

# Berry Beary Kind

## Book 7

### Festivals and Fun



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

# **Berry Beary Kind** **–Book 7–**

## **Festivals and Fun**

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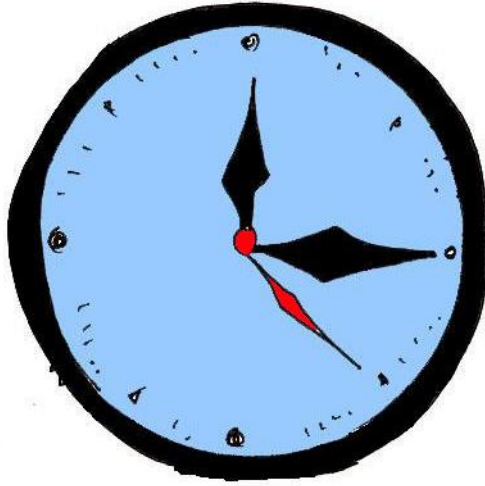
**3: The Big Balloon**

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*By Chariane Quille and children*

*Art by Fleur Celeste/ Coloured by Mia*

*Cover photo: Jon Berg*



## The Grand Race

Everything was set for the big race. It was a race around the whole area. There were to be different teams, and the race track covered land and sea and air space. Berry Beary Kind made the opening announcements.

“Remember, that speed isn’t what matters most. In the end, those that really win are those who have acted with kindness and consideration for the other players. As well as those who didn’t have an accident and get themselves or others injured. Right?”

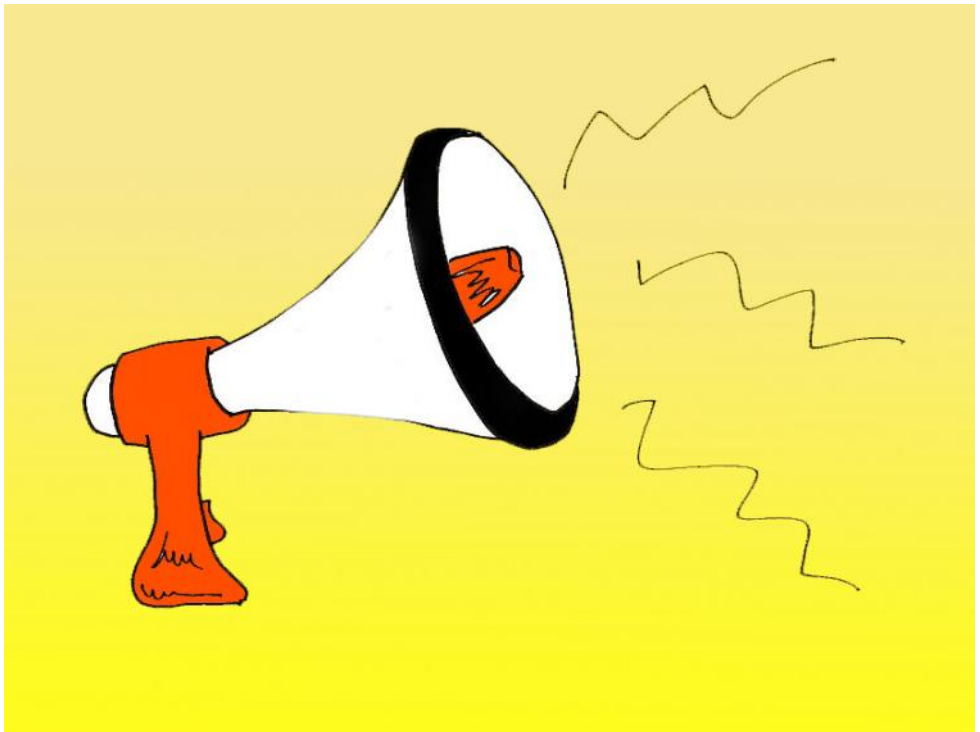
Everyone agreed, and then paused for a prayer for the safety of all involved.

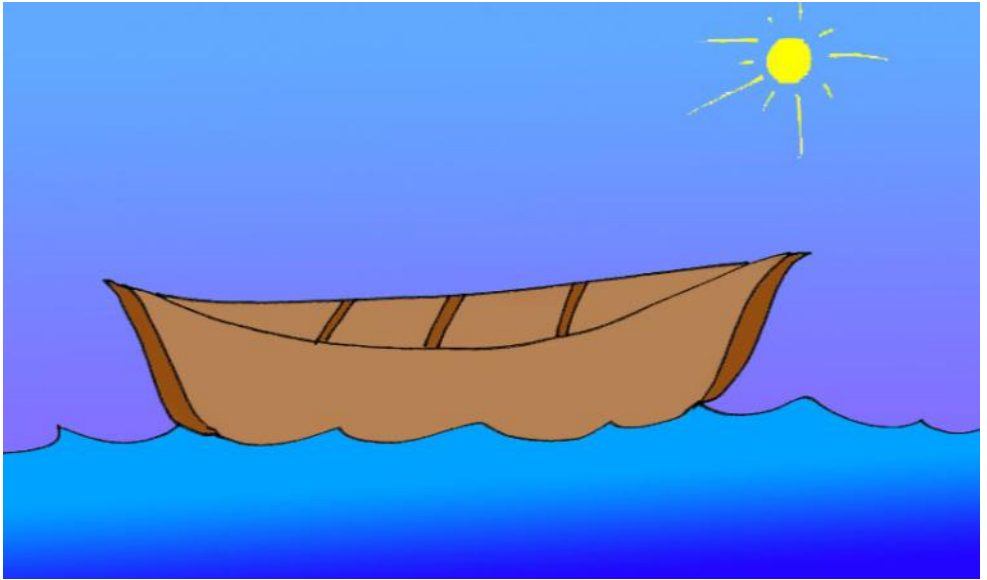
Though it was called a “race” it was more just for the fun of it. They weren’t racing against others, but against the clock. This race was held every year.

Throughout the year since the last race, those who chose to be on the different teams for this year's race had been practicing extra. They were trying to see if they could beat their record from last year. It would take teamwork and carefulness to do it.

The loudspeaker sounded out so that all could hear: "On your marks...Get set...Go!!"

The first team was headed up by Berry Beary Fast and his team of players. Instead of his usual ambulance, he was and his team were on bicycles. They were to ride for 5 kilometres, over to the bay. As soon as they arrived, the boating team in three canoes was then to take off.



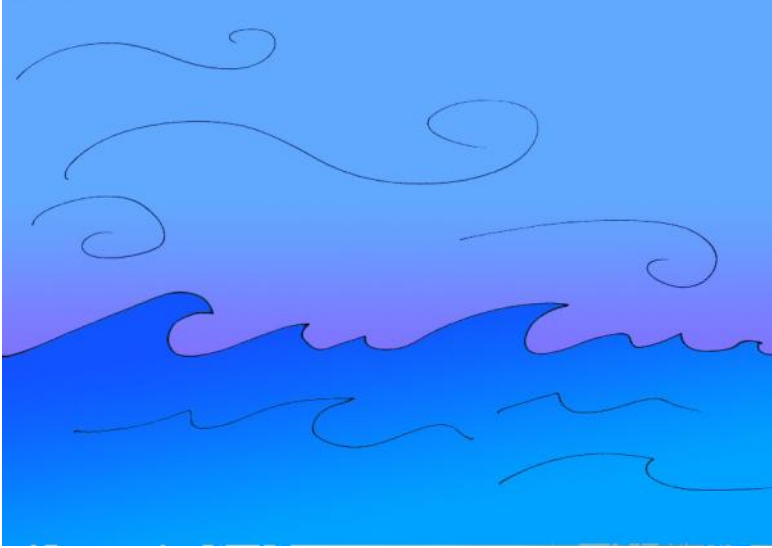


Eagerly the boating Wonderbears sat in their canoes, waiting to go as soon as possible. They watched for any sign of the biking team to arrive.

The bike team was a little later than expected, as one person had gotten their tire punctured while going. But rather than leave him behind, the whole team decided to do the kind thing, and all stop to help him.

They were prepared for such an incident, and had spare parts and fix-it supplies. And before too long they were on the road again, and arrived at the bay.

With the wave of the flag, the man in charge of the boat team's departure gave the signal, and off they sped along the smooth water's surface. Their destination was an island about 300 meters from where they were taking off. At first it was smooth going—until the wind started blowing, and waves began to push against their canoes, making it twice as hard to go forward.



All three canoes were using every bit of their strength to go forward, but it seemed their efforts weren't bringing fast progress.

"Let's pray for the wind's direction to change!" one man said. So they did. It was amazing, but in about a minute they started to feel a change. "I feel like we are being pushed along!" one lady said. "Not only have the wind and waves stopped pushing against us, but it's now making it very easy for us, pushing us in the right direction! I feel we are going faster than ever!"

They ended up making it at just the time the second team had been hoping for, even with the delayed bike team, and the waves and wind.

"How did you make it so fast?" one of the swimmers yelled.

"We prayed! That's all that could have helped us!"

With the next wave of the swimming team's signal man's flag, they dove into the water. The beach they were headed to wasn't that far away from the island they were taking off from.

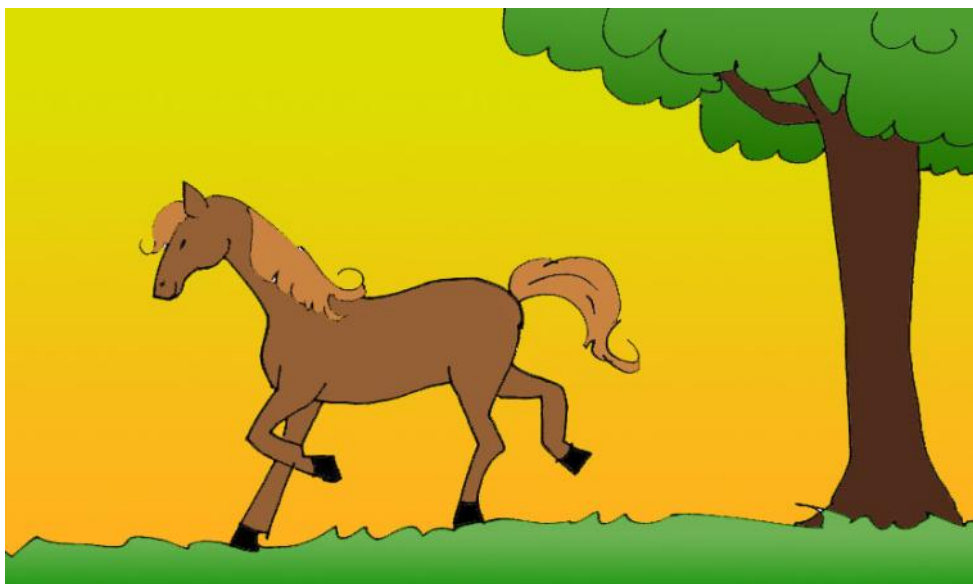
It was just about a 10 minute swim at a good pace. The bobbing heads of the five swimmers could be seen as they zoomed as fast as possible.

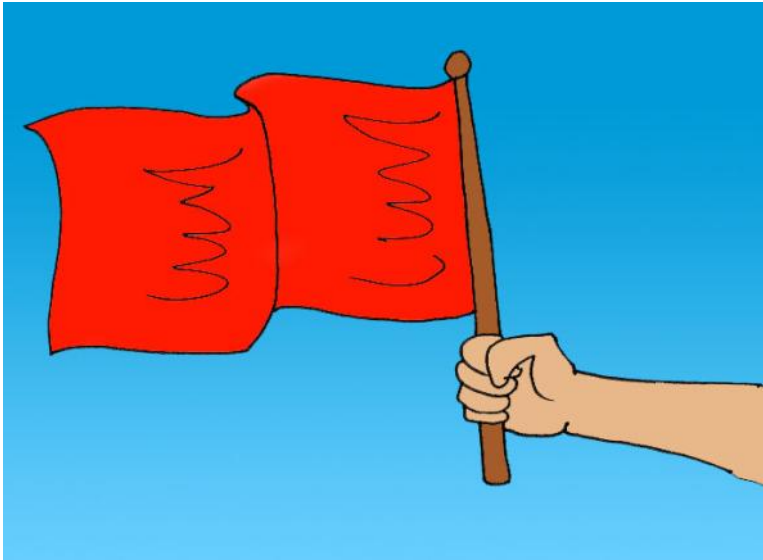
“Eight minutes! We made it early!” exclaimed Berry Beary Brave. “Maybe the race will be the best yet. Guess we’ll see.”

Berry Beary Gentle was there, ready with big towels, and a warm drink for them to enjoy. As soon as the swimmers feet had touched the sandy edge of the beach, the next signal man waved the flag to the horse riders. There were ten of them.

They had a long part of the journey. It was one of the funnest parts of the race. It was such a big team as so many people wanted to be able to do this one!

They rode and rode for what seemed like a long while, but it was very enjoyable. At last they reached the stables, where the horses could eat and drink, and the riders could rest and stretch their legs out.





The next part was just for fun. It was the toddler's part in the race, along with their older brothers or sisters. There were 12 teams of wheelbarrows and "drivers" pushing it along. The little folks would ride in it while the older ones held the handles and pushed.

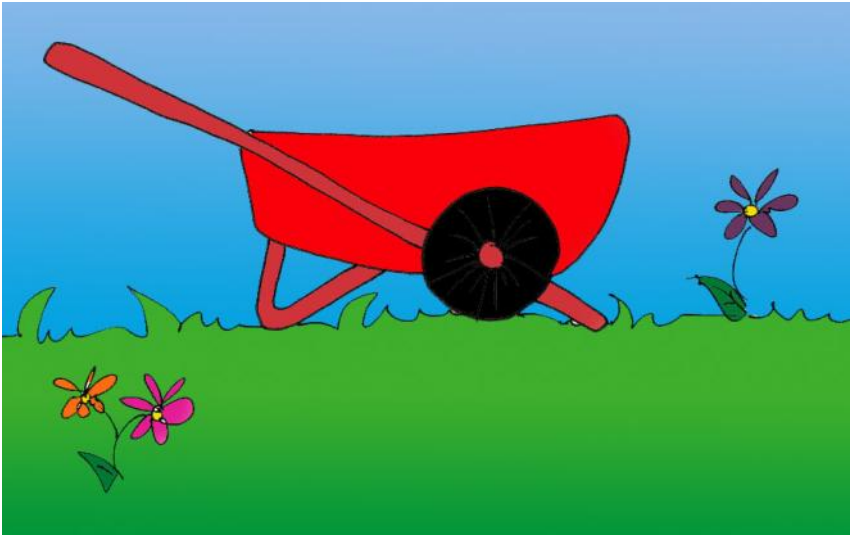
But they couldn't leave until the flag man gave the signal. Where was he or she? "We are here!" called out Farmer Berry, who was leading the team of horse riders. "The next team can go now!"

"Huh...what?" A very surprised older man suddenly sat up from a nearby pile of hay. He'd been catching a nap, and didn't realise so much time had gone by.

"Well, then, let's get going. Load up all ya folks."

Those who were riding the horses gave a hand to help the parents and the children get the wheelbarrows ready and off for the short funny part of the race. They all cheered when the goal line was reached.



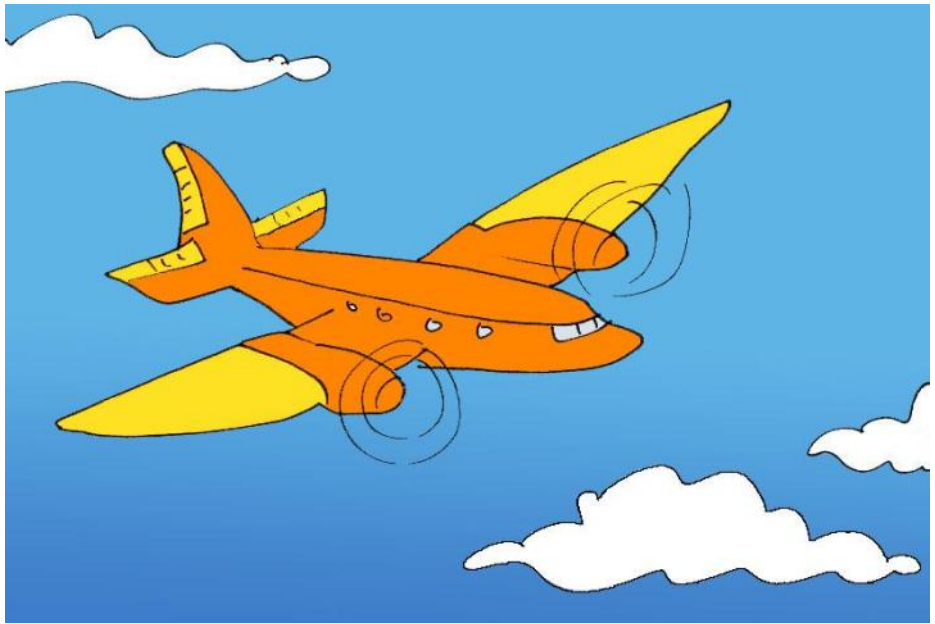


The children then got to have turns sitting on the horses and some got to feel the horses trot slowly around in the paddock.

The flag man signalled as soon as the wheelbarrows had arrived, and gave the “go ahead” to the team of young people, led by Berry Beary Fit, who were to do some “cross country” running to the next stopping point.

Each runner was in position and the second the signal was given were off to a good and fast start. They had had plenty of time to warm up their muscles, and stretch and get prepared. So when it was time to race they were ready, and wouldn't as easily pull a muscle.

Their destination was to the small airfield, where a twin propeller plane was to take off. The engine could already be heard as the runners neared the spot. Within seconds of arriving, the runners got to see the plane take off and head for the sky.



It was a short flight, and would land in a large field a few kilometres away. Most of the townsfolk were there waiting for the plane to touch down. As soon as it landed the whistle would blow and the time would be noted.

“Hurray!!” everyone cheered. The race was over, and besides some tired participants, everyone had been safe and had done well in looking out for each other.

Everyone was waiting to hear how they did on timing that year. Berry Beary Kind spoke on the mega phone, and news reporters were ready to write it down for the morning’s paper the next day so all could hear.

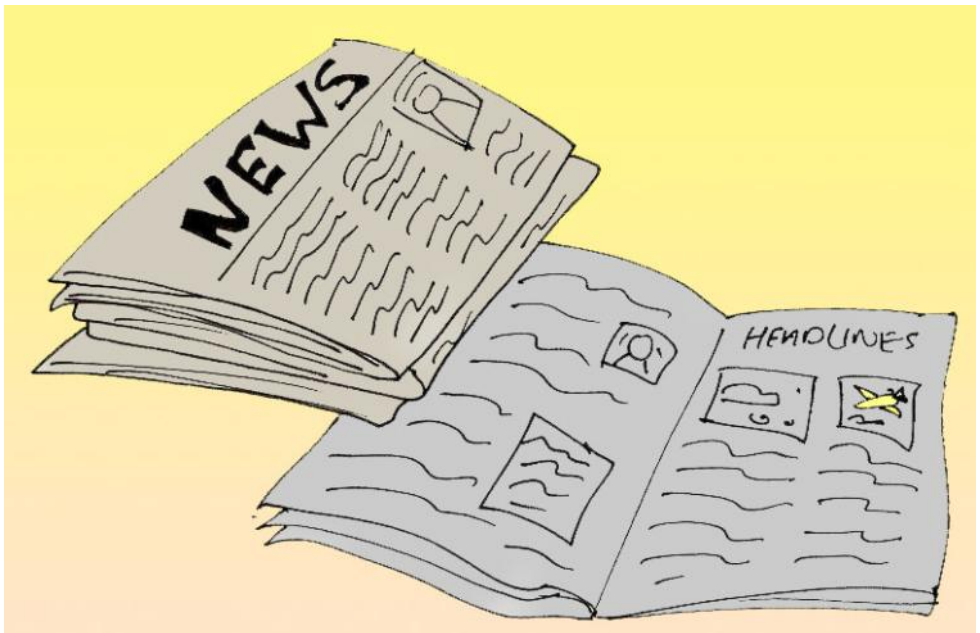
“You all did so well—both those that did the racing, and those that helped them to prepare during the year. We were all a team! Everyone worked together well, and just had fun. And I’m happy to announce that the race this year finished 15 minutes earlier than last year!”

There was a big cheer heard! The hard work of preparing and practicing and being strengthened throughout the year had paid off.

Each participant was rewarded for their efforts with a big fun meal that night. Each family cooked and brought something delicious to eat at a big buffet style meal held at the park. There were large tables filled with all sorts of treats.

Berry Merry Song and his band were playing live music to add a joyful atmosphere. A fun time was had by all.

“What a great way to end a great day!” Berry Beary Kind said to those around him, as he sipped his tea,. There were enough smiles to show that everyone else felt the same.



## Family Fun Festival

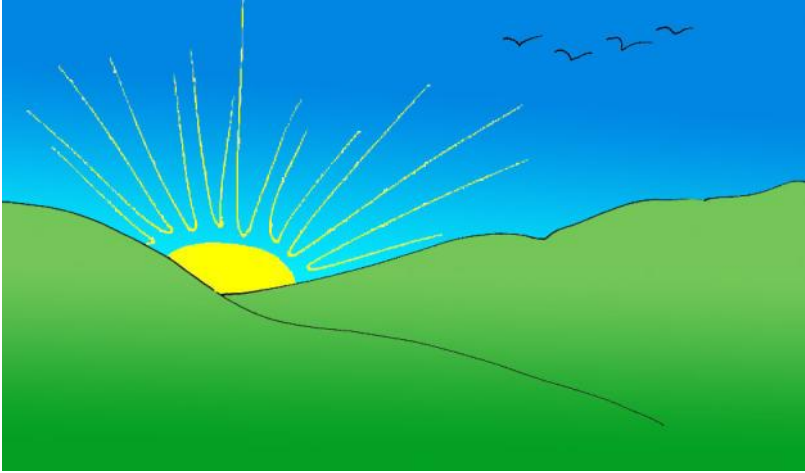
Berry Beary Kind rose quickly this morning. He freshened up, and grabbed a quick breakfast. In a blink he was off, out the door, with his jacket in hand and the keys to his quad.

Today was the day of “The Children’s Festival” and there was lots of set up to be done before the families started to arrive. There were tables and shades to be set up, trash cans to place around, food to order and put in place, chairs to set up beside the outdoor stage, speakers and sound system to try out, and on went the list.

But something stopped him before he got more than a few steps down the path leading to his garage. “Oops. I think I’ve just forgotten the most important part of the day.” He walked back and sat down on his porch step.

“Prayer is the only way to make things go well today—and to do it all right. There’s no telling what disaster could happen, if I don’t get God’s help. I sure need it today, that’s for sure!” he chided himself.





After presenting it all to the Lord, he now had a calm heart—instead of worrying that things wouldn't get done in time. He knew he had the best help possible on its way.

When Berry Beary Kind got to the place he realized he was the only one there. It was chilly in the morning, and hard to wake up early but he had hoped others would be there too.

“Oh, well, I've got a Friend helping me anyway—nothing will be too difficult for Him. Together we're a good team,” he thought, thinking of Jesus, Who he knew was always ready to help. “I'm never really alone,” he remembered.

As the sun continued to rise Berry Beary Kind whistled as he set up each display table, covering them with cloths. He imagined the smiling faces and happy families that would be coming later on. He actually rather enjoyed this fresh morning quiet time alone—just him and Jesus of course.

But he wasn't to do it all—the Wonderbears were to make sure of that. After about 20 minutes Berry Beary Kind heard the sound of the Wonderbears special vehicle. “I wonder what they are up to now?” he thought.



The place was soon a busy hive of action. In every corner and spot these helpful bears were at work, making things so very easy for Berry Beary Kind. He felt now that he hardly had to do a thing! In record time it all was completed. There was even spare time to have a chat and cup of tea together with the Wonderbears. They laughed and enjoyed a fun time of friendship, before they each were off to their next kindness act.

When Berry Beary Kind walked back to the festival grounds, he found the others who had promised to be there to help, finally start to show up. And boy, were they shocked to see that it was all done!

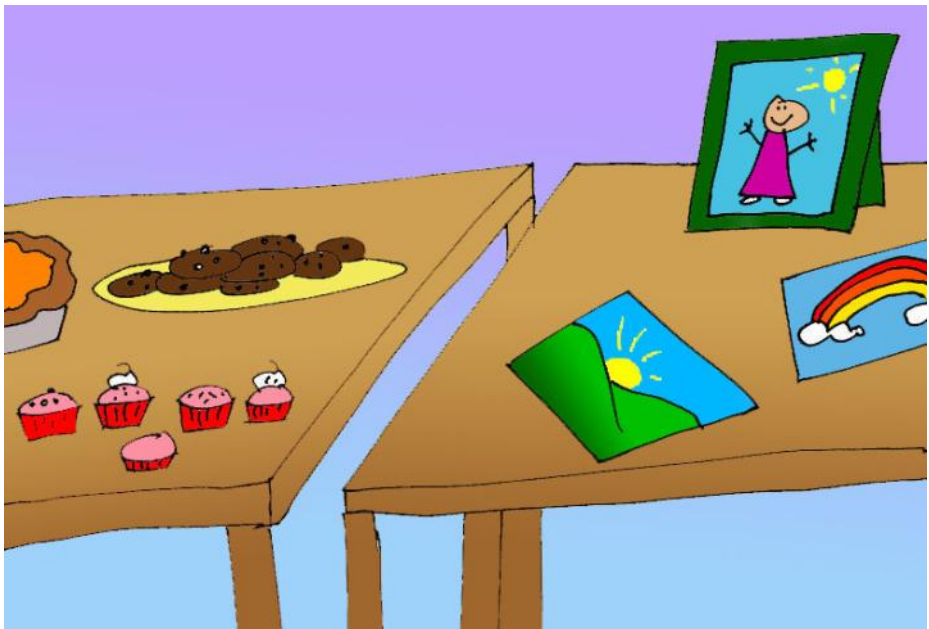
“Thanks for coming,” Berry Beary Kind said to them all, and then explained about his prayer for the day, and then the Wonderbears showing up. “Instead of rushing around now, why don’t you all enjoy a nice breakfast at ‘Baker Bear’s Breakfast’ cafe that’s nearby.”

They all thought that sounded wonderful! With the strength from a good meal, the helpers could help now at the festival more cheerfully, when the people came—instead of being tired. It was all working out so well.

An hour and a half later, the children began to come. Some used the tables to display their experiments and art projects, others placed baked goods and snacks they'd helped to make.

Some sat and watched the shows being performed in the outdoor theatre. Some families just picnicked and played at the park nearby. But whatever each family chose to do, it seemed all were having fun.

At one point it looked like clouds were going to start a shower. But all Berry Beary Kind had to do was call on his always-there-Friend to take care of it. And after a prayer, the sun poked its head out again, and it was a warm, but not too hot day.



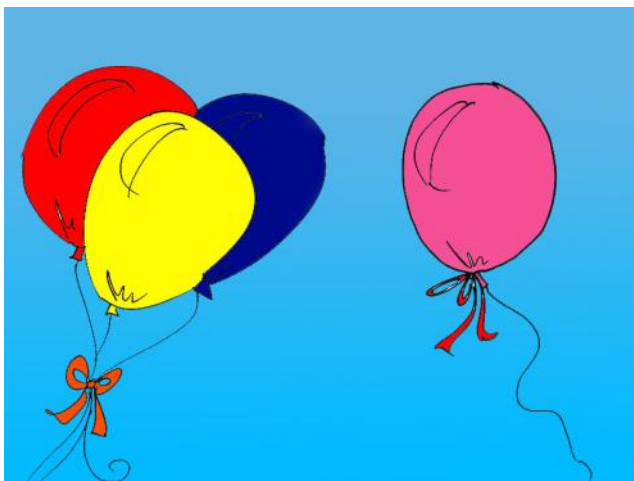
A little girl walked up to Berry Beary Kind and offered him one of her several balloons. "Here's a balloon for you, Berry Beary Kind," she said.

"Thank you," he said, as he took it, and waved as she was going home now with her family. He was glad they'd put the time and effort into making the festival happen.

With all the smiles he was seeing, it was worth it, even though it was lots of work to plan, talk about, prepare, set up, and now clean up too, once everyone was gone. But the fun would be remember for a long time later.

Once everything was cleaned up, and Berry Beary Kind sat on his favourite chair, eating a warm dinner, he glanced at the news on TV, for what was happening in Berry Beary Town. It showed parts of the festival that had taken place that day. It made him smile once more. It was worth the effort, and he knew the secret to all going so well.

"When prayer is the main ingredient of your day, things turn out well," he mused. "It only takes a minute or two, but can save you hours of trouble--and add hours of fun to the day!"





## The Big Balloon

It was the first day of the Autumn festival, and on this day several hot air balloons are sent up. Each one had something special written on the balloon. Berry Beary Kind loaded up his supplies, and with the help of the balloon team, got his blown up and ready to lift.

He was going up with his mother and father. He wanted them to get a good view of the whole town. Up, up, up they went.

“Wow! We can see so far down!” Berry Beary Gentle said.

“There’s the playground near our house,” pointed out Berry Big Beary, his daddy.

They were having a nice time—till they heard a call, coming from another balloon, that was coming closer and closer.

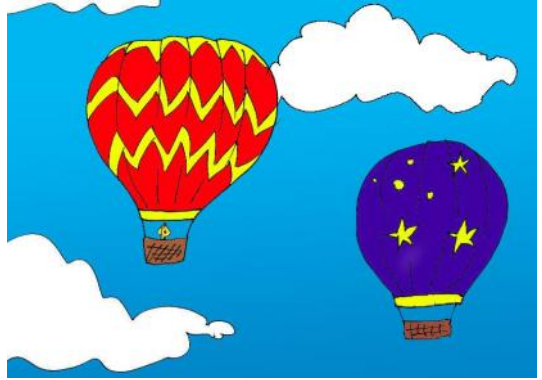
“We just don’t have enough fuel! Our balloon is going lower and lower! I guess we’ll have to land! Bye! See you later!” they said, while rapidly descending.

Berry Beary Kind and his parents stopped to pray right then. “I wish I could do more!” he said, “like fly out and catch the balloon and keep it up in the air!”

“Yes,” said Berry Big Beary. “But if we pray, then the Lord will catch them for us. It’s the best we can do. It’ll help more than anything else we wish we could do.”



So they prayed for a safe landing, and for the balloon to have enough hot air till it got to a good landing place.



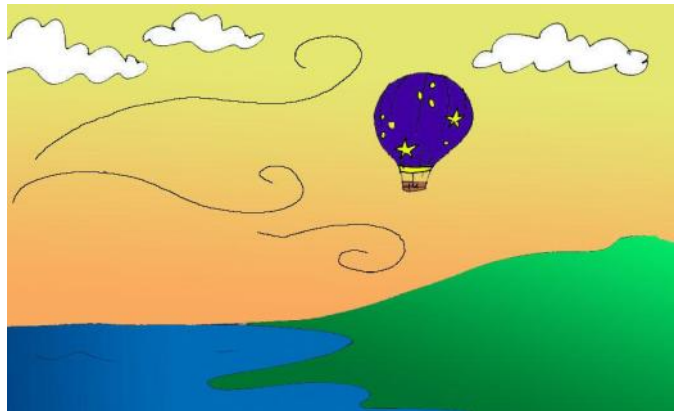
It was amazing. As soon as they prayed it seemed to change things. The wind started to blow a new direction. Instead of them heading towards the lake, where they might have landed, they were going towards a grassy hill. And thump! They landed!

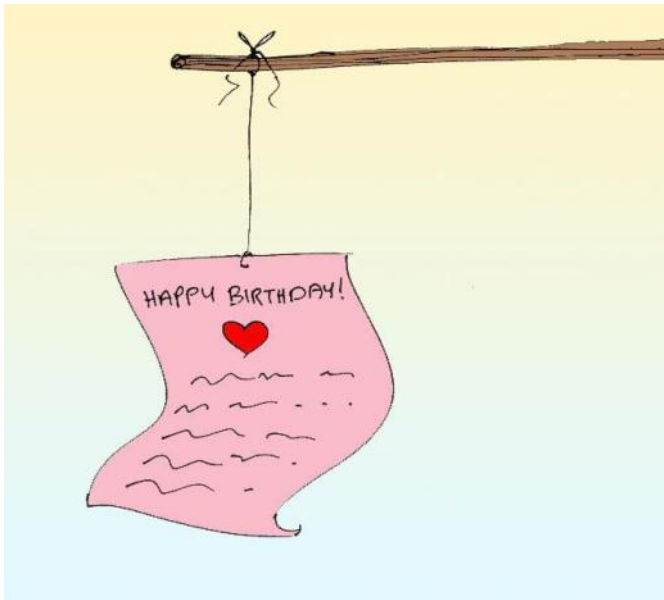
It knocked them around a bit, but they were all safe, and very happy. They waved up to those looking down with their binoculars to see if they were alright.

“I’d like to learn to be more of a ‘prayer bear’,” Berry Beary Kind said. “It really helps—it can do things that I can’t do, even if I tried with all my might. “

“We do what we can, and then ask the Lord to do the rest. He knows best how to care for situations that we just can’t—and in the best ways too,” added Berry Beary Gentle, giving her son a hug.

They were glad things had worked out so well—like they always do with the Lord’s help.





### **The Berry Big Birthday Bonanza**

When Berry Beary Kind woke up he felt something tickling his nose. Huh? He thought. He found a colourful piece of paper hanging down on a string, right in front of his face as he slept.

“What’s this?” It read: “Happy Birthday! From your berry good friends. Have fun on a treasure hunt. You’ll discover treats and fun things. Here is the first clue.”

“Wow! I nearly forgot, it is my birthday! This is going to be one cool day! I can hardly wait to get started!” But then he stopped himself.

Something was whispering in his heart that there was another Friend he’d forgotten. So he climbed back under his big fluffy warm blanket and, turned to look at his favourite picture of Jesus. He talked to Him about the last year, and thanked Him for taking care of him. Berry Beary Kind thought of all the fun adventures and lessons and helpful jobs he’d done.

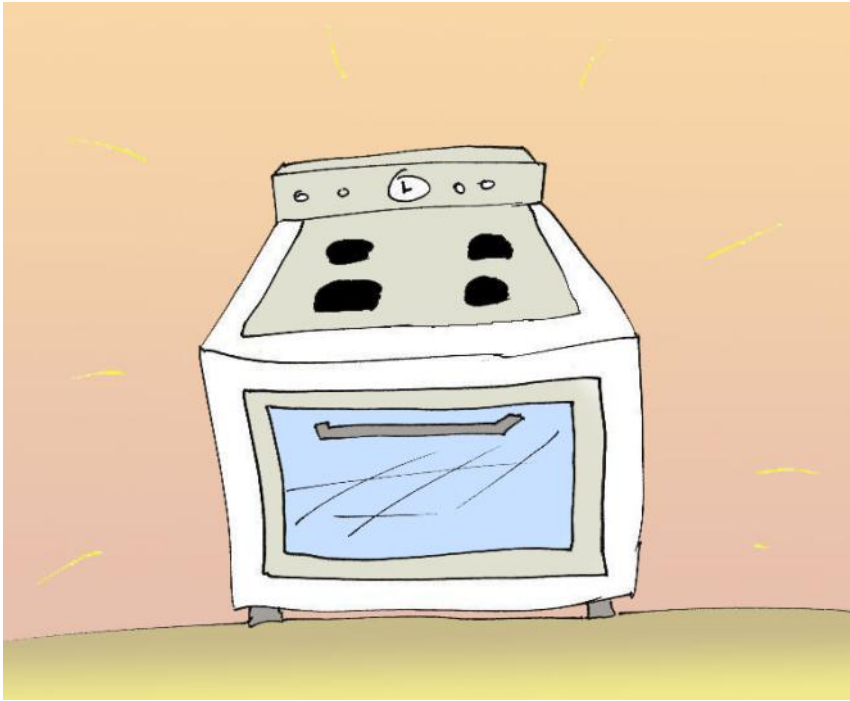
“Jesus, I know I couldn’t have had that great year and done anything nice for others, if You hadn’t been with me, and given me the strength and faith and good health and joy and all that I needed.”

Then Berry Beary Kind thanked Jesus for a whole list of things that had happened over the past year. He felt like a very rich man—I mean bear—as there were too many things to even list then that Jesus had done for him.

Then he got quiet to hear anything that His best Friend of all, Jesus, had to say to him on this berry, beary special day. Jesus said: “Because you have chosen to make others happy, before yourself, I and your friends will make you so happy today.”

With his love cup all filled up, he now climbed happily out of bed to begin the day of fun. He put on his bow tie and cap, and his favourite shiny belt. He was ready to eat. But before he cooked he thought to read the clue card. “Look somewhere you don’t usually look before you get your breakfast. Somewhere in the kitchen.”



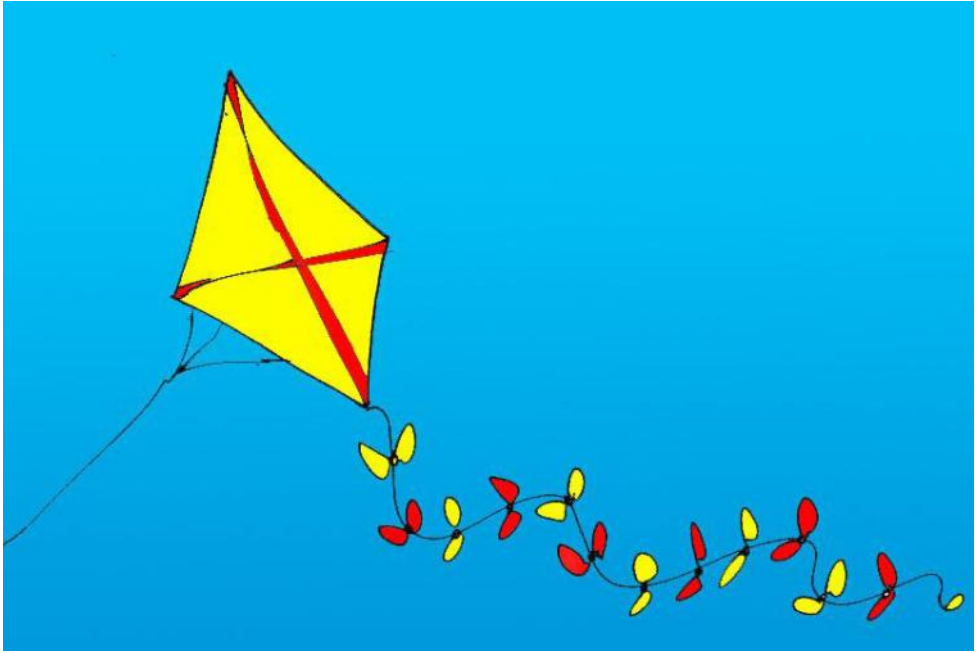


He looked in every kitchen cupboard, and under the table, and in the freezer. He was just about to give up when he thought to look in the oven.

“Oh wow!” he said. And there was a tray with his breakfast all made, all ready. And on it was a birthday card—plus another clue card. He took this tray to eat on his porch while outside listening to the birds, and reading something from his Bible.

He chose a verse to be the one to think about and do most in the new year. It said: “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.”

And he remembered his verse from his last birthday, “Bear ye one another’s burdens.” He tried to do that as often as he could.



The next clue card, that was on his breakfast tray, said to look by something that rings. He thought of the door bell, but just as he was on his way to look there, the phone rang. He answered it.

There was a crying little boy, saying that his favourite kite got stuck in a tree yesterday, and he really wanted to fly it again.

“I’ll be right there, don’t you worry,” he said. Even though it was his birthday, he still wanted to help anyone who might need him. “Hmmm, I think I’ll need a cherry picker for this job,” he thought, and phoned Mr. Perry.

“Sure, you can use my cherry picker this morning. I won’t be using it right now. Just come on over,” said Mr. Perry.

So Beary Berry Kind hopped in his car to drive on over to get the cherry picker. But as he went to turn the steering wheel, his hand touched on something.

“What’s this? A ticket? To what?” It was his next surprise.

A ticket to a concert with a big band and flashing special lights, that were to play some of his favourite songs. And it was to be for that night!

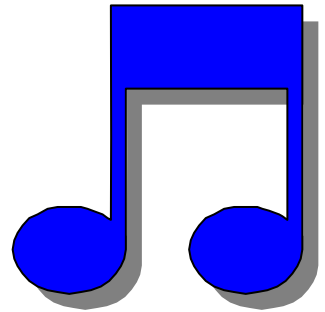
“Ah! So the clue wasn’t on the door bell, it was the phone, cause that can ring! And it was to see if I was going to answer and help someone else. This is getting even more fun!”

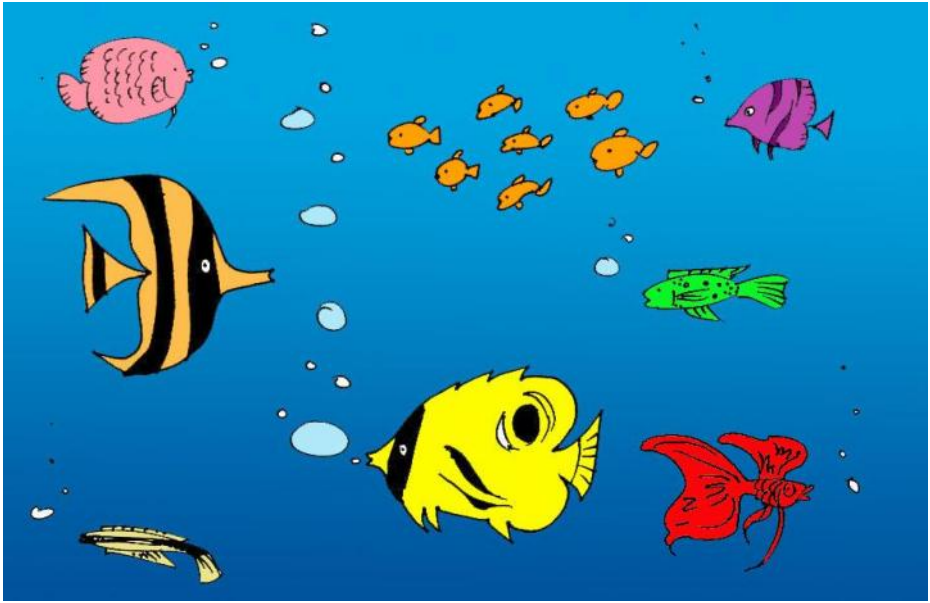
He got the cherry picker and got the kite down, and gave it to a very happy boy.

“Here you go, Donny!” said Beary Berry Kind, as he handed it to the boy. “Oh, thank you so much. And my mommy said that it is your birthday, and to give this to you.”

“Really? What is it?” He opened a small box, and in it was a toy car.

“Push the button!” said the boy. And it was a musical car that made the birthday song as it drove! He thanked the boy, and then drove off to return the cherry picker truck, and then on to his home again.





When he got to his house there was a sign on his door, inviting him to visit the neighbour's house, for a birthday tea party snack. He found out that there wasn't just his neighbour there, but lots of his friends as well! It was like a surprise party.

They all appreciated him, gave him hugs, and shared some gifts with him. They also showed him a video that lots of people had helped to make, telling him thank you for the ways he had helped them. It really touched his heart, and he felt full to overflowing with love!

In the afternoon he went on a fun outing with his mummy and daddy. They took a ride on a glass-bottom boat, and saw the fish and marine life in the sea.

He invited Berry Merry Song, a very good musician to come to the concert at night with him.

He ended his day laughing and happy to use his next year to love and help others!