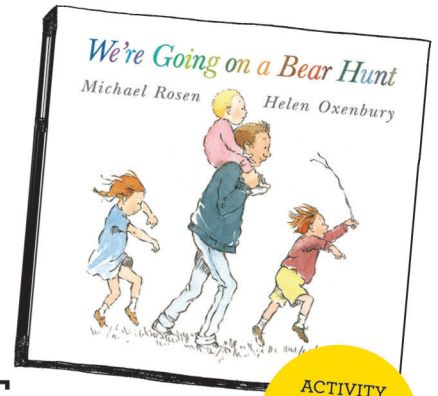


WORLD BOOK DAY

IDEAS



ACTIVITY
IDEAS
for
Early Years

WE'RE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT

by Michael Rosen & Helen Oxenbury

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PREPARATION

Costume ideas

- Encourage children to come dressed as bears or in their own clothes. They could bring in a rucksack with equipment to go on a journey such as a torch, a snack and a drink.
- **Optional activity:** Children could be encouraged to donate £1 to dress up, to fundraise for Book Aid International bookaid.org/worldbookday

Things that could be set up in a classroom

- Set up a role-play cave with brown sheets covering a large cardboard box or small tent. Put in a teddy bear, some torches, story maps and binoculars.
- Decorate the classroom with different materials representing the different settings in the story, such as white fluffy material and paper snowflakes for the snowstorm and brown material and welly boots for the mud.

THE DAY ITSELF

Start of the Day

- Introduce what World Book Day is to the children and read *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* together. Encourage the children to join in with the repeated parts of the story.
- Encourage the children to create actions for the different parts of the story. Once actions have been decided, perform an action for the children to identify the part of the story performed.

Morning activity ideas

- Encourage the children to draw story maps showing the different story events.
- Play a listening game – choose one child to pretend to be the bear sleeping in the cave and place a tambourine next to them in the middle of the circle of other children. Choose another child to quietly tip-toe towards the bear and collect the tambourine. If the bear hears a noise they can point towards the sound. If correct the children swap places and another child tries to collect the tambourine without waking the 'bear.'

Lunch/snack time ideas

- Have a teddy bear's picnic! Children could bring their favourite teddy bear from home and have a picnic in an outside area. Bear-themed snacks could be made and eaten, like bear-shaped biscuits and crisps.

Afternoon activity ideas

- Hide a teddy bear in an outside area and then act out and retell the story. Encourage the children to create movements as they move through each of the story settings on their way to the bear's cave.
- Explore colour mixing to create different shades of brown paint and encourage the children to paint pictures of the bear.
- Discuss the role of the bear in the story. Do the children think he is frightening? Or sad? Or lonely?

To end the day

- Perform the story for another class or visitor. Encourage the children to retell the story using words and actions.
- Talk about the children's favourite parts of the story and why they like them.

HOME LEARNING

- Encourage children to tell the story to someone at home and talk about their favourite part.
- Children could find out some facts about bears to share with the group.
- Encourage parents to visit their local bookshop with their children to redeem their £1 World Book Day token if they have one, to get a FREE World Book Day book.