KidsWrite is open to all students ages 5 to 18 as an opportunity to express their ideas and opinions about topics ranging from parents and religion to moral values and job aspirations. Each question is designed to lead each student through a process of identifying their thoughts and feelings, exploring and sorting them, and then sharing them with other students.

The use of KidsWrite questions is not limited to the classroom. Home school parents, after-school programs and other extracurricular programs are invited to participate as well.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMISSION:**

- Essays must be 150 words or less, typed or handwritten legibly in dark ink and received by the due date.
- Submissions must include the writer’s name, age, grade, school name, address and telephone number. Entries do not require student’s home mailing address.
- Submit your essay by:
  - E-mail: kidswrite@startribune.com
  - Mail: Star Tribune NIE KidsWrite, 425 Portland Ave., Mpls., MN 55488
  - Fax: 612.673.4214
  - Online: nieonline.com/startribune

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November 6, 2008 | October 6, 2008
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April 2, 2009 | March 9, 2009
May 1, 2009 | April 6, 2009
June 4, 2009 | May 6, 2009

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**UPCOMING TOPICS AND SAMPLE QUESTIONS:**

**September - Parents:**
Do the adults in your life understand you? Do they try?

**October - Dreams:**
What was the best dream you’ve ever had?

**November - Values:**
Who do you get your values from? Family, friends, media?

**December - Religion:**
Is faith important to you? Why or why not?

**January - Renewal and New Beginnings:**
What inspires you?

**February - Sexual Issues:**
What is the right reason or age to become sexually active?

**March - Bad Language:**
Why do you think using bad language has become acceptable?

**April - Loss and Grief:**
Have you ever lost anyone close to you? Who?

**May - Jobs:**
What do you want to do when you grow up? Why?

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they’ve got so much to say

THE TRICK IS ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS.

Introducing KidsWrite: Thought-provoking questions inspired by today’s headlines selected to get kids thinking and writing.