

# Four Children's Poems from Kazakhstan



## Winter the Magician

ANNA RUDAKOVA

Winter the Wizard casts a spell over the forest,  
charming everything with her whiteness!  
Although the blizzard will blanket us with snow,  
winter is not so wicked.

With everything in the grip of frost,  
children will cry no longer—  
we will skate and ski and throw snowballs,  
and winter, who gives us so many things,  
makes for endless fun in the snow.



Fourth grade, Classical Arts School #46  
Almaty, Kazakhstan

## Mother

NAZYM SMANOVA

My mother's name always warms my heart.  
No matter what her age, to me she's always young.  
Even when I am in trouble,  
in her heart she loves me still.

My mother's kindness knows no boundaries—  
her soul larger than the world's biggest mountain.  
In her embrace I feel warm rays  
and sunny days in her smile.

Fifth grade, School # 12  
Taraz, Kazakhstan

## My Kazakhstan

KONSTANTIN MYLNIKOV

My Kazakhstan, my native land,  
you I love with all my heart.  
Here where I was born and still live,  
I am ready to help where I can.  
I will water the fields  
and climb highest peaks.  
I love you, my Kazakhstan—  
this feeling comes from my heart.



Third grade, School #5  
Rudny, Kostanaiskaya oblast, Kazakhstan

## In the World of Fancy

AMINA AMAKHANOVA

In my dream I spread my wings  
and fly far away to a world of fancy.  
I'm fascinated by what I see  
and imagine an ideal home.

As I wander  
in the galaxy,  
I make the stars envious,  
flying like a bird.

I fly as far as the moon  
and stop over on Mars.  
I find there what I need  
and return home with my reward.



Third grade, School #145  
Almaty, Kazakhstan

*Translations from Kazakh & Russian  
By Karlygash Tusupbekovas*

## TRY THIS WITH THE POETRY

Choose your favorite season. Close your eyes and picture in your mind what it looks like outside. What do you see yourself doing then? What character does the season remind you of? Write your own poem about the pictures you made in your mind.

Do you have a favorite person or place? What is that person like? Why is that place special to you? Write several phrases that describe the person or place or tell why the person or place is special. Illustrate your poem.