

## The Cave Monster

story by Thomas Weck  
and Peter Weck  
illustrations by Len DiSalvo  
40 pages full color  
8.5 x 11 • For ages 4-8  
Extend the Learning and  
Activities pages  
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## It's Lima Bear & His Friends vs the Cave Monster ...Who Will Come Out Ahead?

Oh no! L. Joe Bean, Lima Bear's cousin, has been captured by the Cave Monster. Lima Bear and his friends must enter the Black Cave to try to save L. Joe Bean.

Venturing into a new place, especially if it is potentially scary—like a dark basement or somewhere unknown—is not something most children would choose to do, and certainly not alone. That is the situation the animal friends face in **The Cave Monster** by Thomas Weck and Peter Weck, with captivating illustrations by Len DiSalvo (©9/2011, limabearpress.com, \$15.95 dust-jacketed hardcover).

All 4-8 year olds will love following along as Whistle-Toe (the rabbit), Maskamal (the raccoon), Back-Back (the opossum), and Lima Bear (a tiny bean-shaped bear) come up with a plan to save Lima Bear's cousin. Bringing along the thing each one thinks might be the most useful—a tiny sword, a rustic bow & arrow, a red flag and a canteen of water—the band of friends tentatively approaches the scary cave.

Will their ideas go according to plan? Will they get to L. Joe Bean in time? Will they save themselves?

The take-away message of this book is friends, individually afraid, find courage when acting together.

*"Want your child to have curiosity, imagination, and a sense of wonder? Go with them and*

—over—

Try some of these fun ideas that are included in the Extend the Learning page at the end of **The Cave Monster**. There is also an Activities page with more ideas.

### Before reading the book:

- Ask the youngster(s) to close their eyes. Say the word "monster" and then allow time for them to share what immediately comes to mind.

### During reading, stop and ask questions. Take time to talk about details in the illustrations.

- (page 3) How does the author let you know the characters are afraid of the Cave Monster?
- (page 23) What happened after the arrow landed on the Cave Monster's big toe?

### After reading, take time to talk about the book.

- Lima Bear told his friends to go home and find something useful to help rescue L. Joe Bean. Can you recall what each character brought? What would you bring?
- Would you be afraid of the Cave Monster? Why or why not?

Excerpted from the Extend the Learning page in **The Cave Monster** by Thomas Weck and Peter Weck (limabearpress.com).

*Lima Bear to Black Cave,"* suggests Philip Dale Smith, national parenting specialist, award-winning children's author and creator of EveryKidaWinner.com.

"*Lima Bear and his pals are off on another exciting adventure! Teamwork helps them successfully tackle a challenging situation,"* comments Veronica Kannenberg, an early childhood educator from Chicago, IL.



The ideas included in the Extend the Learning and Activities pages at the end of the book suggest a myriad of ways parents, grandparents, teachers or others who are sharing this book with a child can enhance the fun and the learning experience the book provides.

**The Cave Monster** is the third title in *The Lima Bear Stories* series from Lima Bear® Press, LLC. The publisher's mission is to publish children's stories that are engaging, imaginative, and humorous while carrying an important life message such as tolerance, honesty, courage, etc. The stories are entertaining and meaningful both to those who listen as well as to those who read them aloud.

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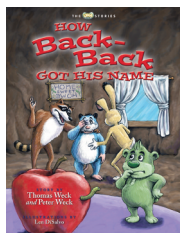
### Meet the Authors and Illustrator

**Thomas Weck** is a creative and captivating national award-winning author of children's books. He has traveled extensively in the U.S. and in foreign countries including teaching children through the Peace Corps. With four children of his own and a passion for observing children's behavior, he has distilled these observations into stories that excite the imagination of young minds amidst peals of laughter and learning. **The Cave Monster** is the third title in *The Lima Bear Stories* series.

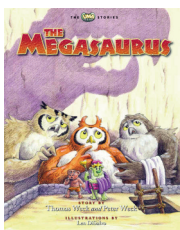
**Peter Weck** grew up enjoying the wonderful stories his father told about Lima Bear and his friends. Now that he is the father of three young girls, he has teamed up with his father to capture these and other stories in print. Peter's goal is to help children foster a love for creating, reading, and listening to stories. He currently serves on the board of the Menlo Park Library Foundation and is CEO of StoryJumper, a web based company that enables anyone to create and illustrate children's stories.

**Len DiSalvo** is an illustrator and animator for a wide range of print projects and award-winning computer games. He currently teaches art illustration and animation at the Art Center Design College in Tucson, Arizona.

#### Also available in *The Lima Bear Stories* series from Lima Bear® Press, LLC.



**How Back-Back Got His Name** by Thomas Weck and Peter Weck  
illustrations by Len DiSalvo • 978-1-933872-14-8 • \$15.95 • July 2011  
Can you imagine what it would be like to lose your back!!? Well, that is exactly what happens to Plumpton, the Opossum. Lima Bear and his clever friends become detectives searching for this missing back. Follow them as they try new and different ways of thinking to solve the mystery. See how they band together to protect each other in times of danger! Will they ever find Plumpton's back? The take-away message: The tolerance of differences in others yields benefits.



**The Megasaurus** by Thomas Weck and Peter Weck  
illustrations by Len DiSalvo • 978-1-933872-12-4 • \$15.95 • May 2011  
What's the King of Beandom to do? The tiny, multicolored bean-shaped bears of Beandom are under attack by a monster. Who will save Beandom? Can the king's wisest advisors find a solution? Or will a solution come from an tiny ordinary bear? The take-away message: Follow your convictions even when others think differently.