Jorge and "Squirrels"

A story by Sofia Shanti Howard (6) and Bill Loader (grandad – $12 \times 6!$) after an idea by Sofia and each writing alternately.

Once upon a time there was a boy called Jorge. He loved playing soccer. This is a story about his feelings.

The story begins with Jorge sitting on the soccer field after the match and crying because he was very upset. He was upset because he always lost. Jorge wanted to win one day, but his team was just not good enough. He thought he could never win.

His mum said to him: "Don't worry, Jorge. Everyone loses sometimes and one day your team will win."

Jorge said: "That's not true!"

Sometimes Jorge not only became sad, but also became very angry and stayed in a bad mood for the rest of the day whenever his team lost.

When his friends tried to teach him that losing is alright, Jorge said: "That's not true!"

Jorge thought: "No one will like me if I keep losing," but his dog, Squirrels, didn't care. He always came to Jorge and was always his friend.

Jorge said: "But that's only a dog."

Then his dad picked him up and swung him around in the air and said: "You know, Jorge, I love you whether you win or lose because you are special."

Jorge whispered and said: "That is true. I believe you."

His mum threw him a big cushion, which Jorge caught. "And that's how much I love you, too," she said.

This weekend was his next game. He did not win, but he also did not cry.

He looked at Squirrels, his dog, and said: "Thank you, dog!", except when he wrote it down later he mixed up the letters and wrote: "Thank you, G o d!"

The End