

Matthew is a student in the Pre-GED literacy program in Tavares, Fl. His teacher is Lynne Tyler. His goal is to become better educated for the prosperity of his family.

## Sea Journey

By Matthew Deskins

One of my favorite places to go during the summer is Sea World in Orlando, Florida.

There is so much to do and see. My kids love the Stingray Encounter where you can feed and even touch a stingray. A lot of people call them the Birds of the Ocean because of the way they appear to fly through the water and flap their wings. You would think that they would be slimy but, "No" it's more like touching wet velvet.

Around the corner is Happy Harbor where you can climb through a maze of rope nets in a three story fort complete with slides and tunnels. You can take command of a pirate ship with water powered cannons and let your imagination carry you across the sea.

Just up the way you will find Pets Ahoy where you can see a whole show performed almost solely by animals; with very little human interaction.

Across the way is Shamo Rocks! A place where good music meets epic tricks performed by over 20 whales! You will see back flips, front flips, high jumps and if you get to close you'll probably be leaving soaking wet.

Then we come to Kraken, a heart pounding thrill ride complete with a 119-foot-tall vertical loop, a 101-foot-diving loop and a zero gravity roll. It's all built over a waterway called Serpent's Lagoon. There is also a place under the attraction where you can view live eels.

Last, but certainly not least, there is the adult stuff with over 22 shops including, Gulf Breeze Traders, Friends of the Wild, Allora's Treasure Trove and the Waterfront Market Place. There you can find great Shamo and Sea World souvenirs as well as Florida inspired apparel and accessories to help you remember your day. You are sure to find fun around every corner.

Well, that about wraps it up. Oh, one more thing .... Ahh, I will tell you when I get back. I'm off to see the tiger sharks.