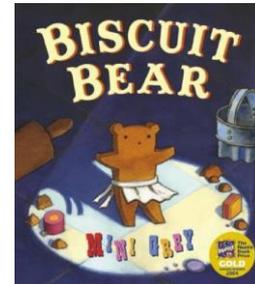


Take 5: Ideas for Independent/Home Learning Biscuit Bear by Mini Grey (Red Fox)

1. Explore it

Look at and read the spread below:



Think carefully about what you have heard and seen. What do you notice? Who is this? How would you describe Biscuit Bear? Where is he? How did he get there? What is he doing? Think about the sentence: **'Everyone seemed to be asleep.'** Who else do you think was asleep?

Look at the second page again. What does biscuit bear want to do? What kind of friends do you think he will make in the kitchen? Who do you think a Biscuit Bear might have as a friend?

Now, look at the cover of the book and read the title. What is special about this bear? What clues can you see that might tell you more about the friends he is going to make? Why do you think the word **make** is printed in large letters in the phrase **'I shall make some friends'** on the second page?

2. Illustrate it

Look at biscuit bear sitting in his foil case. How can you tell he is just waking up from the picture? What is he doing with his arms? How does his face look? Can you yawn and stretch like biscuit bear? Now look at biscuit bear standing at the kitchen door. What do you think he is thinking? How is he feeling? If you were

in the kitchen, what expression do you think you might see on his face? Can you pretend to be biscuit bear? What does your face look like? Where are you looking; up, down or straight ahead? What are you doing with your eyebrows? What about your mouth?

Draw biscuit bear to show his face as he looks into the kitchen, showing what he might be feeling or doing. You can see the shape of his body in the original illustration.

3. Talk about it

- Where did biscuit bear come from?
- Why was there nobody to play with?
- Do you think he should be getting up in the middle of the night to play? What would you do if you woke up in the middle of the night?
- Why do you think he went to the kitchen? What do you think he plans to do in there that will help him make friends?

4. Imagine it

Think about biscuit bear looking in to the kitchen. What do you think he might be thinking? You could add this in a speech bubble on to your drawing.

Do you ever help out in the kitchen? What do you like to make? Do you know how to make anything on your own? Maybe you already pour your own milk and cereal? Maybe you know how to set the table? What is your favourite dish to help make? Who do you make it with?

Have you ever made cakes or biscuits before? What do you think Biscuit Bear might need to know to make biscuit friends? How will he know what to do? What would he need to get ready?

5. Create it

Think about biscuit bear setting to work in the kitchen. What kind of friends will he bake? What would make a good friend to biscuit bear? What will they look like? Will they look like him? Will he decorate them in a special way? What kind of fun is he hoping to have with them? Will he give them a special skill?

Using whatever you have to hand, create some friends for biscuit bear. You can draw and cut them out from some cardboard packaging and decorate with any art materials you have to hand. You might even have enough ingredients to bake some friends from salt dough, which is not edible, but can be kept as ornaments: <https://theimaginationtree.com/easy-salt-dough-ornaments/> Or, if you have the ingredients available, here is an easy to make recipe for edible biscuits, which you can cut into shapes freehand or with a cutter and decorate with icing and decorations: <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/easiest-ever-biscuits>

You could create your own biscuit bear so that he can play with his new friends. What kind of fun do they have? Is it still the middle of the night? Is everyone in the house still asleep? You might make up a story together and draw and write it for other people to enjoy. If someone at home has a phone or device with a video camera, you might even want to film your story and send it to somebody so they can enjoy it too.

You can learn more about Mini Grey and how she draws and writes on CLPE's Power of Pictures website: <https://clpe.org.uk/powerofpictures/grey-mini>