

Corduroy

Written and Illustrated by Don Freeman

Dear Family Member,

You can make reading with your child a “prime-time” event. One way to do this is to read *Corduroy* by Don Freeman.

Before you read, have your child look at the cover. Read the title. Explain to your child that Corduroy got his name because he wears corduroy overalls.

As you read, stop occasionally and ask your child what he or she thinks Corduroy will do next. Give praise for your child’s predictions. Then read to find out what happens.

After you read, share thoughts about how it might feel to sit on a shelf, waiting for someone to buy you. Discuss how unimportant a missing button is compared to a friendly face and a kind heart.

As you look back at the happy ending with your child, join the hug shared by Corduroy and his new friend Lisa.

Happy Reading!

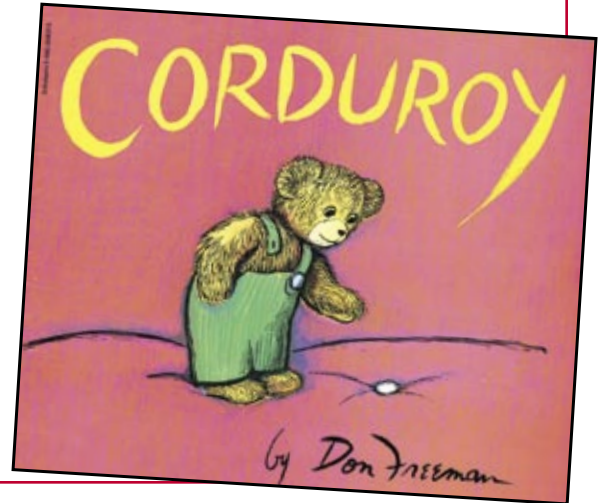


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BOOK SUMMARY

Corduroy is the story of a toy bear who lives in a department store. When he discovers a button missing from his overalls, he worries that no one will want to buy him. So, he searches for a button throughout the store. Finally, he ends up with a new friend—a girl who loves him just the way he is, buys him, and takes him home with her. This is a tale of true friendship.



Talking Together

If the night watchman had not found Corduroy, he might have gotten lost. Talk about this with your child. List the steps that children should take so they do not become separated from their family in a large store or public place.

Doing Things Together

Have your child look for toys in your house that might need some mending or some other minor repairs. Set up a toy "fix-it" shop or a doll hospital and spend one or more evenings with your child making the toys look almost like new again.

Corduroy needed buttons to fasten his overall straps. With your child, look around the house for other types of clothing fasteners, such as shoelaces, buckles, zippers, hooks, snaps, or drawstrings. Have your child practice opening or closing each of these fasteners.

With your child, gather toy catalogs or advertisements from newspapers and magazines. Have your child cut out pictures of toys that fit into categories, such as toys that have wheels, need clothes, require batteries, or can be used both indoors and outdoors. Have your child put the pictures into piles that match each category.

Reading More Together

Here are other books by Don Freeman: *A Pocket for Corduroy*; *Bearymore*; *The Paper Party*; *Quiet! There's a Canary in the Library*; and *A Rainbow of My Own*.