Tucson, Arizona is my community. The entire world is my community too. In each of these communities there are handicapped and illiterate people. I have a very special teacher who teaches me the importance of working with other members of these communities to help the people that suffer from handicaps and illiteracy.

In my Tucson community illiteracy—not being able to read—is a big problem. He is teaching me the value of commitment and leading others in the community to solve problems. He commits both his time and money to helping wipe out illiteracy in Tucson.

In my world community there are many, many handicapped people, both young and old. He teaches me the importance of caring for and helping these people. He helped me collect money to buy a wheelchair that I bought to a kid who really needed it. I will never forget the smile of thanks on that boy’s face. The memory of that experience encourages me to keep on helping others.

He teaches me that my Tucson community will be a better place when everyone can read. He teaches me that my world community will be a better place when all handicapped people have the gift of mobility. He teaches me these lessons so that I will know how to contribute to the communities that I live in. My special teacher is my Dad.
Kimberly Hernandez
Second Place

Noemi es una niña en mi clase que es líder porque ayuda a los demás, Noemi es muy inteligente y Buena amiga, porque es bondadosa, me ayuda, y nuncase enoja. Noemi es bondadosa porque ayuda a mi hermano, me hace reir, comparte lo que trae, es bueno y me gusta tener una amiga bondadosa

Me apoya cuando la maestra dice cosas en ingles, cuando yo me caigo me levanta, me ayuda esojoer libros en la biblioteca, es bueno tener una amiga como Noemi porque yo no sé inglés.

Noemi no se enoja cuando you me voy y se me olvida decir le a donde vo y. Por ejemplo cuando yo me voy a jugar a otra parte o cuando yo me saco puras “As” y ella se saca puras “B”s hay niñas que se enjan por todo.

En conclusión, Noemi me ha inspirado a aprender ingles para ayudar a los niños que no saben inglés. Debiolo a Noemi, a mí me gusta ayudar, Noemi es muy bondadosa.

Translation:
Noemi is a classmate who is a leader because she helps others, Noemi is very intelligent and a good friend because she is kind, helpful and she never gets upset. Noemi is very kind because she helps my brother, she makes me laugh, she likes to share, and she is nice and I enjoy having a friend who is very kind. She supports me when my teacher says things in English, she catches me when I fall, she helps me check out books at the library. It's good to have a friend like Noemi because I don't speak English. Noemi doesn't get upset when I leave and forget to tell her where I'm going. For example when I choose to play somewhere else, or when I get all "As" and she gets all "Bs." There are some girls who get upset at everything. In conclusion, Noemi has inspired me to learn English so I can help other children who don't speak English. I respect Noemi, I like to help, Noemi is very kind.

Translation provided by Manny Romero, M.M.C., Director of Hispanic Media Relations, ASU Media Relations & Public Information
Reilly Anderson
Third Place

Beyond the Dream

Just as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. inspired people to fight for equal rights my parents inspire me and others to be good leaders.

My mom and dad are superior people. They help our family by providing clothes, food, and a loving home.

They also encourage each member of our family to develop our talents in music, sports, and academics.

My parents set a good example. Teaching us to be a friend to the friendless and to stand up for the right. Sometimes this means you may have to stand alone. But as Martin Luther King showed us it’s better to be a leader than a follower.

My parents have also taught us to give to those in need. Once we were on our way to school and the weather was very wet and cold. My mom saw a boy walking to school. He had no coat and looked very cold. My mom happened to have an extra coat in the car. She quickly pulled the car over and gave it to him.

My Dad has also helped many people by providing them with work, food, and money when needed. There have been many times when he has given up his pay check to help another.

I want to be a significant person when I get older just like my parents. I also want to help sick or hurt animals.

I have a dream that there will be peace in our land, no wars, and that everyone will have a home. I hope that we can all have inspiring dreams.