

Bear's Long, Brown Tail



by Dermot McManus illustrated by Eileen Hine



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

BOSTON

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Printed in China

ISBN-13: 978-0-547-02931-3 ISBN-10: 0-547-02931-4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 SDP 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08



- Bear liked to talk. Bear talked about the sky. Bear talked about the snow. Bear talked about the trees. Bear really liked to talk about his long, brown tail!
- Bear talked about his long tail all the time.



Bear liked his long tail.

Bear said to Fox, "My tail is long. Your tail is short."

Fox was not very happy.

Fox did not want Bear to talk about his long tail.



- It was winter. It was very cold. Fox was at the lake. Fox had a fish to eat.
- "I like your fish," said Bear.
 "How did you get your fish?
 The lake has ice on it."



Fox started to think, "Bear talks about his long tail all the time! I do not like that. I think I will trick Bear!"



- Fox told Bear how he gets his fish.
- "First, I make a hole in the ice. Then I sit over the hole. When my tail is in the water, I get a fish. You can use your long tail to get a fish!" said Fox.



"I will make a hole in the ice," said Bear. "I will sit over the hole with my long tail in the water! Your tail is short. You have one fish. My tail is long! I will get many fish!"



- Bear made a hole in the ice. Bear's long tail was in the water for a long time.
- Bear was very cold. Bear's long tail was very cold. And Bear did not get a fish!



- "I will go now. I am cold," said Bear. Bear pulled his tail out of the hole.
- Bear said, "Oh no! My tail came off! My tail was in the ice. My long tail is short now. Fox tricked me!"



Bear was very sad. Now
Bear did not have a long tail.

Now Bear had a short tail.

"I talked about myself too
much," said Bear. "Fox did not
like that. No one will like me if I
talk about myself too much!"

Responding

TARGET SKILL Sequence of

Events What happened first in the story? What happened next? What happened last? Make a chart.



Write About It

Text to Text Think of a different story that tells why an animal looks the way it looks. Draw a picture of the animal. Write a sentence to tell about the animal.



cold brown off

long

very

TARGET SKILL Sequence of Events Tell the order in which things happen.

TARGET STRATEGY Question

Ask questions about what you are reading.

GENRE Folktales are stories that are often told by people of a country.

Level: H

DRA: 14

Genre: Folktale

Strategy: Question

Skill:

Sequence of Events

Word Count: 332



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