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Santa Claus and the Three Bears

Aylea Stephens

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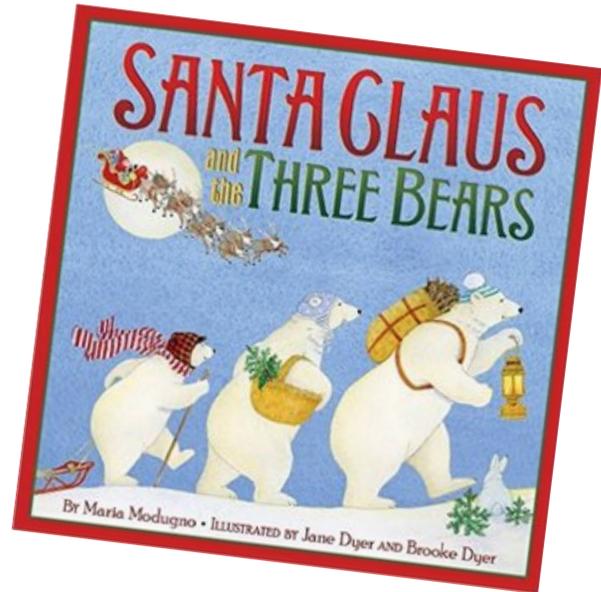
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Book Review

Title: Santa Claus and the Three Bears
Author: Maria Modugno
Illustrator: Jane Dyer and Brooke Dyer
Reviewer: Aylea Stephens
Publisher: HarperCollins
Publication Year: 2013
ISBN: 9780061700231
Number of Pages: 40
Interest Level: Preschool, Primary
Rating: Excellent



Review

On Christmas Eve, Papa Bear, Mama Bear, and Baby Bear are busy getting ready for the holiday the next day. They decorate the house and make Christmas pudding, but when they sit down to eat the pudding is much too hot. They go on a walk to see the Christmas lights while their pudding cools. While they are gone, Santa Claus comes to their house. He tries the pudding, but only one is just right, and only one of the chairs is just right too. When the bears come back and discover that someone is in their house, they get to meet Santa and receive their presents.

This story is a simple retelling of the classic story of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* with the additions of the bears being polar bears and Santa as Goldilocks. While adult readers might be bothered that Santa doesn't replace what he's broken until next year and doesn't apologize for eating their food and breaking their belongings, younger readers will likely be too excited about the ending with talking to Santa to care. The illustrations are charming, and many adults and children will like this seasonal version of an old classic.