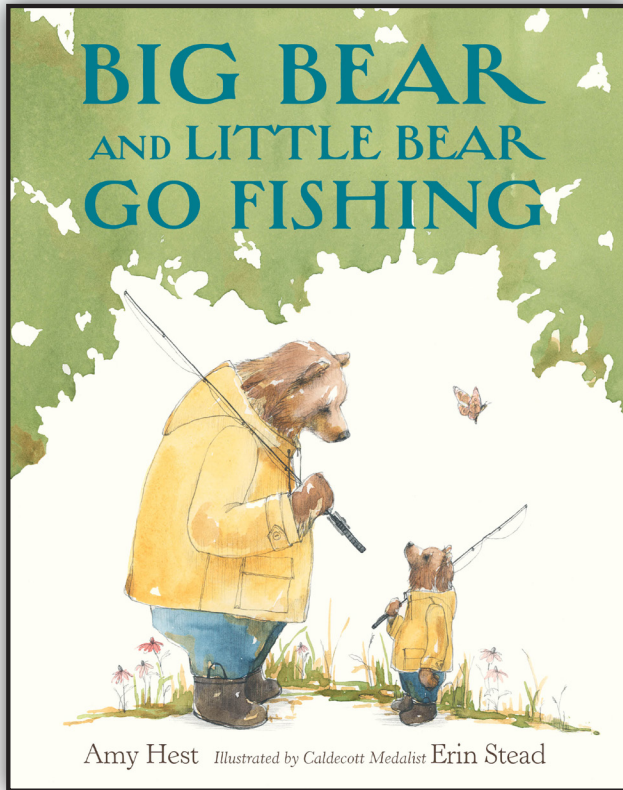


HOLIDAY HOUSE

EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



Big Bear and Little Bear Go Fishing

by Amy Hest

illustrated by Erin E. Stead

- ★ “This tale has all the hallmarks of a family classic.”

—Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

- ★ “Together, the creators craft a world that never moves any faster than its characters want it to.”

—Publishers Weekly, Starred Review

A Junior Library Guild
Gold Standard Selection

ABOUT THE BOOK

An unhurried fishing trip, with blueberry scones in tow, introduces a new bear duo sure to charm fans of Little Bear and Frog and Toad.

*One day Big Bear says to Little Bear,
I'm just in the mood for fishing.
Me too, says Little Bear. Just in the mood.*

With this decided, Big Bear and Little Bear are off . . . almost. First they need the right attire, poles in a red wagon, a basket of freshly baked scones, and a good book to read. It's unclear how much real fishing will get done today, but one thing's for sure: there will be a cozy nap in the hammock at the end.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- On the first page, Big Bear and Little Bear are “in the mood” for fishing. What does “in the mood” mean? What are Big Bear and Little Bear “in the mood” for at the end of the book?
- Note the illustration on page 2. What time of day is it? Turn the page and look at Big Bear and Little Bear dressing. Why do they need tall black boots for fishing? Explain how they may use the pockets and hoods of their yellow jackets.
- Name all the items they pack for their fishing trip. Why does Big Bear think they need a book of stories? At what point do they decide it’s time to read the stories?
- Big Bear and Little Bear go to the lake where their boat is waiting. Debate whether Little Bear is afraid to get in the boat. What do Big Bear’s outstretched arms signal to Little Bear? Discuss how Big Bear makes Little Bear feel safe.
- Define “patient.” Why do fishermen have to be patient? What happens when Big Bear and Little Bear finally see fish? Discuss whether this causes the two to lose their patience. How does it change their mood?
- The illustrations are done in watercolor and pencil. Point out the use of pencil in the illustrations. Watercolor is paint mixed with water. Contrast the lake and the clouds. Which is created with more paint than water? How many colors do you see in the grass and trees? Discuss the many shades of blue to create the water of the lake.

Guide created by Pat Scales, retired school librarian and independent consultant, Greenville, South Carolina.

ABOUT THE CREATORS



Amy Hest’s many acclaimed children’s books include *Bunny Should Be Sleeping*, the *New York Times* bestseller *Kiss Good Night*, and *Sometimes It’s Nice to Be Alone*. A three-time winner of the prestigious Christopher Award, she lives in New York City. Learn more at AmyHest.com.



Erin E. Stead is the illustrator of many picture books, including the Caldecott Medal–winning *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*, *Music for Mister Moon*, and *The Sun Is Late and So Is the Farmer*, all written by Philip C. Stead. She lives in northern Michigan with her husband, author/illustrator Philip C. Stead. Learn more at ErinStead.com.

