

# More Read-Aloud Fun from Raising Readers

Reading books to your child is one of the best things you can do to help your child develop a healthy brain. Talking with your child about what is happening in a book and asking your child questions about what is happening, is also important. It makes the book a better tool for helping your child to grow.

You don't need to have a book in front of you to talk about it. When something happens that reminds you of what you have read together, help your child to make a connection between the real world and the world of books by talking about it. This connection will make books more important to your child and encourage reading.

## GET EMOTIONAL

In the beginning of the story, Bear is frustrated and angry when the mouse first comes into his house. But, by the end of the story Bear is happy to have a new friend. This story can help your child to better understand emotions. By talking about how the characters act and feel, you can help your child to compare their own emotions to those of Bear and the mouse.

## SET THE TABLE

When Bear and the mouse become friends, they have a meal together. When you are sharing a meal with your child, talking about friendship might help your child make a connection between the story and real life. For example: you could say,

“This is like when the mouse and Bear sat down to have tea together.” Making the connection between your child's life and the characters in a story will make the book more meaningful to your child.

## PLAY HIDE AND SEEK

One of the funny things about this book is the mouse always showing up in places where Bear does not expect to find him. You could play a game with your child by hiding a pretend mouse in your home for your child to find. You could draw a mouse (or download a picture of a mouse from the Raising Readers website). You could tape the pretend mouse someplace for your child to find before mealtimes. Then you could ask your child to find the mouse and invite the mouse to your meal.

*You can find the mouse picture and other Raising Readers activities at:*  
[www.raisingreaders.org/book-activities](http://www.raisingreaders.org/book-activities)

*Happy Reading!*

