



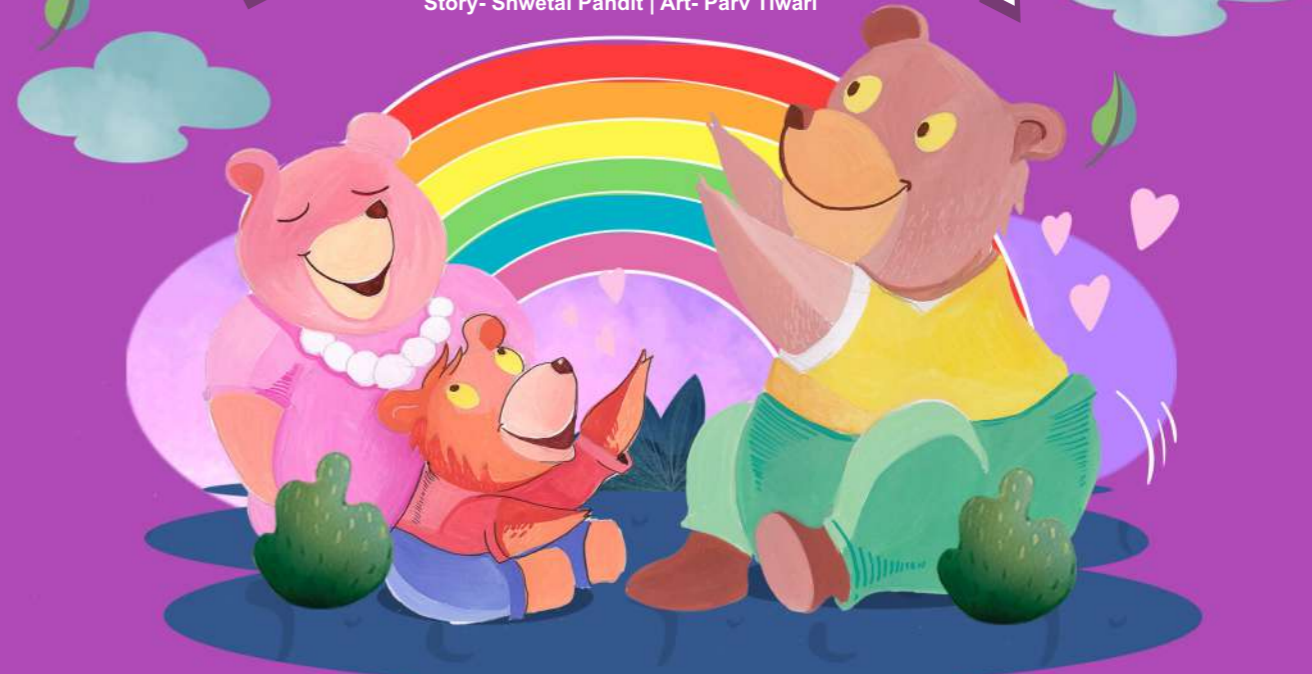
"You can do this better at home," Ms. Lucy says
"And have fun while you do
Ben will love it more, you know
Coz' you know him the best - you two."

Learning together is so much fun!

*Join Ben the Bear as he discovers the joys of learning
at home with mom, dad and super teacher Ms. Lucy.*

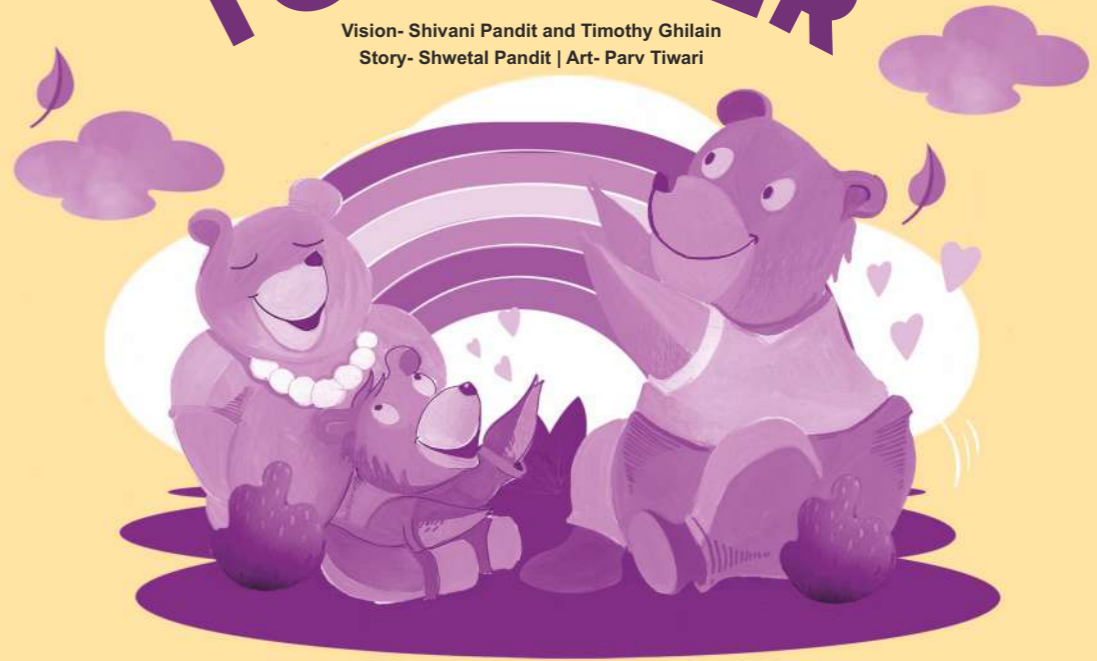
LET'S LEARN TOGETHER

Vision- Shivani Pandit and Timothy Ghilain
Story- Shwetal Pandit | Art- Parv Tiwari



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Dear friend,

Growing up is so much fun! There is a lot for you to explore and learn. However, sometimes you need support because you may not be able to do some things on your own. Don't worry, you are not alone! Daddy and Mommy are there for you, with super teachers and friends that will support them.

Often things might be strange or difficult to understand, with doctors and experts talking to you in long words with sad faces. Don't forget, the most important thing is to have fun and be together with your family! That's where you learn and grow best. Remember - Mommy and Daddy are the real experts when it comes to you.

Our dear friend - Ben the Bear discovered this too. So why don't you come along and see how Ben and his family gets to grow and overcome difficulties with Miss. Lucy's support. Cuddle up and read Ben's story with your family, enjoy some colouring and make a new friend.

Happy Reading! Happy Growing!



Scan me



Little Ben loves to be busy

And with his best friend, Bill 'The Brain',
he can do many amazing things

Bill 'The Brain' has superpowers!

He also has Super Helpers for company!



Brains develop most rapidly
from birth–six years of age.

1



2



“See! It is a sunny morning!” the eyes scream.

“Scrambled eggs and toast for breakfast!”
the nose declares.

“I hear friends in the park already!”
the ears report.

“Hurray!” Ben is happy.



Brain cells called neurons become stronger when children use their senses to interact with the world.



With Bill 'The Brain' around,

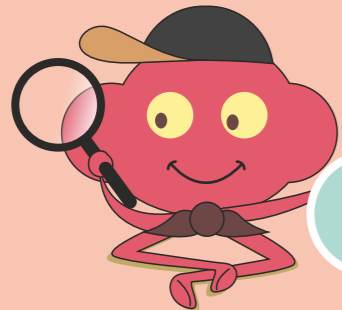
Ben can be anything he wants to be

An astronaut, a gardener,

A soccer star, a baker,

A tree climber,

Even a honey taster, if you please!



Ask your child to find the sunflower and the butterflies.





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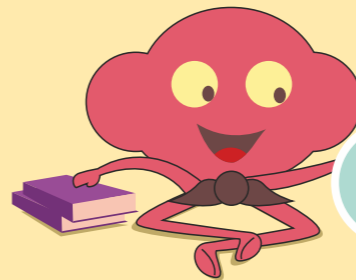
But little Ben needs some support to learn



As mom and dad can see

So, off they drive down

to meet super teacher, Ms. Lucy



Ask your child to touch
the sun and the bird.

8



Ms. Lucy joins mom and dad



as they list the things to do

“Ben will learn faster”, mom smiles,

“There is so much we can do.”



Positive interactions with parents help develop strong brain connections through everyday experiences.





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“You can do this better at home,” Ms. Lucy says

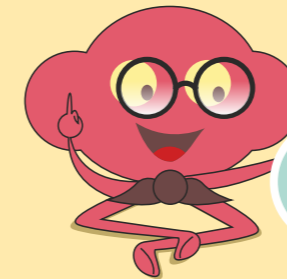


“And have fun while you do

Ben will love it more, you know



Coz’ you know him the best – you two.”



Parents can support learning in daily routines by talking, singing, reading and playing with young children.

12

So, mom sounds out words at home

Ben does it too

Apple, banana, pasta, spinach

Ben loves to say something new



Ask your child to point out all the green objects in the kitchen.

13



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Grandpa likes to play with Ben

It is fun when he visits

Cars, spaceships, dragons and crayons

He shows Ben new things



Ask your child to touch
the airplane and the blocks.

Dad and little Ben
get ready for the day

Ben tries on his shirt like dad

He feels so big hurray!



Children learn a lot
through imitation.



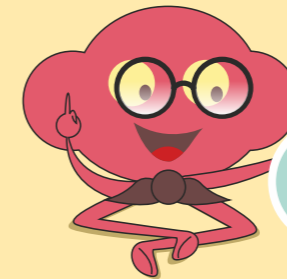


Dad plays with little Ben

When to the park they go

Catching the ball and running around

Ben loves to play some more



Ask your child to touch all the yellow objects in the picture.

Ben learns to turn the page



When grandma reads to him

Big and small letters

He loves his ABC's



Reading to children at a very young age builds stronger brains.
Children learn language and can become good readers.



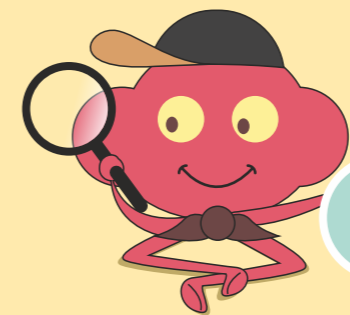


Ben loves to eat

with his fork and spoon alone

He picks and spills his yummy treats

Mom helps him try on his own



Ask your child to point to the spoons and fruits in the picture.

Ben loves to pick and choose
at the library when they go
Board books' n big books
There is fun always in store



Ask your child to point to the markers and play-doh in the picture.

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Ben loves mom and dad

Together they learn and play

Learning at home is always fun

Ben grows stronger each day



Parents play an important role in providing intervention to the child at home.

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And, then one sunny morning

Ms. Lucy pays a visit

Ben is excited to show her

how he has learned so many things



Ask your child to point to the rainbow and the car.



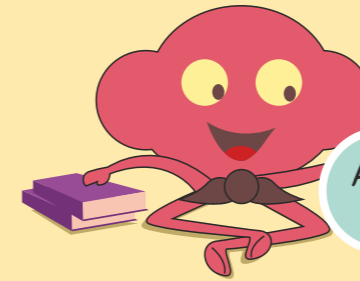


Ms. Lucy is proud

And so are mom and dad

Ben's grown so much

They are all so glad!



Ask your child to touch the fruits
and the birds in the picture.

“Good job Ben,” dad says
“Look how well you’ve learned
Let us celebrate together
We made it, well done!”



Intervention provided at an early age in daily routines can really help a child grow to his/her full potential.





And so, a wonderful day ends
It is time to cuddle and sleep
With kisses and warm hugs
Ben and Bill snuggle in bed and dream

Colour Me!



Colour Me!



This book has been re-published in English and distributed within Greece in the framework of project “ Technical Support to implement reforms to support the development of family-centred early childhood intervention services (ECI) in Greece” – (otherwise known as ECI Greece). It is funded by the European Union via the Technical Support Instrument and is implemented by the European Association of Service providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), in co-operation with the Directorate General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM) of the European Commission, with the cooperation and support of national and international stakeholders.

The aim of the project is to support the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in developing a modern, evidence-based legislative and financial framework for ECI services in Greece.

To learn more about family-centred Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) in Greece and the ECI Greece project, check out our website: www.ecigreece.eu



Funded by the European Union via the Technical Support Instrument and implemented by EASPD, in cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support

Meet The Book Makers

Dr. Shivani Pandit

Founder CEO - Saamarthya Foundation, USA.



With a doctorate in Special Education from Rutgers University, USA, Shivani has been working in the field for 25 years. Her non-profit works on multiple issues related to inclusion of persons with disability worldwide. It is also the first to publish a series of inclusive books under the banner of Naini Inclusive Books for Children.

Shwetal Pandit

Author



When not playing with words, Shwetal Pandit loves playing with her son. A social worker and remedial instructor by training, she is a copywriter by passion. Shwetal loves theater and music. She has authored 3 inclusive books for Saamarthya Foundation.

Parv Tiwari

Illustrator



Parv Tiwari is a professional illustrator throughout the day and an artist at night. It's been years that he's exploring various methods of art and applying it in his illustrations & designs. He loves indulging into the world of comics and is an avid fan of Batman & his world. He sees his life as nothing but a long quest to unravel deeper meanings of our existence & our purpose here.

ECI Agora Team

Working with partners from across 5 Central and Eastern European countries, the Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Agora Project works to create national ECI Agoras in order to develop ECI service through participation and co-production.



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Celebrate Ability. Unleash Potential.

Saamarthya Foundation is a non-profit organization focused on working with individuals with disabilities, worldwide. We are dedicated to creating public awareness, providing evidence-based professional development and advocacy resources to persons with disabilities, their families and professionals who work with them.

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