



B is for Bear

Assignment 1

- Complete Lesson 1 in your B is for Bear textbook, volume 1
- Complete Lesson 1 of your handwriting book.
- Memorize the first stanza of Helen Hunt Jackson's poem "September"—an appropriate poem to memorize at this time of year! In her poem, Jackson describes the plant life of her native Massachusetts. Our discussion of poetry, then, will include talking about botany and the gentian, sedges, asters, milkweed, and goldenrod (there is a field of goldenrod in Valley Forge Park, near where I live, which I showed the students a picture of). We will also be discussing things such as the autumnal equinox, Jackson's friend Emily Dickinson, and, of course, the poetics of the poem. You will notice that there are four stanzas to memorize.
- As part of their spelling program, students will be writing out dictation exercises twice a week. Students should write out the two dictation exercises, printed on the weekly assignment sheets, in their dictation book or loose leaf paper, to be shown to me in class.

DICTATION

EXERCISE A

Where was Ben?

Ben was here.

Tim was in the tub.

My dad is here.

Why are they here?

EXERCISE B

Where were Bob and Ben?

Did you see the mud?

Did Bob nod and say yes?

Men are here to fix it.

The sun was out.