

The
Early Years Count
Literacy
Connection



**I'm Not Scared,
YOU'RE Scared!**

Written by Seth Meyers
Illustrated by Rob Sayegh, Jr.

Preschool edition

Overview of Book

Poor Bear is scared of everything. He even is scared of his own reflection in the mirror! At least his best friend Rabbit is not scared of anything. What happens when they go on an adventure together?

Genre: Picture/fiction

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *I'm Not Scared, YOU'RE Scared!* to introduce in your classroom:

scared	adventure
reflection	rickety

Each time you read the book, choose 2 or 3 words to highlight.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or the illustrations to help children gain an understanding of each word's meaning.

Use these new words throughout the day, reminding the children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Approaches To Learning
Item A (Initiative and
planning)

Social And Emotional
Development
Item D (*Emotions*)
Item F (*Building relationships
with other children*)

Language, Literacy and
Communication
Item Q (*Book enjoyment and
knowledge*)

Social Studies
Item FF (*Knowledge of self
and others*)

Reading Tips

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. Each reading provides an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

Ask your group if they are scared of something. Make a list of what the children share. Let them know the Bear in the story is scared of LOTS of things. Note the repetitive line, "I'm not scared, YOU'RE scared." Make sure the children "help read that" each time. Ask questions like, "Bear is afraid the forest is too scary. What would he be scared of in a forest?" Ask about the mountain and the bridge. Have the children predict what Bear might do as his friend Rabbit is in trouble. Ask, "Could you do that?"

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Make an obstacle course in the classroom at **Large Group Time**. Create a stream, a forest, a mountain and a bridge. Use it to re-enact the story. Compare it to “We’re Going On A Bear Hunt”.

At **Greeting Time**, begin a chart for children to offer “things that are scary” and “things that are NOT scary”. Add to this as children think of them and use the list to begin different conversations.

Around the Room

Highlight the book’s content and build on the children’s excitement in a variety of locations.

Add other titles to the **Book Area** that have characters who are scared or afraid. Books could include “The Giant Jumperee” by Julia Donaldson and “Raccoon On His Own” by Jim Arnosky.

Add different building materials and blocks to the **Block Area**. Encourage children to build both *rickety* and stable structures.

Make a “bus stop” in the **House Area**. Take trips around the room.

Open-ended Questions

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one “right” answer.

Here are some questions you might ask for *I’m Not Scared, YOU’RE Scared!*

Is there something you are scared of?

Have you felt courage like Bear did? What did you do?

What is most scary to you from the story? The stream, the forest, the mountain, or the bridge? Why?

For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact
The Family Connection:

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
@famconnsjc

phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many of the children in our county will have this book at home, use it as a way to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *I’m Not Scared, YOU’RE Scared!* with their child. Here’s a sample message you can send:

While reading this story with your child, stop to ask questions about Bear and his many fears. For example, “What could Bear do so he won’t be so afraid of his reflection?” Give time for your child to problem solve for Bear. Talk about how wonderful it is that Bear has such a good friend in Rabbit. Ask “What if?” questions. For example, “What if Bear did not know someone like Rabbit? How could Bear ever be able to feel courage?” Take the opportunity these types of questions offer to have conversations with your child about overcoming fears as well as how it is ok to have healthy fears—these can keep us safe!