



## The History of the Teddy Bear

Have you ever wonder why stuffed bears are always called 'Teddy Bears'. It's actually an interesting story.

In 1902, American President, Theodore Roosevelt was out hunting in Mississippi. One of President Roosevelt's friends found a little black bear and tied it to a tree so that the President could shoot it. Luckily, President Roosevelt did not like this idea and declared that to hunt this poor bear would be 'unsportsmanlike'.

The next day, a cartoon depicting the President with his back turned to a little bear was printed in a Washington newspaper. In a stroke of genius, a New York Stationary and Novelty storeowner displayed two plush bears that his wife had made in his shop window and called them 'Teddy Bears' (Teddy being the President's nickname). Teddy bears became so popular that the name stuck and even today, over 100 years after they were named, we still call our bears, teddy bears!

