

## **Bird and Bear and The Special Day**

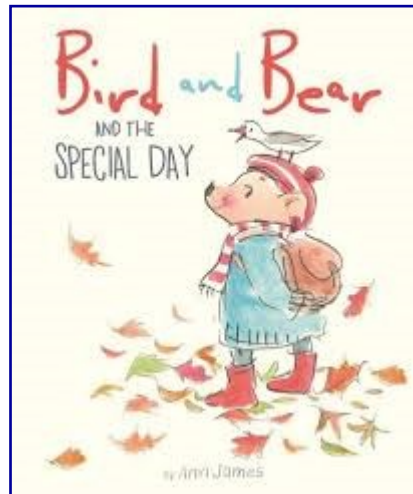
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Bird and Bear are the best of friends and love to discover the world around them. On Bird's birthday, the pair decide to spend the day in the local park. There are many special things to discover there, including shadows, high and low, big and small, wet and dry, but it looks like Bear has forgotten about Bird's birthday. Will he remember before it's too late?



### **Themes:**

- Opposites
- Shadowplay
- Friendship
- Special occasions

### **Discussion Points and activities:**

- Look at the cover and guess what the 'special day' might refer to. What special days do you celebrate?
- Can you guess what season it is from the clothes that Bear is dressed in and the leaves that he is walking through?
- Shadow play — stand outside and find your shadow. Can you make it bigger? Can you make it smaller? Create some fun shadow figures with your hands. Create a shadow play.
- What special gift does Bear give to Bird for her birthday?
- Name a special gift that you have received, and discuss why it is special to you.
- Bird and Bear are best friends who love playing together. What are some of your favourite things to do and games to play with your friends?
- Create an illustration of a birthday cake and place the number of candles you would need if it were your cake.
- Can you remember all of the 'opposites' that are mentioned in the story? What other ones can you think of?
- Bear takes his backpack to the park filled with some special treats. Draw your own backpack and the special things that you would take for a picnic at the park.