

Notes on: Pumpkin Pie for Baby Bear - Skit

Skit adapted from *Ready-to-Go Storytimes* by Gail Benton and Trisha Waichulaitis

Original – springtime, bears wake up from hibernation and are hungry

We have adapted this scenario seasonally. Our basic story is that Baby Bear is hungry and looking for food. Mama makes a food suggestion for Baby to go find. Baby comes back with 2 or 3 incorrect items before being successful.

Our adaptations have included looking for:

strawberries, blueberries, apple, pumpkin

Baby's 'mistakes' have included among other things: nuts, orange, grapes, pb+j sandwich (in bag!), and bananas . . .

Tip: Use plastic food, esp. banana (which always draws a laugh)

Real bananas squish in puppet paws!

Adapting Adaptations

Two of the same species: if you don't have 2 bears . . . what do you have 2 of?

What about a dog and puppy, smells something good? Finally finds bone.

Brings back ball, branch, sock (Just made that up; we are SO going to do this one soon!) (We just did! And added a diaper as an incorrect item. Great laughs!)

Two different species: cow and sheep, both look for grass – find straw, dog bone, etc. (Easter basket grass in the spring?)

You and a puppet: Librarian as adult, animal off looking for a book! Or could be looking for most anything. How about clothing? Baby Bear, go get your socks - comes back with pants.

Baby could be off looking for something of a certain color. Be creative!

Gender neutral. Could be Papa Bear.

Know your **partner**, know your **story**, know your **audience**.

If working with a partner, can you 'ad-lib' together? Or do you stick to the script?

Either way, if you get 'off script' – do you both know where the story is going and can get it back there?!

Tip: We do not memorize our skits word for word. Too risky if you forget!

Is your audience likely to participate – in appropriate ways? (In 2-year old storytimes, Mama Bear may look to the audience and ask them to identify the mistaken food. They respond well.)

Is your audience likely to participate even when not invited or expected? Be prepared!