

# BIG BROWN BEAR'S UP AND DOWN

Bear is big and bear is brown and bear lives all alone. But then one day someone comes along who gives him a few tips about the ups and downs of having a friend.

Author and illustrator: David McPhail

Ages: 4 to 7 years

Pages: 48

Themes: Meeting new people and making new friendships; building a sense of humor; vocabulary building.

Meet Mr. Big Brown Bear. He lives in a house (that happens to be at the base of a tree), wears jammies and slippers, and eats breakfast just like you and me. It's fun to point out to your kids how the story characters parallel their own lives to some degree.

Throughout this book there are lots of references to up and down... 'got the bowl down from the cupboard' ... 'Up to the mountains, or down to the seashore. Up to the North Pole, or down to the South Pole'. Each time these words are used, have your child point in those directions. Not only does this help with understanding what these words mean but it also helps with listening skills.

In the story there are some words that they may not use in their regular conversation. When bigger words are used, stop and talk about what they mean so that you help build their vocabulary skills.

Abandoned – left behind                      Argument – quarrel

Maroon – darkish red color      Moth – insect with wings

Pacing – walking back and forth      Satchel – small bag