



# Bears in your schoolyard.

## What you can do.

### 1 If you see a bear on or around school property:

- GO INSIDE the school right away
- TELL the first adult you see

### 3 If the bear MOVES TOWARD you:

- SLOWLY BACK AWAY toward the school while MAKING NOISE
- YELL at the bear to GO AWAY!
- DO NOT "play dead"
- DO NOT turn and run
- GET INSIDE the school as soon as you can, without running
- TELL the first adult you see

### 2 If the bear sees YOU:

- DON'T APPROACH the bear
- SLOWLY BACK AWAY toward the school
- REMOVE and drop your backpack if it contains food
- TELL the first adult you see

### 4 Help keep bears away:

- Keep your lunch inside the school
- Do not leave food, wrappings or lunch bags in the schoolyard. Take them inside the school to throw away
- Tell your teacher if you see food or garbage left in open bins or in the schoolyard

To report bear problems call:

**1 866 514-2327** (1 866 514-BEAR)

# Bear Basics

- Black bears are large, powerful animals.
- Adult males can weigh between 120-280 kilograms (kg) (250-600 lbs). Adult females can weigh between 45-180 kg (100-400 lbs).
- Most black bears in Ontario have black fur, but a few can be dark brown to light brown.
- In Ontario, black bears live in forests from Lake Ontario in the south to Hudson Bay in the north.
- Black bears are omnivores. They eat both plants and animals; anything that is easy to get at.
- In Ontario, black bears feed from the middle of April until late fall.
- In the fall, black bears eat for up to 20 hours a day! They like raspberries, blueberries, acorns and the nuts of the beech tree.



Artist: Shayna LaBelle-Beadman ©OMNR

- If black bears cannot find natural foods, they will travel up to 100 kilometers (km) to find other food, including our garbage!
- They can double their body weight getting ready for winter.
- By early November, most black bears move into their dens for the winter.

**Black bears are not usually dangerous animals. Admire them. Respect them. But please, don't feed them.**



Artist: Shayna LaBelle-Beadman ©OMNR

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