



Old Bear

Kevin Henkes

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Old Bear

Kevin Henkes

Old Bear Kevin Henkes

Snug and warm, curled and furry, Old Bear sleeps.

Red, orange, and brown leaves fly through the air, and it is snowing hard. Old Bear doesn't notice.

Old Bear is dreaming about being a cub again. He is dreaming about the beauty of the world. He is dreaming of everything he loves about the forest that is his home.

Turn the page and you will see!

Old Bear Details

Date : Published August 19th 2008 by Greenwillow Books

ISBN : 9780061552052

Author : Kevin Henkes

Format : Hardcover 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Storytime

 [Download Old Bear ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Old Bear ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Old Bear Kevin Henkes

From Reader Review Old Bear for online ebook

Emily Nunez-Eddy says

"Old Bear" is a fun, explorative book for young children, telling the story of a bear, dreaming about the passing of multiple seasons, including winter, spring, fall, and summer, that leaves the reader questioning how the bear will react when he wakes up -- will he be disappointed in what he sees outside, or ecstatic? What will await his eyes when he awakes?

Unlike some of Henkes other books, such as "Kitten's First Full Moon", or "Birds", which are rather simplistic in illustrations, "Old Bear" seems to be the polar opposite. The colors are flowing, vivid, and bright, some of the most elaborate and colorful illustrations of Henkes. As the seasons progress from fall to winter, and from winter to spring, the colors change, but never falter in their brilliance. One of the most interesting features of this book is that as the color schemes change, such as from the blues of winter to the pinks and purples of spring, the text changes as well, following the illustrations in color.

Overall, this book is a great choice for kids, as it is continually engaging throughout. It can be used to teach colors, since there are a variety of them in the text, as well as seasons. "Old Bear" should be placed on the shelf in every preschool-grade 3!

Caleb Ensminger says

This book is about a bear who goes to sleep for the winter. When he falls asleep, he starts to dream about all of the seasons and all of the different attributes that come with each season. When the bear woke up he felt like hardly anytime had passed at all. He then walked out of his den and realized it wasn't snowing anymore, it had become springtime.

I could use this book in my classroom when I am teaching science. This would be a perfect book to show how bears go into hibernation for the winter and then come back out in the spring time.

Lynn says

Sweet and very quiet. But my rambunctious grandsons loved it and have asked to read it again and again.

Shoshanna says

Sometimes a story that is very simple can be brought to life with beautiful illustrations, especially when they are drawn by the author. This way, the book artist can bring their complete vision together in one book. Some of my favorite contemporary illustrations are by Kevin Henkes, who wrote and illustrated, among other books, Old Bear. Old Bear is great for all seasons. The story is very simple. An old bear hibernates and dreams and remembers when he was a young cub, enjoying all the seasons of the wilderness. What makes this book so memorable is the beautiful depictions of the different seasons, and the very very nostalgic, sentimental, subjective, and imaginative way Old Bear remembers them. In spring, Old Bear blooms with the beautiful flowers. In summer, blueberries rain down from the sky. In fall, everything on the page is the color of fallen leaves. In the winter, you get to gaze out at the beautiful twinkly winter sky with Old Bear as a young cub. A great, beautiful, peaceful picture book! If you love Henkes's bright colorful illustration style

and simple stories as much as I do, you might want to check out some of his other books, like A Good Day, My Garden, and Little White Rabbit.

Karrie says

The leaves on the inside front cover and the flowers on the inside back cover orient the reader to what season we are in. The title page introduces us to a friendly-looking bear who is sitting fat and happy, and as we turn to the verso and dedication page, our fat and happy bear is beginning his journey into a long winter's nap. The illustrations are easily readable, and very expressive without words.

As the story continues and the text is added, Henkes does a marvelous job of telling the story with very few words. As the reader gets into the dreams of the Old Bear, the illustrations take on a vivid, brilliant and unrealistic look where "flowers are almost as big as trees," and everything is purple, yellow or pink. As Old Bear travels through the seasons in his dreams, the scenery changes and his world is made up of make-believe things like blueberry rain and a daisy sun. Each season is represented by a different color scheme that would be easy for children to identify. Perhaps the most beautiful page is winter where the "sky is blazing with stars of all colors." The serenity and quiet that is exhibited on this page will make the reader feel as if their footprints will be the first in the snow.

This book, with all its simplicity and sweetness, will place the reader right into Old Bear's dreams with that surrealistic feeling that we so often feel while we are sleeping.

My only note is that Old Bear actually looks like a very young bear, perhaps even like a bear cub. Even his dreams are the makings of a young, carefree bear.

Racheal says

Awwwwww! What a sweet, sweet book! I love the gentle nostalgia, the dreams of spring and summer bounty, the cuteness of the friendly old bear. Just lovely!

Carrie says

I absolutely loved the artwork in this book. As bear dreams about going through the seasons we are presented with wonderful scenes. Both the fall and the winter appealed to me the most. The cover it's self under the sleeve was also lovely.

Cheryl says

This charmer would work even better as a board book, imo. It's so simple and straightforward, but also lovely; tots would love a copy of their very own.

For a bit I thought that the bear was going to die. The dreams recapitulating cubhood certainly pointed to

that. And if it was written by, say, Cynthia Rylant, he may well have died, and woken up in Heaven. That would be a neat book too.

Christy says

Readers are immersed into the warm, colorful and imaginative pages beautifully illustrated by Kevin Henkes in *Old Bear*. After several readings of *Old Bear*, including a read-aloud for my first-grade class, I have concluded that it is a children's picture book worthy of consideration for the Caldecott Medal.

Few words are needed to tell the story of the old bear sleeping through the winter and dreaming of his younger, cub days. The seasons and color schemes change as we turn each page. Children are delighted by the colors, creativity and exquisite artwork. My students giggled at the daisy sun, blueberry raindrops and multi-colored stars. *Old Bear* provides a visual experience as it moves the reader through the bear's dream. It clearly depicts a seasonal theme as the bear slumbers through winter and emerges into spring. It is evident that the exceptional artwork and story belong solely to Kevin Henkes.

Young children are clearly a potential audience for this book. Primary-age children can relate with the bear because they often compare their current world to their life as a baby. In addition, young children love to pretend and one has to "make-believe" in order to enjoy *Old Bear*. The senses are included in the story. The detailed artwork enables us to see, feel, hear, smell and even taste the dream sequence.

Old Bear can be used in a multitude of ways for instructional purposes. The illustrations encourage creativity and allow students to extend writing. Vocabulary and word choice can be taught and modeled using this book. Themes such as seasons and change go perfectly with this text. The sensory imagery reading strategy can be modeled and taught using *Old Bear*. Finally, perhaps the most important way *Old Bear* can be used for instructional purposes is to engage and delight students as they follow the old bear through the seasons and learn how much fun reading can be.

Bryan Shields says

Very cute book about a bear who dreams about the seasons while hibernating. Kevin Henkes' wonderful illustrations are what makes this story so enjoyable. This is one of those books the kids gaze deeply at while I'm reading aloud and am able to hold each page up for moments after finishing the text.

David says

Old Bear by Kevin Henkes is a hibernation story about a bear who dreams his way through the winter.

As leaves fly and snowfall begins, *Old Bear* finds a hollow tree and quickly falls asleep. *Old Bear* dreams of the four seasons, picturing himself as a cub sleeping in a giant pink Spring crocus. Bear's Summer dream features a daisy as the sun and blueberry rainfall. The Autumn dream features the world in yellows, oranges, and reds including the birds, fish and water. Bear's Winter dream shows the world covered in ice and multi-colored stars. As Bear finally wakes up, half expecting to see snow, he blinks to discover that Spring has sprung in all its glory. He pads off into the beautiful world.

The text is in a bold font with the dream portions featured in different colors. Henkes uses few, but well chosen words to tell the story of Old Bear.

Watercolor paints and ink were used to create the art. Henkes' illustrations feature a fat and happy Bear who has fantastic, colorful dreams of himself as a cub.

The fantasy illustrations are the highlight of this book. Children will enjoy this old bear. It should make a good read-aloud. My favorite illustrations include young bear in Spring and in Winter, the four panel look at Old Bear asleep, and Old Bear emerging into spring in full bloom.

I have used two other books about hibernation for years: Every Autumn Comes the Bear shows a more realistic view of the start of hibernation, and Sleepy Bear focusing on the hibernation process and the bear's love of honey. I recently reviewed and reread Sleepy Bear and was intrigued by a number of similarities in pictures it shares with Old Bear. In both Bear is shown going in to hibernate among the Autumn leaves. Both show Bear shifting positions multiple times and a picture of each yawning. Both show Bear in wide eyed astonishment at what he sees as he emerges from hibernation. Similar back views show Bear padding off into the world. Of course Henkes focuses on the seasonal dreams of Old Bear, while Dabovich focuses on the sleepiness and hunger for honey of the sleepy bear.

For ages 3 to 8, animals, bears, seasons, hibernation, nature, read-aloud, and fans of Kevin Henkes.

Chance Lee says

Simple, cute, and colorful, if a little too pastel-heavy for me like many of Henkes books. The spring scene at the end is stunning.

Emily Ursuliak says

This would make a great storytime book for toddlers. There is very little text on the page, but the language is still rich and imaginative. I also enjoy the way colour is used to show different seasons.

Kathryn says

Gosh, I just want to snuggle up to Old Bear! Isn't he the cutest!?! The story is simple and whimsical--Old Bear hibernates and has fanciful dreams of being a cub again, sleeping in a flower in spring, catching blueberry-raindrops on his tongue in summer. The illustrations are warm and interesting and capture the curiosity and appreciation for nature that Bear feels.

Polly says

A very charming and beautiful book about the seasonal dreams of a hibernating bear.
