



First Place 4th Grade  
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Independant School System

2022 Georgia National Fair  
Fair Bear Creative Writing Competition  
"Fair Bear Plants a Garden"

## Fair Bear's Garden

When Fair Bear got out of the car he squealed with excitement. He was finally there at the Starbuck Learning Farm. He had been waiting for weeks. There was a lady making a speech. It was about how so many people don't have food, and you can help by planting a garden and giving the food to a food bank.

As they walked farther in the fair, they saw small gardens filled with colorful plants. As he smelled sweet scent of strawberries and mint wafted through the air, and he heard people chatting. Then his sister Lily bolted for the lilies. They finally got Lily back. Then they walked out, and Fair Bear asked his parents if he could plant a garden at home.

The next morning mom said, "Yes." He was so excited. The weather even agreed. It was a beautiful morning with crisp air and birds chirping. Two pink clouds seemed to dance through the sky with grace as leaves rustled in the wind. His mind was fluttering with ideas. Which plant will I plant, how will they taste, will the bugs eat them.

Suddenly his dad walked in. "Dad, Fair Bear asked, 'Will you help me'?" Dad told him yes. First they got seeds, then they had to plow up a spot. Fair Bear picked a spot by the sweet, savory smell of jasmines. They planted mint, strawberries



corn, cucumbers, collards, and squash.

They worked hard all day in the hot sun. Even though it was only 95 degree outside, it felt like 1000 degrees. They worked in the black, rich soil. He waited day after day watering his plants. Until one day he saw a sprout. He was so excited. Two weeks later, he saw holes in the leaves. What would he do?

He quickly rushed to his dad. Dad told him to "look at the leaves and see if he saw something". Fair Bear found three caterpillars. He took them off quite sluggishly. Then he removed the bad leaves. After weeks of watering and plucking bad leaves off, his plants were ready. There were dozens of plants: cucumbers, collards, corn, strawberries mint, and squash galore.

He had a huge, yellow basket, hand woven for the food. Fair Bear hand picked vegetables and fruit. The next day Fair Bear asked his mom if he could take some of his food to a food bank. She told him yes. He took two-thirds of his vegetables and fruit there. Then he volunteered at Help for The Homeless.





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One day Fair Bear was walking around the Perry Fair, and he saw something that he had never seen before. There was a new exhibit called the Starbuck Learning Farm. Fair Bear walked up to the stand and asked the lady what the new exhibit was about. The lady introduced herself as Mrs. Berry. Mrs. Berry told him that it was a fruit and veggie stand that would help teach kids about gardening and planting crops for their area. “Where do the fruits and veggies come from?” Fair Bear asked. “They grow from a seed in the ground, and they must



be properly taken care of until they are ready to harvest," responded Mrs. Berry. After talking to Mrs. Berry, Fair Bear was inspired to plant his own garden.

After leaving the fair, Fair Bear went straight back to his den and started brainstorming ideas for his garden. First, Fair Bear thought of the fruits and veggies he would grow. Fair Bear thought, and he decided to plant citrus fruits, apples, blackberries, peaches and watermelon as his fruit. Fair decided to plant rows of cucumbers, carrots, broccoli, collards and cabbage as his veggies. Next, Fair Bear knew he would need some help tending to his garden, so he chose between his 3 siblings to help him plant and care for his garden. He thought about his brother Otto first. Fair Bear knew Otto was obsessed with video games, so he moved on to his sister Gracie. Fair



Bear knew that Gracie texts 24-7, so again he moved on to his oldest sibling Courtney.

Fair Bear knew that Courtney cares about the environment and would probably love to help him. He asked Courtney to help him, and she said yes. That night they got a good night sleep.

The next morning Fair Bear and Courtney woke up with the sun and started working. Fair Bear thought it was a good idea to have the garden separated into two sections, a side for the fruits and a side for the veggies. Fair Bear asked Courtney what she thought and she agreed with separating the garden into two parts. "I agree with you 100%," Courtney replied.

In the end, They planted the seeds and took care of the garden for a few months. Within eight and a half months they had a beautiful garden full of scrumptious fruits and veggies.



Fair Bear and Courtney's were so successful that they had an abundance of fruits and vegetables. Courtney recommended that they donate some of their harvest to the local food bank. They also decided to begin a community garden. "I think we have a fantastic start to helping out our community!" Fair Bear announced. He was extremely happy to think that others would get to enjoy the fruits of his hard work.





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The Georgia National Fair was Fair Bear's favorite event of the year. He loved it so much he earned the nickname "Fair Bear." He loved the ferris wheel and hot air balloon. When he saw a garden with all of his favorite foods - boy did that grab his attention!

Fair Bear wanted to plant a garden around his care. He invited his friends to help him. He told his friends that he saw the Starbuck Learning Farm at the fair and it had all of his favorite fruits and vegetables.

He told them it helped other communities by donating fresh crops to those in need. Additionally, he told them that they taught important details about gardening. They



asked if they would get food in return to take home. When Fair Bear said no, his friends and family left. What they didn't know was that he planned to give his crops to Hoaves & Fishes food bank to help others in need just like the Starbuck Learning Farm.

Fair Bear had the biggest cave in the forest, so it took a long time to plant his garden. It was the beginning of spring when he started. He wanted to plant all of his favorite foods. He planted collards, strawberries, beans, and corn.

Time was flying by for Fair Bear, so he had to finish fast. He never gave up no matter how hard it was to plant his garden. Once everything was planted, something really bad happened. Rabbit came rushing through trying to get away from Fox. He ran over all of Fair Bear's crops except for the beans. Then Fox came running after Rabbit.



and ruined the beans, too. Fair Bear was furious and told them to leave.

Fair Bear needed help planting his garden on time. Immediately, he felt bad for telling them to leave. He called them back and asked if they could tell everyone else he would share the food if they helped. They did and it worked.

Fair Bear got the help he needed from his friends. Rabbit, Fox, Roadrunner, Frog, and many others came to help. He still didn't know if he had enough time. Luckily, they finished planting in time for crops to grow. He had so much help, that there were enough fruits and vegetables to share with his friends and he still had enough for the good bank. Fair Bear told his friends thank you for coming back and helping after he got mad. He told them their hard work had helped to give food to Loaves & Fishes good bank. He shared his extra food with all of his friends in



return for their help. After all, he was a Fair Bear. Now with a new meaning to his nickname, Fair Bear was relieved that he got his friends back, and he was overjoyed that he got his garden ready for Loaves & Fishes good bank.