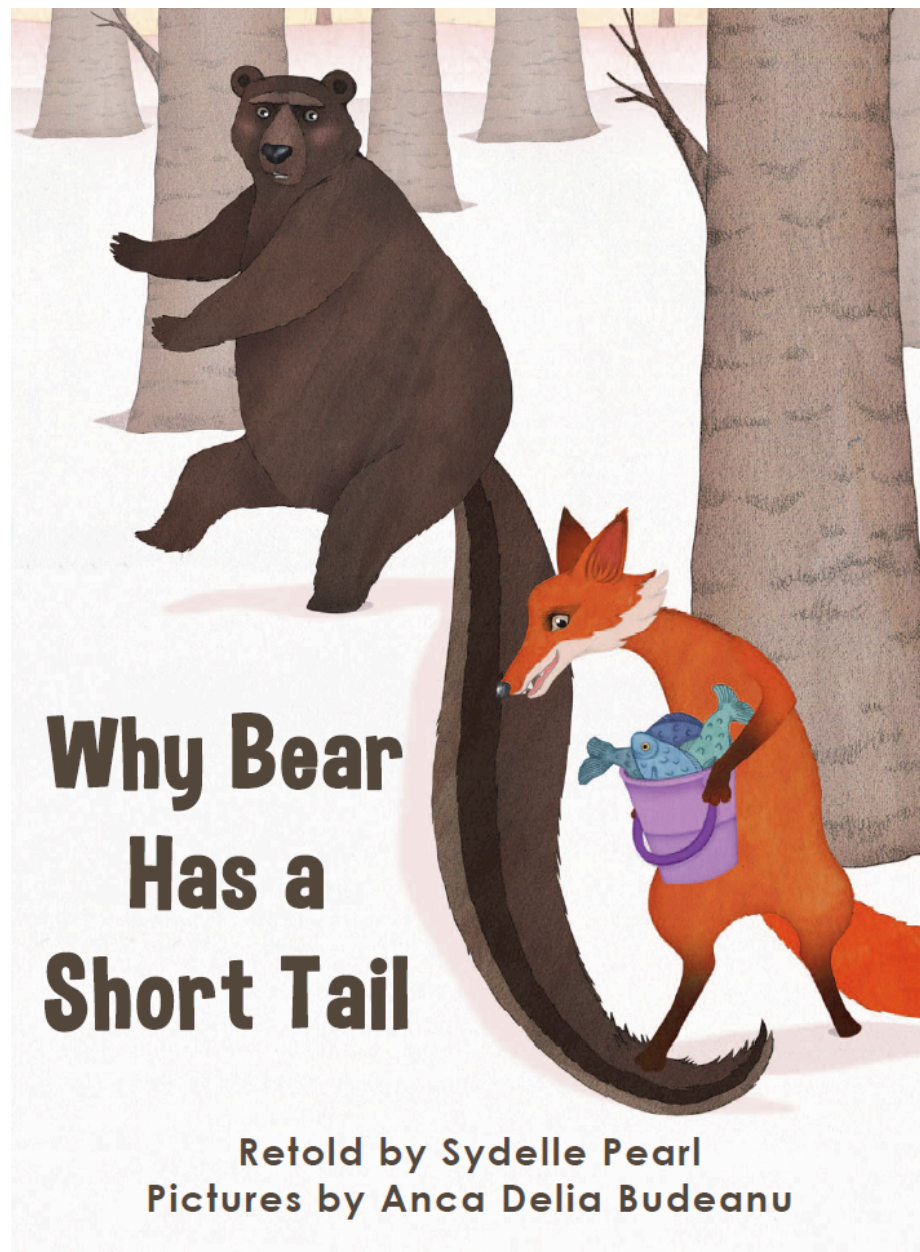


Teacher's Guide and Book Lists for **WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL** by Sydelle Pearl, illustrations by Anca Delia Budeanu, published by Reading Reading Books, LLC, 2015. Teacher's Guide and Book Lists created by Sydelle Pearl © 2015.



WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL is a retold folktale from Norway that explains why bears have short tails.

This Teacher's Guide and Book Lists contains curriculum connections for preschool through grade two and beyond to Art, Geography, Languages, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Songs and Chants. Please also see **WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL, A SHORT PLAY**, at www.storypearls.com.

Language Arts:

*Look at the cover of **WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL**. How do you think Bear is feeling? How do you think Fox is feeling?

*Bear has a long tail on the cover of **WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL**. How do you think Bear got such a short tail? Make up a story and draw some pictures to explain how Bear got his short tail.

*Can you act out the story? You can put on a play! See **WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL, A SHORT PLAY** at www.storypearls.com to give you performance ideas.

*“How Bear Lost His Tail” is the name of a Native American story from the Iroquois people. Listen to your teacher read it to you from the book *Iroquois Stories: Heroes and Heroines, Monsters and Magic* by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by Daniel Burgevin. How is the story the same as **WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL**? How is it different?

*You can go fishing for words that appear in the story! Your teacher can make a fishing rod of thread with a magnet at the end. You can try to “catch” words like *Bear, Fox, Fish, Tree, Tail* that have been written on index cards with paper clips attached to them. How many words can you catch! Can you use these words to write the story?

Geography and Languages:

WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL comes from Norway. Can you find Norway on a map or a globe?

Your teacher can read the Norwegian story “Why the Bear is Stumpy-Tailed” from the book *East of the Sun and West of the Moon: Twenty One Norwegian Folktales* edited and illustrated by Ingri and Edgar d’Aulaire. Another book with the story is *Favorite Fairy Tales Told in Norway* by Virginia Haviland.

The Three Billy Goats Gruff is another story from Norway. Take a look at these books:

The Three Billy Goats Gruff by Peter Christen Asbjornsen and illustrated by Paul Galdone

The Three Billy Goats Gruff retold and illustrated by Janet Stevens.

Books about Norway:

Norway by Derk Zobel

Norway by Kathleen W. Deady

When it is 6:00 AM in New York City, it is 12:00 noon in Oslo, Norway.

Books about Similarities and Differences around the World:

If the World Were a Village by David J. Smith, illustrated by Shelagh Armstrong

Somewhere in the World Right Now by Stacey Schuett

When it is Six O'Clock in San Francisco by Cynthia Jaynes Omololu, illustrated by Raymond DeBurle

Whoever You Are by Mem Fox, illustrated by Leslie Staub

Books with Photographs of Children from around the World:

Bread, Bread, Bread by Ann Morris, photographs by Ken Heyman

Celebrations by Barnabas and Anabel Kindersley

Children Just Like Me by Barnabas and Anabel Kindersley

Families by Ann Morris, photographs by Ken Heyman

Hats, Hats, Hats by Ann Morris, photographs by Ken Heyman

Loving by Ann Morris, photographs by Ken Heyman

My Painted House, My Friendly Chicken, and Me by Maya Angelou, photographs by Margaret Courtney-Clarke

On the Go by Ann Morris, photographs by Ken Heyman

One World, One Day by Barbara Kerley

Our Favorite Stories by Jamila Gavin, illustrated by Amanda Hall, photographs by Barnabas Kindersley

Play by Ann Morris, photographs by Ken Heyman

Shoes, Shoes, Shoes by Ann Morris

Tools by Ann Morris, illustrated by Ken Heyman

Work by Ann Morris

Books with Greetings in Different Languages:

Mung-Mung by Linda Sue Park, illustrated by Diane Bigda

Say Hello! by Rachel Isadora

Hello World by Manya Stojic

WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL is also an Iroquois story. Iroquois were Native American people who lived on or near the land now known as the state of New York. The Iroquois were made up of six tribes: Mohawk, Seneca, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Tuscarora. Today they continue to live mainly in the state of New York. Can you find the state of New York on a map? Can you find Cayuga Lake, Seneca Lake, and Oneida Lake?

Here is a book with the Iroquois story about why bear has a short tail:

Iroquois Stories: Heroes and Heroines, Monsters and Magic by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by Daniel Burgewin

Here is a book with Native American animal stories and activities:

Keepers of the Animals: Native American Stories and Wildlife Activities for Children by Michael J. Caduto and Joseph Bruchac

Books about the Iroquois:

The Iroquois: a First Americans Book by Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, illustrated by Ronald Himler

The Iroquois by Emily J. Dolbear and Peter Benoit

The Iroquois by Richard M. Gaines

In **WHY BEAR HAS A SHORT TAIL**, Fox plays a trick on Bear.

Books including Tricks that Animals Play:

Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock by Eric Kimmel

Anansi Goes Fishing retold by Eric Kimmel, illustrated by Janet Stevens

The Gingerbread Boy by Paul Galdone

The Gingerbread Man by Jim Aylesworth, illustrated by Barbara McClintock

Tiger Soup by Frances Temple

More How and Why Stories about Animals and Nature can be found in these Books:

The Book of Nature Myths by Florence Holbrook

How and Why Stories: World Tales Kids Can Read and Tell by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss, illustrated by Carol Lyn

How the People Sang the Mountains Up: How and Why Stories by Maria Leach, illustrated by Glen Rounds

A Twist in the Tale: Animal Stories from Around the World by Mary Hoffman, illustrated by Jan Ormerod

More Folktales with Bears:

Goldilocks and the Three Bears retold and illustrated by James Marshall

The Mitten adapted and illustrated by Jan Brett

The Polar Bear's Son: An Inuit Tale retold and illustrated by Lydia Dabovich

The Three Bears by Paul Galdone

The Three Bears by Byron Barton

Early Readers with Bears and other Animals:

Crocodile and Hen: a Bakongo Folktale by Joan Lexau, pictures by Doug Cushman

Danny and the Dinosaur by Sid Hoff

Fox on the Job by James Marshall

Little Bear series by Else Holmelund Minarik, pictures by Maurice Sendak

Mouse Soup by Arnold Lobel

Nonfiction Books about Animals:

About Mammals by Cathryn Sill, illustrated by John Sill

Actual Size by Steve Jenkins

Animal Stories: Heartwarming True Tales from the Animal Kingdom by Jane Yolen, Heidi E. Y. Stemple, Adam Stemple, Jason Stemple, and illustrated by Jui Ishida

How to Clean a Hippopotamus: A Look at Unusual Animal Partnerships by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page

Knut: How One Polar Bear Captivated the World by Julianna, Isabella, and Craig Hatkoff and Gerald Uhloch, photos by Zoo Berlin

Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship by Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff, and Dr. Paula Kahum

Math, Science, and Art—Snow and Ice:

*Draw fishes on index cards and cut them out. Can you make fifty fishes? Count them to make sure. Pretend that Bear imagines catching them when his tail is in the icy water. Make the icy river and cut out a hole to show where Bear placed his tail to try to catch fishes.

*Fill up a cup with snow in the wintertime. Leave it in your classroom and see how long it takes for the snow to melt. Measure how much water is left in the cup.

*Fill up a cup of water and leave it outside in the wintertime. How long does it take for it to become ice? Measure how much space the ice takes up in the cup.

*What happens when you mix paint with snow? Choose a color of paint, mix it with the snow, and see what happens!

*Wear gloves and play with snow that your teacher can place in the water table!

*Make a winter picture using cotton for snow.

Books about Snow:

The Secret Life of a Snowflake by Kenneth Libbrecht

Snow and Ice by Kay Davies and Wendy Oldfield

Snowflake Bentley by Jacqueline Briggs Martin

Snow is Falling by Franklyn M. Branley, illustrated by Holly Keller

The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder by Marie Cassino with Jon Nelson, Ph.D

Under the Snow by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Constance R. Bergum

Math, Science, and Art--Tails

*Measure how long Bear's tail is in the picture on the cover of **WHY BEAR HAS A LONG TAIL**.

*Measure how long Bear's tail is in the picture at the end of the book. What is the difference?

*Draw an imaginary animal. What kind of tail does it have? You can create a tail from cloth, paper, yarn, clay, buttons, pipe cleaners, and/or recyclables and attach it to the animal!

*Place the tails you have made in a Feeling Box. Close your eyes, reach in the box, and pull out a tail. Take a look at it. Create an imaginary animal that would match up with the imaginary tail. What is the name of your imaginary animal?

Animals can use their tails to keep their balance, scare away predators, swim, jump, and fly. Find out about more ways animals can use their tails in the following books.

Tail Books:

Amazing Animal Tails by Linda Bozzo

Animal Tails by Beth Fielding

Animal Tails by David M. Schwartz, photographs by Dwight Duhn

Chameleons by Kari Schuetz

From Tadpole to Frog by Anita Ganeri

Let's Look at Animal Tails by Wendy Perkins

Salamanders and Other Animals with Amazing Tails by Susan Labella

Terrific Tails by Hana Mochotka

What do you do with a Tail like This? by Steve Jenkins, illustrated by Robin Page.

Why Animals Have Tails by Renne

Math, Science, and Art—Animal Tracks

*What would your footprints look like if you stepped in paint barefooted?

*What do animal footprints or tracks look like, especially bear tracks? Can you trace them or draw them and place them on the floor of your classroom? Can you measure them?

Here is a book to help you:

Tracks in the Wild by Betsy Bowen.

Math, Science, and Art—Dens

*Draw a den for a fox.

*Use blocks to build a den for a fox. Use blocks to build a den for a bear. Which den is the largest?

Books about Foxes:

Fox's Den by Dee Phillips

Fox by Caroline Arnold

Foxes do not hibernate during the winter but some animals that do hibernate are ground squirrels, bears, and chipmunks. Find out more about hibernation from these books.

Books about Hibernation:

Animals that Hibernate by Phyllis J. Perry

Do Polar Bears Snooze in Hollow Trees? A Book about Animal Hibernation by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Todd Ouren

Eat like a Bear by April Pulley Sayre, illustrated by Steve Jenkins

Hibernation by Margaret Hall

Sweet Dreams: How Animals Sleep by Kamiko Kajikawa

What is Hibernation? by John Crossingham and Bobbie Kalman

Books about Different Kinds of Bears:

The Bear by Sabrina Crewe

Bears by Dagar Fertl, Michelle Reddy, and Erik D. Stoops

The Bear Family by Dieter Betz

Fishing Bears by Ruth Berman, photos by Lynn M. Stone

Ice Bear: In the Steps of the Polar Bear by Nicola Davies, illustrated by Gary Blythe

Giant Pandas by Gail Gibbons

Giant Pandas by Tome Greve

Grizzly Bears by Gail Gibbons

Growing Up Wild—Bears by Sandra Markle

Moon Bear by Brenda Z. Guiberson, illustrated by Ed Young

A Polar Bear's World written and illustrated by Caroline Arnold

Polar Bears by Gail Gibbons

Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh by Sally M. Walker, illustrated by Jonathan D. Voss

Books about a Fish called Salmon, a favorite food of Bears:

Salmon by Ron Hirschi

The Salmon by Sabrina Crewe

Books with Songs and Chants about Bears:

The Bear Went Over the Mountain and Other Rhymes about Bears illustrated by Maggie Swanson

A-Hunting We Will Go by Steven Kellogg

We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

Polar Bears are in danger of becoming extinct because the world is getting too warm and the ice is melting in the Arctic.

Books about Climate Change:

Why Are the Ice Caps Melting? The Dangers of Global Warming by Anne Rockwell, illustrated by Paul Meisel

Global Warming by Seymour Simon

Math, Science, and Art--Trees

*Use a blank notebook without lines to be your science journal. Draw trees that you see in the wintertime.

*Draw trees that you see in the springtime. How do the trees look the same? How do they look different?

*Collect leaves from trees that fall to the ground in the autumn. Count and sort the leaves according to color, shape, and size. Can you draw them in your science journal? Can you preserve them by mounting them onto special sticky paper?

*Collect seeds from trees that fall in the autumn such as acorns and horse chestnuts. Count and sort the seeds according to color, shape, and size. Can you draw them in your science journal? At snack time, collect seeds that come from fruit trees such as apples, oranges, lemons, plums, and peaches.

*Can you draw these seeds in your science journal? What happens if you plant these seeds? Measure how big they grow. Draw what happens in your science journal.

*Here is a book about trees in winter: Winter Trees by Carole Gerber

*Here is a Native American story that explains why pine trees keep their leaves through the winter: Pine and the Winter Sparrow retold by Alexis York Lumbard, illustrated by Beatriz Vidal.

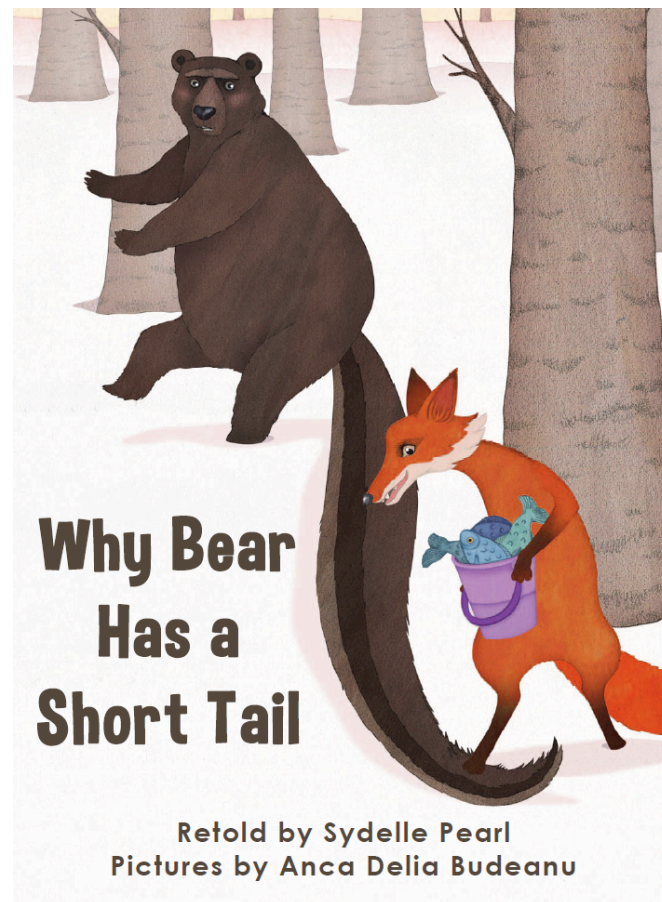
Math, Science, and Art—Birdhouses

*Make a birdhouse from an empty almond milk carton or from another recycled container. How can you decorate it? Hang it from a tree branch with your teacher's help. Can you add sunflower seeds and other seeds for birds to eat in the wintertime? Examine the seeds. How many are eaten? How long does it take for birds to find the seeds?

Books about Birdhouses:

Make Your Own Birdhouses and Feeders by Robin Haus

Riki's Birdhouse by Monica Wellington



Please visit Sydelle Pearl's website, www.storypearls.com, for more teacher resources.