



Ira Sleeps Over

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Ira is thrilled to spend the night at Reggie's, until his sister raises the question of whether he should take his teddy bear.

Ira Sleeps Over Details

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Author : Bernard Waber

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From Reader Review *Ira Sleeps Over* for online ebook

Stephanie says

My daughter and I read this book last night (we've read it a few times before, too), and I read it years ago as an older child. My parents actually gave the book to my brother when he turned three, and there, inside the front cover, is a very sweet inscription. This book is about -- among other things -- the teasing that big sisters can inflict on little brothers (which neither I nor my brother know anything about), and the struggles between growing up and holding on to childhood comforts. As an adult, I get a kick out of the illustrations that I didn't get as a kid. The author/illustrator paints a lovely subtle picture of Ira's parents as "bobos" (bourgeois bohemians), a status to which I myself aspire. I think I've got more of a shot at that than at "intelligentsia."

Blythe says

We really enjoyed this story. It was so real and relatable, and the relationships and little-kid worries were on point. Definitely one we'll revisit.

***The Angry Reader* says**

It was kinda cute. But old fashioned theme.

Kaylie Faucette says

This book deals with the real problems of big sisters and bringing a teddy bear to a sleep over. It is so cute and funny and will make you laugh out loud. Students will be engaged while reading or listening to this book.

Melissa says

I remember my grandmother reading *Ira Sleeps Over* to me as a child and I wanted to read it again because I had honestly forgotten what it was about. After reading this book again today I remember why she liked it so much. Although this book seems just a little outdated by today's standards, it's still a fun story with a cute message. I think this book would be appropriate to read to any child who may be nervous about attending their first sleepover. I think a lot of children reach a point in mid-elementary school where they start to feel self-conscious and embarrassed about things that they didn't as younger children. This book is one of the few that I've read that has addressed this issue and made it seem like a normal thing to want to cling to items from childhood. Another thing I like about this book is the illustrations. I like the simplistic pops of water color and black lines used because I have never really seen anything that looks exactly like it in illustration before. One of my favorite pages is the one where Reggie and Ira are playing with Reggie's various different collections, and the entire page is covered with realistic office stamps and labels. Overall I think this book is

extremely relatable to mid-elementary school students who are beginning to have sleepovers of their own and experiencing the very beginnings of growing up. I think one of the main themes of this book that should be taken away is that you should never grow up too fast or be worried about being “cool” before your time. Childhood is a short time during a lifetime that should be treasured and celebrated, and there is only a short time in life that a person can get away with sleeping with a teddy bear very easily! This book is a true classic and can be enjoyed by a wide range of audiences.

Dolly says

This is a great story to prepare youngsters for their first sleepover. Although our girls are still too young for it, I like that Ira's first sleepover is just next door, so he is able to go home if need arises. I also like the sibling angst between Ira and his sister; it provides a good opportunity to start a conversation about peer pressure and bossy older siblings. Overall, it's a great story to read aloud to children, especially at bedtime.

Ann says

I loved, loved, LOVED, this book as a kid! I recently found a copy at a library sale and read it again and, guess what? I still love, love, LOVE it! Even now my mom could recite the book almost word for word, which I think proves how much it was requested when I was growing up.

Ira has been invited over to his best friend Reggie's house for a sleep over. Ira's first ever! Everything is great until Ira's sister asks him if he's going to take his teddy. Ira says that of course he's not taking his teddy! But, his sister points out that "You've never slept without your teddy bear before. How will you feel sleeping without your teddy bear for the very first time? Hmmmmmm?" Ira decides to take his teddy.

But Ira's sister says...
Won't Reggie laugh?
"He won't laugh" says Ira's mother.
"He won't laugh" says Ira's father.
"He'll laugh" says Ira's sister.
Ira decides NOT to take his teddy.

Ira spends a day with Reggie in which they discuss all the fun things they are going to do at the sleep over. And when Reggie mentions telling ghost stories, Ira happens to ask what Reggie thinks of teddy bears. But Reggie just keeps on talking about his plans for the night...

I cannot explain all of the beautiful, sweet, clever and hilarious ins and outs of this book without giving too many delightful surprises away. Albeit to say that I think Waber has a wonderful grasp of children's emotions and I love that this book doesn't talk down to kids or make their fears seem unimportant, and I love the train of thought that he weaves for the children. So brilliant!

The illustrations, too, are so incredibly memorable! With every page I turned it was like a flood of childhood and all the emotions and thoughts that accompanied each image.

I really cannot recommend this book enough. Please try to find yourself a copy - even if you don't have kids, we were all kids once and I think there's something in here that nearly all of us can relate to.

Katharine says

"Ira Sleeps Over" is a cute book about a little boy who is excited to sleep over at his friend, Reggie's, house for the very first time. His only problem is, he's not sure if he should bring his teddy bear because he doesn't know how Reggie will feel about it. His sister of course is being hard on him and saying that Reggie will make fun and call him a baby, while his parents are saying the opposite. In the end, Ira goes over without his bear, but later after telling scary stories Reggie gets out his own teddy bear. Realizing that Reggie has his own bear and won't make fun of him, Ira goes home and gets his bear after all, then returns and falls asleep. It's a good book to show that you shouldn't be afraid to show who you are and what you need with you at times.

LE:

In small groups, the children will be asked if they have ever been on a sleep over or would they ever want to go on one. Then, with the teacher taking notes on the board, children will be asked to explain what they would want/need to take with them in order to fall asleep comfortably. See if any students have similar items they sleep with.

Ashley Lester says

Text to Self

There have been several times in my life when I was embarrassed and felt as though I didn't fit in. This story reminds me so much of myself when I was a little girl. Ira who's going to a sleepover wants to take his teddy bear to a sleep over but, doesn't know what the other kids will think of him. As a little girl, I was always judged for being dark skinned and didn't quite understand why people judged others for many things. This is a great book to use as a teaching tool for both teachers and parents to give a lesson about being a leader, accepting who you are (being self), and what you like. I'm happy that most public school systems have implemented the SEL learning curriculum because this book and many others are books that can introduce topics as such.

Emily says

Big sisters or brothers have that annoying habit of pointing out all the babyish traits you still have. Their taunts still ring in our ears. Ira has an exciting sleepover planned at his friend Reggie's house. There's just one problem. Should he bring his teddy bear (named Tah Tah)? Reggie is much too grown up to have a teddy bear he must sleep with, right? Filled with suspense and the promise of scary ghost stories and brand new experiences, Ira realizes he really cannot sleep without his 'friend' and has to go back to his house at the last minute. Of course, this is the kind of story where you realize that you're not the only one with problems. We are good at hiding our insecurities, but perhaps it is best to share these and recognize we're really all the same.

Lisa Vegan says

This story and its pictures work in wonderful concert together. I loved them both. This book is utterly charming, funny, and sweet. It really gets parent-child, sibling, and child friendship relationships. It's just adorable. And I think it's wonderful to read one to one or to groups, for independent readers too, just for fun or when there is any issue of peer pressure, and it's an ideal book to read before a first or any fraught with anxiety sleepover. It's also a wonderful book for fans of teddy bears, and I know quite a few children and adults who qualify here. I also appreciate that the two main child characters are boys. I read less about sleepovers for boys than ones for girls. 4 ½ stars

babyhippoface says

On a whim, I pulled this book off the shelf to read to 2nd grade. I hadn't read it in years and years, and I'm not even sure why it came to mind, but I am happy to say that I was surprised at how much the kids enjoyed it. They paid close attention, got a little exasperated at the way Ira kept changing his mind about taking his teddy bear to Reggie's house (I kept hearing little sighs and comments like, "Just take it!"), and openly shared about the stuffed animal(s) they sleep with. I had a lot of fun reading this to the kids, and I'm so glad I pulled it off the shelf.

Julie says

When Ira is invited to sleep over for the first time at his friend Reggie's house, they have big plans - but Ira isn't sure if those plans include his teddy bear. His sister convinces him that Reggie will think he's a baby if he brings a teddy. Sweet, tender story of a child's apprehensions and fears and how children console themselves with beloved objects. Growing up doesn't need to be quite as fast as Ira thinks, as long as Reggie has a teddy bear, too. I loved the fun they have and the childhood collections that Reggie shares with Ira - bottle caps, postcards, a false nose and mustache, a flashlight, all capturing the feeling of happy childhood. A School Library Journal Top 100 picture book.

Luann says

A perfect read-aloud that will be completely understood by every child who has ever slept over at a friend's house. I love the family interactions shown here. Poor Ira has quite the sister! In the beginning, I didn't like the illustrations, but as I continued reading, I felt that they fit really well with the story. I love how Ira's friend Reggie refuses to talk about teddy bears - until he absolutely has to!

Kari Doering says

This book's main characters are Ira, her parents and her sister. The story was based on Ira and if she should take her teddy bear to her sleep over or not. The story begins with Ira being very excited to be invited to Reggie's house for a sleep over. As the story continues Reggie and Ira have a conversation about how much fun they are going to have but Ira just keeps asking what do you think about teddy bears? Reggie would never respond. When it was time for her to go to the sleepover Ira decided she was not going to take her teddy bear. When Ira got there her and Reggie with everything they talked about doing. When it was time to turn the lights Reggie started to tell ghost stories and next thing you know Reggie was going to get something out of his dresser. Even though it was dark I could see something like it had furry arms and next thing you know it was Reggie's teddy bear. Ira asked him what his name was and he told her and next thing you know she was running home to get hers. By the time she got back Reggie was fast to sleep.

This book had jacket flaps where the front cover told briefly about the story and the back talked about Bernard Weber and the other books he has written. This book contains a double page space throughout the book. This book contains a text box where you will find the text on both top above the pictures and below the pictures. The colors in the book are bright with lines being thin and the pictures were drawn with a pen.
