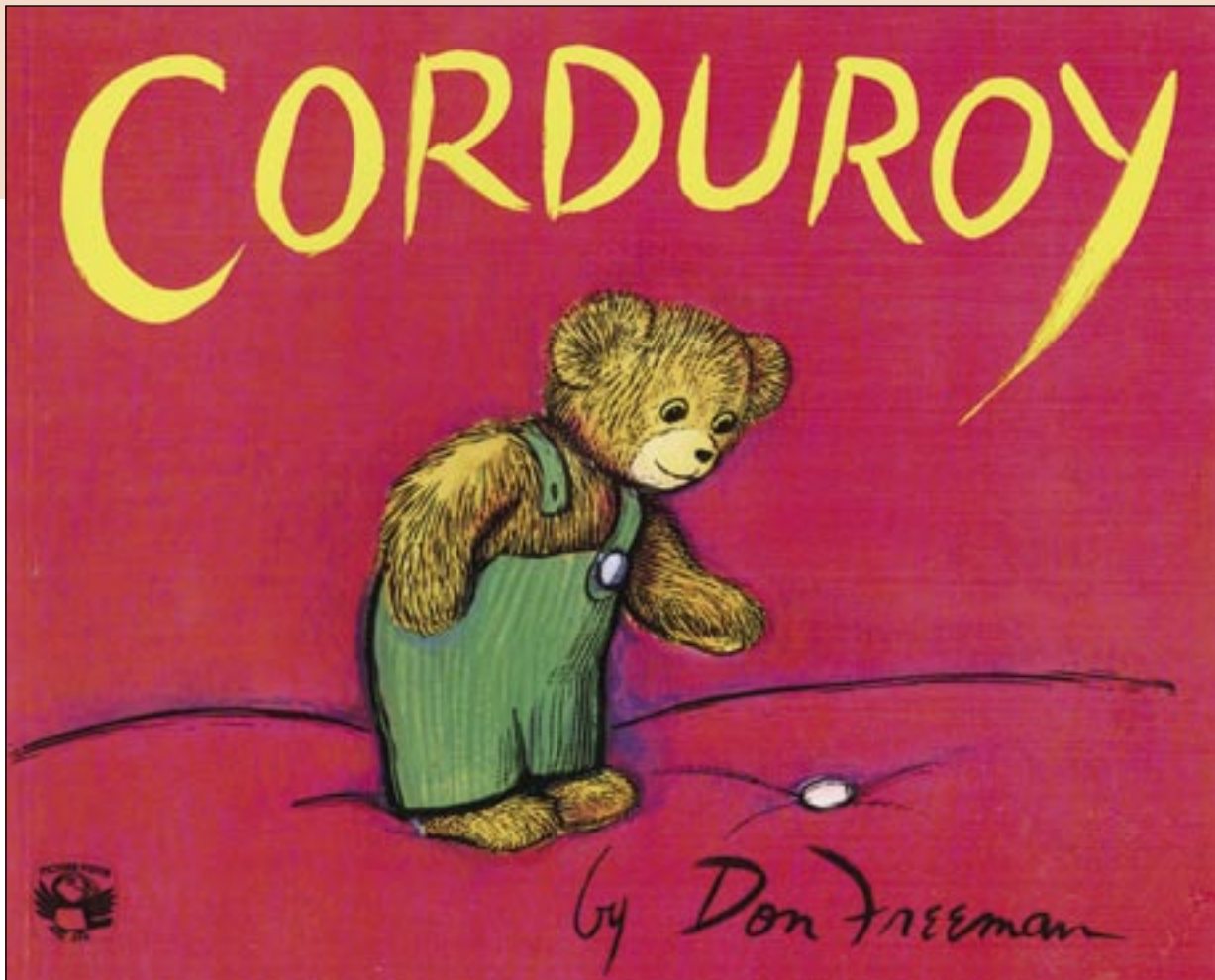


# Corduroy

By Don Freeman

*A teddy bear in a department store who longs for a home and the little girl who finds him discover that they are perfect friends for each other.*



## First Reading

Before you begin reading the book, **set the stage** with an introduction. Here are some ideas or you could make up your own.

“There is a teddy bear on the cover of this book. The book says his name is Corduroy, maybe because he is wearing corduroy overalls. How did you choose a name for your teddy bear? It looks like Corduroy’s overalls are missing something. Do you see what it is? How would Corduroy find another button?”



## Read It Again (and Again) and Start a Conversation

“What other toys are sitting on the shelf with Corduroy?”

If you could have one of those toys, which one would you pick?

Why doesn't Lisa's mom want to buy Corduroy?

How did Corduroy feel when Lisa walked home without him?

Do you have any buttons on your clothes? Let's find them.

Do you think Corduroy could really find his button in the department store?

How does it feel to ride an escalator? Do you think Corduroy was scared?

Why do you think Corduroy thought the furniture floor was a palace?

How was Lisa able to buy Corduroy?

How do you think Corduroy could tell Lisa was his friend?”

## Play With Language

### Game: “Corduroy, Where are You?”

Careful listening is one of the first skills children need to develop in preparation for discerning the individual sounds that make up the words they speak and read. This game helps a child learn to listen carefully and analytically. It can be played between an adult and a child or with a group of children.

With a group, have the children sit quietly in a circle. One child, eyes covered, sits in the center of the circle. A child from the circle is selected to be “Corduroy.” He will walk to another part of the room and make an animal sound (“grr,” “moo,” “peep,” etc.). The child with her eyes still covered then tries to point to “Corduroy.” This game can be extended by having the child try to name the part of the room where “Corduroy” is, or whether he is high (standing on a chair), or low (lying on the ground). The goal is to listen carefully enough to determine from where in the room the sound is coming. Once he is located, the old “Corduroy” replaces the listener and a new “Corduroy” is chosen from the circle.

This game can be played simply by two people taking turns with one covering their eyes while the other moves to a new location in the room and makes a sound.

Another variation can be played with Hide-and-Seek where the hider makes an occasional peeping sound to help the seeker locate his hiding place.

*A variation of “Jacob, Where Are You?” from Phonemic Awareness in Young Children by Marilyn Jager Adams...et al*



## Rhymes

### *Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear*

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around;  
(turn around)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.  
(touch the ground)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, show your shoe;  
(hold out foot)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, I love you.  
(give yourself a hug)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, climb upstairs;  
(pretend to climb up stairs)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, say your prayers.  
(hold hands in prayer)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn out the light;  
(switch out the light)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, say, "goodnight!"  
(head on hands, palms together)

### *Put Your Teddy Bear on Your Head*

(Have the children use stuffed bears.)

Put your teddy bear on your head, on your head.

Put your teddy bear on your head, on your head.

Put your teddy bear on your head. Put that teddy bear to bed!

Put your teddy bear on your head, on your head.

(repeat with foot, nose, tummy, back and knee)

Give your teddy bear a hug, give him a hug.

Give your teddy bear a hug, give him a hug.

Give your teddy bear a hug. Make him as snug as a bug in a rug!

Give your teddy bear a hug, give him a hug.

*From Little Songs for Little Me by Nancy Stewart*

## Other Activities To Do Together

Play with a flashlight in the dark and see what toys you can find with it.

Go to a department store and ride the escalator.

Play “Button, button, who’s got the button” with several children.

Or, take turns with your child holding a button in one hand behind your back. Take turns guessing which hand holds the button. This can be used to learn “right hand” and “left hand,” too.

Make a bed for a special stuffed animal or doll out of a cardboard box. Use old baby blankets or towels for bedding.

Do something special for a friend—invite them over to play; make a gift or card for them; share your toys with them.

Listen to the tune *Put Your Teddy Bear on Your Head* on Nancy Stewart’s *Little Songs for Little Me*

## More Books About Bears and Friends

*Ask Mr. Bear* by Marjorie Flack

*Frog and Toad are Friends* by Arnold Lobel

*Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by Jan Brett

*My Friend Bear* by Jez Alborough

*Teddy Bear’s Picnic* by Jimmy Kennedy

*Teddy Bear’s Picnic (CD)* by Gary Rosen

*We’re Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen

