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# The Nature of Utah

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# My Interest In and Love For Nature

I am nature-loving and curious

I wonder what the animals are thinking

I hear the peace of the woods

I see the fear in the deer

I want to understand the ways of nature

I am nature-loving and curious

I pretend to be able to communicate with my pets

I feel the calm of the mountains' forests

I touch the edges of nature's understanding

I worry for the endangered species of our state

I cry for the victims of the raging wildfire

I am nature-loving and curious

I understand that life has both meaning and purpose

I say that deforestation should cease

I dream of a home in the mountains

I try to be conservative

I hope for peace between man and nature

I am nature-loving and curious

# Antelope Island

Antelope Island

Home of large brown buffalo

And other creatures

As a natural preserve,

It protects these rare creatures.

# The Colors, Shades, and the Moods of the Wasatch Mountains

Blue is the most dominant color from a distance,  
Yet during the winter,  
White takes it's place.

At sunset they seem to have been set all aflame,  
While at sunrise,  
The sun is their flame.

In the fall they are covered in the fiery colors of dying leaves,  
While in spring,  
Green takes over the landscape.

All through the summer their colors are changing,  
From the luscious, dark greens of spring,  
To the fiery storms of autumn.

The clouds can form gray curtains of rain,  
Or the white, fluffy lace of snow.

They can make the mountains mysteriously menacing,  
Or to appear calm and serene.

The majestic and royal color of purple,  
Is most often their most recognizable color.

All of the colors of the rainbow  
Can be found in the Wasatch Mountains.

## Utah's Natural Wonders

One of the few east to west mountain ranges,  
Home to parts of the Grand Canyon,  
Contains one of the world's saltiest bodies of water,  
Ancient home of Lake Bonneville,  
One of the flattest areas on earth,  
A waterfall falling through a doughnut,  
Some of the most amazing natural, red sandstone sculptures,  
One of the world's most colorful hillsides,  
One of the world's most beautiful caves,  
And a place where there is ice all year round.

## Winter In the Salt Lake Valley

In a good year,  
The ground is always covered  
In a blanket of white, fluffy snow.  
The mountains are a speckled white  
And the trees look like skeletons  
after a freezing fog.

The snowpack is increasing,  
And it's size will determine  
The agricultural productivity of the oncoming spring.  
It also increases the success of the snow sports resorts  
In the state of the greatest snow on earth.  
A shortage will result in a lack of both.

At times it comes  
In howling blizzards  
Which are hazards to us all.  
While at other times  
It comes down in quiet stillness  
Relaxing our troubled minds.

'Tis the holiday season  
Which brings cheer to all  
And stress to most.  
When at the heart  
of all these feelings,  
Lies the forgotten snow.

## From Winter to Spring

Winter  
Cold, Frosty  
Snowing, Dying, Blowing  
Ice, Blizzards, Warmth, Rain  
Melting, Thawing, Growing  
Green, Alive  
Spring

## Just Because I Enjoy Living In Utah

Just because I enjoy living in Utah  
Doesn't mean that I don't want to travel to far off places  
Doesn't mean that I never want to leave  
Doesn't mean that I will not live anywhere else  
Just because I enjoy living in Utah  
Doesn't mean that I enjoy the overly warm summers  
Doesn't mean that I enjoy not having a lot of rain  
Doesn't mean that I enjoy the smell of the lake effect  
Just because I enjoy living in Utah  
Doesn't mean that I have been to every place here that attracts international interest  
Doesn't mean that I like green jello  
Doesn't mean that I enjoy rock climbing, skiing, or snowboarding  
Just because I enjoy living in Utah  
Please stay here with me and enjoy Utah's Wonders!

# Camping in Utah

Camping in Utah  
Can be a wonderful experience  
Or a horrible experience that makes you never want to go camping ever again.

I have never had one of those absolutely horrible campouts.

My family goes on camping trips at least once or twice a year  
We go to places like Mill Hollow or The Spruces  
And we enjoy it every time.

The other groups I go camping with are my scouts and young mens groups  
We always go on at least four or five camping trips a year  
My favorite place that we go to is the Lava Tubes and Tabernacle Hill area  
But we also go to places specifically for certain events like the Varsity Big Event.

Camping in Utah  
Can be a wonderful experience  
And my most wonderful camps are in the mountains of Northern Utah.

# The Wasatch Weather

Calm

Is a quiet winter storm  
Large, fluffy snowflakes falling  
All thoughts or sounds of hustle and bustle  
Muffled by the newly fallen snow.

Excitement

Is a summer thunderstorm  
Lightning flashing and  
Thunder crashing all around

Peace

Is the calm after the storm  
The quiet stillness  
With a rainbow overhead

## Weird Wasatch Weather

Why isn't there ever somebody that is completely satisfied with the past year's weather?

Is it because all of us who live here are too picky?

Is it because we are still recovering from a drought?

Or is it just because the weather here is just too dry?

It is because the weather is so diverse that no sane person could be accustomed to all of the different climates here.

## Too Cold?

Most people think  
that this weather is freezing  
While I find it quite nice  
(Even though my ears are numb blocks of ice!)