INTRODUCTION

There are stars whose radiance is visible on earth though they have long been extinct. There are people whose brilliance continues to light the world though they are no longer among the living. These lights are particularly bright when the night is dark.

Hannah Senesh

This report has been written to introduce you to the concepts of astrology and how to get started with a child's natal chart. Astrology is a complex and meaningful science which takes years to study and apply successfully; however, we would like to whet your appetite with this report, and encourage you to deepen your understanding through other means.

Astrology is a study of the connection between planets and life on Earth. It is based on a concept that energy patterns form between other planets and Earth and that these energies affect our lives as individuals and communities.

An astrological chart, also known as a horoscope, natal chart, or birth chart, records the relationship between the planets and the signs of the Zodiac. Charts can be calculated for the birth of a person, a community, an event or anything that seems momentous. The horoscope is as individual and unique as a fingerprint.

The aim of this report is to act as a guide for parents and mentors of children. All parents want the best for their children. We want our children to live happy and fulfilled lives. All mentors and teachers would like to see children reach their full potential. This can be achieved by recognising and accepting each child's individual gifts and weaknesses. In accepting these traits, we can help our children overcome obstacles and provide them with as many opportunities as possible to develop their talents.

The journey from babyhood to adulthood is full of joys and challenges. This report is intended to help parents and mentors to support and encourage their children through the difficult times and to provide them with as much love and joy as possible. Then childhood can become a true foundation for a rewarding and joyful adult life. Both children and their parents can be satisfied with a strong and healthy emotional bond, happy memories and many possibilities for future success.

When using these interpretations, please bear in mind that, inevitably, every chart will contain some contradictory influences and, as a result, certain interpretations of different items in the same chart may seem difficult to reconcile. However, this may still be an accurate reflection of a child's chart, as it is likely that any child will experience conflicting desires, events and circumstances in their life. Usually it is the responsibility of an astrologer to synthesise these apparent contradictions in order to present a cohesive and meaningful interpretation of the dilemmas of the chart. Any advice given is meant to be an aid and the author and publisher accept no liability for any adverse effects of this report.
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength while loving someone deeply gives you courage.
Lao Tso

The Moon tells you about your children’s emotional nature and basic needs. It is also the key to how they experience intimacy in relationships. The Moon tells you about your children’s relationship with their mother, how they experience their mother’s nurturing. As a result it can also give you insights on how to best nurture your children as babies and maturing young adults. When a child feels safe and has their basic needs met, they are better able to achieve their goals later in life.

The Moon is in Cancer

Young Drew thoroughly enjoys the warmth and comfort of her mother’s womb and may be reluctant to be born, resulting in a late or induced birth. Baby Drew forms a close bond with mother and enjoys lots of cuddles and affection, crying when these are withdrawn no matter what the reason. For this reason a close woman relative or friend may play a significant role in young Drew’s life, taking over when mother is tired or required elsewhere. Parents and baby Drew may enjoy the benefits of a baby sling, which keeps young Drew warm and comforted while giving a caring adult some flexibility of movement. As a young child Drew continues to cling to the comfort and safety of mother and close family relatives. This is a child who needs to be gently encouraged to widen her experiences, rather than being thrust into the larger world. As such Drew may find comfort in a particular cuddly toy or a comfort blanket, which can be taken to childcare, kindergarten or even school.

On a slightly different note, Drew is attracted to water. This can be positive, as bath time and other safe water activities can be a source of joy. However, parents also need to be wary around swimming pools, perhaps even teaching Drew to swim at a young age as an added safety measure. Cubby houses, soft cuddly toys, and dolls can be a source of fun and comfort for Drew. She enjoys playing with well-known family members of the same age, or one or two familiar friends, whereas large and new groups may be a bit overpowering. Dolls, a doll’s house, doll’s crib, cuddly toys, bath toys, play cooking utensils, and books about families may be a source of comfort. A calm and cuddly pet may also be of great benefit. Drew may also enjoy fun cooking lessons at a young age.

The Moon is in the First House

Drew is a sensitive child, ideally thriving in a warm and loving home environment. Drew is particularly sensitive to her mother’s moods. To a certain extent all children are sensitive to their mother’s mood swings; however, Drew is like a finely tuned instrument, upset at the slightest imbalance. Therefore it is important that she receives as much tender loving care from her mother as is possible. If circumstances dictate that mother is unable to provide this emotional sustenance, then perhaps another female family member can be called on. For this reason any form of early childcare also needs to be carefully
It is important that Drew is exposed to positive, supportive influences as much as possible. Even with the most warm and loving care, Drew is likely to be shy in her early childhood. This is not a cause for concern, but rather Drew's natural instinct helping her learn how to protect herself from potential problems. Left to her own devices, Drew soon learns which situations are safe and fun and which are troublesome. A little clinging to mother's apron strings early in life can be a positive thing in some cases. Of course this may depend on the sign of Drew's Moon. A child with a Moon in Leo, Sagittarius, Libra, Gemini or Aquarius may be more extroverted than a child with a Moon in Aries, Pisces, Scorpio, Cancer, Virgo, Taurus, or Capricorn. Either way, Drew innately knows when she wants to join in and when she doesn't. Drew may also be content to play on her own, seemingly ignoring other children. Again this can be a comfort to Drew if left to rely on her own resources rather than pushed into uncomfortable situations. Music may be a great source of comfort, helping to soothe Drew during unsettled emotional moments. Drew may also benefit from having a room of her own from a young age.

Other influences in Drew's birth chart determine the extent to which she is likely to achieve maternal support. If all is well then Drew develops a close and loving bond with her mother, or an important mother figure, which augurs well for the rest of her life. Drew is a unique individual with unique talents. Early support within the family helps Drew feel comfortable with her unique way of perceiving the world thus making a positive contribution to society and living a happy and fulfilled life as an adult.

The planet Venus describes your children's personal relationships with family and friends. Like a Moon, Venus is important in describing how your child prefers to interact. This planet also gives vital information about your child's receptivity to love. This is important because a child feels loved in different ways. Some children feel cherished when loved ones are paying them lots of attention, whereas others feel most loved when given the freedom to go their separate ways. Therefore gaining an understanding of the planet Venus in your child's chart can give you insights into how to encourage rewarding relationships with family and friends.

Venus is in Pisces

Astrologers consider the planet Venus to be well placed in the sign of Pisces resulting in satisfying relationships with friends and family. Drew is a warm and loving child, enjoying intimate relationships with loved ones. Drew is a sensitive child, able to understand the feelings of loved ones. However, she is easily hurt by harsh words. Drew likes harmonious interaction, and often tries to escape into a world of her own if confronted with an angry companion. Once the mood has calmed down, then Drew is ready to play again. She has a very forgiving nature, except under extreme circumstances. Even at a young age Drew is likely to understand the nuances of relationships, possessing an ability to listen to and appreciate other people. Drew is a little helper around the home and enjoys social contact.

There is a tendency for young Drew to look after her friends and family members a little too much at times. Parents and mentors need to encourage Drew to learn to discriminate between those who want and need help, and those who are better left alone. They also need to ensure that Drew is not put in the position of prematurely caring for older members of the family. In other words parents and mentors need to be wary of relying too heavily on Drew's kind and forgiving nature. Young Drew benefits from a warm and cuddly pet. The unconditional love of a pet is a great source of comfort. In turn Drew is happy to spend time looking after a pet. She may also enjoy water activities including joining the school's swimming team or simply socialising with friends at the local beach or swimming centre.

Venus is in the Tenth House

The relationships that young Drew forms, particularly any associations with women, influence the course of her life. This starts with Drew's connection with her mother or grandmother and continues with friendships
with girls and relationships with adult women. Female teachers are also important. In some cases Drew's mother may take on the role of both mother and father. Whatever the life circumstances, Drew's mother plays a major role in determining her choices in life. Therefore it is vital that she plans to have as positive an influence as possible. If Drew's mother is warm and nurturing then young Drew learns that the world is a safe and loving place and thrives at school and in choices later in life. However, the opposite is also true. Hence the importance of her mother's role. It is also vital that Drew is not influenced by a controlling woman, but rather is shown by example how to shine in her own life choices. Positive female role models go a long way to helping Drew lead a happy and successful life. Of course this is true for most youngsters, but Drew is particularly sensitive to these influences. She may also respond better to the influences of a female caregiver more than a male. This does, of course, depend on other aspects of her birth chart. Nevertheless Drew is likely to do well in life through her friendships with girls and women.
TALENTS AND SCHOOLING

The Sun represents your child's identity. It describes your child's basic personality traits and their talents. It also tells you how your children think of themselves; how they need to express themselves; how they need to shine in their lives; how they feel alive. It is the centre of a child's self-expression. The Sun can also tell us about a child's father.

The Sun is in Pisces

From the moment that Drew is born her parents are moved by a strong need to protect this vulnerable young person. Drew is sensitive and imaginative, if somewhat impractical. Soft music, artistic surroundings, and the fantastical world of television and books provide wonderful escapes from the real world for Drew. She also benefits from nature trips and seaside outings. This is a child who identifies more with the realm of imagination rather than the demands of day-to-day life.

As a youngster parents are delighted by this charming pixie. However, they may worry a little about how sensitive Drew is going to cope outside the protection of home and family. A caring childcare centre or kindergarten environment does not present problems unless run under a strict regime. However, school could present some problems. Parents and teachers need to do all that they can to ensure that the transition to school is a smooth one because young Drew finds the demands of a structured routine difficult to say the least. Drew is a daydreamer, a creative soul, but forgetful. She is often lost in a fantasy world and this doesn't sit easily with the demanding schedule of school bells, timetables and homework notices. At home Drew is likely to sit in the middle of her bedroom surrounded by mess listening to her favourite musical melody or reading her latest book.

It is possible that Drew has a talent for music, art, drama or dance. These can be encouraged at a young age gently teaching the discipline and determination needed to develop artistic talents. Drew may also be gifted at caring for other people. It is important to discourage any tendencies towards victim-like behaviour, although this may be easier said than done. Young Drew is inclined to identify with the lost souls of the world, and needs to be persuaded to see the riches in her own life. This way she grows into a caring and loving adult capable of pursuing her own talents in a balanced manner.

The Sun is in the Ninth House

Life is an adventure for young Drew. From the moment of birth she treats life as an exciting journey in which she plays an integral part. Little Drew is a joy to her parents, family members and friends. She is

Dance like no one is watching. Sing like no one is listening. Love like you've never been hurt and live like it's heaven on Earth.
Mark Twain
likely to be more interested in ideas and knowledge rather than the practicalities of daily life. For this reason Drew may appear to live in a dream world at times, not quite attuned to the daily chores, preferring to bury her nose in a book or some other pastime. Of course this depends on other aspects of Drew's birth charts.

A child with the Sun in the signs of Taurus, Virgo or Capricorn is more likely to be calm and practical, quietly pursuing her own interests. Whereas a child with the Sun in the signs of Gemini, Libra, Aquarius, Aries, Leo, Sagittarius, Cancer, Scorpio or Pisces are likely to be active and thinkers. It is possible that young Drew shows a talent for sport or religion. She may shine in the academic world. On the other hand she may prefer learning from experience, and excel in her ability to communicate with people from all walks of life. This is a child who loves to be exposed to a variety of philosophies and people. She may attract friends from foreign countries and may even enjoy the opportunity to travel abroad.

Drew has a talent for pursuing her goals and demands the freedom to explore her options. Any adult who tries to stand in her path soon knows to step aside and allow this talented youngster to shine!

The planet Mercury describes your children's intellectual abilities. The sign and placement of Mercury can describe whether or not your child finds it easy to concentrate at school. Your child may be a daydreamer or have great concentration. Your child may be shy or interact easily with other people. Either way it is possible to boost your child's self-esteem by choosing study methods and schooling that suits their needs rather than forcing them to fit into an alien environment. Gaining an understanding of the planet Mercury can help in these matters.

Mercury is in Aquarius

As a baby Drew needs lots of stimulation. She thrives in a busy household or in a family that has a full schedule of social engagements. Drew becomes restless in a quiet household with no variance to the daily schedule. Fortunately this discontent settles down as Drew learns to talk and read, and can provide herself with the liveliness needed for her agile mind.

School also provides a much-needed outlet for Drew's budding intelligence, although she may have some difficulty settling into a routine. Drew does not conform easily to other people's ideas, preferring to discover things for herself. Even if she is traditional in other aspects of her personality, parents and mentors notice a quirky side to young Drew. This can be seen mainly in her ideas, which are quite different to her peers. She likes new activities and topics and rebels against traditional methods of learning. From a young age Drew speaks up on behalf of her friends if she perceives any unfair treatment, or if she feels that they are not getting their chance to have their say. Little Drew is also keen to make the world a better place and may show an early inclination for a career in marketing, psychology, social work, politics, journalism or fighting environmental causes.

Drew is more likely to succeed at a school that encourages individual thinking and initiative. She also needs to attend a school at which she feels comfortable socially. Parents and mentors also need to teach young Drew to appreciate rules and regulations, while giving her plenty of freedom to express herself. Drew can benefit from joining the local library and thus having a good supply of books and having access to a computer with education resources. She also enjoys socialising with friends with common interests.

Mercury is in the Eighth House

Drew is an insightful child. From a young age she seems to understand the hidden side of things. This can range from the more esoteric side of life such as a deep understanding of human nature to the more mundane such as how a gadget has been constructed. On the more arcane level Drew is likely to be sensitive to any births or deaths in the family. Therefore parents and friends need to support young Drew, telling her the truth and answering questions as truthfully as possible. These questions could be quite challenging such as "Where did my little cat go when she died?" or "What happens to people when they
die?”. She develops compassion at a young age.

On a more mundane level parents and mentors need to be available to help Drew in daily tasks. This is a child who enjoys mystery books, model kits, microscopes, handyman tools, having her own garden plot and other hobbies that help her more fully understand the cycles of life. Her enquiring mind needs to be occupied, because Drew is not likely to dally in inconsequential matters. For this reason she needs to attend a school that encourages questions and individual research.
GOALS

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.
Eleanor Roosevelt

The Ascendant, or Rising Sign as it's sometimes called, is considered to be an important component of an astrology chart. Ancient astrologers believed that the Ascendant depicted a person's primary motivation. Some believed that it was one of the links to discovering what makes a person happy. It could be said that when we're accomplishing our primary motivation then we're happy. By gaining knowledge of a child's Ascendant and discovering this child's primary motivation in life, parents and mentors can then help them achieve their goals. Caring adults can encourage the child with love and support. In turn your child experiences a sense of happiness and fulfilment.

The Ascendant is in Gemini

Drew is likely to actively seek her goals, taking the initiative rather than waiting until circumstances are comfortable. Gemini is a Mutable sign denoting versatility, flexibility, adaptability, sensitivity, restlessness and indecision. It also an Air sign indicating a love of ideas, communicating and intellectual prowess.

Drew is clever, intuitive and restless. From a young age she will challenge her parents to provide activities that stimulate her mind. Drew needs encouragement. As a baby Drew will enjoy a bright and sunny environment filled with plenty of activity. She is a baby who prefers to be in the midst of family hustle and bustle rather than left in a quiet room. As a child she continues to enjoy the stimulation and social contact that comes from mixing with other children and adults. Drew will enjoy child care, kindergarten and school.

Drew's primary motivation is interaction. She needs to communicate with other people and this may result in early learning of language and reading skills. Drew is an endearing child, capable of interacting with other people from a very young age.

Ambition and drive, like many traits, can be powerful positive forces in your children's lives, helping them achieve their dreams. Too much ambition can hinder your child's ability to collaborate. On the other hand, without motivation your child may not be able to establish a healthy sense of self and successfully leave home and family. Studying Mars, the planet of drive and energy, assists parents and mentors. Mars describes vitality in your child's birth chart. If our children are free to pursue their own dreams and ambitions, their joie de vivre is a wonderful thing to see. By understanding the placement of Mars in your child's chart, you can help support their goals. You gain insight into whether or not your child lacks motivation in certain areas and why. You can also see if your child has an excess of passion. As a result you can either patiently try to motivate your child, or you can provide plenty of stimulation and direction.
Mars is in Capricorn

The planet Mars is strong in the sign of Capricorn. The drive and energy of Mars combines well with the reliable sign of the Goat. Therefore young Drew is an industrious child, enjoying any task that demands concentration. Drew is quite remarkable in her ability to work steadily to achieve her ambitions. Drew seems to understand, from a young age, the satisfaction of a job well done. Parents and mentors are amazed at Drew's maturity when it comes to completing responsibilities. Drew has self-discipline, ambition and the ability to discern what is needed to complete a task. Therefore she can be relied on to do well at school. She rarely needs to be reminded to settle down to homework, tidy her room or to set goals. Of course, this does depend somewhat on other aspects of Drew's birth chart. However, it is likely that she is a practical youngster, capable of setting her own targets and having the motivation and ability to achieve them.

Drew is the type of child who is likely to be bringing home school awards and club trophies at a young age. Parents and mentors need to ensure that Drew does make some time for fun-filled activities. She may be so busy attaining objectives, that she has left little time for socialising. In other words, she has an over-developed sense of responsibility. It is also important that young Drew is able to choose her own interests. Otherwise there is a risk that she may try to please a parental figure, rather than follow her own ambitions. Left to her own devices, Drew succeeds in her own aspirations and enjoys the fruits of her rewards.

Mars is in the Eighth House

As a young child Drew seems to attract gifts from many different sources. It seems as if young Drew is blessed with abundance. This, of course, has many benefits. Drew learns to use resources wisely from a young age, gaining confidence in her ability to be successful in the material world. Savings and investments feature early in Drew's life. She has a strong drive to learn about monetary cycles, outstripping her peers in these valuable lessons. However, there are also some hazards associated with this placement of Mars. As she grows older, Drew could become greedy, expecting more and more material gifts from loved ones. Her money making enterprises could become somewhat obsessive. She also has difficulty sharing her resources with other children. Peers can be jealous, recognising that Drew's desire to accumulate money and goods can sometimes come at the expense of friendships. The ideal way to circumvent these potential pitfalls is to teach young Drew about spiritual values. She needs to learn the value of sharing intimate moments with loved ones or enjoying the gifts of nature. As a result young Drew can become a true advocate for wise use of the world's resources. Nevertheless she still possesses the uncanny ability to attract material blessings from other people.
CHILDHOOD JOURNEY

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Wouldn't it be ideal if we could isolate one trait in our personalities, capture it in a glass for observation and dissection? Of course this is not possible. Neither is it possible for us to isolate one part of a birth chart. The different aspects of our children's birth charts intermingle in a complex manner to make the little person that we know and love. However, it is possible for us to influence the development of our children, to support them in their journey. The aim of this section is to give vital clues for parents and mentors on how to guide, but not coerce, the development of your child.

**Mars is Opposite The Moon**

The combination of the planet Mars and the Moon is fiery and emotional. Young Drew is likely to have plenty of energy and determination from a young age. A lively child, she delights in exploring new activities. She is independent and does not need the company of other children to keep her amused. Parents delight in the initiative shown by young Drew. They may not be so delighted by Drew's tendency for temper tantrums. Drew really knows how to throw a tantrum. These fits of temper are mostly likely to erupt when Drew's path is obstructed or when her desires are opposed. The positive note is that these outbursts are likely to erupt in a flash and disappear just as quickly. The irony of this situation is that Drew is particularly sensitive to other people's anger, in particular her mother's or other important women in her young life. Drew may also react more strongly to mother's attempts to instil discipline, rather than parenting efforts of father. It is also possible that mother has a temper of her own and clashes with her young charge.

Drew benefits most when independence is encouraged. She needs freedom within safe boundaries. Drew also needs to be encouraged to express her emotions in an appropriate manner. Drew enjoys activities which provide an outlet for her abundant energy. Individual sports, outdoor games or martial arts may be of benefit.

**Saturn is Conjunct The Moon**

Drew needs lots of love and affection. She is a sensitive child, seemingly fated to struggle with at least one adversity in her young life. This could start when Drew is a baby. Perhaps she is born during a difficult time for either her mother or father or main caregiver. This could result in a lack of parental support for young Drew. While this is understandable it could be emotionally painful. On the other hand it is possible that Drew is a fretful baby, failing to thrive for a short period of time or she could be a shy youngster. Another possibility is that Drew sails through babyhood, but as a young child the family suffers a setback that affects young Drew. While this may be of some concern to parents, most challenges in life have a positive outcome. Whatever the challenging circumstances, young Drew initially may, despite the best parental intentions, feel insecure in her little world. Much of this depends on other influences in Drew's birth chart.
With other positive influences, Drew may be quietly confident and somewhat serious. Either way a firm and loving hand and a warm environment can help Drew overcome adversity and consequently feel secure and gain confidence. Adult caregivers need to avoid criticism, because Drew is more sensitive to harsh words than other children. Instead, parents need to do all that they can to boost Drew's self-esteem so that she can mature into a confident adult. As Drew matures, she overcomes adversity. She learns the advantages of hard work and self-discipline. The positive side to early-life difficulties is that Drew has the wisdom of experience, and outstrips other children in her achievements. This combination of the planet Saturn and the Moon is an important one in astrology. In some cases, it simply acts to tone down other influences in a child's birth chart. For instance, a fiery child may seem more introverted under this influence. For a full explanation of the likely outcome of this combination it is best to visit a qualified astrologer.

**Uranus is Trine The Sun**

Now here's a child who likes to be independent. As baby Drew craves the stimulation of an active household or a change of environments. This trait continues throughout her childhood and into adulthood. An outspoken child she enjoys both the pleasures of playing on her own as well as having company. Drew particularly enjoys her relationship with her father, or a father figure. An intelligent child, reading and learning are important; however, she needs to be given plenty of freedom to explore and experience things for herself.

Drew does not respond well to a strict regime or to being forced to read certain types of books. This is a child who wants to explore all kinds of knowledge. She also enjoys spending time with her father, watching and learning his activities, as well as being taught by him. It is even possible that Drew's father has an unusual occupation or hobby that can be enjoyed together. Drew's father, or a close father figure, plays an important role in her life, although he too may be independent. Although it may not be often, when they are together Drew and her father enjoy each other's company.

**Jupiter is Semisquare Mercury**

The positive planet Jupiter has a beneficial influence on the planet Mercury even though this combination can present some difficulties. Drew is eager to learn all that she can about her environment. She has an inquiring mind and is naturally curious.

Drew enjoys activities that provide stimulation. However, at times she can be a bit too pushy in her endeavours to explore her environment. Drew is so keen to learn new things that she may try "walk before she can crawl". Drew also has difficulty concentrating on one thing at a time, lacking the self-discipline to complete projects. Parents and mentors need to encourage Drew's development, but also provide some guidelines. Indulging Drew's whims does not help her develop self-discipline. Drew needs to be taught self-restraint, although she won't appreciate these lessons.

Drew is eager to attend school, but may lack the self-discipline required by a more traditional school. She enjoys the company of other students and the excitement of new ideas, but is eager to study at her own pace rather than fit in with other people's expectations or routines. With positive teaching methods Drew excels at school and copes ably during her developmental stages.

**Neptune is Sextile Mercury**

The combination of the planets Neptune and Mercury can be a challenging one. The extent of the challenge depends on the exact nature of the association and other influences in Drew's birth chart. However, the planet Mercury represents communication, which is overshadowed by the planet Neptune. Therefore Drew finds it difficult to express herself in conventional ways. It is important that parents and mentors help Drew find more unorthodox ways in which to express herself such as through the creative arts. Art, poetry,
theatre, dance and music can prove highly beneficial forms of expression. Drew may be particularly talented in the creative arts, a child prodigy who needs nurturing.

Drew is sensitive and needs encouragement to trust her own intuition. This child needs permission to be different. Drew is imaginative and enjoys stories such as fairy tales, myths and legends. She may also have a talent for making up her own stories. Parents and mentors need to ensure that young Drew understands the difference between fantasy and reality. Drew may prefer to live in a fantasy world rather than face the demands of daily responsibilities. She is highly impressionable. Positive influences are important in order for Drew to develop her self-esteem. Drew is a caring child with a unique understanding of her friend's problems. Parents and mentors need to take special care in choosing a school for young Drew. She needs a school environment that encourages creativity, rather than purely academic achievement. Friendships also play an important role in helping or hindering Drew's sensitive nature. Therefore, it is important for parents to encourage friendships that have only a positive influence. With the right encouragement Drew grows in self-confidence and finds the means to express her unique gifts.

Pluto is Trine Mercury

Drew is an insightful child who likes to understand what motivates people. Rather than enjoying learning things for the sake of trying something new, Drew likes to pull them apart and discover what makes them work. This can include anything such as dismantling a complex mechanical toy or simply pulling the head off a much beloved doll to see what is underneath. It can also include asking embarrassing questions of family members in order to understand a loved one's motives. Drew is not trying to be difficult, although her methods of learning are a little unusual. She merely wants to understand all things hidden.

Drew needs to be encouraged to explore her environment, even if she does have unusual methods at times. She is sensitive to criticism and easily feels rejected if her parents or mentors express disapproval. This can result in a lack of motivation. Drew is scared to try new things for fear of being chastised. Therefore parents and mentors need to encourage Drew's endeavours, not with false praise, but rather with honest and direct words. Drew comprehends hidden meanings and responds best to the truth. Drew may also appreciate toys and activities which can be researched, engineered and constructed.

Parents and mentors need to ensure that Drew's entry into school is as smooth as possible, perhaps even explaining to teachers in advance that Drew is serious and unique student. Drew needs to be protected from harsh teachers. She needs tolerant teachers in order to reach her full potential.

Jupiter is Conjunct Venus

Good fortune smiles on Drew. The two positive planets of Venus and Jupiter have combined to bring happiness, comfort and joy. Drew has many friends and family members who shower her with gifts and money. Loved ones are also happy to shower her with affection and favours.

Drew is surrounded with tenderness and kindness. Growing up in warm and loving surroundings is certainly an advantage for young Drew. She is happy and secure and able to adjust well to the different stages of childhood development. She forms friendships easily and is eager to share her good fortune. School is a happy experience. Drew is popular and creative. Academic success depends largely on other factors in Drew's birth chart. However, parents are proud of Drew's generous and fun-loving nature, and her ability to form positive associations. Mentors, particularly mother figures, need only beware of overindulging young Drew. If Drew is too comfortable then she may become lazy, waiting for others to provide inspiration rather than attaining her own goals. However, it is more likely that young Drew's enthusiasm stands her in good stead for reaching her own objectives with plenty of co-operation from willing friends and family members.

Jupiter is Sextile Mars
Drew is self-confident and active, with a seemingly endless supply of energy. She is eager to take part in most activities and has plenty of initiative and courage. She knows what she wants and how to achieve her desires. A born leader, Drew also shows her playmates how to start and complete projects. Adults notice that Drew is likely to excel in leadership roles and business later in her life. She enjoys playing active games and can often be found outdoors in rain or shine. Her natural optimism and sunny nature seems to attract positive attention wherever she goes. Sometimes Drew goes a little overboard in her efforts to achieve her goals, but this is a minor problem. Parents need do little to encourage Drew through her various stages of childhood, but rather need only offer a steadying hand or an occasional word of advice. Drew may enjoy an active pet to accompany her on her various antics. She may also benefit from joining a sports team as an outlet for her abundant stamina.
CONCLUSION

When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.
Mark Twain, Bringing Up Father

This report has been written from a child’s point of view with the aim of helping parents and mentors better understand their youngsters. Of course, each person is ultimately responsible for their own actions, but the support that children get early in life goes a long way to helping them live rich and rewarding adult lives. Children need to be given the freedom to be their true selves rather than being forced to live up to parental expectations or to fulfill parents’ own personal journeys. They need their parents to live their own lives to the full, joyously and responsibly. Above all children need love and support. What great gifts and what a challenging role for parents! It is the author’s hope that this report may help in the process of childhood development, supporting both child and parent. My own father often quoted the above saying by Mark Twain. So I thought that I would share it in this report. My mother gave me many of the aforementioned gifts. I hope that these have shone through in the writing of this report.

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About the Artist: Artist Janet Bridgland lives in the picturesque town of Bridgewater in the Adelaide Hills in Australia. She is an artist, illustrator and teacher. Janet has held a number of exhibitions in art galleries in the city of Adelaide, as well as having a permanent exhibition of selected works in the boutique book shop, Back Pages Books, in the Adelaide Hills which she runs with her husband. Janet has illustrated a number of books for the publishing company, Calypso. She teaches illustration at the Douglas Mawson Institute of TAFE, as well as individual art classes for children and adults.