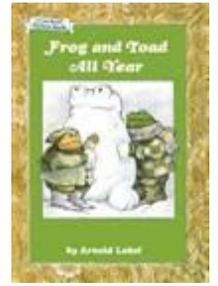


Frog and Toad All Year by Arnold Lobel



The Corner

Frog and Toad were *caught* in the rain. They ran to Frog's house.

"I am all wet," said Toad. "The day is spoiled."

"Have some tea and cake," said Frog. "The rain will stop. If you stand *near* the stove, your clothes will soon be dry.

I will tell you a story while we are waiting," said Frog.

"Oh good," said Toad.

"When I was small, not much bigger than a pollywog," said Frog, "my father said to me, '*Son*, this is a *cold*, gray day but spring is just around the corner.'

I wanted spring to come. I went out to find that corner. I walked down a path in the woods until I came to a corner. I went around the corner to see if spring was on the other side."

"And was it?" asked Toad.

"No," said Frog. "There was only a pine tree, three pebbles and some dry grass.

I walked in the meadow. Soon I came to another corner. I went around the corner to see if spring was there."

"Did you find it?" asked Toad.

"No," said Frog. "There was only an old worm asleep on a tree stump."

"I walked along the river until I came to another corner. I went around the corner to look for spring."

"Was it there?" asked Toad.

"No," said Frog. "There was only some wet mud and a lizard who was chasing his tail."

"You must have been tired," said Toad.

"I was tired," said Frog, "and it started to rain."

"I went back home. When I got there," said Frog, "I found another corner. It was the corner of my house."

"Did you go around it?" asked Toad.

"I went around that corner, too," said Frog.

"What did you see?" asked Toad.

"I saw the sun coming out," said Frog. "I saw birds sitting and singing in a tree. I saw my mother and father working in their garden. I saw flowers in the garden."

"You found it!" cried Toad.

"Yes," said Frog. "I was very happy. I had found the corner that spring was just around."

"Look, Frog," said Toad. "You were right. The rain has stopped." Frog and Toad *hurried* outside.

They ran around the corner of Frog's house to make *sure* that spring had come again.

| Phonics Skill | Comprehension Skill | High-Frequency Words |
|---|---------------------|--|
| Long Vowel /ā/ ai, ay | Cause/Effect | caught, cold, hurried, near, son, sure |
| Genre: Fiction | | |
| Sometimes in fiction there is a "story within a story." Look for the parts of the story that are happening in the story present (or now) and the story that one character tells about the past. | | |

Think About

1. What does Frog do to find spring?
2. What signs of spring does Frog find?
3. How does Frog's story help Toad feel better?
4. Tell about a time when a friend did something that made you feel better.
5. What did you like most about this story? Tell why.