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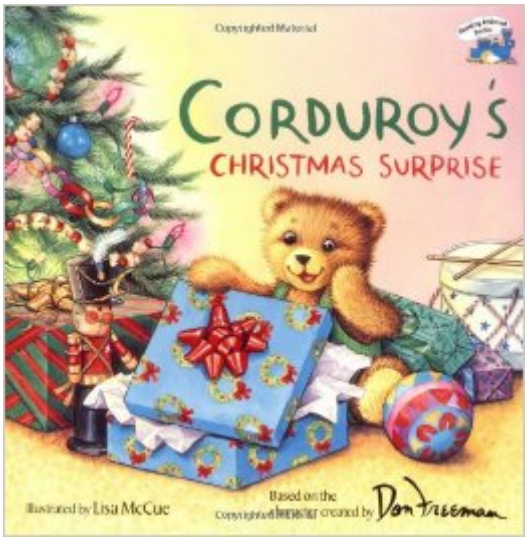
Corduroy's Christmas Surprise



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Synopsis

Christmas is coming, and Corduroy has a list of gifts he'd like from Santa-until he discovers the true meaning of Christmas is not about train sets and ice skates, but about good friends. Celebrate the season with Corduroy in this Christmas story that is sure to be a holiday read-aloud favorite.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 420 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Grosset & Dunlap (September 25, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0448421917

ISBN-13: 978-0448421919

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (53 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #13,083 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Christmas #101 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bears #362 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

I got this book to read to my daughter around Christmas time and she likes it so much we end up reading it way beyond Christmas! Corduroy starts thinking about things he wants for Christmas from Santa, but then thinks that if he asks for all these things for himself, then his close friends might not get things that they want. So instead of thinking of himself, he tells Santa what to bring each of his friends instead and he feels such joy watching his friends open their gifts. I love the message behind the story and the great moral it teaches: being unselfish and thinking of others instead, which in our society that has become so self-centered, is rare. I love the illustrations as well - they are so bright, colorful, and detailed.Only giving this four stars, because it's a big departure from the original Corduroy stories, as his human friend isn't mentioned at all. Just Corduroy and his animal friends. Corduroy also looks very different from the original. But overall, it's a sweet Christmas story with a great message and one that we love to read all year.

This is a very sweet book that is definitely worth adding to your Christmas book collection. My 2 1/2 year old loves it. The illustrations are fun and the story has a terrific moral - Corduroy changes his laundry list letter to Santa to focus on the more modest needs of his best friends.

It’s April now and we are still reading this book. My toddler can’t get enough. He loves it so much. We definitely do less of the "Santa" thing in our house, and while this book is more based on Santa and the fun stuff you do at Christmas, it also focuses on giving to your friends over yourself. People seem upset this book doesn’t preach the True Meaning of Christmas, but it doesn’t claim to. It’s a sweet book about friends and fun at Christmastime with beautiful pictures and a fun story. If you want a more religious Christmas book, try God Gave us Christmas by Lisa Tawn Bergren. I cried reading that one to my boy!

This struck me as "Corduroy for the 21st century". I love the original Corduroy books, and this one just has none of the feel of those, either in terms of narrative or in terms of illustration. Corduroy and his 4 silly animal friends do not interract with humans, but exist in some blissful upper middle class suburbia and participate only in gift giving as the meaning of the holiday. True, the bear we love does show his true self in the moment when he changes his Santa letter to ask only for gifts to his friends, but this is the only soft moment in an otherwise overly modern disney-like book. The sewn-on pocket Corduroy is replaced with a shallow pajama wearing pretender. I want my stoic old friend back...

My 3 year old daughter absolutely loves this book. She likes the original Corduroy story too, but I think this one is even better than the original because this one teaches a story about not only thinking about yourself, but thinking about others. Corduoy wants all these things from Santa but then he realizes if he asks for all those things, then his friends might not get everything they want so then he revises his letter to Santa to ask for things for his friends and lessens the amount of things that he asks for for himself. It’s a nice lesson and story! Super cute!

I was expecting a story with the spirit of earlier Corduroy books, built around the sweet relationship between a girl and her bear. In this book, Corduroy has become just another talking animal, cavorting with his talking-animal friends. Lisa is not even mentioned. I started to read it to my 2 1/2 year old grandsons (yes, twins), but couldn’t finish it. My son and DIL were disappointed too. We

didn’t want to inflict it on another child, so we threw it out. The boys were very happy with the Corduroy toy bear I packaged with the book.

My son loves this book - has loved it at ages 2 and 3. We wrap up the Christmas books every year and open one per night leading up to Christmas; he remembered this one from last year and couldn’t wait until he opened the one with it. Cute story. Just bought it for his cousins.

Super cute book we ordered for my daughter’s book exchange at her Christmas party at school. The little girl who got it loved it, and my daughter wanted one too! Sweet story, and would definitely recommend!

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