MISSOURI BUILDING BLOCK
PICTURE BOOK AWARD

Bear Can’t Wait
By Karma Wilson
Illustrated by Jane Chapman

Related Books:
Don’t Wake up the Tiger! by Britta Teckentrup
Duck, Duck, Moose by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen
One, Two, Buckle my Shoe by Jane Cabrera
A Birthday for Cow! by Jan Thomas
When’s my Birthday? by Julie Fogliano
Boa’s Bad Birthday by Jeanne Willis
How Many Sleeps ’til my Birthday? by Mark Sperring
Click, Clack, Surprise! by Doreen Cronin
Don’t Spill the Beans by Ian Schoenherr

Rhymes:
“A Birthday”
Today is everyone’s birthday
Let’s make us a cake (form cake with hands)
Mix and stir, stir and mix (stir)
Then into the oven to bake (push hands out)
Here’s our cake so nice and round (make a circle)
We frost it pink and white (spread frosting)
We put five candles on it (hold up hand)
To make a birthday bright!

Source: Storytime Katie - https://storytimekatie.com/2011/08/03/birthdays/

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“Five Birthday Candles” (good as a felt set)
Five bright birthday candles and not one more,
The purple one got blown out (blow)
Then there were four.
Four bright birthday candles, pretty as can be,
The pink one got blown out (blow)
Then there were three.
Three bright birthday candles waiting for you,
The green one got blown out, (blow)
Then there were two.
Two bright birthday candles oh what fun,
The yellow one got blown out, (blow)
Then there was one.
Just one bright birthday candle standing oh so tall.
The blue one got blown out, (blow)
And that was all.


Songs:
“Happy Birthday”
Happy birthday to you
Happy birthday to you
Happy birthday, dear [name]
Happy birthday to you

“Happy Birthday” in Spanish
Feliz cumpleaños a ti
Feliz cumpleaños a ti
Feliz cumpleaños querido/a (nombre)
Feliz cumpleaños a ti

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“It’s Your Birthday”
*Sung to “Skip to My Lou”*

It’s your birthday *(point to child)*
What’ll I do? *(shrug shoulders)*
It’s your birthday, what’ll I do?
It’s your birthday, what’ll I do?
What’ll I do for you dear?

Share my cookie *(hold fists together)*
break it in two *(separate fists)*
Share my cookie break it in two
Share my cookie break it in two
That’s what I’ll do for you dear

Wrap your present *(roll hands)*
with ribbons of blue
Wrap your present with ribbons of blue
Wrap your present with ribbons of blue
That’s what I’ll do for you dear

Give you a hug *(hug self)* and kisses too
Give you a hug and kisses too
Give you a hug and kisses too
That’s what I’ll do for you dear

Source: Adventures of a Bookworm -
https://www.adventuresofabookworm.com/2017/12/27/storytime-birthday/

**Activities:**

Have a Storytime puppet? Include them in your Birthday Storytime theme! Create their favorite food or item out of felt along with some decoys. For example, bears like honey so make something yellow, something sweet and finally, honey from felt. Wrap these gifts by hiding them behind felt present boxes and have your puppet open them while discussing color and shape with Storytime kiddos.


Paper Plate Crown: Fold the paper plate in half and cut into wedges, like a pizza or pie, just to the ruffle. The last two cuts will need to be made while the plate is unfolded. You’ll have 8 wedges in the end. Encourage kiddos to decorate their birthday crowns with crayons, markers, stickers, sticker-backed jewels and have fun! If you have time, draw on the plates so the children know where to cut (and it will encourage the caregivers to allow their children to use the scissors).

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If possible, after the program, put out gently used books and encourage each child to pick one as a birthday present.

Use ASL as you read Bear Can’t Wait as a fun way to encourage audience participation.

Bear:
Cross your arms and touch hands to shoulders (left hand to right shoulder, right hand to left shoulder). Keep fingers open, palms down, so they look a little like claws. Scratch your shoulders with your bear claws!

Can’t:
In the sign for "can't," both hands are facing palm down and are in "index finger handshapes." Hold the right hand a few inches above and an inch to the right of the left hand. Bring the right hand down sharply and whack the fingernail of the left index finger with the fingerprint side of the right index finger.
Source: Lifeprint - https://www.lifeprint.com/asl101/pages-signs/c/cant.htm#:~:text=In%20the%20sign%20for%20%22can,of%20the%20right%20index%20finger.

Wait:
Bring both hands up in front of you, palms facing in and fingers slightly separated. Wiggle your fingers. This sign looks like you’re wiggling your fingers to amuse yourself while you wait around.
Source: Signing Time - https://www.signingtime.com/?s=wait&post_type=st_dictionary

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