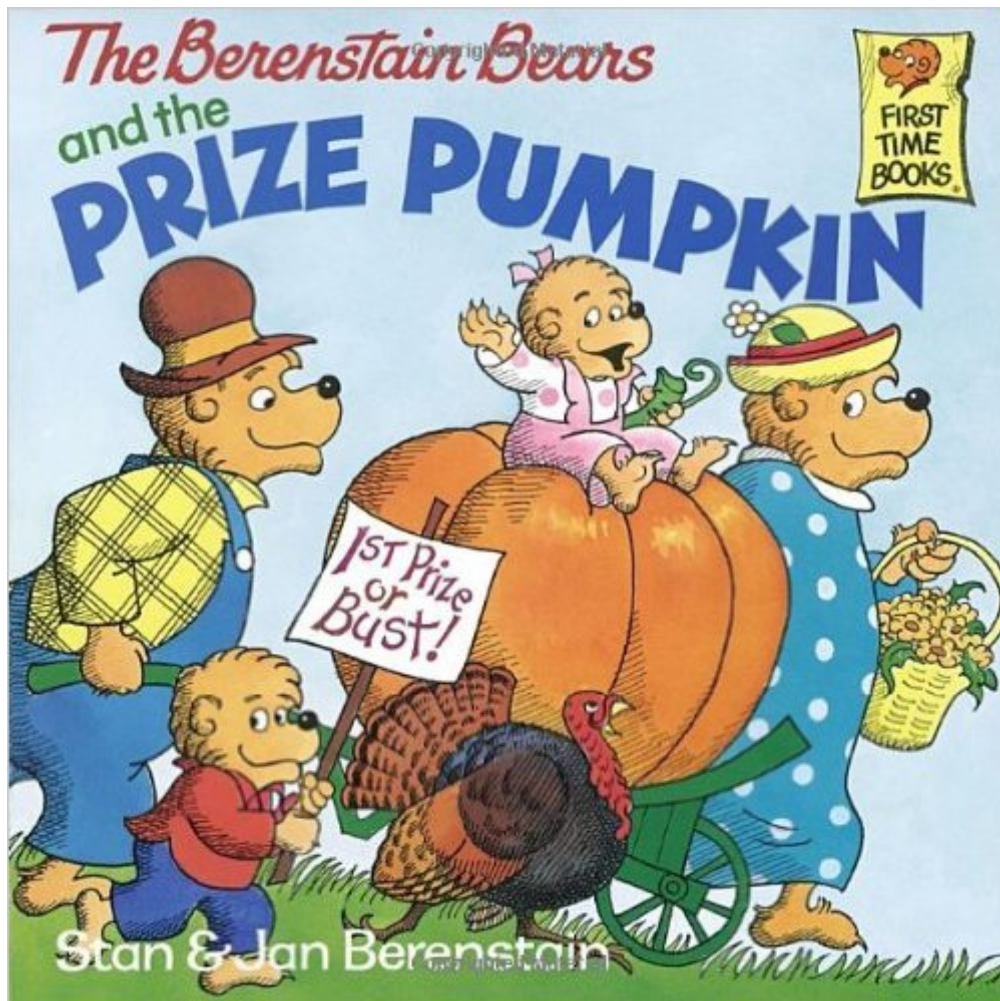


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The Berenstain Bears And The Prize Pumpkin



Synopsis

The Bear family might not win the blue ribbon for their entry in the pumpkin contest during the annual Bear Country Thanksgiving Festival, but they do gain a new appreciation of the true spirit of the holiday and all they have to be thankful for.Â Â

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 660L (What's this?)

Series: First Time Books(R)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers; First Printing edition (September 12, 1990)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679808477

ISBN-13: 978-0679808473

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #8,753 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 inÂ Books > Children's Books >

Holidays & Celebrations > Thanksgiving #70 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Holidays &

Celebrations > Halloween #79 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bears

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

It's Thanksgiving again, and time for the Pumpkin Contest!!! Papa is determined to beat Farmer Ben with his "Giant" pumpkin, although Thanksgiving isn't about contests, prizes, movies, TV specials, parades, etc. After hearing about Ben's "Monster" pumpkin, Papa and the cubs go spying on it, but Ben catches them in the act, thinking they're "proglers in the pumpkin feild!", so they don't get a chance of seeing it. Papa loses again (I think Ben cheated!), until Mama tells him about the spirit of Thanksgiving. Where's the jazz about the Pilgrims and the Native Americans!?

I raised all 3 of my kids on these books. My oldest daughter is a Nanny and she wanted this to read to her kids. They loved the story. We love all of these books. This one is especially meaningful.

We own over a dozen Berenstain Bear books, and The Berenstain Bears and the Prize Pumpkin is

one of my favorites. True to life, this book tells the story of how Papa Bear is jealous of Farmer Ben's pumpkin patch, and gets quite upset at Farmer Ben's comment that Papa Bear had a "nice little pumpkin patch". Papa Bear wants to win the annual Big Pumpkin Contest...and gets obsessed "The Giant" (the pumpkin he nurtures throughout the story in hopes of winning). As in most of the Berenstain Bear stories, Papa displays his pettiness and other faults, much to the chagrin of Mama Bear. But in the end, the family remembers what it means to give thanks and count your blessings: "It wasn't until they reached the crest of a hill that overlooked Bear Country that Mama decided to have her say. 'I know you're disappointed. But third prize is nothing to be ashamed of. Besides, Thanksgiving isn't about contests and prizes. It's about giving thanks. And it seems to me we have a lot to be thankful for.' Perhaps it was Mama's lecture, or maybe it was how beautiful Bear Country looked in the sunset's rosy glow. But whatever the reason, Papa and the cubs began to understand what Mama was talking about." Although Papa Bear's behavior and comments are eyebrow raising (as usual), the story has a wonderful moral and lovely illustrations (especially the sunset and nighttime scenes!).

I love, love, love this book! I bought it for my son so we could read it in the month of November and it was perfect because it is about Thanksgiving and what it's really about! Not only did I love it but so did my son...he just wanted me to read it over and over again! It's a must have to any book collection!

This book was a wonderful book. In it Papa Bear loses sight of what's important around Thanksgiving when he tries to beat out Farmer Ben in the Pumpkin Contest. After Farmer Ben tells Papa Bear that he has a "nice little" pumpkin patch Papa Bear does everything in his power to nurture his largest Pumpkin he calls, "Giant." Mama Bear tries to get him to realize that there are other things that are more important around this time of year than winning a silly contest. That is why this book would be helpful to little children it tries to help them to realize that they should be thankful everyday for what they have and not be competitive about things that in the long run won't matter anyway. It tells kids that they have a lot to be thankful for and that they should remember those things everyday. I would recommend it to any child who needs to learn the value of day to day life and how to respect and love everything about it.

Sandwiched between the mass marketing of Halloween and Christmas, Thanksgiving is often looked upon as being nothing more than the day Christmas shopping begins. The whole reason

behind Thanksgiving (taking one day out of the year to give thanks to God for all the blessing we have in our lives), just like Christmas, Halloween, and most other holidays is often lost in the superficialities of the day, e.g. parades and football games. Those petty events are summed up in **THE BERENSTAIN BEARS AND THE PRIZE PUMPKIN** as Papa Bear gets caught up in growing the biggest pumpkin in Bear Country for a pumpkin contest the weekend before Thanksgiving. In the process, Papa totally forgets the true meaning of the holiday, but is reminded at the end by Mama and Sister Bear. The book is a nice little story. However, for a book about Thanksgiving, it doesn't talk about giving thanks enough.

Poppa Bear finds himself in trouble, after entering the largest pumpkin contest. In growing his pumpkin he becomes entangled with a neighbor, wanting his pumpkin to be the biggest, and best, at all costs. He begins keeping his prized pumpkin under close attention!

As always the Berensain Bears books never disappoint! A second generation is enjoying story time with the bears. Not sure who has more fun the listener or the reader!

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