



First Place 4th Grade
Lauren Brewer
Southwest Laurens Elementary School
Laurens County School System

2023 Georgia National Fair Fair Bear Creative Writing Competition “Fair Bear Discovers the Public Library”

Fair Bear's Discovery of the Library

Joy engulfed my body as I pushed open the doors to a building full of adventure, and I couldn't wait to unlock the wonders this book-filled palace had for me. As I made my way to the front desk, I saw a poster that said, “Children's Department.” Glaring through the glass, I asked in curiosity with one eyebrow raised, “Mama, what's in there?” “That's where you get your books, Fair Bear,” Mama replied. “You know, the books for children!” My face lit up while thinking what book I would check out. “Should I choose a book about science, aliens, or celebrities?” The choices were endless. Before I knew it, my mom was introducing me to the wonderful lady behind the front desk who immediately asked me the question I've been waiting for my whole life, “Would you like a library card?” she offered in the most polite voice. “I would love a library card!” I exclaimed in excitement. In the blink of an eye, this library angel presented me with my very own ticket to a world of adventures. Glee filled my body as I jumped up and down in delight.

I quickly bolted towards a door that caught my attention when I first arrived, and before I could touch the handle, I heard my mom call out in a loud whisper, “Fair Bear

Stop right there! There are rules you know!" She slowly pointed to the poster on the wall that said, "Rules" and underneath the title, there was a list of the do's and don'ts for the library. "Sorry, mama, I didn't mean to break the rules; I was just overjoyed!" Then, I listened carefully as my mom read them to me. 1. Readers should observe strict silence inside the library. 2. No running. 3. Don't damage library materials. 4. Return all materials on time. My eyes then widened as I opened the Children's Department door. "Oh, the wonders!" I thought to myself as I looked around. I saw posters on the walls and a reading area made especially for children. There were shelves with books about rockets, time travel, animals and more.

I gasped when I saw a book titled, "All About Bears."

"Mama, can I borrow this book?" I said pointing to the cover.

"Of course you can, but you have to check it out." A moment later, I was holding my very own library book.

As I started to walk away from the checkout counter, the sound of laughter stopped me in my tracks. In the distance, I could hear the faint sound of someone saying, "Abracadabra!" I tip-toed to the back of what felt like endless rows of books. I looked around in curiosity and was surprised to see a group of youngsters sitting in a circle. In the middle of the circle was a strange man dressed in a black top hat, black cape, and he held a long black wand in his right hand. I gasped when once again he exclaimed, "Abracadabra!" and pulled a fluffy rabbit out of his mysterious hat. "Mama, may I stay and watch, please?" I questioned. "Sorry Fair Bear, it's getting

But we can come back next week. They have a special event every week at this time. The schedule says they will have a reptile show, a kids cooking competition, and they even have storytelling time scheduled every Tuesday." "Sounds fantastic," I replied, as I walked happily toward the door, flipping through the pages of the treasure I held in my hands.



Second Place 4th Grade
Miller Ward
Tiftarea Academy
Independent School System

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Fair Bear Visits the Public Library

Fair Bear asked his mom if he could go to the Public Library. His mom said "yes," and Fair Bear squealed in excitement. The next day he arrived at the public library. He was so happy he felt butterflies in his stomach.

Once he opened that big door, he was thrilled! Until he heard a big "BOOM!" Fair Bear asked "What was that sound?" in fear. Lilly the librarian said, "It's fine, it happens all the time." Fair Bear sighed in relief. Fair Bear then wandered off looking around. Then he saw his friend Robby Rabbit at the computer. Fair Bear waved at him and then went on.

Fair Bear kept walking until he saw the animal section. Fair Bear

walked in the section wondering what could he learn about all the animals that he had seen in the forest. There was one book that stood out to Fair

Bear the most. The antester book!

Fair Bear grabbed the book and walked towards the front desk. Then he saw someone reading books to little witters in the kids area. He ran as fast as he could to the front desk. He asked Lilly the Librarian if he could read books to the little witters too. She responded, "Sure, but wait until that reader is done." Fair Bear decided to read the antester book to them. At the end of the story, the kids clapped while Fair Bear smiled.

Fair Bear was heading back to the front desk to check out his book. Lilly Librarian said, "Sorry, you need a library card." Fair Bear was devastated! He asked if he could get a card. Unfortunately, she said that he needed a parent with him to get a card. Suddenly, Fair Bear's mom pulled into the parking lot. She walked up the steps and opened the door softly. Fair Bear was surprised there was no big

bang. Fair Bear then asked his mom for a library card. His mom then said, "Yes". Fair Bear jumped in joy and then got his card. On the ride home Fair Bear thought to himself, how many new things will he learn while reading.



Third Place 4th Grade
Leland Hayes
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School
Catholic Diocese of Savannah

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Fair Visits The Public Library

One February morning Fair Bear was reading a book from his favorite book series, and Fair Bear soon finished it. Then Fair Bear looked for another book, but he soon realized he had already read them all. Fair Bear was really sad and was starting to get bored so he started thinking about ways to get books. He started thinking about buying more but he had to save money, which would take a long time. After awhile he started to think about the library, he walked past before. So, he walked out of the forest and thought about where to go, he soon remembered so he started to walk in the library's direction.

Fair Bear walked past restaurants and many stores but he didn't pay any attention to them, he wanted to get to the library to read. Sometime later, he passed a corner and saw it. He couldn't wait any longer, so he dashed to the door and walked in. As soon as he walked in, he was amazed and almost cried. He loved it! Fair Bear almost grabbed a book when he remembered, in one of his books he read one of the animal characters used a library card to get a book, so, Fair Bear asked the lady at the front

desk for a library card. She told him that he needed his ID card so, he grabbed it from his pocket. Fair Bear gave it to the lady, she scanned it and in return, he got a library card. He soon felt like he had all the power in the world. Fair Bear looked around for two new books. After a while of looking for some new books he found two amazing books, Little Bear and Little Bear's Visit both written by Else Holmelund Mindrik. As Fair Bear was checking out his two books, he saw an advertisement for activities at the library. Story Time was scheduled to start in 15 minutes. Fair Bear decided to stay and listen to the story. Fair Bear enjoyed it so much he decided to come back, on February 18th to learn about Black History Month.

After an amazing day at the library, Fair Bear couldn't wait to use his library card again. He enjoyed his time at the peaceful library.