



First Place 6th Grade
Lydia Kate Garnto
Johnson County Middle School
Johnson County School District

2021 Georgia National Fair
Fair Bear Creative Writing Competition
“Fair Bear Launches Into Space”

Fair Bear Blasts Off!

On a cloudy afternoon, Fair Bear and his best friend Tyrone were standing shoulder-to-shoulder with space enthused contestants in a line stretched for miles! Waiting for a robotics competition in their hometown of Wrightsville, Georgia, the event was packed because many wanted the opportunity to win a trip to outer space, sponsored by NASA.

After an eternity of waiting in line, it was Fair Bear and Tyrone's turn to show off their robot, a scale model of a rocket ship. When they presented, the months of prepping and designing were on the line. Fair Bear and Tyrone thought it was a good sign that the judges had smiles on their faces. They waited anxiously for days for the results to finally be announced.

Fair Bear and Tyrone received a call saying that they won 1st place! Their Model rocket blew the judges away! The ecstatic Fair Bear and Tyrone would be launched into space in just two weeks! They left early Saturday morning for a strenuous training that was focused on learning about the foods they would eat, the control panels in the spaceship, how astronauts function in space, and how to eat the freeze dried food!

The day arrived. They headed to the site, Cape Canaveral, Florida. Their palms were dripping sweat, and their stomachs were twisting with excitement. When NASA pre-launched their spaceship, "MoonVerse 21," they were ready! Fair Bear and Tyrone suited up and were strapped into the two-man spaceship. Over the radio, they hear the speakers echoing, 5...4...3...2...1... **BLAST OFF!** The spaceship let out a violent rumble then propelled up into the beautiful blue Florida sky.

Adrenaline pumped through their blood. They were finally soaring through space! As Fair Bear and Tyrone were pacing through space, they noticed that they were traveling a bit farther from Earth than planned.

ensions rose when they saw another galaxy heading towards them! "Think, Fair Bear, think!" He thought to himself. Tyrone, interrupting Fair Bear's thoughts said, "I guess we're going to have to communicate with NASA." However, they were out of range! What were they supposed to do?

"We're going to have to turn the spaceship around!" Fair Bear said. They both knew this was life or death, so gathering up all the courage they had, they put their hands and feet on the controls. "3...2...1...GO!" They had successfully turned around!

The newly trained astronauts' hearts were racing. "YES!" They both yelled! When they arrived back on Earth, praises came from the huge crowd. They were rewarded with a wonderful opportunity to become astronauts at NASA. "OF COURSE WE WILL!" Fair Bear and Tyrone shouted with glee!

Since that day, Fair Bear and Tyrone have been top notch astronauts at NASA. "It's not everyday we see two bears from a small town in Georgia flying high tech spaceships," remarked a NASA official. Fair Bear and Tyrone now know that working together as a team will always tackle any situation! The sky's the limit!



Second Place 6th Grade
Emma Reeves
Thomas County Middle School
Thomas County School District

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"Guess what just happened!?"
announced Fair Bear.

"What?" responded Momma Bear.

"I just got the call that I was
the winner of the contest to go
into space!" exclaimed Fair Bear.

The family cheered and started
helping him pack. His training would
take awhile. He must fly to NASA
and begin training. As Papa Bear
is taking him to the airport he
turns around and says, "Are you
gonna be okay to go by yourself?
Are you excited?"

Fair Bear immediately answered
back, "Yes Papa, I'll be okay!
I can't wait to go! I am
fearless!"

As they arrived at the airport,
Fair Bear gave hugs and began

his adventure. He looked up to the huge, glass building and thought to himself. "This is my time to shine?" Once he got into NASA Headquarters they began coaching him. He first had to take classes on how to speak, control the ship, and what to do in case of an emergency. He also had to take public speaking survival training, and learn medical procedures. Last thing he had to do in order to go into space was practice extravehicular activities, space walks, and going underwater. He would have to use the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory that is 62 meters in length and 12 meters in depth! After almost 2 years, he finally completed all his training. Woah, that took a lot of work! Today was the day he got to go into space. As he was going into the dazzling space

shuttle cameras were all around him and reporters talking. As he turned around to wave he saw his family wave at him. The team asked, "Are you ready to go into space?"

Fair Bear definitely knew the answer. "Yes," he said with no hesitation. 3, 2, 1 BLAST OFF! Fair Bear couldn't believe it! He only had to wait $8\frac{1}{2}$ minutes and he would be in space! His heart was bolting and the ship was shaking. His mission was to get to space, understand the origin and evolution of Jupiter, look for a solid planetary core, map magnetic fields, measure water, and ammonia in deep atmosphere and observe auroras. It would take 7 years! Fair Bear knew he could do it! He pulled out his camera in excitement and took a picture.

He glanced around and found a window to go look out. He sprang up and went over to look. He saw all sort of stuff! He saw planets, stars, comets, asteroids, and the sun! One of the teammates looked over at him and said, "Having fun?" Fair Bear nodded and he began investigating the ship more.

After completing the mission, Fair Bear was ready to go home. He could not wait to tell his family everything he did. To get back to Earth, he would have to parachute to the ground. He was a little frightened, and one of the crewmates asked if he wanted to go with him. They returned safely and went to find their families. Fair Bear found his and gave them all BIG hugs. He was exhilarated to be home!



Third Place 6th Grade
Ellery McClain
Armuchee Middle School
Floyd County School District

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Hi! I am Fair Bear, and I am going to tell you about my trip to Space! It all started in my cozy home near the Georgia National Fair Grounds. I was in my living room with my family watching the news on television. The main news was astronauts going to space! As a cub, it was so fascinating to me how humans could launch off of Earth and see the moon and other planets. I decided right then and there I wanted to be an astronaut when I grew up. I told my brothers and sisters, but they thought I was crazy. They said it could only be possible for humans to go to space. An American Black Bear couldn't, even if I was as strong and smart as Papa Bear. That just made me more motivated to prove to them I could go to space someday! Ten years later, I got the opportunity to go to space.

There was this contest I could enter in to get my name drawn and go to space!

So... I entered in the contest. I still wanted to go to space but never had the chance. If my name got drawn, I would be the first American Black Bear to go to space!

I was excited all week. I watched television everyday to see if they would announce who won. Two weeks later they drew a name...my name! I rewatched the drawing again and again. I was so shocked they drew my name. "It can't be," I kept thinking. "How did they draw my name?" I went and told my family members. "See!" I said to my siblings, "I told you a bear could go to space." I started training the next week. I swam in a pool to get used to no gravity.

I learned what all the buttons did in the ship and which ones to push in case of an emergency, and I learned how to breathe using an oxygen tank. The humans were very nice. They made a special suit, helmet, and oxygen hose just for me, an American Black Bear. After one month of training, it was finally time for me to launch into space. My whole family came to cheer me on, including my siblings. "Five, four, three, two, one, BLAST OFF!"

one BLAST OFF! I felt the ship push up into the air. I was in space! First, everything was a blur of blue; then, it slowly became black. The ship slowed down. I passed by comets, stars, planets, and the sun! The sight of space was so amazing!

When I got to the moon, I turned the ship around. I took a few pictures because it looked so cool! I floated in my seat because there wasn't gravity.

When I got back to Earth, it felt funny since there was gravity again. I hung the pictures up as soon as I got home. That is how I became the first bear to space.