



**BOOK TITLE:** Blueberries for Sal  
**AUTHOR:** Robert McCloskey



**SUMMARY OF BOOK:** A little girl goes blueberry picking with her mother while a little bear and his mama go searching for blueberries to eat. As Sal picks and eats her berries, she gets separated from her mother. She hears a noise and thinks it's her mama, so she merrily follows along. Little Bear also gets separated from his mama. Little Bear ends up following Sal's mother while Sal follows Little Bear's mama. Both mothers are surprised to see who's following them.

**\*BEFORE READING** (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

Try questions such as these:

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|   | kind?"   |
| 1. Looking at the cover, "What do you think this book will be about?" | 3. "Where can we go to pick berries?"          |
| 2. "Have you ever picked berries? What                                | 4. "Can you describe what berries taste like?" |

**DURING READING** (ask these questions):

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| 1. "What does Sal's mother want to do with the berries? What does Sal want to do with them?" | mother feel?"   |
| 2. "Why are mama and Little Bear eating berries?"  | 4. "When the mama bear sees Sal, what do you think is going to happen?" |
| 3. "How does Sal feel when she gets separated from her mother? How does                      | 5. "Can you make the sounds that everyone is hearing?"                  |

**AFTER READING** (activity to extend book experience):

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| 1. Talk about <i>real</i> and <i>imaginary</i> . "How do we make sure we're safe when we go outside? What is the <i>real</i> way to behave around bears?" | the kitchen; have you ever canned fruit? What's familiar in the picture, what not?                 |
| 2. "What do you like to do with blueberries?" Talk about the picture of   | 3. Talk about feeling <i>relief</i> . Is that how all the characters feel at the end of the story? |

Compliments of:



\* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

For additional activities, visit [www.AlaskamaginationLibrary.org](http://www.AlaskamaginationLibrary.org).

