

## Reflections from the LAAMB Friendly Cuddly Bears On The Bruce Peninsula????

Have you ever encountered a bear in the Bruce Peninsula that made you smile and laugh? No, I am not talking about a little child dressed up as a bear for Halloween. Nice try though!!! Ha!

Lore was walking down one of the roads outside of Wiarton, where some farms are located, when she encountered a woolly bear hurriedly trying to cross the road. Notice the picture below.

Lore grew up with these creatures so she knew just how to handle them: pick them up gently and stroke their backs. They curl up into a ball, and like a cat, seem to respond to gentle petting.

The more Lore walked, the more woolly bears she found on the road. So Lore discovered her mission on this walk: take the woolly bears off the road and gently place them into the woods. From her childhood lessons, she knew that these “bears” were really caterpillars waiting to be turned into a moth. So on with the task at hand. That afternoon, Lore rescued twenty-four woolly bears.



This venture would also bring her another surprise. During this mission of saving those beautiful creatures Lore would meet another woman doing the same thing. They stopped, introduced themselves and chatted a while. They laughed when they discovered they were doing the same thing. What are the odds of meeting someone with the same concern for the woolly bears?

When Lore came home, we all heard about her adventure. She not only had our interest but we were all converted to being woolly bear rescuers! I went for a walk with Lore the next day with a new mission.....save the woolly bears.



Well my daughter also got involved in woolly bear rescuing. The other day she proudly came home from her walk telling us that she had saved eleven of them from being road kill. Lore also caught up with that woman again and discovered that she still continues to rescue these fuzzy funny creatures on her daily walks. What would happen if more people saw it as their mission to save God's creatures small and large? Our world might be in better shape than it is right now. What creature of God can you save today? It will make a difference in our overall care of the planet. I have included a little more information about the Woolly bear that you may find helpful.

Pastor Perry

### Why Did the Woolly Bear Cross the Road?

Posted on [November 12, 2014](#) by [Kristin S.](#)

### Come Springtime

If a woolly bear survives a New England winter, it will emerge in the spring very hungry. At this time of year, you may see caterpillars wandering again as they search for food plants. The caterpillar eats for a short while and then spins a cocoon, made of bristle hairs held together with silk, in a protected spot under rocks or bark. In two weeks, an Isabella Tiger Moth emerges from the cocoon.

The cycle begins again when the female Isabella Tiger Moth lays clusters of eggs on a variety of hostplants. Favorites include dandelion, grass, meadowsweet, nettle, and more. Eggs hatch in 4-5 days, and the young caterpillars feed in groups, becoming solitary as they grow older. Over 3-4 weeks, the

caterpillars undergo 6 molts, or skin sheddings, and it is the second generation each summer that will cross roads to find that perfect overwintering spot.

### **Fun Facts about Woolly Bears**

1. Woolly bears are very fast (for a caterpillar, at least). They can travel up to 4 feet per minute, which is roughly equivalent to .05 miles per hour.
2. Contrary to folklore, the woolly bear is not an accurate weather forecaster. Does the width of its orange band predict the severity of the oncoming winter? No. Instead, each time the caterpillar sheds a skin, its orange band grows a bit larger. So, broader orange bands are most likely an indication of the age of the caterpillar, not of future winter weather.