

Ideas to use with the story

Remember when together with your child:

Get **DOWN** to your **CHILD'S LEVEL**

LISTEN

Make **EYE CONTACT**

MODEL sounds during play

Find a **QUIET** area for reading!

Use your **VOICE** and **FACE** to make it fun and enjoyable!

Things that will help you:

With young children you don't have to read every word, you can just talk about the pictures.

Try not to ask too many questions—just point and name. Try pointing and saying “It's a.” leave a **SHORT** pause, if your child does not fill in the gap, then you say what it is.

Give your child lots of praise and encouragement and add words to what they say. For example if your child says “Bear.” You say “Yes! A **BIG** Bear!”

With children who are a little older, gently encourage your child to talk about the book afterwards, see what they can remember.

Animated video to watch online:

We're Going on a Bear Hunt performed by Michael Rosen

<https://www.jointhebearhunt.com/explore/videos/>

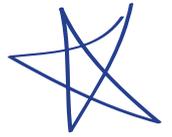
We're Going on a Bear Hunt additional activities and resources:

Free activities for practitioners or parents to complete

<https://www.earlylearninghq.org.uk/stories/were-going-on-a-bear-hunt/page/2/>

<https://www.pre-kpages.com/bear-hunt-activities-preschool/>

Explore sounds



Explore sounds with your child. Using objects around the home to make sounds linked to the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. For example, use pots and pans to create the sound of the forest (stumble trip). This is a fun way for your child to make different sounds linked to the story.

Skills: listening, talking, exploring

What do I need?

- Every day items around the home

Getting started?

- Encourage your child to find items around the home that they can use to create sounds
- Praise your child for their efforts

Remember to have lots of fun with words! You can add new words to your child's vocabulary while exploring sounds. For example: Swishy swashy! Grass. Squelch squerch! Mud. Splash splosh! River. Stumble trip! Forest.

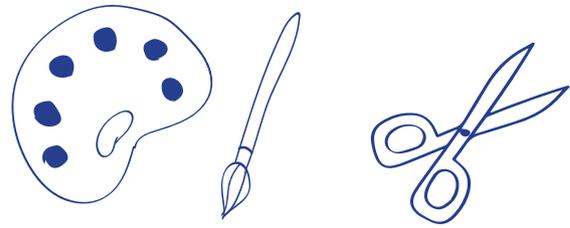
Talk about what you and your child are doing, as you are doing it - almost like a commentator! Speak in simple sentences and give your little one time to respond!

TOP TIP

When making sounds keep it simple: "Listen! 'Stumble trip'! Swishy swashy" Don't ask your child to copy words after you, if your child says "mud" you say "Yes! It's mud".

Sound words like meow, brum etc are often the first words children learn so always use lots of sounds when you talk to your child.

Making binoculars



Use **Junk Modelling** with your child. Make some Binoculars so you and your child can go on a 'Bear Hunt' out and about. This is a fun way for you to support your child to use their imagination and solve problems.

Skill: Imagination

What do I need?

- Cardboard tube (kitchen roll, crisps tube)
- Sellotape, glue, scissors, string

Getting started?

- Encourage and support your child with creating their own binoculars using available resources
- Praise your child for their efforts

Remember to have lots of fun with words! You can add new words to your child's vocabulary while creating your binoculars. For example: Join, cut, stick, measure, round, long, look etc.

Talk about what you and your child are doing, as you are doing it - almost like a commentator! Speak in simple sentences and give your little one time to respond!

TOP TIP

Talk about your actions while you play. For example: "Cut, cut. Cut it out." "Stick. Stick it on. That's it. Good sticking!"

Build a cave



Build a Cave or den with your child. There are lots of ways to develop the story into pretend play. Collect a variety of materials and resources around the home. For example, blankets, duvet covers, washing pegs etc. Get involved and show your child how to build a cave using the items that you have collected together.

Skills: imagining, pretending

What do I need?

- Blankets, duvets, towels, pegs etc.

Getting started?

- Create your den with your child using your own furniture.
- Praise your child for their efforts

Remember to have lots of fun with words! You can add new words to your child's vocabulary while creating your den. For example: Cave, den, make, build, cover, join, dark, narrow, gloomy, under, over, tiptoe.

Talk about what you and your child are doing, as you are doing it - almost like a commentator! Speak in simple sentences and give your little one time to respond!

TOP TIP

Sometimes you may need to show your child how to do pretend play - show them how to move through the Cave. Don't forget to comment: "Tiptoe, Tiptoe. It's a Bear! One shiny wet nose!"

Chant Phrases



Make chant phrases using the chants from 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' with your child. Using the chant from the story repeat the phrases with your child. For example, 'We're going on a bear hunt, We're going to catch a big one. What a beautiful day! We're not scared. Uh-uh! Mud! Thick oozy mud. We can't go over it. We can't go under it. Oh no! We've got to go through it. Squelch squerch! Squelch squerch! Squelch squerch!'

Skill: rhyming, repeating

What do I need?

- The book *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*

Getting started?

- Read the book with your child repeating all of the phrases together
- Encourage your child to join in with you
- Praise your child for their efforts

Remember to have lots of fun with words! You can add new words to your child's vocabulary while talking about the book. For example: Swishy swashy! Grass. Squelch squerch! Mud. Splash splosh! River. Stumble trip! Forest.

Talk about what you and your child are doing, as you are doing it - almost like a commentator! Speak in simple sentences and give your little one time to respond!

TOP TIP

Sing at least one nursery rhyme together every day and do the actions. Children love nursery rhymes and they are a great way to learn new words because the words are repeated so often and the actions make the meaning clear. Children need to learn lots of repetitive rhymes so the more they listen to it, the more they remember it. This helps to develop a child's brain.

Story Spoons



Make story spoons with your child to re-tell the story *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. Re-tell the story using the puppets you have created.

Skill: Turn taking, re-telling, creating

What do I need?

- Wooden spoons, felts, crayons, wool, glue, tissue paper etc

Getting started?

- Encourage and support your child to create their own story spoons using the materials available
- Retell the story using your story spoons
- Praise your child for their efforts

Remember to have lots of fun with words! You can add new words to your child's vocabulary while creating the story spoons. For example: stick, create, join, make, draw, eyes, nose, cave, snow storm, forest, mud, grass.

Talk about what you and your child are doing, as you are doing it - almost like a commentator! Speak in simple sentences and give your little one time to respond!

TOP TIP

When you are reading *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* with your child, pause to give your child an opportunity to talk about the book. You can point and say "It's a..." If they don't say the word - you just say it. Repeat anything they do say back to them and add more words e.g. "Yes! It's long wavy grass!". If your child does not say the word correctly - you can just repeat what they say using the correct pronunciation. For example: If your child says "boon" - you say "yes! It's a spoon". Use lots of real sounds/scratching sounds to represent the scenes in the story to keep your child interested.