

Notice How Images Change

Book Title: *Bear Came Along* (Morris, 2019)

About the Book: Bear climbs atop a log, it breaks, and off he floats down the river. As he drifts along, Bear encounters other forest animals and, together, they have a grand adventure. Notice how the illustrations gradually change from black and white, sepia-toned pictures at the beginning of the book to full-color illustrations as Bear and his animal friends travel down river. Take time to read the author and illustrator notes found in the back to gain additional insights into the book.

To find a book like this one, look for the following:

- Illustrations that enhance or extend readers' understanding of characters, setting, and events
- Illustrations that change over the course of the book



Comprehension Conversation:

BEFORE READING

Notice the Cover Illustration:

- There is something missing from the cover, can you figure out what is missing? [The author and illustrator's names do not appear on the cover.] Look at the back cover, what do you see? [Other forest animals—they appear in color, the background is in black and white.] I wonder if these animals will be in the story? Turn and tell your neighbor what you think.

Front end papers:

- Look very closely. Can you find Bear coming out of his cave? What colors do you see in illustrations on the front end papers?

Set a Purpose: As we read *Bear Came Along*, keep your eyes on the illustrations. We'll talk about what we noticed after we finish reading the story.

DURING READING

[As you are enjoying the story and noticing the changes in illustrations, pause on the pages that read "until" and invite students to make a prediction about what they think might happen next.]

- **Froggy hopped on.** . . . page: Can you find any clues in the illustrations to help you predict what might happen next? [Notice that what appears to be rocks in the illustration on the top of the page, changes color in the illustration below it.]
- Animals on the edge of the waterfall two-page spread. Look carefully. What do you notice about this illustration? Look at the river bank they passed and compare it to where they are going. Why do you suppose the illustrator made the colors brighter as more animals joined Bear? Talk to your friend about that.



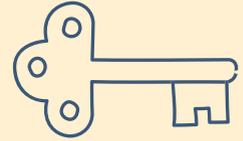
LEARNING TARGETS:

- I can study and discuss illustrations to better understand the story.
- I can talk, write, or draw about how the illustrations change over the course of the story.
- I can use what I learned from this book in my own life.

- *So many animals living their separate lives...* page: What do you infer the author is trying to tell us about the animal world?

AFTER READING

- Why do you think LeUyen Pham decided to make the colors get brighter as the story went along? Let’s look back at the last picture, what do you see happening? Turn and tell a neighbor. How does this page make you feel?
- Back end papers: Let’s compare the front end papers to the back end papers. How are they the same and different?



KEY VOCABULARY:

- aboard
- content
- detour



Extend the Experience:

There is so much to notice and study in LeUyen Pham’s illustrations! Who would like to work with a partner or team to find some interesting details we didn’t notice the first time we read the book? [Provide partnership or team with three or four sticky notes to mark the details they want to share. After the first group shares, invite another partnership or team to find additional details.]

- This story reminds me of life in our classroom. We were each living our separate lives until school came along. In the story, the animals learned something from one another. In our classroom, we also learn from each other. Write about something you’ve learned from a friend. You might want to use the words:

I didn’t know how to _____ until _____ came along.

Other similar titles:

By the Light of the Moon (Preston-Gannon, 2019)

Summary: In this cumulative, rhyming tale, lonely little frog sings in the swamp by the light of the moon. Upon realizing that singing alone isn’t fun, he seeks out other animals to add their songs to his. One by one they join him until frog notices a shy bug reluctant to add her voice. He encourages her by saying, “Only you can sing your song best.” Notice that the shy little bug, a firefly, is hiding on most of the pages.

The Night Gardener (Fan & Fan, 2016)

[Find a read-aloud experience for this title in *The Ramped-Up Read Aloud* (Walther, Corwin, 2019) on page 80.] <https://us.corwin.com/en-us/nam/the-ramped-up-read-aloud/book257402>

CHILDREN’S LITERATURE CITED:

Fan, T., & Fan, E. (2016). *The night gardener*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster.

Morris, R. T. (2019). *Bear came along*. New York, NY: Little, Brown.

Preston-Gannon, F. (2019). *By the light of the moon*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick.