



2019

This Is the Kiss

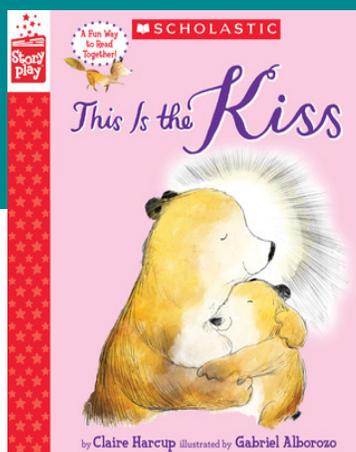
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Kazandzhy, Liz (2019) "This Is the Kiss," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 40 : Iss. 4 , Article 55.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol40/iss4/55>

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Book Review

This Is the Kiss

Many parents and children can relate to bedtime rituals—the special time spent wrapping up the day and preparing for a good night’s rest. This book shows the loving sequence of events between Mama Bear and Little bear, starting with a simple wave. “When you’ve had a fun day and you’re ready for bed, this is the wave ... and the squeeze of the hand ... that led to the touch ... that led to the smile...” This continues on until it finally leads to a tender kiss good night.

There are several aspects of this book that, when combined, make it stellar. First, the full-page, wintery illustrations are fun to look at and portray the tender love between a parent and child. Second, the story is both relatable and highly interactive since caregivers can easily repeat Mama Bear’s delicate actions like squeezing the child’s hand, smiling, tickling, giggling, and hugging. Third, the book carries extra value because of the various activities found throughout. The story itself features question bubbles encouraging emotional awareness (“How are Little Bear and Big Bear feeling? How can you tell?”) and personal application (“With whom do you love holding hands?”) The final pages contain even more ideas for creative activities, like drawing pictures, telling your own imaginary story, recalling the storyline, and exploring various emotions. All of these things add tremendous value to the book, making it not only a heartwarming story but also a beneficial educational tool.

Author

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Illustrator

Gabriel Alborozo

Reviewer

Liz Kazandzhy

Rating

Outstanding

Level

Toddler, Preschool

Pages

32

Year

2017

Publisher

Cartwheel Books

ISBN

9781338187335