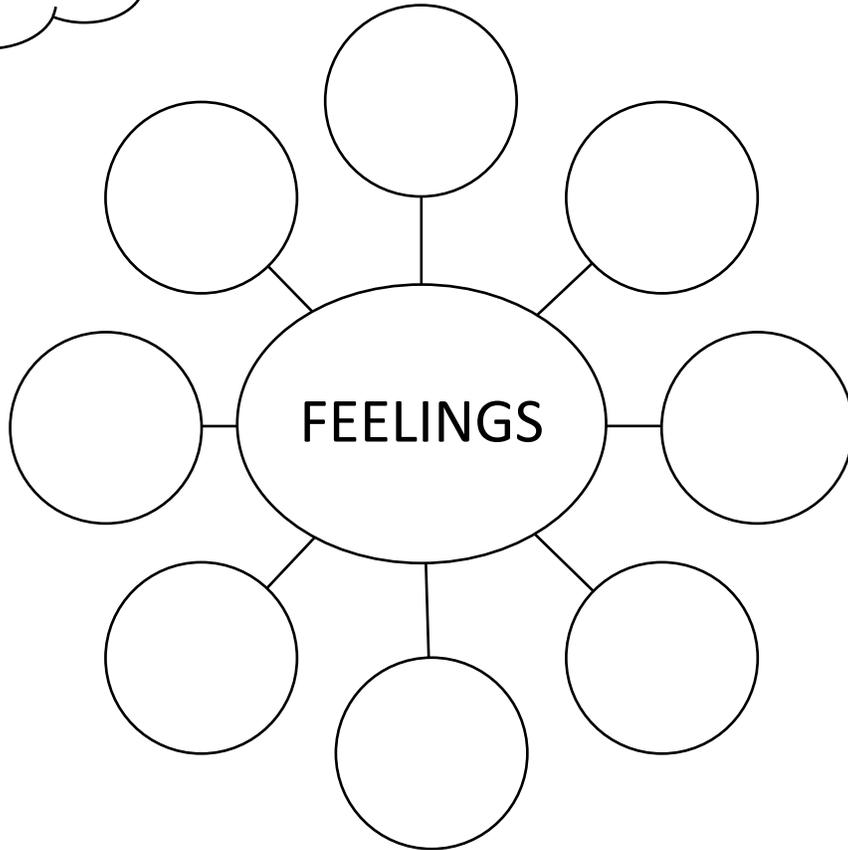
**NOW...** On a blank piece of paper, turn each question and answer into a statement to create your first draft. *For ex: I interviewed (name), who was born in (place) in (year).* Once you've edited your first draft, you can use the following page for your final draft.

## Week 2: Coping & Growing / Write a Poem

What	Needed
You'll write a poem about feelings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Ideas! Courage! Creativity!</li><li>➤ Brainstorming page &amp; final draft page in this booklet</li></ul>
<p><b>Day 1</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Use next page to think of and play with words associated with feelings.</li><li>2. Create phrases or sentences with those words...poetry does not have to be in complete sentences or rhyme, but it can. Be creative in putting words together in a unique way!</li><li>3. Share your ideas with a friend/help a friend think over their ideas. What works? What suggestions do you have?</li><li>4. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.</li><li>5. Do your exit ticket to document learning.</li></ol>	
<p><b>Day 2</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Look at your first draft and think: Do you like it? Can you make changes that make your ideas clearer? Add interesting words?</li><li>2. Use the page entitled <b><i>Coping &amp; Growing: A Poem</i></b> (page 2) to write your final draft. You can also add a drawing if you wish and have space.</li><li>3. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.</li><li>4. Do your exit ticket to document learning.</li></ol>	

First Draft:  
Poem

Based on your experience, what are some words that you think of when you hear the word "Feelings?"



Now, how can you put those words together in an original way to create a poem about coping with stress

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*(You can use the back of this page as scrap paper to continue playing with the words.)*

## Week 3: The Best Song of All Times / Write a Music Review

### What

You will write a review of your favorite song.

### Day 1

1. Read the lyrics to *Surface Pressure* from Encanto on the next page. Listen to it on Youtube.
2. Get into a group of 4. Discuss the questions after the lyrics.
3. On your own, choose a song that you want to write a review of and answer the questions on the next page.
4. Discuss your song and your answers with a partner.
5. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
6. Do your exit ticket to document learning.

### Day 2

1. Do the first draft of your review.
2. Discuss your review with a partner and receive feedback. (Edit your partner's work as well.)
3. Work on your final draft on the page titled ***The Best Song on Earth!***
4. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
5. Do your exit ticket to document learning.

# Surface Pressure

Song by Jessica Darrow

I'm the strong one, I'm not nervous  
I'm as tough as the crust of the earth is  
I move mountains, I move churches  
And I glow 'cause I know what my worth is

I don't ask how hard the work is  
Got a rough indestructible surface  
Diamonds and platinum, I find 'em, I flatten 'em  
I take what I'm handed, I break what's demanding, but

Under the surface  
I feel berserk as a tightrope walker in a three-ring circus  
Under the surface  
Was Hercules ever like, "Yo, I don't wanna fight Cerberus?"  
Under the surface  
I'm pretty sure I'm worthless if I can't be of service

A flaw or a crack  
The straw in the stack  
That breaks the camel's back  
What breaks the camel's back, it's

Pressure, like a drip, drip, drip that'll never stop, whoa  
Pressure that'll tip, tip, tip 'till you just go pop, whoa  
Give it to your sister, your sister's older  
Give her all the heavy things we can't shoulder  
Who am I if I can't run with the ball?  
If I fall to

Pressure like a grip, grip, grip, and it won't let go, whoa  
Pressure like a tick, tick, tick 'til it's ready to blow, whoa  
Give it to your sister, your sister's stronger  
See if she can hang on a little longer  
Who am I if I can't carry it all?  
If I falter

Under the surface  
I hide my nerves, and it worsens, I worry something is gonna hurt us  
Under the surface  
The ship doesn't swerve as it heard how big the iceberg is  
Under the surface  
I think about my purpose, can I somehow preserve this?

Line up the dominoes  
A light wind blows  
You try to stop it tumbling  
But on and on it goes

But wait, if I could shake the crushing weight of expectations  
Would that free some room up for joy  
Or relaxation, or simple pleasure?  
Instead, we measure this growing pressure  
Keeps growing, keep going  
'Cause all we know is

Pressure like a drip, drip, drip that'll never stop, whoa  
Pressure that'll tip, tip, tip 'til you just go pop, whoa-oh-oh  
Give it to your sister, it doesn't hurt  
And see if she can handle every family burden  
Watch as she buckles and bends but never breaks  
No mistakes just

Pressure like a grip, grip, grip, and it won't let go, whoa  
Pressure like a tick, tick, tick 'til it's ready to blow, whoa  
Give it to your sister and never wonder  
If the same pressure would've pulled you under  
Who am I if I don't have what it takes?  
No cracks, no breaks  
No mistakes, no pressure

**Discuss amongst yourselves:**

- What do you like about this song? Is there anything you dislike?
- What is the main message? What do you think of this message? Why do you think the author is making this point?
- What can you say about the melody? The rhythm? What genre of music is this? What instruments do you hear?

## Writing a Review of a Song

*There are no rules, really, for writing a review of a song. Answer the following questions to get your juices flowing and take it from there!*

Why do you like this song? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What does it remind you of? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Who does it remind you of? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you feel when you listen to this song? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is this a song you like to dance to? \_\_\_\_\_ How do you feel  
when you dance to it? \_\_\_\_\_

What musical genre does it belong to? (What kind of music is it? Rap?  
HipHop? Salsa? etc...) \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite part of the song? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the song's main message? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why would you recommend this song? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Now...discuss this with a partner.**

**You may get new ideas!**



## Week 4: Write About a Game or Show

### What

You will write about a game or performance you watched during the NYE 22 Summer Camp or on TV.

### Day 1

1. Before this session, watch a game or performance (dance, song, etc) and take notes of what happens. (See the questions on the next page.)
2. Answer the questions on the next page and then use them as an outline for an article about the game you watched. (Turn the questions into statements.)
3. Exchange work with a partner to give and receive feedback on content (the subject), language (the words you use and how you use them) and mechanics (spelling, punctuation).
4. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
5. Complete your exit ticket.

### Day 2

1. Do the first draft of your Great Performance column.
2. Discuss your review with a partner and receive feedback. (Edit your partner's work as well.)
3. Work on the final draft of your sports column.
4. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
5. Do your exit ticket to document learning.

## Writing an Arts or Sports Column: Guiding Questions

1. What sport/performance are you writing about? \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. When and where was the performance/game you are writing about? \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. What are three of the most exciting moments of the performance/game and which players/dancers/singers/actors were significant in those moments? (describe what they did)
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
4. How did the audience react? \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. How did you feel watching this performance/game? \_\_\_\_\_
  
6. Would you recommend the viewer try this art/ sport? \_\_\_\_\_



## Week 5: Dear Smart Typants / An Advice Column

### **What**

You will pretend you are an Advice Columnist and write a letter to someone who asks for advice.

### **Day 1**

1. Work in small groups to choose one of the letters on the next page and decide what advice you would give the writer.
2. Share your ideas with the class.
3. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
4. Complete your exit ticket.

### **Day 2**

1. You will write the first draft of a letter responding to one of the letters requesting advice.
2. You will exchange first drafts with a peer and edit each other's work.
3. You will write your final draft of an advice letter.
4. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
5. Complete your exit ticket.

## What does an Advice Column Look Like?

Lots of newspapers have advice columns in which people send letters asking for advice. The Advice Columnist writes back giving them advice and the newspaper publishes their letters and the response. Here is a sample...



Dear Smar Typants,

I have two friends that hate each other but I like them both. My birthday is coming up and I want to invite them both, but I'm not sure what to do. What if they fight at my party? What if neither comes because they think the other is coming? What should I do?

Sincerely,

Confused

Dear Confused,

I can see why you are nervous about this. I suggest that you invite them both and tell them: "I like you a lot and want you to come to my birthday, but I need you to know that I am inviting \_\_\_\_\_ also. I hope you can both come and be polite to each other, but I understand that you may not be comfortable and may decide not to come."

If you tell them this, they can decide what they want to do and they will know that they have to be nice if they come to your party.

Good luck,

Smar



### **Letter #1:**

Dear Smar Typants,

I have two friends who I like a lot and they are friends with each other, too. Sometimes we have play dates together; sometimes just two of us get together.

The problem is that when they get together without me, I feel sad. I worry they might like each other more than they like me! Then, when all three of us are together, they talk about their play date and I can't join in because I don't know what they are talking about!

What should I do?

Sincerely,

*Worried in Queens*

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### **Discussion Questions**

*Worried in Queens* says they feel sad and worried. What other feelings might they be experiencing?

Sometimes feelings are caused by mistaken beliefs. What beliefs about friendship might be making *Worried in Queens* uncomfortable?

Does having one friend mean you can't have another? Does loving one person mean you can't love another? If you have two siblings, can you love them both?

What can *WiQ* remind themselves when they feel sad or jealous?

What can *WiQ* say to their friends that might help the situation?

What would you advise them?

## **Letter #2**

Dear Smar Typants,

I am upset because my parents argue a lot. Sometimes at night, when they think I am sleeping, I can hear them fighting. This is pretty scary and I don't know what to do! Do you have any advice?

Sincerely,

*I Love Them Both*

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## **Discussion Questions**

When two people spend a lot of time together, they often disagree on things. What are some healthy ways to express disagreement?

Is it OK to insult someone because they do not agree with you?

What could *I Love them Both* say to their parents?

Who are some other adults young people can talk to when they are worried about something?

What would you advise them?

### Letter #3

Dear Smar Typants,

I have a friend who I like a lot, but sometimes they say mean things to me, like “your nappy hair is ugly” and “your skin is so dark and ugly.” I have fun playing with them, but I don’t like the things they say. What can I do about this?

Sincerely,

*Fed Up*

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#### Discussion Questions

Is someone who mistreats you really a friend?

What can *Fed Up* say to her so-called “friend?”

What is the belief that light-skinned people are better than dark-skinned people?

What is it called when people act in mean and hateful ways to people who are dark-skinned?

Who could *Fed Up* call on to help with this situation?

Do you think *Fed Up* should tell their parents?

What would you advise them?

**First Draft:  
Advice Column**

Dear Smar Typants,

I have two friends who I like a lot and they are friends with each other, too. Sometimes we have play dates together; sometimes just two of us get together.

The problem is that when they get together without me, I feel sad. I worry they might like each other more than they like me! Then, when all three of us are together, they talk about their play date and I can't join in because I don't know what they are talking about!

What should I do?

Sincerely,

*Worried in Queens*

Dear Worried in Queens,

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My Advice is...



Dear Smar Typants,

I am upset because my parents argue a lot. Sometimes at night, when they think I am sleeping, I can hear them fighting. This is pretty scary and I don't know what to do! Do you have any advice?

Sincerely,

*I Love Them Both*

Dear I Love Them Both,

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First Draft:  
Advice Column

My Advice is...

Dear Smar Typants,

I have a friend who I like a lot, but sometimes they say mean things to me, like “your nappy hair makes is ugly” and “your skin is so dark and ugly.” I have fun playing with them, but I don’t like the things they say. What can I do about this?

Sincerely,

*Fed Up*

Dear Fed Up,

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## Week 6: Why? Why not! (An Opinion Piece)

### What

You will discuss some questions and write your opinion about one of them.

### Day 1

1. Work with your partner to discuss the questions on the next page.
2. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
3. Share what you learned with the larger group.
4. Complete your exit ticket.

### Day 2

1. Write the first draft of your OpEd
2. Exchange first drafts with a peer and edit each other's work.
3. Ask your instructor for help if you need it.
4. Write the final drafts of your letter.
5. Complete your exit ticket.

**Instructions:**

Choose a question to discuss & write about. Decide: **Yes** or **No** and discuss **why** or **why not**.

**Question #1:**

*Should kids be allowed to drink all of the soda and eat all of the candy they want?*

**Question #2:**

*Should schools have more recess?*

**Question #3:**

*Should homework be banned?*



**Final Draft Pages**

newyorkedge

literacy department

SUMMER 2022

# ***NYE TIMES***



\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

New York Edge @ \_\_\_\_\_ (school #)

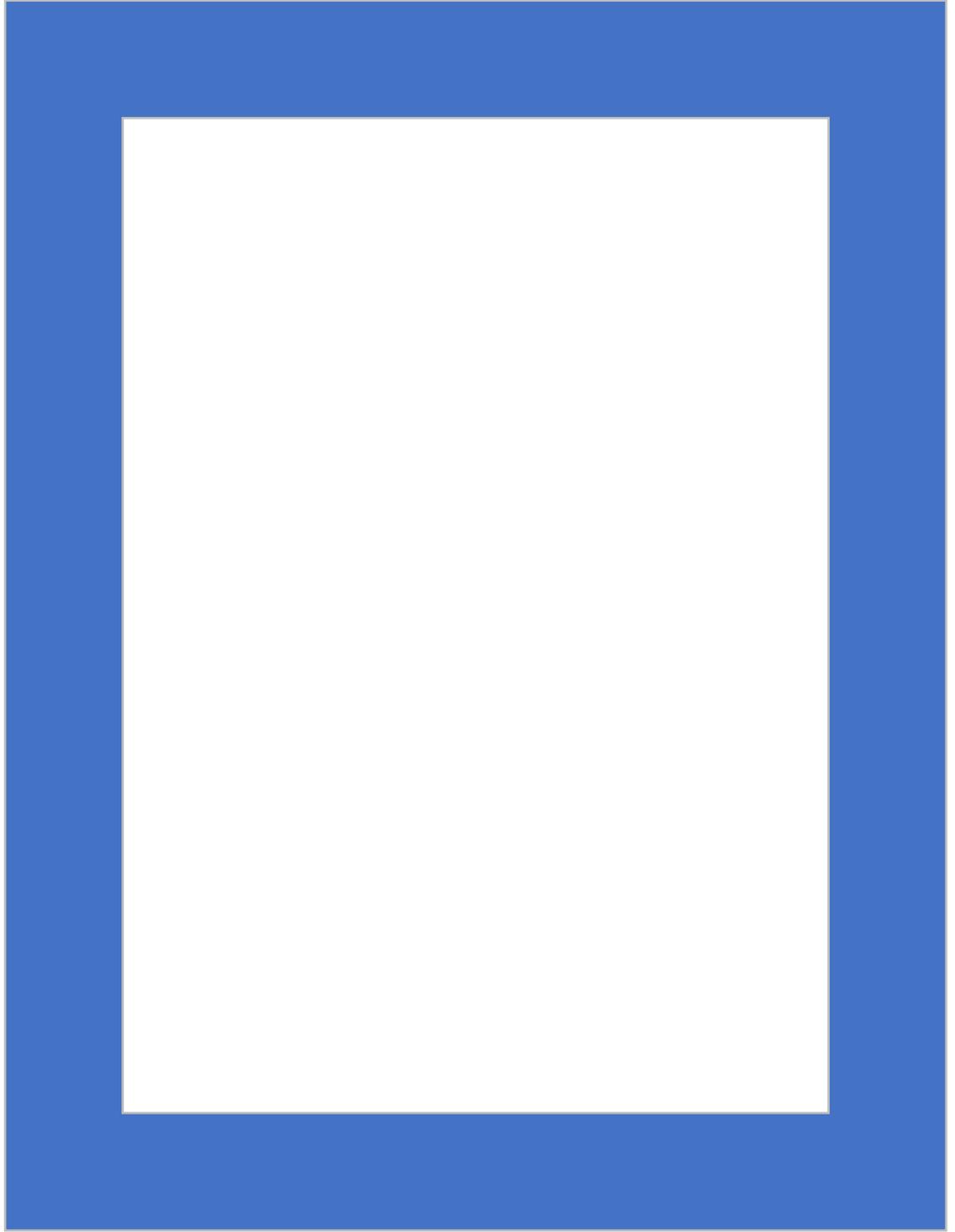


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*Coping & Growing: A Poem*







## Smar Typants Says...

Dear Smar Typants,

I have two friends who I like a lot and they are friends with each other, too. Sometimes we have play dates together; sometimes just two of us get together.

The problem is that when they get together without me, I feel sad. I worry they might like each other more than they like me! Then, when all three of us are together, they talk about their play date and I can't join in because I don't know what they are talking about!

What should I do?

Sincerely,

*Worried in Queens*

Dear *Worried in Queens*,

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## Smar Typants Says...

Dear Smar Typants,

I am upset because my parents argue a lot. Sometimes at night, when they think I am sleeping, I can hear them fighting. This is pretty scary and I don't know what to do! Do you have any advice?

Sincerely,

*I Love Them Both*

Dear *I Love Them Both*,

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## Smār Typants Says...

Dear Smār Typants,

I have a friend who I like a lot, but sometimes they say mean things to me, like “your nappy hair makes you look like a slave” and “your skin is so dark and ugly.” I have fun playing with them, but I don’t like the things they say. What can I do about this?

Sincerely,

*Fed Up*

Dear *Fed Up*,

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