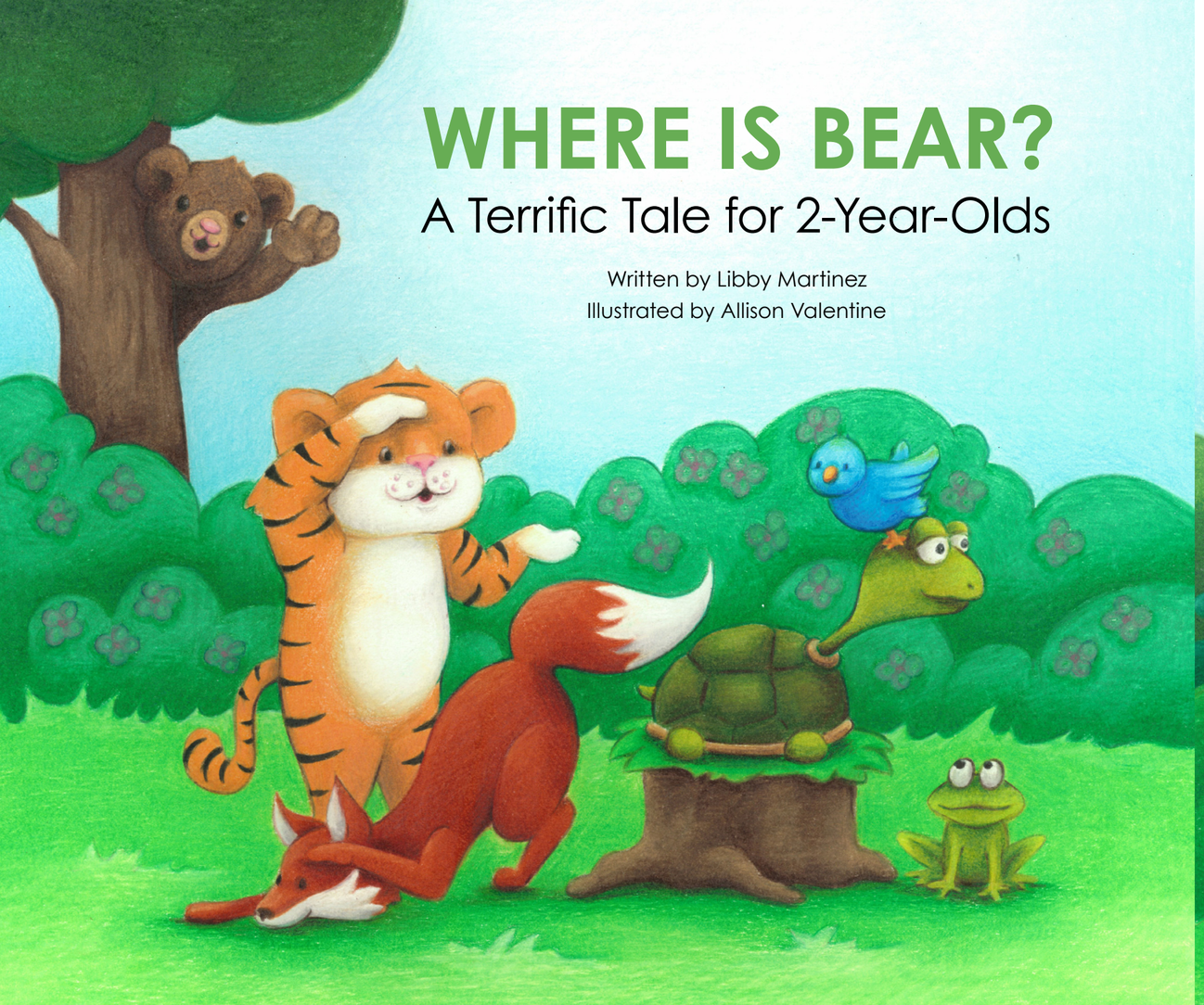
WHERE IS BEAR?

A Terrific Tale for 2-Year-Olds

Written by Libby Martinez
Illustrated by Allison Valentine



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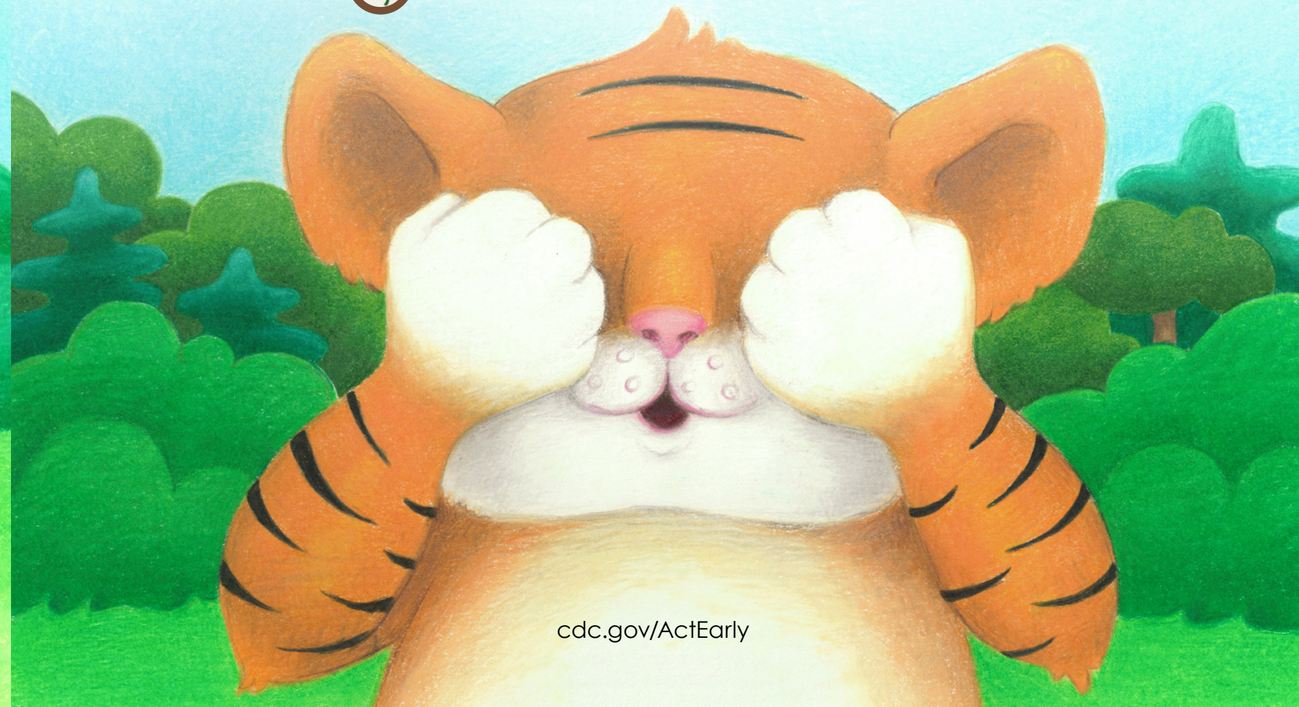
Parents: look for the leaf to learn important developmental milestones to look for in your child by age 2!



cdc.gov/ActEarly

Bear and Tiger are 2 years old.
They are friends.
This is Bear.
This is Tiger.
Parents: look for the leaf to learn important developmental milestones to look for in your child by age 2!
2
Bear and Tiger have a favorite game.
It's called, "Where is Bear?"
Do you want to play?
Cover your eyes while Bear hides!
MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children follow simple instructions.
3

Let's ask Bird if she sees Bear.
Bird lives in a _____.
Knock two times on Bird's tree.
Knock. Knock. "Bird! Bird!"

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children name items in a picture book.

"Where is Bear? Is he in the tree?" asks Tiger.
"No," says Bird. "But I will help you find him."
"Great, Bird! I'll fly like you!" says Tiger.

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children copy others, especially adults and other children.

Let's ask Frog if he sees Bear.
Frog lives in a pond.
Splash the water and call Frog.
Splash. Splash. "Frog! Frog!"

Splash.
Splash.

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children follow two-step instructions.

"Where is Bear? Is he in the pond?" asks Tiger.
"No," says Frog. "But I will help you find him."
"Bird, look how high Frog jumps!" says Tiger.

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 18 months, most children point to show others something interesting.

Let's ask Fox if she sees Bear.
Fox lives in a cave.
Fox likes to run.
Can you run like Fox?

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children begin to run.
By age 2, most children begin to include others in chase games.

"Where is Bear? Is he in the cave?" asks Tiger.
"No," says Fox. "But I will help you find him."

Let's ask Turtle if he sees Bear.
Turtle likes to hide in the leaves.
Let's pretend we're the wind
and blow the leaves away.

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children play simple make-believe games.

"Where is Bear? Is he in the leaves?" asks Tiger.
"No," says Turtle. "But I will help you find him."

Do YOU know where Bear is?

"He's where?" asks Tiger.

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children point to things in a book.

"Bear! Bear is up there!" says Tiger.
"We found him!"

"Hooray!" his friends say.
"Let's play again!"

MILESTONE MOMENT
By age 2, most children get excited when with other children.

DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES FOR TERRIFIC 2-YEAR-OLDS

Watch and see if your 2-year-old can do each of these milestones.

Take this book and talk with your child's doctor at your next well-child visit.

Social/Emotional Milestones

- ☐ Copies others, especially adults and older children
- ☐ Gets excited when with other children
- ☐ Shows more and more independence
- ☐ Shows defiant behavior (doing what he has been told not to)
- ☐ Plays mainly beside other children, but is beginning to include other children, such as in chase games

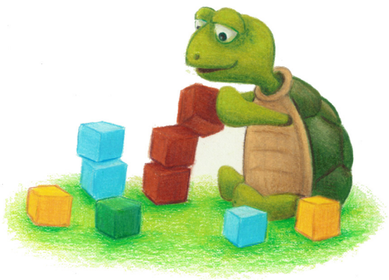
Language/Communication Milestones

- ☐ Points to things or pictures when they are named
- ☐ Knows names of familiar people and body parts
- ☐ Says sentences with 2 to 4 words
- ☐ Follows simple instructions
- ☐ Repeats words overheard in conversation
- ☐ Points to things in a book

Cognitive Milestones

(Learning, Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- ☐ Finds things even when hidden under two or three covers
- ☐ Begins to sort shapes and colors
- ☐ Completes sentences and rhymes in familiar books
- ☐ Plays simple make-believe games
- ☐ Builds towers of 4 or more blocks
- ☐ Might use one hand more than the other
- ☐ Follows two-step instructions such as "Pick up your shoes and put them in the closet."
- ☐ Names items in a picture book such as a cat, bird, or dog



Movement/Physical Development Milestones

- ☐ Stands on tiptoe
- ☐ Kicks a ball
- ☐ Begins to run
- ☐ Climbs onto and down from furniture without help
- ☐ Walks up and down stairs holding on
- ☐ Throws ball overhand
- ☐ Makes or copies straight lines and circles

Terrific Tips to Help Your 2-Year-Old Learn and Grow

How you can help your 2-year-old learn and grow:

- Give your child attention and praise when he follows instructions. Limit attention for defiant behavior. Spend a lot more time praising good behaviors than punishing bad ones.
- Teach your child to identify and say body parts, animals, and other common things.
- Do not correct your child when he says words incorrectly. Rather, say it correctly. For example, "That is a ball."
- Help your child do puzzles with shapes, colors, or farm animals. Name each piece when your child puts it in place.
- Ask your child to help you open doors and drawers and turn pages in a book or magazine.
- Kick a ball back and forth with your child. When your child is good at that, encourage him to run and kick.

Act early by talking to your child's doctor if your child:

- Is missing milestones for his or her age
- Doesn't use 2-word phrases (for example, "drink milk")
- Doesn't know what to do with common things, like a brush, phone, fork, spoon
- Doesn't copy actions and words
- Doesn't follow simple instructions
- Doesn't walk steadily
- Loses skills she once had

Don't wait. Acting early can make a real difference! Visit **cdc.gov/Concerned** for more information.

For more milestone checklists, tips, children's books for other ages and more, visit **cdc.gov/AmazingBooks or call 1-800-CDC-INFO** (1-800-232-4636) and ask for a free Milestone Parent Resource Kit.

THE TERRIFIC AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

About Libby Martinez, Author

Libby Martinez is an award-winning Latina children's book author and poet. She is the co-author of *I Pledge Allegiance* (Knopf/Random House), which was recognized as the Best Children's Picture Book (2015) by the Texas Institute of Letters and the International Latino Book Awards. *I Pledge Allegiance* also appeared on the Cooperative Children's Book Center's Choices List, the Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People List, the Kentucky Bluegrass Award Master List, the Maine State Library's Cream of the Crop List, and was a Scholastic Clubs & Fairs Selection. Libby is also the co-author of *Bravo, Chico Canta! Bravo!* (Groundwood Books), which was a Junior Library Guild Selection (Spanish Edition) and appeared on National Public Radio's Diverse Summer Reading List for Kids. Prior to becoming a children's book author and poet, she worked in the Texas political arena, served as the director of school and community partnerships for the Philadelphia Zoo, and founded a consulting and grant writing practice. Libby is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and Stanford Law School. You can learn more about her at libbymartinez.com.

About Allison Valentine, Illustrator

Allison Valentine, artist and illustrator, spends her time creating fun and colorful artwork. She has illustrated numerous children's books over the past 10 years. She resides in Connecticut with her husband, two young daughters, dog and three cats - all of whom provide endless inspiration for her art.

***Where is Bear?* is a fun, interactive way to encourage 2-year-olds in their development and to help parents monitor their children's attainment of important skills. It's a win-win for early development!**

—Lisa Shulman, MD
Developmental Pediatrician

My child loves *Where is Bear?*. Like me, you will read this one again, and again, and again!

—Brittney T.
Mother of 2-year-old

***Where is Bear?* truly is terrific, illustrating 2-year-old milestones in an engaging, interactive style. I highly recommend it for families and providers!**

—Janet L. Patterson, MD, FAAP
Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician

Meet Tiger, Bear, and their forest friends, Bird, Frog, Fox, and Turtle! In this terrifically unique and interactive tale, your 2-year-old child will help Tiger find Bear. Each step in your child's quest to find Bear highlights important milestones in your child's growth and development. Look for the leaf at the bottom of the page for these Milestone Moments. Be sure to review the milestone checklist and helpful parenting tips at the end of the book to learn more about your child's development.

Order this book and other FREE materials,
like milestone checklists and books for other ages,
at **cdc.gov/ActEarly/Orders**

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Learn the Signs. Act Early.
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