Years 3 & 4 1st Place: Ewan McLean Year 4, Roleystone Community College

## The Formation of Trees

One day in a rainforest in Northern Queensland lived a boy named Blaze. He was an unusual boy that did not like people at all. Blaze preferred the trees more. There was something about the woods that he could not resist. He loved the wildlife because all the animals loved him.

One day when he was chasing a bandicoot he stumbled across a seed. He paused and said in his head, *I've never seen that seed before*, and picked it up carefully. The seed was round and colourful. It was black, white and brown with spikes and was as big as a kangaroo's paw. It felt sharp in his hand and was light. He was thinking about planting it but he would have to protect it so nothing could kill it.

Blaze found a spot in a bright area with sunny grounds. Next, he dug a hole with his hands quickly, put the seed in the soil and buried it. He found a large banana leaf and went to the stream to get water for the seed. He brought it back and was excited to pour the liquid in the hole. Suddenly when he put the water on it the seed began to germinate and the soil started to move. He couldn't believe his eyes. He started to see green in the soil and leaves began to form. So Blaze slowly backed up and sat on a rock making sure that he didn't take his eyes off of the seedling.

The tree started to grow a foot longer every second. Long stems began to develop and small petals were clustered up together. Colours of all sorts started to burst out. The bark was white with black stripes. The leaves turned white and green and also they were sharp with spikes just like the seed. Blaze felt happy like the tree that was spreading quickly.

Meanwhile Blaze started to smell smoke and got scared. He began feeling hot, very hot. He started hearing crackling. He turned around and saw an inferno! He saw bright orange flames and black with a bit of white smoke! There were charred branches and trunks! Blaze was worried about the tree burning. He thought about getting water from the nearby pond. Then he saw his amazing tree spreading quickly along the field. Every leaf that dropped from the branches grew a new fully grown tree. Each new tree smothered the fire. The flames were getting absorbed by the foliage. Soon the fire was completely out.

By now he was really frightened but glad. He was frightened because of the fire. He was glad because the forest was saved by the tree that he planted. Blaze thought about what just happened. He noticed that he was saved by the seed because it put out the dangerous fire. Now he realised he saved the forest by planting the seed. Everything was back to normal. He could hear the birds chirping and the leaves rattling in the wind.