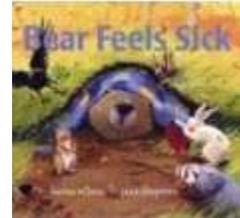


## Review of *Bear Feels Sick*

*Bear Feels Sick*  
by Karma Wilson

Reviewed by Kim Harp, Legislative Reference Librarian

It's a beautiful autumn day and all of Bear's friends want to go out and play, but Bear feels sick and cannot join them. Instead of playing without him, all of Bear's friends do their best to help Bear feel better inside and out by making soup and singing lullabies. This is a darling book by Karma Wilson and illustrated by Jane Chapman. It is full of sing-song repetition that begs to be read aloud. The illustrations, according to *School Library Journal*, are "warm and cozy." You want to reach out and bury your fingers in the soft fur of the fuzzy bear and you can almost feel the little wren land on your shoulder.



Children will delight in new and familiar animal friends, and parents and caregivers will love how sweet and sympathetic the characters are towards each other. Children who are learning English as their second language will also enjoy the rhyme and repetition while learning new vocabulary. Reading this book can prompt conversations with preschoolers about what to do when you feel ill and what you can do to help others who may not feel well.

Be sure to check out all the other Bear books by Karma Wilson. Parents and children both love the underlying theme of friendship in each of the books. *Bear Feels Sick* is just the newest edition to this series. The Bear books are most appropriate for ages 2-6.

*Bear Feels Sick* has been selected as the 2008 Kansas Reads to Preschoolers Book by the Kansas State Librarian, Christie Brandau. It is the goal of this program to read *Bear Feels Sick* to every Kansan age 5 and under. *Bear Feels Sick* fits the "Health and Wellness" theme of this year's Kansas Reads program and will lend itself nicely to lots of programming ideas. For more information on the Kansas Reads to Preschoolers program, please visit <http://skyways.lib.ks.us/orgs/kcfb/bear.htm>.