**Little Bear’s Friend** by Else Holmelund Minarik

Little Bear and Emily

Little Bear sat in the top of a **high** tree. He looked all above him at the wide, wide world.

He saw the green hills. He saw the river. And far, far away he saw the **blue** sea.

He saw the tops of trees. He saw his own house. He saw Mother Bear.

He could hear the wind sing. And he could feel the wind on his fur, on his eyes. He shut his eyes, and let the wind brush him. He **opened** his eyes, and saw two little squirrels. “Play with us,” they said. “No time,” said Little Bear. “I have to go home for lunch.”

He began to climb down and saw four little birds. “Look at us,” they said, “we can fly.”

“I can, too,” said Little Bear, “but I always fly down. I can’t fly up or sideways.”

He climbed down some more, and saw a little green worm. “**Hello**,” said the little green worm. “Talk to me.” “Some other time,” said Little Bear, “I have to go home for lunch.”

He climbed all the way down, and there he saw a little girl. “I think I am lost,” said the little girl. “Could you see the river from the treetop?” “Oh, yes,” said Little Bear, “I could see the river. Do you live there?” “Yes,” said the little girl. My name is Emily. And this is my doll Lucy.” “I am Little Bear, and I can take you to the river. What is in that basket?” “Cookies,” said Emily. “Have some.” “Thank you. I love **cookies**.” “So do I,” said Emily. They walked along eating cookie and talking, and soon they came to a river. “I see our tent,” said Emily, “and my mother and father.” “And I hear my mother calling,” said Little Bear. “I have to go home for lunch. Good-by, Emily.” “Good-by, Little Bear. Come back and play with me.” “I will,” said Little Bear. Little Bear went skipping home. He hugged Mother Bear and said “Do you know what I just did?” “What did you just do, Little Bear?” “I climbed to a treetop, and I saw the wide world. I climbed down **again**, and I saw two squirrels, four little birds, and a little green worm. Then I climbed all the way down, and what do you think I saw?” “What did you see?” “I saw a little girl named Emily. She was lost so I helped her to get home. And now I have a new friend. Who do you think it is?” “The little green worm,” said Mother Bear. Little Bear laughed. “No,” he said, “it is Emily. Emily and I are friends.”

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| Phonics Skill | Comprehension Skill | High-Frequency words |
| Y and I sounds | Beginning, Middle, End  Problem and Solution | High  Blue  Opened  Hello  Cookies  Again |
| Genre: Fantasy | | |
| Characters in fantasy stories do impossible things. | | |