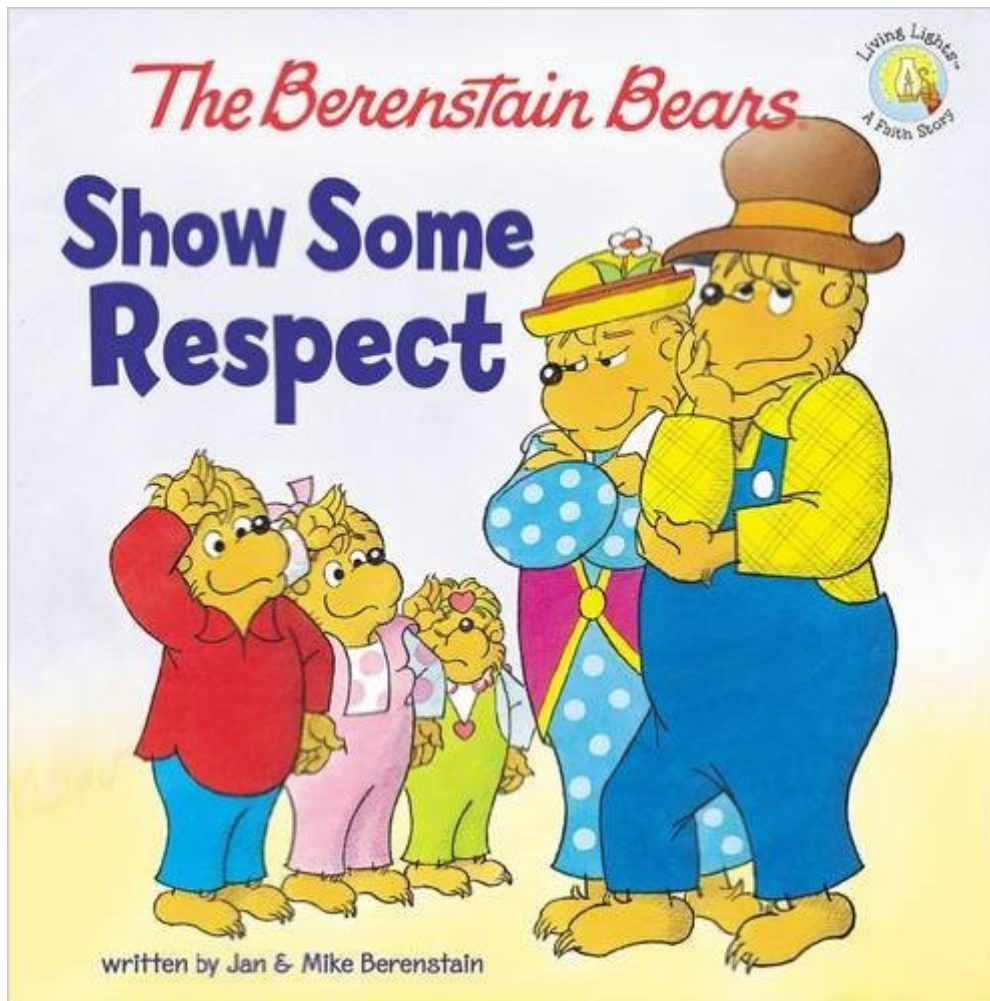


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The Berenstain Bears Show Some Respect (Berenstain Bears/Living Lights)



Synopsis

Gramps and Gran go on a picnic with Mama and Papa Bear and the cubs. As the family searches high and low for the perfect spot, they end up learning a few things about respect.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD510L (What's this?)

Series: Berenstain Bears/Living Lights

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Zonderkidz; 37871st edition (September 10, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0310720869

ISBN-13: 978-0310720867

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (174 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,241 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Education > Home Schooling #4 inÂ Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Homeschooling #8 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Christian

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

I'm sorry to say that the Bear family just hasn't been the same since Stan passed away. I ordered this book because this is a lesson my 8 year old needs to be reminded of lately, and the Bear books often motivate him to make better choices (I'm going to watch less TV, eat less junk food, make a chore list!) They teach a moral through a fun story, but are also very direct and clear in their message. This story fails to do that.
Summary: The bear family, with Gran and Gramps, are looking for the perfect picnic spot. It gives examples of disrespect ranging from mild (interrupting, not listening) to really mild (practically stating an opinion/disagreeing.) Example: Mama Bear suggests they go to the nice spot by the pond where she and Papa had their first date. Brother says "That was an awful long time ago. It's full of mosquitos now. Let's find a better spot." And it IS full of mosquitos. Still, Mama is "none too pleased" with Brother Bears act of disrespect. Gramps calls them out on their disrespect. They are sorry. The end.
So-1. Many of the examples of "disrespect"

weren't relevant to my family or didn't really exemplify disrespectful behavior, at least not the kind i'm trying to address. (Above.) And the story never really explained WHY these behaviors were disrespectful, so I had to fill in with a lot of discussion. Like in the example above, I explained that Brother could have noted that there were a lot of mosquitos and then ASKED if they could keep looking.² Because of these stated opinions being used as illustrations of disrespect, this book almost gives a feeling of "children should be seen and not heard."

This book could have been an excellent example of respecting those with more experience and knowledge of the world. Instead it puts down the knowledge of the world of those who are younger and may have more recent experience. The older bears talk about picnicking in places from their past: honeymoons etc, ie decades previous. And younger bears (whether it is Papa contradicting Grandpa, or Brother contradicting Papa) state that it may have been a nice place before, but now the facilities are old and dangerous, or the nice pond has become mosquito infested. This is just giving an opinion, and information. Should they have said, "Oh yes, Papa, you know what you're talking about!", picnicked there, and then been eaten alive by mosquitos or gotten slivers in their butts from the rotten wooden benches? Taking these as examples of respect, to disagree with incorrect assumptions based on outdated past experience, is just an invitation for those with up to date knowledge to keep quiet, to kowtow, to become "yes men" just because someone is older. If the older bears had been poohpoohed as old and out of touch when something important needed to be done, by the younger bears, who then couldn't solve the problem. And then the older bears had stepped in and used their great knowledge, skills and wisdom gained through years of practice or experience, a real lesson would have been taught. Some things are only learned through experience and age, and should be respected and valued. We should not underestimate our elders. In the end, Grandpa is supposedly the best picnic spot picker. So does he find an extraordinary, hard to find spot with a spectacular view, based on his years of Scouting experience, using a compass etc? No, he leads them to his own backyard.

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