



Discuss with children words that begin with the sound of 'b'. A large outline of a bear could be drawn and stuck to the wall. Each 'b' word could be written in and around the drawing.

Explore the characteristics of bears using books and computer resources. Provide large boxes for groups of children to make bear caves. Scary Bear and other bear stories could be read in the 'cave'.

Ask the children what season the story takes place. Discuss and list winter related topics, for example weather, clothes, food etc. Have the children draw a picture about their favourite winter thing or things.

Show the front cover and ask the children what Bear has on his head that isn't mentioned in the text. How did the leaves come to be on his head? Did this add to Bear's mistaken scariness? Did he know that they were there? Children can draw their own picture of Bear.

In advance, paint a bear's face or paste a picture of a bear's face on the side of a box. Cut a hole for the mouth. Discuss and list as a class, food that a bear eats. (Then write each word in jumbled form on separate pieces of paper.) Give a jumbled word to each child. Have the children unscramble their given word, draw and correctly label a picture of it. Children then feed the bear by putting their drawing into the bear's mouth. When finished children could swap jumbled words.

Discuss with children what Bear might have written in his diary that night. The children can pretend to be Bear and write their own diary entry. The diary entry could be shared with a friend/partner.

Create as a class, a big book about another animal in a similar situation as Bear, eg a tiger. (Perhaps it is a very hot day, so to cool off Tiger rolls around in mud or very muddy swamp. Now that he is totally covered in mud, his friends don't recognise him and instead think he's a huge, scary cat etc.) Once the text has been completed, small groups of children are responsible for illustrating a page and adding appropriate text to that page.

Have the children make a book about winter. As a class discuss and list each of the following topics to include in their books - what winter feels like, what I wear in winter, what I like to do in winter, my favourite food etc. Perhaps one page could be allocated to each of the above topics. Children can illustrate each topic.