

**SECOND PLACE POETRY ~ Age 10-13**

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Age 13  
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**A Surfers First Ride**

Your  
out on the  
water trying to  
catch that first wave  
You struggle trying to  
stand up and you keep  
on falling, but you keep  
trying again When you catch  
your first wave you spring up  
to your feet in a solid motion  
like a cat when it is startled  
The beginning of the ride feels  
like a jolt of happiness just like  
a lightning bolt striking a pole  
You are gliding on the wave like  
a seagull taking off to skim the  
ocean waters The fin of the surf  
board is cutting through the  
water so easily almost the same  
as knife cutting through the air  
The ride is like a baby bird taking  
its first flight of their life The  
thrill is unmatched by any  
metaphor You never want the  
ride to end You just feel so  
free As you approach the  
shore the thrill starts to end  
The board slows down until  
CLUMP! You hit the beach  
Then you hop off the  
Board and OW! Better  
watch out for those crabs  
crawling everywhere  
The ride is over but  
That is just the  
beginning  
of many.