

## Nature's Symphony

Skye  
Duval County  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Intermediate

Outside your door, the wind, the birds, the little bee  
all create a harmony  
Legato of the leaves, as they rustle high in trees  
Vibrato of a hummingbird is carried on the breeze  
The whisper of the wind, howling through the grass  
The sound of little caterpillars, munching sassafras  
Giacoso of a baby otter, in a rippling brook  
Rondo of a chickadee, in a weeping willow's nook  
The hum of a bumble bee, searching for a flower  
The knock of a woodpecker, when it finds a tree to scour  
Elegy of right whale, with a calf by her side  
Crescendo of the waves, as they're pulled by the tide  
The persistent cry of seagulls circling the sea  
The click, whistle, squeak of dolphins swimming playfully  
A chorus of singing frogs, in shades of green, brown, and grey  
Cadence of coyote, howling goodbye to the day  
The growl of a bobcat, as it lies in wait  
The chirp of a panther, searching for a mate  
Staccato of a little bat, cheeping way up high  
Nocturne of an owl, taking off into the sky  
The chirring of crickets, the rubbing of wings  
The trill of a mockingbird, the varied song that it sings  
Melodies swirl around you, from the land, the sky, the sea  
all of nature forms a symphony

A Mother's Devotion

Katherine (Katie)  
Duval County  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Intermediate

A sunny day, through the brush her prey is walking.  
Unaware an expert predator is silently stalking.

A branch snaps, giving way the hog's position.  
The skilled huntress is now on a mission.

Fast as lightning she pounces, hitting the mark.  
Now the mighty killer and her prize can embark.

Back to her den, where in the hammock await,  
Three spotted balls of fluff, heedless of their fragile fate.

With bellies full, the young cubs sleep.  
But no rest for the weary, back out their mother must creep.

Feeding the family of four is no easy task.  
She hasn't time to sit in the sun and bask.

The shadows are thick, the forest is a medley.  
Her tawny shape moves gracefully, elusive and deadly.

Always on the hunt; always patrolling her territory.  
She cannot allow today to be the end of their story.

The future of our state's only big cat is far from sure,  
But the Florida panther must endure.

A Forest Reborn (a collection of Haikus)

Emmerson  
Pinellas County  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place Intermediate

Forest bravely stands

A fierce storm with howling winds

Thunder starts to roar

Lightning strikes above

A fire rages strongly

Leaving the burnt earth

Now a seedling sprouts

Animals return and thrive

A forest reborn

Tall trees provide shade

Life grows amongst the shadows

Ancient, true and wise