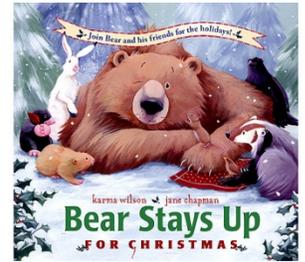




Bear Stays Up For Christmas

By Karma Wilson and Jane Chapman



While most bears spend the winter hibernating and miss Christmas, Bear was encouraged to stay awake to take part in the Christmas activities!

Before:

Before reading the story, take some time to introduce the book. Use the cover to ask questions and help gain the children's interest. Creating a question using "I wonder" is a great way to do so. *"I wonder why all the animals are around Bear? Do you think he will be too tired to stay up for Christmas?"*

During:

While you are reading, stop to look at the illustrations and ask more questions. Talk about how Bear's friends all try to keep him up for Christmas but end up falling asleep. Point out any rare words you may come across and define them in a way that the children will best understand.

Rare Words in *Bear Stays Up For Christmas*

Snore: a snorting or grunting sound in a person's breathing while asleep

Soundly: if you sleep **soundly**, you sleep deeply and peacefully

Lair: a wild animal's resting place, especially one that is well hidden

Sigh: emit a long, deep, audible breath expressing sadness, relief, tiredness, or a similar feeling.

Hoist: raise (something) by means of ropes and pulleys.

After:

Discuss the story. Ask Questions...

- Why did Bears friends want him to stay awake?
- Who ended up falling asleep through the night?
- Who did Bear not see when he was busy decorating and wrapping gifts?
- What did Bear get for Christmas?
- What did Bear do after he opened up his new quilt?



Let's Talk About *Bear Stays Up For Christmas*

In this story Bears friends want him to stay up for Christmas. Why do you think they want him to stay awake? On Christmas Eve do you try and stay awake? What kinds of Christmas activities do you do during the holidays?

Bear Stays Up For Christmas

Bear Paw Cookies!

What you need:

- 1 box Duncan Hines Milk Chocolate Brownie Mix
- 1/4 cup butter, melted and cooled to room temperature
- 1 large egg
- 2 teaspoons water
- 60 peanuts split into halves
- 30 chocolate candy Kisses (I used dark)

What to do:

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In a large bowl combine brownie mix, butter and egg; stir with a fork to combine into stiff dough. Or better yet, use your (clean) hands and knead gently.

Working with 1 even tablespoon of dough at a time, roll dough into balls and place on ungreased cookie sheets.

Press candy pieces, points down so that the flat surface is up, into the center of the uncooked cookies.

Press four peanut halves, split sides down, into the edge of each cookie to form claws

Bake at 350°F for 11 minutes or just until the edges are set. The cookies may appear slightly undercooked, but do not over bake. Cool 1 minute on pans. Transfer to wire racks with a thin metal spatula and cool completely.

Tips, Tricks and Tweaks:

1. For those with peanut allergy (or those who just doesn't like the taste of it), use white chocolate for the claws.
2. I used the dark chocolate variety of Kisses, but you can use any kind that you like!
3. Cover the remaining dough in between batches to prevent drying.
4. You can use unsalted nuts instead of salted.



Christmas Eve

When Santa fills my stocking,
(Pretend to fill stocking.)

I wish that I could peek.
(Peek through fingers.)

But Santa never, ever comes
(Shake head.)

Till I am fast asleep.
(Rest cheek on folded hands.)

What's included in the kit



- Story Props
- Story Word Cards
- Animal Match
- Heads and Tails Match
- Size Sequence Pinecones
- Animal Foot Prints
- Candy Cane Colours File Folder Game
- Winter Match

