

# Masha and the Bear

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Animal, Family, Courage, Culture

**Book Brief:** Masha has to use her wits and her baking skills when she is captured by a bear.

**Author:**  
Storytime

**Illustrator:**  
Gaia Bordicchia



## BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover.

**The Pictures:** Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask students if anyone has gone camping, hiking or been to the woods or a forest. What kind of wildlife are they likely to see? Were there any rules to prevent people from getting lost or in danger?

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

**Purpose for Reading:** "As we read, think about the choices that Masha made to help her cope when she was in trouble."

## DURING READING

Check for understanding and make connections:

- What do you think Masha and her friends could have done to avoid getting lost in the forest?
- How did Masha out smart the bear?
- If you were the bear, what would you have done when Masha showed up in your cottage?

## AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "What lesson did Masha learn from her adventure with the bear?"

**Extending Our Thinking:** Students can create a chart with rules to help people stay safe in the outdoors. Draw a map showing the bears path from his cottage to Masha's house. Read [Goldilocks and the Three Bears](#) and compare the two stories. Extend you students' thinking further, Have them learn more about the Russian dish that Masha cooked Pirozhki, and list special dishes in their family or culture.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content such as [Stan and the Dragon](#) and [The Kingdom of the Ogres](#).