

ANNIE AND THE WILD ANIMALS by Jan Brett

Houghton Mifflin Company, 1985

ABOUT THE BOOK

It had been a long winter and the snow was falling. Annie could not find Taffy anywhere. Annie waited and waited but her cat did not return so Annie decided to make some corn cakes and leave them at the edge of the woods to attract another small animal to be her pet. She could not believe it when a moose, a wild-cat, a bear and a stag appeared. What will Annie do? Will she ever see Taffy again?

TO INTRODUCE THE BOOK

Suppose that your family was ready to sit down to lunch when the doorbell rings and four friends come to visit. You have just enough food on the table for your family.

Working in groups of four, rank order what you would do first, second, third and last.

1. Add more water to the soup, cut the sandwiches in half and ask the visitors to join you.
2. Don't answer the door.
3. Go to the store and get more food.
4. Ask the visitors to wait while the family has lunch.

SING THE STORY

Choose words to complete each line in the song.

Tune: Hush Little Baby

day cakes away there found bear pet
 Once upon a winter day
 Little Taffy ran (1) _____
 Annie walked the frozen ground
 But her pet could not be (2) _____
 With corn (3) _____ she hoped to get
 An animal to be her (4) _____
 Moose and stag and growling (5) _____
 No small pet was eating (6) _____
 Then spring came, they went away
 Taffy came back home to (7) _____

SEQUENCING

Put the sentences in order to tell the story.
 Add capital letters and periods where needed.

1. annie wants to find a new pet
2. taffy wanders off into the woods
3. taffy comes back with a new family
4. there is no more corn meal
5. when spring comes the animals leave
6. annie makes corn cakes for the animals

THE DATA BANK

Use the information in the bear Data Bank in the patterns that follow.

THE GRIZZLY BEAR

Eats	Lives	Does
fish	N. America	hunts
insects	woods	hibernates in winter
berries	Alaska	makes bed of grass
rodents	mountains	weighs 1lb at birth
Looks Like		Has
brown fur		moist snout
four legs		five-toed feet
5-8 ft tall		sharp claws
500-700 lbs.		immense strength

Compare/Contrast Pattern

If I had the _____ of a _____
 I would _____
 And I'd _____
 But I wouldn't _____
 And _____
 Because _____ (do/does) that.

Descriptive Pattern

Hey kids! I have a _____
 for sale. It's the handiest thing you will ever
 want to own since it can _____
 and _____
 and _____
 and the greatest thing about it is _____

"If I Were" Pattern

Name the thing you want to be.
 Where is it found?
 One thing it would do for someone else.
 A second thing it would do.
 Repeat the first line.

If I were a blanket
 All snug in your bed
 I would curl all around you
 And keep you warm from toe to head
 If I were a blanket.