

# Hello

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A publication of Winnipeg Monthly Meeting  
Religious Education committee.  
Especially for families and youth.

Have  
a great  
summer!

## Hello young friends!

How are you today? I hope that whatever you're doing, today is a good day for you. We've all been spending a lot of time at home in the last few months. We might be missing our friends, or school, or playing sports with a team, or going to a concert. However, most of us have found things we enjoy about being at home. I know I have. Inside are some stories about things you enjoy doing at home.

### Where is Home?

**Elaine Bishop** writes about the places she's lived and what home feels like for her.

### The World we Live in

We live in a big world—a world of beauty and a world of all kinds of living creatures. For some of us, our world is a good place. But for many it is a difficult place. Lately I've been reading stories of Quakers who have tried to make a difference, who have listened in silence to Spirit, and then gone out to work for peace and justice and equality. In future issues of this newsletter, I hope to share some of those stories.



# Thoughts About Home

by Elaine Bishop



I am an immigrant. I arrived in Canada before I was three, and to Manitoba before I was nine. That means that I am a newcomer to Treaty 1 territory and I lived in Ontario before my family moved to Manitoba. When you move around a lot when you are very young it is hard to figure out where home is because there are no grandparents or aunties, uncles and cousins to help you sort that out.

I had to move to Scotland to realize how deeply Manitoba had become home. While living in Scotland I came back to Canada to do some research at the CYM archives in Newmarket, Ontario. I was walking over a bridge over a small stream and was struck—the plants looked RIGHT. The streams in Scotland—called burns—were lovely but the plants just had seemed wrong. And being back in Manitoba—the sky seemed right again! Big, blue, puffy clouds and it went on forever. And finally winters became right—cold, snowy, long rather than grey, damp and cold—*dreich* in the Scots. So home is where the land, the sky and the weather seem right, and I belong.



Try to make your home a place of loving friendship and enjoyment, where all who live or visit may find the peace and refreshment of God's presence.

From *Advices & Queries*, #26

# What are your favourite things to do at home?



I have lots of things I like to do at home. I like sewing, cleaning, and listening to music.

- Zaley

Tricks on the trampoline, petting polkahontas the-rock Harrison (resident artist bunny rabbit) and spending time with my family.

-Isaac

"Sitting on the porch" and "pretending." Having fun outside and in the garden. Jumping on the trampoline.

- Isabel

(Robin and Tabitha gave us their trampoline when they moved to Nova Scotia. It's been getting a lot of use! - Anna)

I like eating supper on the front porch. Watching for buses, bikes, and dogs going by. Watering the plants in the yard - sometimes the plants, sometimes my parents, sometimes me.

- Henry

Learning how to make sourdough bread, which has been fun. We've both really been enjoying having Ian working from home, and it's nice to be able to get some extra play time and lunches with him!

- Allison

Home is one of my favorite words. It brings up memories and images of safety, happiness and family. Over the past months, I've spent most of my time at home where I love to dig into the living room couch and read for hours.

- Dawn



# Puffy Paint



I found this idea on the website Happiness is Homemade and it caught my eye because it's colourful and easy, uses stuff you'll have in your kitchen cupboard, and best of all is non-toxic. If you want to eat your artwork, go ahead (although it probably won't taste very good).

## Ingredients

- 1 cup flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Enough water to make a pancake-like dough
- Food colouring

## Steps

1. Mix up these ingredients in a medium size bowl.
2. Divide batter into 2 or 3 bowls and add food colouring, a different colour for each bowl of batter, which is now paint!
3. You may want to pour the paint/batter into sturdy plastic bags with a tiny hole cut in one corner and squirt the paint on paper. Or you can dribble it with a spoon, or even use fingers to draw. It's a good idea to use sturdy paper, like cardboard. (Perhaps from an empty cereal box)
4. Put the artwork in the microwave for 35-40 seconds and watch the paint puff up! When you take it out the paint will be dry. Artwork project is complete!

*Note: I tried this myself and it really works. Easy and fun! For easy cleanup, wipe any spatters before they harden.*



# The Secret Place

There's a place I go, inside myself,  
Where nobody else can be,  
And none of my friends can tell it's there—  
Nobody knows but me

It's hard to explain the way it feels,  
Or even where I go.  
It isn't a place in time or space,  
But once I'm there, I know.

It's tiny, it's shiny, it can't be seen,  
But it's big as the sky at night...  
I try to explain and it hurts my brain  
But once I'm there, it's *right*.

There's a place I know inside myself,  
And it's neither big nor small,  
And whenever I go, it feels as though  
I never left at all.

—Dennis Lee, 1991  
From *Faith and Practice*

**Have a great  
summer, friends!**

Hope to see you in person in the  
fall, and if not, maybe back here  
in the pages of Hello!

