

**Emma Stevens, Grade 9**

There is more to life than we can see

A gentle breeze

A buzzing bee

Beneath the brush, a world aglow,

Thousands of species,

Connected to the flow.

A quiet air

Blankets the stream

As the sun's gentle rays

Set the world a gleam.

Birds flitter,

The water glitters.

Trees sway,

An old walking path

Has led its followers astray.

Each gentle wind

Is a whisper of reality.

A beacon of who we are,

And who we want to be.

Within nature, we can find peace.

Under the loud chatter, and bustling city

Nature awaits to comfort you in your pity.

That gentle breeze,  
The wisdom within the old oak tree,  
Is always there,  
You just have to see.

There is more to life than we can see  
Beyond the Earth,  
Our stories prevail.  
Our aspirations are achievable,  
No reason to fail.  
A wishing star soars,  
Our dreams roar.  
In the quiet of the night,  
We can find peace,  
In this oasis of darkness  
Our problems cease.  
Our mind is ours,  
It's for no one to see,  
Within our deepest secrets,  
We are our own masterpiece.  
Everything we've ever known,  
Behind a window,  
Reaching for the latch.

Everything we've ever known  
A softball waiting for a catch.  
Our memories bring us peace,  
They are always there  
You just have to reach.  
Our brains don't make a sound,  
But you know peace is always around.

Peace doesn't always mean quiet.  
Peace is a fighter.  
Within the gloomy cloud of gray,  
It slowly burns,  
As it becomes an igniter.  
We dream of peace,  
And a world of harmony,  
But this 'quiet'  
Is nothing but an afterpiece.  
We stand together  
Our fear is gone-  
Lighter than a feather.  
Peace stands on the sideline  
And cheers us on  
Its voice is a booming cacophony of us all.

Because we are warriors,  
Lit by the match of hope,  
Breaking down the barriers.  
Peace can never be seen,  
And peace is never heard,  
Because when we speak it crowds the empty space.  
Peace is within us all,  
There isn't even a chase.  
Once more,  
Peace is a flame,  
Each gentle phrase,  
A lifeline that flourishes,  
Our drive is what peace nourishes.  
You may try to shut down,  
But deep inside  
Peace is always around.

There is more to life than we can see.  
Woven in the intricate universe,  
Earth stands proud.  
Peace holds us in its hands,  
And whispers among our silly crowd.  
It observes our friendly banter

And frowns at wrongful slander.

Peace unites us all,

Catches us from our fall.

It is whatever you want it to be

It lies within you and me.

It speaks to those willing to listen.

When you think you are alone,

Just look for its glisten.

Peace is an embodiment

Of our greatest ambition

It will forever burn within the fog,

Waiting for those who stand up.

Let's make our time on Earth

Just the prologue.

It is up to us to grab the rope,

Light the matches,

No time to mope.

It is up to us,

To make the world what we want it to be.

