



## Turtle's Penguin Day

One night, Father Turtle read Little Turtle a story about penguins.

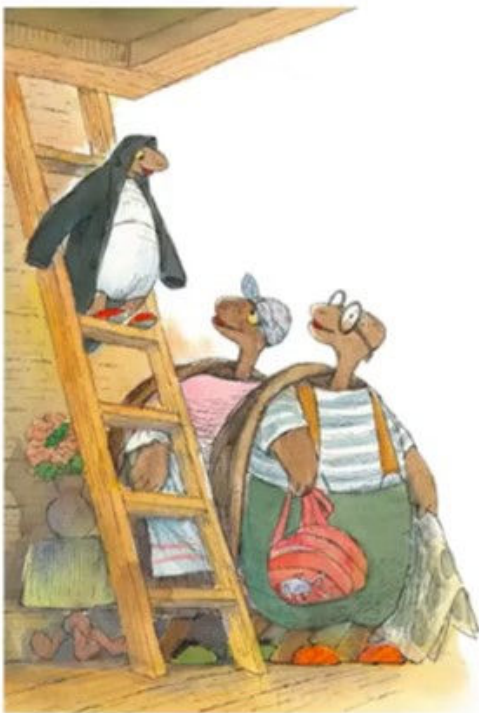
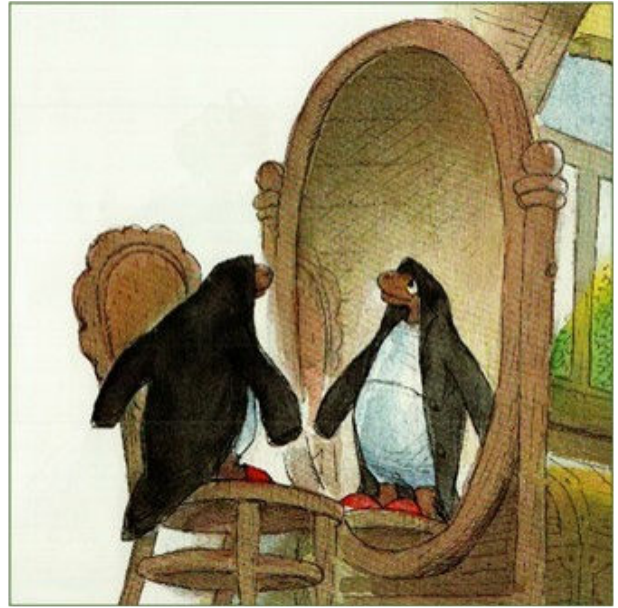
When Little Turtle fell asleep, he dreamed he was a penguin. He played on the ice and dove into the water and swam and splashed with the other penguins.



In the morning, Little Turtle decided he wanted to be a Penguin. He put on his red slippers and waddled from side to side.

After breakfast, Little Turtle had an idea. He went up to the attic and found his grandfather's black jacket in an old chest, and he put it on.

"Now I look like a real penguin," said Little Turtle, staring at himself in the mirror.



"Hurry up, honey," said Mother Turtle. "Or you'll be late for school."

"I'm ready," said Little Turtle.

"You can't go to school in that funny costume!" said Mother Turtle.

"It's not a funny costume," said Little Turtle. "I'm a penguin!" And then he put the book about penguins into his backpack and waddled outside to the school bus.

"Hello, Little Turtle," called the kids on the school bus. "Great costume!"

"Thank you," said Little Turtle. "I'm a Penguin from the South Pole."

"Ms. Dog, look!" cried the children when they got to school. "We have a penguin in our class!"





“Oh my!” said Ms. Dog. “Why do you look like a penguin today, Little Turtle?”

“Because Daddy read me this book about penguins last night,” said Little Turtle. “I love penguins.”

“I love waddling from side to side like penguins do.”

“I love sliding on my belly like penguins do.”

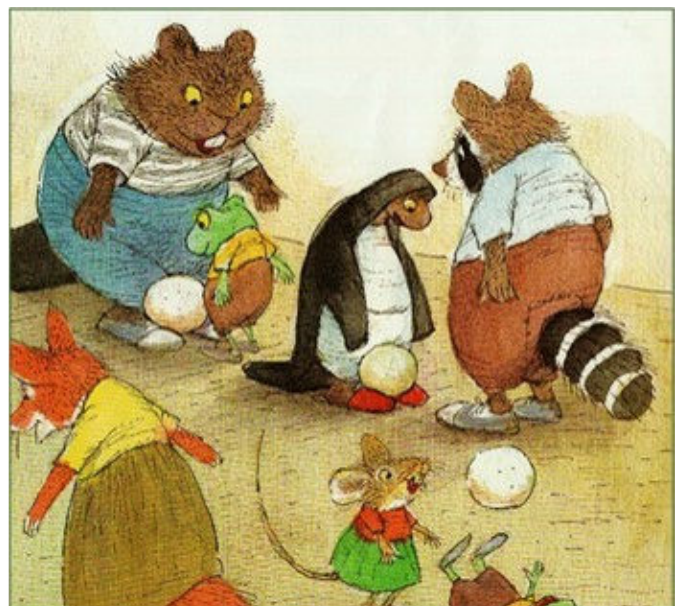


“I even love to sleep standing up like penguins do!” said Little Turtle.

“We want to be penguins too!” cried all the children.

So while Ms. Dog read to them from the penguin book, they all tried to pass balls to each other using just their feet, the way Penguins do with their eggs.

And when they had recess, Little Turtle and his friends slid down the slide on their bellies, pretending they were penguins sliding on the ice.



During music time, they all danced a waddling penguin dance.

And at nap time, all of them dreamed penguin dreams.

“How was school today?” asked Mother Turtle when Little Turtle came home.

“We had a penguin day,” said Little Turtle. “It was great!”

That night, Little Turtle ate fish-shaped crackers with dinner because penguins love fish.

And before he went to sleep, Little Turtle brushed his penguin beak.

Even when Little Turtle got into bed, he still pretended to be diving and swimming with his penguin friends.

Then Father Turtle brought a new bedtime story to read.



“This is the story of a little monkey who lives in a beautiful jungle,” he said.

“Really?” said Little Turtle. “A monkey?”

And when Little Turtle fell asleep that night, he dreamed he was a funny little monkey...

## Penguin Facts

- Penguins are birds, though unlike most birds, penguins can't fly. But they do swim, and they can hold their breath for a long time.
- When they are walking on land, penguins' short legs, which are positioned far back on their bodies, give them their funny waddle.
- Penguins are found only in the Southern Hemisphere. Most penguins live in Antarctica, near the South Pole.
- But not all penguins live in the cold—they can be found on hot tropical coasts, too! Galápagos penguins live on the Galápagos Islands, near the equator.
- They are warm-blooded animals—feather and a layer of fat called blubber help protect them from the icy water.
- Female penguins lay one or two eggs at a time. They usually build their nests with stones, sticks, or grass, or they burrow underground.
- Penguin mothers and fathers take turns looking after the eggs and raising their chicks. While one parent looks after the eggs, the other parent goes to the ocean to eat. Emperor penguins and king penguins, who live in the cold waters in the ocean take their eggs, and later their chicks on their feet to keep them warm.
- Penguins eat fish, squid, and tiny shrimplike animals called krill.
- Penguins love to play—they enjoy diving, surfing on the waves and tobogganing through the ice and snow on their bellies.
- There are seventeen species of penguins. They come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. The emperor penguin is the largest and can weigh up to ninety pounds, while the smallest is the blue penguin, which only weighs about two pounds.

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