

# *The Cycle*

*By Addy Kesti*

*Free Verse*

*North Shore Community School*

*Ms. Jackson's Class*

*May 24, 2023*

Bright lightning cracks  
Sky lights up  
Clouds are brimmed with rain

When they're ready  
Rain pours out  
Down to ground it falls

When the rain lands  
Tumbles down  
Into gloom below

A Storm sewer  
Stink, slunge, trash  
Flows into the lake

Among the leaves  
Filth, the salt  
A forlorn toy boat

It joins the stream  
Out the pipes  
Toward brightness above

It bobs up, down  
Through a lake  
Toward a beach it goes

Waves of the lake  
Wash the beach  
With the boat in tow

I find that boat  
Take it home  
I bring it where I go

I take it to  
A clean stream  
I give it away

Give it away  
To the stream  
Where the waters clean

Polluting It  
Poisoning  
Killing, Infecting

The plastic drifts  
Down the stream  
And away from me

The stream meets, river  
Connecting  
In sync and in one

A watershed  
Is a place  
Where waters will meet

Now it flows down  
Toward the sea  
Meeting with others

Reaching the closure  
Journey's end  
Into the ocean

All of our trash  
And our junk  
Reaches the ocean

There it will stay  
Forever  
It will not decay

The journey starts  
Above the sea  
On the land with me

The middle is  
Toward the ground  
At the sea level

The end will start  
With ME, US  
Because it matters

The sea might be  
Faraway  
Maybe it's close by

But the Length does  
Not Matter  
What matters is **US**