WE SOLD OUT THE SEA—ANDREW A. EDWARDS

Thousands of ebbs,
thousands of tides,
thousands of years,
in the sands of time.

The ocean was there, before time had a name,
whether we were or not, she was there all the same.

She fuels all our ponds,
rivers and streams,
wettens our tears, and colors our dreams.

She fed those in past, and those that are new,
it will feed all our children, and their children too.

Measured out in the hollow, of God's own hand, poured upon Earth, to divide up the land.

Her depths are uncharted, her creatures untamed, despite our best efforts, she wild remains.

She lives in our souls, deep down within,
every drop of our blood, every inch of our skin.

She gives us our birds, our pets and our trees, without her life power, what beauty could be?

She falls from above, cools from beneath, the rain on our faces, the dew on our feet.

The sound of the waves, drowns out our pain, lulls us to sleep, with the sound of the rain.

She soothes during autumn, gives life to spring, she warms us in winter, and cools summer's sting.

She gave us protection, she gave us her trust, but who will protect her, protect her from us?

Looking out on the ocean, a breathtaking view, but what does she see, as she looks back at you?
Waves ....... by Miranda Hudson (5th Grade)

Bobbing, floating on rolling currents
Swaying with each swell
Sitting on a stiff long board, vibrating with each crash
The waves passing below me
So powerful, so strong
They pound into my body as I paddle out
The beating in my skull
The ringing in my ears
I'm trapped in all directions, water's all I see
The white heavily sloshes around me
The salt stings my eyes
I see it, the perfect one
I slice my arms through the water
To quickly turn around
I can't miss it
Or its over
The glory won't last long
As I feel I'm being lifted
I gulp in grits of sand
I'm losing balance...
I don't care
I rise, wavering in the thick clogged air
Determined, I inch my foot out
Beginning my goofy stance
I'm sliding, gathering tremendous speed
I'm riding, this is all I need
Nothing but a nose dive to plunge me
And birth a million fears
It won't happen
I'm in such an overpowering state of being...
Nothing will stop me now
I become invincible,
Or at least my body tells me so
I'm cutting through a known path
It's all releasing now
I feel amazing... thrilled... excited... moved...
It's flying so fast
I slow, this is my last
I shudder inside, this empowerment
I lose the connection I felt
The wave has run out
But no worries, I'll do it again
I recline steadily and let myself fall
I'm no longer controlled now
By the waves out there
By the whipping wind in my hair
A part of me is left
With the mighty ocean
I cling to the waxy board
And let the breaking waves
Carry me in
I saw an otter, one day, by the sea
He was watching us, as we were watching him
Here we sat, toes in the sand, just out
  of the waves
There he sat, flippers in the foam, being
  tossed by the breakers
And we watched one another
He would duck down, and then pop
  up like he was shot from a cannon
  just a little bit closer
Just a little bit closer
A nameless tune came thrumming to my
  lips, and burst out
I hummed, and whistled, and buzzed from
  within
And I believed he heard me.

Anna Kelly
Age 14, Grade 8
The ocean is alive

She breathes with the rhythmic motion of every set of waves
She speaks with every crash of surf against the sand
She dances in currents with tidal steps
She watches through the eyes of gulls as they soar over her vast expanse
She listens with conch ears, idly wrapping her green seaweed hair around her long, and reaching fingers
She smiles her pearly whites when each receding wave reveals another open clam face
She births the sun come dawn and swallows him at night