

## **KROEGER ASSOCIATES, INC.**

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or

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Contact: Edward Tate, 215-504-2035

Judi Anderson, 800-789-3300

[ed@kroegerpr.com](mailto:ed@kroegerpr.com),

[judia@kroegerpr.com](mailto:judia@kroegerpr.com)

For: DEET Education Program.

### **“Fight the Bite” Poster Contest Honors 28 Students in 17 States**

This year 28 students in 17 states have won awards in the “Fight the Bite” poster contest, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the DEET Education Program. Started in 2007, the contest ([www.fightthebitecontest.org](http://www.fightthebitecontest.org)) invites fifth- and sixth-grade students to create posters that encourage children and adults to protect against mosquito and tick bites and the diseases they can cause.

**Richard Schleicher, 12, of Stockton, Kan., won the national sixth-grade Grand Prize, and Meghan Zengel, 11, of Springfield, Mo., won the national fifth-grade Grand Prize.** Both were honored today (May 22) during a ceremony at CDC’s Atlanta headquarters.

Richard and Meghan each received a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond and certificate. All 28 state winners—14 each in fifth grade and sixth (listed below)—will receive a \$50 savings bond and certificate.

For downloadable images of the winning posters, visit [www.fightthebitecontest.org](http://www.fightthebitecontest.org). The contest sponsors are sharing the images nationally with public health educators and school nurses to consider including in educational materials.

Richard attends Stockton Grade School, which has another sixth-grade winner in this year’s contest. Anna Hahn, 12, won the state award. Barbara Henson is their art teacher.

“The Fight the Bite contest provides an opportunity to educate our kids with information that is important to all of us,” said Ms. Henson, a 28-year veteran. “I don’t generally make poster contests a classroom assignment but will on occasion when I feel the knowledge gained through the experience is worthwhile for the students.”

Meghan attends Springfield’s Disney Elementary School, which last year also produced the fifth-grade national winner. Last year the state’s fifth-grade state winner also came from that

school, along with an Honorable Mention entry. The teacher who guided all those students is Sara Johnson of Springfield.

“Our students all have a very strong work ethic and they are very interested in the subject matter for this contest,” Johnson said. She teaches health, science and math, and incorporates into health a lesson about protecting against tick and mosquito bites and the diseases they can spread. “Since this area has many lakes and is popular for vacations, and our kids spend a lot of times outdoors in the woods, so they are very interested in this material.”

Johnson credits Pam Petr, the art teacher at Disney Elementary, with elevating the creativity of their students.

Consumers can find information about diseases from mosquito and tick bites, repellent use and other prevention strategies such as limiting standing water to reduce mosquitoes and landscape modification to discourage ticks at websites such as [www.cdc.gov/westnile](http://www.cdc.gov/westnile) and [www.cdc.gov/lyme](http://www.cdc.gov/lyme). Available domestically since 1957, DEET is the world’s most widely used active ingredient in insect repellents. The CDC and other authorities, as well as public health organizations and health care professionals, have long recommended these repellents. The American Academy of Pediatrics says repellents with up to 30 percent DEET can be used on children over two months of age.

### **State Winners**

	Grade	Name		Hometown	School	School City
CA	5	Alliza	Wade	Palmdale	Tamarisk Elementary	Palmdale
CA	6	Jordyn	Crawford	Lodi	Leroy Nichols Elementary	Lodi
FL	5	Timmy	Rich	DeBary	Homeschool	DeBary
FL	6	Victoria	Havekost	Jacksonville	Fruit Cove Middle School	Jacksonville
IL	5	Kennedy	Dalton	Rock Falls	East Coloma School	Rock Falls
KS	5	Nic	Luttman	Ozawkie	Jeff West	Ozawkie
KS	6	Anna	Hahn	Stockton	Stockton Grade School	Stockton
MD	5	Grant	Bowers	Sparks	Sparks	Sparks
MD	6	Hunter	Holland	Westover	Somerset Intermediate School	Westover
MN	5	Alexis	Olson	East Bethel	Linwood Elementary	Wyoming
MN	6	Connor	Gunsbury	Nisswa	Forestview Middle School	Baxter
MO	5	Amber	Eisterhold	Linn	Sacred Heart School	Rich Fountain
MO	6	Nicole	Smart	Cabool	Cabool Middle School	Cabool
MS	5	Nathan	Smith	Starkville	Ward-Stewart Elementary	Starkville
MS	6	Raven	Brent	Brookhaven	Lipsey School	Brookhaven

NC	5	Robert	Williams	Holly Springs	Home schooled	Holly Springs
NC	6	Sabrina	Carraway	Newport	Beaufort Middle School	Beaufort
ND	5	Madison	Schwindt	Dickinson	Heart River School	Dickinson
ND	6	Alexis	Edwards	Powers Lake	Powers Lake School	Powers Lake
NH	5	Jamie	Sharpe	Sommersworth	Sommersworth Middle School Newfound Memorial Middle	Sommersworth
NH	6	Rebecca	Turmel	Alexandria	School	Bristol
NJ	6	Alexis	Collins	Hackensack	Hackensack 5-6	Hackensack
OH	6	Barbara	Troyer	Millersburg	Wise Middle School	Charm
SD	6	Alexa	Bryan	Yankton	Yankton Middle School	Yankton
TX	5	Kelsey	Chapman	Granbury	Brawner Intermediate	Granbury
TX	6	Shayna	Underwood	New Braunfels	Oak Run Middle School	New Braunfels
WA	5	Sophie	Wilsdon	Seattle	West Wood Elementary	Seattle
WI	5	Ashley	Tabbert	Medford	Medford Area Middle School	Medford