

Children's Literature Across the Curriculum Ideas

Created by students at the University of North Carolina Charlotte

Title: *Corduroy*

Author: Don Freeman

Publisher: Puffin Books, 1968

Grades: 1-2

Summary: A classic favorite about a lonely bear that is missing a button, who feels misplaced in a department store and wants to be loved. His wish comes true when a young girl spots him and begs her mother to purchase him. A wonderful story on beauty is only skin deep.

Reading/Writing Connections

1. Preview the book and illustrations, make predictions about the characters and setting.
2. Read the book to the class and discuss the illustrations as you read.
3. Ask the students if they could talk to Corduroy what would they ask him. Write down one question for Corduroy.

Vocabulary/Spelling

bear button corduroy department store night watchman

Communication Arts Connection

1. Make a story map of the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
2. Bring your teddy bears to school for a teddy bear parade.

Social Studies Connection

1. Make a teddy bear graph. Graph the colors or size of the teddy bears brought to school by the students.
2. Discuss the difference of night watchman (like is in the story) and a policeman.
3. Draw a map as a class of where you would go to find Corduroy in the department store and discuss how you would do it.
4. Pretend you are lost in a department store. Discuss what you should do, then work on memorizing your phone number and address in case this would happen to you.

Science Connection

1. Make a KWL chart on bears. What you know about bears, what you want to know and then after you have done some research fill in the last part of the chart with what you have learned about bears.
2. Do some research on real bears.

Math Connection

1. Buy an assortment of buttons and let the students sort the buttons by color, shape, size, and number of holes. Also use the buttons to do math addition and subtraction problems.
2. Count the number of buttons you are wearing after reading the story.
3. Eat teddy grahams for snack, but before you eat them you must make a pattern with them using their features.
4. Use the Three Bear Attribute Family manipulatives for patterns and sorting.
5. Use the bear lacing cards to work on motor skills.

Art Connection

1. Make teddy bears using a pattern and construction paper.
2. Bring in a Corduroy teddy bear doll to share with the class.
3. Bring in a piece of corduroy cloth for the class to feel the texture of the cloth.

Library Connection

1. Do some additional research on bears in the library.
2. Find and share other Corduroy books with the class.
3. Find some additional books written by Don Freeman.
4. Find some additional books that have bears as the main character.

Music Connection

1. Sing the song about Bear Facts.