TIP:
You can talk about how Corduroy might be feeling in different parts of the story. For example, you can say:

• “How do you think Corduroy felt when the mother and daughter walked away from him?”

• “How do you think Corduroy felt when he found himself on stairs that moved?”

SKILL:
Perspective Taking is promoted by talking about the feelings and thoughts of others. This back and forth interaction you and your child have is what researchers call “Take-Turns Talk.” Like a game of ball, one of you says or does something and the other responds. The importance of these everyday interactions to brain-building is a key finding from child development research.

TIP:
You can role play with your child:

• “Let’s pretend you are the child who wanted to buy Corduroy, but whose mother said, ‘I’ve spent too much already.’” Or, “Let’s pretend you are the guard who hears a strange noise. What do you suppose they were thinking and feeling? What did they do in the story? What else might they have done?”

SKILL:
You can enhance your child’s understanding of others’ thoughts and feelings by pretending to be that person. When your child pretends, he or she has to put his or her own feelings aside, which calls on Executive Function skills.