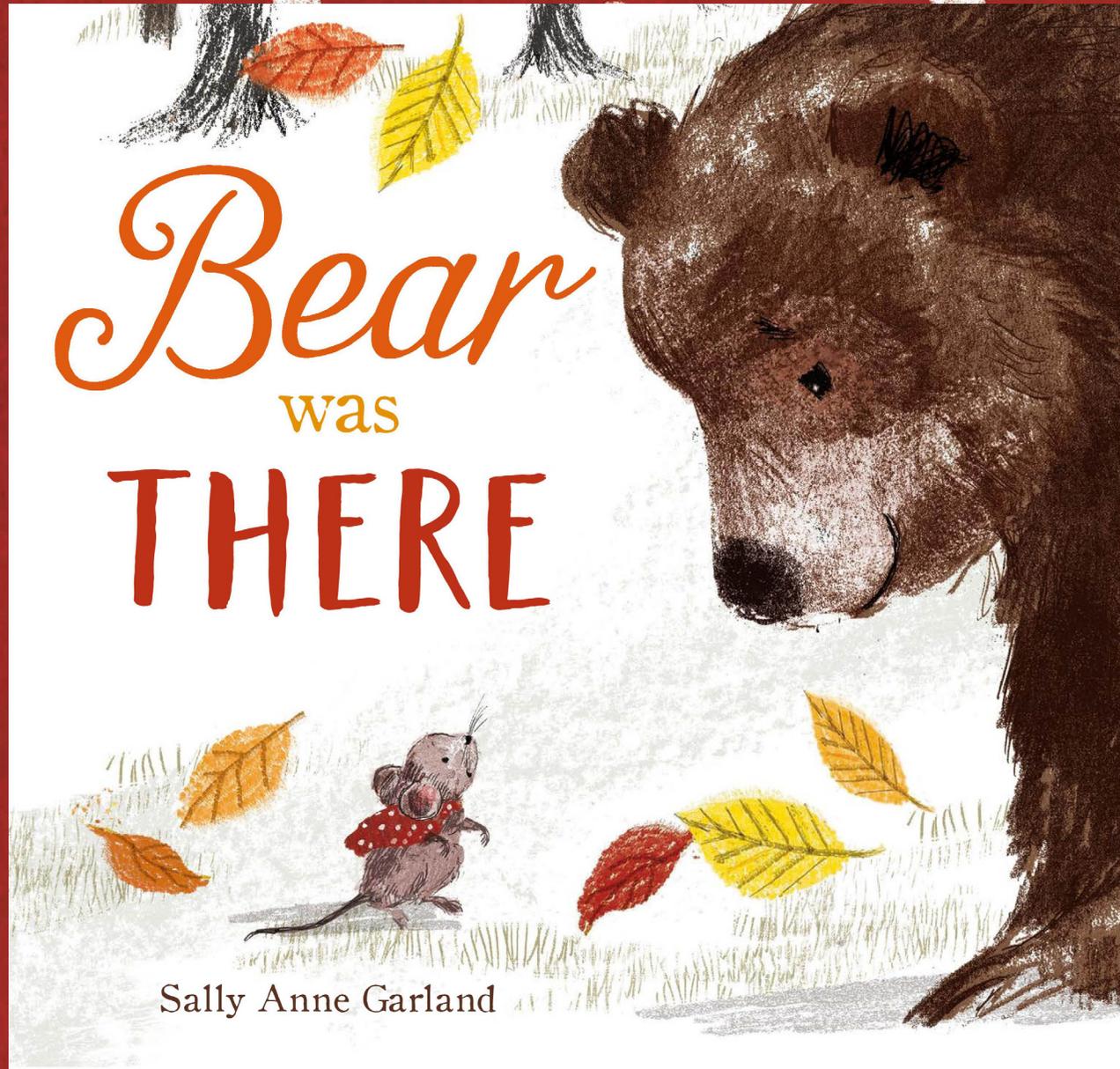


Bear Was There Teaching Notes



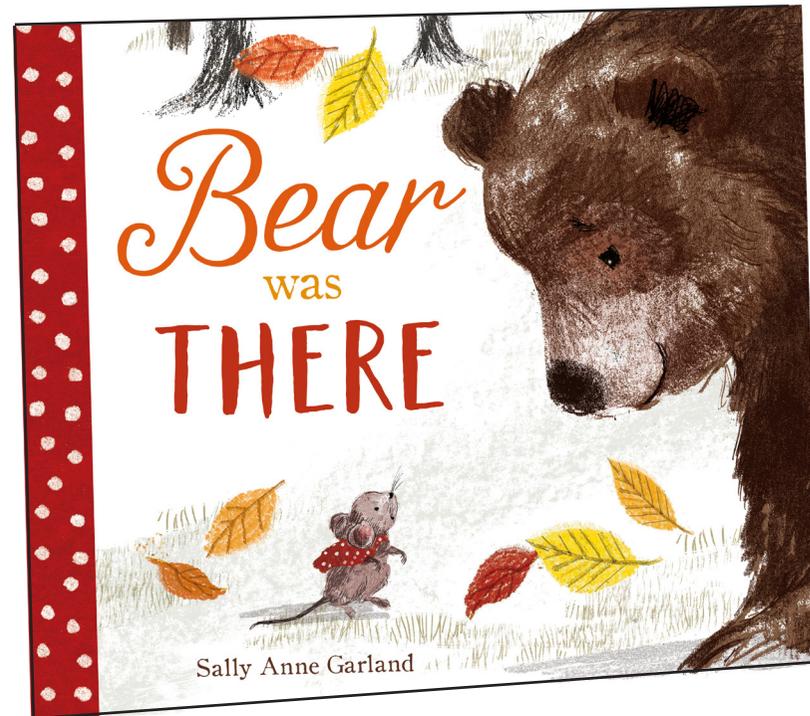
Synopsis

Love is the first thing Mouse feels as he lies in the warmth of his mother's fur.

Then one day, Mouse meets Bear.

Mouse is frightened, but what if Bear is not as scary as he seems . . .

A gentle and sensitive story of a little mouse's journey, his fears and the eventual comfort he finds, beautifully written and illustrated by Sally Anne Garland.



About Sally Anne Garland

Sally was brought up in a small town in the Highlands of Scotland, called Alness and studied Illustration at Edinburgh College of Art, before moving to Glasgow where she now lives and works with her partner and young son. Since Sally was young, she has always loved drawing and had a passion for children's literature and illustration.

She has had many years experience working as a children's illustrator and happily works both digitally and traditionally. Recently Sally has been enjoying experimenting with simple block printing techniques and watercolour and writing her own stories.

Discussion Topics

1. Show the children the front cover. What do they think the story might be about? What do they think of the two characters that they can see?
2. What are the four seasons? Which season is it at the start of the book?
3. Mouse loves being outside, do the children like playing outside too? What kinds of games do they play?
4. Do they think the season has changed when Mouse first meets Bear? What is their favourite season and why?
5. Look closely at Bear's face when he is first introduced. Does he look scary to them? Why do they think Mouse's mother is scared of Bear?
6. We can see how Mouse feels when he sees Bear, but can they guess what Bear might feel when he sees Mouse? Can they find clues in the book to support their ideas?
7. What does Mouse feel at the beginning and the end of the story? Discuss the idea of the story coming full circle.

Activities

Activity 1 Drawing the Seasons

In *Bear Was There* you saw beautiful illustrations of the changing seasons. In the boxes provided, try drawing your own interpretation of the four seasons.

Activity 2 Colouring In

Colour in Mouse and his surroundings.

Activity 3 Facial Expressions

Illustrate different feelings by adding a mouth and eyebrows to the drawings of Bear's face.

Activity 4 Word Search

Find the 10 hidden words.

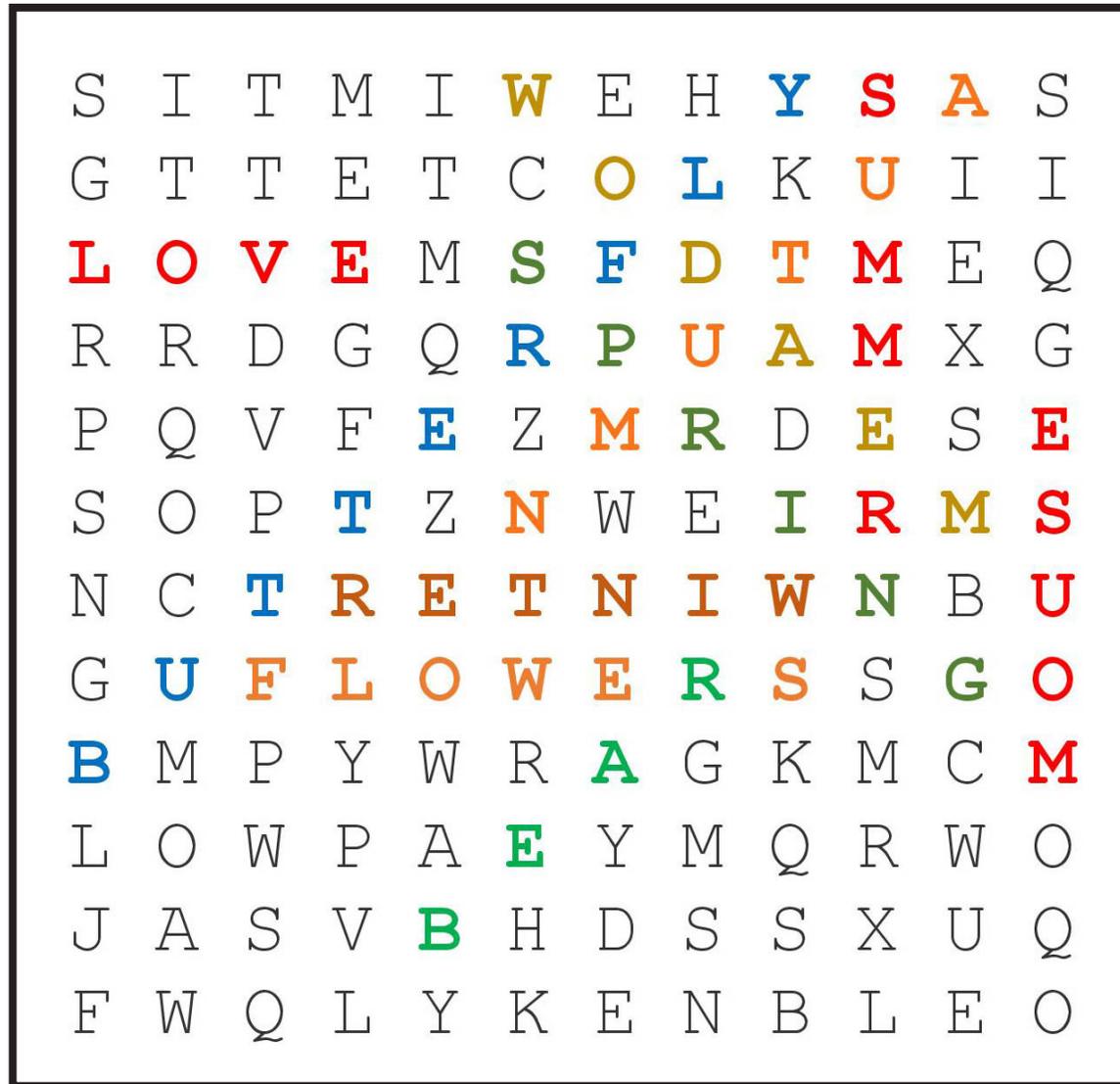
Solution provided on page 3.

Activity 5 Maze

Help Mouse make his way back to Bear.

Solution provided on page 4.

Word Search Solution



Find these words:

Mouse, Bear, Love, Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, Meadow, Butterfly,
Flowers

Activity I Drawing the Seasons

Spring

Summer

Autumn

Winter

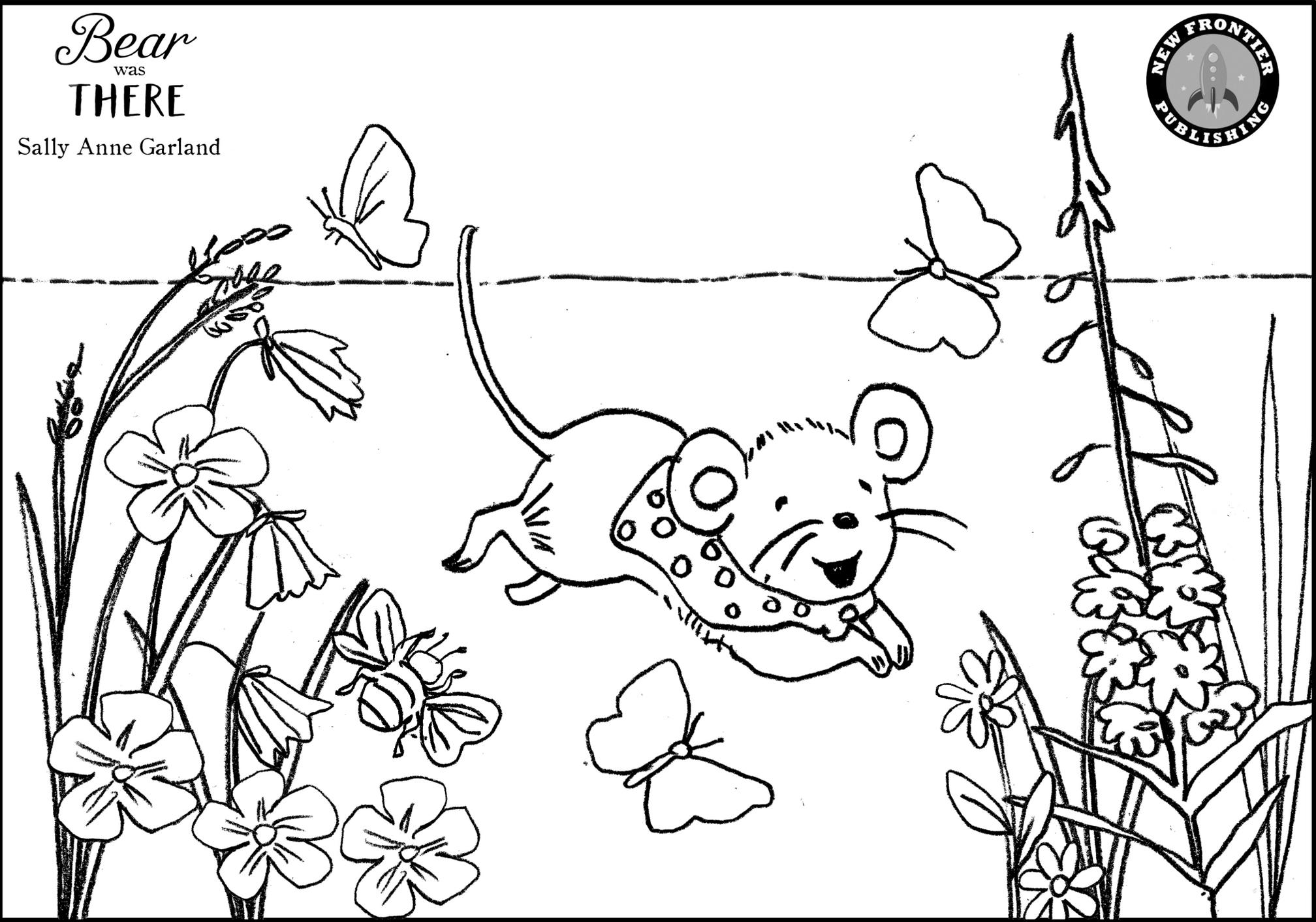


Activity 2 Colouring In



Bear
was
THERE

Sally Anne Garland



Activity 3 Facial Expressions

Bear was THERE

By Sally Anne Garland



Make Bear have different feelings by adding his eyebrows and mouth.



Happy



Sad



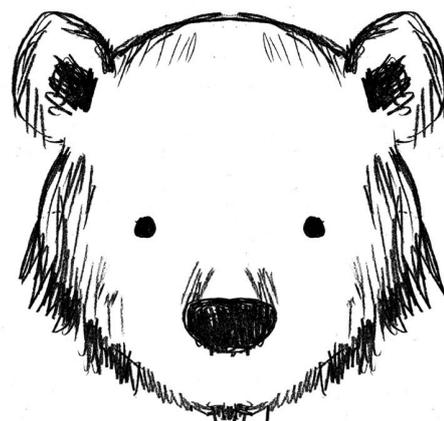
Angry



Suprised

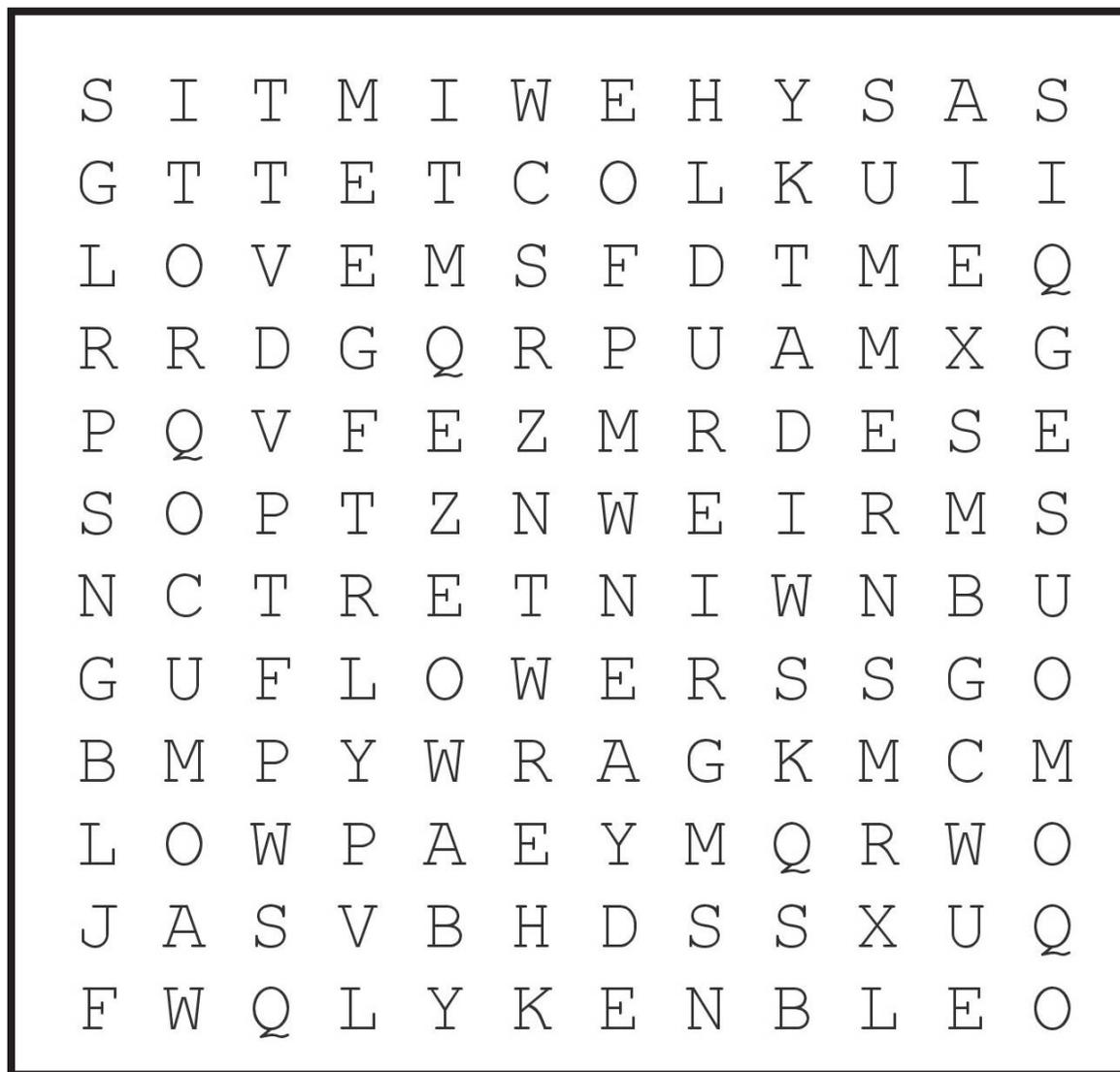


Scared



Excited

Activity 4 Word Search



Find these words:

Mouse, Bear, Love, Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, Meadow, Butterfly,
Flowers

Activity 5 Maze

Help Mouse find Bear.

