A Select List of Brown County Library Children’s Books
(Toddler – Kindergarten)

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PICTURE BOOKS

Bears in Nature

**About a Bear** by Holly Surplice

This winning story is perfect for young children: it’s sweet, simple, and silly. Surplice’s rhyming tale explores an amiable and somewhat befuddled bear, as he forages, climbs a tree, and acts as a raft for his smaller forest friends. Bear also illustrates a variety of emotions, including boredom, sadness, curiosity, and mostly happiness. The warm-hued illustrations, replete with shimmery gilded leaves, suggest a fall setting for this year-round read. Ages 2-5.

**Baby Bear Counts One/Baby Bear Sees Blue** by Ashley Wolff

**Backyard Bear** by Anne Rockwell

**The Bear in the Book** by Kate Banks

**Blueberries for Sal** by Robert McCloskey


**Cub’s Big World** by Sarah Thompson

**Every Autumn Comes the Bear** by Jim Arnosky

**Leaves** by David Ezra Stein

**Mama’s Little Bears** by Nancy Tafuri

**My Little Polar Bear/No** by Claudia Rueda

**Old Bear** by Kevin Henkes

**Outback Odyssey** by Amanda Lumry

**Panda & Polar Bear** by Matthew Baek

**Polar Bear Morning/Polar Bear Night** by Lauren Thompson

**Polar Slumber** by Dennis Rockhill

**We’re Going on a Bear Hunt** by Michael Rosen

Fairy Tales and Folk Tales

**The Bear Went Over the Mountain** by Iza Trapani

**Beware, Beware of the Big Bad Bear!** by Dianne de las Casas

**Fox and Crow are Not Friends** (beginning reader) by Melissa Wiley

**Goldilocks and Just One Bear** by Leigh Hodgkinson

An overwhelmed Bear has somehow wandered from his cozy woodland
cottage into a bustling, noisy metropolis. Overwhelmed, he finds refuge in an empty high-rise apartment where he samples various food, seating, and bed options. The “mommy person,” “daddy person,” and “little person” occupants return to find their modern-chic space with a flattened cactus, popped beanbag chair and a very perturbed house cat. And of course, someone is sleeping in the little boy’s bed. Things take a surprising and delightful detour when Bear and Mommy Person recognize each other from once upon a time. Hodgkinson’s whimsical, jumbled illustrations and artistic fonts capture the cacophony of the city and Bear’s feelings as they shift from overwhelmed and befuddled to contented and confident. For ages 4-7.

Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Emily Chichester Clark
Goldilocks and the Three Bears by James Marshall
Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Lauren Child
The Mitten: A Ukrainian Folktale by Jan Brett
Previously by Allan Ahlberg
The 3 Bears and Goldilocks by Margaret Wiley
The Three Snow Bears by Jan Brett
Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales by Lucy Cousins

Silly Bear Stories

Bear and Bee by Sergio Ruzzier
Bear in Underwear (series) by Todd Doodler
Bedtime for Bear by Brett Helquist
Big Black Bear by Wong Herbert Yee
Children Make Terrible Pets/You Will Be My Friend! by Peter Brown
Chu’s Day by Neil Gaiman
The Great Paper Caper by Oliver Jeffers
Hands Off My Honey by Jane Chapman
Hugless Douglas/Hugless Douglas and the Big Sleepover by David Melling
I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen
Maybe a Bear Ate It! By Robbie Harris

More Bears! by Kenn Nesbitt
This meta-book features an author who loses control of his story after pandering to audience requests for “more bears!” What begins as a book with “absolutely no bears” soon becomes overcrowded bears of all sizes, temperaments, and costumes. From Elbow, the not-so-smart bear who wears underwear over his pants, to a Bulgarian Astrobear with a pet hamster, each bear is more eccentric (and crowded-in) than the last. The way the author regains control of “his” story is both clever and hilarious. Great for preschoolers through elementary ages, with older children enjoying this participatory romp on a deeper level.

No Bears by Megan MicKinlay

Red Hat/Red Sled by Lita Judge
A red sled propped against a cozy cabin tempts a curious bear to borrow the tempting toy. One by one, more forest creatures join bear on his joy ride. Each animal has a unique reaction to the downhill thrill, which is depicted
through exclamations in lively font as well as the priceless facial expressions from euphoric glee to wide-eyed fear. Luckily, all the furry friends end their adventure with satisfied smiles. “Screech scrunch[ing]“ through the snow to return the sled, the animals leaving a melee of footprints behind for the cabin’s occupant, a little boy, to puzzle over. A cacophony of the sights and sounds of winter, this celebratory book will enchant children ages 2-5.

**Roawr!** by Barbara Joose  
**The Slurpy Burpy Bear** by Norbert Landa  
**Tiptoe Joe** by Ginger Gibson

**You Will Be My Friend!** by Peter Brown  
Arms outstretched, eyes alight with gleeful mania, the tutu-clad cub on the cover of Peter Brown’s pronounces You Will Be My Friend! Whether readers picture themselves fleeing Lucille the Bear’s hug like the small animals in her path, or eagerly accept her invitation, they will be amused and intrigued by her dogged pursuit of a pal. Unfortunately, every creature Lucille greets, from frogs to giraffes to monkeys (this is a fantastical-type of forest), are either too grumpy, too overwhelmed, or too scared to introduce themselves back. Or in the case of an unhatched egg, incapable. One hysterical scene features Lucille, dripping in honey, being chased by a swarm of angry bees as she shouts “sorry I ate your home!” Increasingly deflated, Lucy finally finds a friend who shares her exuberance and love of dance. Cartoon-style illustrations with stylish wood-grain effects enhance this quirky tale of tenacity rewarded. Pair this with David Melling’s Hugless Douglas, the story of a similarly mishap prone bear who just wants a hug. For ages 3-7.

**Sweet Bear Stories**  
**Bear Flies High** by Michael Rosen  
**Bear in the Air** by Susan Meyers  
**Bears in Beds** by Shirley Parenteau  
**Bear in Love** by Daniel Pinkwater  
**Bear’s Picture** by Daniel Pinkwater

**The Bear’s Song** by Benjamin Chaud  
This magnificent oversized picture book contrasts a simple, timeless story with exquisitely detailed illustration. A bear cub follows a bee all the way from his forest dwelling to an ornate city, where he eventually finds himself on the stage of a cavernous opera house in front of a stunned audience. In pursuit is Little Bear’s devoted Papa, who scans each sweepingly ornate view for his capricious cub. Adults and children alike will enjoy getting lost in the spectacular settings; from the Gaudi-like architecture of the enchanting city to the animal dwellings dotting a bustling forest, this is Where’s Waldo meets museum exhibit. A sweet reunion between Papa Bear and Little Bear offers a serene, moonlit finale. For ages 3 and up.

**A Bedtime for Bear/A Birthday for Bear/A Visitor for Bear** by Bonnie Becker  
**Big Brown Bear** (series) by David McPhail  
**Brave Bitsy and the Bear** by Angela McAllister  
**Drawing Lessons from a Bear** by David McPhail  
**Goose and Bear** (series) by Suzanne Bloom
Teddy Bears

**Bear in the Air** by Susan Meyers
**Bedtime without Arthur** by Jessica Meserve
**Ben Loves Bear** (board book) by David McPhail
**Blanket and Bear, A Remarkable Pair** by Luke Kelly
**Corduroy/ A Pocket for Corduroy** by Don Freeman
**Dog and Bear** (series) by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
**Do Super Heroes Have Teddy Bears?** by Carmela Coyle
**Ira Sleeps Over** by Bernard Waber
**Jonathan and the Big Blue Boat** by Philip Stead
**My Friend Bear/ Where’s My Teddy?** by Jez Alborough
**Old Bear** by Jane Hissey
**Patrick Eats his Peas and other Stories: A Toon Book** by Geoffrey Hayes

*A gentle adventure merges old-fashioned pencil illustrations with comic–book style panels in a surprisingly successful mesh of styles. When Red Ted is accidently left on a train seat by his devoted owner Stevie, he ends up in an unclaimed items room. There he befriends a lonely but amiable plush crocodile who longs for a home. On their quest to find Stevie, Red Ted and Crocodile venture through the city, where they become a trio upon meeting a stray cat with a fondness for cheese. There are obstacles on their path (none too scary), but determination pays off by way of a wonderful reunion. Share this hidden gem of a story with fans of Else Minarik’s Little Bear series and/or Don Freeman’s Corduroy. Ages 4-8.*

**Tea Party Rules** by Ame Dyckman
**Teddy Bear Counting** by Barbara McGrath
**Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear** (poetry) by Alice Schertle
**Where Teddy Bears Come From** (Christmas holiday) by Mark Burgess

**NON-FICTION**

**A Baby Polar Bear Story** by Martha Rustad
**Bears** (beginning reader) by Emily Green
**First Facts: Bears** (series) by Capstone Press
**Grizzly Bears** by Molly Kolpin
**How Many Baby Pandas?** by Sandra Markle
Panda Kindergarten by Joanne Ryder
Adorable photos and brief informational text provide a boisterous atmosphere for young panda fans. Readers will feel like they are presiding over the “kindergarten” (China Conservation and Research Center) where young, mischievous pandas learn the skills they will need in the wild. An important message about conservation lends significance to this endearing portrait. For ages 3-8.

Koalas by Julie Murray
A Koala’s World by Caroline Arnold
Saving Yasha: The Incredible True Story of an Adopted Moon Bear by Lia Kvatum
What Animals Eat (beginning reader) by Brenda Stones

http://tinyurl.com/BCLreads