

# HOST YOUR OWN WINTER PARTY!

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar



Bear loves his forest home, but sometimes he gets lonely. It's hard being the biggest animal around. As the days grow shorter and autumn turns to winter, Bear springs into action and comes up with a festive plan to host a winter party and make friends with all the other forest creatures.

32 PAGES | AGES 4 TO 7 | GRADES K TO 2

9781554988532 | **HARDCOVER**

\$16.95 US | \$18.95 CDN

9781554988549 | **PDF**

\$14.95 US | \$16.95 CDN

## *About the Author*

**Deborah Hodge** is an award-winning author of more than twenty-five books for children. Her honors include the Information Book Award of Canada and the Green Prize for Sustainable Literature. A former teacher and curriculum writer, she lives in Vancouver. [deborahhodge.com](http://deborahhodge.com)

## *About the Illustrator*

**Lisa Cinar** is an educator and the author and illustrator of two picture books, *The Day It All Blew Away*, nominated for the Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize, and *Paulina P. (for Petersen)*. She lives in Vancouver. [lisacinar.com](http://lisacinar.com)

For more information about *Bear's Winter Party* or Groundwood Books, visit [groundwoodbooks.com](http://groundwoodbooks.com).

Art / illustrations © 2016 by Lisa Cinar

# HOST YOUR OWN WINTER PARTY!

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

When the days are getting chilly and the nights are getting longer, Bear realizes it's time to throw a winter party! He knows that celebrating with friends is a great way to stay warm on a cold winter day.

If you want to host your own winter party, here's how:

1

**Invite your friends.** You can even ask your guests to bring their own (stuffed) animals if they wish.

- Fill out your homemade invitations. Pick a time and place to hold your party (check with your parents first). Use the winter party invitation template, or create your own design to deliver to your friends.

2

**Plan your menu.** Lots of wintry food has spices in it to help warm you up! Bear's honey-ginger cookies and spiced cranberry tea have you covered. Break out your favorite winter recipes to serve with Bear's treats.

- Bake up a batch (or two) of Bear's honey-ginger cookies.
- Spiced cranberry tea is a festive drink that will warm everyone up!

3

**Entertain your guests.** What happens after tea and treats? It's time for fun, games and music!

- Play some animal-themed games
- What is a party without dancing and singing? Put on some of Bear's favorite songs and get moving.

4

**Make party favors.** It's customary to send your party guests home with a small gift. You can send home leftover party treats, but you can also get your guests involved in making their own favors: cut-out snowflakes!

- Paper snowflakes are perfect for winter decorations – for your party and to take home.
- Gift tags add a personal touch when you're sending home leftover cookies and treats.

5

**Most importantly:** have fun!



# INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

You're  
invited!

To:  
From:  
When:  
Where:



You're  
invited!

To:  
From:  
When:  
Where:



You're  
invited!

To:  
From:  
When:  
Where:



You're  
invited!

To:  
From:  
When:  
Where:





# PLAN YOUR MENU

Cookie recipe excerpted from *Bear's Winter Party* © Deborah Hodge and Lisa Cinar  
Tea recipe courtesy of Deborah Hodge

## *Bear's Honey Ginger Cookies*

In a mixing bowl, using a hand mixer, cream together:

- ½ cup softened butter
- ½ cup granulated sugar

Beat into the creamed mixture:

- 1 egg
- ¼ cup honey
- ¼ cup molasses
- 1½ tsp vinegar

Add the flour mixture to the creamed mixture, beating in as much as you can with the mixer, then stir until it is well combined.

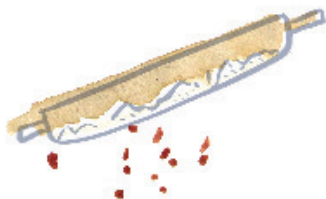
With your hands, form the dough into a ball.

Roll the dough ¼ inch thick on a lightly floured surface. Use your cookie cutters to make cutouts, then place them about 1 inch apart on a greased cookie sheet.

If you like, decorate the unbaked cookies with colorful candies, sprinkles, raisins or chocolate chips.

Bake at 350°F for 8 to 10 minutes, or until cookies are firm around the edges. (Ask for an adult's help.)

Cool slightly, then enjoy! Makes about 2 dozen.



## *Bear's Spiced Cranberry Tea*



For a single serving:

In a small saucepan, whisk together 1 cup of cranberry juice and ¼ tsp. ground cinnamon. To sweeten, add up to 1 tsp. honey (optional).

Simmer until warm. Pour into a mug and enjoy!

(Multiply this recipe by the number of guests you wish to serve.)

\*If you prefer, you can substitute apple juice to make spiced apple tea.

*Safety note: Do not feed honey to children under 12 months of age.*

## *Other Snack Ideas*

Ask an adult to help you prepare more snacks like these ones:

- Roasted hazelnuts or any assortment of your favorite nuts.
- Popcorn.
- Winter citrus fruit salad.
- Hot chocolate with marshmallows



# ENTERTAIN YOUR GUESTS

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

Would you like to play an animal guessing game? It's a fun way to get the party started!

## *Animal Buddies*

1. Write the names of different forest animals (Bear, Deer, Beaver, Chickadee, Fox, Squirrel and Hare) on slips of paper. Choose enough animals for half the number of guests, then write each animal name down twice.
2. Put the slips in a hat or bucket and let everyone choose one. Ask them to keep their animal identity secret.
3. Have a grownup set a timer for five minutes.
4. Now it is up to you and your friends to find your animal buddy – the person who drew the same animal as you. Go around the room and ask each other yes or no questions.
5. For example, someone who chose Bear might ask, “Do you eat berries?” or “Do you hibernate during the winter?” Avoid asking outright whether the person you're talking to is your animal.
6. At the end of the five minutes, tell everyone to sit or stand next to whoever they think their partner is.
7. Reveal your animal to see if your friends guessed right!

## *Other Game Ideas*

- Pin the Tail on the Fox
- Bear, Bear, Squirrel (played like Duck, Duck, Goose)
- Animal charades



# ENTERTAIN YOUR GUESTS

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

Here are some animal- and winter-themed tunes to dance and sing along to – because what's a party without some dancing?



1) Gettin' Ready (for the Winter)

*Mark Szabo*

2) Animal Birthday Party

*The Pop Ups*

3) The Other Day I Met a Bear

*Barenaked Ladies*

4) Valley Winter Song

*Fountains of Wayne*

5) Little Bird, Little Bird

*Elizabeth Mitchell*

6) The Bear Went Over the Mountain

*Kidsongs*

7) The Fox (What Does the Fox Say?)

*Ylvis*

8) Snow Day

*Justin Roberts*



# CRAFTS AND PARTY FAVORS

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

## Paper Snowflakes

It's customary to send your guests home with a small gift – a party favor. In this case, paper snowflakes are a fun craft that your guests can make themselves and take home after. They can also double as party decorations.

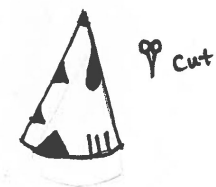
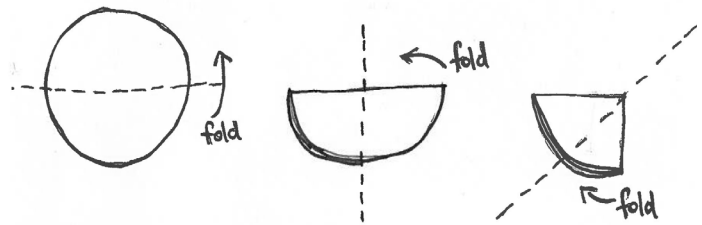
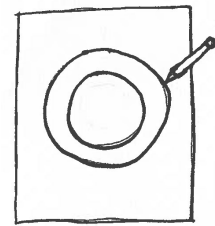


### Materials:

White paper  
Small paper plate or dessert plate  
Pencil  
Scissors  
Glitter glue (optional)  
Ribbon (optional)  
Construction paper (optional)

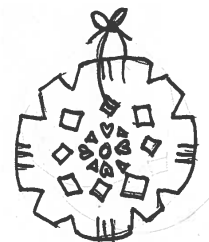


1. On a piece of white paper, trace around the plate to make a circle.
2. Cut out your circle.
3. Fold the circle in half, then in half again, and half again, until you have a small triangle.
4. Cut shapes into your triangle – circles, fringe, triangles, even hearts. Ask an adult if you need help with cutting.
5. When you're done, open up your triangle to reveal a beautiful snowflake!
6. Add glitter if you'd like a sparkly snowflake!



## Other Ideas

- Cut a length of ribbon and string it through one of the holes in the snowflake so that it can be hung up as an ornament
- Glue your snowflake to a piece of colored construction paper to make a picture or card.





# CRAFTS AND PARTY FAVORS

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

## *Paper Plate Animals*

Do you have a favorite animal from *Bear's Winter Party*? Here's how to make a paper-plate face for Bear, Beaver, Fox and Hare:



### **Materials:**

Watercolor paints and paintbrush  
Large white paper plates (not styrofoam)  
Colored construction paper  
Large googly eyes  
Scissors  
White glue  
Pencil  
Markers



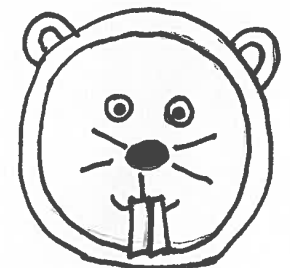
### *To make Bear*

1. Paint the back side of the paper plate brown
2. While the paint is drying, draw a nose on black construction paper and ears on brown construction paper. Cut them out.
3. Once the paint is completely dry, glue two googly eyes to the upper middle of the face
4. Glue the nose below the eyes, and the ears onto the top back of the plate on either side of the eyes.
5. With a black marker, draw a mouth. Bear is ready!



### *To make Beaver*

Follow the same instructions as above, but also cut black whiskers and two orange teeth from construction paper. Glue them on. Beaver is ready!

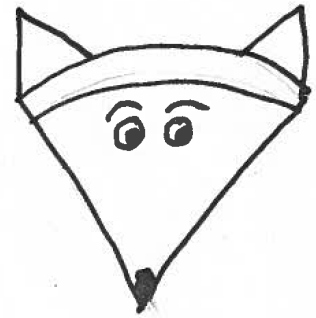


# CRAFTS AND PARTY FAVORS

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

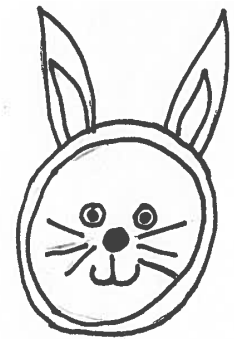
## *To make Fox*

1. Cut a triangle shape from the paper plate keeping two straight sides and a rounded top.
2. Cut two small triangle-shaped ears from the leftover pieces of plate.
3. Paint the face and ears orange.
4. When the paint is dry, glue the ears to the top back of the face.
5. Cut a small black nose from construction paper and glue it to the pointed bottom tip of the face. Glue the eyes near the upper middle of the face and draw on eyebrows.



## *To make Hare*

If you keep Hare's face white, you won't need to paint the paper plate. Follow the same steps as above, but cut ears from white paper, and a nose, whiskers, and the inside of the ears from pink construction paper. Glue them on.



## *Other Ideas*

- Feel free to use any colors or shapes you like for your animals. These are only suggestions!
- If you'd like to turn the faces into masks, ask an adult to cut out eye holes instead of gluing on googly eyes. Then you can hold your mask up to your face and pretend to be the animal. Have fun!

# CRAFTS AND PARTY FAVORS

Inspired by *Bear's Winter Party*, written by Deborah Hodge and illustrated by Lisa Cinar

## *Gift Tags*

Bear sends his new friends home with a jar of homemade blackberry jam. Each jar has a gift tag attached. Homemade gift tags are a fun way to personalize gifts. Put aside some honey-ginger cookies before the party (bake a double batch if necessary so that you have enough). Package them up in plastic or paper bags and attach these gift tags.

### **Materials:**

Gift tag template  
Markers or crayons  
Scissors  
Hole punch  
Twine, ribbon or tape

1. Print as many copies of this sheet as necessary to get the right number of tags.
2. Use your markers or crayons to decorate the tags and write out your friends' names.
3. Cut out the tags.
4. At this point you can either tape the tags to your gift bags, or if you'd prefer to tie them on, punch a hole in each tag and use a length of twine or ribbon (at least 15 cm long) to attach it to your party favor packages.
5. Hand out the gifts to each guest, or put them all on a table for guests to pick up on their way out.

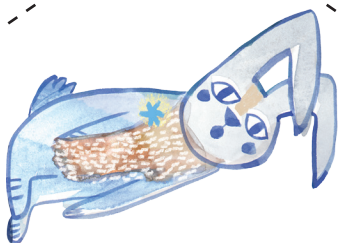
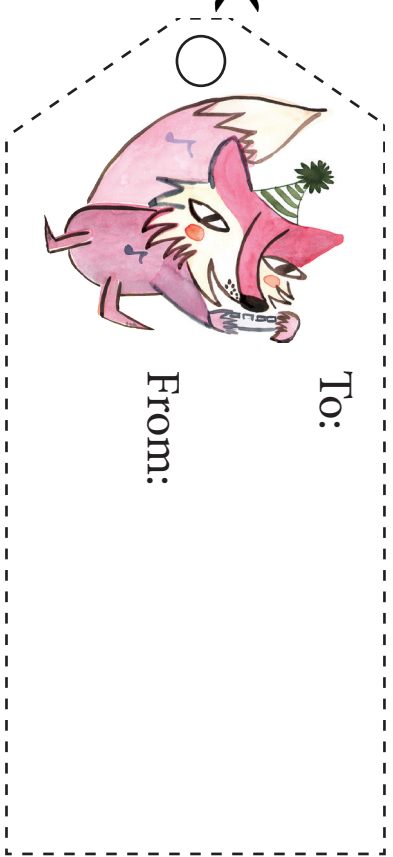






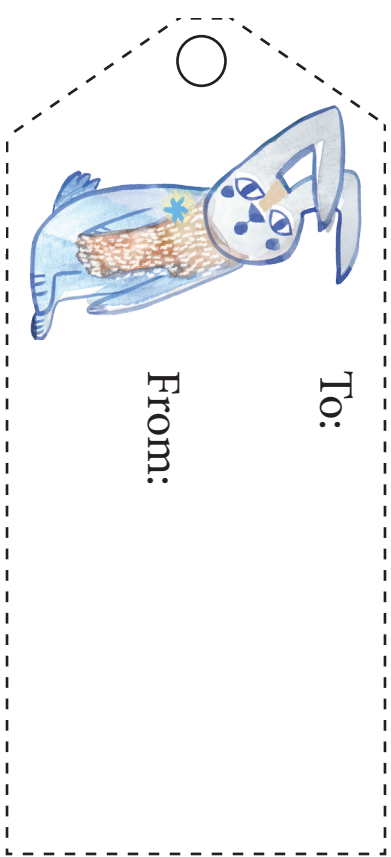
To:

From:



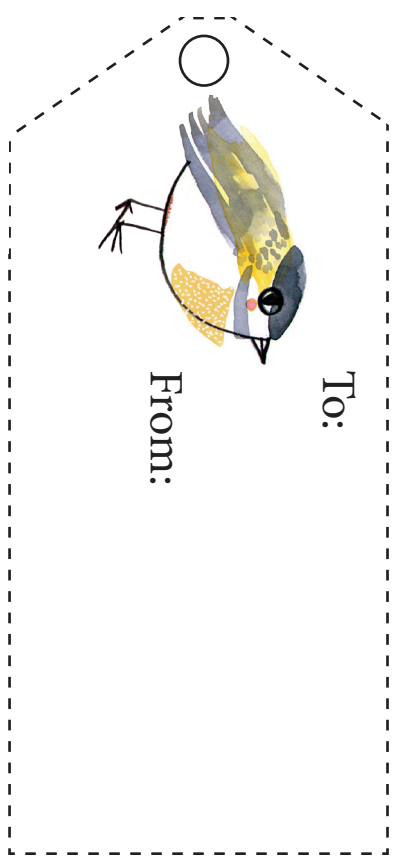
To:

From:



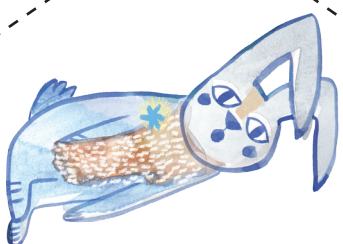
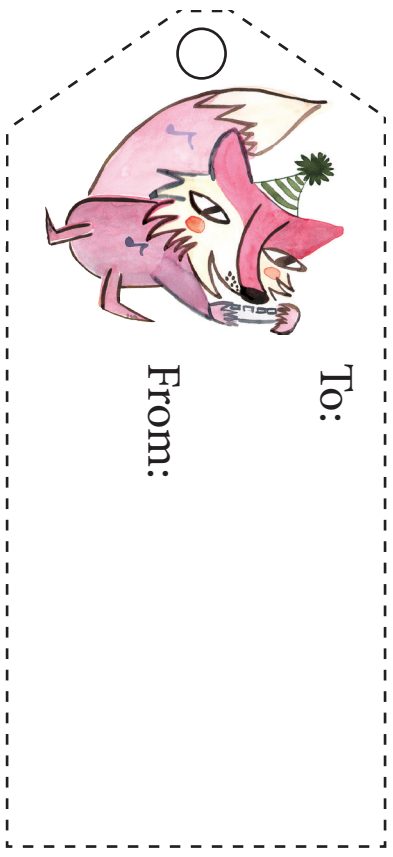
To:

From:



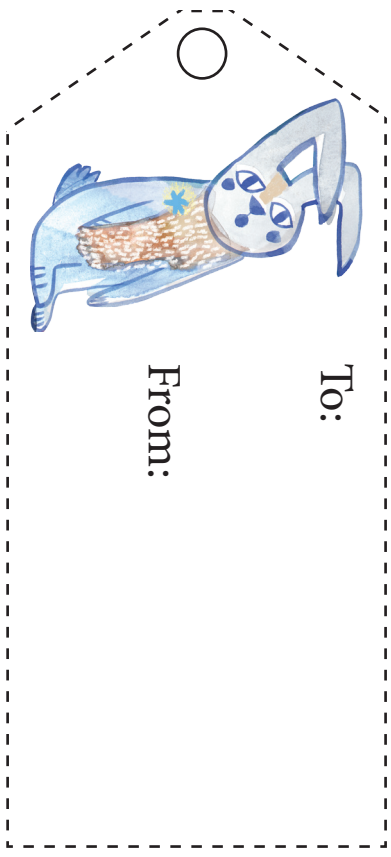
To:

From:



To:

From:



To:

From:

