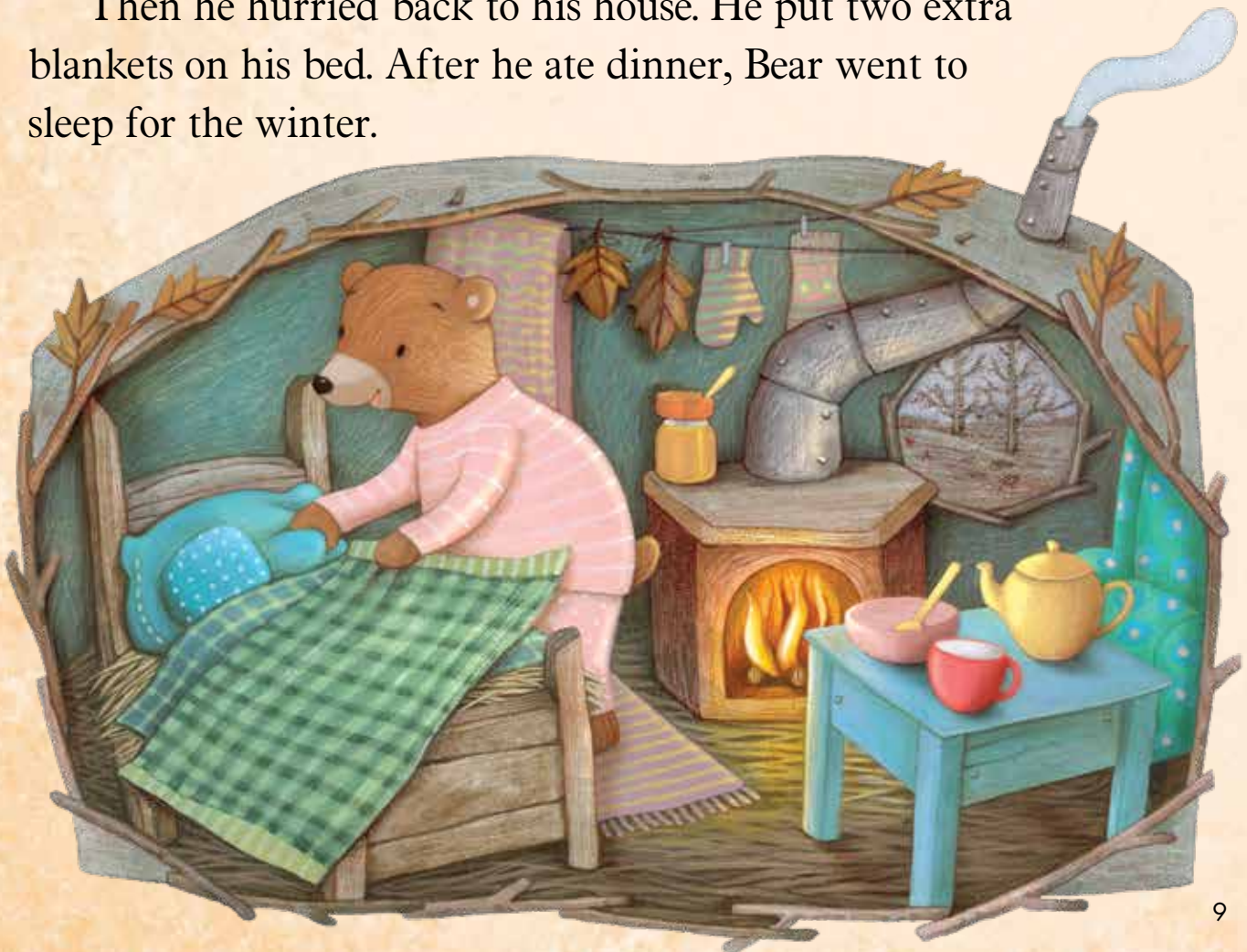


Bear's Holiday Cards

by Maggie Murphy
Art by Martha Aviles

At the post office,
Bear mailed many
holiday cards.

Then he hurried back to his house. He put two extra
blankets on his bed. After he ate dinner, Bear went to
sleep for the winter.





Days, weeks, and months went by. Snow fell, and snow melted. The creek beside Bear's house froze and unfroze. Bear kept on sleeping. And the postal carrier kept on stopping by Bear's quiet house to drop mail into his big mailbox.



In the spring, Bear woke up. "What a good long rest," he said. "I feel great." He opened his mailbox. "I have even more mail than last winter!"



Many of his friends had sent him holiday cards. They showed pictures of snow, sleds, mittens, and cups of cocoa.

Smiling, Bear put the cards on the mantelpiece of his fireplace. He did not make a fire. But he did make a delicious cup of cocoa. 🐻

