

# 2013 *What Matters?* Competition

## YEAR 5/6 RUNNER UP

### Georgia Deen, Minnamurra Public School

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#### *Living Life*

*As I climb up the ladder, my heart feels like it's beating at 100 miles an hour. It feels like it could pop out of my skin any second, but as I reach the top platform, I KNOW it is going to pop out of my skin any second. My legs quivering, I walk forward so the view below me is just in my sight. My knuckles go white from holding on to the railing so tight. But my fear has to wait for now. I know I've got to do this, this is my last shot. So stepping forward, I let go of the railing, and take one last look below me. Then, slowly, I drop.....*

Sometimes there is only one opportunity to do something. One chance to prove a point. One chance to make a difference. For some people these chances might come once in a blue moon, and for others it's a regular thing. But for me, it's just a matter of taking every chance and opportunity I'm offered. Living life to the fullest and taking advantage of every opportunity I'm given, is what matters the most to me.

Life is short. We don't live forever. But in our lifetime, I believe there is enough time to fulfil some of our dreams and aspirations. I am a daredevil. I love jumping off very high rocks into water, abseiling, canoeing down rapids, riding thrilling rollercoasters and going on long bushwalks through snake infested bushlands. I have been lucky enough to do all these activities numerous times, and every time I try to jump off the higher rock, or take the long way on the bushwalk, I feel like I have again embraced what life has to offer.

I have seen lots of people die at young ages. Sometimes their deaths are caused by acts of stupidity. Whilst I like to take risks, I also appreciate that safety comes first. Making the most of life can also mean doing your best at school. I have been given lots of opportunities with choir, sporting activities, public speaking, literacy and mathematics. I always grab these opportunities with both hands.

Many people who are told they have little time to live create a 'Bucket List' of things they want to do before they die. I have seen this on a movie once. And I believe that, instead of cramming all the things that you wanted to do in life but never completed into one day, spread them out over your whole life. Jump off the rock when the opportunity is given to you. Go on the scary rollercoaster when the experience is there. Live life to its fullest. Life goes quickly, so make the most of it.

*Splash!! I land with a thud. Jumping ten metres takes longer than you think. I stay underwater for a second or two, wondering if I'm still alive. But as I break the surface of the water, everything seems normal. My towel is in the same place, the diving board is still there, and I'm still alive. I did it. I jumped. For the first time, I feel like I've done something to embrace my life. Something I'll remember forever. I did it!*