

Full version of Whatever Next!

Can I go to the moon?' asked Baby Bear.

'No you can't,' said Mrs Bear. 'It's bathtime. Anyway, you'd have to find a rocket first.'

Baby Bear found a rocket in the cupboard under the stairs. He found a space helmet on the draining board in the kitchen, and a pair of space boots on the mat by the front door.

He packed his teddy and some food for the journey and took off up the chimney...WHOOSH! Out into the night!

An owl flew past. 'That's a smart rocket,' he said. 'Where are you off to?'

'The moon,' said Baby Bear. 'Would you like to come?'

'Yes please,' said the owl.

An aeroplane roared out of the clouds. Baby Bear waved and some passengers waved back. On and on they flew, up and up, above the clouds, past millions of stars till at last they landed on the moon.

'There's nobody here,' said Baby Bear.

'There's no trees,' said the owl.

'It's a bit boring,' said Baby Bear. 'Shall we have a picnic?'

'What a good idea,' said the owl.

'We'd better go now,' said Baby Bear. 'My bath must be ready by now.'

Off they went, down and down. The owl got out and flew away. 'Goodbye,' he said. 'It was so nice to meet you.'

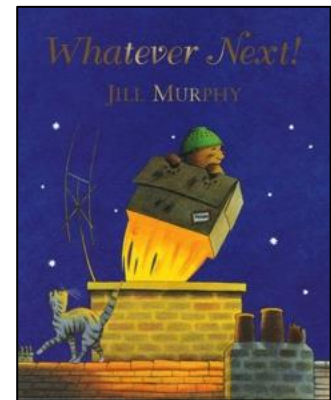
It rained and the rain dripped through Baby Bear's helmet.

Home went Baby Bear. Back down the chimney and on to the living room carpet with a BUMP!

Mrs Bear came into the room. 'Look at the *state* of you!' she gasped as she led him to the bathroom. 'Why, you look as if you have been up the chimney.'

'As a matter of fact,' said Baby Bear, 'I *have* been up the chimney. I found a rocket and I went to visit the moon.'

Mrs Bear laughed. 'You and your stories,' she said. 'Whatever next?'



Whatever Next! by Jill Murphy MacMillan Children's Books 1983 Unit 3 Days 1 and 2

Questions about *Whatever Next!*

1. How do you think Baby Bear felt when his Mum said he could not go to the moon?
2. Where did Baby Bear find the box he used as his rocket? Where did he find his space helmet and his space boots?
3. Why do you think Baby Bear took his teddy with him to the moon?
4. The owl says that Baby Bear's rocket is 'smart'. Share ideas for some other words you know that mean the same thing as 'smart'.
5. What do you think the passengers on board the aeroplane would have thought on seeing Baby Bear and the owl in their rocket?
6. Why does Baby Bear say that it is a bit boring on the moon?
7. Why does Baby Bear think it is time to go home?
8. What do you think Mrs Bear's voice would have sounded like when she said, 'Look at the *state* of you!' to Baby Bear when he got home?
9. Do you think Baby Bear had really been to the moon or had he just been pretending? Say why you think that?
10. Mrs Bear ends the story by saying, 'Whatever next!' What do you think might happen next?!

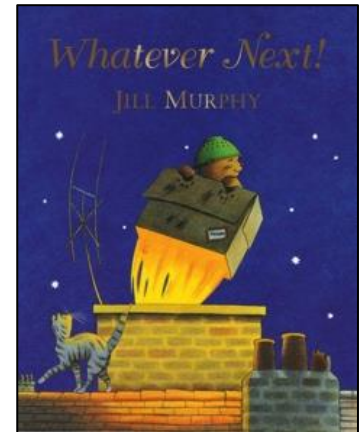
The Story of *Whatever Next!*

It was night-time in Baby Bear's cosy home. Baby Bear wanted very much to go to the Moon but Mrs Bear said, 'No you can't. It's bathtime.'

She also said that Baby Bear would need a rocket if he really wanted to reach the moon.

Baby Bear found a cardboard box and turned it into a rocket. He found a kitchen colander to be his space helmet and used some wellies to be his space boots.

Taking his teddy with him and some food, Baby Bear went up the chimney and out into the sky. WHOOSH! He met an owl and together they flew past an aeroplane. The passengers waved at them.



After a while Baby Bear and the owl landed on the moon and they had a wonderful picnic. Then they flew back towards the Earth. The owl said goodbye and it started to rain – poor Baby Bear got wet!

When Baby Bear got home it was bathtime and his mum cleaned him up. Baby Bear told his Mum he had been to the moon but she just said, 'You and your stories! Whatever next!'

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Unit 3 Days 1 and 2

Questions about The Story of *Whatever Next!*

1. What does Mrs Bear say when Baby Bear asks if he can go to the moon?
2. What does Baby Bear use as a rocket?
3. What does he use as a space helmet and as space boots?
4. Apart from his teddy, what else does it say that Baby Bear took with him on his journey?
5. Does the word WHOOSH! tell you that Baby Bear was going fast or slowly in his rocket?
6. Which happened first in the story: Baby Bear went past an aeroplane *OR* Baby Bear met a friendly owl?
7. The text says that the picnic that Baby Bear and the owl ate was 'wonderful'. Can you think of some other words for the picnic that mean the same thing as 'wonderful'?
8. Do you think Baby Bear had really been to the moon, or had he just imagined it?
9. At the end of the story Mrs Bear says, 'You and your stories. Whatever next!' What do YOU think might happen next to Baby Bear!?

The Day Ben Went Bump Questions

1. What is the setting that the story begins in?
2. What sort of mood is Ben in at the start of the story?
3. Ben's mum tells him off for jumping on the sofa. What do you think she said to Ben?
4. What is the first creature that Ben meets when he goes into the ground?
5. Which other three animals does Ben meet? Can you list them in the order that Ben meets them?
6. The story says that the Rabbit's house was 'clean and neat'. Can you think of some other words that mean the same as 'clean' or 'neat'?
7. What does the mole like to eat lots of?
8. Why do you think Ben does not feel bored anymore at the end of the story?
9. What would YOU do if you could travel through the ground like Ben?

