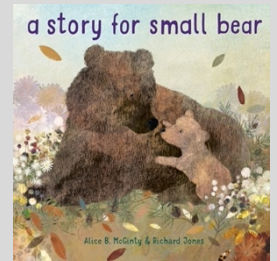




# A Story for Small Bear

by Alice B. McGinty and Richard Jones



Reading with your child is an excellent way to expose your child to words, topics, and ideas that are more complex than what they would see in books they can read on their own.

Conversations will help increase your child's oral language skills and build their vocabulary. C.A.R. is a conversation starter that you can use with your child any time.

Below is an example of how to use C.A.R. with the book, *A Story for Small Bear*.



C.A.R.		Example	
C	<b>Comment and Wait</b> (count to 5) <i>*Make a comment about what you see on the page.</i>	<b>Adult:</b>	Small bear is splashing like you do in the bathtub!
		<b>Child:</b>	I love splashing in the bathtub!
A	<b>Ask questions and Wait</b> (count to 5) <i>*Ask questions that do not have a "yes/no" or one-word answer to them.</i>	<b>Adult:</b>	What is different about how you take a bath and how small bear is taking a bath?
		<b>Child:</b>	Small bear is taking a bath in a stream and I take a bath in a bathtub.
R	<b>Respond</b> by adding a little more to the child's response.	<b>Adult:</b>	That's true. Bears wash themselves in streams, rivers, and lakes. They lick and scratch their fur to get it clean.

## Activities

- » Bedtime Routine: Talk about your child's bedtime routine. Have your child create a bedtime routine chart to support their developing independence.
- » Hibernation: Discuss with your child what it means to hibernate. Have them verbally share or draw a picture of what they would do to prepare for hibernation.



C.A.R. is taken from the *Language is the Key Curriculum* written by Washington Learning Systems