

PLAYING UP STORYTIME

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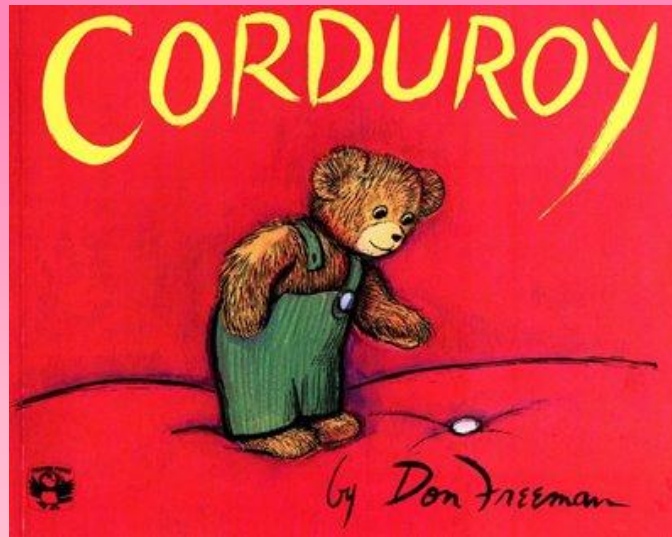


PLAY

- Play is a fantastic means for children to develop their creative thinking skills. Through play children have the opportunity to discover and inquire about real-life experiences. Children are encouraged to be imaginative and creative while exploring. Through play children are also learning adaptive skills, such as social skills, negotiating “fairness”, and expressing their feelings. Research shows that when playing imaginatively, children’s interactions with others last longer, are more complex and involved, and are more cooperative. (Faull, Jan)
- By having play activities in your storytimes, we are giving the children a chance to explore and discover on their own.
 - By using finger puppets, music and movement, and feltboards in storytime, Children are able to touch, feel, and move about in their exploration & learning.
 - When children have props in story times, their imaginations begin to take over and their own creative style comes out in their singing/dancing.



CORDUROY



The story of a teddy bear who ventures out of the toy store into the mall in search of a missing button.



MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

- Dance with teddy bear and have him do all the actions in the song.

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around.

Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.

Teddy bear, teddy bear, show me your shoe.

Teddy bear, teddy bear, I love you!

Teddy bear, teddy bear, give jump a try.

Teddy bear, teddy bear, wave goodbye.

Source Unknown.

- This is an easy song to add lyrics to and your favorite movements.

You are my Teddy Bear

- *Sung to "You Are My Sunshine"*

You are my teddy bear

My only teddy bear

You make me smile dear

You are my friend

You'll never know dear

How much I like you

I'm so glad you're my

Teddy Bear today.

Childcarelounge.com



DR. JEAN'S COOL BEAR HUNT

- This is a great song to get kids up, dancing and engaged in your program.
- Fun and inventive lyrics and movements.
- The children will love this bear hunt.

○ Lyrics and motions available on Dr. Jean's website.



MORE SONGS

Five Little Bear Cubs

- *Sung to "Five Little Ducks"*

Five little bear cubs went out to play,
Over the hill and far away.
When the mama bear said roar, roar, roar,
Four little bear cubs came crawling right back.

Four little bear cubs went out to play.....
Three little bear cubs went out to play....
Two little bear cubs went out to play....
One little bear cub went out to play....
But then the daddy bear said, roar, roar, roar
And 5 little bear cubs came crawling right back!!!!

Who Stole the Buttons?

- A version of "who stole the cookies from the cookie jar....?"

(Insert Name) stole the buttons
from the button jar?

Who me? Yes, you. Couldn't be.
Then who?.....

- Continue through all kids in the program.



DRAMATIC PLAY IDEAS

Toy Store

- Use your storytime book to develop a theme for an area of the youth services section at the library.
- Props Needed:
 - Cash register; cash; sale signs; shopping basket; toys with price tags on them
 - Put out pieces from the book in the toy store; teddy bears; corduroy fabric; buttons (jumbo); etc.



SENSORY IDEAS

- Put out different materials for children to touch and feel: corduroy fabric, fake fur, different kinds of stuffing material, such as foam rubber, polyester, etc.
- Use the water table/sand table and put out bear counters or jumbo sized buttons. Add some scoops and fishnets.
- This makes a great math activity. The children can pattern, sort, count, etc. with the bears and/or buttons.

DISPLAY IDEAS

- **Teddy graham or buttons estimating jar.**
 - Set up a jar with teddy grahams/buttons and have the children guess how many are in the jar.
 - Small prize for the child closest (free book; pencil; bookmark; etc)
- **Bear Sorting**
 - Print out pictures of bears (real and stuffed) and laminate them. Put a piece of velcro/felt on the back.
 - Put the pictures out on the display table with a sign explaining what to do/ how to accomplish the task.
 - Have the children sort the bears by real/stuffed; color; size, etc.
- *An easy way to put out display items for children to use:*
 - Put out a portable feltboard on a table in the youth services room. The children can then do the activities from that feltboard on the table.



CREATIVE IDEAS

○ Lacing Bears

- Fine motor development
 - Give the children a picture of Corduroy from the book (enlarged and laminated)
 - Have the children hole punch holes around the outside of the bear.
 - Give them a piece of string and they have their own lacing board.

○ Library Quilt

- Put out paper and collage materials.
- Have the children create their own collage.
- Create a quilt with all the finished collage pieces and display in the library.
- This can be done for an arts & crafts activity after the storytime program; or a special summer program; or if you have an area that allows, this could be something that is left out for the children to explore on their own while they visit the library.

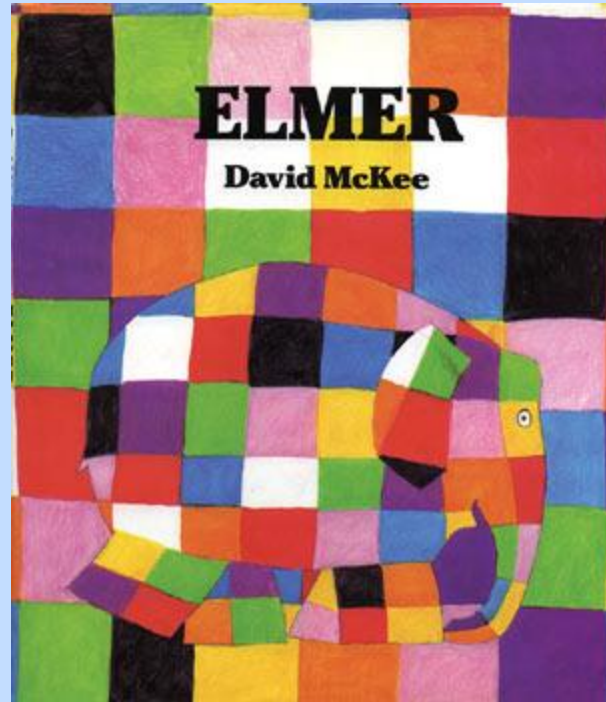


RELATED BOOKS

- We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin and Eric Carle
- Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear? by Bill Martin and Eric Carle
- A Pocket for Corduroy by Don Freeman
- You could also use this books for the bear themed ideas in your storytimes.



ELMER



Elmer the elephant is a bright-colored character with a great sense of humor who kept all the other elephants laughing. However, Elmer feels that they're laughing at him, so he decides to blend in with the other elephants. When he rejoins the group as a gray elephant, there is no laughter or fun until Elmer brings back his humor and unique colors.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

One Elephant

One elephant went out to play,
Upon a spider's web one day.
He had such enormous fun,
That he called for another elephant
to come!

Two elephants went out to play....

- This is a great song to use with the children during a program. Have each child act as if an elephant moving about the circle.
- Have the child call out the name of the next person to join the circle.

If You're Wearing Red....

- *Sung to: "If you're happy and you know it"*

If you are wearing red, Shake your head,
If you are wearing red, Shake your head,
If you are wearing red,
Then please shake your head.
If you are wearing red, shake your head.

Others: Blue, touch your shoe
Black, pat your back
Green, bow like a queen
Yellow, Shake like Jell-O
Brown, Turn around
Pink, give us a wink.

Talk about how we all wear different colors.

- Create a graph of favorite colors.



DANCING RAINBOW

- Create your own streamers with different colors of crepe paper streamers. Attach a long strip of different colored crepe paper (in variety of colors) to empty toilet paper rolls or paper plates with tape.
- Put on some music and have the children dance with their streamer. Make the streamers go up, down, over, around, under, left, right, etc.



DISPLAY IDEAS

Elephant Counting

- Make a circus ring and several elephant cut outs.
- Place the items on the wall/feltboard and have the children count the elephants outside the ring.
- Put elephants in the ring and have children count the number of elephants in the ring.
- Make an addition/subtraction game.
- Sort the elephants by size, color, etc.

Color Match

- Cut out large circles of the primary colors. Then cut out smaller circles of all different colors. Let the children match the colors and match which colors make up the smaller dots (ex. Put a green dot in either blue or yellow)



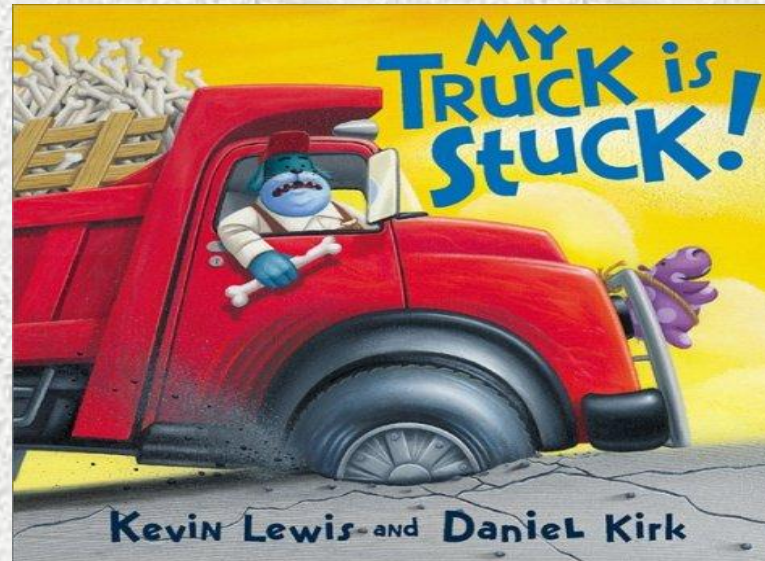
RELATED BOOKS

- The Story of Babar, The Little Elephant by Jean de Brunhoff
- Elmer and Wilber by David McKee
- A Color of His Own by Leo Lionni
- Horton Hears A Who by Dr. Seuss

- These books have similar themes such as elephants and colors



MY TRUCK IS STUCK



The story of two canines whose truck gets stuck while driving. Each time a new car comes by the canines yell - "Help! Please help! Does anyone know how to make my stuck truck go?"

- Great repetition for children as well as some counting elements as new cars come by to help.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Drive, Drive, Drive

Sung to: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"

Drive, drive, drive your truck,
All around the town.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Up the hills and down.

Turn, turn, turn the key,
Make the engine roar,
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Let's go to the store.

Press, press, press the pedal,
Give the engine gas,
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Now we're going fast.

Turn, turn, turn the wheel,
That is how we steer.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Make a turn right here.

Push, push, push the brake,
Make the truck slow down.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Now we are in town.

Bean Bag Fun

- If you already have a beanbag board, tape numbers next to the holes in the board.
- You can also create your own beanbag board by using an old cardboard box. Cut holes in to the box and number the holes.
- Have the children call out the number they are aiming for when throwing the beanbag. Then have them call out the number they actually hit 😊



POTATOES

- Description: Have children in your circle on their feet, get a beat going with a clap and a stomp & say "Get your potatoes up! And let's count!" Hold up fists (potatoes) to count with fingers up as indicated:

One potato, two potato, three potato, four!
Well, I made a batch of hot potatoes
(bend forward and stir as in a big pot)
Dropped 'em on the floor!!
(look shocked, and put hands on face in surprise)

Five potato, six potato, seven potato, eight!
So I stomped 'em into mashed potatoes
(stomp feet while walking forward a few steps and then back)
And plopped 'em on a plate
(hands out like plopping potatoes on a plate!)

Nine potato, ten potato, can't believe my eyes!
(cover and uncover eyes in surprise)
The children ate 'em up and now they want some French fries!!!
(Say to children "how many?" and march with swinging arms and stomping feet while counting...)
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 fries!

(jump up and reach over head to sky on 10)
"Again??"

Do the count again, faster and a third time even faster then plop back down to sitting after the last 10.

- This is so aerobic and the children love the notion of making mashed potatoes by stomping. Also intriguing to them is the faster and faster counting to ten.
- This idea taken from www.preschoolrainbow.com



MORE MUSIC

Trucks

- Laurie Berkner's CD Victor Vito has a great Truck song to use during storytime programs.

Fingerplays

Counting fingerplays such as:

- 5 Green and Speckled Frogs
- 5 Little Monkeys swinging in a tree
- 5 Little Ducks went out to play



DRAMATIC PLAY IDEAS

- Create a car shop in the library.
 - Use old large cardboard boxes to make cars for the children to use.
 - Put out items to prompt their play
 - Pretend gas station
 - Cash register
 - Tools



CREATIVE IDEAS

- Put out crayons and license plates and let the children do crayon rubbings on the license plates.
 - Use small child-size license plates
- Put out a muffin tin with large counters. Put out directions for the children to add, subtract, etc. with the counters.
- Create your own rhyming cards with pictures of items from the book. Put the cards out and have the children match the rhyming words.

