

Spinoza's® "buddy bear project"™

Q. Who is Spinoza's "buddy bear project" for?

A. Spinoza's "buddy bear project" is for any child, birth to 18 years old, diagnosed with a chronic illness, life threatening condition, or major organ failure. We are also referred children suffering from developmental disabilities, profound mental retardation, severe emotional/psychological traumas (survivors of domestic violence/abuse) and children whose parents or siblings have passed away.

Q. Who is Spinoza?

A. When children receive Spinoza, their first impression is a soft, cuddly teddy bear with a warm friendly voice. However, Spinoza is much more than just a 17" teddy bear; he is an effective therapeutic tool with a high quality cassette player and speaker hidden deep in his fur. Spinoza's collection of nine tapes contains stories and songs of his 'life' experiences that children easily relate to, and learn from.

Q. What is Spinoza's "buddy bear project"?

A. Spinoza's "buddy bear project" is a community-based project for children facing a profound crisis or illness, created by The Spinoza Company, a small for-profit company based in St. Paul, Minnesota. Spinoza's "buddy bear project" grew out of a desire to provide

each of these special children with his/her own Spinoza Bear to keep. The children receive a constant companion who provides unconditional love while helping them cope with the fear and or the pain they face daily.

Q. How does Spinoza's "buddy bear project" work?

A. The way the project works is that you provide us with children in need and we try to locate a local sponsor for that child's bear. We work with local community service organizations, for example Spinoza's "buddy bear project" is a national project with The American Legion and International Community Service Project with the Women of the Moose. We also work with Lions clubs, Kiwanis clubs, corporations, and individuals.

Q. How do I get started participating in Spinoza's "buddy bear project"?

A. All you have to do is fill out the included "Kids List" with children that you think would benefit from receiving their own bear. Fax, mail or email this information to the Spinoza Company and the Child Sponsor Coordinator for your state will get started locating sponsors.

The sponsorship process can take from two weeks to two years, or more able to locate a sponsor. Unfortunately, we

cannot guarantee that a sponsor will be found for every child referred.

Once we receive the list of children from you we then contact one of our sponsors in the child's hometown or surrounding community. We provide the sponsors with the child's first name only, their age, hometown and brief diagnosis. The sponsors generally have to take the information that we provide them to a meeting to be voted on by their membership. We allow our sponsors up to 60 days to decide once we contact them about a child.

If the organization decides to sponsor the child with a bear they either send us a check for the discounted price of \$143.00 or provide us with a credit card. We then ship the bear to the address you gave us for you to distribute the bear to the child.

Occasionally, once we locate a sponsor they will request to personally deliver the bear to the child. If this occurs, we will then notify you of this request and have you get in contact with the family to see if they are comfortable with this. We understand that these families have a lot going on in their lives, but the sponsors do like the occasional chance to see the smiles and friendships that they are helping to create.

Q. What happens if the sponsor declines or doesn't respond?

A. The child will then return to the waiting list and we will attempt to contact another organization. The Child Sponsor Coordinator will be in contact with you periodically either by phone, fax, or email with a list of children that

you referred to get an update on their status, age, and hometown.

You may contact us at anytime to update your list if you would like to remove or add a child. There is no limit to the number of children you can have on the waiting list.

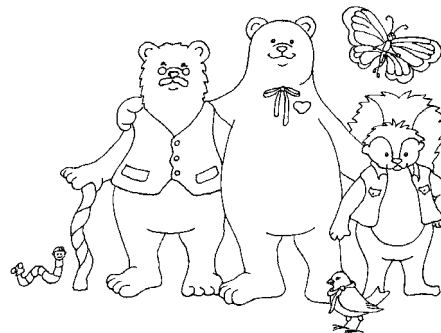
Q. What happens if I receive a bear for a child that is no longer available?

A. If you receive a bear for a child that is no longer available for sponsorship please contact your Child Sponsor Coordinator for instruction. Please do not give the bear to another child. Most often, our sponsors will agree to sponsor another child in need from the same area, or they may request to have the bear shipped to them for distribution elsewhere.

Q. How do I get in touch with the Child Sponsor Coordinator for my state?

A. You can contact us by phone Monday through Friday 8 am to 5 pm CST at 1-800-282-2327, by fax 651-644-7252 or by email at spinoza@spinozabear.com.

Our address is: The Spinoza Company
1876 Minnehaha Avenue West
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104, or on the web at www.spinozabear.com.



Spinoza's Library of Cassette Tapes

I'm Your Friend And My Name Is Spinoza - Spinoza's theme tape is a favorite for first time listeners. Spinoza tells you he is your friend and shares his favorite place in "pretend land." While there he happens upon a field of flowers and notices each one is different - just like you and me! This tape OPENS COMMUNICATION, BUILDS TRUST, and helps form a BOND between Spinoza and the listener.

Do You Wonder? - Like many curious children, Spinoza also has many questions. He wonders "how goldfish breathe, where snow comes from and how to blow bubbles from bubblegum." The wondering journey leads to songs, laughter, and sharing. This tape fosters CREATIVITY, CURIOSITY and LEARNING.

Dream On The Water - A soft lullaby introduces Serena the Butterfly™ who calms and relaxes you by trailing her golden stardust from the tips of your toes to your eyelashes. This tape is wonderful for NAPTIME or to CALM CHILDREN DOWN.

Everybody Needs A Little Tenderness - Learn the secret for letting go of the day and take some time to relax. Through his "Mental Bear Review" Spinoza shows step by step how to ease tension. This tape is helpful for children and parents alike when they need to REDUCE TENSION AND ANXIETY.

Good Friends - We all know how important it is to share feelings and learn how to express ourselves - and how important it is to have someone to confide in. Spinoza says with good friends you can be sad, mad, or you can be happy. Spinoza aids parents in CONFLICT RESOLUTION, SHARING FEELINGS and BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS.

You Are All You Need To Be - Everyone, no matter how small, has dreams and goals! Spinoza dreams of painting rainbows in the sky. Despite little encouragement from Stymie the Skunk™, Spinoza believes in himself and learns to paint his rainbow. You Are All You Need To Be is a wonderful way to ENCOURAGE children and to help them build their SELF-ESTEEM.

Hold On To Me - Death is a difficult subject for everyone to deal with, especially children. When Spinoza loses his good friend Beatrice, he asks, "How will I reach you?" This tape helps children deal with GRIEF AND LOSS. Note: This is a very powerful tape and can bring up very strong emotions. We suggest that a child has adult supervision when listening to Hold On To Me.

Breathing Healthy, Breathing Free

This tape is broken into 3 episodes.

Episode I: Spinoza wakes up from his hibernation and is feeling all sluggish and slow. He wants to cross the river to go play with Serena and his butterfly friends, but has doubts about making it across. Learn how Spinoza builds his CONFIDENCE and overcomes his fears.

Episode II: Spinoza, Poppy Bear™, and the children practice "Poppy Bear Bellies" - a breathing exercise for ENERGY

Episode III: Spinoza, Wiley the Worm™, and Stymie the Skunk are all in the berry patch discovering the IMPORTANCE OF CLEAN AIR. Everyone needs air to breathe - even the fish, the frogs and the turtles!

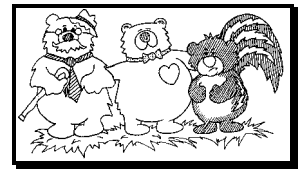
New Beginnings (Formerly Breathing Healthy, Breathing Free - Part II)

This tape is broken into 3 episodes.

Episode I: Spinoza is panicked when his house is destroyed to make way for a new road. Serena the Butterfly share her grandmother's recipe for RELAXATION and gives Spinoza an opportunity to explore his feelings and decide what he wants and needs to do to build a new home.

Episode II: Spinoza and the Woodland Friends™ are enjoying a picnic when some uninvited guests show up and start eating the food. Discover what Spinoza and his friends learn about HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES and taking care of their bodies.

Episode III: When Spinoza's friend Amy has an asthma episode, Stymie the Skunk is quick to point out that she is looking and acting strange. Spinoza and Serena the Butterfly lead the group on an imaginary journey with Bounty Bluebird and everyone learns to RELAX.



Date: _____

Name: _____

Buddy Bear Hospital Lead Form

Facility Name: _____

Contact Person/Title: _____

Alternate Contact: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

FAX Number: _____

e-mail: _____

Hospital Home Health Hospice Clinic MD County/State

Comments: _____

Do they want to be a BBP participant? YES NO

Do they have children for BBP now? YES NO CHECKING

Send a FAX now? YES NO Date sent: _____

Mail BBP info packet? YES NO Date sent: _____