Welcome to the Read to Me First Book program!

Your child has received a free book today as a part of the Idaho Commission for Libraries and your local library’s Read to Me First Book program. Your child will receive a book each month as part of the program. Your library also has some fun activities planned for parents and for families. You will be hearing more about these later in the year.

We hope you will take time to visit your library and meet the wonderful people who work there. The library has many great resources for families, and staff can find the perfect book for your child’s age and interests. We hope you enjoy reading these books and sharing special time together.

Reading Tips for Parents

- Choose a quiet spot for you and your child.
- Keep books and other reading materials where your child can reach them.
- Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- Show your child how you read every day for fun and work.
- Talk about the books you are reading with your child. Help him or her make connections to what they are reading.

Book of the Month

Corduroy, written and illustrated by Don Freeman

Poor Corduroy! No one will buy him because his overalls are missing a button. So late one night the teddy bear leaves his shelf and explores the department store in search of his button. He has many adventures before the night watchman discovers him and returns him to his shelf. The next morning is his lucky day! A little girl named Lisa buys him with money she saved in her piggy bank. Lisa looks past Corduroy’s missing button and sees a friend to love.

If your child enjoyed this classic story, check out other books written by Don Freeman:

A Pocket for Corduroy  
Fly High, Fly Low

Enjoy more adventures of Mr. Freeman’s Corduroy in these modern books, written by B.G. Hennessy:

Corduroy Goes to the Library  
Corduroy Goes to the Beach  
Corduroy’s Sleepover  
Corduroy at the Zoo
More fun with Corduroy...

**Around the house...** Corduroy is a common fabric and comes in many different colors and thickness. Have your child help you find examples of this fabric in your home.

**Math connection...** Sorting a collection of buttons is an excellent way to begin looking at how objects are “alike” and “different.” Choose a button from your collection. Ask your child, “Can you find a button that is the same (size, color, shape, number of holes, etc.) as mine?”

**Talk about it...** Here are some questions you could ask your child after reading the story:

Q: Why didn’t anyone want to buy Corduroy?
Q: How did Corduroy feel at the beginning of the story?
Q: Why did Lisa want to buy Corduroy?
Q: How did Corduroy feel at the end of the story?

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**Poem**

“Night Bear”

In the dark of the night
When all is still
And I’m half sleeping in my bed;
It’s good to know
my Teddy Bear
is snuggling at my head.

by Lee Bennett Hopkins

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**Action Rhyme**

*(Make up actions to go with the words)*

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, shut the door.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, count to four.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, reach up high.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, wink one eye.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, put away your shoes.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, that will do.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your nose.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your toes.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, climb in bed.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, rest your head.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, turn out the light.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, say, “Goodnight.”

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**What your library can do for you...**

“Early literacy” is what children learn about reading and writing before they learn to read and write. Children learn these skills before they start school. Check with your librarian to find out what resources are available to parents to help promote early literacy.

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