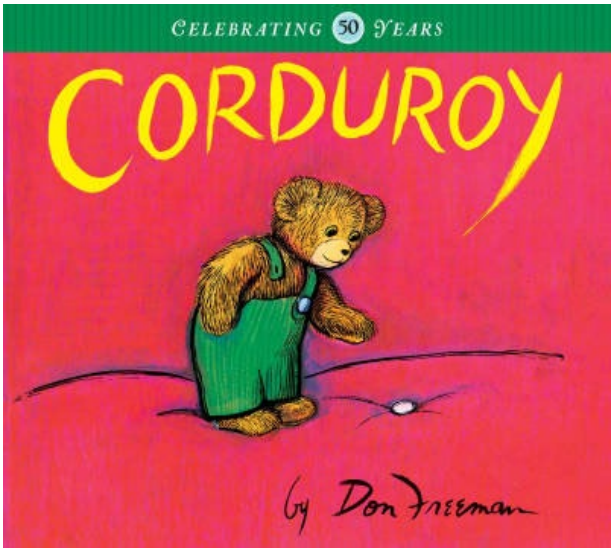
Corduroy Lesson Plans



Written and Illustrated by Don Freeman

"Celebrate 50 years of this irresistible childhood classic, a heartwarming story about a little bear and a little girl finding the friend they have always wanted in each other." - Corduroy Books

Dramatic Play/Math

Counting Money

Prep time: +10 minutes

Supplies: Play money (see below), stuffed animals/toys, blank stickers, marker, cash register/calculator (optional)

Corduroy features a young child wanting to purchase a teddy bear. However, her mother declares that she cannot buy it because she's "spent too much already". Later in the book, the child buys Corduroy with her own money. This quick lesson in restraint and budgeting is one that the students in your class will no doubt encounter sooner rather than later! Luckily, we can help them begin to understand the concept of money with some fun math in dramatic play.

Print a few copies of the play money attached at the bottom. Laminate them to give a bit more durability. Label a few items in your dramatic play center with a price tag (you can use those blank circle stickers) and teach your students how to “buy” their toys. Make it even more interactive with a cash register or a calculator!

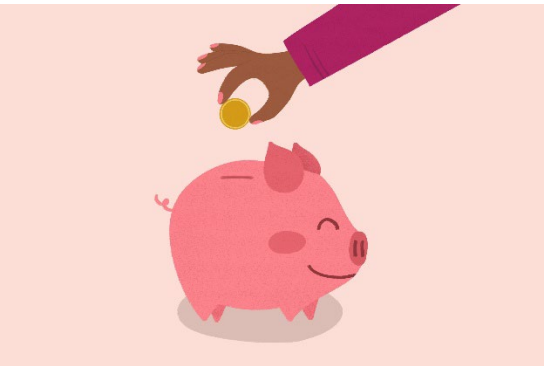


Table Toys

Button Playdough

Prep time: less than 5 minutes

Supplies: playdough, buttons, playdough toys (optional)

Quick and easy morning activity. Set out playdough (bonus points if it’s green like Corduroy’s overalls) and a handful of buttons. Challenge your students to make a bear or just let them explore on their own. Ask them questions throughout the activity and write down their responses. “What are you creating? I see you’re being very intentional about where your buttons go! Can you tell me about them?”



(Photo credit: Corduroy Themed Preschool Activities for Kids | Lets Play.Learn.Grow)

Literacy

Reference Cards

Below you will find real photo reference cards for some of the things Corduroy encounters around the department store. These aren't meant to be flashcards! Rather, they are display photos to place in your room, house in your writing center, or use in an activity. Whichever way you use them, hopefully they allow your students to connect further with the story.

Bear Books

Bears are almost as popular as bunnies when it comes to children's books! They are featured in all kinds of situations and predicaments. Corduroy surely isn't alone when it comes to bear shenanigans! Click this link - Bears Bears Bears – to find a library list of children's books staring a bear. (You can also type "bears bears bears" into the search function on the library website.)

Gross Motor

Button Hop

Prep time: 5-10 minutes

Supplies: construction paper, marker, bowl or plate (anything that you can trace on the paper to make a large circle), scissors, laminator (optional)

This activity will work for toddlers and preschoolers alike. Even infants would be able to manipulate these large buttons. Take several different colors of construction paper and draw a large circle (use the bowl or plate to trace) on each. Cut it out and then add four smaller "buttonholes" to the middle of the circles. Laminate them for durability if you'd like. Lay out all the buttons. They can be in a circle or a line, zig-zag or two rows, however you'd like. Encourage your students to hop from one button to another. Then, as they hop, to call out the color when they land. For older students, give them a number and have them hop that many buttons. (Photo credit: Inspiration Laboratories)




Fine Motor

Friendship Bracelets

Prep time: 5 – 20 minutes depending on if you need to cut out the buttons

Supplies: buttons or button images (below), string or yarn or pipe cleaners

If you'd like something with a bit more prep, you'll need larger plastic buttons. If not, use the button images below. Obviously, make sure to take into account that smaller buttons are CHOKING HAZARDS so it will be best to use larger buttons, especially with infants/toddlers.

Print the button images below. Laminate them for durability. Punch small holes so that your students can thread string through the middle. For younger students, punch bigger holes and use yarn instead. Let the children try to string their own bracelets and rejoice in their creations.

Sensory

Button Bin

Prep time: 5 – 10 minutes

Supplies: buttons or button images (below), cotton balls, stuffed animal stuffing, fabric scraps

Throw together a sensory bin with materials encountered in the book! Buttons, cotton and/or stuffing, fabric, etc. It's all fair game and makes for both a fun sensory experience and a great way to connect to *Corduroy* in a unique way.



(Photo credit: Corduroy's Button Sensory Bin & Fine Motor Fun)

Music

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Turn around
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Touch the ground

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Jump up high
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Touch the sky

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Bend down low
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Touch your toes

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Turn out the light
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
Say goodnight

Art

Corduroy Inspired

Prep time: less than 5 minutes

Supplies: paint, forks, paper and/or paper plates



(Photo credit: Kids Bear Craft Using a Fork - Crafty Morning)

This simple and fun art activity gives children a chance to use an ordinary household item in a fun and new way! Set out paint, paper, and forks. You can use paper plates (instead of plain paper) as a base to help frame the round face of a bear, if you'd like. You can show your students how to use the fork as a paintbrush or just let them use their own imaginations!

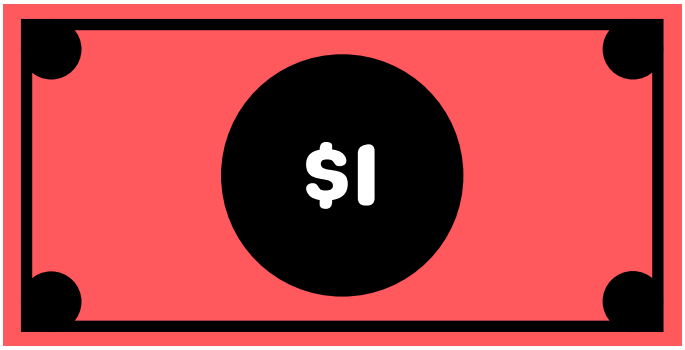
STEM

Flashlight Hide and Seek

Prep time: less than 5 minutes

Supplies: some small flashlights, stuffed animal

Corduroy searches the department store for his button. He's found by a security officer using a flashlight. This part of the story gave us the idea to try our own version of flashlight hide and seek! Hide a stuffed animal somewhere in the classroom. Have your students take turns and, using a few flashlights, search the room for the stuffed animal! Whoever finds it, gets to hide it next.


$1

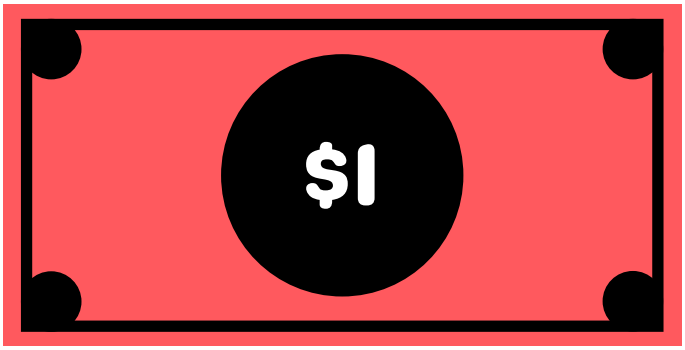

$5


$10


$20


$50


$100


$1


$5


$10


$20





Teddy Bear



Overalls



Button



Escalator



Mattress



Flashlight



Piggy Bank



Mall