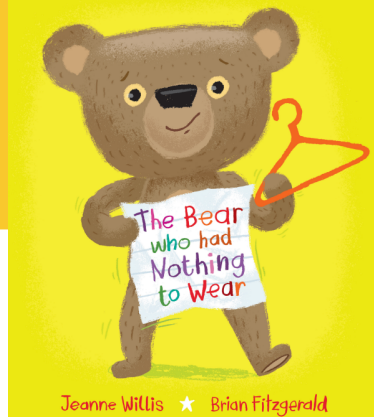




The Bear who had Nothing to Wear



Albie arrived wearing nothing but fur,
He could have been either a Him or a Her.
Most teddy bears let their OWNER decide . . .

But Albie would NOT,
for a bear has its pride.



But each outfit that Albie purchases proves unsuitable, how will he dress in order to feel like himself? A hilarious story about the joys of dressing up, and one bear's search for his own identity.

The Bear who had Nothing to Wear is all about embracing yourself and what you love. Developing a sense of self is so important. A sense of self comes from exploring yourself and the world around you, deciding who you are, and feeling comfortable to project who you are. A sense of self also comes from feeling understood and we know that children who feel understood feel more secure and safe - feelings which also impact their later life. 'The Bear who had Nothing to Wear' is the ideal book to help children explore their sense of self and to celebrate their individuality.

Can you create a self portrait?

Provide children with mirrors and encourage them to really observe their faces and draw a self-portrait. Drawing self-portraits is about self-identity, exactly what Bear is exploring in this story. Children could create portraits of themselves and of Bear at the end of the book who is happiest wearing just a 'beautiful smile'.

What is your favourite outfit?

Bear searches and searches for a favourite outfit, the one that really makes him feel most like himself.

- What is your favourite outfit?
- Why do you like to wear it so much?

Draw a picture of your favourite outfit and talk about it with an adult or a friend.

Can you design your own crown?

Bear declares, 'Today I'm a prince, so I need a gold crown...'

Design a crown for yourself and include all the things that you love. Think about the colours and the details you would like to add. (You can use the template below.)

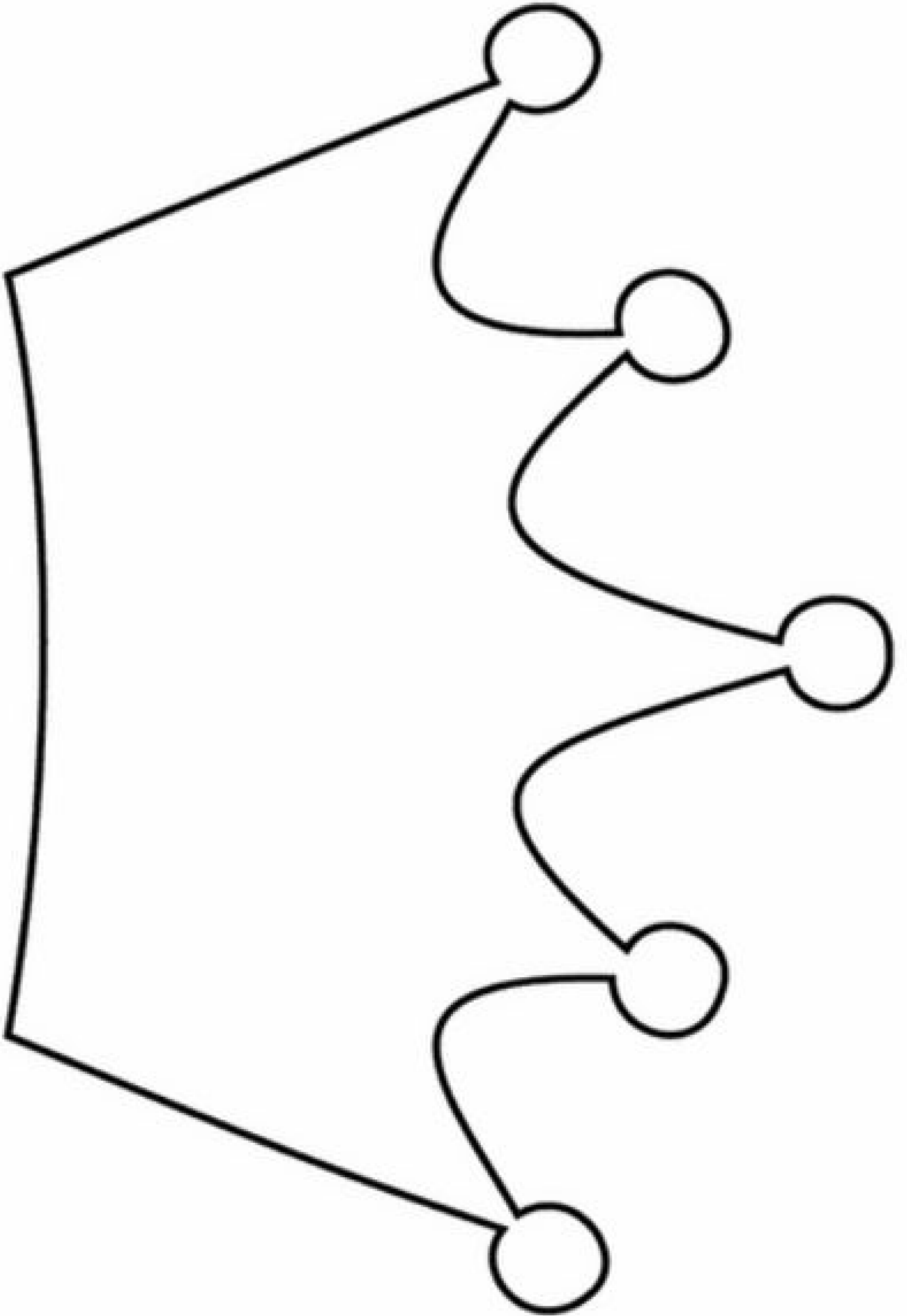
Express yourself...

Bear loves to dress up, can you remember all the characters he dresses up as throughout the book? You could sequence the pictures below to help you remember.


Allowing children to play, experiment, dress up and explore lets their imagination flow freely.

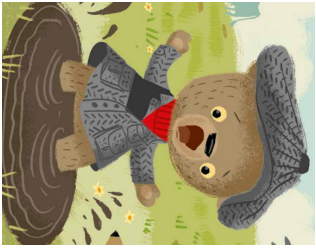
What makes up your identity?

Identity can mean different things to different people. It might be about who is in your family, what music you listen to, where you live or what ethnicity you are. Simply put - your identity is 'who you are'. Discuss and decide upon some of the things that make Bear who he is. Can you write a list of all the things that make **YOU** who you are? e.g. brother, artist, kind, love pop music, cat lover etc.



Can you sequence the pictures of Bear in different costumes from 'The Bear who had Nothing to Wear'?

1.	2.	3.	4.	
5.	6.	7.	8.	



Jenny Guest is an independent educational consultant and writer alongside her role as an Assistant Headteacher in a large London primary school. She has been a primary school teacher for ages 3-11. Jenny is also an avid reader of children's literature and runs @bookishwaytoplay on Instagram, which aims to showcase and review the very best children's books, as well as create accompanying supportive learning activities for toddlers, preschool and primary school age children.

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