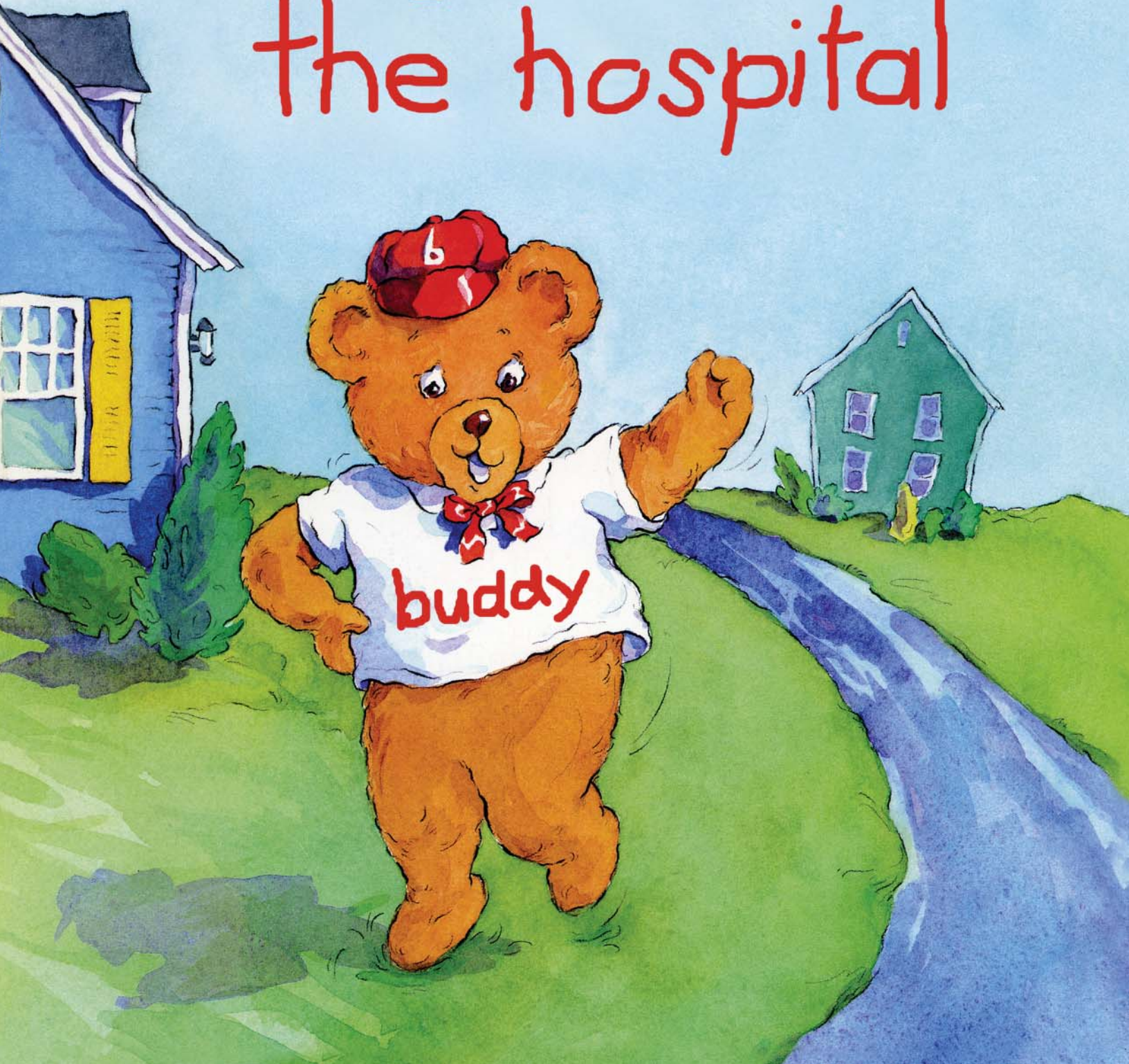


buddy bear  
goes to  
the hospital





## buddy bear

had a lot of earaches  
and sometimes he  
couldn't hear. He was

told he would need to go to the  
hospital to have the hurt taken away.

But Buddy Bear was not sure about this.

"I don't care for that idea," said Buddy. "I  
don't care for that idea at all."

What Buddy didn't know was that he was  
about to have an adventure and meet some  
new friends.

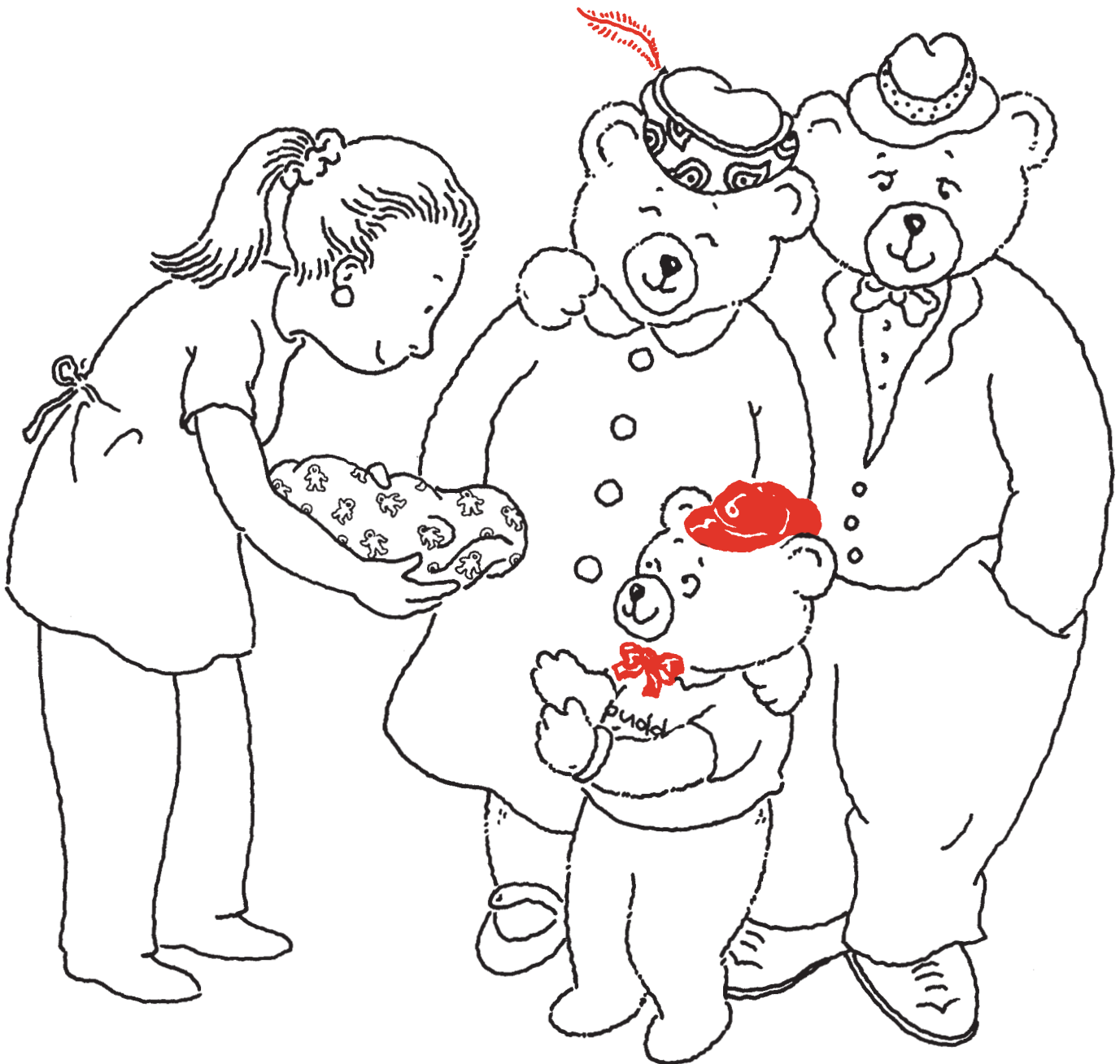
**W**hen Buddy arrived at the hospital with his parents, he sat quietly while his mother talked to the lady at the reception desk. She told him she liked his hat.

"That lady's nice," he whispered to his mother. (It was his favorite hat.) He wondered what would happen next.



**b**uddy and his parents were taken to another room, where lots of things happened. Even though it wasn't bedtime, Buddy put on a pair of pajamas. He chose some with astronauts on them. And he was given a bracelet with his name on it.

"That's me!" said Buddy, when he looked down and saw his name.

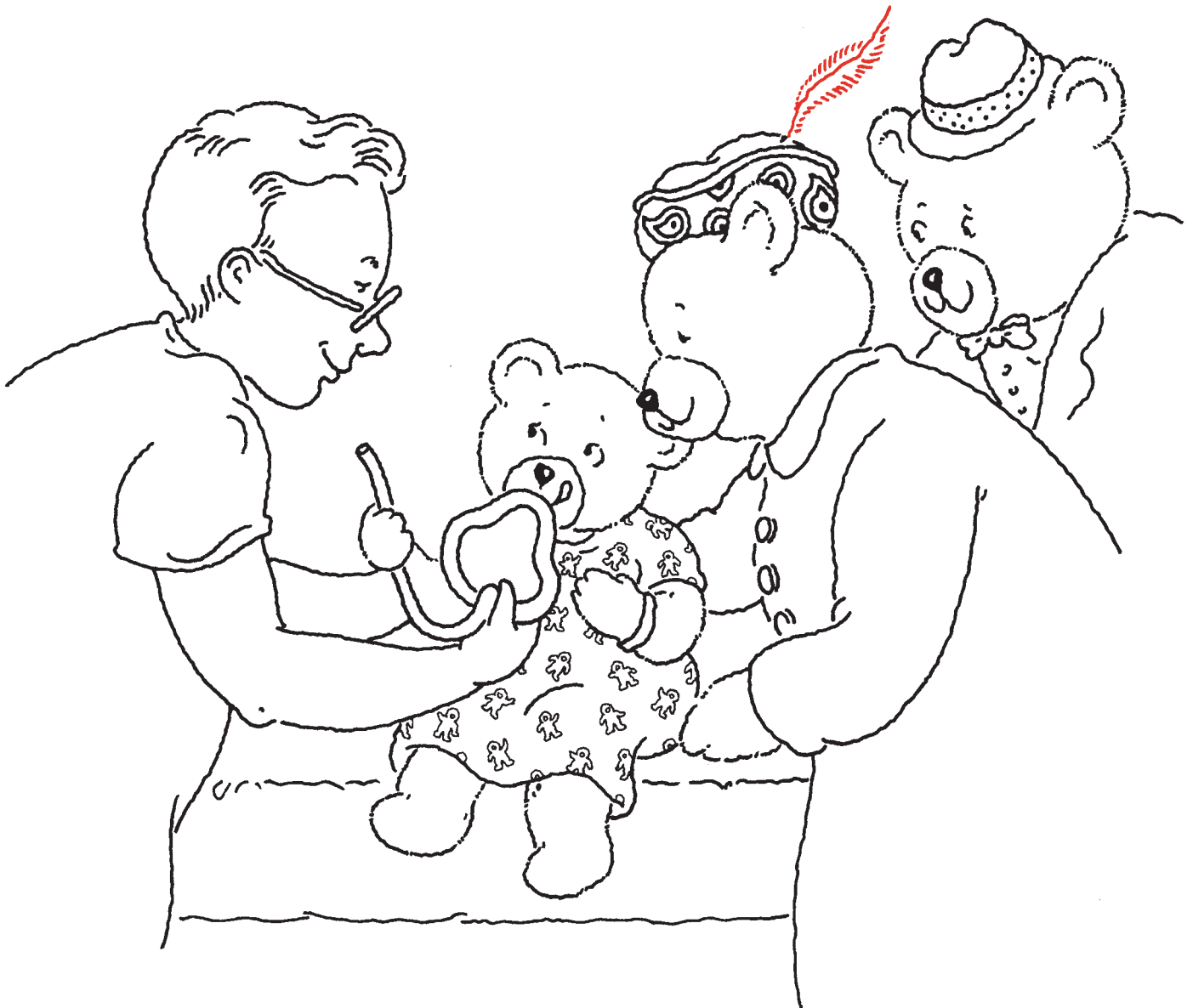


**N**ext, a nurse came in to take his blood pressure. "You've had a busy morning, haven't you?" she said as she wrapped a cuff around his arm. She squeezed a ball that made a sound like blowing up a balloon.

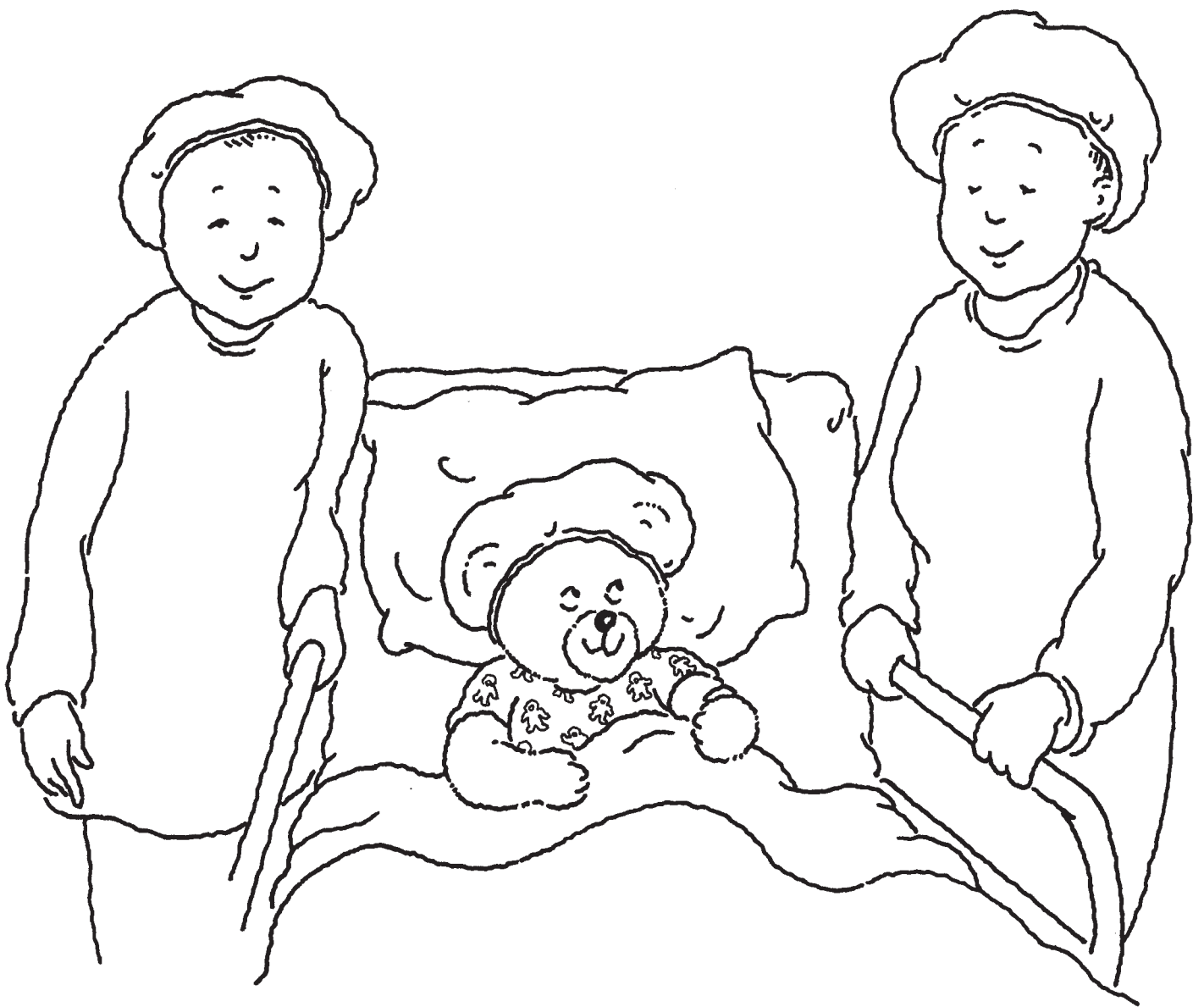
When she did this, the cuff got a little tight on Buddy's arm. "It's giving me a bear hug!" he said.



**I**t was time for Buddy to try on his mask. He would get sleepy medicine through the mask. He picked strawberry flavored medicine because it made him think of summer. His nurse told him he liked strawberry best, too. The mask fit over his mouth and nose, and it was very soft. It reminded him of the swim mask he wore at the beach.



**W**ith these things done, Buddy Bear was ready to have his ears made all better. He was still a little nervous, but his mom would stay with him. He was lifted onto a bed to go for a ride to another new place.

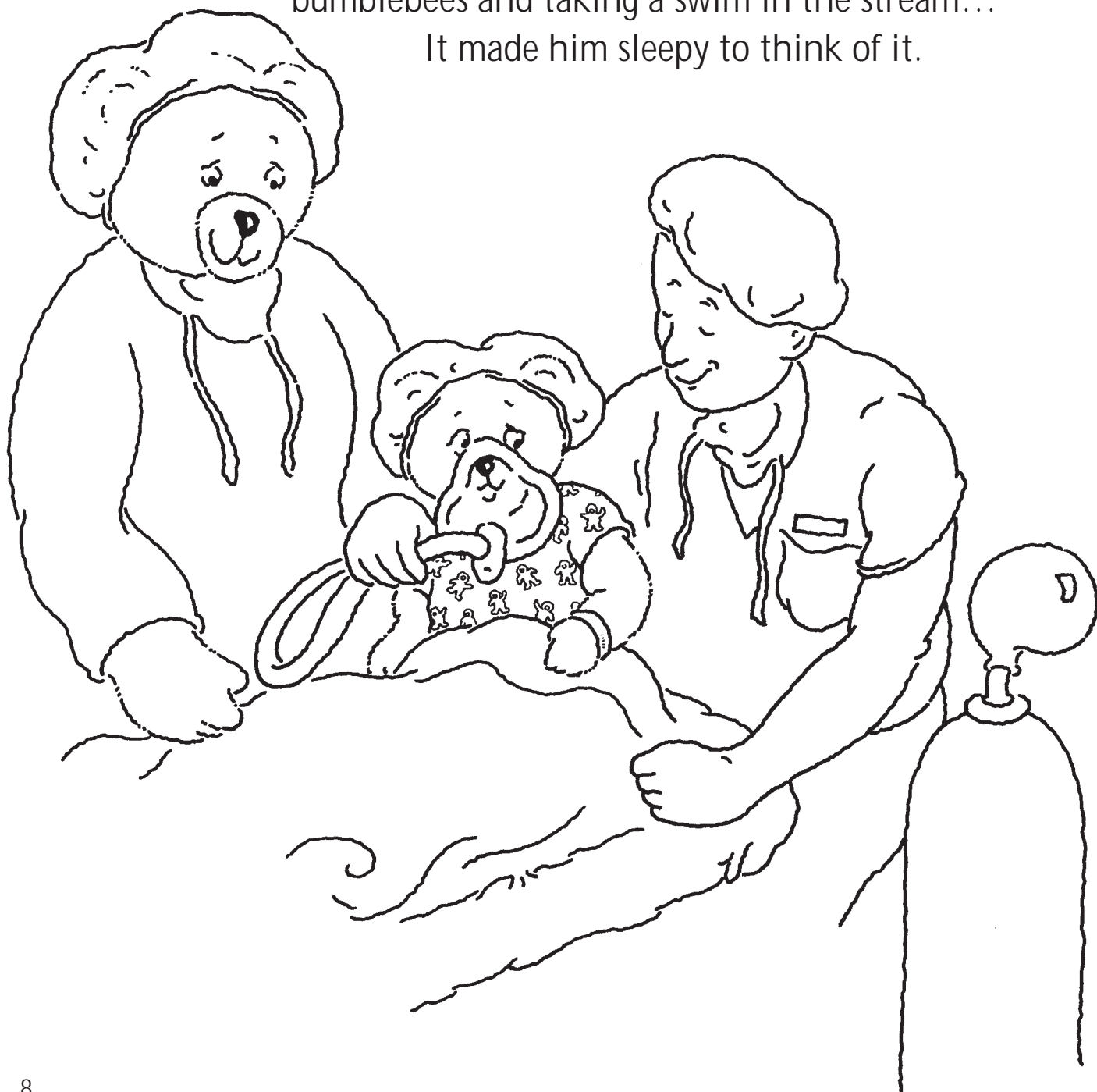


Here, he sat on the edge of a table and put his strawberry mask on. It had a squiggly part that was attached to a big blue balloon.

"See if you can blow up the balloon," the nurse said.

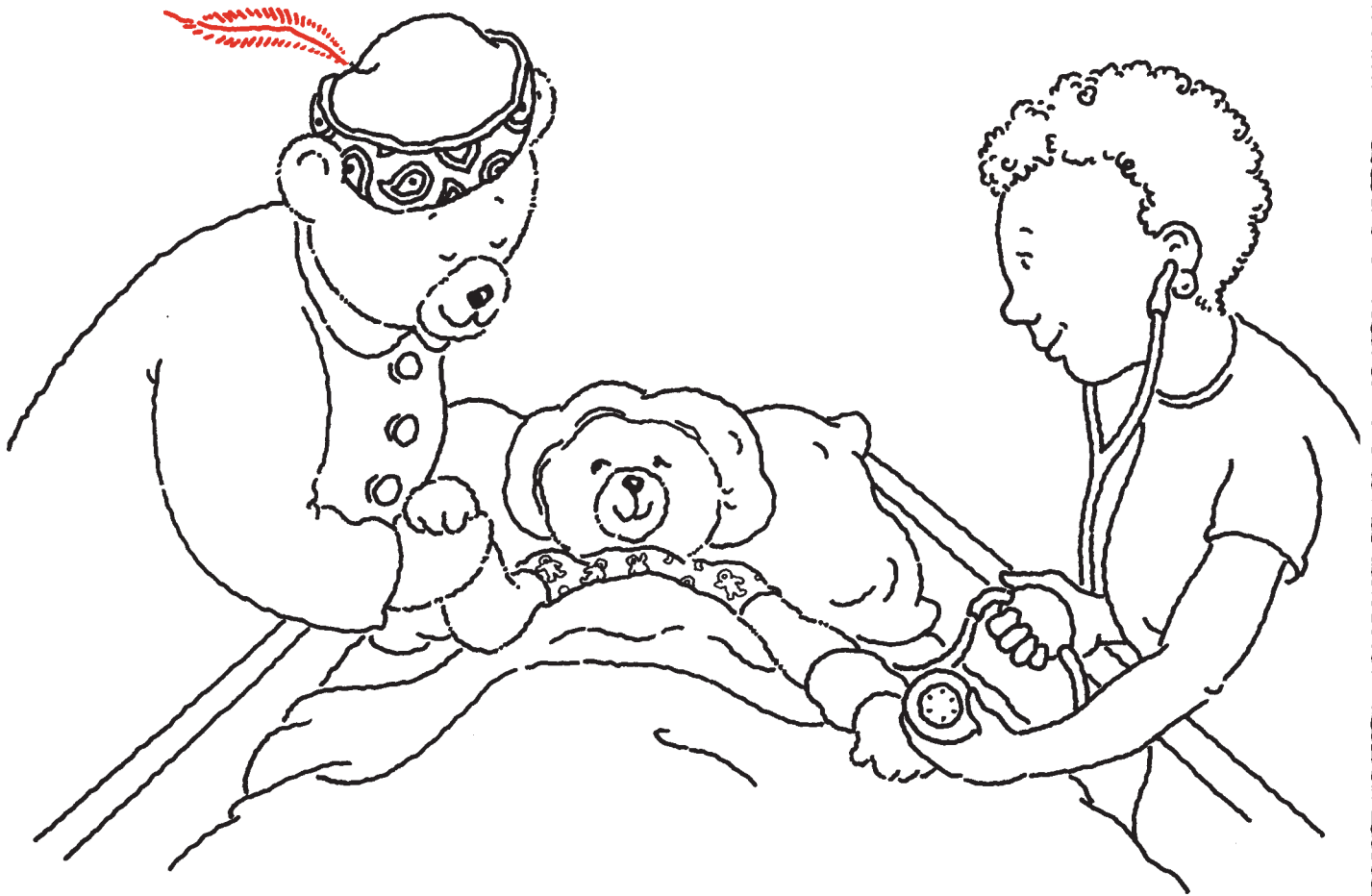
And while he did, his mom reminded him of the picnic they once had in a big sunny field, with jam and bread and icy lemonade. Buddy remembered picking wild flowers and chasing bumblebees and taking a swim in the stream...

It made him sleepy to think of it.



The next thing Buddy knew, he was waking up. He'd had a very nice dream about a picnic, but he couldn't remember much about it. He was in a different room now, but his mom was still right beside him. She picked him up and rocked him in her arms.

"I'm still sleepy," he said. And it was true – he could hardly open his eyes.



**S**oon, Buddy felt more awake. His ears still hurt a little, but the doctor told him he would feel all better soon. And, no more earaches! He got a popsicle, and that helped. Buddy loved popsicles! It seemed everything happened very fast, and now it was all over.



before he knew it – Buddy Bear was on his way

