# Corduroy & Pocket for Corduroy Novel Study

Grades 1-3

Written by Barb Scott & Joni Turville Illustrated by S&S Learning Materials

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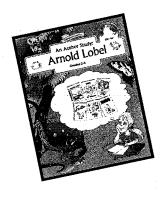
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by Don Freeman

#### **Objectives**

- 1. To expose children to the pleasure and enjoyment of books.
- 2. To enhance comprehension in ways other than just recall questions.
- 3. To expand the children's vocabulary.
- 4. To help offer suggestions on ways to respond to the novel.
- 5. To encourage creativity in children.

#### **Story Summaries**

#### **Corduroy**

Corduroy was a bear who lived in the toy department of a big store. One morning, a little girl stopped and admired the little bear. Corduroy was excited, because he longed for someone to take him home. The girl's mother said they couldn't buy him because she didn't have enough money and thought Corduroy didn't look new because his overalls were missing a button.

That night, Corduroy climbed down from the toy shelf and searched for his lost button. He wandered into the furniture department, tried to pick a button off a bed and ended up knocking himself and a lamp to the floor.

A security guard heard the commotion, discovered Corduroy and set him back on the toy shelf.

The next morning, Lisa, the little girl who had looked at him the day before, came in with money from her piggy bank to buy Corduroy. She took the little bear straight up to her room when she got home and began to sew a button on his overalls. Lisa and Corduroy hugged and became good friends.

#### **A Pocket for Corduroy**

One summer afternoon, Lisa and her mother went to the laundromat to do their laundry. Lisa put her toy bear, Corduroy on a chair while she helped her mother. Corduroy overheard Lisa's mother warn Lisa to take her things out of her pocket and he decided to try to find something to make a pocket for himself.

His search lead him into a laundry bag. Meanwhile, Lisa discovered that her bear was missing, but had to leave because the laundromat was closing. Lisa didn't want to leave, but her mother assured her that she could come back and look for Corduroy the next day.

A young man picked up his laundry bag, which contained the hidden bear. When he put his clothes into the dryer, Corduroy fell out. The kind man dried Corduroy's overalls and then put him on top of the washing machine as he left.





by Don Freeman-

Corduroy searched in the dark and discovered laundry soap, which he thought was snow. The box tipped over and he slid with the soap flakes into an empty basket and then fell asleep.

The next day Lisa returned and with the manager's help, found her favorite bear. Lisa asked Corduroy why he wandered away and he explained that he was looking for his own pocket. Lisa sewed a pocket on Corduroy's overalls with his name on it when they got home.

**Author Biography** 

#### **Don Freeman**

Don Freeman was born August 11, 1908 in San Diego. Don started out as a trumpet player. He turned to his skills as an artist, because one day he left his trumpet on the subway. The train left before he had a chance to retrieve it. This was the end of his trumpet playing days.

Don turned to his skills as an artist to try and make a living. He started submitting work weekly to the Herald Tribune. After a while some of his work was used. He was paid according to the width of his drawings, therefore many of his drawings were wide rectangular shapes. After his first drawing was printed, this was enough proof that he was with the press and therefore was admitted free of charge. He had the chance to meet many actors and actresses because of his job.

Don was also the author and illustrator of many children's books. He won many awards for his efforts.

- Book World Children's Spring Book Festival Award in 1953 for <u>"Pet of the Met"</u>
- Runner-up for the Caldecott Medal in 1958 for "Fly High, Fly Low"
- Southern California Council on Literature for Children and Young People Award in 1962 for "Come Again, Pelican"
- Southern California Council on Literature for Children and Young People Award in 1976 for "Will's Quill"
- Commonwealth Club of California Award in 1974 for "The Paper Party"

Don's last book was still being published when he died in 1978. His books have been translated into many languages and there are more than one million copies of his books in print.





by Don Freeman-

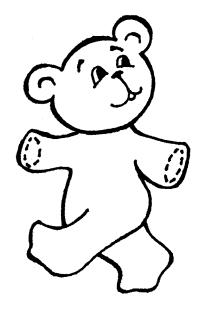
#### **Books by Don Freeman**

- Beady Bear
- Fly High, Fly Low
- Norman the Doorman
- Space Witch
- Come, Again Pelican
- Cyrano the Crow
- Inspector Peckit
- The Paper Party
- Will's Quill
- Bearymore
- A Pocket for Corduroy
- Dandelion
- The Guard Mouse
- Corduroy
- Quiet! There's a Canary in the Library

- Chuggy and the Blue Caboose
- Pet of the Met
- Mop Top
- The Night the Lights Went Out
- Hattie the Backstage Bat
- Ski PupBotts, the Naughty Otter
- Penguins of All People!
- Flash the Dash
- The Seal and the Slick
- The Chalk Box Story
- The Turtle and the Dove
- A Rainbow of My Own
- Add a Line Alphabet
- Tilly Witch
- Forever Laughter

#### **Teacher Input Suggestions**

Post a collection of teddy bear rhymes and songs around the room. Some suggestions
are:



Round and round the garden Like a teddy bear One step Two steps Tickle him under there

Teddy bear, teddy bear Turn around, Teddy bear, teddy bear Touch the ground, Teddy bear, teddy bear

