



Sumter County 4-H :



2012 Georgia National Fair Fair Bear Writing Competition for Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades

Teachers, this is an excellent opportunity to combine Social Studies and Creative Writing exercises in your classroom. It's easy to enter and a great opportunity to win prize money for your school!

Story Theme: "Fair Bear Goes Green"

Fair Bear sees a presentation on "Going Green" at school and decides to start a project to make the neighborhood "greener." Students will describe the process as Fair Bear decides on, designs, and implements a project. The project can be anything from a recycling program, to a community garden, to any type of program to reduce waste.

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GENERAL RULES

Suggested Time Line: Classroom winners determined by December 8, 2011

School-wide winners determined by January 21, 2012

System-wide winners determined by February 18, 2012

Entry Deadline: System winners must be mailed to the Georgia National Fair by February 20, 2012.

WHAT TEACHERS NEED TO DO:

1. This writing contest is open to all 4th, 5th and 6th grade students currently enrolled in Georgia public schools and private schools accredited by the Georgia Accrediting Commission, and must reflect the theme, "**Fair Bear Goes Green.**"
2. Students who entered last year (including winners) may enter this year.
3. Writing entries should be between 200 and 500 words. Entries submitted must be original and must have been written by the student under a teacher's supervision and may be completed as part of the regular classroom writing program. Each entry must be prepared by the student. The essay should be **neatly handwritten on standard ruled note paper**. Students should use one side of the paper only. Students should rewrite their essays after teachers correct their first efforts. The corrected copy should be the one submitted for the competition. **Typed or computer generated work will be disqualified!**
4. Please put the name of the school and the student's name on the BACK of each page of the student's paper. A completed official entry form must be attached to each entry. An entry number will be assigned by the Georgia National Fair for judging purposes.
5. Winning entries may be used in future publications of the Georgia National Fair. All entries become the property of the Georgia National Fair. Entries will not be returned. Please make copies prior to submitting students' work.
6. **Determine classroom winners by: December 8, 2011; Determine school winners by January 21, 2012.**
7. **Mail school winners to system office by January 21, 2012. Teachers: your school system Curriculum Coordinator/Language Arts Coordinator must sign the entry forms even though there may not have been a system-wide competition.**
8. **Please mail or fax "Total Entries By School" form to Georgia National Fair.**

WHAT SYSTEM COORDINATORS NEED TO DO:

1. Receive and judge fourth, fifth and sixth grade entries from all schools in system. Choose a first place winner from each grade level.
2. Each school system is asked to submit **only one entry for each grade level**. Stories will **not** be accepted **directly from individual schools** within a system. Each story submitted must have a completed entry form attached.
3. **Deadline: Postmarked by February 20, 2012.** System winners should be mailed to: Fair Bear Writing Contest, Georgia National Fair, 401 Larry Walker Parkway, Perry, GA 31069.
7. Awards will be presented during a special ceremony at the 23rd annual Georgia National Fair on Saturday, October 6, 2012. Time to be announced.

Questions? call 478-988-6555 or email skusuda@gnfa.com

JUDGING

Procedures for Classroom Judging, School-Wide Judging and System-Wide Judging: It is recommended that the procedures listed in the Official Rules Booklet of "The Young Georgia Authors' Exposition and Recognition" be used as a guide for selecting the system winners in the three levels of the "Fair Bear" Creative Writing Competition.

Procedures for final judging at the Georgia National Fairgrounds:

1. Entries for the final judging will be scored using the guidelines on the back of this page, and in addition should show evidence of creativity and use of theme - "**Fair Bear Goes Green.**"
2. Judges for the final phase of the competition will be selected from language arts professionals in Georgia. A panel will be chosen for each grade level of competition.
3. The judges will not have access to each other's scores while judging nor shall they know the writer's name or school system.
4. The writing entry with the highest score at each grade level will be the first-place winner; next highest score at each grade level will receive second place; and the third highest score at each grade level will receive third place.
5. The first-place winners from the three levels will be read by a panel of judges to determine the Grand Prize Winner. The Grand Prize Winner will receive grand prize awards in addition to the first-place awards.
6. A list of winners will be posted online by April 15, 2012. Winning principals, teachers and students will be notified by mail by April 20, 2012.

Fair Bear Contest Judging Guidelines:

Content and Organization (maximum 10 points) _____
(Response to assigned task (see rule 1), clearly established controlling idea, relevant and clearly developed supporting ideas, sense of order, flow of ideas, sense of completeness)

Style (maximum 5 points) _____
(Effective diction, varied and effective sentence structure, tone consistent with topic and purpose, sense of audience)

Sentence Formation (maximum 5 points) _____
(Appropriate end punctuation, complete sentences, appropriate coordination and subordination)

Conventions of Written Language (maximum 5 points) _____
(appropriate usage and mechanics)

Total (maximum 25 points) _____

2012 GEORGIA NATIONAL "FAIR BEAR" Creative Writing Contest Official Entry Form

COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION

*Unsigned and/or incomplete forms will not be considered for judging.

*ATTACH THIS FORM TO ALL ENTRIES.

*After system judging, mail winners to: Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter,
Fair Bear Competition, 401 Larry Walker Parkway, Perry, GA 31069

DEADLINE - February 20, 2012

Please type or print

Student's Grade Level _____

4th ___ 5th ___ 6th ___

ENTRY NO. _____

(To be completed by GNF)

Student: _____ Age: _____

Mr./Miss

First Name

Last Name

Home Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Parent/Guardian Work Phone: _____

School (Full Name): _____

School System: _____

Principal: _____

Superintendent : _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

School Phone: _____

School System

Language Arts/Contest Coordinator: _____

Phone: _____

Teacher's Full Name: Mr. - Mrs. - Ms. - Miss - Dr. (Circle One): _____

Type or Print

Full Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Type or Print

This entry is my own original work and represents my best writing efforts.

Student's Signature

We are familiar with this student's writing. We have read this entry. We are satisfied it is his or her own original idea and work and represents his or her best writing efforts.

Teacher's Signature

Local System Writing Coordinator's Signature

2012 Georgia National Fair Fair Bear Writing Competition Total Number of Entries By School

In an effort to take a true measure of participation in the competition, we are trying to collect data on the total number of participants. Please fill out this form at the school level and return it to the Georgia National Fair "Fair Bear" Program.

School Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

4th Grade - Total Number Participants _____

5th Grade - Total Number Participants _____

6th Grade - Total Number Participants _____

Please mail to: Georgia National Fair, 401 Larry Walker, Pkwy., Perry, GA 31069, or

fax to 478-988-6514.