



First Place 4th Grade
Charles Spivey
East Laurens Elementary
Laurens County

2017 Georgia National Fair
Fair Bear Creative Writing Competition
"Fair Bear's Adventure in Georgia"

Fair Bear's Adventure

by Charles M. Spivey

There once was a black bear named Fair Bear. He wanted to learn about Georgia, so he decided to go to Okefenokee Swamp Park. He called the Okefenokee Park and ordered a ticket. Then off he went.

When he got there, everyone was excited to see Fair Bear, and they couldn't wait to get started with their adventure. Being in the Okefenokee Swamp Park for the first time, Fair Bear was so excited!

The first thing he wanted to do was ride in a boat. He couldn't wait to get started. Then they were off. The fair guide was smart because when Fair Bear saw a huge spider on its web, Fair Bear asked, "What type of spider is that?" The fair guide said, "That is a black widow." He gave a lot of information about it. Along the way they saw an alligator. It was massive! At first Fair Bear was startled, then he realized it was asleep and then he started to sing a sweet tune to make it stay asleep and it worked! Then when he got off the boat, he saw a sign that pointed to the train station.

So, Fair Bear followed it. There was a long line, but he didn't care. Finally, Fair Bear's turn was next. He got in the first seat. Then the train was off. Along the way he saw an otter that was sliding of its slide. He smiled. He was so interested in it. When he got off, he went to the souvenir shop. There he met a man. The man said, "Hey, Fair Bear. I'm Okefenokee Joe." Fair Bear then replied, "Man, I've never seen you." "I'm so glad to see you, Fair Bear," Joe said. "Me, too," Fair Bear said. Then Fair Bear saw a tiki black bear that was holding a sign that said, "Okefenokee Swamp Park." He bought it and then left and went back to his den in Perry, Georgia. He told his friends what he'd learned and who'd he met. They were amazed and they wanted to visit Okefenokee Swamp Park, too.



Second Place 4th Grade
Isabella Gerard
Tucker Elementary
Houston County

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Fair Bear Visits Go Fish

Fair Bear is going to visit the Go Fish Education Center in Perry G.A. today. He gets in his car and is there in about five minutes.

"Hi Fair Bear. What can I do for you today?" one of the lovely helpers asks.

"I'm here to learn about all the different kinds of fish you have here," Fair Bear answers.

"Well then let me give you a tour," the helper says, so off they go.

"First up, we have a short film that tells you about the biggest fish that were caught and who caught them," the helper tells Fair Bear. So they both sit down and watch the video until it ends.

"That was a very helpful video," Fair Bear says. Next they come to a little map of G.A. that was in 3D lying on the table.

"This is a map of G.A. that shows you where the water falls after, you turn the wheel," the helper told Fair Bear.

"Well I'm going to go try it out then."
Fair Bear says as he goes over to the wheel and spins it. Just then, water comes out of the top of the roof and Fair Bear hears a thundering noise.

"That's to show that it's storming over G.A.," the lovely helper informs Fair Bear.

"Okay, I get it now," Fair Bear says.

"Since you get it, how about we go to our next stop," the helper says. Finally, Fair Bear goes outside a door and he sees all these amazing types of fish.

"This is amazing," Fair Bear says. "What is it?"

"This is where we take care of all different kinds of fish," the helper explains. "See these ipads? They tell about all the different fish that we have here." "They take their time looking at all the fish until they see the end."

"What are these? They don't look like fish," Fair Bear asks.

"These are alligators, Fair Bear. They mostly spend their time basking in the sun or staying cool in the water," the helper tells Fair Bear.

"Well I think they are neat," Fair Bear says as they both go inside.

"So! Fair Bear, what did you learn today?" the helper asks him.

"Today I learned about the biggest fish that were caught and who caught them." "Also I learned about where water runs through G.A." "Next I learned about all the different kinds of fish, and also got to take a good look at them." "Last, I learned about alligators and what they mostly spend their time doing." Fair Bear told the helper.

"Good." "It looks like you learned a lot today," and make sure to stop by our gift store to see if you want to buy anything," the helper tells Fair Bear.

"I'll make sure that I will." Fair Bear says.

"Bye, Fair Bear, and make sure to come back soon." the helper says as Fair Bear goes into the gift shop.

"I will." "I think that this is a fun place to visit to learn about new things." Fair Bear answers. Five minutes later, Fair Bear is out the door and in his car thinking about the wonderful time he had. He was already planning about when he would come back to visit the Go Fish Education Center.



Third Place 4th Grade
Kerra Mixon
Johnson County Elementary
Johnson County

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Fair Bear's Adventure to Anna Ruby Falls

Fair Bear was bored and decided to visit Anna Ruby Falls. He looked in all kinds of pamphlets and books, and saw how beautiful it looked. He woke up and caught a bus for his trip.

When Fair Bear arrived at Anna Ruby Falls, he was amazed. "I love it," he said. All the flowers and plants brought him happiness!

As Fair Bear was trying to put his tent up, he struggled. Luckily a forest ranger arrived. She said, "I'll bet you need help." "Yes indeed!" said Fair Bear. "Wow!" he thought, "she's pretty."

The ranger said, "Honey is my name." "Well Honey can you please help me with my tent?" asked Fair Bear. "Yes," she said. After Honey helped him, she said, "I've got something to show you." Fair Bear followed Honey. It was hard getting through the thick trees and leaves. Then there it was Anna Ruby

Falls! "Wow, it's beautiful!" said Fair Bear. Honey pointed to the Zip line. "Can we go Zip lining?" asked Fair Bear. The Zip Line twisted to show Fair Bear the beautiful area.

A while later they went back to the camp site. Honey said, "Bye". Fair Bear settled in to make smores.

Whoa, Whoa was the pleasant sound that awoke Fair Bear the next morning. He stepped out side his tent to find a baby owl.

"Good morning Fair Bear, I just wanted to check on the campers this morning," said Honey. "Well this little guy didn't have a great night. He must have fallen from his nest", said Fair Bear sadly as he showed her the baby owl. Together they took the baby owl to a nearby rescue shelter.

"I'm going hike up to the Falls, would you like to come with me?" Honey asked. "Sure," replied Fair Bear. "Wow! This water is absolutely perfect," said Fair Bear, when they finally made it to the falls.

"I love exploring the beauties that nature has to offer," Fair Bear thought. He told Honey, "I think I will camp later." I will see you tomorrow." Fair Bear enjoyed the rest of his afternoon watching the wild life and nature around him.

On the third morning, Honey said, "Today I am going on an adventure walk on one of the trails in the park. Would you like to hike along?" Fair Bear jumped to the opportunity. As they were walking they began to follow a nature trail. "I think this is a glorious trail" said Honey. "It is nice to appreciate all the small sounds in nature. With the distant sound of the falls in the back ground, even a blind person could imagine the beauty of this place," stated Fair Bear. "I am so glad you helped me enjoy my trip to Anna Ruby Falls Honey! I can't wait to get to come here again. I need to get your number so I can call you before my next visit"