

Berry Beary Kind

Book 5

Health and Safety



*In a very kind town called,
“Berry Beary Town”
Lived a very kind Bear called,
“Berry Beary Kind”*

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–Book 5–

Health and Safety

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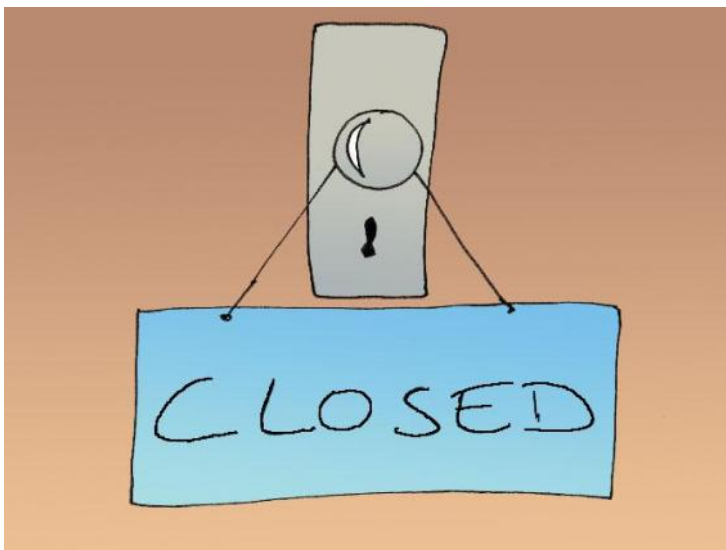
Enough Stuff

It was a sunny day, but extremely cold—as most winter days are, sunshine or not. Berry Beary Kind had put on his long underwear, his coat, hat, scarf and warm pants. He had to walk to the shop. He had loaned his quad and his pick-up truck to some neighbours whose cars had broken down and were getting fixed.

“I think they need them more than I do. They have children, you know,” he thought. Though it would be a cold walk, he didn’t mind it much. “Better to have exercise anyway.” And it was true—the more he walked and moved around, the stronger he got. He blew on his hands to warm them up, and put on his gloves.

To his surprise, the shop was not only closed up, but had a sign saying, “Sorry, sick. I don’t know when I’ll be back.”

“Oh, that’s not what I was expecting. And I don’t have a vehicle right now to drive farther away. What shall I do?”



Sometimes it seemed when he gave to others, that he didn't have the things he wanted and needed right then when He needed them. But then he started thinking about the poor shopkeeper, Berry Beary Enough-Stuff.

He was a kind old man, who wasn't trying to always get more things for himself, but kept just the few things that he really needed to have. The many other things advertised in the papers he wouldn't buy, and always was giving things away to those who didn't have money to buy them. "I just don't need it," he would be heard to say.

"I wonder how he's doing?" Thought Berry Beary Kind, forgetting about his own wishes at the time. "I think I'll go check on him. He doesn't live too far away. Perhaps I could use my scooter to go there faster."

He went back to his house and got his scooter, as well as a backpack with some extra supplies from his kitchen cupboard, and a warm thermos of tea to keep him warm on his trip.

Knock! Knock!

He tapped on the door.

There was a "come in" that sounded, and in Berry Beary Kind walked.

Berry Beary Enough-Stuff was sitting in a rocking chair with a blanket, trying to keep warm.





“It’s sure cold in here!” Exclaimed Berry Beary kind.

“The heater stopped working, for some reason,” explained Berry Beary Enough-Stuff.

“Hmmm, let me take a look at it,” Berry Beary kind said. It was a problem that was easy to fix.

“I’ll have to go and get some tools to do the job. But before I go, is there anything that you need?” He asked Berry Beary Enough-Stuff.

Some warm tea would be wonderful. I just don’t have the strength to make it right now.

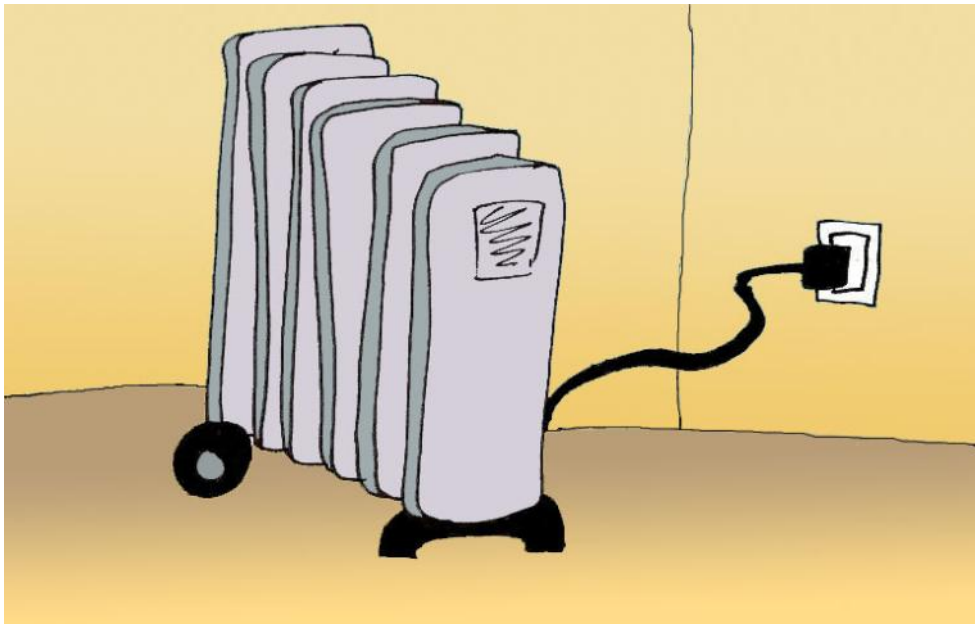
“Oh, I have some right here! Let’s have a cup to warm up,” said Berry Beary Kind. After leaving the thermos beside Berry Beary Enough-Stuff, in case he needed more, Berry Beary Kind was off to get his tools. Before too long he was back.

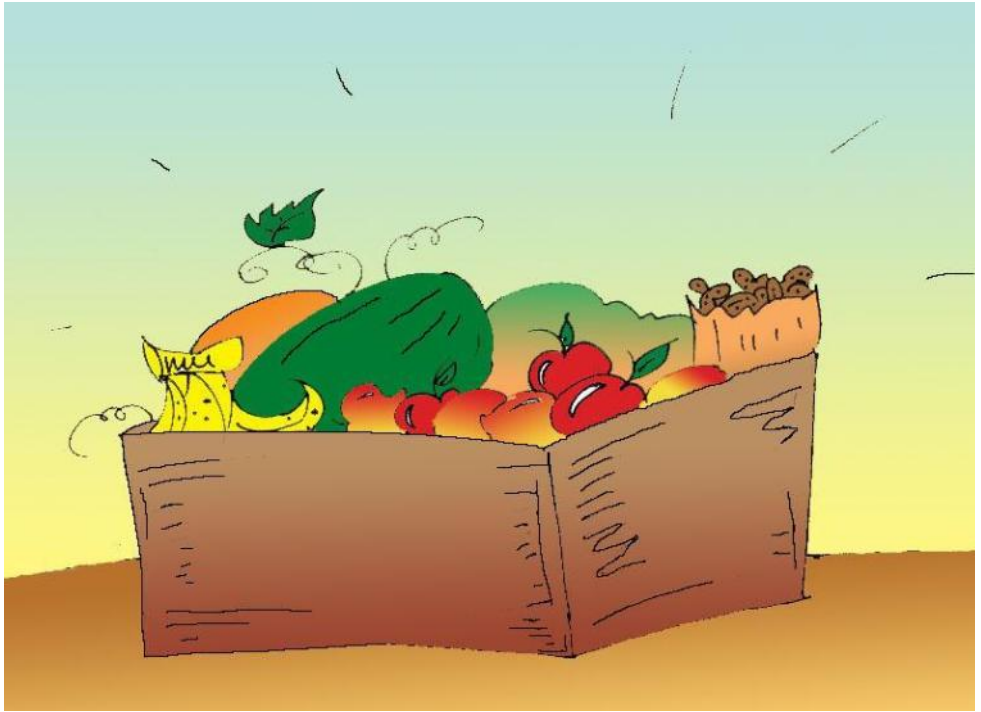
“I found it! It was amazing,” exclaimed Berry Beary Kind. “At first I didn’t know if I had just the right wire to replace the cord to your heater, which would be the easiest way to fix it. But then I remembered an old piece of equipment that someone gave me, that no longer worked. It had just the right cord on it.”

Berry Beary Enough-Stuff was so glad to be warm again, once the newly fixed heater was on. He felt he would be better in no time at all.

“Thank you so much!” he said. “Is there anything that you need?” he asked Berry Beary Kind.

“Well, I had walked to the store to get some veggies for dinner today. I have guests over to celebrate the finishing of the new park they helped to make. I wanted to make a special dinner. I couldn’t drive anywhere else, because I’ve loaned my vehicles to others, who had a bigger need—just till their car gets fixed.”





“You are so kind,” commended Berry Beary Enough-Stuff. “I think I have just what you need. Yesterday someone brought me a whole box of veggies, fruit and special nuts, for my shop. But since I’m too sick to go there, I can just give them to you, in return for your kind help with the heater.”

“Really? That would be wonderful!” said, Berry Beary Kind.

Everything had all worked out wonderfully. If he had had his vehicle, he might not have taken the time right then to check on Berry Beary Enough-Stuff, who really needed help.

Instead he might have driven off to a shop further away. And if he hadn’t checked on him, he wouldn’t have gotten the gift of food, but instead would have had to buy it.

Love always wins in the end.



Safety Camp

“It’s important to check things out before you jump right into them,” Berry Beary Kind was telling the children, who had gathered to get a lesson on safety. This week end there was a “safety camp” being held, and everyone in the town who wanted to join in could. It would take place on a big open field.

It wasn’t a camp for camping, but rather for learning interesting things during the day. There were tents set up, but the open kind that were as a shelter from the sun or rain.

Each tent had something interesting to learn about, and someone there to instruct its visitors in some aspect of safety. Berry Fervent Firefighter had a tent set up with all kinds of fireman gear, and was ready to tell all who dropped by about fire safety.

There was another tent manned by Berry Beary Fit, teaching how to stay in good working order while doing sports and hiking around.



Berry Beary Brave had his place set up with fishing gear and boat attire, life vests and such. He would teach about boat travel, beach safety, and give swimming tips.

Berry Beary Kind made a special tent, it had hearts on it, and inside he served snacks, and gave away prizes to those who had been the most thoughtful and conscious of the needs and safety of others.

He was teaching that ideas were a good thing—especially ideas to help others. But you needed to also stop to think about it, and makes sure it’s safe for not only yourself, but others too. And it’s helpful to ask others for advice also.

“So what are the first steps to take when you get some new idea?” Berry Beary Kind asked the children. A few of them piped up with some points he’d mentioned to them.

“To pray first.”

“To think about the right time to do it.”

“To imagine what people might be feeling and needing.”

“To go slow enough to notice something that might not be safe.”

“To check things out, to make sure any equipment is working well, and isn’t broken.”

“To ask anyone that might know about it more than you, for good advice or help.”

“To not just do whatever comes into your mind, right that second, but to pause to make sure you won’t regret it, due to an accident, or making things hard for others.”

Berry Beary Kind commended the children for their good listening, and wished them a happy day at the safety camp.

The tent beside Berry Beary Kind’s was the one that Berry Beary Gentle, his mother, had set up. It had toys and play areas. Sometimes the children just came by for fun.

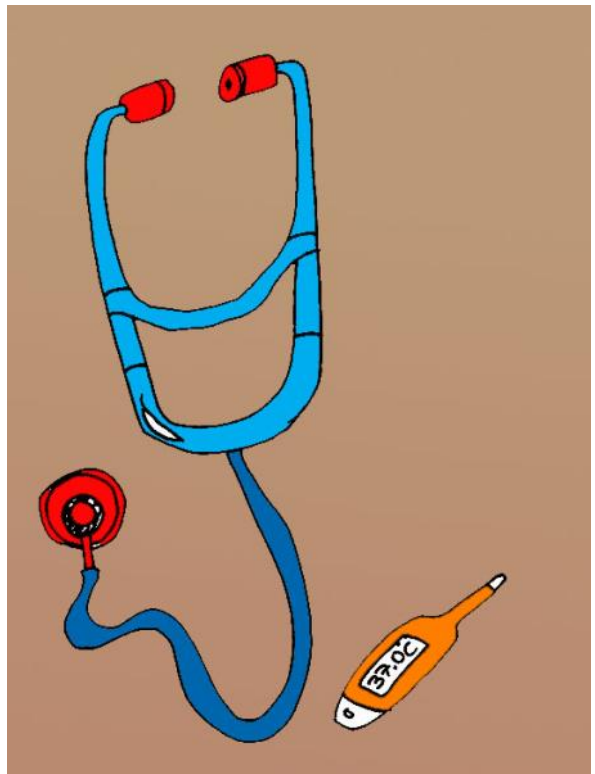


While they played Berry Beary Gentle would talk with them about tips for safe playing, and what kinds of toys weren't to be played with by their baby brothers or sisters, and how to safely play with different kinds of toys, as well as careful use of arts and crafts tools like pens and scissors. She taught about picking toys up to prevent tripping accidents or even breaking toys. It was a fun and happy place to be.

There was also a huge tent, but it was locked up and covered on all sides. It was to be a surprise later on. Almost no one knew what was in there. So as they waited to find out what was inside, children continued visiting other tents.

Berry Beary Fast, the ambulance driver and Berry Beary Doctor were in one tent, helping to teach what to do in case of an accident, and tips on how to prevent them, too. Health tips to stay free of sickness were also taught.

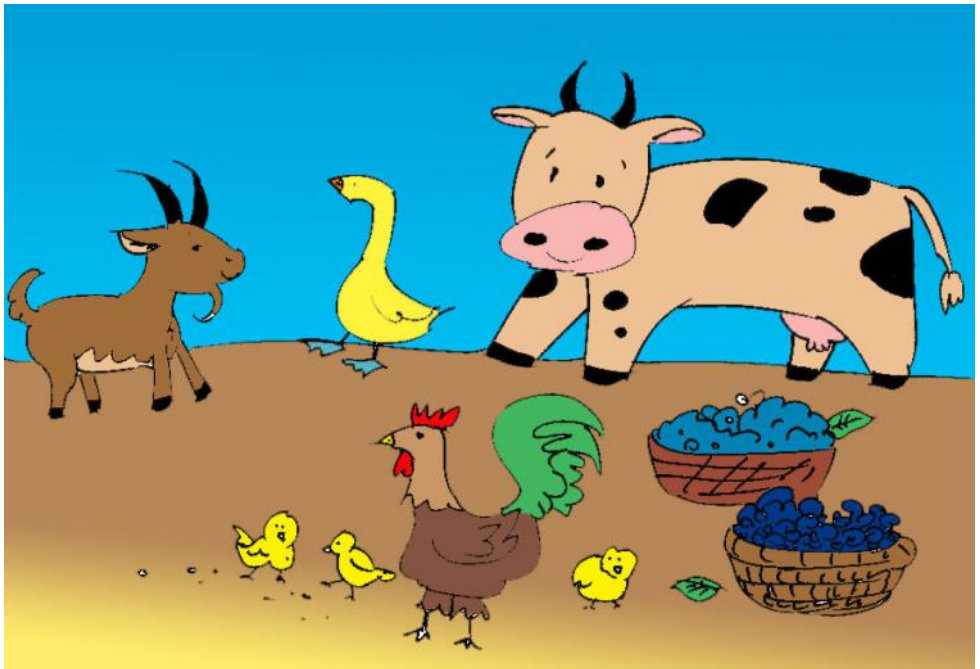
The children were able to listen to their own heart beating, using Berry Beary Doctor's stethoscope. They got to take their temperature with a special thermometer and see some other medical supplies commonly used.



One area was set up in a large motor home, rather than a tent. This was George, the traffic control and road safety policeman's display and teaching station. He actually lived in it some of the time, during the summer months, in the country side campgrounds.

But he had driven it here, rather than on his usual motorcycle. He'd put up the awning and camping chairs for his visitors now at the safety camp. He demonstrated on a foldout camping table, with toy cars and people, different tips for road safety, both while driving or biking, and while walking as a pedestrian.

The sounds of chicken and sheep were heard coming from the corner of the camp. Children had gone to check it out. There was Farmer Berry giving out fresh berries from his farm, and showing the children some of the animals he'd brought to display.



He taught the children about safety around animals of all kinds, farm animals, pets, when visiting the zoo, or meeting any out in the wild. He told about bees and their job, and safety around them. He instructed the children as to what kinds of creatures to look out for, that weren't safe to have around, and what to do if they spotted any.

Just then the loud sounds of both a helicopter flying low over head, as well as the sirens of a fire engine caught most everyone by surprise. Everyone ran out from their tent stations to see what was going on. It seemed like the large tent was now open and a fire truck was seen driving out of it. Had there been an accident? Was something on fire all of a sudden? The truck wasn't driving fast, however, but slowly going to a spot not too far away.

The firemen jumped out of their pumper truck, all dressed up with their full suits and helmets on.

A hose was then sprayed, and the children and all could see just



how powerful it was, and how far the water went. It was the fireman team's special surprise demonstration.

They waved and welcomed all who wanted to come and see the truck up close to come on over.



Some also went inside the big tent that displayed other types of fire fighting vehicles, as well as an ambulance. It was great fun for the children to see everything up close, and even get to sit inside many of them.

To everyone's amazement, the helicopter then landed a ways away, but close enough to see it well. As many as wanted to ran over to it, and got to actually sit inside it. It was the rescue helicopter, for helping people in hard-to-get-to places, like mountains, or on water, or places where the road wasn't clear enough for an ambulance to drive.

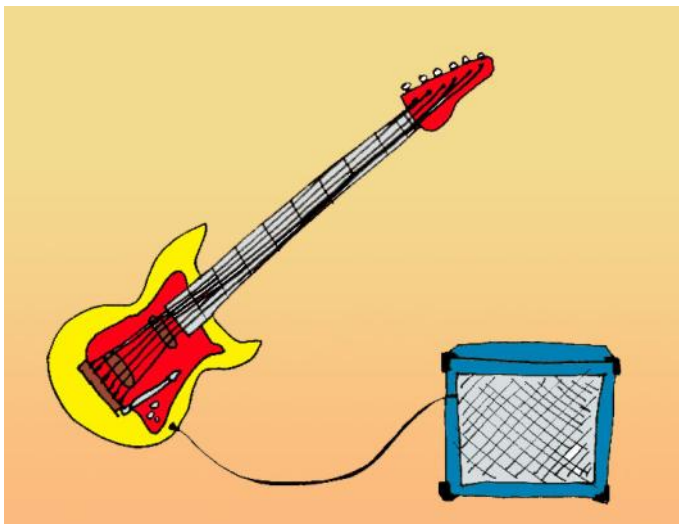
A great day was had by all, and most of all, good tips were learned that would help to make Berry Beary Town an even happier place. As everyone was leaving, there was a sound of an electric guitar, and other instruments being played on speakers throughout the whole camp.

People looked around to try to figure out where it came from. There was one more tent they hadn't spent time in yet, as it looked empty before, but now it had a band getting ready to make some music, led by Berry Merry Song. There were three songs played to end the day.

One song was saying in song all the different tips learned that day from each of the safety displays. The next song was about kindness and being careful for others, and how being thoughtful can prevent many accidents.

The last song was an appreciation song, for the rescue vehicle helpers—the firemen, the ambulance driver and the helicopter driver. Everyone cheered at the end, and clapped for them.

Berry Fervent Firefighter stood up at the end, and held the microphone. All in the camp could hear what he said now. "And remember being careful, showing love, and being watchful, is the best way you can show you appreciate us. If we know you are doing your best to stay safe, it makes us glad to help in those times when you really need us."





“Have a good night!”

“Good night!” chorused everyone, as they waved to the band and the others on the stage, heading home.

“Should we pray for a good walk home?” Jellina asked her family. “Berry Beary Kind said that was one good way to stay safe...”

“Good idea” they agreed, putting into practice something they had learned. And it was a good thing too, as just when they were getting ready to cross the road something seemed to say to them all “wait”.

So they did, thankfully. As right then bicycle sped past, not seeing them in the dim light.

“Perhaps we should have worn light coloured clothes and brought a flashlight, as George told us today. But we didn’t know we’d be home so late. It’s good to have the Lord’s protection!”

Playland

“Wee! Woah! Yeah!” the neighbours could hear Berry Beary Kind’s friends saying as they were taking turns jumping and leaping on his trampoline. Even Berry Beary Kind took a turn, but when he did it, it was a very big bounce!

Then the telephone rang. “Yes... oh dear. Really?” The children wondered what was happening. There was a new amazing park and play place being made for children on a nearby hill. It was called, “Playland.” There was going to be a mini cable car for the children to have rides, but it wasn’t finished being built yet.

Jimmy, a little adventurous boy, had tried to get a ride in it. But the motor wasn’t working yet, so it was kind of like a flying fox in a box. It moved him a bit, but now he couldn’t get down. Oh, dear.



“I think we need to load up in our ladder truck, there’s a rescue to be done!” Said Berry Beary Kind to the children.

“Oh, goodie! Can we come also?”

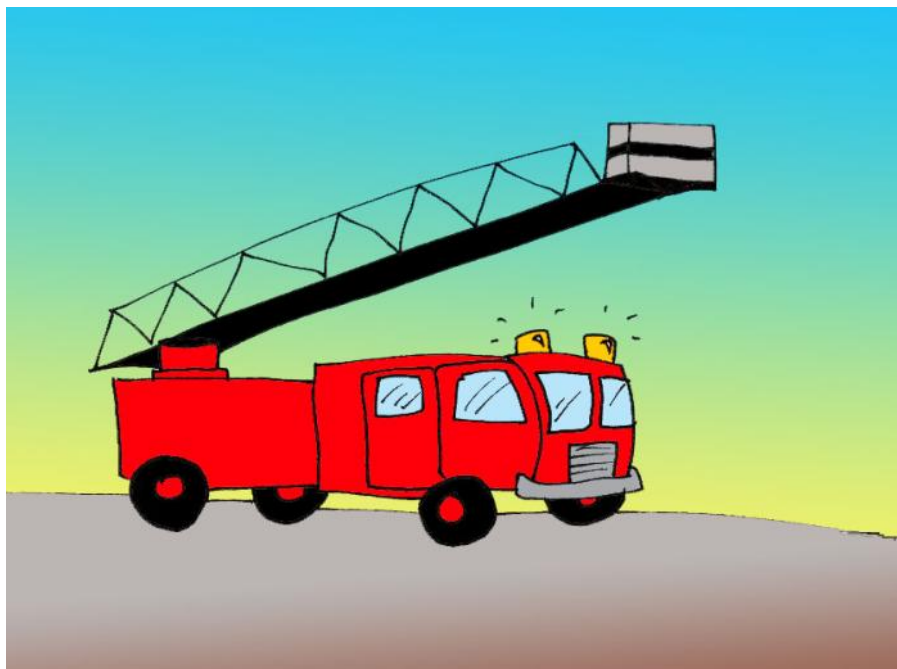
“You’ll first need to check with your parents to see if it’s alright, then we can load up. There are enough seats in our big pick-up truck that has a ladder.”

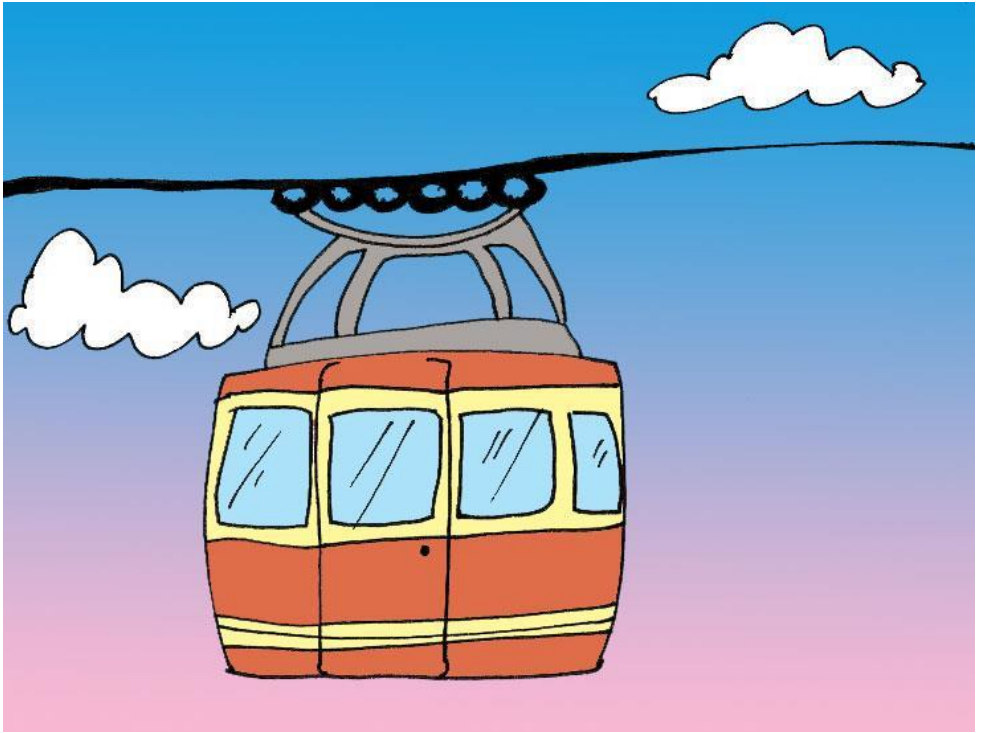
Off they drove to help Jimmy.

“Wow! Is this the new park and Playland?” The children said.

See, children weren’t allowed to go in there yet, as it wasn’t built. But Jimmy’s daddy was making the mini cable car, and his son was visiting him there for a lunch picnic.

Berry Beary Kind drove the truck just in position, to a happy and waiting Jimmy, waving at his friends, but a bit embarrassed that he’d done it without asking his daddy.





Up went the ladder, and Beary Berry Kind hooked on a long and strong rope to the “flying fox” as they called it. Then he walked, and with all the other children helping, they pulled it back to the starting part—the place you get in and out again at the end. Jimmy then got out and thanked them!

He said, “Daddy told me it will be working next week. Perhaps as a celebration you all could come here, and we could have a great time playing and having rides!”

“Yea!” they all said. And it happened!

One week later it was the best park trip they ever had!

They took turns in the now-fixed mini cable car flying fox; they held running races at the track and they played at the playground.

They fished in the fishing pond; they swam in the pool; they played ball games and tag; and ended with a picnic in a tree house.

As Berry Beary Kind sat in his house that evening, rocking on his rocking chair he thought of all the fun that was had. He was glad he could help others, and he was glad there were children who were willing to help others too, and play in ways that were fun and safe. It was because of this that they had such fun.

If they all had tried to do as Jimmy had done, or only wanted to have fun for themselves, it wouldn't have been as great a day. But because they were trying to stay safe, and make others happy, it was a grand old day!





Fun-Land

Berry Beary Kind got on his quad, with a wagon attached to it. In the wagon were his camping supplies. He was going to stay the night on the large property of his uncle who lived in the forest on a hill.

When he arrived at the house his uncle, Berry Beary Inspired, was sitting on the porch enjoying the view. He was an older Bear who now had several grandchildren.

When Berry Beary Inspired was a young man he met a sweet girl bear called Berry Beary Encouraging. So after being friends for several years they decided to get married. And a cute little baby they had, and called him “Berry Cute Beary”.

Then many years passed, and he grew up and also got married, to Berry Nice and they had four little bears. “Beary Fun” “Beary Happy” “Beary Smiley” and “Beary Cuddly”. So these were the grandchildren of Berry Beary Inspired.

He likes to write stories for them, and sends them either on email or sometimes in the mail. Today he was glad he had another chance to write. It made him feel happy, like he was taking a visit to each of his grandchildren, through the mail.

Today he was working on a book. He was writing it to give as a Christmas gift to his grandchildren later on in the year. It was called, "Great Adventurers", and was filled with tales of those who had done amazing things, even those who were handicapped in some way, but still tried hard and were able to do things that others didn't think were possible. Here's what he wrote:

Allectran was sitting down—that's all he could do. He didn't have a pair of good working legs. You see, he was crippled and couldn't move around that well. He sat in a wheelchair for some of the day, and on the couch or his bed. But a lot of the time he was bored and not able to do all the things he saw so many other children doing.



He wanted to hike, to go exploring, to swim in a pool, to jump on a trampoline. But all these things were thought impossible. But instead of sitting around crying to himself he decided to be an inventor.

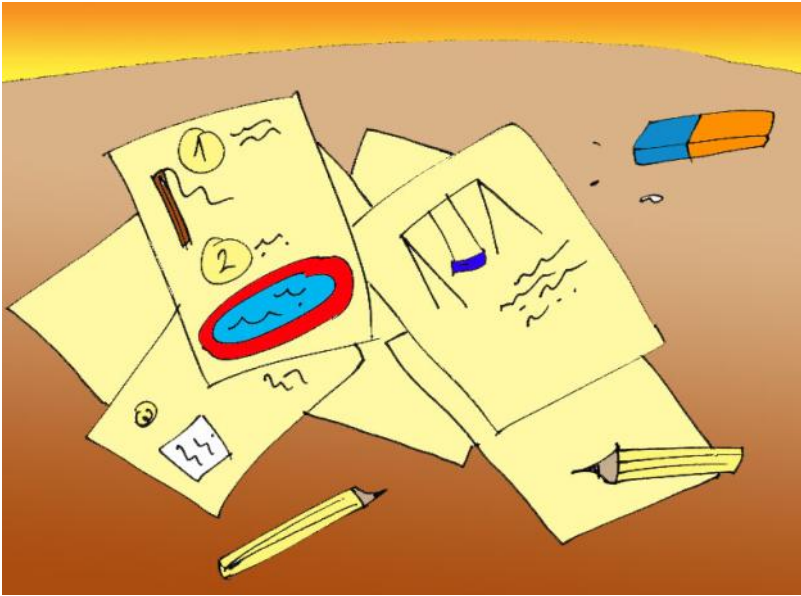
Since there were many other children in the world who could not walk or do these things as well, he wanted to make a play place that was especially set up for those with disabilities. He got out his drawing pad and pencil and got started. He drew pictures of things that could be built or made at this Fun-Land.

There would be a swing that would automatically swing, so they didn't have to use their legs to make it go. There would be an air trampoline, where instead of standing on it, it was stretchy ropes that they held on to and could hang and bounce around.

There would be shallow pools, and they could wear floating vests to keep them up. It could have a machine that made waves, so it was like being at the beach.

There could be bumper cars that a wheelchair could fit into, and tables with board games that they could roll their wheelchairs up to and play with others who were visiting Fun-Land.

There could be contests and games made to suit those who couldn't run. They could do the throwing or batting the ball part, and others who could run or walk would help with the other part, or those in a wheelchair could go and roll and get the ball. There could be wheelchair mini-golf, or wheelchair hockey, and so forth.



Allectran worked on his plans every day. He thought, he drew, he read books with ideas. He asked people to help. On and on he did this, without giving up. Sometimes it seemed it was taking too long. He wanted it built and finished right then. But in the end it took years till it was completed.

At long last it was ready to be enjoyed. People came from all over the country to try it out and have fun there. It really was a "Fun-Land". Not only did the children and adults too, have fun with the play places created, but they met new friends and they were an encouragement to each other.

That was the end of that part of the book that he was writing. Berry Beary Kind said "Hi", and they read the story together. "Hmm. That's a neat idea your story talks about. Maybe we can give that story to Berry Beary Incredible. He might be able to even make a place like that."

The two Beary's talked a bit about it and made plans for a meeting sometime in the near future.

Then it was time to set up camp. Berry Cute Beary, his wife Berry Nice and their children, Beary Fun, Beary Happy, Beary Smiley and Beary Cuddly, would also be coming for this weekend camping fun.

“We better get the tents set up and start a good fire for roasting our dinner—chestnuts!” And so they did. When the children arrived, how thrilled they were to see a camp all set up for their fun at their Grand Beary Beary's house.

When they were all settled into their tents, after a fun time exploring, and eating dinner around the campfire, they listened to their Grand Beary's stories as they fell asleep.





“Have a berry good sleep,” said Berry Beary Kind, and so they all did. And the morning was filled with playing and enjoying the great forest.

When the weekend was over, Berry Beary Kind loaded up his wagon again, and drove home. “Good bye, Beary Fun, Beary Happy, Beary Smiley and Beary Cuddly! I’ll see you again some other time! And off he drove, ready to start planning for the Fun-Land!

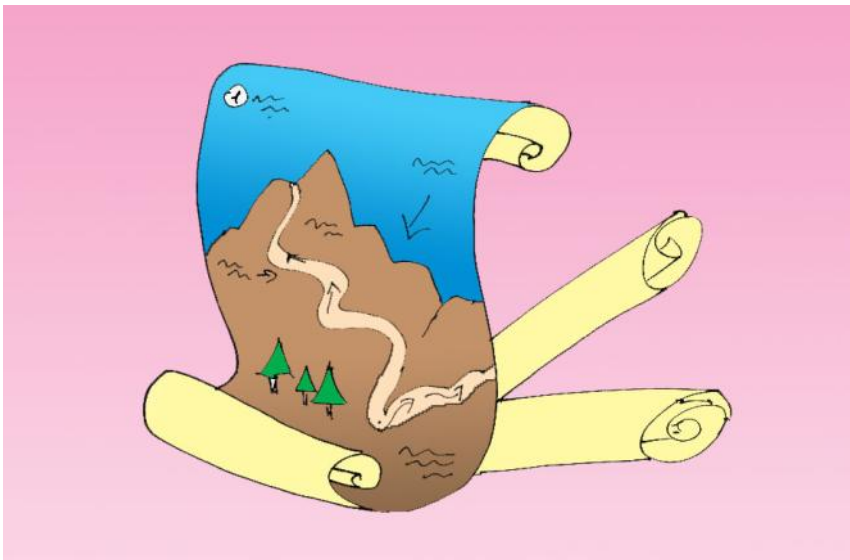
Rescue Bear

It was spring and Berry Beary Kind along with his friend Berry Beary Fit headed off for a good hike up a mountain. They'd thought the trip through, down to the detail.

Everything that would be needed was brought along, and of course, nothing extra. Less weight would help the trip be easier and less tiring. This wasn't to be just any trip, but it was a map-and-path making exploration trip.

This part of the mountain had rarely been explored. Berry Beary Kind and Berry Beary Fit wanted to see if they could draw maps of the area, and discover the best passes that could be taken by future climbers. They wanted to make things safe and easy.

It was to be a two day trip. The weather was fine, and they camped for the night in a flat forested area. When they awoke, however, it seemed that large and bulging storm clouds were covering the sky.





“We’d best be going, I reckon,” Berry Beary Kind suggested. “It looks like it will be a wet one!”

“Yup!” Berry Beary Fit agreed.

After having a little snack, they rolled up their sleeping bags and packed up their small tents.

“But what way should we take? I don’t want to be caught in that storm. It’s not safe—and could be rather slippery to climb down. I say the sooner we can descend from the mountain the better,” Berry Beary Fit said.

“Well, if we go down the same way we came, it might take a lot longer. It took nearly a day to get to where we are now. I’d say we stop for prayer. We need some guidance from Above to plan our trip wisely,” Berry Beary Kind suggested.

The two friends prayed and then stopped to listen to what the Lord had to say. His voice came into their hearts and minds, telling them where to walk next.

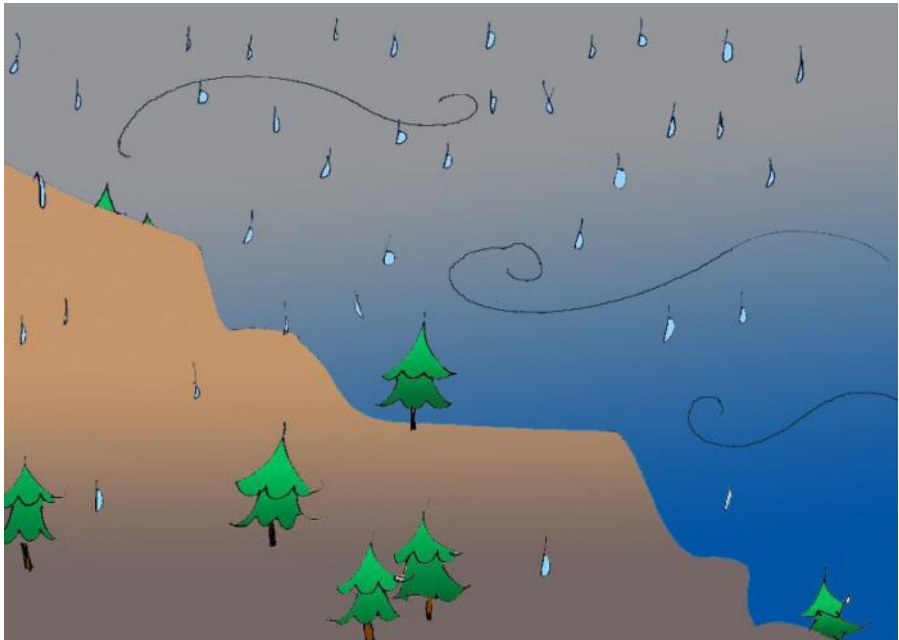
As soon as they agreed on where to go, after hearing from the Lord, they started to walk—but it was soon to the beat of thunder and the pitter-patter of rain.

Indeed it was a good place to walk, and it wasn't all that far from the town way below. But it was soon evident to them that the way would be too slippery to safely continue.

However, the place they were standing was clearly visible to the town's people below, some of whom wondered how Berry Beary Kind and Berry Beary Fit were faring.

Stopping to pray for a miracle, the two friends felt peace, like good was just around the corner. No sooner had they finished their prayer when the welcome sound of a helicopter was nearing them.

“It's Rescue Bear! God bless him! He knew right where to be right now!” Berry Beary Fit exclaimed.

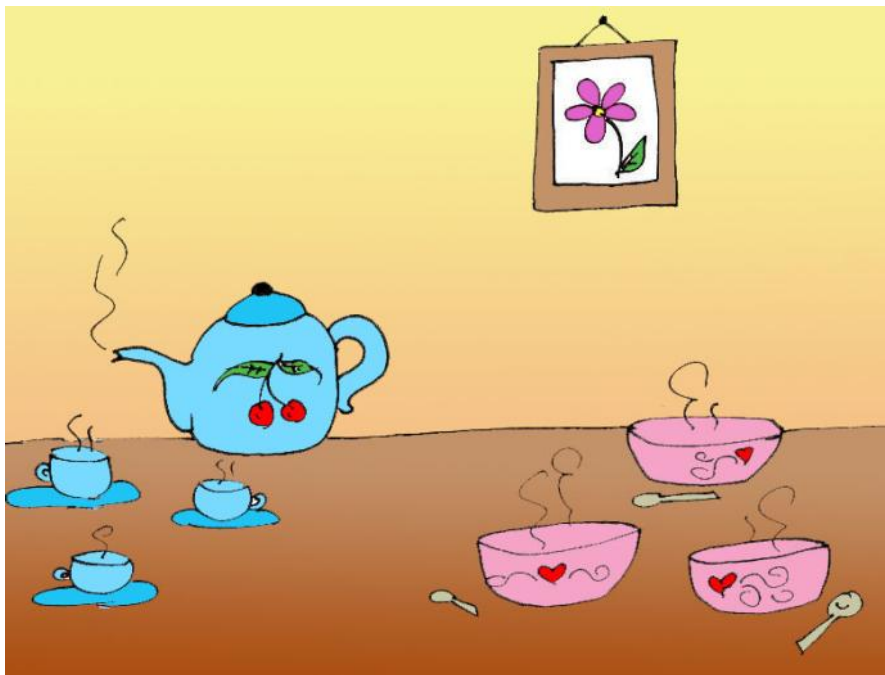


Soon a rope was lowered and one-by-one the mountain hikers were lifted up into the helicopter. It would have been far too slippery, and a very cold and wet climb to go all the way down on foot in this unexpected storm.

When the helicopter landed at Rescue Bear’s house, where he always kept it, the three went into the house for a warm cup of tea and a bowl of soup.

“Thanks so much for coming to get us! The timing was just perfect! What helped you to find us so quickly?” Berry Beary Kind asked.

“Well, I really didn’t know where to go, but when I started out I seemed to hear a thought pop into my mind telling me to start looking, right where I did. Sure enough you were there. It was almost as if the whole thing had been planned!” Rescue Bear said.





“I guess it must have been!—By Jesus! It pays to pray and listen. He can guide each one of us to be right where we are needed, to be the biggest help we can be,” Berry Beary Fit commented.

“It’s like that time when you, Berry Beary Kind helped me,” Rescue Bear began to recall.

“That night last year when I was on my way home. I was walking along the foot path that leads out to my house, when all of a sudden I tripped on something and fell down hard. I wasn’t hurt bad, but I wasn’t sure that I could just get up and keep on going.

“It was getting dark and it was hard to see. I needed to get home, as I was bringing the supplies for my wife to cook dinner with. Right then I heard the welcome sound of your quad, and you invited me to hop on. You drove me home in no time at all. That was good timing!”

“I guess we’ve both helped each other out. That’s what makes our town so special! Those living here aren’t just looking after themselves, but most of all, stopping to look around and see who they can lend a hand to, and who they can help,” said Berry Beary Kind.

“Thanks again!” Berry Beary Fit said, as he and Berry Beary Kind started for the door.

“Anytime you need a lift, just let me know!” Rescue Bear said.

“Same here!” Berry Beary Kind offered with a wave.

It felt good to help others, and it felt good to be helped in return as well.

