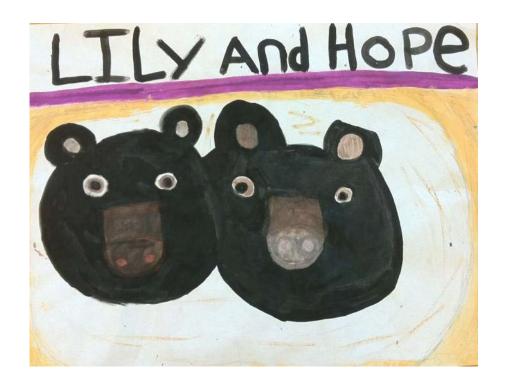
## **Diane Lewis** Art Educator Nova Scotia, Canada

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March 18, 2011.

Dear Sir/Madame,

I am a teacher from Canada and my students and I have fallen in love with Lily, Hope, Faith and Jason. We watch them with great interest and are touched by Lily's compassion for her young. The students also follow them at home and update me all the time.

I have been reading they may not be protected by wearing their collars. I would never have exposed my young pupils to these bears if I thought there lives were in danger. The students often ask me about their safety and I have always thought their collars meant they would never be shot. If they are not protected, I dread the day they find out that one of them has been killed.

I use this website to connect children to nature, teach compassion and as the subjects of various art project. Attached is a picture one of my Grade 4 students painted of Lily and Hope.

To me, not protecting them seems unusually cruel in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. I hope and pray you will reconsider any plans to make them "fair" game.

Sincerely,

Diane Lewis