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# THE SCRUBBY BEAR FAMILY AND PIGLETTA

A Story by Lynda Marstaller Conner

Once upon a time, Scrubby Bear lived with his mother and father just around the corner from his school. They were a happy family that loved to do things together.

One Saturday morning, Mama Bear made porridge for her family. While Mama got breakfast ready, Scrubby Bear took a nice warm bath, brushed his teeth and put on fresh clean clothes. When he came down to eat, the porridge was just off the stove and too hot to eat. So, while they waited for the porridge to cool, the family decided to go for a short stroll in the neighborhood park.



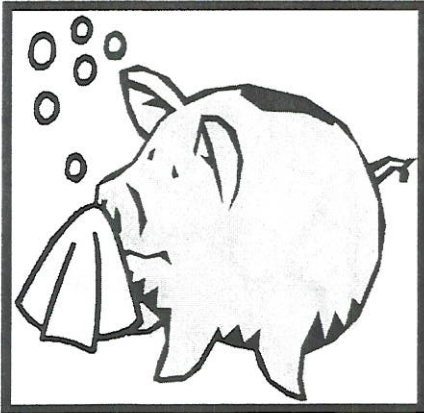
After they finished their nice walk in the park, they arrived, safe and hungry, back at their home. When they got to the kitchen to eat their breakfast, they found spoons in each of their bowls of porridge. Papa Bear's bowl had been stirred. Mama Bear's bowl had been spilled. Then Scrubby Bear, looking quite shocked, cried out, "There is nothing left in my bowl but germs!"

Scrubby Bear looked around the room and down at the floor and saw dirty tissues everywhere! "Eeuw! Germs, bacteria and viruses could be all over our home!" he moaned. While Mama and Papa Bear checked the kitchen and living room, Scrubby Bear got some kitchen tongs and began picking up the tissues. He shook his head and muttered to himself as he carefully put them in a plastic bag, "Touching these dirty old things could make me sick." He tied the bag closed and went to wash his hands. Here is how he did it:

1. He wet his hands with water.
2. He used a squirt of soap and scrub the front and back of your hands, and between your fingers, for 10 seconds (He sang "Happy Birthday to Scrubby Bear" to be sure he scrubbed long enough.)
3. He rinsed and dried his hands.

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When he was finished, Scrubby Bear turned to his mother and father and asked, “Who could have spread all of these germs?” The family went together to walk through the rest of their home. Signs of someone with a nasty cold were everywhere!



Finally, sound asleep on Scrubby Bear’s bed, they discovered the intruder. It was Pigletta, a new student at Scrubby Bear’s school. “Pigletta,” said Scrubby Bear, “what are you doing here?” Pigletta woke up and was very startled. She began coughing and sneezing. Scrubby Bear handed her tissues to cover her sneezes and coughs.

Mama Bear took charge and called Pigletta’s mother. Soon after, Pigletta’s mother and father arrived to bring Pigletta home. They thanked the Bear family over and over again for taking care of Pigletta and calling them so quickly.

As Pigletta’s family walked away toward their home, Mama, Papa and Scrubby Bear smiled at each other and headed in to wash up and finally have their long-awaited breakfast. As they scrubbed up, they all said together, **“Don’t get sick. Wash up quick!”** And they began to laugh and sing the hand washing song:

**“The Scrubby Bear Hand Washing Song”**

(Sung to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”)

Wet, wet, wet your hands

Use a squirt of soap.

Scrub, scrub, scrub, scrub

Rinse and dry them both.

**The End**