

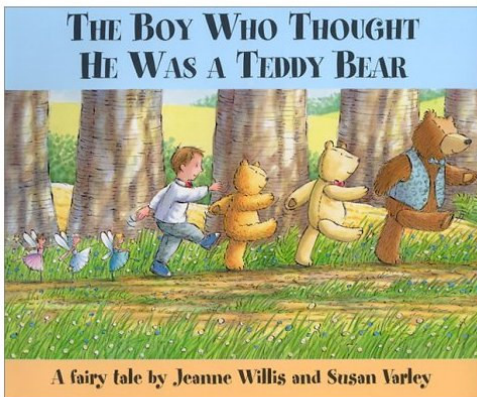
Explore-A-Story Kit

Suggested Age Level: 4-8 years old

Approximate Activity Time: 45min.

Materials: Needed for using the Book:

The Boy Who Thought He Was A Teddy Bear by Jeanne Willis and Susan Varley



teddy bear stickers*	coloring sheets (2)*	crayons	glue
song lyrics*	construction paper	chart paper	writing paper
teddy bear template*	pencils	snack	scissors

*supplied in kit

Introduction:

Songs to Sing:

Teddy Bears' Picnic

Ten Little Teddy Bears (*sung to the tune of ten little Indians*)

End this counting song with "Ten Little Teddy Bear Boys & Girls" or "Cubs"

Make a list of possible Teddy Bear names. (*Note: Children may bring bears from home and introduce their bear's name.*)

Read the book-The Boy Who Thought He Was A Teddy Bear

Possible questions:

- 1) Who found the little boy in the woods?
- 2) Why did the three teddy bears name the boy Pinky, Blinky, Dinky?
- 3) Could this story be true? Give an example from the story as to why you feel that way.

Craft suggestions:

Make a Teddy Bear Face. (*see template directions*)

Color teddy bear coloring sheet(s)

Possible activities:

Younger children:

Make a list of words that come to mind when you think about teddy bears. i.e. fuzzy, soft, cute (Adult may write words on chart paper or a large piece of paper cut in the shape of a teddy bear.)

Older Children: Have children come up with as many different words as possible only using the letters in TEDDY BEAR.

Game(s):

1) Hidden Bear: Have the children sit in a circle with one child in the middle. The child in the middle should close his eyes while a bear is hidden behind one child in the circle. Once the bear is hidden, the child in the middle has 3-5 guesses as to which child is hiding the bear.

2) Bear Shell Game: Assign three to five bears a number from 1-10. Position the bears in front of the group. Have the children guess each bear's number.

**Note:* The number should be placed under or behind the bear before the game.

3) Match the bear to its Owner: As the children arrive with their bears, have them place their bear in front of the room. Use the bears that were brought in by the children and have the other children guess which bear belongs to which child.

Possible snacks:

Teddy Grams, Honey Bunches-of-Oats cereal, Honey Nut Cheerios, Honey Graham Crackers

Template Directions: Teddy Bear Face

Copy a template for each child or make two or three pre-cut templates using heavy paper such as a folder. *Note:* Heavy paper is recommended for younger children.

Color all parts or use construction paper in the following colors. *Note:* If construction paper is used, have children use the pre-cut templates to trace an outline of each part of the teddy bear's face onto the appropriate color of construction paper.

Directions: (pieces may be colored or construction paper may be used)

1. Head- brown, black, yellow, gray, orange, or favorite color
2. Mouth- white
3. Nose- same color as head
4. Outer eyes- white
5. Inner eyes- black, brown, blue, purple, green, yellow, gray

6. Outer ears- same color as head
7. Inner ears- pink
8. Outer Bow- red **Note: Real ribbon may be used.*
9. Inner Bow- black

Cut out all parts and assemble them to resemble picture marked 'completed bear' on Teddy Bear Face template. Glue all parts together.

Fast Facts about the Teddy Bear

In 1880, Margarete Steiff invented the first stuffed toy bear in Giengen, Germany. As a young girl, Margarete was stricken with polio and spent her life in a wheelchair. She enjoyed making toys for the neighborhood children. Margarete eventually started a toy factory. Her stuffed bears were very popular.

"I don't think my name is likely to be worth much in the toy business, but you are welcome to use it." Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt, 1903

In 1902, the first "teddy bear" was created.

The teddy bear was named after the 26th president of the United States, Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt when a cartoon appeared in newspapers with Roosevelt refusing to shoot a bear on a hunting trip in 1902.

In 1903, Morris and Rose Michtom sold the first teddy bear in their candy shop in Brooklyn, New York. With help from a large company called Butler Brothers, the Michtoms opened a company called the Ideal Novelty Toy Company. Around the same time, Margarete's company in Germany called Steiff was introducing its toy bear at Leipzig Toy Fair. A company in the U.S. ordered 3,000 Steiff bears. By the end of that year, the order had increased to 12,000 bears!

- *Recently, a 14" Steiff, 1927 Pesty the Bear Baby sold at an online auction for \$10,288. He is a rare example of a precursor bear and was supposedly not put into a series production.*
- *The Ideal Novelty and Toy Company, which was, at one time, the largest bear factory in the United States remains one of the biggest toy companies in the world today, over ninety years later.*

In 1904, Teddy Roosevelt changed his campaign mascot from a moose to a bear and used the popular song *The Teddy Bears' Picnic* as his re-election theme song. President Roosevelt won a second term in office from 1905-1909.

In 1906, Playthings magazine first published the words "Teddy Bear."

Between 1906-1907, Seymour Eaton writes the first known published books featuring teddy bears entitled, *The Roosevelt Bears, their Travels and Adventures*.

Germany was the major manufacturer of teddy bears, producing and exporting many of them to the U.S. and England.

In 1907, the Steiff Company sold over 1,000,000 toys (974,000 were toy bears). Steiff declared it the year of the bear! —Barenjahre

Other ways to say TEDDY BEAR around the world.

Swedish	teddybjorn
French	Ours De Nounours
Spanish	Oso Del Teddy
Portuguese	Urso Do Teddy
Italian	Orso Del Teddy
Danish	Bamser
Swahili	dubu = bear
Japanese	tedi-bea
African	oplewer = bear

In the mid 1910's, it became very popular for kids to have their pictures taken with their teddy bears.

Did you know...

Collecting bears, stuffed or otherwise, is termed ARCTOPHILY.

Some of the early Teddys wore Roosevelt-style spectacles!

When teddy bears first became available, the craze was much like the Beanie Baby craze of the 90's.

The years between 1906 and 1908 are known as the "teddy bear years" because they were the height of the teddy bear craze in the United States.

Today teddy bears are created by both huge toy companies and by individuals at home.

There are several teddy bear museums located around the world.

40% of all adults still have their childhood teddy bear.

A teddy bear survived the 1912 Titanic disaster.

A 1926 Steiff bear once sold for \$86,000 at Sotheby's auction.

The highest price ever paid for an antique Steiff bear was \$250,000!

A collection of teddy bears is often referred to as a "hug" of bears.

The teddy bear is very popular around the world and is collected by children and adults. In fact, the teddy bear is the world's third most collected item, after stamps and coins.

Significant Dates:

September 9th is Teddy Bear Day!

October 11 is Take your Teddy Bear to Work/School Day!

November 14, 1902—President Roosevelt refuses to shoot a bear cub on a hunting trip in Mississippi.

November 16, 1902— Clifford Berryman, editorial cartoonist for the Washington Post, features a cartoon of President Roosevelt's refusal to shoot the cub.

To read more about this book, please visit our website at www.peachtree-online.com.

Sources: *The General History of the Teddy Bear*, by Kelly Brown Brehm, www.teddybears.com; *Celebrate the Date*, www.hidates.com; *The Bear Facts...*, The Provincial Museum of Alberta, www.pma.edmonton.ab.ca/edu/infobyte/toys/teddies.htm; *The Teddy bear dictionary*, by Greg G., www.w/866.telia.com; *Coloring pages* by CDK, www.cdkententerprises.com; *History of the Teddy Bear*, www.steiff4u.com; *The Bear Origins*, www.mountaingreen.com, *History Of The Teddy Bear*, by Michael Warner, www.arts.unimelb.edu.au/amu/ucr/student/1997/chiba/tbh.htm; *The Bear Museum, Petersfield: The Story of the Teddy Bear*, www.bearmuseum.co.uk/history1.htm; *The Birth of the Teddy Bear*, www.lovesbears.com; *The History of the Teddy Bear*, by Marianne Clay & Teddy Bear and Friends Magazine, www.teddybearandfriends.com

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The Teddy Bear's Picnic*

If you go down to the woods today
You're sure of a big surprise

If you go down to the woods today
You'd better go in disguise

For ev'ry bear that ever there was
Will gather there for certain, because
Today's the day the teddy bears have their picnic.

Ev'ry teddy bear who's been good
Is sure of a treat today.
There's lots of marvelous things to eat
And wonderful games to play

Beneath the trees where nobody sees
They'll hide and seek as long as they please
Cause that's the way the teddy bears have their picnic

If you go down to the woods today
You'd better not go alone

It's lovely down in the woods today
But safer to stay at home

For ev'ry bear that ever there was
Will gather there for certain, because
Today's the day the teddy bears have their picnic.

Picnic time for teddy bears
The little teddy bears are having a lovely time today
Watch them, catch them unawares
And see them picnic on their holiday.

See them gaily gad about
They love to play and shout;
They never have any care;

At six o'clock their mummies and daddies,
Will take them home to bed,
Because they're tired little teddy bears.

*John W. Bratton composed the tune of *The Teddy Bears' Picnic*. Jimmy Kennedy added words in 1932.

***The information in this kit was obtained using different websites. In most cases, facts chosen were presented on two websites independent of the other. All information is believed to be true and accurate.