



First Place 4th Grade
Nicole Lloyd
Center Elementary
Ware County

2020 Georgia National Fair
Fair Bear Creative Writing Competition
"Fair Bear Visits Georgia's Coast"

Fair Bear Visits the Coast

Fair Bear is going to Jekyll Island today because he loves to travel to places in Georgia. He is so exuberant! Fair Bear started off his day by calling his friends, Ally alligator, and Owlet owl to ask them if they wanted to go to Jekyll Island with him. Of course they said yes! They headed to Jekyll Island and they finally arrived at their destination. First, they went to the Jekyll Island Club Resort. Fair Bear asked, "Do you guys want to go get in the pool, or do y'all want to go look at houses that have been here on Jekyll Island for a long time?" They both replied, "We want to go look at some of the older houses." So off they went! They had a tour guide with them to tell them about the houses. One of their favorite houses was the Goodyear Cottage. The tour guide said the Goodyear Cottage was built by John Carriere and Thomas Hastings. They were from New York City. The house is a stucco winter home.

Next, they went to Driftwood Beach to take pictures. They had a beautiful outcome in the pictures because of the glamorous sunset. Since they loved Driftwood Beach they decided to go to Glory Beach Park. Owlet owl said, "Did you guys know that Glory Beach Park is a bird sanctuary and movies were filmed there?" Really said Fair Bear. Ally alligator said cheerfully, "I didn't know that!"

So they darted their way over to Glory Beach Park. When they got there they thought there were hundreds of birds there, and there was this one bird that was very unique. It's called the Cattle Egret. The Cattle Egret is a white, short, and cute bird.

After a few minutes they got tired so they went to go see if they could spend the night at the club resort. They could and they got the double King size room. The next morning, they woke up hungry. Then they all decided to go fishing. They found the best fishing spot in all of Golden Isles. They caught the bull redfish. But altogether they caught about 20 fish. They were full by then, so they wanted to go to Beachside bike rentals.

Finally, when they got there they decided to do the bike path for an hour. They were riding bikes right beside the ocean and it was so stunning. They also saw the Horton House, which is one of the oldest buildings in Georgia. After about 25 minutes Ally said, "I'm tired." Fair Bear said, "It is okay Ally just push through it." The hour flew by and they were all worn out, so they went on their way home. On the way out of Jekyll Island they saw a lot of deer. Owllet and Ally said, "Thank you for inviting us to Jekyll Island." They were so exhausted that they forgot to say goodnight to each other and they crashed in their beds.



Second Place 4th Grade
Ronan Beals
Tiftarea Academy
Independant

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Fair Bear's Trip to Tybee

Do you know where Fair Bear and his family are headed to this very moment? They're on their way to Tybee Island, near Savannah, Georgia. Fair Bear has never been there, and he hopes to see lots of fish and gather some seashells to bring back home. Fair Bear and his brother, Jeff, look forward to making sand castles in the shape of turtles.

Look! In the distance, Fair Bear sees a lighthouse. He must be close to the resort. As the gates open, he and his brother can see a lot of other people with luggage getting out of their cars. From the resort balcony, his family can see the ocean, large sand dunes, the pier, and a cargo ship far away. Fair Bear is getting excited

about going to the beach!

After getting ready, Fair Bear, Jeff, and his parents head off to the beach with buckets and shovels, towels, and a large beach umbrella. First, Fair Bear and Jeff decide to build sand castles. Of course, they make a huge sand turtle. Their mom proudly takes a picture of their masterpiece. When they get to the water, Jeff finds a brown sand dollar. Fair Bear is surprised that it isn't white. Their dad explains that living sand dollars have dark colors to stay camouflaged from predators. He suggests that they throw the sand dollar back into the ocean in case it is alive.

The next day Fair Bear hears live music from the pier. They take a walk to the pier and see a lot of seagulls, hermit crabs, and fishermen with bait. One man is cleaning a large fish that he has caught. They look down below and see the waves crashing and what looks like a jellyfish.

Later that afternoon, the Frye

Marine Life Center sets up tents with exhibits of various animals.

Fair Bear immediately sees the baby alligator and snakes that the workers allow people to carefully hold. He is curious about them, but he refuses to hold them. Instead, Jeff bravely holds the snake while the marine biologist explains more details about the alligator. Another woman shares a turtle and how they have had to nurse it back to health after it got run over. She shares the dangers that turtles have to deal with, especially sea turtles. Fair Bear is happy that the Marine Life Center can help animals that are hurt.

Throughout the week, Fair Bear really enjoys his time with his family. He explores a lot of places at Tybee Island, including the lighthouse, the pier, the ocean, and the Marine Life Center exhibits. His favorite activity of all would be making sand castles in the shape of turtles with his brother,

Jeff. Just like he had planned, he's found two perfect seashells to bring back home. As an added bonus, Fair Bear's dad finds a shark tooth for the boys to show their friends! What fun they've had!



Third Place 4th Grade
Jaime Kate Redmond
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School
Diocese of Savannah

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Fair Bear and the coast of Georgia
Hi! I'm Fair Bear, the bear!
I've always been an adventurous bear! I love to try new things. I also love to explore, and I've always been fascinated by the ocean and its creatures. It was a dream of mine to roam a city and swim in the water without people staring or calling animal control. So, this year, I decided to follow my dream and travel to the Georgia coast. My trip started in Savannah, Georgia, which is the oldest city in Georgia.

As I traveled to downtown Savannah, the sun was shining bright above me. At first, there were no people around me, but there was a strong smell of something new. I saw a shop. The front of the store had a large banner that said "River Street Sweets."

I ducked into the shop. There were so many smells; my eyes perked with surprise. I decided I had to keep exploring so, I stumbled out of the shop and moved quickly across the tracks to a large river with many boats. I jumped in and sank beneath the waves. I can't promise that nobody saw me, though!

"Who's there?" someone called.

"I'm Fair Bear, the bear." I said.

Wading around, I caught sight of a rough looking alligator.

"I'm Mater, the gator." he said.

"Can I show you around the waterways?" he asked.

"Sure!" I responded.

Mater said, "You are in the Savannah River now."

"Wow!" I exclaimed.

"Follow me," he said, as he slithered away.

I followed him under a bridge, which he told me was the Talmadge Memorial Bridge. I swam with him for what seemed like hours. We swam from the Savannah

River to the Atlantic Ocean, rounded Tybee Island, and stopped for a nap

at the Wassaw National Wildlife Refuge. Then, we traveled up the Little Ogeechee River, the Vernon River, and the Moon River to the Skidaway River.

"Finally we're here," Mater said, peeking out of the river. Mater announced, "Skidaway Island."

We swam over to a big wooden dock.

"Owl!" I said, looking around
"Fiddler crabs," Mater said. "Sorry!"

Just then we saw some men in fishing outfits riding in a boat.

I heard one man say to the other, "We've been trying to scare that gator away for years, but he always comes back!" The

The other man replied, "I swear I saw him!"

Mater dove under the water quickly, and so did I. We held our breath until they went around the bend, and then we poked our heads out of the water.

Mater said, "Well, I don't want

to get caught, and I hope
to see you again."

We said our goodbyes, and
he dove under the surface leaving
me alone. The only thing keeping
me moving forward and not
diving after him was my curiosity.
I wanted to explore this island
called Skidaway, and with that
thought, I kept moving forward.