Enter 2026 10th Annual "Moozie" Essay and Art Contest!

Submission Deadline: June 30, 2026

What does being kind mean to you? Have you ever noticed how you feel better if someone is kind to you? And have you noticed how you feel better if you are kind – to other people, animals, yourself, or the earth? Have you observed how one kind act can lead to more kind acts? You now have a chance to spread kindness with Children's Kindness Network and Moozie® the Cow, the Ambassador of Kindness.

The Children's Kindness Network (CKN) is a 28-year-old nonprofit dedicated to promoting kindness values in young children. CKN has "Moozie," the kind cow who visits schools, camps and other physical and virtual settings to teach about kindness and lift spirits. Moozie is lovable, compassionate, and devoted to helping children pre-kindergarten through third grade, and beyond, discover the universal benefits of kind behaviors. She helps children exhibit kindness to themselves, others, to animals and to the Earth. Learn more about Moozie and her methods, and experience Moozie inspirations, at https://www.moozie.org.

We are celebrating Moozie and kindness with CKN's annual writing and art contest for children in kindergarten through third grade! It is free to enter!

Need-to-Know Contest Information

Who? The Moozie essay and art contest is open to children in kindergarten through third grade (subject to points below) who live in the United States or other countries reached by Moozie advocates.

- Essay track applies to second and third graders only.
- Art track applies to kindergarteners through third graders.

All children (public, private, and home school students) are eligible except for immediate family members of CKN board members, volunteers, employees, and contest judges.

What? Entries are grouped for judging within two major categories: (1) Essay or (2) Art. Essays have two subgroups by participating grades: (a) Grade 2 or (b) Grade 3. Artwork has two subgroups based on grade range: (a) K to Grade 1, or (b) Grade 2 to Grade 3.

Essay submission: A student will prepare a written (handwritten or typed) response to the prompt **"Kindness in Action: How One Kind Choice Can Change a Day, a Person, or the World".** Students can learn about Moozie (via Moozie.org website, books, media, or ambassadors) and include a special message to Moozie at the end of their essays, but this is not mandatory. There is no minimum length of responses. Maximum length is 500 words. Creativity and critical thinking are encouraged. All work MUST be the student's original, own creation, (without assistance from others nor technology/AI).

Art submission: A student will submit a drawing or other original artwork in response to the prompt **"Illustrate any Moozie's kind action and show one of Moozie's four pillars of kindness."** Students can learn about Moozie and the kindness areas at www.moozie.org. Submissions, preferably in color, should be on plain white 8-9-inch by 11-12-inch paper and include short explanatory captions under the art work. CKN may elect to use winning designs for its purposes. Creativity and originality (without human/AI/technology assistance) are required.

Need-to-Know Contest Information, continued

Judging Criteria: Judges will score entries based on (1) clarity, (2) overall content and creative inspiration, (3) how well the prompt was answered/illustrated, and (4) care and neatness in presentation. Artwork will be evaluated based on design creativity and execution also. The judges' decisions are final.

Prizes: The top entries may be published on the Moozie website and/or posted on Moozie social media along with first names of winning authors/artists, following receipt of parents' permission. Prizes currently are planned to be toy/bookstore gift cards or cash. Indicative planned prize structure is below, with prizes currently planned within range of approximately $50.00 to $250.00 in value, depending on winner field and respective placement. *Children's Kindness Network contest management reserve the right to finalize winners and prizes based on contest outcomes and sponsorship.*

Overall First Place Winner (based on impact and creativity across all essay + art submissions) - Grades K to 3

First Place Essay Winner - Grade 2

First Place Essay Winner - Grade 3

First Place Art Winner - Kindergarten and Grade 1

First Place Art Winner - Grade 2 and Grade 3

How? There is no entry fee. Each child may submit only one entry. No co-created entries are permitted. Each **entry must be accompanied by a completed entry form**. Please submit entries by email. E-mail entry and form to: **contest@moozie.com**, and indicate "CKN Essay (or Art) Contest" and entrant's last name in the subject line. You may attach Word/PDF documents and/or scanned images to the email.

When? Entries must be received at the contest email by midnight on: Tuesday, **June 30, 2026**

Questions? Send any contest-related questions to contest@moozie.com or info@moozie.com email in advance of April 15, and you will receive a prompt response.

Please print the Entry Form to send a completed form along with the entry. CKN plans to announce winners by the end of July 2026.

"LIKE" us on Facebook or Instagram (@moozieckn) to follow Moozie the kind cow and results of the contest!

The Children's Kindness Network (www.moozie.org) appreciates your participation and support of our mission to teach and reinforce kindness in children and bring joy through Moozie! We salute your children's dedication to literacy, creative arts, community participation, and the value of kindness.

ENTRY FORM FOR 2026 CKN's "MOOZIE" KINDNESS ESSAY/ART CONTEST

Email with submission when complete, by June 30, 2026, to: Contest@moozie.com

Information about Child:

NAME: _____

TOWN: _____ STATE/PROVINCE: _____

GRADE: _____ SCHOOL: _____

AGE: _____ ENTRY: _____ Essay _____ Art

SUBMISSION CHANNEL: _____ Email _____ Postal Service _____ Other

Information about Parent or Guardian:

NAME(S): _____

BEST PHONE NUMBER in case CKN needs to reach you: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Important: PARENT/CAREGIVER, MAY WE PUBLISH THE ENTRY ON THE MOOZIE WEBSITE AND/OR SOCIAL MEDIA ALONG WTIH YOUR CHILDS' FIRST NAME AND TOWN/STATE?

YES _____ NO _____

Valid contest entry MUST be submitted with a COMPLETED entry form. **To be considered, entries** along with the entry form **must be received by midnight 12am ET on Tuesday, June 30, 2026. E-mail form with entry to: contest@moozie.com.** If preferring to mail entry, mail address can be requested at: contest@moozie.com.

Be sure to "LIKE" Moozie (@moozieckn) on Instagram or Facebook to receive up-to-date information about this contest and Children's Kindness Network's kindness events, inspirations, and news! **Thank you for your participation and support!**