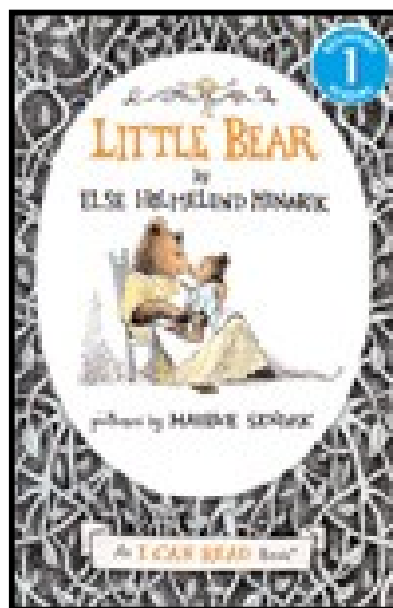


# LITTLE BEAR

by Elsa Homelund

Minarik



Adapted for  
Readers Theater

## WHAT WILL LITTLE BEAR WEAR?

**Actors needed:** Narrator, Little Bear, Mother Bear

Narrator: "What Will Little Bear Wear?"

Little Bear: By Elsa Homelund Minarik

Narrator: It is cold. See the snow. See the snow come down.

Little Bear: Mother Bear, I am cold. See the snow. I want something to put on.

Narrator: So Mother Bear made something for Little Bear.

Mother Bear: See, Little Bear. I have something for my little bear. Here it is. Put it on your head.

Little Bear: Oh, it is a hat. Hurray! Now I will not be cold.

Narrator: Little Bear went out to play. He came in again.

Mother Bear: Oh, do you want something?

Little Bear: I am cold. I want something to put on.

Narrator: So Mother Bear made something for Little Bear.

Mother Bear: See, Little Bear. I have something, something for my little bear. Put it on.

Little Bear: Oh, it is a coat. Hurray! Now I will not be cold.

Narrator: Little Bear went out to play. He came in again.

Mother Bear: Oh, do you want something?

Little Bear: I am cold. I want something to put on.

Narrator: So Mother Bear made something again for Little Bear.

Mother Bear: See, Little Bear. I have something, something for my little bear. Now you cannot be cold. Put it on.

Little Bear: Oh, snow pants. Hurray! Now I will not be cold.

Narrator: Little Bear went out to play. He came in again.

Mother Bear: Oh, what can you want now?

Little Bear: I am cold. I want something to put on.

Mother Bear: My little bear, you have a hat, you have a coat, you have snow pants. Do you want a fur coat, too?

Little Bear: Yes, I want a fur coat, too.

Narrator: Mother Bear took the hat, the coat, and the snow pants.

Mother Bear: See, there is the fur coat.

Little Bear: Hurray! Here is my fur coat. Now I will not be cold.

Narrator: And he was not cold. What do you think of that?

## BIRTHDAY SOUP

**Actors needed:** Narrator, Little Bear, Mother Bear, Hen, Duck, Cat

**Narrator:** "Birthday Soup"

**Mother Bear:** By Elsa Homelund Minarik

**Little Bear:** Mother Bear, Mother Bear, where are you? Oh, dear. Mother Bear is not here and today is my birthday. I think my friends will come, but I do not see a birthday cake. My goodness, no birthday cake! What can I do?

**Narrator:** Little Bear sees the pot by the fire. He sees the water in the pot.

**Little Bear:** If I put something in the water, I can make Birthday Soup. All my friends like soup. Let me see what we have. We have carrots and potatoes, peas and tomatoes. I can make soup with carrots, potatoes, peas, and tomatoes.

**Narrator:** So Little Bear begins to make soup in the big black pot. First, Hen comes in.

**Hen:** Happy birthday, Little Bear. My! Something smells good here. Is it in the big black pot?

**Little Bear:** Yes, I am making Birthday soup. Will you stay and have some?

**Hen:** Oh, yes. Thank you!

**Narrator:** And Hen sits down to wait. Next, Duck comes in.

Duck: Happy birthday, Little Bear. My! Something smells good. Is it in the big black pot?

Little Bear: Thank you, Duck. Yes, I am making Birthday soup. Will you stay and have some with us?

Duck: Thank you. Yes, thank you.

Narrator: And she sits down to wait. Next, Cat comes in.

Cat: Happy birthday, Little Bear.

Little Bear: Thank you, Cat. I hope you like Birthday soup. I am making Birthday soup.

Cat: Can you really cook? If you can really make it, I will eat it.

Little Bear: Good. The Birthday soup is hot, so we must eat it now. We cannot wait for Mother Bear. I do not know where she is. Now, here is some soup for you, Hen. And here is some soup for you, Duck, and here is some soup for you, Cat, and here is some soup for me. Now we can all have some Birthday soup.

Narrator: Cat sees Mother Bear at the door.

Cat: Wait, Little Bear! Do not eat yet. Shut your eyes, and say one, two, three.

Narrator: Little Bear shut his eyes.

Little Bear: One, two, three.

Narrator: Mother Bear comes in with a big cake.

Cat: Now look.

Little Bear: Oh, Mother Bear. What a big, beautiful Birthday cake! Birthday Soup is good to eat, but not as good as Birthday Cake! I am so happy you did not forget.

Mother Bear: Yes, happy birthday, Little Bear! This birthday cake is a surprise for you. I never did forget your birthday, and I never will.

## LITTLE BEAR GOES TO THE MOON

**Actors needed:** Narrator, Little Bear, Mother Bear

Narrator: "Little Bear Goes to the Moon"

Mother Bear: By Elsa Homelund Minarik

Little Bear: I have a new space helmet. I am going to the moon.

Mother Bear: How?

Little Bear: I am going to fly to the moon.

Mother Bear: Fly? You can't fly!

Little Bear: Birds fly.

Mother Bear: Oh, yes. Birds fly, but they don't fly to the moon. And you are not a bird.

Little Bear: Maybe some birds fly to the moon. I don't know. And maybe I can fly like a bird.

Mother Bear: And maybe you are a little fat bear cub with no wings and no feathers. Maybe if you jump up, you will come down very fast with a big plop.

Little Bear: Maybe. But I'm going now. Just look for me up in the sky.

Mother Bear: Be back for lunch.

Little Bear: I will jump from a good high spot, far up into the sky, and fly up, up, up. I will be going too fast to look at things, so I will shut my eyes.

Narrator: Little Bear climbed to the top of a little hill, and climbed to the top of a little tree, a very little tree on the little hill, and shut his eyes and jumped. Down he came with a big PLOP, and down the hill he tumbled. Then he sat up and looked around.

Little Bear: My, my. Here I am on the moon. The moon looks just like the earth. Well, well. The trees here look just like our trees. The birds look just like our birds. And look at this! Here is a house that looks just like my house.

Narrator: Little Bear went in to see what kinds of bears live there.

Little Bear: Look at that. Something to eat is on the table. It looks like a good lunch for a little bear.

Narrator: Mother Bear came in.

Mother Bear: But who is this? Are you a bear from Earth?

Little Bear: Oh, yes, I am. I climbed a little hill, and jumped from a little tree, and flew here, just like the birds.

Mother Bear: Well, my little bear did the same thing. He put on his space helmet and flew to Earth. So I guess you can have his lunch.

Narrator: Little Bear put his arms around Mother Bear.



Little Bear: Mother Bear, stop fooling. You are my mother bear and I am your little bear, and we are on Earth, and you know it. Now may I eat my lunch?

Mother Bear: Yes, and then you will have your nap. For you are my little bear, and I know it.

## LITTLE BEAR'S WISH

**Actors needed:** Little Bear, Mother Bear

Mother Bear: "Little Bear's Wish"

Little Bear: By Elsa Homelund Minarik

Mother Bear: Little Bear.

Little Bear: Yes, Mother.

Mother Bear: You are not asleep.

Little Bear: No, Mother. I can't sleep.

Mother Bear: Why not?

Little Bear: I'm wishing.

Mother Bear: What are you wishing for?

Little Bear: I wish that I could sit on a cloud and fly all around.

Mother Bear: You can't have that wish, Little Bear.

Little Bear: Then I wish that I could find a Viking boat. And the Vikings would say, "Come along. Come along! Here we go. Away! Away!"

Mother Bear: You can't have that wish, my Little Bear.

Little Bear: Then I wish I could find a tunnel going all the way to China. I would go to China and come back with chopsticks for you.

Mother Bear: You can't have that wish, my Little Bear.

Little Bear: Then I wish I had a big red car. I would go fast, fast. I would come to a big castle. A princess would come out and say, "Have some cake, Little Bear," and I would have some.

Mother Bear: You can't have that wish, my Little Bear.

Little Bear: Then I wish a Mother Bear would come to me and say, "Would you like to hear a story?"

Mother Bear: Well, maybe you can have that wish. That is just a little wish.

Little Bear: Thank you, Mother. That was what I really wanted all the time.

Mother Bear: What kind of story would you like to hear?

Little Bear: Tell me about me. Tell me about things I once did.

Mother Bear: Well, once you played in the snow, and you wanted something to put on.

Little Bear: Oh, yes. That was fun! Tell me something more about me.

Mother Bear: Well, once you put on your space helmet and played going to the moon.

Little Bear: That was fun, too. Tell me more about me.

Mother Bear: Well, once you thought you had no birthday cake, so you made birthday soup.

Little Bear: Oh, that was fun. And then you came with the cake. You always make me happy.

Mother Bear: And now you can make me happy, too.

Little Bear: How?

Mother Bear: You can go to sleep.

Little Bear: Well, then, I will. Good night, Mother dear.

Mother Bear: Good night, Little Bear. Sleep well.