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## ***Bend with the Wind***

*On a rugged southern coastline,  
Where the winter winds howl,  
They blast native trees with cold, salty air.*

*The trees respond to the strength of the wind with a graceful bow.  
Growing straight, rigid and proud would cause their demise  
So they bend as they grow.*

*Rounded, almost horizontal, beautiful, and strong  
The wildest storms can do no harm to the lovely trees.  
They bend their backs to the wind and protect their sturdy roots.  
The wind blows harmlessly over them  
While the trees sway gracefully and submit to the wind.*

*Bend with the wind  
Let the unpredictable winds of life  
Flow over you, around you  
Making you grow stronger with each passing year.*

*Meg Hutton*

