



## Kids' Sluff

**W**HILE PLAYING ON THE COMPUTER WITH HER FOUR-YEAR-OLD TWINS, HELENE ROSENBERG FOUND HERSELF FASCINATED BY THE STORIES THEY MADE UP TO GO ALONG WITH THE PICTURES THEY DREW. ROSENBERG, AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, QUICKLY CONNECTED THEIR IMAGINATIVE TALES WITH HER CONCERN THAT CREATIVITY IS NOT ENCOURAGED ENOUGH IN THE EARLY GRADES.

TWO YEARS LATER, ROSENBERG AND HER HUSBAND, YAKOV EPSTEIN, DIRECTOR OF RUTGERS' CENTER FOR MATHE-

MATICS, SCIENCE, AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, CELEBRATED THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL RUN OF THE WRITING, IMAGINATION, AND TECHNOLOGY (WIT) PROGRAM. LOCAL THIRD GRADERS, WHO WERE PAIRED WITH 43 GSED STUDENTS, EXERCISED THEIR IMAGINATIONS BY USING A COMPUTER-SOFTWARE PROGRAM TO DRAW

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PICTURES AND TELL TALES. THE WIT PROGRAM, SAYS EPSTEIN, OFFERS TEACHERS A FUN WAY TO INCORPORATE TECHNOLOGY INTO THE CURRICULUM AND PREPARE KIDS FOR NEW JERSEY'S STATEWIDE WRITING AND CREATIVE ARTS ASSESSMENT TESTS-LMK