

RED PAPER KITE

TEACHER'S

Notes

Daisy and Bear

and the Very Ordinary Day



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Author
Haylee Hackenberg

Illustrator
Bianca Pozzi

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Synopsis

Daisy and Bear live in a small house and do the same ordinary things every day ... or do they?

Follow the adventures of this delightful brother and sister duo as they find the sparkle and fun in the daily routine of family life. With charming pencil illustrations by Bianca Pozzi, this is a delightful book that values innocence, imaginative play and love.

Themes

Imagination, creativity, play, family relationships, mindfulness

About the Author: Haylee Hackenberg

Haylee Hackenberg is a debut author and a professional writer from Brisbane, Australia. She shares a home with her family and many rescue animals. For as long as she can remember, Haylee has been fascinated by stories. A shameless book collector, Haylee is passionate about embedding a love of literature in children. When she isn't at her trusty laptop, Haylee is strolling through forests and finding excuses to visit the beach. Delighted by the whimsy of childhood, Haylee is excited by the opportunity to capture the joy of the everyday through her stories.

Haylee's inspiration

Like many parents of young children, I found myself plagued by the pressure and guilt that comes with wanting to fill the lives of my little ones with as much joy as possible. At bedtime one evening, I apologised to my four-year-old daughter for what I perceived as a 'boring day'. Wide-eyed, my daughter protested with a detailed list of all of the extraordinary and imaginary events that had filled her day. Thus, the seed for Daisy and Bear was planted.

About the illustrator: Bianca Pozzi

Bianca is a freelance illustrator and pattern designer. She creates illustrations using paint and coloured pencils.

Her work is inspired by fairytales and fables, classic illustrations, tiny creatures and the natural world. Her clients include Hallmark, Oopsy Daisy, C.R. Gibson, RSVP/Sellers Publishing, Fabric Editions, American Greetings, Woodmansterne, Papyrus and many more. She lives in Brazil with her husband and her little dog, and works from her tiny studio with a lovely view of a field with horses.

Bianca's inspiration

My main inspiration for the book was also one of the biggest inspirations for my work in general – the children's books I read when I was young. I don't have them anymore and probably in my mind they are much different from what they really were, but what I kept with me is the sense of magic and playfulness I got when reading them. I always try to capture this with my artwork, and I had a great chance to do this with Daisy and Bear. There's also the fact that this book was illustrated while we were living through the biggest pandemic of our time, which kept us at home more than ever. So playfulness and imagination has never been more important, and I wanted to show this through my artwork. I was also pregnant with my first baby while illustrating the book, and this had a big impact on my work – I'm constantly evaluating the world I want my child to live in, and imagination and magic will definitely be a part of it. My pregnancy also had an influence on the colours, mood and tone for the artwork. I wanted them to be gentle, soft and warm, as every child's world should be.

Educational topics

This book will encourage conversation about finding fun and possibilities in ordinary tasks and daily routine. It may also lead to activities that focus on creativity, play and family relationships.

Discussion topics

Before reading the book

- Look at the cover. What do you think this book might be about? Who might the main characters be? What are they doing?
- Read the back cover blurb. Predict what kinds of adventures Daisy and Bear might get up to.
- What kind of story do you think this will be? For example, funny? Serious? Mysterious?

After reading the book

- What was your favourite adventure of Daisy and Bear's? Why?
- List words to describe the main characters.
- What kinds of things did Daisy and Bear imagine? What parts do you think were real?
- Do Daisy and Bear's mum and dad also imagine things? How can you tell?

Additional activities

The Arts

Visual literacy

- Write a description of the style of the illustrations in the book.
- Which colours stand out the most to you in the illustrations? Why do you think the illustrator might have chosen them?
- Choose your favourite illustration in the story and explain why you like it so much.

Art/Craft

- Make your own edible finger paint. Use it on butcher's paper to create some fabulous artworks.
- Create and decorate a picture frame made from popsticks or cardboard, then use it to frame your artwork.
- Glue drinking straws, buttons or pasta shapes onto a template of the Eiffel Tower.
- Make a tiger mask from a paper plate and craft materials.
- Make a castle from cardboard boxes and recycled materials.
- View paintings by famous artists and discuss which ones you like the best. You might like to recreate the style of one or two using various art mediums.
- Use a paper or plastic bowl and collage shapes to make a patchwork turtle (Work sheet 4).
- Create Daisy and Bear paper dolls [Worksheets 7 &8]
- Colouring activity: in Daisy and Bear and their parents [Worsheet 6]

Language

Writing

- Write a procedure for making spaghetti with a simple sauce.
- Plan and write a bedtime story you think Daisy and Bear would like to hear.
- Write a cinquain poem about a turtle or a tropical fish.
- Write a fact sheet about a famous chef such as Jamie Oliver, Wolfgang Puck, Curtis Stone or Emeril Lagasse. What are their signature dishes?
- Use the prompt 'One ordinary day ...' to write scenarios that you and your friends would enjoy role playing.
- Write a book review (Worksheet 5).

Oral language

- In pairs, role play each of Daisy and Bear's ordinary day scenarios.
- Discuss which of Daisy and Bear's adventures you would most like to take part in.
- If you could wish upon a twinkling star, what would you wish for? What might your favourite book characters wish for? Write and perform short speeches that express these wishes (Worksheet 2).

Word study

- Write a list of the adjectives used in the story. Draw a picture for each one that shows its meaning.
- The word Parisian is used in the story to describe things that come from Paris. Make a list of words used to describe people or things that come from other cities and countries. For example, Londoner, Sydneysider, Singaporean, Turkish, Peruvian etc. Plot them on a map of the world.

Society and Environment

- Create your own breakfast or brunch with a French theme! For example, you might try croissants, crepes, galettes, baguettes, omelettes and quiche (Worksheet 3).
- Research some African animals you might see on a safari and write some interesting facts about each one.
- Ask your parents/grandparents what their favourite childhood imaginary games were. How do these compare to your own imaginary games?

Music

- Using items you find around the house, design and make a musical instrument (Worksheet 4).
- Plan and write some fun new lyrics for a familiar pop song.

Further information

- Imaginative play is vital to child development. It helps to teach young children social skills like empathy, cooperation and compromise. It also promotes physical and emotional development.
- Imaginative play allows children to try out new vocabulary and learn about the power of language.

Worksheet 1

Tissue box guitar

Make your own guitar to play while you sing to your adoring fans!

You will need

An empty tissue box

A long cardboard tube (the inside of a paper towel roll is perfect!)

Three or four rubber bands of different thicknesses

Two pencils

Wrapping paper

Sticky tape

Scissors

A glue stick

Stickers, glitter and/or coloured paper to decorate your guitar

What to do

1. Wrap the tissue box and the cardboard tube with the paper. Fix it in place with the sticky tape. Ask an adult to help you cut the paper around the hole in the tissue box.
2. Ask an adult to help you cut small tabs into one end of the cardboard tube. Bend back the tabs and stick them onto one end of the tissue box with sticky tape.
3. Stretch some rubber bands over the tissue box to make the strings. Make sure each one goes over the hole in the box.
4. Slide the pencils under the rubber bands. Push one pencil to one end of the box and the second pencil to the other end.
5. Decorate your guitar however you like. Now try it out!



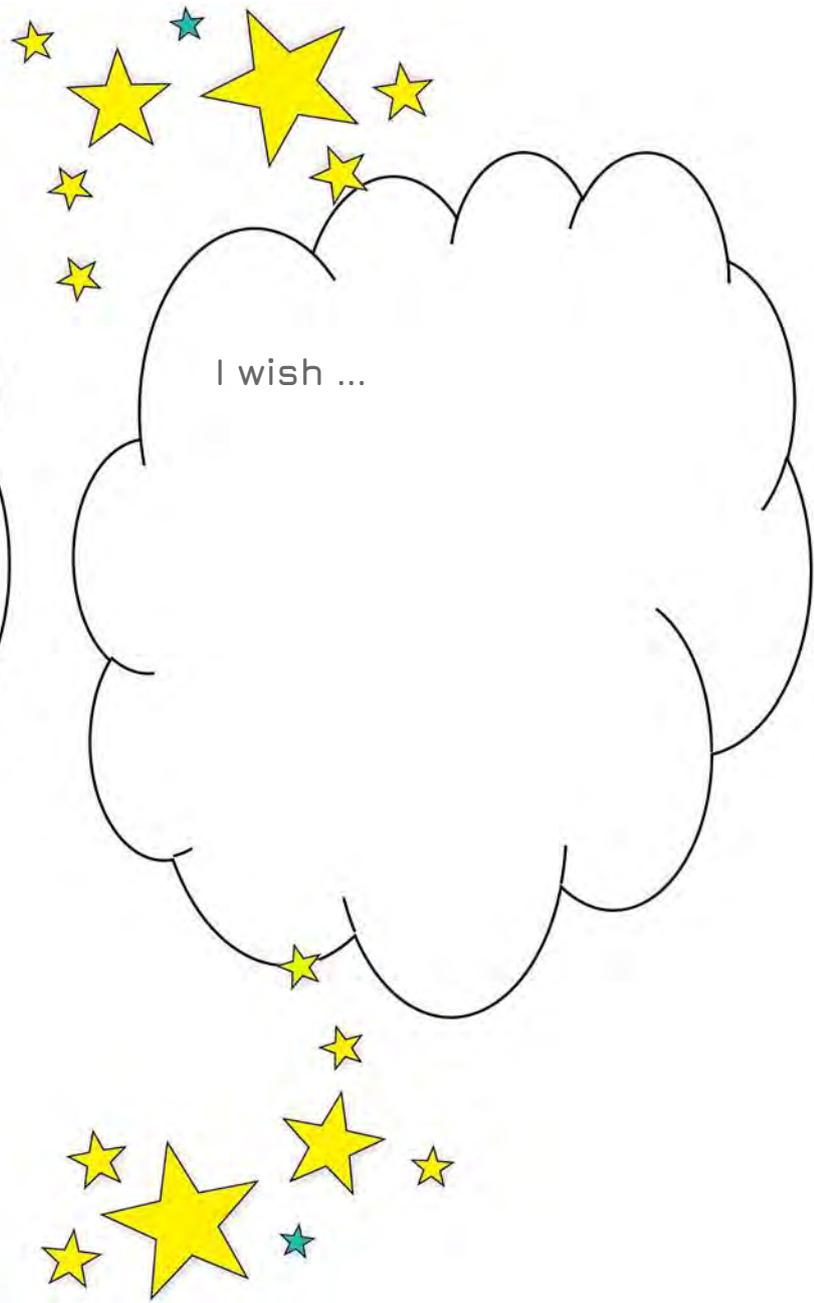
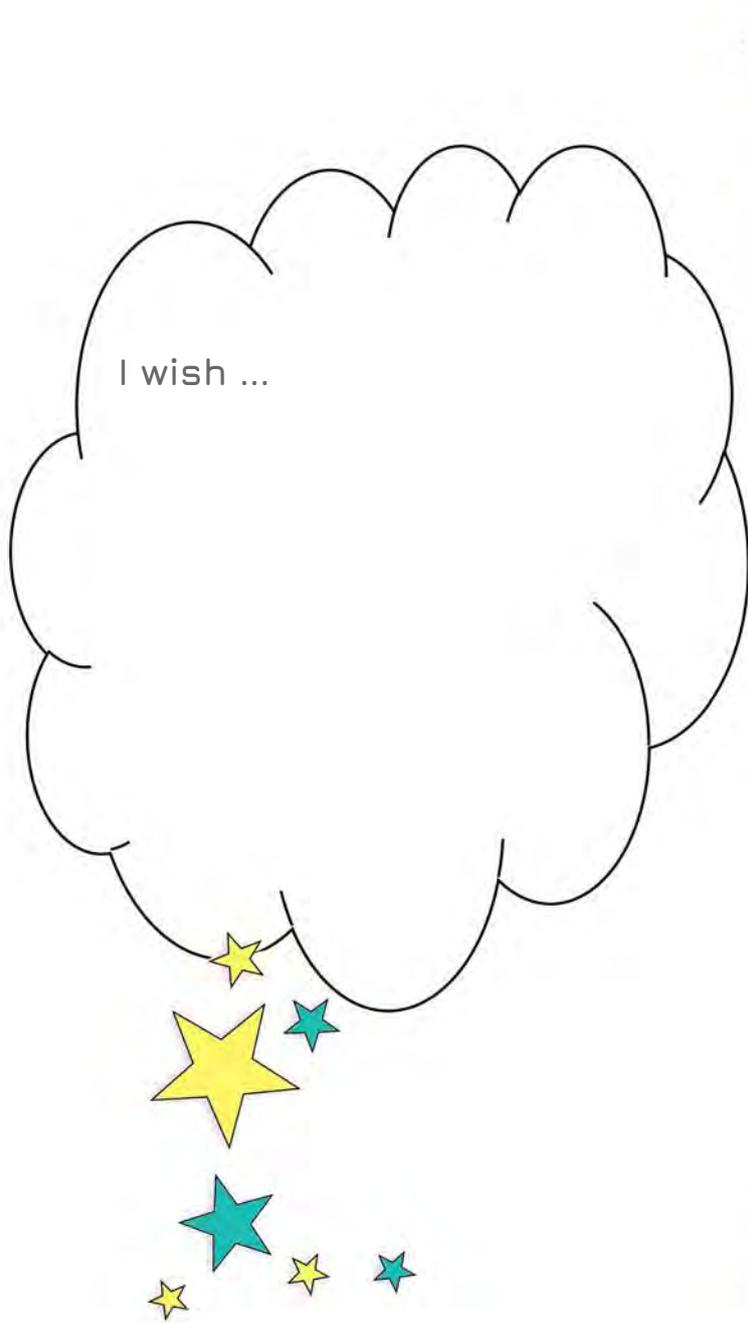
Worksheet 2

Wish upon a star!

If you could make a wish upon a star, what would it be?

What do you think your favourite book character might wish for?

Draw yourself and your favourite character below, then write a wish for each of you.



A picture of me

A picture of

Worksheet 3

Impossible quiche recipe

Make this impossible quiche to serve for a Parisian breakfast!

You will need

4 eggs, lightly beaten

1½ cups of milk

1 tablespoon of melted butter

½ cup of self-raising flour

1 small onion, chopped

1 cup of grated cheese

Chopped ham, grated zucchini or chopped tomato (optional)

A 26-centimetre pie dish, greased

A spoon

A large bowl

What to do

1. Preheat oven to 180°C.
2. Mix all of the ingredients together in the bowl.
3. Pour the mixture into the greased pie dish.
4. Bake for 40 minutes or until golden brown and set.



Worksheet 4

Patchwork turtle

Make a patchwork turtle to take on your deep sea diving adventures.

You will need

A paper or plastic bowl

Assorted collage shapes or coloured paper cut into small pieces

Green paper for the head and flippers

Two googly eyes

Paste

Double-sided tape

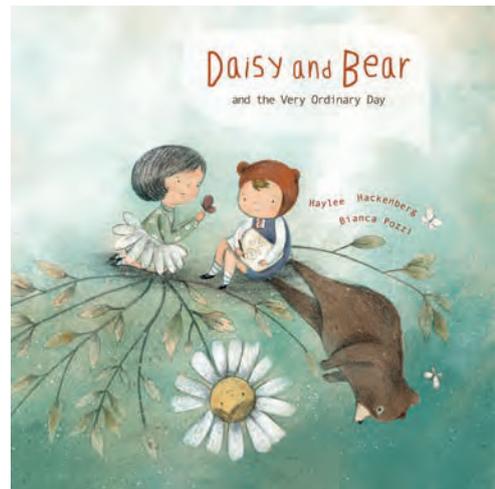
What to do

1. Use the paste to stick the paper shapes to the bottom of the bowl. Make sure they overlap.
2. Cut out a head and four flippers for your turtle. Attach them to the bowl with the double-sided tape.
3. Use the paste to stick the googly eyes to the head.

Enjoy your adventures under the sea together!



BOOK REVIEW



Title

The main characters are

The story is set

What happens in the story

Did you like the story? Give it a score.



