

Berry Beary Kind

Book 6

Kindness and Helping



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

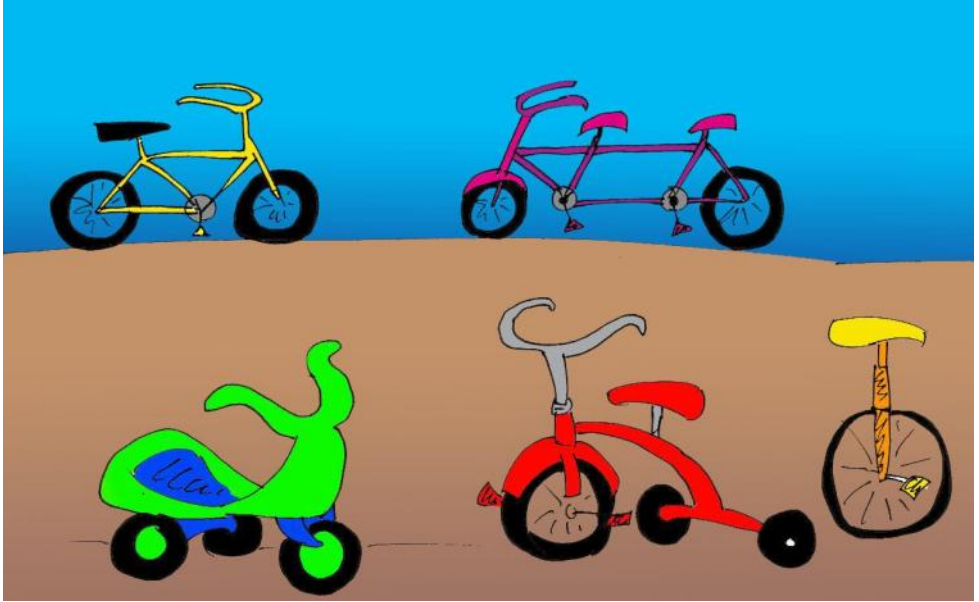
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Berry Beary Kind **–Book 6–**

Kindness and Helping

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Winners Are Grinners

Today was going to be fun. It was to be the contest of all sorts of bicycles, tricycles, unicycles, tandem bikes, and any other sort of invented pedal and wheel vehicle. There would be trick shows, speed races, displays, and all sorts of fun. Berry Beary Kind had on his helmet, and biking suit. He was going to bring his wagon that hooked on, too.

There was also a basket that he could attach to the front end to carry things, and a bag that could be put in the middle of the frame. There was also a small child's seat that he hooked on to the back of his bike. He was going to show how much he could carry and transport with just one bicycle.

However, when he arrived at the contest location, it was empty! His was the only bicycle around. "Hmmm? Did I miss something?" He wondered.

He checked the map again. No, this was right. This is the right place. But when he looked closer at the map page it said that it was supposed to be on Sunday. But this was Saturday.

“Oh! I got the days wrong! At least I didn’t miss it. I still can look forward to it tomorrow. Oh, well. Maybe there’s a reason for this. I’ll just start on my way home.”

When he got home, there was a group of children waiting outside of his door for him to return.

“Berry Beary Kind. We’re so glad to see you. Can you help us fix up our bicycles? Please? We also want to go to the contest, but our bicycles aren’t working. They have things that are broken about them.”

“Well, come on in,” he said. “Why don’t you sit down in the living room and have a fresh piece of fruit and some water, while you each tell me what needs fixing on your bikes.”



So they did. And then they had fun learning and watching and helping too. It wasn't all easy, but as they worked together they got all the bikes up and working.

“Ah!” thought Berry Beary Kind, “I see now why it was good it wasn't today. These children wouldn't have been able to participate. I'm glad we can all go and do it together now. Fun!”

And fun it was. And everyone who attended went home with some sort of prize or medal, because all tried their best and made it fun for those who came to watch. It was a great day on wheels!



Berry Beary Kind and The Tape That Wouldn't Rewind

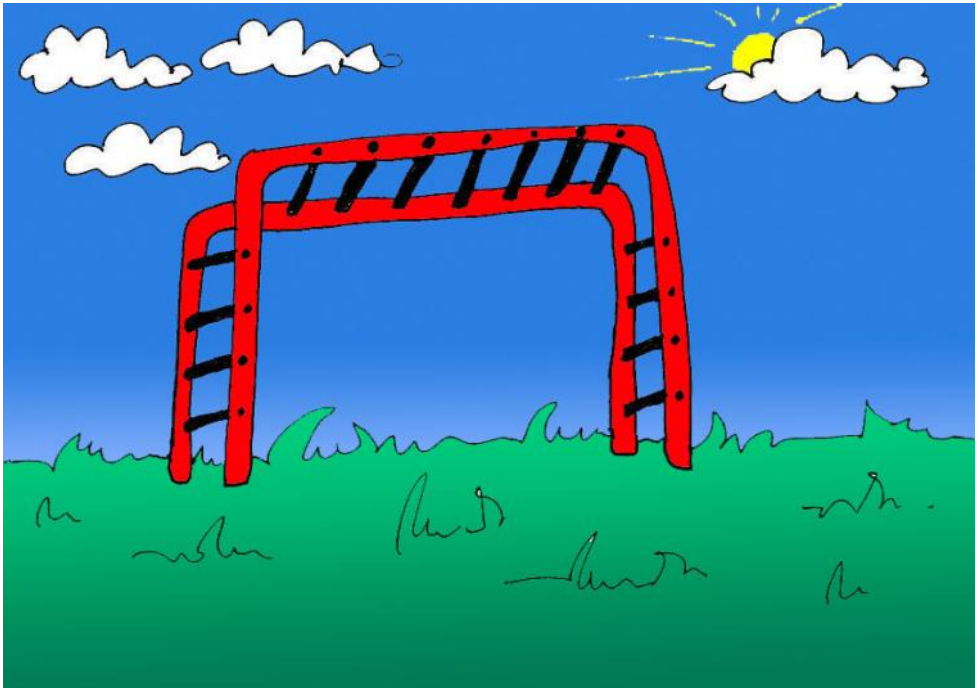
Berry Beary Kind was sitting in his tree house. His daddy had built it for him when he was still young. But it was big enough for him to still sit in it, though he took up more space than he use to as a bear cub.

He had on his headphones and was listening to his favourite songs. They were cheerful songs, songs about great people who had helped in great ways.

“Oh, this is my favourite!” he thought. “I want to hear that one again,” he said as he pushed the go back arrow button. But nothing happened.

“Hmm, what could be stopping it?” He'd have to check in out later. –As just then there was a call from a scared child.

“Help! I think I'm going to fall!”



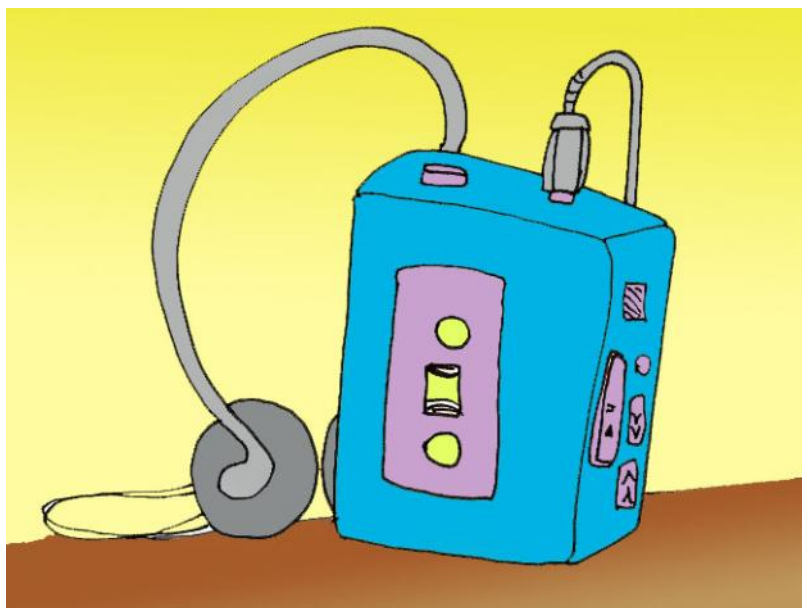
Berry Beary Kind looked out of the tree house window and quickly slid down the rope to the ground. He ran over and caught Shelly before she fell from the high monkey bars at the little playground that was there. He had decided to have a nice place where any children who didn't have very big yards could come with their parents and play.

"Where is your mommy or daddy?" Berry Beary Kind asked.

"Oh, she's over there. But you see my little brother also fell and hurt his knee, so she ran to help him. I guess I shouldn't have tried too tricky of a trick up high when there wasn't someone beside me to help."

"I suppose so," Berry Beary Kind said. And Shelly went over then to her mother, to see if her brother was alright.

"Hmmm, so now, back to that song...are the batteries needing to be charged...? Ah!" he said at last. "So that's the problem!" The button stopped working as it had gotten jammed.



“Guess I pressed it too many times,” he said with a laugh.

Back in his little workshop he found just the right little tools and made his player work again. “At last, the song!” And it was funny, because it was a song about rewinding, and getting to do things again. Here’s what it said:



**You just can't always rewind
To try and do something kind.
If at first you act rough
And do unkind stuff
Time's not like a tape that you play
Chose to do it first the kind way
Cause time passes by
And you will sigh,
Wondering why
You can't go back and rewind
To do it the way that is kind.
Cause they will always rewind
What you do is in their mind
Let them remember the things that are kind!
Always do the things that are kind.**

It was a song that he often thought of when others needed him, even when he was tired, or in the middle of doing something that he really enjoyed, and it was hard for him to stop. He went on his way singing the last line of the lively song, “Always do the things that are kind.”

“Yes, it’s true,” he thought. “I can’t rewind and do something the right and loving way the first time. And whatever I do, whether kind or not, will be remembered in their mind, maybe even for the rest of their life.”

He sat down on a tree stump and said a prayer to have the right and loving reactions that day.



Tree House Adventure

Elaine and Patrick were looking at the supplies, picking up some of the boards and bits of wood that had been set aside to build a tree house.

“I miss Daddy so much,” Elaine said, a tear nearly beginning to fall.

“If only we had been able to finish this tree house before he had to go...” Patrick added.

Their dad was a good carpenter, and often was called away for larger projects in other parts of the country. Sometimes he was gone for a few weeks, and his children missed him.

“What can we do? We don’t know how to build it. It’s hard to wait for something we’ve been needing for so long, while daddy works to build things for others. I wish he had more time to build with us and for us...” Patrick was having a hard time staying positive about the whole thing.



They could have been happy that they were still safe and sound, their house intact, and that they had all they needed. But it was hard to see things that way now, when only looking at the odds and ends that had sat there for awhile, waiting to become the great tree house they'd hoped for, for so long.

In fact several of the builders, and good workmen had gone as a team to another part of the country on a kindness mission. There had been a big storm, with strong winds, and people desperately needed house repairs as a result.

Their dad, Henry Handy, was one of the first to offer his help. He was kind hearted, though it wasn't easy to leave his family, and knew they would miss him too.

Just then Elaine and Patrick heard a noise that sounded like...yes! It was Berry Beary Kind in his odd fix-it mobile.

It had a small cabin for a driver, and a large area at the back for building, and other supplies, with an attached additional wagon or trailer that it pulled too.

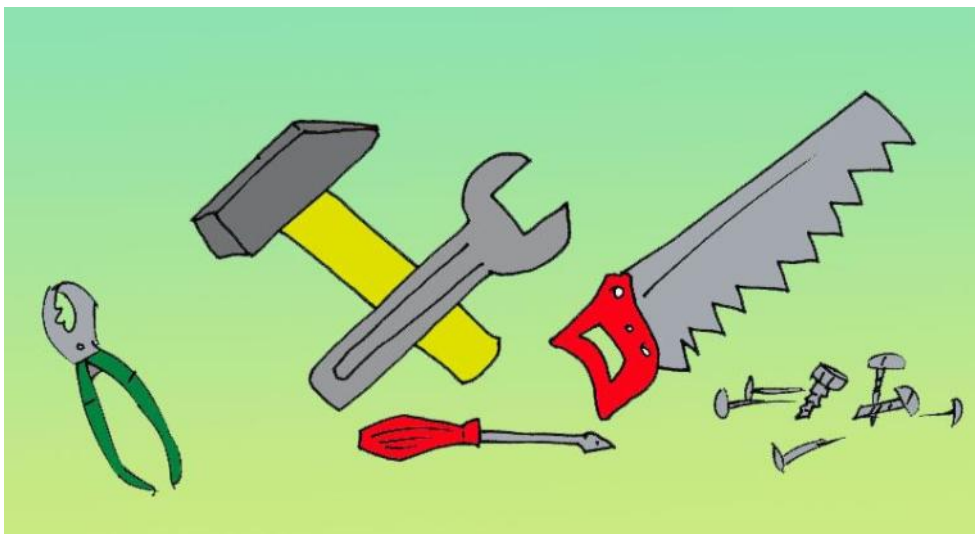


There were lights on all parts that would light up as he drove, telling he was on an important fix-it job. There was a kind of a siren that sounded as well, that was more of a song or tune playing. The lights and siren song would both help to tell people what he was doing, as well as to invite anyone else that wanted to, to drive along with him and lend a helping hand.

In Berry Beary Kind’s trailer that was attached to the truck, there was just about every type of tool one could need, along with some cans of paint, rope, and bits of this and that.

He usually kept the truck empty so that he could use it for whatever was needed for the job—like bringing wood, or carrying away cuttings from gardens and trees, or trash and old things to take away, or even bringing large things like a set of swings, or a bench he’d built for a park. Whatever was needed, he used it for.

Today his mission was to surprise the children, who were giving their dad up for awhile to help other children and families who had a big need.





And it wasn't just Berry Beary Kind who showed up. Berry Beary Kind had added a sign to the side of his truck that day, telling just what the job was, so all who wanted to join in and help, would know what it was. "The tree house team" it said.

"Elaine!" exclaimed Patrick, now totally forgetting his sadness. "Look!"

"There's so many people coming here!" Elaine said joyfully.

A long line of cars had followed Berry Beary Kind that day, and they all were parking along the side of the road, and walking now towards the house.

Elaine and Patrick were looking over their fence to see what was going on. Berry Beary Kind knocked on the door, and Mrs. Handy was there to answer. She was delighted, and invited them all to come in to their back yard and to start to build the long-awaited tree house.

There were so many helpers that day, that it was built in just four hours! And it looked fun, and was strong and safe too.

Elaine and Patrick sat there watching the whole time, not wanting to get in the way of the builders. They just brought them water or snacks every now and then.

“Good bye then!” Berry Beary Kind said, as his team was leaving. “I hope you have fun! Just wait till tomorrow, until the paint is dry, okay?”

“Okay!” the children chorused. “Thanks so much, it’s just great!” And they ran in to see what their mother was doing. A sound that seemed like it was the sewing machine was heard. And indeed it was. Mom was sewing the curtains and some cushion covers for the tree house. It was going to be the funnest place to play they thought.





“I know!” said Elaine. “I’ve thought of a way we could show our appreciation to Berry Beary Kind, and his team of helpers!”

“How’s that?” wondered Patrick, and Mother was eager to hear.

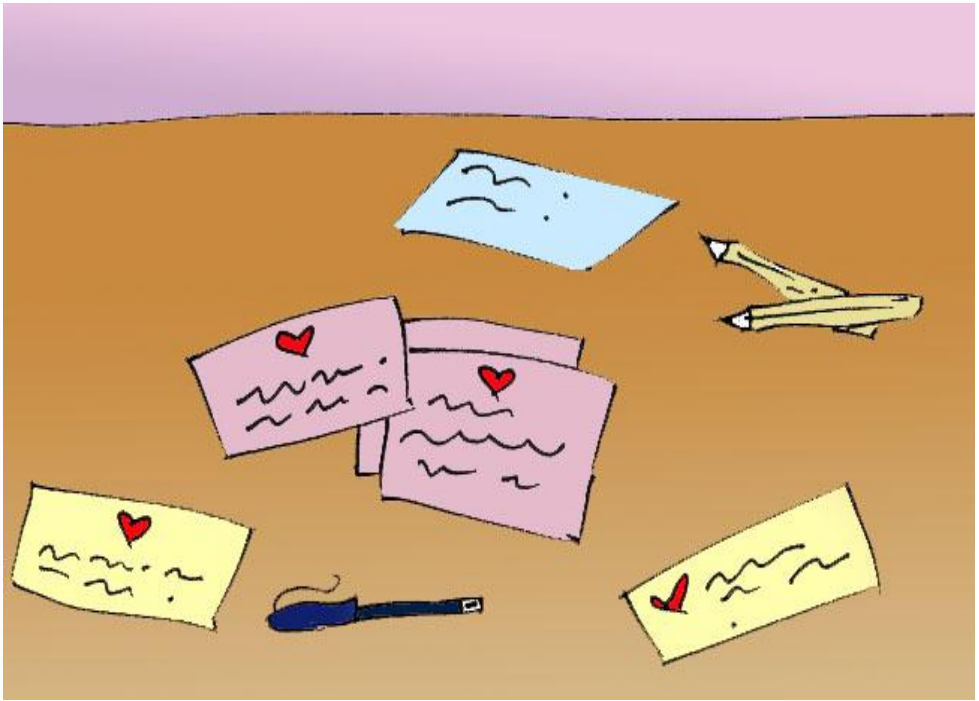
“We could have a tea party celebration in the tree house and outdoor barbeque tomorrow!” Elaine suggested.

“Sounds like a great idea!” they both agreed.

So Mother phoned Berry Beary Kind, and he helped to invite the others and their families.

The next day there was a lot of people in their back yard! Good thing it was pretty big. And the children of those who had come to help, who had also given their dads to help—this time to help Elaine and Patrick—got the reward of playing in the tree house.

They all had a great time! It was fun to help others, and fun to also then be helped as a result.



An Incredible Beary

“Just in time!” Berry Beary Kind said as he turned the stove down low before his pot of chicken and veggie soup boiled over.

“I guess I like to be someone who makes it there in time when people need me too,” he thought.

Then he pondered about what it took to be the kind of helper that people needed.

He took out his pen and paper and wrote down some notes that he was going to post on his wall, to remind him, and also to encourage those who visited him, to help others all they could.

Number 1:

Be ready to stop and go. To stop what you are doing, and to go do something else.

Number 2:

Showing love is better than just saying it.

Number 3:

Think, "What would Jesus do if He were here?"

Number 4:

You'll probably get another chance to do what you want to do, but may not have another chance to help that person who needs help right now.

Number 5:

Be happy and friendly. Everyone will appreciate it and love you for it.

Just as he posted it up, there was a knock on the door. It was Berry Beary Incredible. He was always coming up with new and amazing inventions, and could do so many tricks.

"Hi, how are you?" Berry Beary Kind asked as he greeted him at the door.



“Want to see my latest design? I’ve been working on making a machine that will take goods and supplies from the market up to the village at the top of the hill. That way they won’t have to travel so far to go shopping and get the things they need for their children and families.”

“Sure, I’d love to see it.” And so off they went.

It was something like a cable car, or ski lift. Only that it was smaller and was just for carrying food and supplies. The villager would write a note of the things that they needed and put it in, and send the box cable car down.

They would wind a handle around and around. It would spin a wheel, and the box that was attached to the rope would go down to the market. After it was loaded up, they would turn the wheel again and bring it back.

“That’s great!” said Berry Beary Kind. “You are always looking for ways to make things easier for others.”

“How about a ride with me in my circus van?” said Berry Beary Incredible. And so off they went.

When they arrived at a park, he said, “This is where I’m going to practice some of my acts. I plan to do a show in a few days. Maybe we can do a special showing here for any children that need extra special encouragement. They could get to see the show first!”

And so it was planned! And a great time was had. Berry Beary Incredible had them laughing and singing, and even helping him do some of his tricks. They had a great time.





Berry Beary Brave and the Boat Ride

Berry Beary Kind woke from his nap below deck. The waves seemed to be getting rather choppy, and the sun had gone behind a cloud. He was in his friend's boat, out for a weekend ride.

There was an island a bit off the shore where he and his friend Berry Beary Brave had sailed to and explored a bit. Now they were just floating nearby, resting and enjoying the quietness of the water. However, it now seemed time to head back to the pier, before things got too stormy.

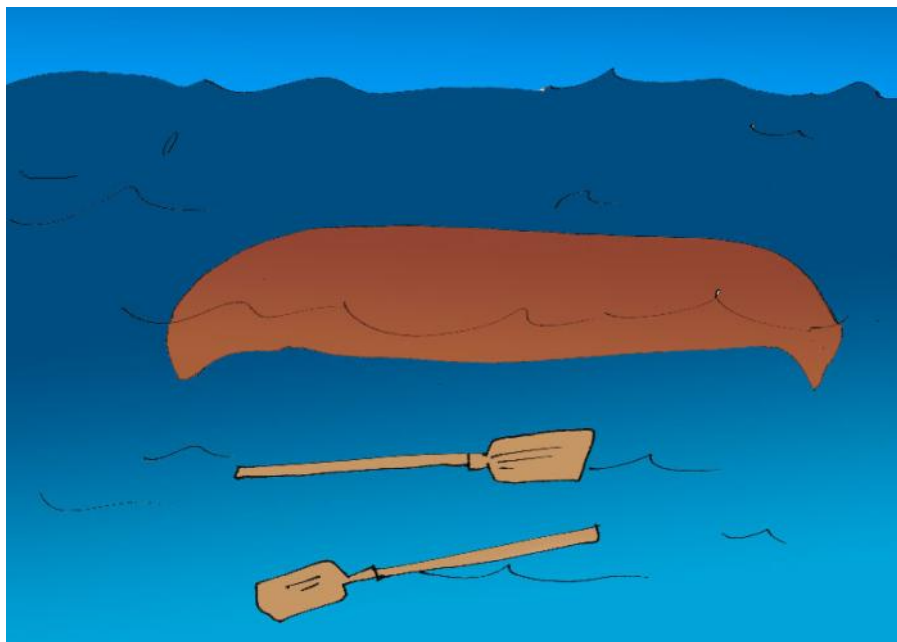
Berry Beary Brave started up the motor, and off they went. It hadn't been long however when all of a sudden it seemed the boat sputtered to a halt. Did they run out of fuel? Was there something stuck in the propeller? What could this be?

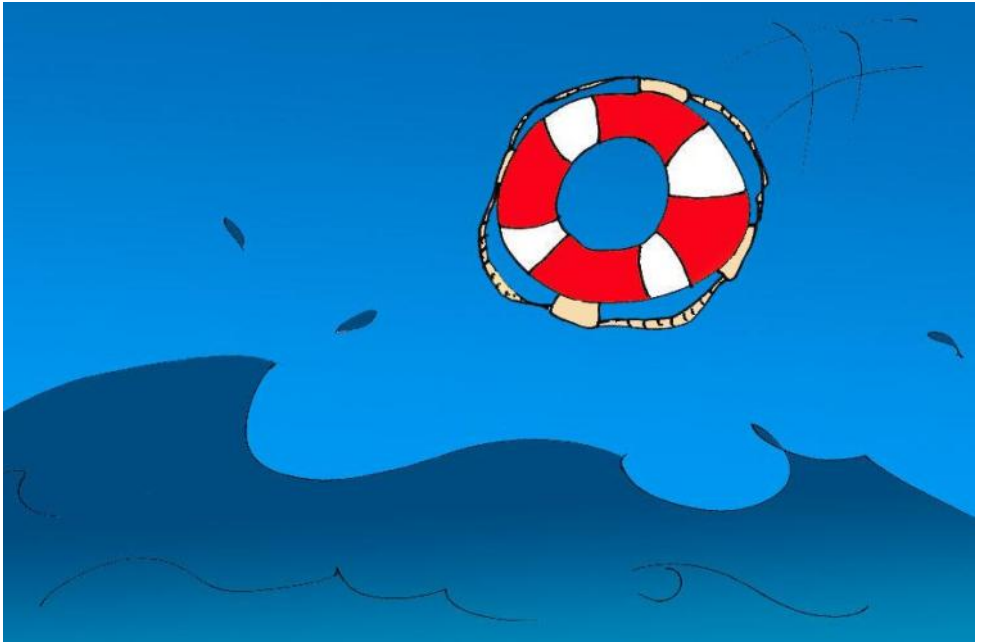
It wasn't long before they saw the reason. And it was different than either of them would have guessed.

"Help me!" they heard someone calling. The waves, though choppy, just gave them a bumpy ride, nothing more, thankfully. But someone else, who had a much smaller vessel, a tipsy-topsy canoe, had been capsized. Their boat was upside down, and they were trying to swim in the cold water, desperate for help.

"Throw them the life saver!" Berry Beary Brave yelled out, since Berry Beary Kind was right beside it. He threw it to the struggling swimmer, who was able to grab hold of it, and be tugged on over. Berry Beary Kind helped him aboard.

"And don't worry about your boat, mister," said Berry Beary Brave. "I've got just the thing we need." And in no time at all he'd jumped into the water, flipped the boat right side up, and hooked a rope on to it.





Berry Beary Kind helped him get out of the water too now, and offered a blanket to each of the cold and wet folks.

“Now all we need is for our boat to work and to drive. It’ll tug yours along too,” said Berry Beary Brave.

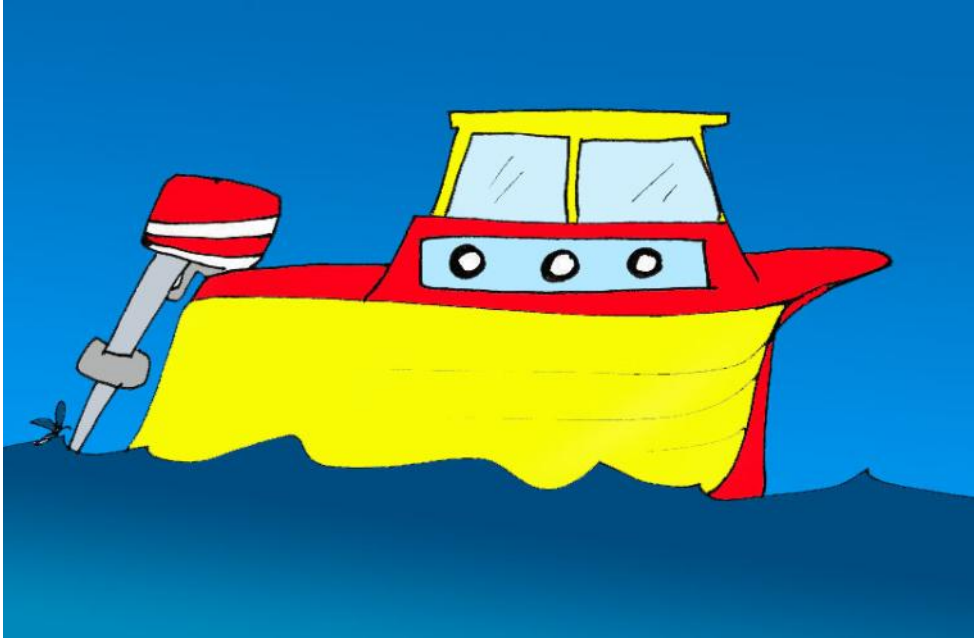
“You mean you didn’t try to stop? Your boat just wouldn’t sail anymore?” asked Ronny, the rescued man.

Berry Beary Kind explained what had happened.

They were glad to have been able to help someone, and he was very glad to have been helped.

“You know,” began Berry Beary Brave. “I have a funny feeling that now that we have Ronny safely aboard, that the boat might just be fine. What do you say, shall we say a prayer and give it a try?”

They all agreed.



So after a heartfelt prayer for a safe return to shore, Berry Beary Brave turned the key, and Vrrrooom! It works perfectly. “Wow!” the happy team said, and in no time at all, they made it back to the pier.

“Thanks for being there and for helping me!” Ronny said before leaving.

Berry Beary Kind and Berry Beary Brave look at each other, and then at Ronny. “I guess we all know who to thank!” Berry Beary Kind said.

“You must have been praying, and God chose us to be the answer to your prayer!” Berry Beary Brave added.

Ronny nodded, smiled, waved, and was gratefully on his way, after loading his canoe onto the roof of his van.