

# Lamont Books Standing Order

March 2012

*Teacher Notes and Activities*

## **A Bear and a Tree**

By Stephen Michael King

ISBN 9780670075829

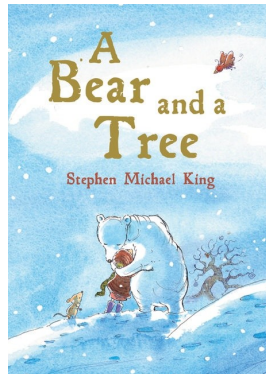
\$24.95

Ren knows that it's almost time for Bear's big sleep, but she needs just one more day with him.

One day to explore the winter together – the last of the coloured leaves, the snow as it floats and swirls to the ground, the sun and the moon and the stars.

One more day to play and dance and wonder.

*From this much-admired children's book creator comes a story of friendship and change, and of how precious time can be when we share it with those we love.*



### Themes:

- Friendship
- Change of season
- Hibernation

### Discussion Points:

- How would you describe the relationship between Bear and Ren?
- Is there a special friend in your life who you feel the same way about?
- Why are friends important in our life? Is every moment that we spend with them special?
- Why did Bear need to sleep? What is this called? Why do some animals need to do this?
- Can you answer the following questions that Ren asked Bear:
  - 'How does the snow fall?'
  - 'I wonder why snow is everywhere, all over?'
  - 'What makes it float and swirl before it touches the ground?'
- Think about the weather, and as a class, come up with at least ten other questions about how or why things happen.
- What are the main changes that occur between each season?

### Activities:

- Design a 'word find' using all the words that you can think of about weather and the change of seasons.
- 'Bear had a gift for making everything better'. Think of someone in your life who does this and then make a card or gift to tell or show them how important they are to you and how they make your life better.
- Following on from the discussion about Bear sleeping, study which animals hibernate and explore in depth the reason for this.