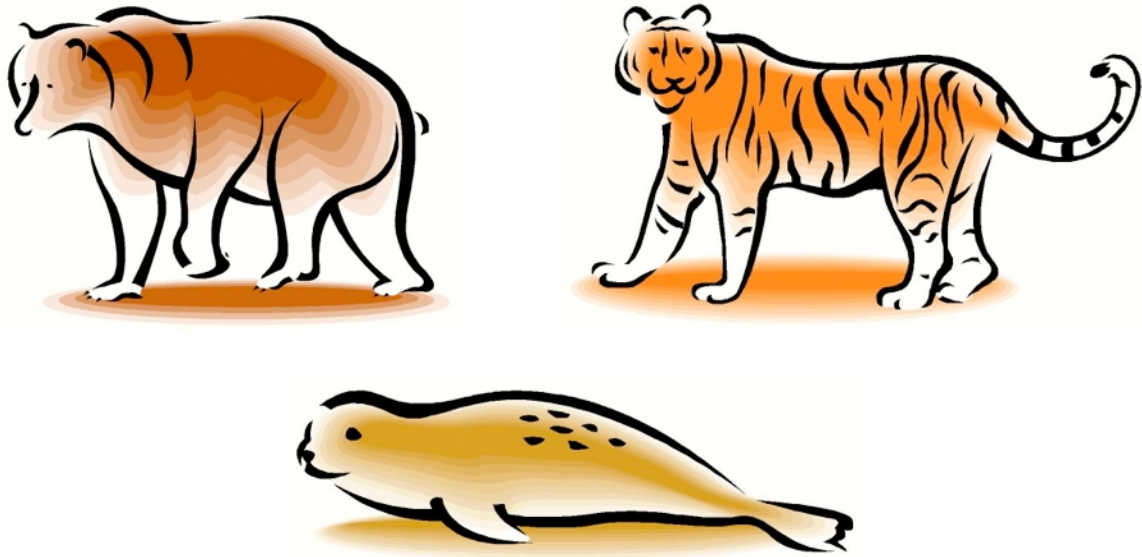


# Toy Animals



By Clark Ness

Visit [www.clarkness.com](http://www.clarkness.com) and [www.readinghawk.com](http://www.readinghawk.com)  
for more free ebooks and online stories.

Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 2.8

A Fiction Chapter Book  
11 pages, 641 words

## Chapter 1 - What Do You Have?

“What do you have on your desk?”  
asked Emma.

“Oh, these are three of my little toy  
animals,” said Grace.

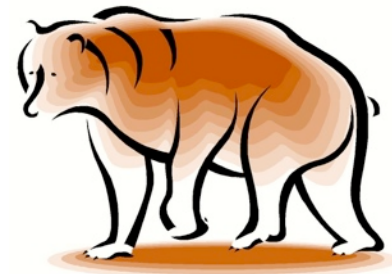
“I have my seal, my  
tiger, and my bear.”

“They look so real,”  
said Chris.

“I wish they were real,”  
said Dave.

“That is a great idea,”  
said Mike.

Mike opened one of his hands. There  
sat the lucky buffalo nickel.



## Chapter 2 - Real Animals

“I don’t think that is a good idea,” said Emma. “Ms. Smith isn’t in the classroom.”

Before anyone could say anything more, Mike held up the lucky buffalo nickel. He then said, “Real animals, real animals, real animals.”

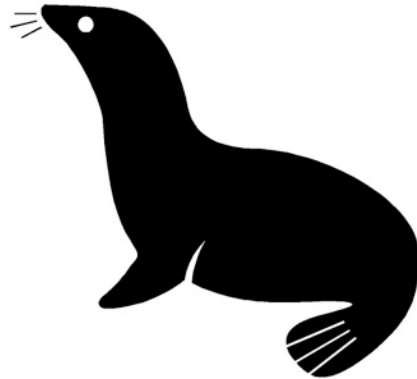


*Poof!* The toy animals were gone.

“Now where did my animals go?” said Grace.

## Chapter 3 - *Arf, Arf, Arf*

Just then there was an *arf, arf, arf* from out in the hall. It was followed by someone yelling, “Get this seal away from me!”



The students looked up just as the custodian ran past their classroom door. He was being chased by a seal.

In less than two seconds, the custodian ran by the classroom door again. This time he was heading in the other direction. He was followed by the seal and by Ms. Johnson, the principal.

## Chapter 4 - *Roar*

Then there was a loud *roar!* A tiger walked by the classroom door going in the same direction that the principal, seal, and custodian had just gone. Luckily, the tiger didn't walk into the classroom.



“Those are Grace’s animals,” said Emma.

“I wonder what happened to Grace’s bear?” asked Ethan.

## Chapter 5 - The Bear

Just then a huge bear walked into the classroom. No one moved. No one even breathed.



The bear sniffed the air. It turned its head from side to side as it looked around the room. Then it went over by Ms. Smith's desk. It lay down, and for some unknown reason, it went to sleep.

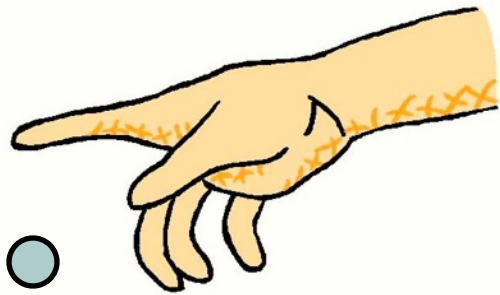
“We have to turn Grace’s animals back into toys before Ms. Johnson and the custodian become tiger snacks,” Willy whispered.

“And before we become bear snacks,” whispered Dan.

## Chapter 6 - *Pling*

“You are right,” said Emma very quietly. “Mike, give me that nickel,” She reached and grabbed for the nickel that was still in Mike’s hand.

*Pling* went the nickel when it flew out of Mike’s hand and onto



the classroom floor. Everyone froze. They looked up at the bear. It stayed asleep.

“Quick, everybody, help us look for the lucky buffalo nickel. It fell on the floor,” whispered Emma.



All of the kids in the classroom dove down onto the floor. They were quiet as mice as they looked for the nickel. The bear started to snore.



## Chapter 7 - Keep Looking



“It’s not over here,”  
whispered Beth.

“Not here either,”  
whispered Matt.

“Come on guys. We  
have to find it,” said Sarah very quietly.

“I think I heard it land over by me,”  
whispered Andy.

“I don’t see it, Andy, and I am right  
next to you,” quietly said Jacob.

“Keep looking,” whispered Josh.

“That bear can sure sleep,” said Sami.

“Don’t stop looking for the nickel. That  
bear could wake up at any moment,”  
whispered Ashley.

## Chapter 8 - I Found It

“I found it! I found the nickel,”  
said Olivia. “It was under my  
desk.”



“*Shhh,*” whispered Abby.

Mike jumped up very quietly and  
went over to Olivia. She gave him the  
nickel.

“Normal, normal, normal,” said Mike.

*Poof!* The bear was gone. The  
students all cheered.

“I am not sure I like it when Grace’s  
animals become real,” said Emily.

## Chapter 9 - The Promise

About then, Ms. Johnson walked by the classroom door. “Did you see where that seal and tiger went?” she asked.

“We don’t see any real animals in here,” said Hannah. The principal walked on down the hall.

“Mike, you need to be careful with that nickel,” said Emma.

“I will be,” promised Mike.



From then on, Mike was always careful when he used the lucky buffalo nickel.

Text Copyright © 2013 by Clark Ness. Buffalo Nickel Photograph Copyright © 2013 by Clark Ness. Other images are from Microsoft Office Images. Permission is granted for printing, photocopying, emailing, recording, storing in a retrieval system, and transmitting this ebook in any form, or by any means, mechanical and/or electronic. Sale of this ebook and/or uploading to a commercial bookstore or commercial website is strictly forbidden without prior written permission.