

Don't Invite a Bear Inside for Hanukkah

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In Jewish tradition, it's considered a mitzvah (a good deed) to warmly welcome guests, but what if a guest becomes difficult to bear? This picture book leads by example: when a child invites a bear in for Hanukkah, its appetite becomes a "beary big" problem; the child kicks the bear out, but follows it after seeing its distress. After learning the bear will now be celebrating alone, the child devises a compromise that brings "a beary big smile" and a new friend.

DANIELLE BALLANTYNE (November / December 2024)

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