



Bluephant Goes to Preschool

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Tammerraamat 2014, 24 pp
ISBN 9789949526239
Picturebook, fiction
Age: 3+

Bluephant's mommy couldn't take her little boy to work with her.
Bluephant's daddy couldn't take his little boy along to work.
But little Bluephant couldn't stay at home alone, either.
Bluephant's mommy and daddy decided to take Bluephant to preschool.
Bluephant didn't like it one bit when he found out he would have to stay at preschool all alone.

Award:
2014 Good Children's Book



Bluephant was his mommy's darling little boy. But Bluephant's mommy wasn't just a mommy. Bluephant's mommy was also a dentist, who fixed people's sick teeth every day. Bluephant's mommy couldn't take her little boy to work with her. Bluephant's mommy had to pay close attention when she was drilling one sick tooth or pulling another one out. She couldn't watch at the same time to make sure that Bluephant didn't pull the shelf of tooth medicine down on top of himself.

Bluephant's daddy was a violinist, who played violin in a big orchestra. Bluephant's daddy couldn't take his little boy along to work. Bluephant's daddy had to play violin very attentively. He couldn't keep an eye on Bluephant to make sure he didn't squirm headfirst into a trumpet, or start banging on the drums or cymbals when the orchestra was playing very soft music.

But little Bluephant couldn't stay at home alone, either. Bluephant's mommy and daddy decided to take Bluephant to preschool.

Bluephant didn't like it one bit when he found out he would have to stay at preschool all alone. His mommy did tell Bluephant that he wouldn't be alone at preschool at all. There would be a lot of kids, and even a teacher and other people, who take care of the children at preschool. Bluephant would make good friends, whom it would be a lot of fun to play with. That was all well and fine, but the morning that Bluephant's mommy left him at preschool and walked out the door, Bluephant rushed over to the window to see his mommy for just a little longer and wave to her.

Bluephant's mommy waved back at him through the window. Standing next to his mommy was a camel mommy, who was waving at the window, too. Standing next to his mommy was a bunny daddy, who was waving at the window, too.

All of them looked a little bit worried, because they had brought their children to preschool for the very first day.

Then, Bluephant noticed that standing next to him by the window was a bunny girl, who was crying big tears. Standing next to the bunny girl was a camel boy, who was watching his own mommy through the window with big, sad eyes. Blubbering on Bluephant's other side was a rhinoceros girl, whose mommy had already rushed off, so the rhinoceros girl couldn't even wave to her!

Bluephant started to feel awfully bad for the rhinoceros girl.

"What is your name?" Bluephant asked.

"Aretta," the rhinoceros girl sobbed.

"Don't cry," Bluephant said.

But Aretta started crying even harder.

The camel boy walked up to Aretta, too.

"I'm Kurt," he said. "I'm sure not crying."

The bunny girl didn't say anything.

Then, the children were called to go eat.

Their breakfast was porridge with strawberry jam and a glass of milk.

Bluephant thought it was really tasty. Aretta and Kurt also ate up all

of their porridge and washed it down with milk.

The bunny girl didn't even pick up her spoon.

"Don't you know how to eat by yourself?" the teacher asked.

But the bunny girl still didn't say anything.

"I'll help you," the teacher said, and started feeding the bunny girl.

The other children started to giggle.

"What are you laughing at?" the kitchen lady asked.

"Betti is a darling little bunny. She'll learn, alright."

After their meal, the children went to play.

"You come, too," Bluephant said to Betti. Bluephant wasn't afraid

to be at preschool at all anymore. Bluephant didn't want Betti

to be afraid anymore, either.

But Betti was still a little scared.

The preschool had a big, pretty toy stove and a lot of dishes.

"Let's start cooking!" Bluephant said.

"I'll make the soup!" Aretta said.

"I'll make the pancakes!" Bluephant said.

"I'll make lemonade!" Kurt said. "A whole lot! And really sweet!"

“What’ll you make?” Bluephant asked Betti.
“Salad,” Betti whispered softly. “Clover salad.”
Kurt started laughing at the top of his lungs.
“Of course you will—you’re a bunny!” he exclaimed.
“What are you laughing at!” Aretta said. “Clover is so
delicious!”

The time went by very quickly. It wasn’t boring at all.
Bluephant couldn’t
even remember everything they did at preschool. In
any case,
all of the children went to take an afternoon nap
after lunch.

Bluephant became very sad underneath his blanket.
Bluephant
would have wanted very badly to go lay down next
to his mommy.
Bluephant even started sobbing.
“Don’t cry,” someone said softly. “Everything’s
alright.”
And can you guess who said that?
It was Betti the bunny girl! Betti’s bed was right next
to Bluephant’s.
Betti wasn’t afraid anymore in the very least. Betti
thought that being
at preschool was just marvelous.

Actually, Bluephant liked being there, too. Bluephant
definitely wanted
to go to preschool again tomorrow. It was the first
thing that Bluephant
said to his daddy when he came to pick him up that
evening.