

## Winner Winner of the December 2009 writing contest for the 6-9 age group category Winner

### **There are many ways to give. This is my story...**

One day as I was thinking of what I could do, I thought about a story I had read about two children who gave people surprises. Since it was summer and I had no school, I decided to make a surprise package company like I read in the book! I started that very day! I wrote a cute card, put Lilacs in a vase, and slipped a dollar into the card envelope. At first I thought about slipping them onto our neighbour's porch. Then after thinking for a while, I decided to be brave and take it into their house. The owners of the house are very close friends, we call them Auntie Louise and Uncle Trevor. Luckily Uncle Trevor was asleep and Auntie Louise was outside gardening. I was so happy I had made my first surprise packet company delivery! Now I slip cards on window sills, and hand rails, and many other places. One day as I was biking around the neighbourhood, Auntie Louise called me over and said "Thank-you for the card!" "I liked the Lilac bushes, but I can't take your money", and with that she handed me a dollar and a 25 cent coin! I asked her where the 25 cents came from. She replied "my pocket!" I knew she wouldn't take back the money so I kept it. Then I left and biked down the road a little more, and another neighbour called out, "That was a nice card you gave me!" But this time I said, "maybe an angel put it there!!!" A few weeks ago, Auntie Louise had surgery on her arm so I took another card over. A few hours later the phone rings. It was her and this is how it went, "Oh thank you so much for the card! It made me feel so special in this world! You don't know how much I appreciated it! Thank- you so much!!!" I was like "You're welcome, you're welcome, yes, you're welcome! Ok I better go! Bye!" It is a fun job! Since all the neighbours know I am the surprise package company person, I have had to change the name. Last week, I went to a potluck and gave a gift to someone who had their birthday. It was signed Julie and Ronald! Whenever someone asked me what my name was I'd say, "Rachel, but some people call me Julie!" They asked, "but who's Ronald?" It has been over a year since I have had the surprise packet company and I have learned one thing, it is more blessed to give than it is to receive. One day I hope everyone will have a card from me! I hope you enjoyed this. I also hope this gave you ideas. I have told no one about it, just you! Have a good day, I hope you learned a lesson from this story.

*written by Rachel, age 8, BC*



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