

# THE WALDO TRIBUNE

The Children's Newspaper...that's Read by Parents and Grandparents, too!

Volume 36, Issue 5

November/December 2024

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## Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,


So much fun to make-believe. In every child's heart are the dreams that make believe comes true are made of something so holy and beautiful that every child has in their soul. This issue of *The Waldo Tribune* is all about make-believe, and how wonderful it truly is the stuff that dreams are made of, that come so easy and is given to kids who lose it so fast, but stays inside part of every child's being, forever and ever.

Sincerely,  
Eric Wald

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*The Waldo Tribune* welcomes stories and illustrations. If you have any stories or pictures you would like to share, please send them to: *The Waldo Tribune*, Box 2587, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope!

You may also e-mail them to [waldoandtulip@optonline.net](mailto:waldoandtulip@optonline.net).

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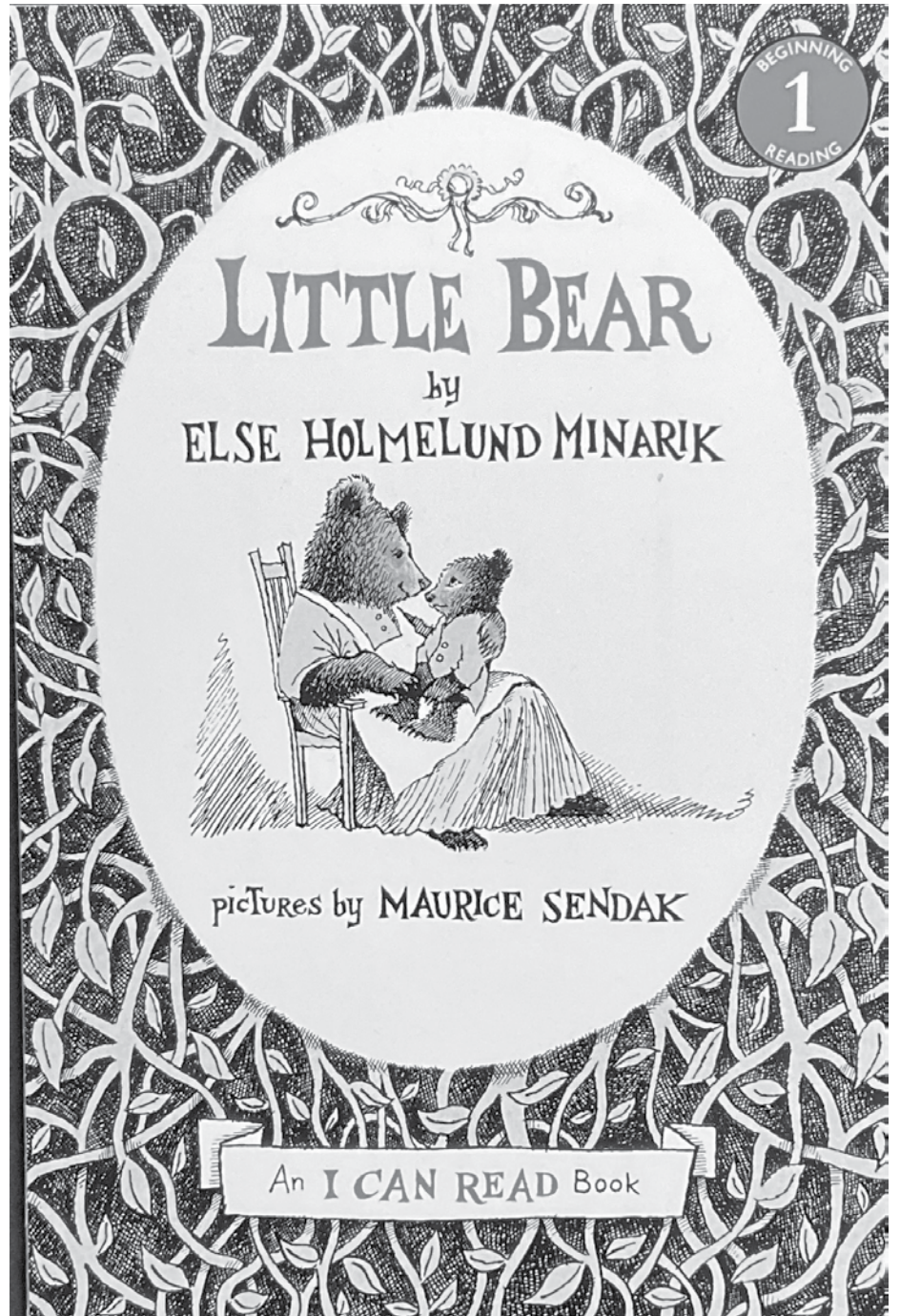
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## A Delightful Beginning Reader's Book

Review written by Rosemary Szczygiel

"Little Bear", written by Else Holmelund Minarik, with pictures by Maurice Sendak, is an I Can Read Book that children will enjoy having read to them, and can encourage them to begin reading on their own. It is the first book in a series by Else Holmelund Minarik about Little Bear and his family. Each is written with simple words so children can follow along easily. These stories are interesting enough to hold the attention of a reader at any level.

Little Bear is the cutest brown bear cub. His Mother Bear always looks after him. The book has four different stories about how Mother Bear helps him find the right coat to keep him warm, has lunch ready after he flies to the moon, surprises him after he makes birthday soup for his animal friends, and listens to his wishes before he goes to bed. Little Bear has a lot of fun. The pictures of Little Bear, his animal friends, and Momma Bear by Maurice Sendak make the characters come to life on the page. You might know about Maurice Sendak from his book, "Where the Wild Things Are".

Originally published in 1957, "Little Bear" was the very first I Can Read book and is considered to be one of the best. It has sold more than six million copies worldwide. Everything about Little Bear makes it a classic children's book to be enjoyed by readers year after year. Little Bear has a lot of fans. The author was born in Denmark. Her family immigrated to the United States when she was the age of four. She graduated from college in New York City, then became a newspaper journalist. After WWII, she taught first graders in Commack, Long Island. She later lived in New Hampshire and North Carolina. The books in the Little Bear I Can Read series are: "Little Bear", "Father Bear Comes Home", "Little Bear's Visit", and "Kiss For Little Bear".

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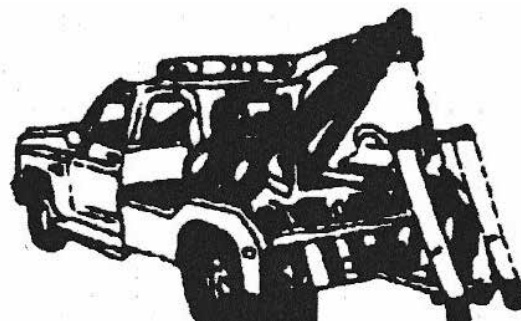
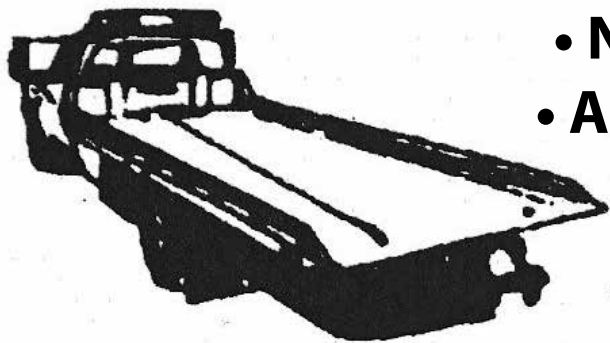
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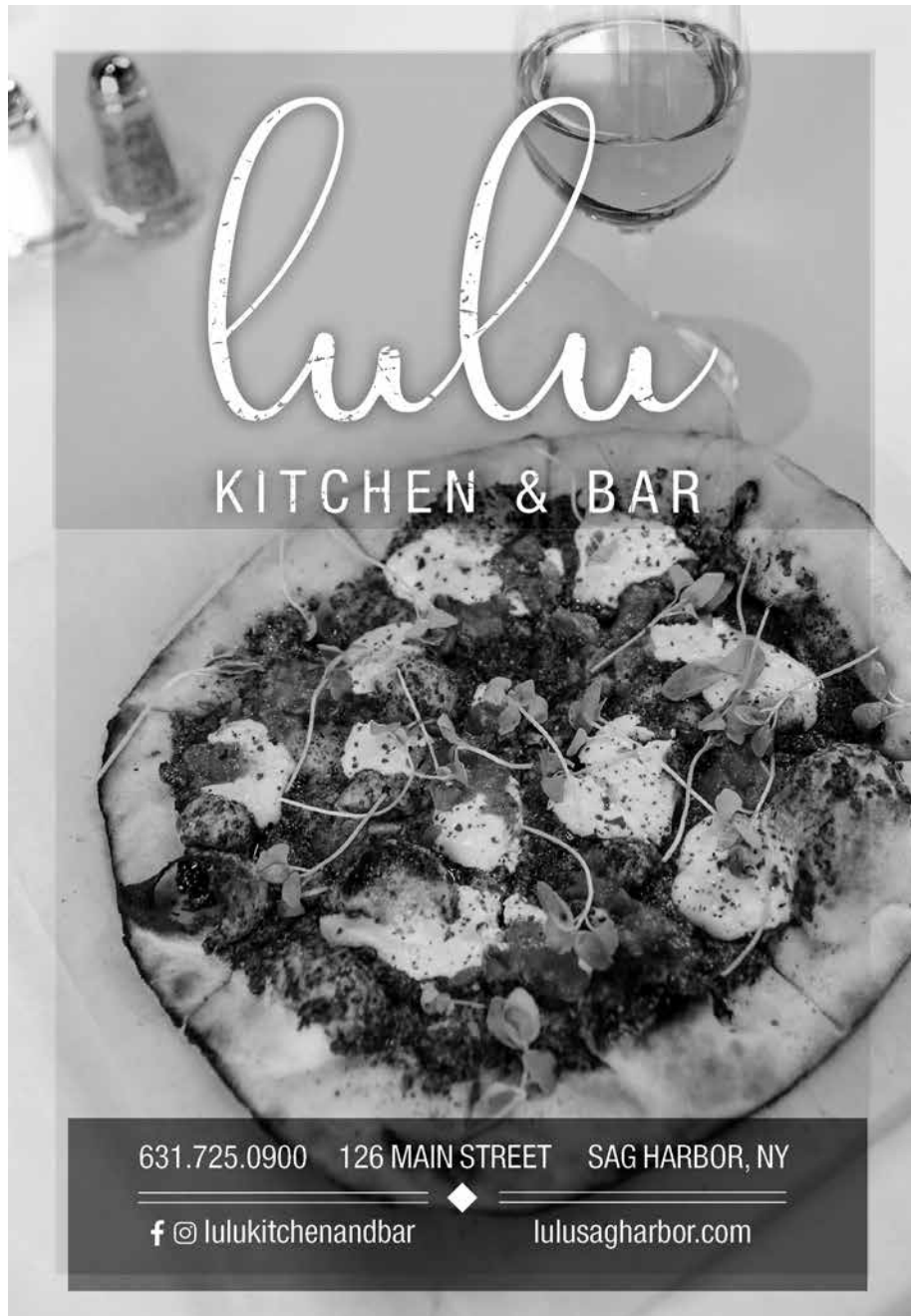
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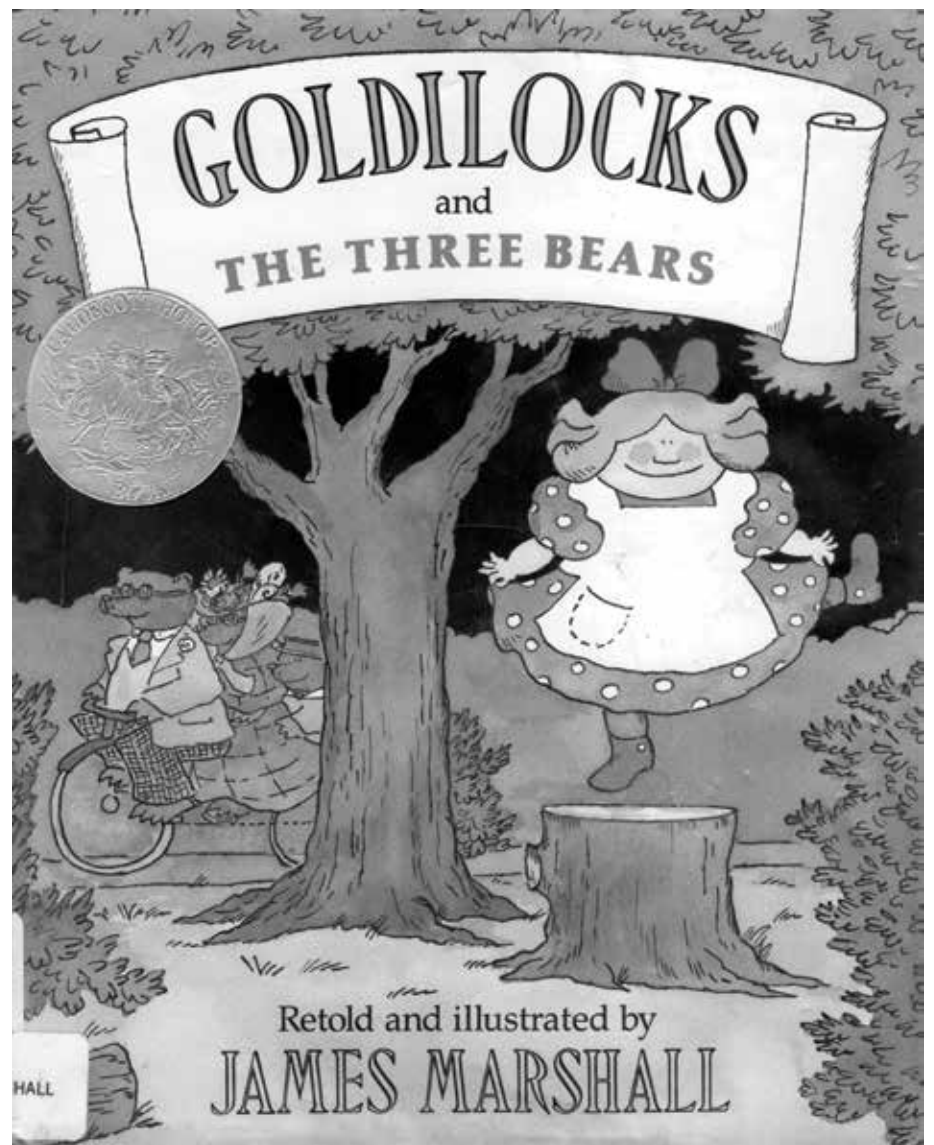
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**Goldilocks and the Three Bears;  
A Charming Retelling of a Children’s Classic**

review by Debbie Tuma

Published by Dial Books for Young Readers,  
A Division of Penguin Young Readers Group  
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**H**ey Kids!! Did you ever get into trouble? In this children’s book, a little girl named Goldilocks gets into big trouble when she does not obey her mother, and she runs into the forest by herself. Her mother sends her to get muffins, and warns her not to take a short cut into the forest. But Goldilocks goes anyway, and lots of things happen!

This children’s book is written by James Marshall, who retold this famous story, and he also drew the colorful pictures to go with it. You will love turning the pages to see the really fun artwork! So the story goes, that Goldilocks wanders into the forest and comes across a house. She doesn’t know that it belongs to the three bears — Mama, Papa and Baby bear. These bears had left their house to go bike riding, and Goldilocks discovers some porridge (cereal) -- in three bowls on the kitchen table. She helps herself to it, and then she decides to sit in the living room chairs. She tries all three chairs, and when she decides to sit in the Baby bear’s chair, she rocks back and forth and breaks it!

Then Goldilocks gets tired and decides to lie down in the three bear’s beds, until she finds one that is comfortable—which is the Baby bear’s bed. She gets so comfortable that she falls asleep in the bed. Soon after, the three bears’ family returns to their house to find that someone had eaten their porridge, broken a chair, and was now sleeping in Baby Bear’s bed! Goldilocks wakes up and is so scared that she runs to the window and jumps out! She runs home, and she probably wishes she had listened to her mother. It just proves that sometimes, mother knows best!

So if you decide not to listen to your parents, just remember the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The author and illustrator, James Marshall, did a beautiful job of drawing these pictures. This is a famous story, told to many children all over the world, for years. It is a good story to read and think about. You can find this book at your local library.

*Editor’s note: This version of “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” was named a Caldecott Honor Book in 1989.*



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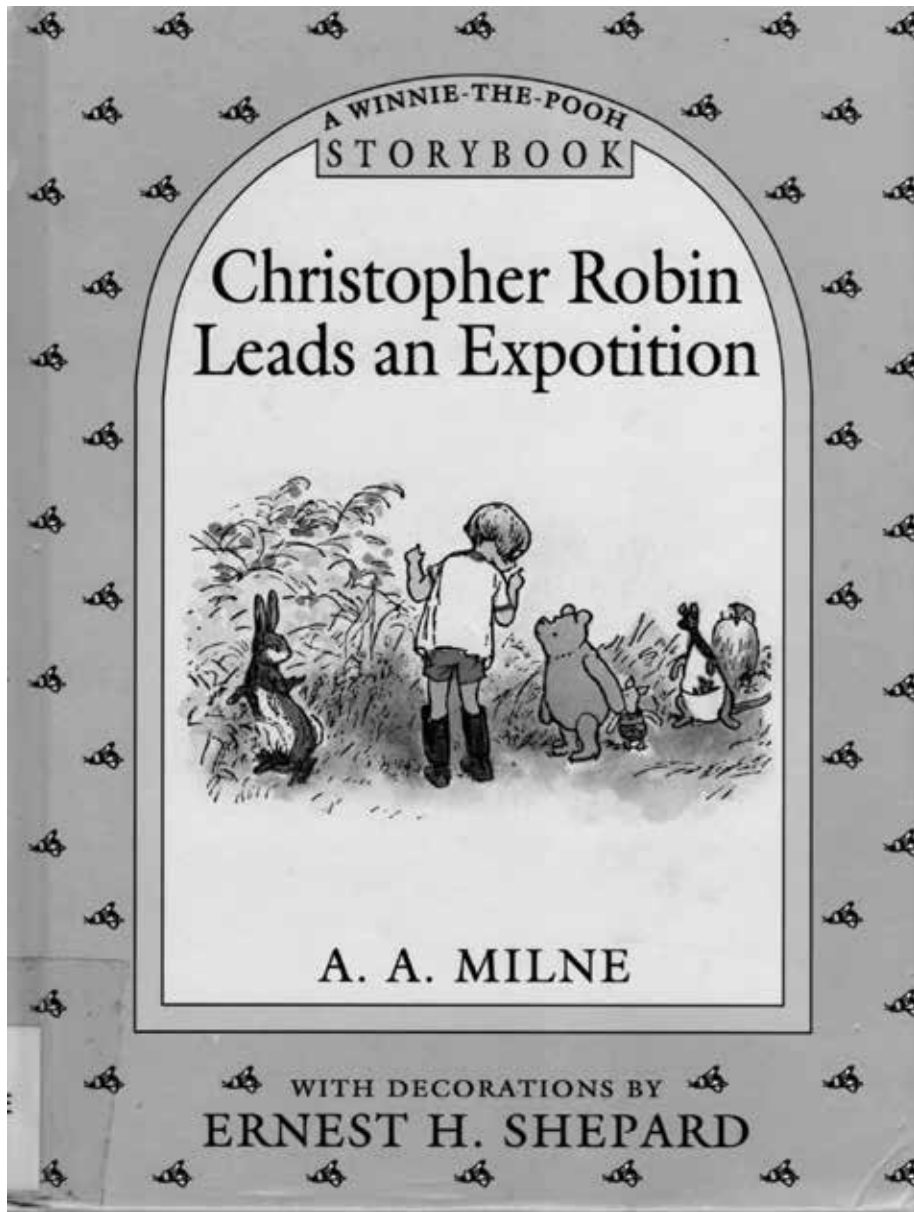
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## A Little Boy's Adventure with His Toy Stuffed Animal Friends

Reviewed by Debbie Tuma

"Christopher Robin Leads an Expedition"  
written by A.A. Milne  
with decorations by Ernest H Shepard  
published by Dutton Children's Books  
This presentation copyright ©1993

Hey Kids! Have you ever heard of Winnie-the-Pooh? He is a teddy bear character created by the famous children's author, A.A. Milne, back in the 1920s. In these books, Winnie is a good natured, yellow-furred, honey-loving bear who lives in The Forest surrounding the Hundred Acre Wood.

A.A. Milne had a son named Christopher Robin Milne, who had a teddy bear first named Edward, and then he changed it to Winnie the Pooh. Milne's son and Winnie appear in his poetry and popular children's books. One of these books is called, "Christopher Robin Leads an Expedition," which tells the tale of a journey to the North Pole. Christopher Robin is leading an expedition (which he calls an "Expotition"), along with Winnie the Pooh, and his friends Piglet, Rabbit, Owl, Tigger the Tiger, Eeyore the donkey, and two other characters, Kanga and Roo. In the book, Kanga is a female kangaroo, and mother of Roo, her young son, who is eager to go everywhere and try everything!

This book is one of Milne's "Winnie the Pooh Storybooks." It has beautiful color pictures done by Ernest H. Shepard. All these characters decide to join together to take a trip to find the North Pole. They prepare by getting things to eat along the way, called "Provisions." Along the way, they reach a stream between high rocky banks, and they worry about the danger of crossing. They also worry about getting ambushed by people jumping out at them. Then along the way, they wonder what the North Pole would look like. Rabbit said it would look like a pole sticking out of the ground.

They all washed up in the stream along the way, and Roo fell in the water and went over a waterfall. Pooh found a pole and held it across the stream so Roo could get out, but he wanted to stay and swim. Later he and the others got cold...so out they went. They decided that Pooh had found the North Pole, and he was quite proud of himself. They headed back home, and Roo had a hot bath and went to bed. It was a great adventure for all these friends! If you like Christopher Robin and Winnie-The-Pooh books, check out the others by author A.A. Milne, at your local library.

*Editor's note: Kids, please don't put your stuffed animals in water. You'll ruin them!*



## Teddy Bears in my Childhood

by Paula Timpson

"Talking Teddy" was my favorite childhood record. Back in the 1960s, vinyl records were big and popular. "Talking Teddy" was sweet, with bedtime stories a make-believe bear named "Talking Teddy" told on the record. Listening made me sleepy. I loved it. Mom did too. I listened to "Talking Teddy" every night before bed when I was a little girl. My big brown teddy bear, Teddy, was my make-believe friend.

I carried Teddy around with me everywhere I went. One day, I decided to cut Teddy's hair very short to keep him cool. I really thought his hair would grow back. It did not, and I was very surprised. Teddy had a forever pixie haircut. My dad cut my brother's hair, so I thought it would be fun to cut my bear's hair too. My big brother Paul and I were always together, along with my big brown teddy bear, Teddy.

Mom took us to the Bronx Zoo. We ate Chinese food. Old McDonald's Farm was a special place we loved to go. Teddy came too. He was comforting and my friend. I didn't want him to miss any of our fun adventures. Berenstain Bears were great books growing up, and became sweet books for our son. Stan and Jan Berenstain wrote and made cartoons about their experiences raising children, the good and the not-so-good.

In 1962, the first book in the series, "The Big Honey Hunt", was published. It is one of the bestselling children's book series. I loved, and always will, the children's book, "Corduroy".

Corduroy is a teddy bear in a toy store who a little girl wants to buy. Corduroy brings a special message to readers. Buttonless Corduroy shows we are special being who we are, and true friends accept us with our flaws. I always appreciate bears to help others.

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**will be taking an annual seasonal hiatus until Spring of 2025.**

Our thanks to our many readers, including the children, their parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, plus our advertisers for your generous support. We also want to express our appreciation for the many talented writers, artists and photographers for their fine works we have had the pleasure and privilege of including in our paper.

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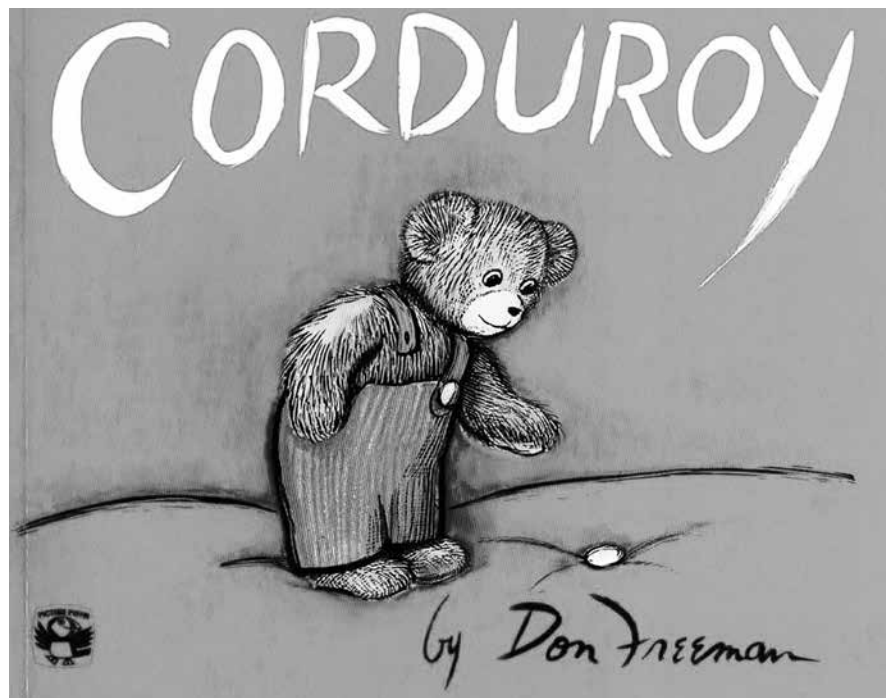
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### A Teddy Bear Teaches A Valuable Lesson

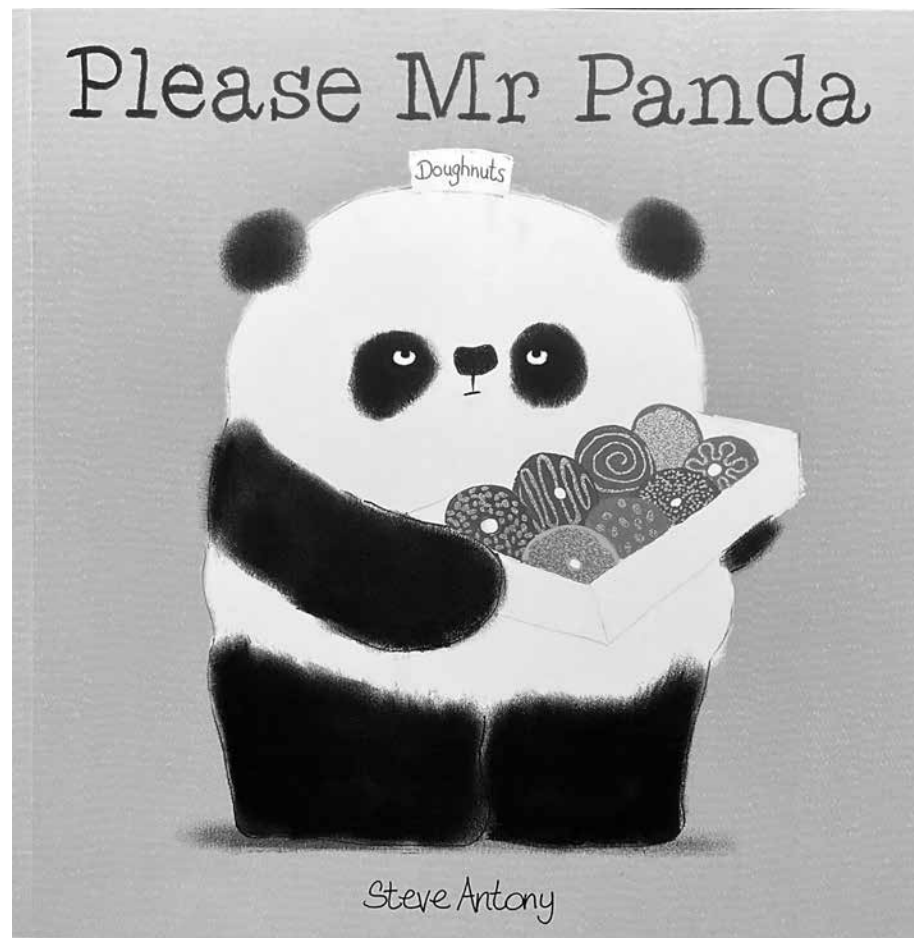
review by Connie McGuinness

written and illustrated by Don Freeman  
 ISBN-13: 9780451470799  
 Publisher: Penguin Young Readers Group  
 Publication date: 10/16/2014  
 Series: Corduroy Series  
 Pages: 34

“Corduroy” is a children’s book written and illustrated by Don Freeman. The book is a classic written in 1968 with simple old-fashioned illustrations.

Corduroy is a small teddy bear wearing green overalls that has lost his button on his pants strap. The story takes place in a department store where Corduroy goes on an adventure looking for his lost button. A little girl named Lisa falls in love with Corduroy. Even though he was missing a button, she decides to buy him with the money she had saved from her piggy bank.

The book, “Corduroy”, teaches children about friendship and being kind. Even though Corduroy wasn’t perfect, Lisa still adored him. With love and kindness, she sews on a new button for him. Lisa and Corduroy become best friends, and Corduroy finds his forever home. This is a wonderful heartwarming book that children and parents will cherish forever.



### A Simple Lesson in Kindness and Etiquette

review by Rosemary Szczygiel

written and illustrated by Steve Antony  
 ISBN-13: 9781338106480  
 Publisher: Scholastic, Inc.  
 Publication date: 12/27/2016  
 Pages: 26  
 Age Range: two to five years

**W**ould you like a doughnut? Mr. Panda has a big box of colorful doughnuts he wants to share with the other animals. But when he asks and they respond, he changes his mind. Why? What is the best way to ask Mr. Panda for a doughnut? The penguin, the skunk, and the whale say yes, but something is missing with how they answer the question. Mr. Panda will not give them any doughnuts. Why? The ostrich says no and tells him to go away. Mr. Panda seems a little grumpy, and this does not make him happy at all. Is there anyone else that wants a doughnut? Mr. Panda meets a lemur who is very excited to be offered a treat he loves. He says, “Please, Mr. Panda”. It worked! Mr. Panda gives him the whole box! The lemur replies with, “Thank you very much”. He loves doughnuts.

Mr. Panda still has a grumpy look, but now we know the best way to ask him for a doughnut! Mr. Panda and the animals he meets give us a lesson in using good manners.

Steve Antony’s art is bold and engaging. Mr. Panda is black and white but the donuts are brightly colored. The animals are black and white, too. Only the lemur, who is polite about Mr. Panda’s offer, has color in his eyes.

The plot is simple. The drawings are excellent. Most of all, the lesson is easy. What’s the best way to ask for a doughnut? If you ask Mr. Panda, say “please” and “thank you” and you will succeed. You may even get more than you expected. If you like reading “Please Mr. Panda”, you may be interested in other Mr. Panda books including “Thank You Mr. Panda”, “Good Night Mr. Panda”, “Wash Your Hands Mr. Panda”, and, of course, “We Love You, Mr. Panda”.

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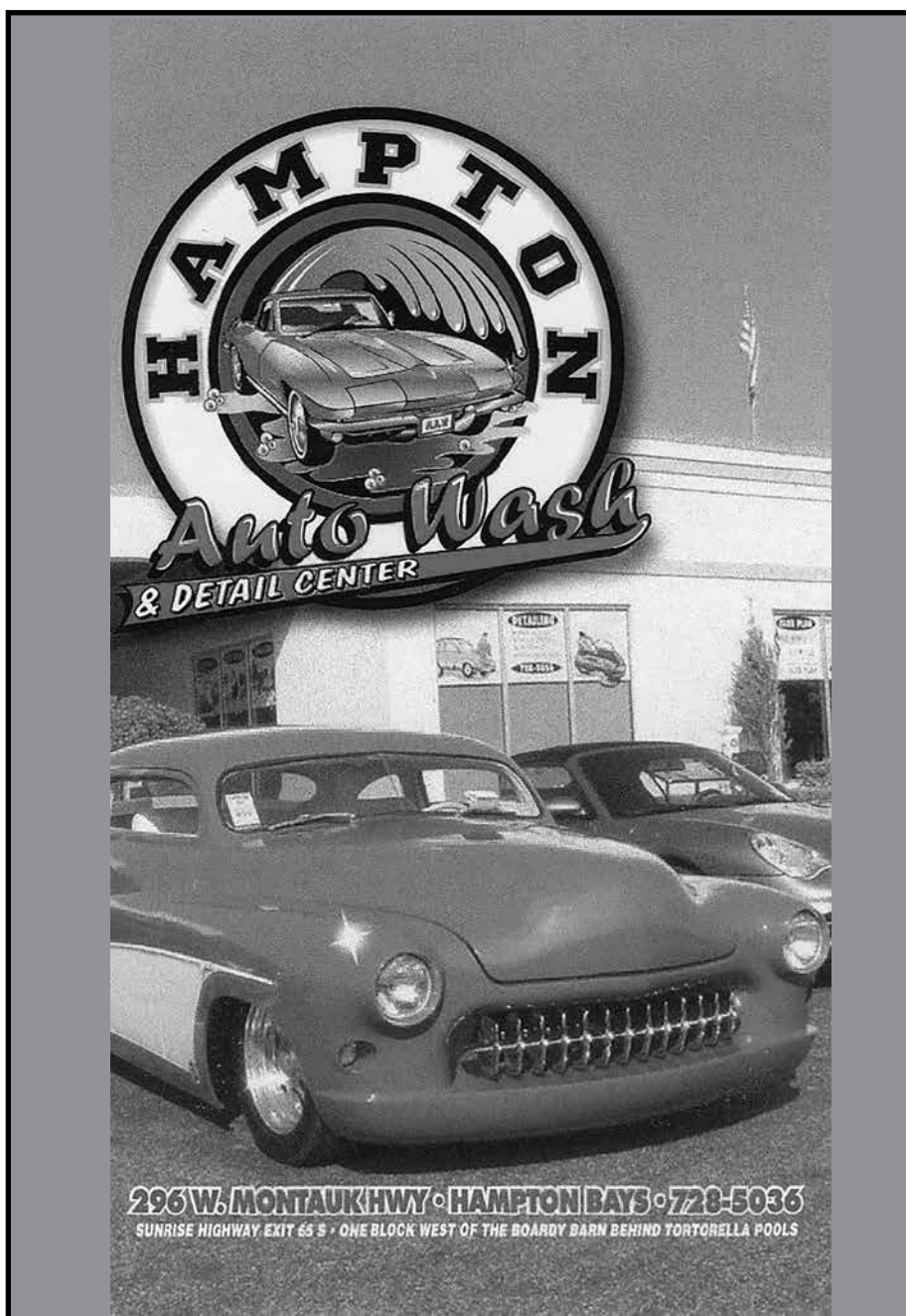
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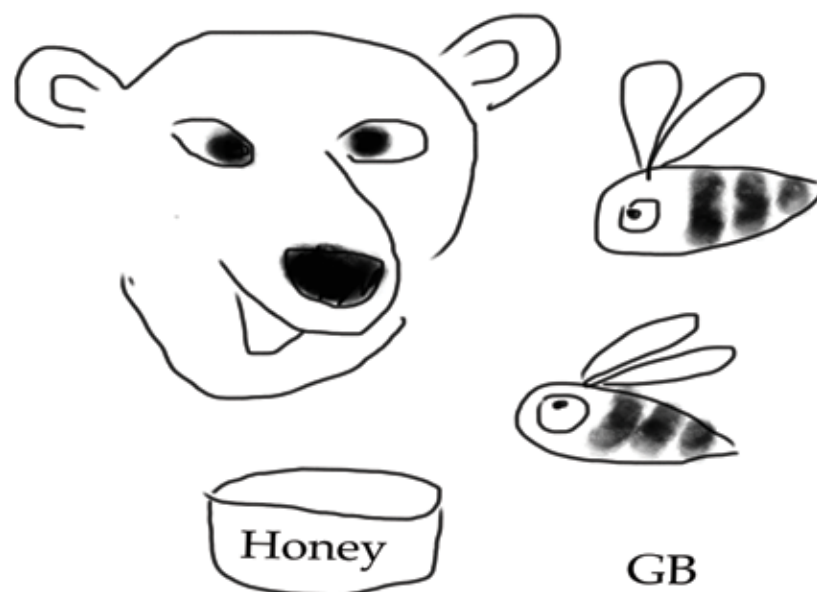
written by Connie McGuinness

**S**mokey the bear is a make-believe character created in 1944. Smokey is a large brown bear. He wears a hat with his name on it and blue jeans. Artist Albert Staehle was asked to paint the first poster of Smokey the bear. It showed a bear pouring a bucket of water on a campfire. Smokey became the new fire prevention symbol. On Aug 9, 2024, Smokey the bear celebrated his 80th birthday. His famous saying was "Only you can prevent forest fires". It was later changed in 2001 to "Only you can prevent wildfires". A wildfire is an unplanned, unwanted fire burning in a natural area such as a forest, grasslands or prairie. Wildfires can start from natural causes such as lightning or intense heatwaves, but most are caused by humans, by accident or intentionally.

Smokey the bear's name was inspired by "Smokey" Joe Martin, a heroic New York City fireman who suffered burns and blindness during a bad forest fire in 1922. Then in 1950 in the mountains of New Mexico, there was another terrible wildfire. While firefighters fought to put out the fire, they discovered a frightened baby bear cub, stuck up in a tree. His paws and hind legs were badly burned. He was rescued and taken to Santa Fe, California where veterinarians took care of him, and he recovered.

News spread about the little bear, people sent him honey and thousands of letters. It was decided the baby cub bear would be dedicated to a conservation and wildlife publicity program. The cub bear went to the national zoo in Washington, DC to live. He became a real living symbol of Smokey the bear. He remained at the zoo until he died in 1976. He then was returned to his first home to be buried at the Smokey bear historical park in New Mexico.

This little bear became a wildlife prevention legend. Today his phrase, "Only you can prevent wildfires," lives on. It is an important message for people to care and protect our world.



**Story Book Bear Jokes**

written and illustrated by Greg Bullock

Why did the bears go to the shoe store?  
They were tired of walking bear foot. (Bare foot)

What bears work in the hospital?  
Care Bears

How did the story bears say hello?  
With bear hugs

What is the bears' favorite dessert?  
Bear claws

There once was a bear named Sonny,  
who wanted to eat all the honey.  
When he put out a paw  
And asked for some more,  
All the bees said "Buzz off, Mr. Sonny!" (See cartoon.)

Where did Paddington keep his marmalade sandwiches?  
Under his hat!

What did Goldilocks say when the three bears saw their porridge was eaten, their chairs were broken and their beds were slept in?  
"Oh, just grin and bear it!"

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# A Homeless Bear in a New Country

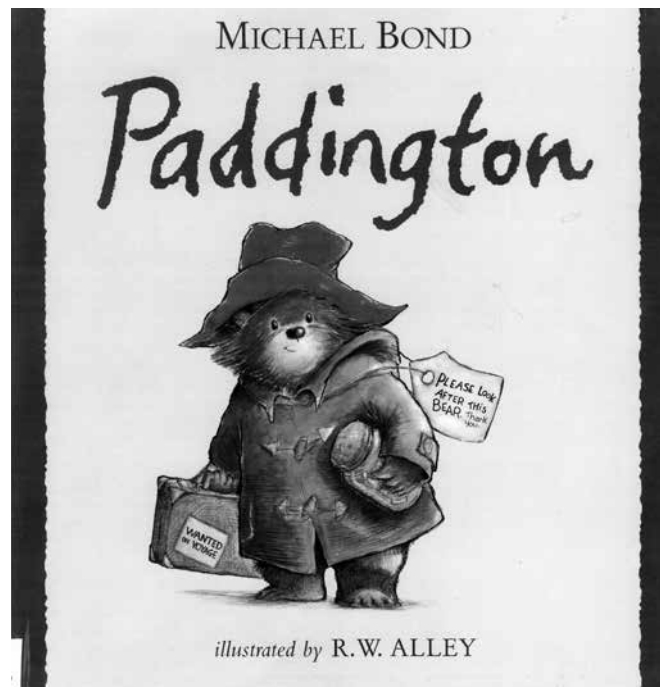
Reviewed by Jerry Cimisi

Written by: Michael Bond  
 Illustrated by: R.W. Alley  
 Publisher: HarperCollins; Reissue edition (June 26, 2007)  
 Hardcover : 32 pages  
 ISBN-10 : 0061170747  
 ISBN-13 : 978-0061170744  
 Reading age: one to four years

Paddington Bear, a beloved character in English literature who has endeared himself to many, had his origins in the terrible times of World War II.

Michael Bond was a child in England during the war when his family took in not only refugees from London, which the Nazis were bombing, but children from Germany itself, children who were escaping the Nazis.

These refugees from the horrors of war had gained the safety of the home of Mr. Bond's parents, but Mr. Bond recalls the German children crying as they sat before the fire, not knowing what had happened to their parents, whether they were dead or alive.



The sad children and the fire were transformed into the story of Paddington, a bear from Peru, whose home was destroyed by a fire.

Mr. Bond recalled, "We took in some Jewish children who often sat in front of the fire every evening, quietly crying because they had no idea what had happened to their parents, and neither did we at the time. It's the reason why Paddington arrived with the label around his neck".

Paddington's story starts in the jungle of Peru, where his once peaceful home is destroyed by a huge fire. He stows away on a lifeboat that crosses the Atlantic and finds himself in London.

But the big city does not give the displaced bear the welcome for which he had hoped. Passersby ignore him. And then, as he sits in Paddington station, the Brown family comes by and offers him a place to stay.

So of course, his name becomes Paddington Bear. He wears spectacles and a duffel coat, carries an old suitcase and is always very polite. He always addresses people very politely, as "Mr., Mrs., or Miss."

Mr. Bond connected those war-stressed children with a teddy bear he noticed in a London shop. On Christmas Eve, 1956, he noticed a lone teddy bear on a shelf. "It looked rather forlorn," said Mr. Bond. He bought it as a present for his wife.

Mr. Bond recalled the WWII refugees and the labels on their luggage. "They all had a label round their neck with their name and address on and a little case or package containing all their treasured possessions. So Paddington, in a sense, was a refugee, and I do think that there's no sadder sight than refugees."

Thus it was natural, when Mr. Bond came to write Paddington's story, the lost bear had a label reading, "Please look after this bear." The bear had been sent to London by his aunt, who was too old to go with him.

Mr. Bond wrote "A Bear Called Paddington" in ten days. It was published in October 1958. Paddington got his name because Mr. Bond lived near Paddington Station. It's a name that seems so right; yet had Mr. Bond lived elsewhere, the Paddington we know probably would have been named something else.

There would be more books. Of course Paddington wasn't the only character in the stories. There is Mr. and Mrs. Brown who take in Paddington. Mr. Brown is not inclined to at first, but eventually he comes to like Paddington and builds a bedroom in the attic. Mrs. Brown is serious and friendly. There are the Brown children, Judy and Jonathan. In the Paddington movie, Judy and Jonathan are with their parents when they discover Paddington in the train station.

Among other characters are Mrs. Bird, the stern but kind housekeeper. She can be annoyed at Paddington's antics, but is ultimately very protective of him. Mr. Samuel Gruber is Paddington's best friend who owns an antique shop. Mr. Bond based Mr. Gruber on his first agent, a German Jew who escaped the Nazis. Mr. Reginald Curry is the Browns' mean and nosy neighbor, who serves as a contrast to Mr. Gruber.

Lucy is Paddington's aunt from Peru who was too old to travel to London with him, although in the second Paddington movie, she is able to come to London to visit. In addition, there is Pasturzo, Paddington's wealthy globe-trotting uncle.

There have been 29 Paddington books, as well as TV and movie adaptations. The last book, Paddington at St. Paul's, was published in 2018, after Michael Bond passed away.

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## A History of The Berenstain Bears

Reviewed by Jerry Cimisi

"The Berenstain Bears; The Bear Detective"

Written and illustrated by Stan and Jan Berenstain

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (September 12, 1975)

Language: English

Hardcover : 48 pages

ISBN-10 : 0394831276

ISBN-13 : 978-0394831275

Reading age : three to seven

If you are selecting the most popular children's books by the number of titles and the number of sales, The Berenstain Bears books are hard to match. With 400 titles and 250 million copies sold worldwide, the family of people-like bears have become established go-to bedtime stories for kids.

The Berenstain Bears lived in a treehouse on a sunny dirt road in Bear County. This bear family consists of Mama Bear, Papa Bear, Brother Bear, Sister Bear and Baby Bear. Critics say these bears might have had more imaginative names. Others say this was establishing for very young children the basic immediate family structure at the time the books were first created.

When the first Berenstain book was published in 1962, "The Big Honey Hunt", it was a three-bear family; Brother Bear was Small Bear. In 1974, Sister Bear came along, and in 2000, Honey Bear came into the family.

Each book in the series involves a moral or safety lesson. Usually the children come to Papa Bear with a problem. He confidently goes about to set everything aright, but somehow makes things worse. Then Mama Bear steps in and smoothes everything over.

The series was created by Stan Berenstain and Janice Grant, who met in 1941 in a drawing class at the Philadelphia Museum School of Industrial Art. They became close, but were separated by World War II. Stan served in the army as a medical illustrator and Janice was a drafter for the Army Corps of Engineers, as well as an aircraft riveter. They were back together after the war and married in 1946.

For a time they pursued careers in illustration for popular magazines of the time, such as *Good Housekeeping* and the *Saturday Evening Post*. In 1951 they published "The Berenstain's Baby Book", a humorous illustrated look at how they had raised their infant son. They followed that with nearly two dozen other books, with titles that captured the sometimes corny humor of the time, such as "Have a Baby, My Wife Just Had a Cigar".

Stan said he and his wife chose bears as characters because they were furry and cute, and that real mother bears were known to be "terrifying good mothers," while father bears slightly less so. The couple said they did not consider that the beginning of their last name sounded like "bear."

It was none other than Dr. Seuss, real life name Theodore Geisel, editor of Beginner Books at Random House, who looked at a manuscript of the Berenstains' first book and helped them edit it to become "The Big Honey Hunt". The Berenstains planned to structure their next book around another animal that they hadn't yet chosen, but eventually Mr. Geisel told them the bears were selling so well. And thus "The Bike Lesson" appeared in 1964. After that it was one successful book after another. There was even a TV series from the books, which ran for three years.

Stan Berenstain died in 2005. His son Mike began to collaborate with his mother in writing and illustrating the series, while brother Leo became involved in the business end of the franchise. Jan Berenstain passed away in 2012. Mike Berenstain continues to write and edit the Berenstain Bears.

Alongside the great success of the Berenstain Bears series, there were those who said the stories were too predictable and not very imaginative, and that they fit too much into the gender stereotypes of the 1950s and 1960s. Others countered that the series championed basic problems and virtues of life that have been obscured in our time.

Ultimately it is readers who have to decide. Someone who is reading this must have read at least one Berenstain Bears book. What is your verdict?

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This is a picture of one of many kinds of pushka jars, where people give charity each day, no matter whether it clinks or folds.

# The Story of Mitzvahs

written by Eric Wald

This article is the story of three rabbis: Rabbi Rafe Konikov, Rabbi Aizik Baumgarten and Rabbi Berel Lerman.

Rabbi Konikov says mitzvahs represent the candle of G-d's light. All of mankind has seven mitzvahs they must do. They are called Noahide laws, and the Jewish people have 613 commandments. All of humanity has to perform mitzvahs in order to keep and sustain the vitality of the entire world. We have just completed the entire month of the High Holy Days, plus Sukkot, and we perform many Mitzvahs and good deeds. "May all of us have happiness, joy, good health and light, and G-d bless America and Israel" - Rabbi Rafe Konikov, Chabad of Southampton Jewish Center

Rabbi Aizik Baumgarten says mitzvahs are a connection point with G-d; good deeds to light the world to make the world a better place. Moses did many mitzvahs. The 10 commandments are mitzvahs. Praying is a mitzvah. Mitzvahs are as old as the world. Doing a mitzvah makes one a better person. Giving money is a mitzvah, especially to a poor person. In Hebrew, it is called tzedakah. It makes a person happy to honor one's parents, to be kind to one another, to have guests in one's house, to visit the sick, to observe Shabbos, which means a period of rest from Friday night to Saturday night, and to respect one another. "The Torah is a book of lessons to live one's life as best as one can, including celebrating Chanukah and Passover." - Rabbi Aizik Baumgarten, Chabad Lubavitch of the Hamptons

Rabbi Berel Lerman says that when one does mitzvahs, they better the world. The world can be a dark and lonely place, but each one of us has the ability to achieve light, goodness and kindness by doing mitzvahs, and being a selfless and whole human being. "Children do a special role in bringing light into the world by being kind to one another and helping society." - Rabbi Berel Lerman, Center For Jewish Life of the Hamptons

Why am I telling this story of mitzvah? To make this world a better place for humanity. By doing mitzvahs, one is making this world a better place for life.

An advertisement for Southampton Public House. It features a central logo with 'SOUTHAMPTON' in a curved banner above 'PUBLIC HOUSE'. Below the logo, it says 'Open Daily Year Round' and lists services: 'Lunch • Dinner • Sunday Brunch' and 'Outdoor Dining'. The address '62 Jobs Lane, Southampton' and phone number '631-283-2800' are provided, along with the website 'publick.com'. The ad is decorated with multiple instances of a Santa Claus head and the text 'HO HO HO'.

An advertisement for Dr. Beth Rosner DDS, MAGD. It features three icons: a dental chair, a tooth, and a dental mirror. The text reads: 'Dr. Beth Rosner DDS, MAGD', 'GENERAL DENTISTRY', '1414 MONTAUK HIGHWAY', 'WATER MILL, NY 11976', 'OFFICE: 631-726-7005', and 'FAX: 631-726-7048'. The entire ad is framed by a decorative floral border.

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## Tap Dancing's Colorful History

written by Christopher Clark

**T**ap dancing, a dynamic and rhythmic form of dance characterized by the sound of metal taps on the dancer's shoes, has a rich history that reflects the cultural melting pot of the United States. Its origins can be traced back to the early 19th century, drawing influences from African, Irish, and English dance traditions. The fusion of these styles emerged from the diverse communities in the United States, particularly in urban settings where different cultures mingled. The roots of tap can be linked to African rhythms and movements, particularly the Juba dance, which involved percussive footwork. Simultaneously, Irish jig and English clog dancing contributed intricate foot patterns and steps. By the mid-1800s, tap began to take shape in minstrel shows, where performers would don blackface to portray exaggerated stereotypes of African Americans. Despite its problematic origins, this exposure helped popularize tap across various audiences.

The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw tap dance grow in vaudeville theaters and Broadway musicals, becoming a staple of American entertainment. One of the most influential figures in early tap music was Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, whose style combined tap with smooth dancing that captivated audiences. Mr. Robinson was known for his unique ability to create rhythms and was the first African American to star in major motion pictures, breaking racial barriers in the industry.

In the 1930s and 1940s, the Golden Age of Tap emerged, with legends such as Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers bringing the dance to the screen. Their films showcased tap in a glamorous light, combining it with storytelling and romance. Mr. Astaire's footwork and style set new standards for tap, while Ms. Rogers brought her own flair to their performances.

Another iconic tap dancer, Gene Kelly, revolutionized the genre by incorporating athleticism and innovative choreography. His performance in *Singin' in the Rain* remains one of the most well-known dance sequences in film history, blending tap with expressive movement.

The latter half of the 20th century saw a resurgence in tap, thanks in part to television and the efforts of dedicated performers. Savion Glover, a prodigious talent, emerged in the 1980s and 1990s, known for his intricate rhythms and style. Mr. Glover's work has helped to revitalize tap dance, showcasing its artistic depth and contemporary relevance.

Today, tap dancing continues to evolve, influenced by various musical genres and modern dance forms. It remains a vibrant part of American culture, celebrated for its unique blend of rhythm, movement, and history. Through the contributions of iconic dancers and evolving styles, tap continues to inspire new generations, keeping its legacy alive.

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# My Puppet Bear

written by Eric Wald

**W**hen I was a little boy of nine years old, my mother bought me a bear puppet from FAO Schwartz. How I loved my puppet bear! Later, she also bought me a black cat puppet and a puppet stage with a curtain. My best friend, Tonette, and I did a puppet show for our whole family. Later, I gave my puppets to my sister, who, years later, gave them back to me. How I loved my puppets! The bear is soft, silly and loveable.

Even today, when he sits on my desk with his beautiful paws, soft fur, cute button nose, red ribbon around his neck and wonderful furry ears, how wonderful my little friend is, loving from his furry heart, frozen in time forever and ever, who gives his soul and being, so wonderful beyond words. The small puppets were from Germany, made by Steiff, a famous puppet and teddy bear company.

# Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook

*Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook,  
My child has been diagnosed with selective mutism. This is displayed during academic classes that are challenging. I need a strategy that will increase "communication" with her and her educator.*

Have her teacher place sticky notes on her desk for her to write down questions. That way, they become speaking and talking points for her to reference as they work on increasing her communication.



**Dear Ms. Spiral Notebook:**

**What are some home science labs that I can do with my child?**

Newton's Laws are great because they relate a lot to the real world. Here is one example using a penny and a note card. Place the card 1/3 on the table and some extend off. Place the penny on the part of the card on the table. Predict what will happen if you pull the card. Pull the card fast. Observe.

This issue is about bears. This link is a great introduction to why Bears are important to our ecosystem. [https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/wp-content/uploads/njfw/bearfacts\\_kids\\_guide.pdf](https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/wp-content/uploads/njfw/bearfacts_kids_guide.pdf)

Book: *All Things Bears For Kids: Filled With Plenty of Facts, Photos, and Fun to Learn all About Bears* Paperback – Large Print, August 18, 2022 by Animal Reads

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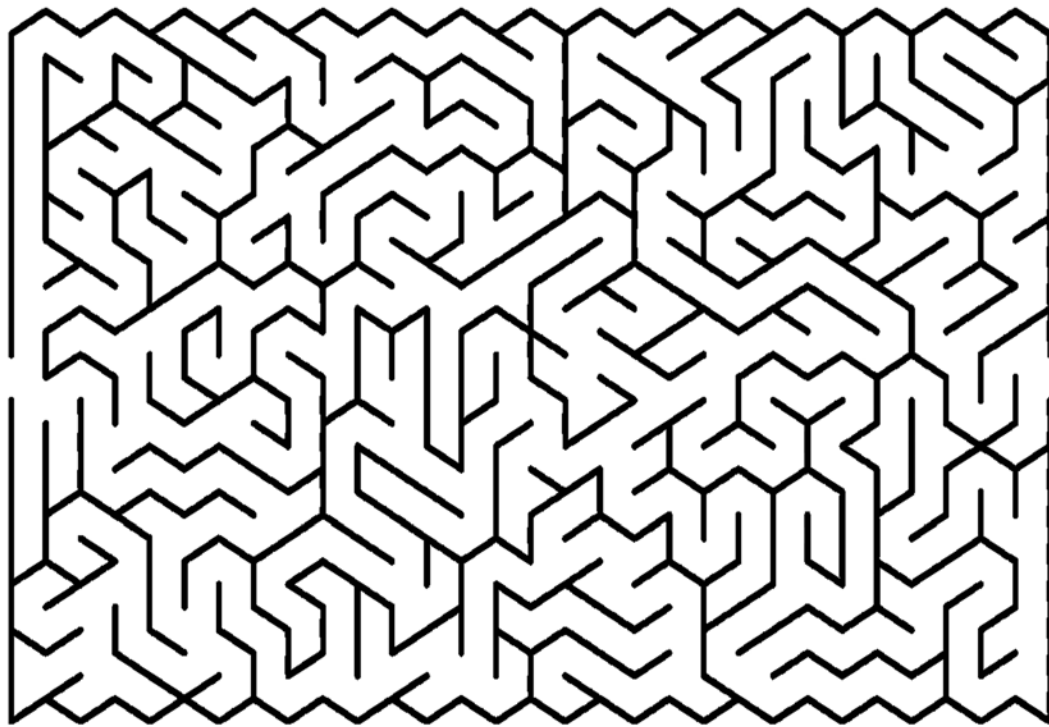
# MORE STORYTIME BEAR PUZZLES

Puzzles by KarenLise Bjerring

## StoryTime Bears Maze



Read a story...



and fall fast asleep with your teddy bear



## Storytime Word Search

Famous stories with bears in them-

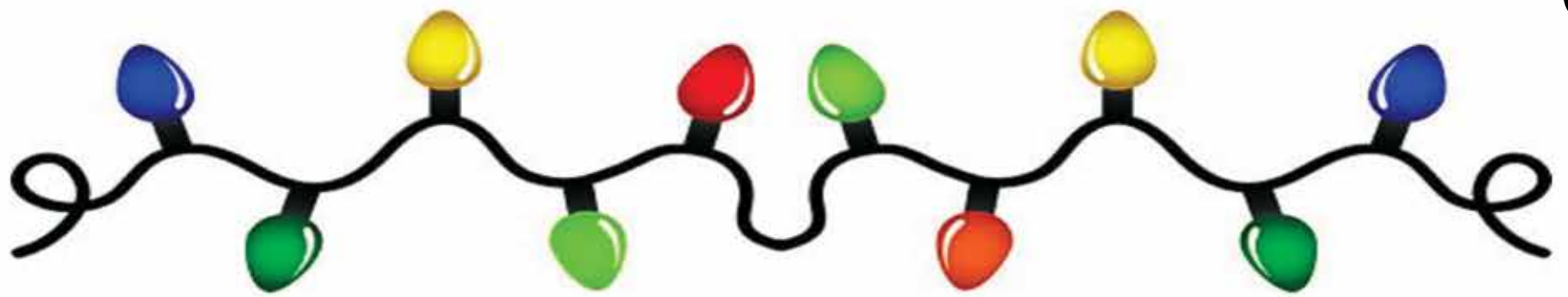
- Corduroy
- Berenstain Bears
- Winnie the Pooh
- Paddington
- Little Bear
- East of the Sun and West of the Moon
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- Blueberries for Sal
- SnowWhite and RoseRed

B	A	R	D	E	G	O	L	W	I	T	G	S	E	T
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S	T	R	A	I	T	Y	O	P	E	G	S	N	I	T
E	N	D	U	R	A	I	N	U	G	O	O	H	A	E



Find the hidden words. You can go across, down, or diagonally.

How many of these famous stories have you read?



*Start your holiday season  
off with a clean smile!*

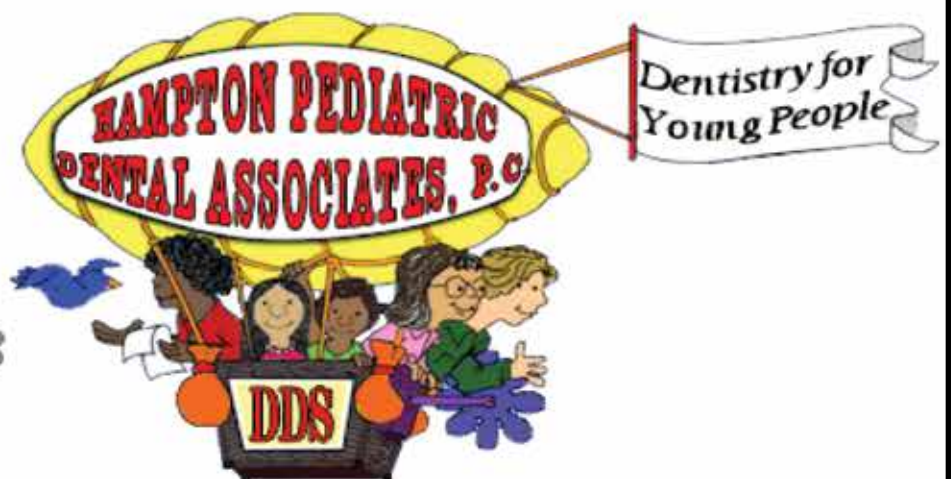


*Wishing you and your family a happy holiday season!*

***Dr. Nancy Cosenza  
Dr. Alina Galas Zuhusky***

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