

Book: Frog and Toad are Friends: A Lost Button

Author: Arnold Lobel

Publisher: Harper Collins

- ◆ Articulation
- ◆ Comprehension Questions
- ◆ Feeling Questions
- ◆ Antonyms
- ◆ Vocabulary
- ◆ Sequencing
- ◆ Speech Activities
- ◆ Language Activities
- ◆ Crafts

Articulation targets:

S	R	L	TH	SH	Medial Consonants	
Across	Frog	Heard	Long	Thick	Shouted	Walked
At Last	Large	Square	Large	Thin	Shelf	Jacket
House	River	Round	At Last	Thought		Meadow
Lost	Drat	Very	Lost			River
Places	Worry	Angry	Tall			Began
Tall	Here	Screamed	Grass			Pocket
Grass	Four	Covered	Black			Looked
Sparrow	Dark	Door	Flew			Raccoon
Small	Sparrow	Floor	Lose			Covered
Just	Raccoon	Trouble	Holes			Beautiful
Square	Tree	world	Looked			Jumped
Screamed			Wailed			
Slammed			Slammed			
Sewing			Trouble			
Box			Fell			
Next			Well			
			World			

Note: When reading the story, I like to have on hand a set of buttons that match the qualities of the buttons found in the story. As the story goes on, let the students hold the buttons and explain how we know they aren't Toad's buttons.

Language Questions

See p16 *A Guide for Using Frog and Toad are Friends in the Classroom Teacher Created Materials, Inc. 2000.* – (Great resource – very thorough for this and other Frog and Toad stories)

Feelings

- How did Toad feel at the beginning of the story when they were walking?
- How did Toad feel after the walk?
- How did Toad feel when he realized he was missing a button?
- How did Toad feel when he kept finding the wrong buttons?
- How did Toad feel when he found the right button?
- How did Frog feel when Toad gave him the jacket?

Antonyms in the story

- Black/white
- Thick/thin
- Round/square
- Big/little

Vocabulary

button
lost
jacket
holes
pocket
found

wailed
frustrated/frustration
meadow
drat
sparrow

Sequencing

(Copy pictures from the story and put on cards for students to re-order.)

1. Toad and Frog went for a walk.
2. Toad and Frog went back to Toad's house.
3. Toad noticed he was missing a button.
4. Toad and Frog went back to look for the button.
5. A sparrow finds a button.
6. A raccoon finds a button.
7. Toad gets angry and goes back home.
8. Toad finds his button at his house.
9. Toad sews the button back on his jacket.
10. Toad is happy.

Speech Activities

- **Speech homework** - p53 of *168 Seasonal and Holiday Open-Ended Artic Worksheets* by Super Duper
- **Button crafts**- see below
- **Button Go Fish Game** - see below

Language Activities

- **Description/attributes: Button “Go Fish” - GREAT GAME!! -**
 - Put together a collection of pairs of miscellaneous buttons – the more varied, the better. Try craft stores for “mixed bags” of colorful buttons of many sizes, shapes, and colors.
 - Set up dividers between students and pass out 5-7 buttons to each student. Make sure students can’t see each others’ buttons. Put the rest in a small bag where students can “Go Fish” without looking in.
 - Have students play Go Fish, only looking for button matches. They must describe buttons in great detail to ensure a proper match. I use picture prompts to make sure they address at least three attributes among shape, size, color, thickness, number of holes, and design, if any. (“Do you have a button that is small, round, thin and white with two holes? Do you have a button that is large, square, thick, pink, and has four holes? Do you have a medium-sized silver metal, round, button with a picture of an anchor on it?” etc). It’s fun to see kids “think” they have a match, only to realize once they see it that they weren’t descriptive enough. :o) THEY LOVE THIS!!!
- **Description** “This is My Button!” worksheet from *Literature Notes for Frog and Toad are Friends* from Frank Schaffer Publications
- **Quantitative Concepts** – “Counting Buttons” Activity – see worksheet below
- **Reasoning** “Button, Button, Who Has My Button?” from p25 of *A Guide for Using Frog and Toad are Friends in the Classroom* by Teacher Created Materials (TCM 2640)

Crafts

- Draw “holes” on mixed foam shapes and glue on outline of a jacket (see below)
- Sew real buttons on a piece of burlap with a large, blunt needle and yarn

Other Resources for Button-related lessons

- *Literature Notes for Frog and Toad are Friends* from Frank Schaffer Publications
- *A Guide for Using Frog and Toad are Friends in the Classroom* by Teacher Created Materials (TCM 2640)
- Lesson Exchange: Button Unit (Elementary, Mathematics) at <http://teachers.net/lessons/posts/1262.html>
- PBS Mathline – Button, Button – can be downloaded in pdf Format from http://www.pbs.org/teachersource/mathline/lessonplans/esmp/button/butt_on_procedure.shtm



Counting Buttons



Name: _____

Your teacher will give you some buttons. Write “me” under the number of buttons you have. Write the names of your classmates under the number of buttons they have. Then answer the questions.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Who has more buttons than you? _____

Who has fewer buttons than you? _____

Who has a number of buttons equal to yours? _____

Who has the most buttons? _____

Who has the fewest buttons? _____
