



2019

Make a Wish, Henry Bear

Krista Alletto

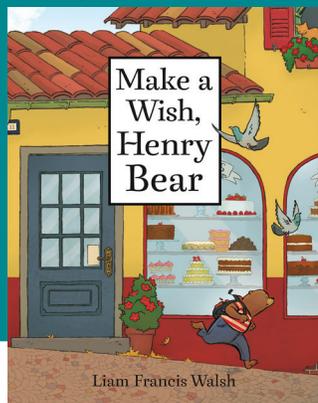
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Book Review

Make a Wish, Henry Bear

Author

Liam Francis Walsh

Illustrator

Liam Francis Walsh

Reviewer

Krista Alletto

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Rating

Excellent

Level

Toddler, Preschool,
Primary

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Pages

40

Year

2019

ISBN

9781626723320

Publisher

Roaring Brook Press

For his birthday last year, Henry wished for his parents to be more fun and ease up on the family rules. Henry got just what he wanted! For the last year Mama and Papa Bear have been feeding Henry sweets, keeping him up late at night, and encouraging him to ignore schoolwork. All year Henry has been miserable, but fortunately, it is now his next birthday and his big chance set things right again. He wishes for his parents to go back to their normal, responsible selves. Again his wish is granted, and a relieved Henry gets to bed on time.

Make a Wish, Henry Bear reveals the truth of the childhood dream of a life without bedtime, diet restrictions, and homework. But it also clearly shows that life isn't so great with no rules or structure. This book effectively teaches the importance and value of rules for children and families. The colorful illustrations are delightful and support the story well. However, the flow of the book is a little disjointed since readers only learn about Henry's birthday wish from the previous year halfway through the book. This information would give readers more context if given earlier.