



WRITER'S BIBLE

Revised September 2000

Director: Tony Collingwood
Producer: Christopher O'Hare

Based on the characters Created by Jez Alborough

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EDDY & the BEAR

THE HALF-HOUR SPECIAL

The **Eddy & the Bear** half-hour special tells how Eddy and the Bear first met; and acts as an overture, leading us into **Eddy & the Bear – The Series**.

The half-hour special is based on three Eddy and the Bear books, *Where's My Teddy*, *It's the Bear*, and *My Friend Bear*, written and illustrated by best-selling children's author Jez Alborough. Editions of these books have already been published widely across Europe, including Germany and France, as well as in America.

The half-hour special begins just as Eddy and his Mother are moving to a new house in the country. It's Eddy's birthday, but his enjoyment of the day is marred by the loss of his favourite teddy, Freddy. That afternoon, Eddy's Mum has planned a special birthday trip and Eddy is determined to find his teddy before leaving. Eddy spends the morning drawing "missing" posters of Freddy, then sets off down the lane, sticking his posters to poles and gates.

As Eddy ventures further from his house, putting up posters, he discovers a clue to Freddy's whereabouts when he finds the ribbon from Freddy's neck. This clue leads Eddy into a big wood. Eddy finds Freddy in the wood, but he also meets a very, very big real Bear who's out looking for his own teddy!

Eddy is frightened and so is the Big Bear! Eddy runs home as fast as he can, vowing never to set foot in the woods ever again.

Eddy is delighted to be re-united with Freddy, and distracted by the new toy helicopter he has received from Mum for his birthday gift, heads off with Mum in the car on the birthday outing.

But oh no! It's a picnic in the woods!

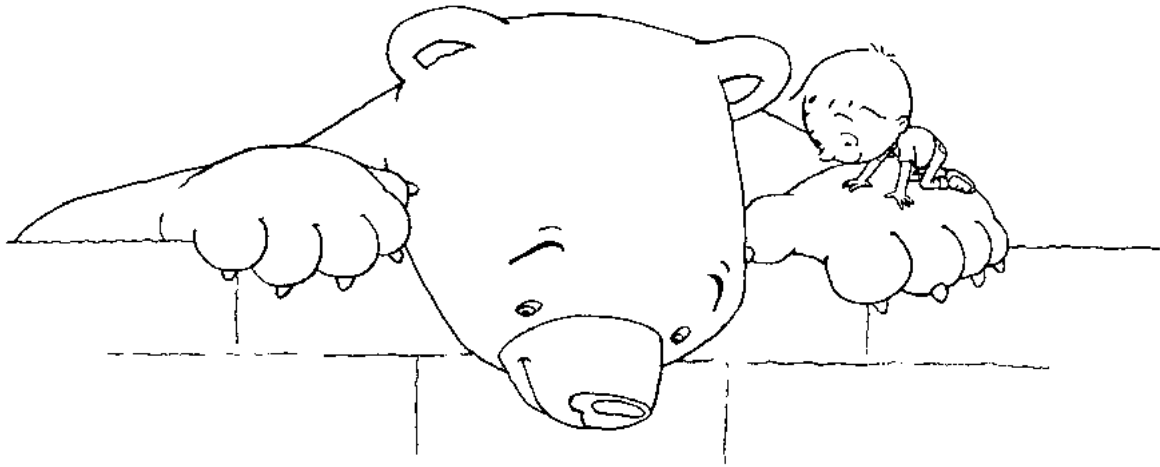
Eddy tries to tell his Mum about the Big Bear who lives there but she doesn't believe him...until the Big Bear shows up...and he's hungry!

Despite initial misunderstandings between them (when the Big Bear eats Eddy's birthday cake and crushes his toy helicopter), Eddy and the Bear soon discover that they are both lonely and both long to find someone to talk to and play with.

It's not long before Eddy and the Bear become the best of friends. They realise that they have both been rather 'silly' being scared of each other. The film ends with the affirmation of their very special friendship, as they sing 'The Silly Song'.



THE SERIES



Eddy & the Bear – The Series picks up where the half-hour special left off. Secure in their friendship, Eddy and Bear begin a series of funny, quirky tales designed especially for children up to 7 years old – with the core audience being 5.

Every episode of **Eddy & the Bear – The Series** begins with a 30-second rendition of “The Silly Song” (from the half-hour special) which has become the title sequence. This tells the audience everything they need to know about Eddy and the Bear’s friendship, and what is in store over the next ten minutes!

EDDY & THE BEAR

*We’re so silly! And we don’t care!
A very silly boy and a very silly bear!
There’s never been a pair as silly as weeeee!
There never ever was, and there never will be!*

Unlike the half-hour special, the stories in the series will be written in prose; except for judicious use of the Narrator, who will provide scene-setting rhyming couplets at the beginning of each story, and also wrap the story up at the end of the show.

Within the stories, the Narrator may also give us an insight into how a character is feeling, or help move the story forward. This can happen, if required, within each show, but it is not a ‘rule’. If used, the rule is that it will happen only a couple of times, for it is the relationship between Eddy and the Big Bear that provides the heart of each story, and it is preferable to see that in action, not distanced by the storyteller.

The character of Eddy will be voiced by a real child, Rupert Garnsey, and actor Robert Lindsay will play the Bear. It is their performances that feature in ‘The Silly Song’, already recorded for the half-hour special/pilot.

THE FRIENDSHIP

Set principally in a beautiful big Wood, during the perennial summer of childhood, **Eddy & the Bear** is the continuing story of a little boy's first ever friendship. As the title of the show reveals, this friendship is, to say the least, a tad unusual. And as the theme song of the show suggests, the friendship is based very much on a shared sense of silliness.

Theirs is a relaxed friendship. Neither is in charge, or the more paternal, or the more intelligent. Though the Bear's age is never defined, he is in many respects a child too, but with the countenance and voice of an adult. This is what makes their relationship special - neither is the wiser, but what they do know is so very, very different; as one of them was brought up in a house and the other in a wood.

It is this difference that provides the essence of the tales between the pair. Bear introduces Eddy to the wonders of the natural world and Eddy confuses the Bear with talk of computer games, school and being told to go to sleep when you're not tired and it's still light!

As with any friendship, they can have little arguments and enjoy showing off to one another – even become jealous - but we are always aware that nothing will rock the solid foundations of their friendship.

Words that describe their friendship are:

- Silly
- Honest
- Happy
- Loving
- Sharing
- Caring.

Their friendship is a place where if you are feeling vulnerable you can be safe.

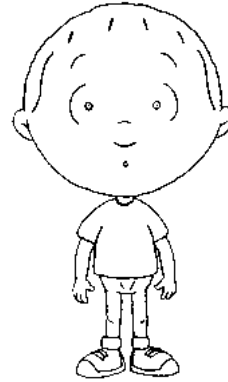


EDDY

Eddy is five years old – arguably the most magical age of childhood. He is old enough to express himself, but still young enough to be experiencing many things for the first time. The unusual, the magical, and the commonplace all find a level playing field in the mind of a five year old – which is just as well, if your best friend happens to be a ten foot tall talking Bear!

Eddy lives with his mother and Father. They have just moved to a new country cottage on the outskirts of the village from the town. The joys of country life are all new to Eddy.

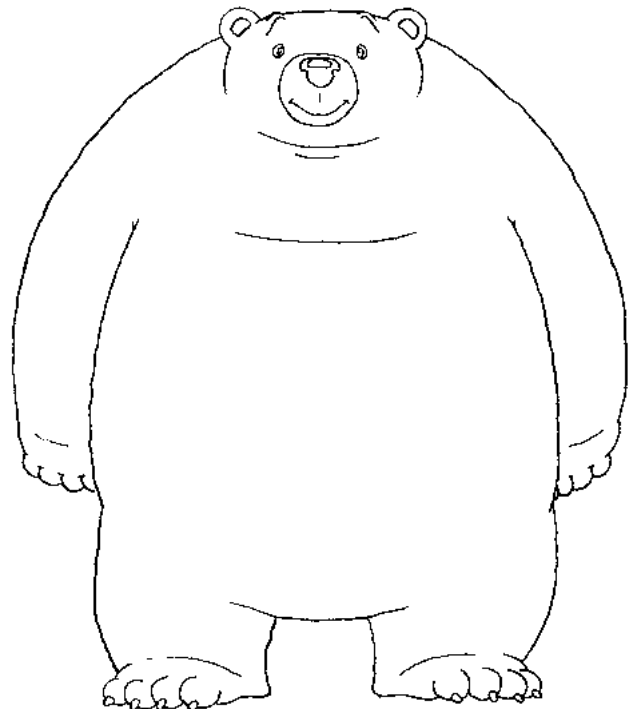
Like most five-year-olds, Eddy has a vivid imagination. Occasionally we join him there, along with the Bear. These flights of fantasy usually take off from some joint game or expectation experienced in reality.



THE BEAR

Bear is a happy go lucky, benign, patient, understanding, big, brown, silly bear. Whereas Eddy tends to regurgitate “facts” that he has learnt or been told, Bear just seems to “know” certain things as if he is a *part* of nature and his environment, rather than a visitor. (Which, in many ways is true.)

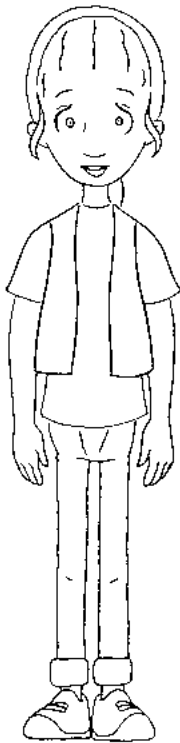
The Bear is slightly confused by Eddy’s world. He accepts things at face value, and finds it hard to take on board concepts that Eddy takes for granted as part of his sophisticated world. Bear’s simple questions often make Eddy question things too, for the first time. For example, Eddy has a tough time making Bear understand the whole concept of “pocket money” and that the things you want in life, like sweets or toys cost money. Nature has no equivalent. But what Bear is able to teach Eddy is the true ‘value’ of things in life...things that you can’t put a price on like friendship.



Bear lives in the woods and we never meet his parents.

Bear is alone with no back history.

MUM



Mum is a thirty-something, modern Mum.

She is always seen as a caring loving parent. While Mum never forms a major part of the adventures she is often seen within episodes as the secure factor in Eddy's life. We don't want Eddy to appear homeless or driven to the Bear for comfort. Mum clearly loves her son Eddy and her appearance in episodes assures the audience that all is well.

Mum works from home on a computer. Although we never focus too clearly on her job - unless an episode calls for it – it would appear to be art and computer-based. One room of the house acts as her study. It is light and airy, and a friendly place to be.

DAD

Dad is slightly older than Mum. He commutes to work in the Big City by train, to some kind of office job, and is therefore not always there in the home environment. He is, however there if we need him.

MUM & DAD

Ideally Mum and/or Dad (as stories require) should be seen once in each episode with Eddy, as parental touchstones, so the audience don't think that Eddy has been abandoned in the wood with the Bear.



ADDITIONAL CHARACTERS

The Teddy Bears

Eddy and the Bear each have their own teddy bears. They both feature prominently in the half-hour special; but now that Eddy and the Bear have each other as friends, their teddies have faded slightly into the background. Not *quite* gone, and not *quite* forgotten.



The Teddy Bears can appear and should appear visually in the series even if not directly related to a storyline. If we are in Eddy's bedroom for instance, Freddy should be there. If Bear is in the woods on his own perhaps, contemplative, or if he and Eddy have fallen out, Bear's Teddy can be there to comfort him.

Woodland Animals

Every other animal or creature in the wood is treated semi-naturally. Only the Bear can speak – though we do endow Bear with the ability to “talk to the animals” and translate what they say to Eddy. Being treated as real animals, they never have anything too profound to say.

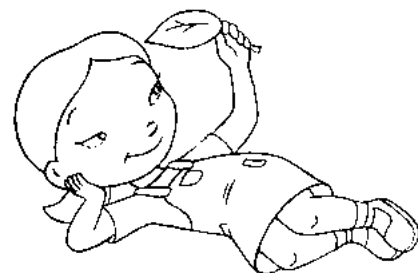
Villagers

Members of the local community of the nearby village can be seen, as required, within stories, such as Eddy's schoolteacher Mr Wilson, or the School's Headmistress or the village postman or shopkeepers. Additional characters can be introduced in fantasy sequences.

The Chou Family

There are also Eddy's neighbours, Mr and Mrs Chou and their daughter Lilly, who live down the lane. Originally from China, they are very much part of the local community and are friendly with Eddy's family.

Like Eddy's Dad, Mr Chou is a professional man who commutes to the city for his work – perhaps to a bank. Mrs Chou works part time, in the village, behind the counter at the post office. Their daughter, Lilly, an only child, is older than Eddy, at about 7 years old. Lilly attends the same school as Eddy, but is of course in a different year. She may often be seen playing in her garden.



THE FORMAT

- **Title Sequence - The ‘Silly Song’. Length 30 seconds.**
- **Episode/Story Length. Not less than 8.30 minutes and no more than 9.00 minutes.**
- **End credits - 30 seconds.**

Basics of the Friendship

The format is based on the friendship of Eddy and the Bear – and being ‘five’ together. Everything within the format is there to help illuminate this unusual friendship and give it story-roads to travel down. (See p4-5 The Friendship, including character descriptions of Eddy, Bear and Mum/Dad.)

Use of the Narrator

Each show will use the Narrator delivering a rhyming couplet early on in the show, to set the scene of the episode. The rest of the show is written in prose.

It is important to introduce the Narrator early on in a show. If it is left too late, then the Narrator’s voice may seem to come ‘out of left field’ and jar slightly.

Within an episode the Narrator is to be used sparsely. Always near the beginning and end of a show to top and tail the story, but only occasionally smoothing through a moment in the middle of the tale. The narration is always delivered in rhyming couplets.

The Narrator must not be relied upon as a story telling device, nor is the Narrator a self aware “character”. The characters do not relate to, or hear, the narration.

Key Locations

The principal locations for **Eddy & the Bear** are:

- The Wood
- The Village
- Eddy's Home and Environs.

These locations are more fully described later (See p11 - Their World).

There is also a more ethereal but equally important location:

- Eddy and the Bear's Joint Imagination. For as the two of them play, we may join them in their make-believe world.

Use of the Joint Imagination

If Eddy, for instance, imagines what it would be like to be tall like Bear – then we, the audience, and the Bear, will take a trip into that fantasy with Eddy as he plays out his life as a “Giant Boy”. The Bear may add to the fantasy by saying that he always wanted to be smaller – like Eddy used to be. At no point do the audience ever think that this is really happening – we know that we are being carried along by their imaginations.

These make-believe moments will not form the bulk of a story. They might take up, at most, 20% of an episode.

Also these moments are not a requirement. An episode can survive without a fantasy section, or may require just one very brief one. The bottom line is, that these fantasy moments only work if they are used judiciously, to counterpoint Eddy and the Bear's real lives and the real situations they find themselves in. The *danger* is making the fantasy section the show. This mustn't happen.

When writing story outlines, Treatments of scripts please type all fantasy sequences in italics for ease of reference.

Secondary Locations

- The Big City where Dad's office is located.
- The Shopping Mall/Hyper-market on the outskirts of the village.

Other Key Format Facts

One “given” in the format of the show is that the only animal who can speak is the Bear. We meet other animals and creatures in the wood but they will not have human voices. However, the Bear can understand and translate what they are saying for the benefit of Eddy.

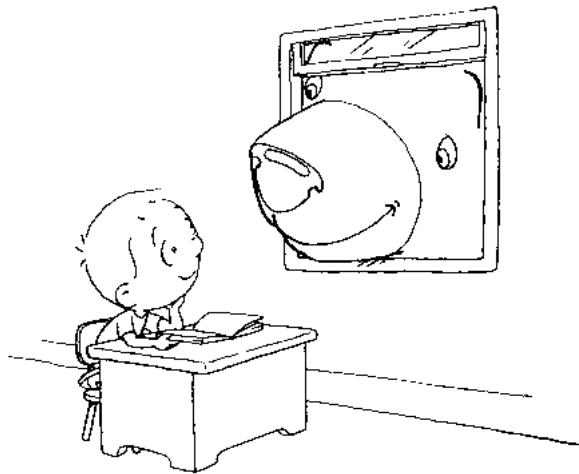
Obviously the size difference between Eddy and the Bear is something to exploit - but not in a crass way. For example, we do not want knee-jerk stories about how the Bear can patch old Mrs. Dust’s roof by just standing on tip toe, or saves the people from the top floor of a smoking building. (“Thank-you”, said the fireman – “without a big tall bear being there...etc”.)



Though the town will be populated with characters (See p6 Additional Characters), the stories must not be seduced away from Eddy and the Bear, who must both remain at the core of the show.

However, the shows must not isolate Eddy from reality. He must be seen to lead a full life, and having a loving relationship with his Mother and Father. (See also p5 character descriptions.) Each episode should show this wider aspect of Eddy’s life. If only fleetingly. For example, showing Eddy returning home from school, or the Bear coming round to Eddy’s house asking if he can come out to play.

The above line touches on another aspect of the series. In fact it’s a major rule. **THE BEAR IS TAKEN FOR GRANTED BY ALL HUMANS.** The Bear is treated as Eddy’s friend. People in the village do not run away in fear or double take every time the Bear walks through the town. This is where the series differs from the books – as this rule holds true for Eddy’s Mum as well. Although when Eddy’s teacher came up with the “Bring a Pet to School Day” he never quite realised what he was letting himself or the school in for.

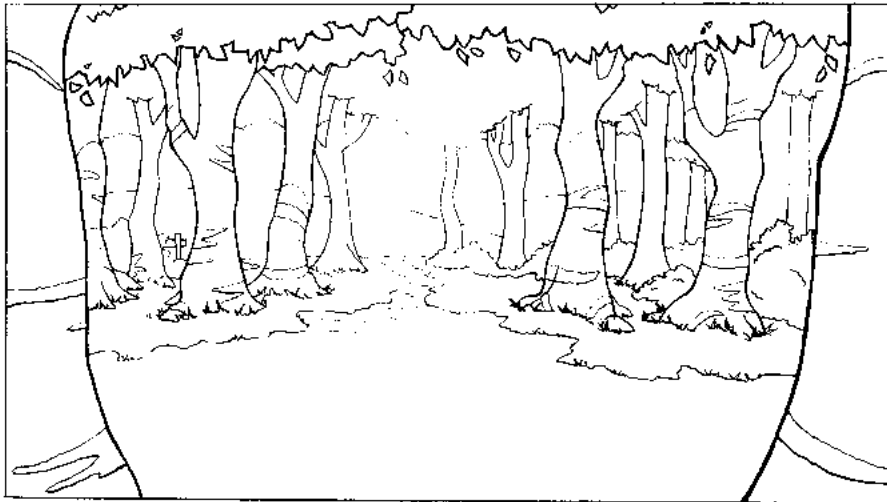


THEIR WORLD

The series takes place in the Big Wood and also in the small village that Eddy calls home. Eddy's house is on the edge of the village, close to the Big Wood.

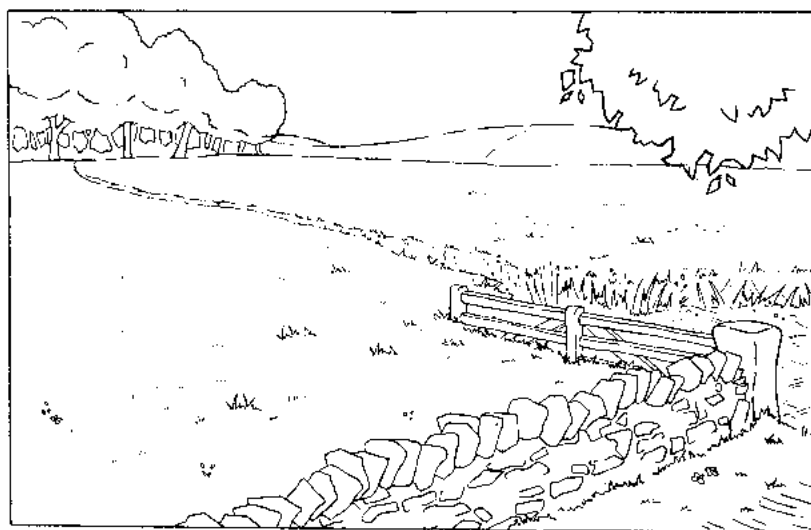
The Big Wood

During the series we explore the Big Wood – a mix of deciduous and non-deciduous trees. The dense forest is interspersed with grassy clearings.



One of the wood's principal features is its great still lake. There are also caves, hills, old trees and magical dells.

The wood can be accessed through a field not far from Eddy's house or from a more formal grassy picnic area on the edge of the woods, which is a short drive away and adjacent to a car park.

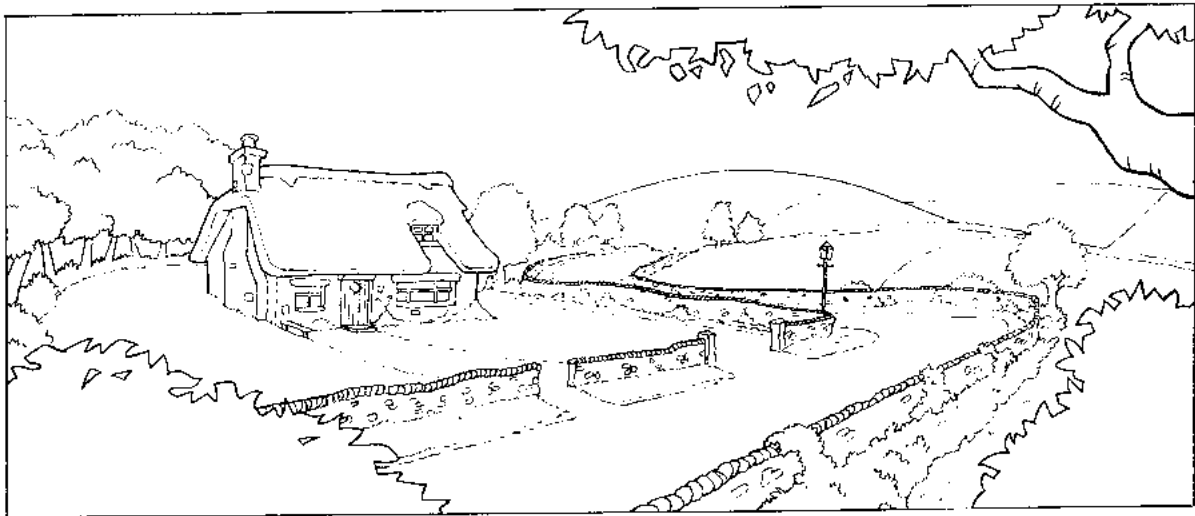


Bear lives in the woods but does not have a specific cave or area as his house.

We meet the wildlife that inhabits the wood; though unlike Bear none can talk directly to Eddy. As indicated before, Bear is able to translate what the animals are saying, although it has to be said that Eddy is not entirely convinced that Bear knows how to speak 'squirrel' any better than he does.

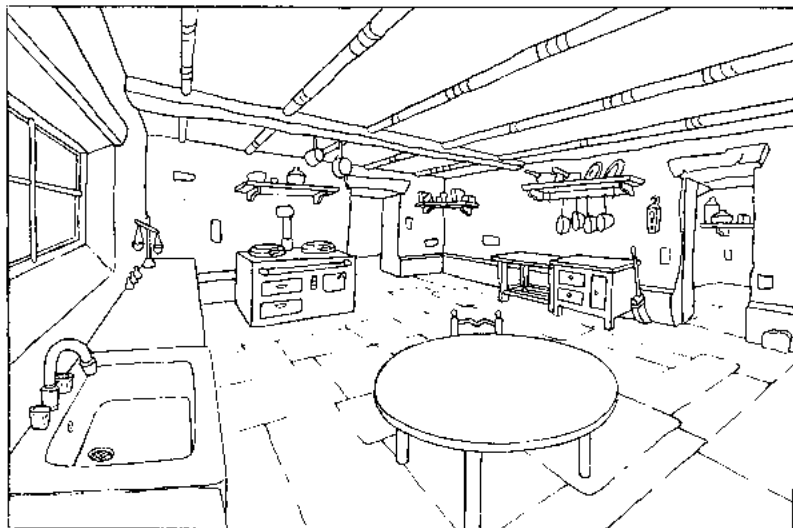
Eddy's House and The Village

Eddy's house is a detached traditional cottage, whitewashed and thatched to postcard perfection. It is situated a short distance from the village, just off a country lane.



Eddy's House and Lane

The house has rooms large enough to accommodate Bear, although he has trouble getting in and out of doorways.



Int Eddy's Kitchen

The Chu's house is nearby, en route to the village.

The village itself comprises of a typical high street, complete with local shops like grocers, post office etc. It is almost a town. Nevertheless, a lot of greenery exists in the village – we want to keep a country feel to the series.

The School is also in the village. It is a small, red brick country school, with a playground out front. The classrooms are small, but airy.

The Theme of an Episode/Epilogue

When submitting ideas for storylines it is important to identify the broad 'Theme' of the episode. While the series is not an educational one, because it is aimed at younger viewers it should aim to have the added value of an underlying message, as well as a delightful sense of whimsy.

Despite the 'Theme', and/or underlying message of the shows, stories should never lose sight of the fact that Eddy and the Bear's friendship is based on them being silly together. Stories should allow their friendship to breathe, as we see them 'hang out' together enjoying one another's company and having fun and must not be 'preachy' in tone.

Furthermore, the final scene of each episode should be a kind of epilogue (following the Narrator's final rhyming couplet) in which we see Eddy and the Bear being silly and using the word silly. Perhaps introducing catch phrases around the word silly with a range of motifs. This final scene will lead us into the credits, which will reprise the Silly Song music – heard this time without they lyrics.



THE STORIES

Most of the stories are based around a simple idea or happening that first affects either Eddy or the Big Bear. We then see how they cope together, sometimes arriving at the most bizarre yet logical solutions...

The Best Things in Life!

(Final Script Available – Written by Tony Collingwood)

One day, Eddy arrives in the wood – head hung low. The Big Bear asks Eddy what’s wrong. Eddy tells him that he wants to get pocket money from his Mum; just like his friend Matthew at school. But Mum says he is too young.

The Big Bear is confused. He can’t understand why all the things Eddy seems to want like sweets and toys, cost money. And he’s not even sure exactly what money is. But Eddy insists that all the really, really good things cost money.

Bear tries to take this concept on board. The next time Eddy enters the wood he receives a shock. Bear has started to charge for all the things in the wood that Eddy likes, but previously took for granted! There are little price tags fluttering in the breeze on just about everything. It now costs money to sniff flowers and climb trees, and listen to the birds singing in the trees!

BEAR

..and I think you’d better go home soon-
because tonight’s sun-set is going to be very
beautiful and I don’t think you can afford it.

EDDY

(Meekly – taking the Bear seriously)
How much will I have to pay, to watch it, then?

The Big Bear is put on the spot. He still doesn’t really know what money is, and tries to think on his feet.

The Big Bear opens his paws out, like a fisherman showing the size of his catch.

BEAR

This much, I’m afraid.

Eddy stretches out his little arms in front of the Big Bear, but finds himself lacking.

EDDY

I can’t stretch that far.

Things take a turn for the worse, when, with true concern, Eddy points out that Bear doesn’t have any money either! Now they are both in the same fix; it’s a beautiful day, but thanks to Bear, neither of them can afford it!

By the end of the day, just before the expensive sunset, Eddy realises that Bear was right all along, and the most important things in life really are meant to be free. After all, it's impossible to put a price on friendship.

Stuff!

(Writer Tony Collingwood)

Eddy has lots of "things", lots of "stuff" that he keeps in his bedroom. Eddy is proud of his stuff and loves showing it to his best friend the Bear. But being proud of your stuff can slowly turn into showing off about your "stuff" without you ever knowing it happened.

The Bear doesn't have any "stuff" and goes back to the wood, determined to get some.

He returns to Eddy's house with his own "stuff", all laid out on a piece of bark. He's got an apple, two pine cones, and a red pebble. Without meaning to be malicious, Eddy laughs at the Bear's stuff. Soon the two of them are trying to out do each other with the amount of "stuff" they have.

Eddy thinks he has won when he shows the Bear his C.D. Rom. A small disk that holds more information than anything in the whole world!!! All his games, books, pictures – everything!

The Bear goes away. How can he find any of his stuff that beats that?

When Eddy comes to see Bear in the wood, Bear is smiling. He has the ultimate piece of "stuff". Eddy doesn't believe him. Bear tells Eddy to put out his hand. He gives Eddy an acorn. "What's in that then?" asks Eddy. The Bear looks round. "That", he says.

We pull out to reveal a massive oak tree behind him. Nature always wins in the end.

Stuff – Simple Beat Outline:

Eddy shows the Bear all his stuff at home – there's Freddy, and all his books and his toys and his posters and his mobiles hanging from the ceiling. The Bear is very impressed. Eddy explains how everything works. Important for later. Eddy says that tomorrow they could go to the wood and the bear would show Eddy all HIS stuff. The Bear looks a little worried.

As the Bear walks back to the wood alone, the narrator tells us that the Bear doesn't have any stuff (apart from his Teddy Bear) - and is worried about Eddy finding out. So the Bear sets about finding and collecting stuff for himself in he wood.

Eddy comes to the wood the next day and the Bear proudly shows Eddy all his stuff - a branch from a tree, some coloured stones and other weird stuff. Without meaning to be rude, Eddy becomes distracted and tells the Bear that he's just got the best thing ever at home!! Bear just has to come and see it!!! Eddy runs off. After a sad look at his pathetic stuff, Bear lamely follows.

Eddy shows Bear his computer, and his computer game. They play it. The Bear asks how it works. Eddy doesn't want to seem stupid, so he explains what the MOUSE is. But it doesn't look like a Mouse, says Bear. Eddy then goes on to explain in his own unique way how computers remember everything. He tells Bear that elephants are inside, because you know elephants never forget. Catching on, Bear asks if the Mouse talks to the elephants?

FANTASY: We see the elephants inside the computer - and anything else Eddy can think up. Perhaps there's an elephant that doesn't want to be interrupted as he's trying to remember some complex information.

Eddy then shows the disk with all the information on...

EDDY

Do you know what's inside this?

...hundreds of books worth, all on one disk. That's the best bit of stuff in the world, says Eddy.

Bear becomes a bit defensive, saying that he has the best bit of stuff in the world. (Or, a smile spreads across Bear's face as he realises that he has the best bit of stuff. Alternatively a Newton moment with an acorn falling on his head.)

End up in wood. Bear and Eddy sitting under big oak tree. Bear shows Eddy acorn.

BEAR

Do you know what's inside this?

EDDY

No.

The Bear looks up.

BEAR

This!

Pull back to reveal massive Oak Tree.

EDDY

Wow!

They both climb up onto branches of the tree. End with silly conversation

BEAR

There aren't really elephants in your computer are there?

EDDY

Nah.

BEAR

The mouse scared them off, eh? (Laugh)

EDDY

That's silly!! (Laughter)

BEAR

I should co co.

BEAR/EDDY

(Laughter)

In The Post

(Writer Jez Alborough)

Eddy and the Bear see a bird, gliding effortlessly across the sky. They wonder at how great it must be to fly, high up in the sky like a bird. (Theme: Flying)

At breakfast the next morning, Eddy sees an Ad on the back of his morning cereal packet for a plane and decides to collect the tokens to send off for it. *He imagines himself flying over the kitchen table above the bowls and cups in his miniature plane, looping the loop.*

Later in the woods, Eddy and the Bear eat cereal, concerned about how they can eat enough of them to get the plane. They use cornflakes to do other things – like make mosaics as school. *And in FANTASY we see the silly things to do with cornflakes...cornflake swimming baths, TV coverage of ‘World Cereal Eating Day’ etc).* The Narrator takes us through a week’s worth of eating. And we Eddy and the Bear go shopping with Mum to buy more cereals, where Mum gets an idea for a surprise (not revealed until the end).

At last they have enough to send off for the toy plane. Eddy and the Bear go to the village and hand their letter - coupon and tokens - over to Mrs Chu at the post office. Then they go home, sit back, and wait. And waiting is very tough when you’re five...as a general rule, the shorter you are, the longer the days last. Eddy is only three foot four – which makes for very long days. The postman comes and goes, and still no parcel arrives for them. But the Bear shows slightly more patience and they spend their time imagining all the wonderful things they’ll be able to do with their plane and what it’s like to fly...They play at planes in the back garden, using cardboard boxes as makeshift planes. *FANTASY Eddy and Bear actually in a plane flying around. Then Mum brings them in to land with hand signals.*

In reality Mum is calling them...the postman has arrived. Eddy and the Bear run to greet him. He has a package for Eddy and a letter for Mum. Mum tries to calm them down, reminding them that it’s only a toy. Their package is a very small package indeed. Eddy un-wraps it, with the Bear looking on, with baited breath. Eddy holds up a plane that doesn’t even span the palm of his hand. Mum bites her lip. The Bear and Eddy look at each other.

EDDY/BEAR

Wow!!!!

They take off into the garden, Eddy holding his plane aloft, making plane noises and running, all at the same time. The Bear following. The gift is endowed with the power of their imaginations. Mum watches them go. She looks at her own letter with a smile on her face.

We are then flying through the air, quite high off the ground. Another fantasy? No says the Narrator, Mum’s idea was tickets for a balloon trip!

Epilogue of Eddy and Bear being silly about flying.

The Craze

(Writer Jez Alborough)

Theme: The valuable things in life are meant to last and do not just come and go with every craze i.e the difference between a craze and the lasting value of friendship.

There is always a new craze at school. One week, Eddy is dragging a rock around by a piece of string – because everyone has “rock pets” at school. Bear finds this very confusing. Eddy thinks it a bit odd as well, but hey, a craze is a craze. You’re either in, or you’re out. Unfortunately, Eddy is ‘out’ more often than he is ‘in’...and he doesn’t like being the odd one out.

The next craze is for the yo-yo. Bear is skeptical about the value of these things, but he nevertheless helps Eddy achieve proficiency in that craze. But by the time Eddy had mastered his yo-yo and the training is complete, they’re ‘out’ of fashion and *beanbag kicking* is ‘in’. Eddy just doesn’t seem able to keep up. The Bear finds each craze crazier than the last.

Eddy confides to the Bear that he wishes he knew what the *next* craze would be, so that he could become good at it first.

BEAR

I know how you can be the first person with the next craze!

EDDY

Really, how?

BEAR

Easy. We make it up!!

Eddy and Bear spend a wonderful day in the wood making up new crazes. Some fantastical, some so silly that they simply end up laughing on their backs. Having a ‘best friend bear’ is Eddy’s best idea. *FANTASY. They both imagine the chaos at school if everyone brings a real live bear along.*

Eddy does take Bear to school, and sure enough it creates a craze. But all the other kids do is bring their stuffed Teddy bears. This is fine – with Eddy feeling very proud and clever. Eddy is very popular out of it for a moment. However, the next day when he turns up for school, things have move on yet again.

Bear begins to worry. What happens to Bear now that he isn’t a craze any more? Will Eddy reject him? *FANTASY... where do all the old crazes go? Is Bear going to be consigned to a junk shop?*

This episode is a journey around Eddy and the Bear’s friendship. It should show how the lasting quality of their friendship transcends the moment. Eddy has to chose between the latest, irresistible, fab new craze or show loyalty to his friendship and chose Bear.

Other Potential Storylines:

• **The Old Oak Tree**

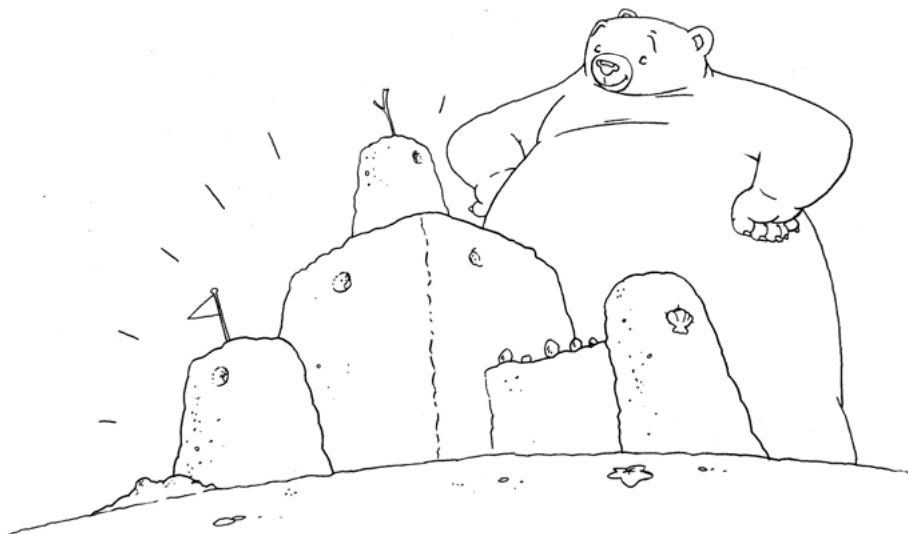
After a windy stormy night, a big old Oak Tree has fallen over the country lane between Eddy's house and the woods. When Mum and Eddy venture out – on a trip to the recycling point in the village to process their bottles and cans, they discover the tree blocking their path. While Bear can move part of the obstruction, the road has to be made safe before they can pass. A tree surgeon is called out. Eddy and the bear attend the diagnosis.

Eddy learns the true wonder of an oak tree. They can live as long as 1000 years...and for each year of a tree's life it has a ring. We jump back to points in history in FANTASY via the device of tree rings – perhaps Eddy has a toy knight figure that is placed on the approximate place in the tree's life. Eddy also wants to know how big the tree was when he was born.

The tree is eventually taken away, but a lovely tree-stump is left behind which Bear uses as a natural table and Eddy takes a slice home too as a stool. The episode introduced the themes of time, age and recycling. What comes from nature returns from nature.

• **Holiday!**

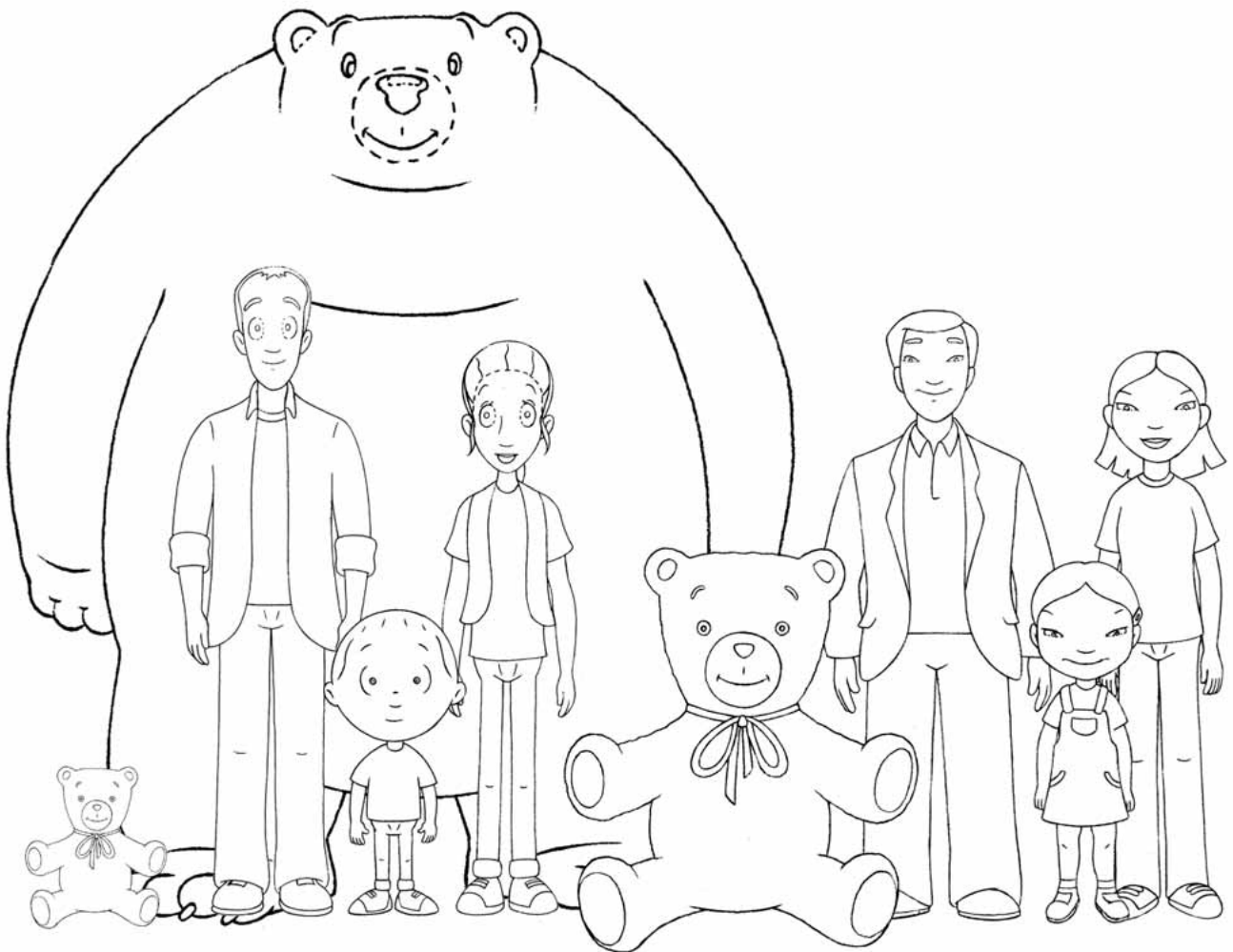
Eddy is upset when at the last minute his family holiday is cancelled. At first Bear can't see what all the fuss is about, for he's never had a holiday and doesn't really know what a holiday is. Eddy happily explains all about them, showing off his past holiday photos from his album. Eddy even makes Bear a passport complete with the silliest of photos! Eddy tells Bear that a holiday at the seaside is just the best thing ever and they imagine Bear building the biggest sandcastle in the world! They act out their entire holiday in the back garden and have the best vacation ever – Bear even gets his own photo album to prove it.



• Home Away from Home

Eddy is having a bad day. He can't seem to do anything right and Eddy is told off for being too noisy by his Dad, when playing 'World Explorer'. So, Eddy decides to leave home and live with Bear. Then he can make his own rules and play as loudly as he wants, when he wants. Mum and Dad wave good-bye to the two of them, as they walk the ten paces and pitch their tent in the back garden, ready to begin the rest of their lives together.

Eddy and the Bear daydream about all the wonderful places they can go together... they could live in the jungle or go fishing in the North Pole. But being out there on your own isn't all they thought it would be.



Story Springboards

- **Big and Small**

Eddy wants to be tall like the Bear. The Bear wants to be small like Eddy. They imagine what life would be like – if things had been different.

- **The Bogeyman**

An episode of ‘things that go bump in the night’ and sleeping with the light on, where Bear learns what it is like to be scared as Eddy tells him about the Bogeyman that lives in the woods.

- **When I Grow Up**

Eddy imagines what he’ll be when he grows up. Bear thinks he’ll still be a Bear and wonders when Eddy will stop being Eddy.

- **Jurassic Bear**

Bear and Eddy find a ‘fossil’ and imagine what it was like in pre-historic times when dinosaurs roamed the planet and men lived in caves.

- **Clouds**

Eddy and Bear share their knowledge of clouds -- what they are made of, who makes them and what it would be like to have weather indoors.

- **Time to Tidy?**

Eddy doesn’t want to clean his bedroom and he and Bear imagine what the world would be like if no one ever cleaned or washed.

- **Brave Knights**

Eddy tells Bear of brave Knights fighting dragons and righting wrongs with valiant deeds, but Bear’s not so sure that fighting is the only way to show you’re brave.



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