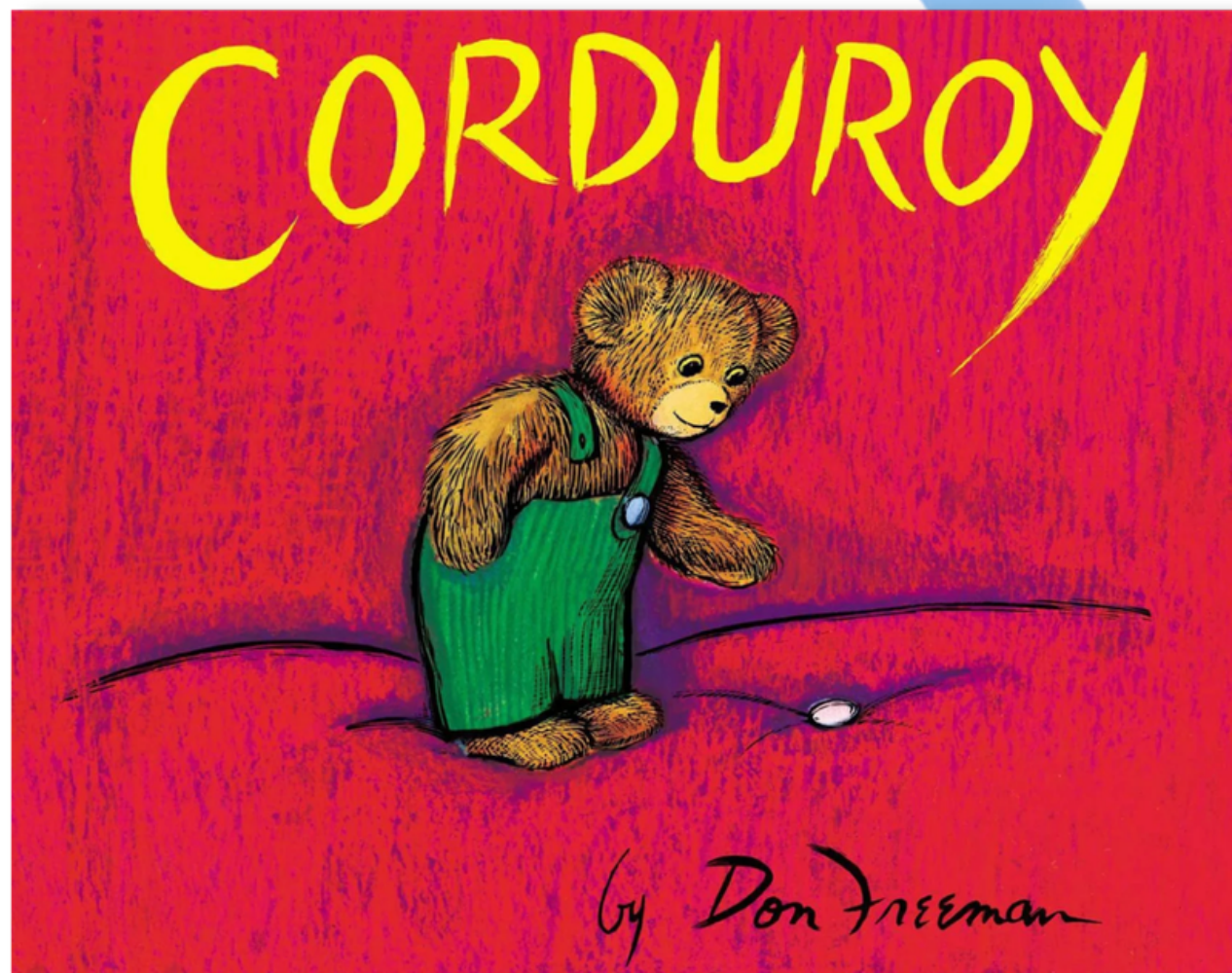


FAMILY BOOK CONNECTIONS

BOOK BRIDGES



Corduroy

Author & Illustrator: Don Freeman

Activities Created by Washburn University
Education Major: Madyson Buescher

Summary of Corduroy

Corduroy is about a little teddy bear that lives in a big department store. He is waiting for someone to take him home and love him. Then one day a little girl saw him, but there was a problem, he was missing something important about him. When the day turns into night he goes on an adventure through the store. He was hoping that he could find what he was missing so the girl would come back for him. Throughout the story, he finds new places and he also faces new challenges.

Read Aloud



[English Youtube](#)
[Read-Aloud](#)

About the Author and Illustrator

Don Freeman was both the author and illustrator of the book. He sketched for the New York Times and wrote and illustrated over 20 children's books. He was born in San Diego, California and then moved to New York City to study art, and he also played the trumpet to support himself. He passed away in 1978.

Learn More



Don Freeman



Questions to Ask Before, During, and After Reading

Talking before, during, and after reading helps children think deeply, notice feelings, and connect the story to their own lives.



Before Reading

- Who do you think the main character is going to be and why do you think that?
- Do you have any stuffed animals at home? How do you feel about your stuffed animals?



During Reading

- Why do you think he needs to find a new button?
- Do you think the girl will come back to get him and why do you think that?



After Reading

- How did the book, Corduroy, make you feel?
- How did the teddy bear, Corduroy, feel about the little girl?

Extending the Book with Additional Reading

The author of Corduroy wrote other books featuring the teddy bear, Corduroy. If you like this one, you should check out the others at this link. Tea Party Rules by Ame Dyckman is about a little bear cub like Corduroy that is also trying to fit in. Another book is thePadding Bear Series by Michael Bond; these books are about a bear that is going on many adventures and ends up meeting a loving family that takes him in.

More Corduroy Stories



[Corduroy Books](#)

Explore other books featuring Corduroy and his adventures.



Talk About These Questions

- How are Corduroy, the bear from Tea Party Rules, andPadding alike?
- What makes a character feel loved and accepted?
- What kind of friend would Corduroy be?



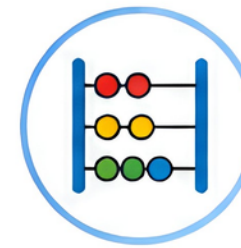
Extending the Book with Writing

For this activity, you will need paper and a pencil. Your child can write independently if they are able to, or you can write for them. Choose one of these prompts and ask your child to write a story.

Writing Prompts

- 1 Here is the story of how I lost a button to my favorite overalls. It's an adventure!
- 2 When I was at the store, I saw the greatest stuffed animals! I chose the _____ to buy because...
- 3 When my _____ stuffed animal came to life, we had the greatest adventures! Here is one I would like to tell you about!

Work on sequencing the story with your child so that their story has a strong beginning, middle, and end. Have your child read their story to a family or friend!



Extending the Book with Math

For this activity, you will need buttons or some other small objects to use as counters for story problems. You will also need paper, a pencil, and crayons.

Try These Story Problems

- 1 Corduroy had 2 buttons. He lost 1. How many buttons does he have now?
- 2 There were 6 stuffed animals on the shelf with Corduroy. A family bought 2 how many stuffed animals are left on the shelf?
- 3 Corduroy liked to count the escalator stairs. He counted 12 steps going up. He went up and down the escalator. How many steps did he count all together?

Use buttons or counters to solve the problems. Then design a new pair of overalls for Corduroy and write a math sentence to match the illustration.

Extending the Book with Science

For this activity, you will be sorting and creating patterns with a collection of small objects. A collection of different kinds of buttons will work well and match the details in the story. However, you could also use small rocks, shells, beans, LEGO pieces, or pasta.

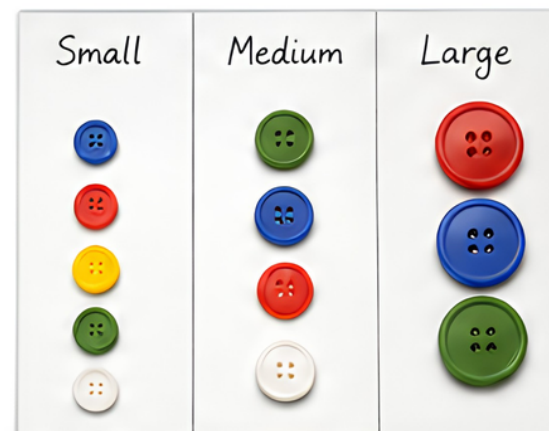
1

Sort the items according to size, texture, shape, color, or another attribute.



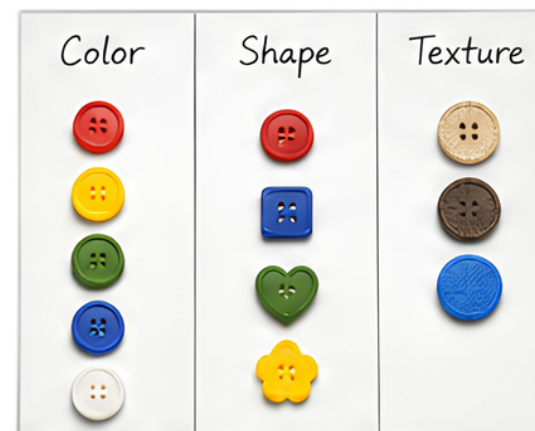
2

Create columns on a sheet of paper and place the items into the columns.



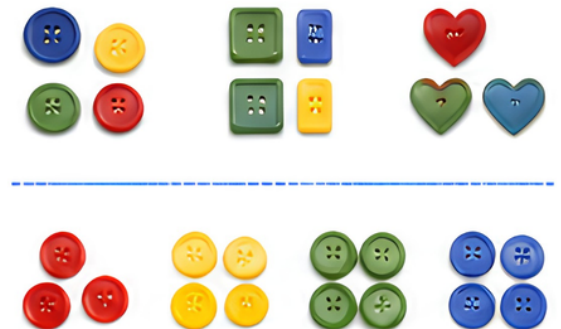
3

Help your child label the columns according to how the objects were sorted and classified.



4

Challenge your child to sort the same objects in a different way. For example, sort by shape first and then by color.



Talk and Notice

- How are the objects alike?
- How are they different?
- Which way of sorting was easiest?



Extending the Book with Social Studies

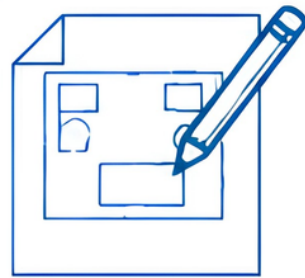
For this activity, your child will draw a bird's-eye map of a place they know well, such as their bedroom or a place they play frequently.

1



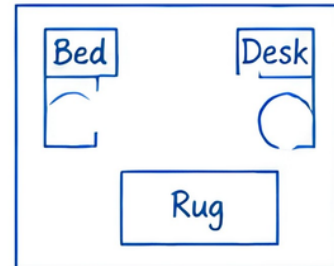
Pretend you are a bird flying over a room. Ask, "What do you see?"

2



Draw a map of the space. You may help your child as needed.

3



Label each room or space that is drawn on the map.

4



As your child gets comfortable drawing a map, add other features like a key or a compass.

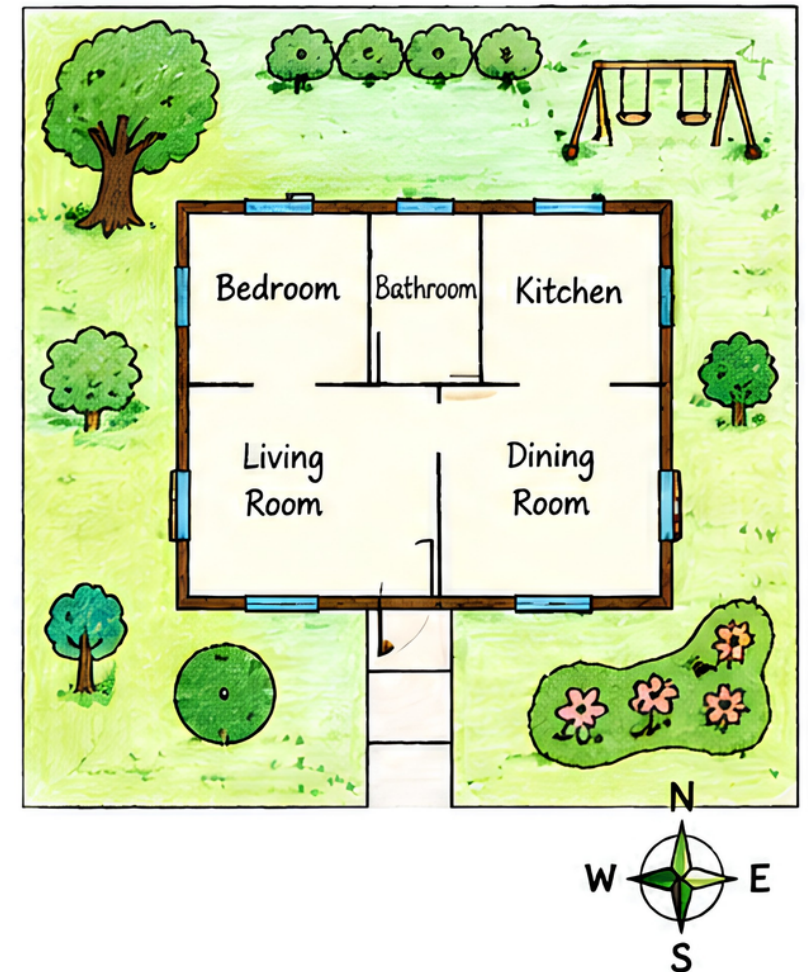
Map Ideas

- bedroom
- playroom
- backyard
- classroom
- favorite play space

Talk About Maps



- What do you notice from a bird's-eye view?
- Why do labels help us read a map?
- What other places could we map?



Extending the Book with Art

For this activity, you will need paper, a pencil, and crayons, colored pencils, or markers.

- 1** Fold a sheet of paper in half.
.....
- 2** On one side, draw Corduroy on the shelf in the department store with only one button on his overalls.
.....
- 3** On the other side, draw Corduroy with repaired overalls.
.....
- 4** Talk about how Corduroy's face might look different when his overalls are like new. Then sign and date the drawing.

Before



After



Share your artwork proudly!



LITERACY
BRIDGES