

SCHOLASTIC

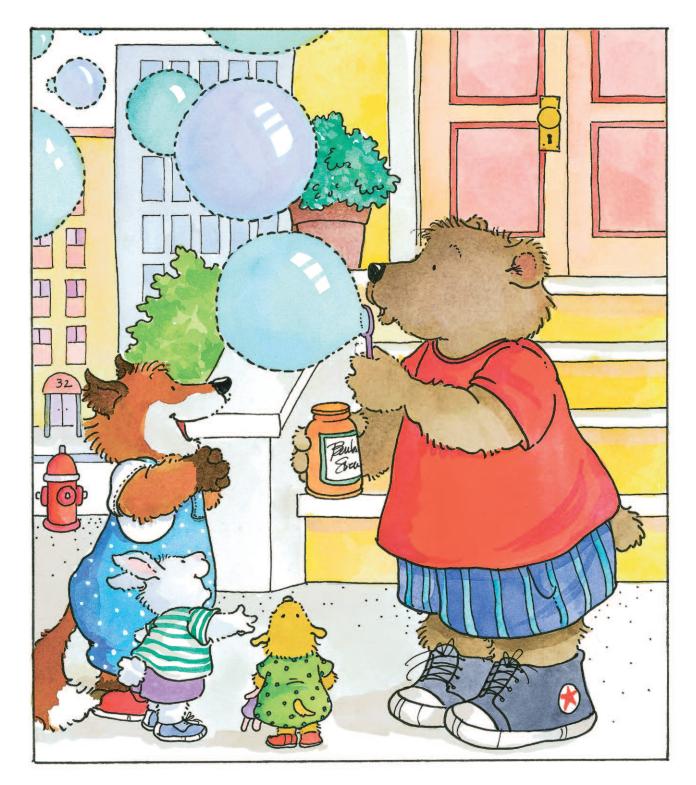
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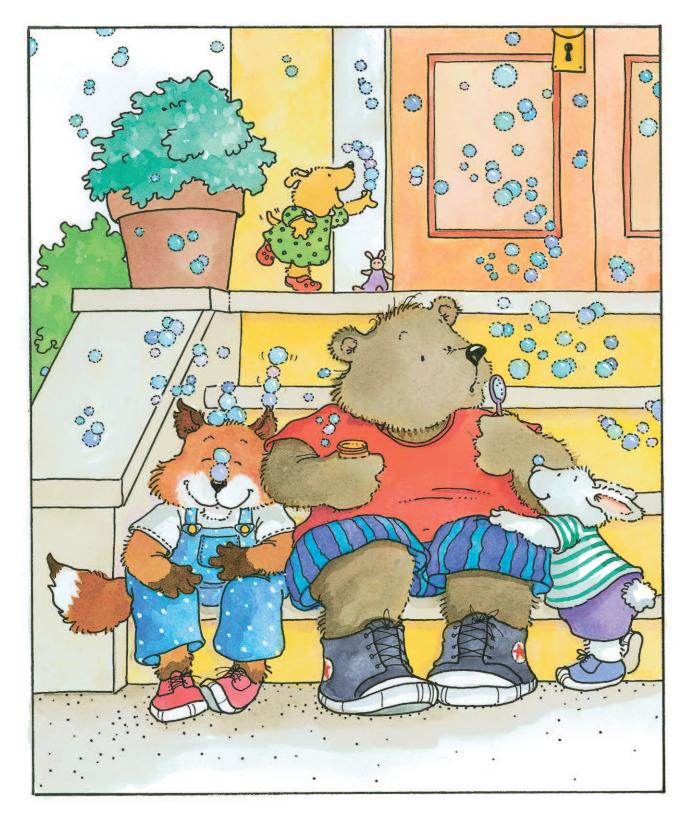
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Bear was the best bubble blower on his block. Bear could blow great big bubbles.



Bear could blow itsy-bitsy bubbles.

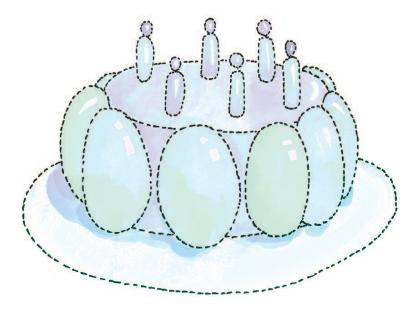


Bear could even blow a bubble beard!

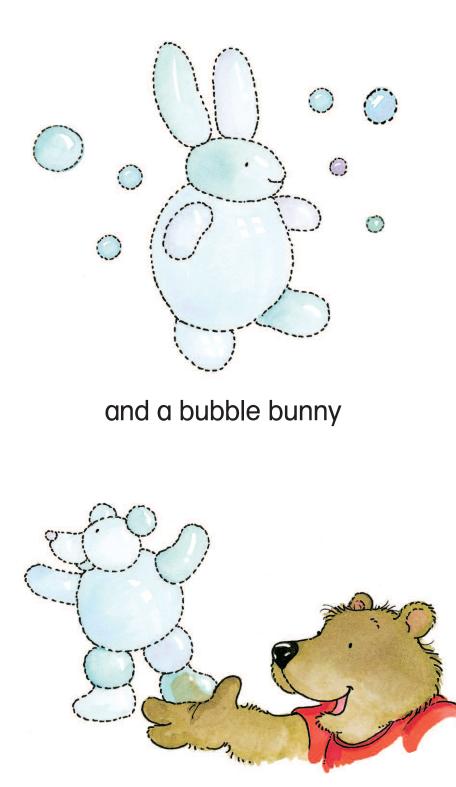
Bear could blow lots of bubble shapes, too.



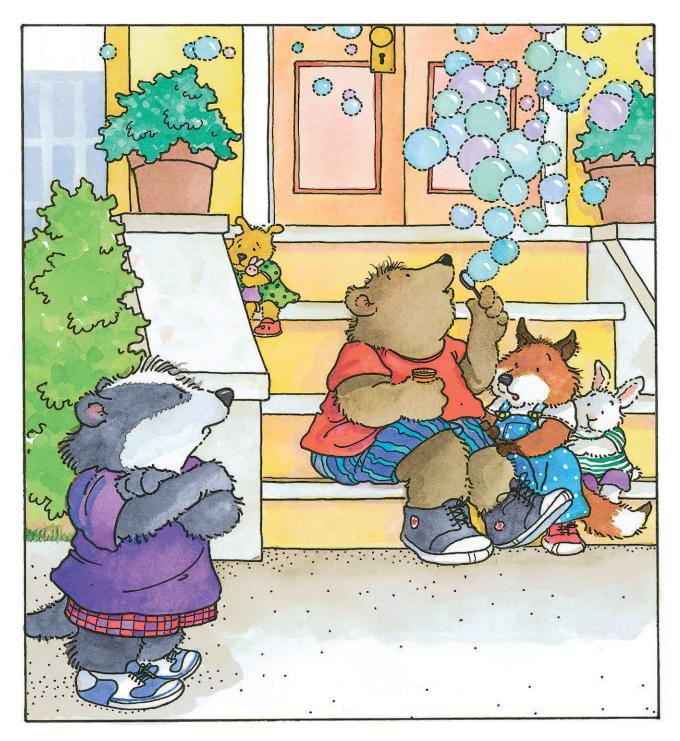
Bear could blow a bubble bell



and a bubble birthday cake

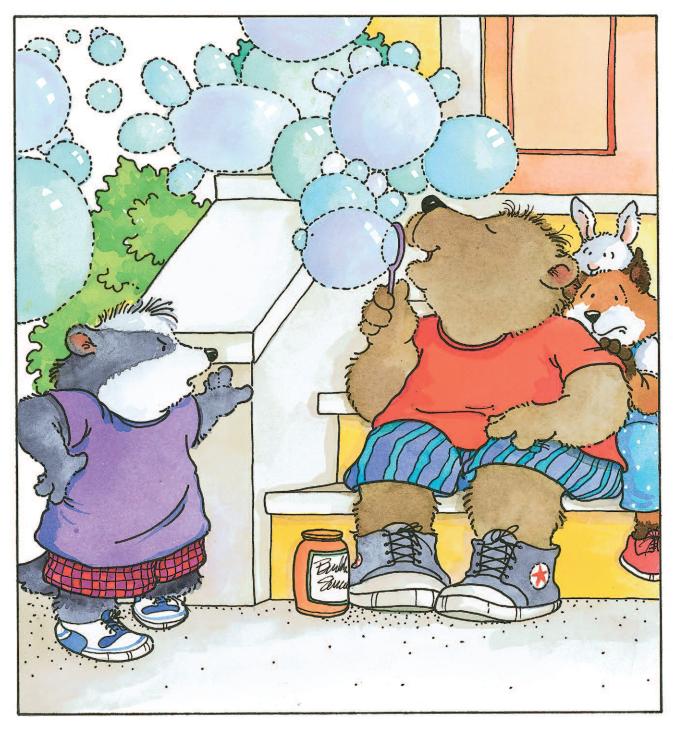


and, of course, a bubble bear!

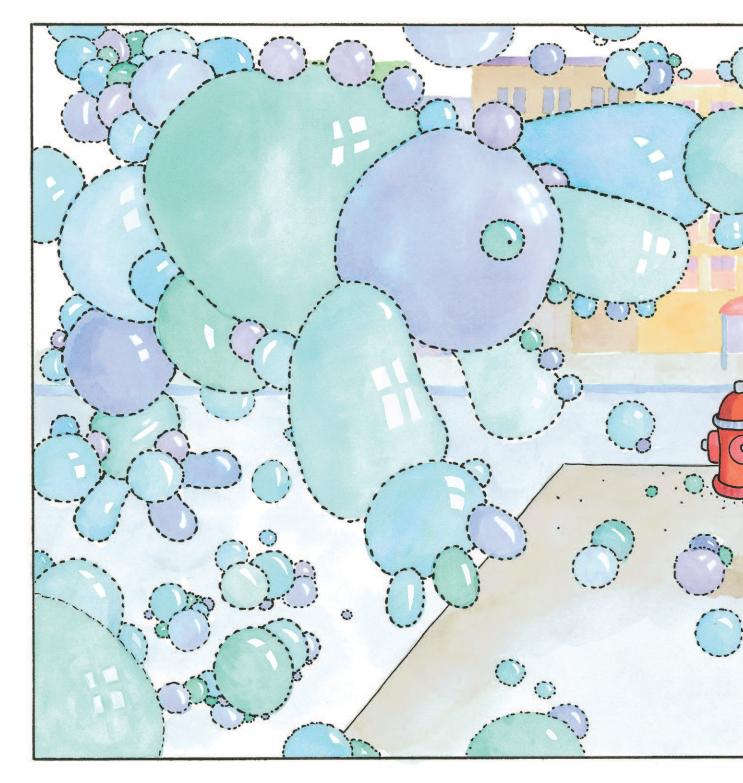


One day, Badger saw Bear blowing bubbles. Badger was a bully.

Everyone on the block was afraid of her.



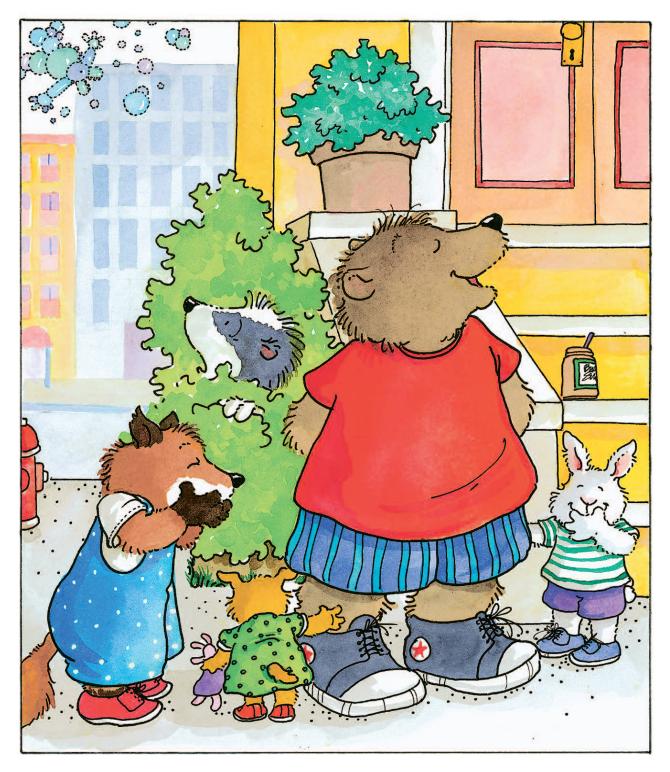
"Only babies blow bubbles," Badger told Bear. But Bear kept right on blowing. He blew and blew until he had blown...



...a great big bubble beast!



"Ahhhhh!" yelled Badger. She ran behind a bush.



"Only babies are afraid of bubbles!" Bear told Badger.



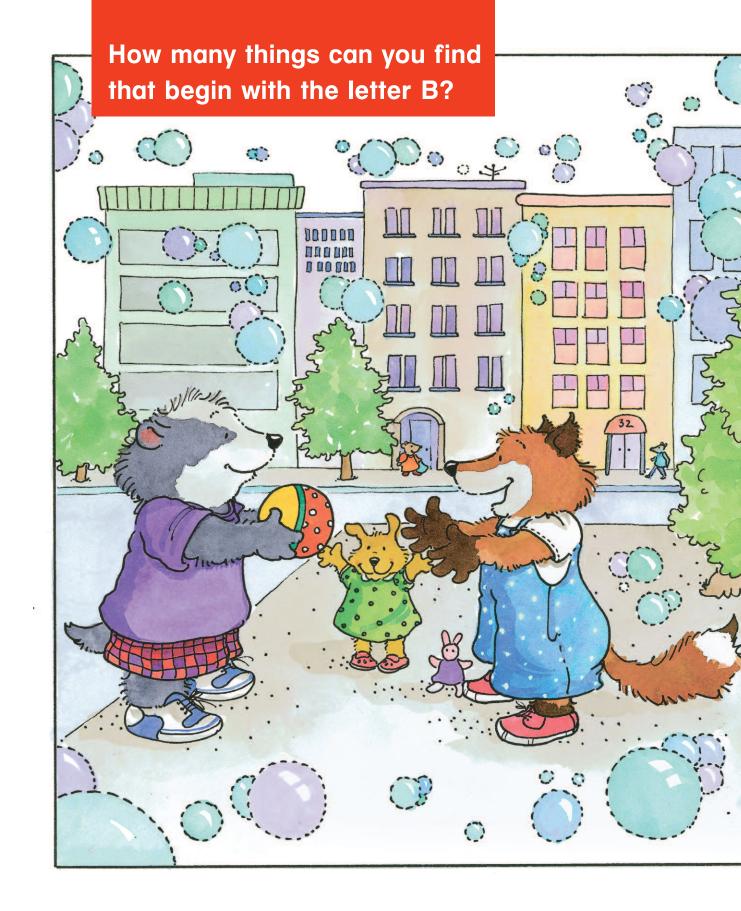
"Bear, I am sorry I called you a baby," said Badger. "Will you show me how you blow such beautiful bubbles?"



So Bear showed Badger how to blow big bubbles and itsy-bitsy bubbles. He showed her how to blow a bubble beard, a bubble bell, and a bubble birthday cake.



He showed her how to blow a bubble bunny, a bubble bear, and a bubble badger. And Bear even showed Badger how to blow a great big bubble beast!





See page 19 for answers.

Bb Cheer

B is for bear, bubbles, and boat
B is for buttons on your coat
B is for bicycle, bunny, and bat
B is for bee—imagine that!
Hooray for B, big and small—
The best, most beautiful letter of all!

Reading Tips

Here are some quick and fun ways to use this story to help children build important alphabet recognition skills.

- Ask children to find big B and small b at the top of the front cover. Review the B/b sound with children. Can they find two words in the title that begin with the letter B/b? Read the title aloud, emphasizing the B/b sound as appropriate.
- Flip the book over and read the story summary on the back cover. Ask children to point out words they hear or see that begin with B/b. Explain that the story you are about to read includes many more words that begin with the letter B/b. Can they help you find them?
- Read the story aloud once for pleasure and enjoy together the whimsical illustrations. Then reread the book, emphasizing the initial B/b sound in the appropriate words. Ask children to listen closely for and identify all the words that start with B/b. Point out these words in the text, and make a list of them.
- Write each of the words from your list on an unlined index card. Read each word on the cards aloud with children. On another reading of the story, children can match the words on the index cards with the words in the story.
- Pages 16-17 of the book depict a busy scene full of B/b words. Some of these words have been introduced in the story, but a few are new. Ask children to find as many B/b words as they can. Add any new words to your list. The B/b words depicted in the scene include: bear, bubbles, buildings, bunny, bugs, bell, boat, baby, bottle, balloon, badger, bird, ball. (Children may come up with other B/b words on their own!)
- Read aloud the cheer on page 18 several times, with lots of energy and enthusiasm. Invite children to join you in reciting the cheer when they feel ready. Encourage them to find any new B/b words in the cheer. Again, add these words to your list.
- Don't let your exploration of the letter B/b end with the story! Display your list of words in a place where children can easily see it. During the rest of the day or week, children can add new B/b words that they encounter in other books, on signs, on food labels, and so on.



Bear loves to blow bubbles. But when Badger tries to spoil Bear's fun, he blows a bubble you won't believe!

Вb



Aphorales are humorous stories designed to help young children recognize letters and the sounds they make. Lay the foundation for reading success with these kid-pleasing books — one for each letter of the alphabet!

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