

# WHERE IS BEAR?

A Terrific Tale for 2-Year-Olds

Written by Libby Martinez

Illustrated by Allison Valentine



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Parents: look for the leaf  to learn important developmental milestones to look for in your child by age 2!



[cdc.gov/ActEarly](https://cdc.gov/ActEarly)

Bear and Tiger are 2 years old.  
They are friends.

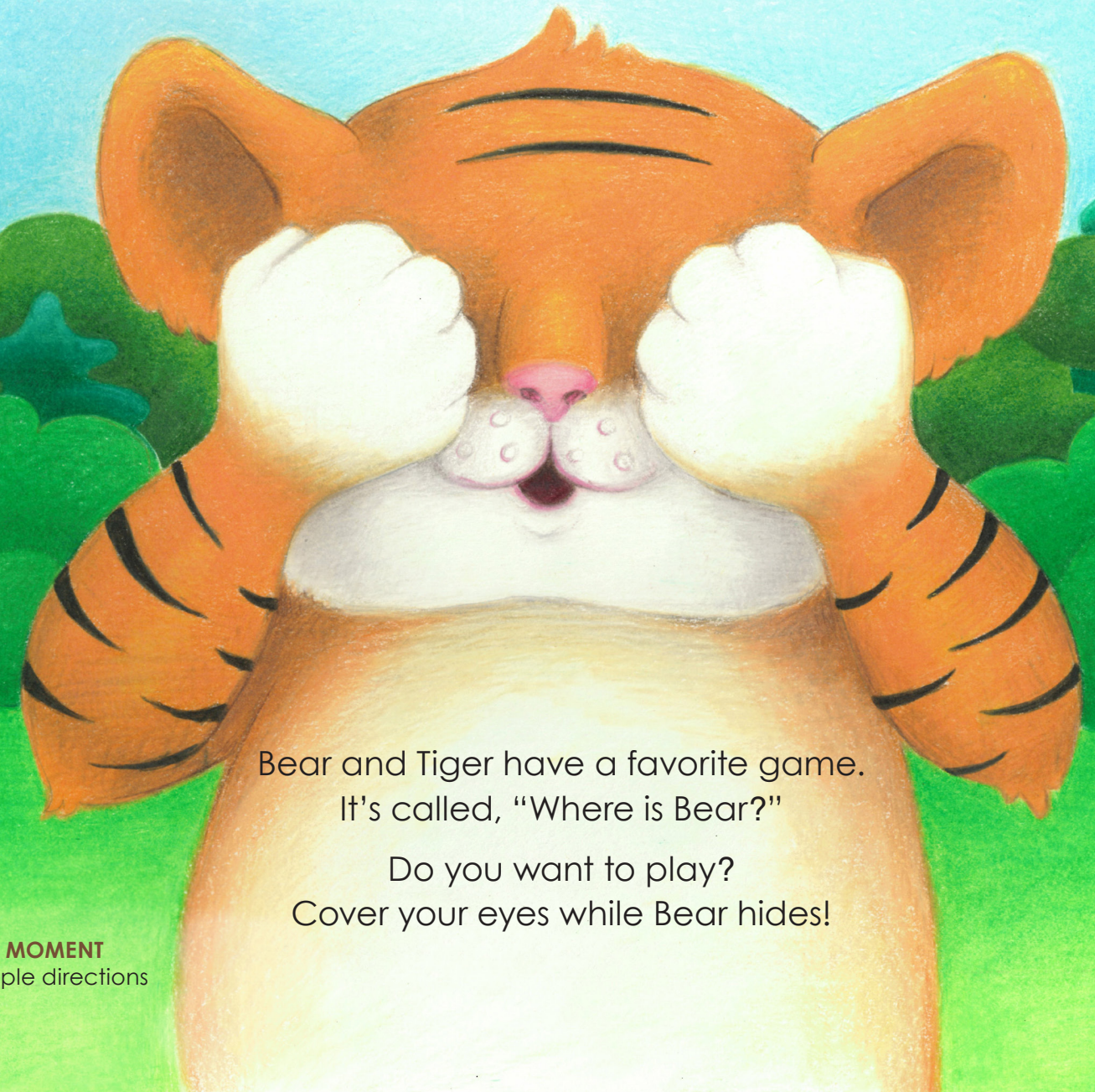
This is  
Bear.



This is  
Tiger.



**Parents:** look for the leaf  to learn important developmental milestones to look for in your child by age 2!



Bear and Tiger have a favorite game.  
It's called, "Where is Bear?"

Do you want to play?  
Cover your eyes while Bear hides!



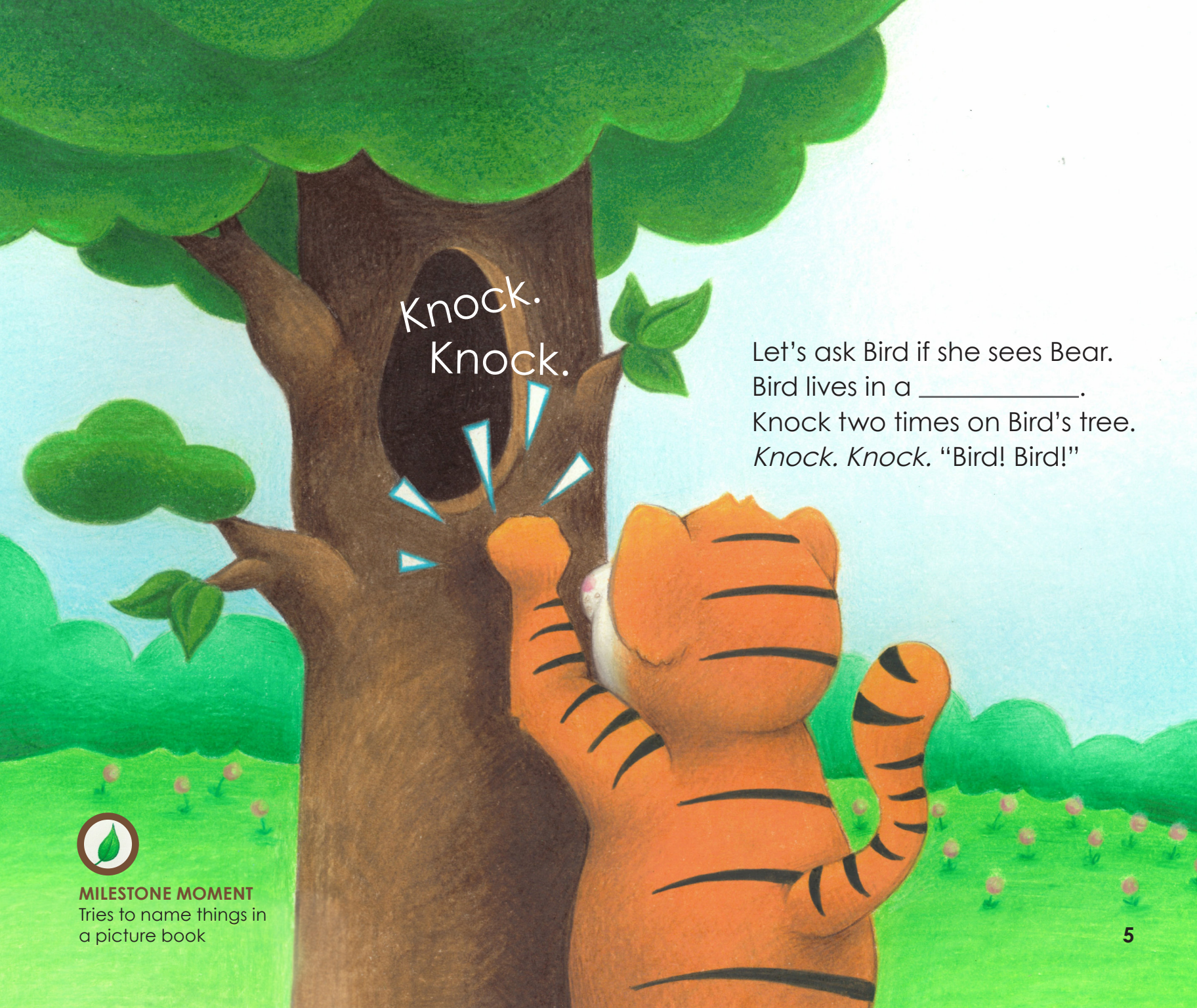
**MILESTONE MOMENT**  
Follows simple directions

Where is Bear?



Knock.  
Knock.

Let's ask Bird if she sees Bear.  
Bird lives in a \_\_\_\_\_.  
Knock two times on Bird's tree.  
*Knock. Knock.* "Bird! Bird!"



**MILESTONE MOMENT**  
Tries to name things in  
a picture book

“Where is Bear? Is he in the tree?” asks Tiger.  
“No,” says Bird. “But I will help you find him.”  
“Great, Bird! I’ll fly like you!” says Tiger.



 **MILESTONE MOMENT**  
By age 2, most children copy others, especially adults and other children

Let's ask Frog if he sees Bear.  
Frog lives in a pond.  
Splash the water and call Frog.  
*Splash. Splash.* “Frog! Frog!”



 **MILESTONE MOMENT**  
Follows two-step instructions

Splash.  
*splash.*

"Where is Bear? Is he in the pond?" asks Tiger.  
"No," says Frog. "But I will help you find him."  
"Bird, look how high Frog jumps!" says Tiger.



**MILESTONE MOMENT**

By age 18 months, most children point to show others something interesting

Let's ask Fox if she sees Bear.  
Fox lives in a cave.  
Fox likes to run.  
Can you run like Fox?



**MILESTONE MOMENT**

Runs and begins to play with other children

“Where is Bear? Is he in the cave?” asks Tiger.  
“No,” says Fox. “But I will help you find him.”



Let's ask Turtle if he sees Bear.  
Turtle likes to hide in the leaves.  
Let's pretend we're the wind  
and blow the leaves away.



**MILESTONE MOMENT**  
Tries to copy you, like pretending  
to blow the leaves

"Where is Bear? Is he in the leaves?" asks Tiger.  
"No," says Turtle. "But I will help you find him."



Do YOU know where Bear is?



"He's where?" asks Tiger.



**MILESTONE MOMENT**  
Points to pictures in a book, when you ask, "Where is the bear?"



"Bear! Bear is up there!" says Tiger.  
"We found him!"



“Hooray!” his friends say.  
“Let’s play again!”



## DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES FOR TERRIFIC 2-YEAR-OLDS

Watch and see if your 2-year-old can do each of these milestones.

**Share this checklist and any related information from your child’s teachers or other providers with the doctor at every well-child visit.**

### Social/Emotional Milestones

- Copies others, especially adults and older children
- Gets excited when with other children
- Shows more and more independence
- Shows defiant behavior (doing what he has been told not to)
- Plays mainly beside other children, but is beginning to include other children, such as in chase games

### Language/Communication Milestones

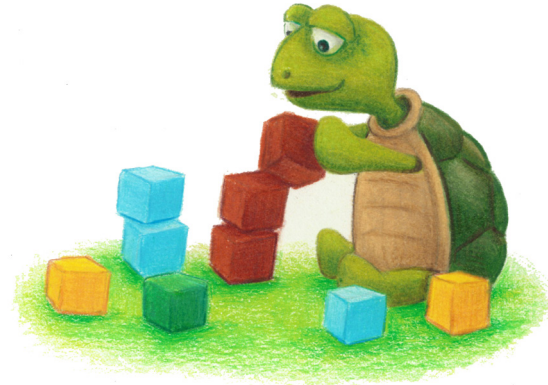
- Points to things or pictures when they are named
- Knows names of familiar people and body parts
- Says sentences with 2 to 4 words
- Follows simple instructions
- Repeats words overheard in conversation
- Points to things in a book



## Cognitive Milestones

(Learning, Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- ❑ Finds things even when hidden under two or three covers
- ❑ Begins to sort shapes and colors
- ❑ Completes sentences and rhymes in familiar books
- ❑ Plays simple make-believe games
- ❑ Builds towers of 4 or more blocks
- ❑ Might use one hand more than the other
- ❑ Follows two-step instructions such as "Pick up your shoes and put them in the closet."
- ❑ Names items in a picture book such as a cat, bird, or dog



## Movement/Physical Development Milestones

- ❑ Stands on tiptoe
- ❑ Kicks a ball
- ❑ Begins to run
- ❑ Climbs onto and down from furniture without help
- ❑ Walks up and down stairs holding on
- ❑ Throws ball overhand
- ❑ Makes or copies straight lines and circles



## Terrific Tips to Help Your 2-Year-Old Learn and Grow

How you can help your 2-year-old learn and grow:

- Give your child attention and praise when he follows instructions. Limit attention for defiant behavior. Spend a lot more time praising good behaviors than punishing bad ones.
- Teach your child to identify and say body parts, animals, and other common things.
- Do not correct your child when he says words incorrectly. Rather, say it correctly. For example, "That is a ball."
- Help your child do puzzles with shapes, colors, or farm animals. Name each piece when your child puts it in place.
- Ask your child to help you open doors and drawers and turn pages in a book or magazine.
- Kick a ball back and forth with your child. When your child is good at that, encourage him to run and kick.

## Concerned About Your Child's Development?

If your child is missing milestones or you are concerned about your child's development, talk with your child's doctor, teacher, or other providers and ask about developmental screening.

Don't wait. Acting early can make a real difference!

Visit [cdc.gov/Concerned](https://www.cdc.gov/Concerned) for more information on how to support your child.

For more milestones, tips, and other free materials, like CDC's free Milestone Tracker app, visit [cdc.gov/ActEarly/Families](https://www.cdc.gov/ActEarly/Families) or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636); agents speak English and Spanish.



# THE TERRIFIC AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

## About Libby Martinez, Author

Libby Martinez is an award-winning Latina children's book author and poet. She is the co-author of *I Pledge Allegiance* (Knopf/Random House), which was recognized as the Best Children's Picture Book (2015) by the Texas Institute of Letters and the International Latino Book Awards. *I Pledge Allegiance* also appeared on the Cooperative Children's Book Center's Choices List, the Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People List, the Kentucky Bluegrass Award Master List, the Maine State Library's Cream of the Crop List, and was a Scholastic Clubs & Fairs Selection. Libby is also the co-author of *Bravo, Chico Canta! Bravo!* (Groundwood Books), which was a Junior Library Guild Selection (Spanish Edition) and appeared on National Public Radio's Diverse Summer Reading List for Kids. Prior to becoming a children's book author and poet, she worked in the Texas political arena, served as the director of school and community partnerships for the Philadelphia Zoo, and founded a consulting and grant writing practice. Libby is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and Stanford Law School. You can learn more about her at [libbymartinez.com](http://libbymartinez.com).

## About Allison Valentine, Illustrator

Allison Valentine, artist and illustrator, spends her time creating fun and colorful artwork. She has illustrated numerous children's books over the past 10 years. She resides in Connecticut with her husband, two young daughters, dog and three cats - all of whom provide endless inspiration for her art.

**Where is Bear?** is a fun, interactive way to encourage 2-year-olds in their development and to help parents monitor their children's attainment of important skills. It's a win-win for early development!

—Lisa Shulman, MD  
Developmental Pediatrician

**My child loves *Where is Bear?*. Like me, you will read this one again, and again, and again!**

—Brittney T.  
Mother of 2-year-old

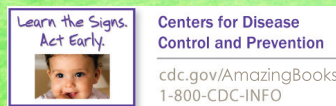
***Where is Bear?* truly is terrific, illustrating 2-year-old milestones in an engaging, interactive style. I highly recommend it for families and providers!**

—Janet L. Patterson, MD, FAAP  
Developmental Behavioral Pediatrician

Meet Tiger, Bear, and their forest friends, Bird, Frog, Fox, and Turtle! In this terrifically unique and interactive tale, your 2-year-old child will help Tiger find Bear. Each step in your child's quest to find Bear highlights important milestones in your child's growth and development. Look for the leaf at the bottom of the page for these Milestone Moments. Be sure to review the milestone checklist and helpful parenting tips at the end of the book to learn more about your child's development.

Order this book and other FREE materials,  
like milestone checklists and books for other ages,  
at [cdc.gov/ActEarly/Orders](https://www.cdc.gov/ActEarly/Orders).

[cdc.gov/AmazingBooks](https://www.cdc.gov/AmazingBooks)



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