

11-6-8

Jefferson Middle School  
2-15-2011

## Fair Bear Travels Around the World

Hannah Gerbig

Fair Bear took a deep breath and closed his eyes. He could feel his heart pounding like a fist on a door inside his chest. Time stood still, until the ropes securing him to Earth were cut. In what felt like slow motion, he drifted away from the green grass, and floated above the bustling world in a hot air balloon. He sailed south through the sky, toward his destination of the Georgia National Fair, until something went wrong.

Suddenly, a giant blimp, also headed for the fair, zoomed past him and blew him eastward. At first he didn't realize he was going off course. Then he saw it! The Atlantic Ocean. Sparkling blue waves roared on for miles and miles. Thinking he was passing over Lake Lanier, he closed his eyes, leaned back, and took a long nap.

When he opened his eyes, he saw a vast expanse of dry land beneath him. "The fair grounds!" He thought. So he willed the balloon down, down, down, until it kissed the ground. But something was off when he cautiously stepped his paw down into... Sand. Unsure of what to do, he padded through the sunbaked sand. He wasn't going anywhere certain, though, he just wanted to find some civilization. He couldn't help but wonder where it all was: the ferris wheel, the games, the children, the comforting smell of popcorn and cotton candy.

That was when a herd of what he guessed were antelopes trotted over and lingered right in his line of sight. One snorted and looked Fair Bear right in the eyes. Without a second thought, he scrambled to get back to the balloon and somehow hoisted himself back into the air. He didn't know it, but he had just paid a quick visit to Africa's famed Sahara Desert.

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The balloon changed its course again this time and rode the wind northeast, in the very direction of France. It broke through the clouds and was picked up by a gentle, pleasant breeze that was conveniently forceful enough to support a 300 pound bear riding in a huge balloon. Just as the balloon dipped down over the city of lights, Paris, croissants were tossed into the sky in celebration. Fair Bear excitedly snatched one and tore a chunk out of it with his teeth as the balloon shifted its course one last time, somehow miraculously heading back in the direction of Georgia.

After what felt like years of traveling, Fair Bear and his balloon finally ended up at their destination: the 2011 Georgia National Fair. As soon as he stepped out, the crowd of families went wild with glee. Seconds later, he was encircled by a mob of adoring followers begging to pet him and offering him treats. It was good to be home.

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# Fair Bear

10-26-10  
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Maiah Carter

Fair Bear was getting all packed up for his yearly trip to the Georgia National Fair in Perry. It was a windy day & it was chilly for August. Fair Bear hopped into his hot air balloon and set off. He was about to start the biggest adventure of his entire life.

Fair Bear was in Wisconsin by the time it started getting really windy. The wind blew so hard it knocked him sideways. Whoosh! When Fair Bear got back up, he was confused. He did not recognize any of this. He was floating over a big, blue body of water. The ocean. The wind must have blown off course. What was he going to do?

There was nothing Fair Bear could do about it. He would just have to go around the world to get there. Where was he now? He looked down and saw the ocean again. It must be the Atlantic Ocean, he decided. From up so high, he could see everything. Dolphins playing with their brothers and sisters, whales searching for food, pelicans soaring their wings. It was truly beautiful. Maybe this won't be so bad after all, thought Fair Bear.

Before he knew it, he was over land. He could tell it was Africa because it was so hot. He saw giraffes, lions, flamingos, hippos. There was all kinds of animals. Clouds started forming, the wind picked up,

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...ing Coordinator's Signature

and thunder boomed. A storm was coming. Fair Bear started getting worried. Then, all of a sudden, it started pouring rain.

Fair Bear covered himself in the rain coat he brought. But in a few minutes, the storm was over and the sun came out. I'm glad that's over, thought Fair Bear.

For sixty days, Fair Bear traveled the world. He saw Brazil, Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Australia, and many, many more places. It was wonderful. But what if he did not get there in time? His food supply was getting really low. The rest of it would only last for a few more days. Just when Fair Bear thought that he would never get to the fair, he looked out from his hot air balloon and saw the fairgrounds. He couldn't believe his eyes. He was finally here! Fair Bear was overjoyed. Two girls at the very top of the Ferris wheel yelled, "Hi Fair Bear!" as loud as they possibly could. Fair Bear waved back happily.

Fair Bear got to the fair just in time, and now everything is alright. What a great adventure it had been for Fair Bear.

# Fair Bear's Journey

11-6-12 Hayley  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
November 1, 2010

Wynnbrook  
Christain School

Fair Bear sat up

sleepily and looked at  
the clock. It read 7:00  
am. Through sleepy eyes,  
he looked around the  
room. Fair Bear sighed  
and got out of bed.  
He cleaned up, ~~brushed~~  
brushed his teeth, and  
crawled into his hot  
air balloon.

"It's going to be  
a long journey from

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Seattle to Georgia," he proclaimed. Seattle is such an interesting place. They have good coffee, lots of precipitation, and Seattle is also very lush and green. Let's not forget the Space Needle.

It attracts a lot of tourists. They can take an elevator to the top and see a

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breathhtaking view.

Fair Bear flew  
up in the balloon.

Fair Bear's balloon  
floated near the  
Space Needle where  
a man watched him.

The man watched  
him go up and up,  
slowly drifting away.

Fair Bear stopped by a  
coffee shop called Monorail  
Espresso. He took a

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sip of his coffee and flew so high he could practically touch the clouds! Soon, Fair Bear saw a storm approaching.

A gust of wind blew him east. Ten minutes passed, and Fair Bear was getting suspicious.

Fair Bear looked down and saw blue glistening water. Then he saw a couple of tiny islands.

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He steered the balloon towards the islands and noticed that the water was getting closer. Fair Bear started to panic. He was off course!

When the balloon landed on the island, the basket was ripped into shreds by palm trees. Fair Bear took a good look around.

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Where was he? He  
looked at his map.

"According to the map,"  
he said, "I'm in Nassau,  
Bahamas!" Fair Bear

climbed out and  
walked around. "Fair Bear!"

Somebody had called  
his name. He turned  
around. There, right in  
front of him, was a  
brown bear. "Who are you?"  
Fair Bear asked. "I'm

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Smackenheimer," he answered, "I'd never thought this day would come, but it has! Before you ask me questions, let me explain.

I love the fair, and I go every year. I'm a huge fan!" Fair Bear smiled. "Welcome to Nassau!"

Smackenheimer exclaimed. "Beautiful, isn't it?" Fair Bear agreed. Fair Bear

examined the torn up balloon and basket.

Smackenheimer followed his gaze and looked at the balloon. "Hey,"

Smackenheimer said, "I can fix it!"

So Smackenheimer got to work. Only when Smackenheimer started working did Fair Bear notice how odd Smackenheimer looked. He wore thick glasses, a greasy collared shirt, striped polka dotted pants, and clown shoes.

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with rainbow laces. Sure,  
he was odd looking,  
but at least he was  
helping Fair Bear. When  
Smackenheimer finished,  
Fair Bear thanked him  
and went on his way  
to Georgia.

"There's Fair Bear!"  
someone cried. Everybody  
looked up, smiles on their  
faces. "Hi everybody!" Fair  
Bear screamed. He

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lowered his balloon. He walked to the front of the crowd and was handed a pair of giant scissors to cut the ribbon. "We knew you wouldn't let us down!" the mayor said. "I would never dream of it!" Fair Bear replied.