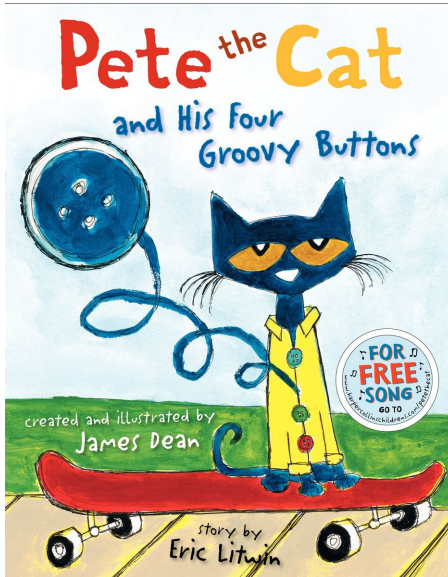




PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's exploration during this literacy activity. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.



Did you know reading books is a great opportunity to support STEM learning?

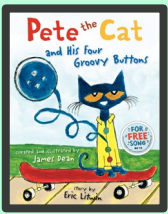
Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons is a book written by Eric Litwin and illustrated by James Dean.

In this book, Pete the Cat **sings** about his shirt and **counts** his four groovy buttons. When some fall off, Pete has to **subtract and count** again! Can you help Pete count his changing number of buttons?

- If you do not have a paper copy of this book, watch a YouTube video of someone reading the book. If you prefer to read it to your child yourself, just mute the audio.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBYjt3uipq0>

- Check your local library to see if it allows you to borrow a digital version of this book to read on a laptop, tablet, or phone.
- Or find it online:
<https://archive.org/details/petecathisfourgr0000litw/page/n1/mode/2up>



PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS

BOOKMARK

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

- Print this page and cut around the edges.
- Do not forget to **PEER!** Use **additional Prompts** if needed, **Evaluate** and **Expand** your child's answers, and **Repeat** the prompts.
- Look at STEMIE's tips for making adaptations to the storybook reading process and on the following pages:
<https://stemie.fpg.unc.edu/guide-book-adaptations>
- If you print this page, you can download or view online by scanning the QR code below.



Expanding | Math

Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons

By Eric Litwin

C

Complete a sentence

"My buttons, my buttons, my four groovy _____." (buttons)

R

Recall

"How many buttons did Pete start with?"

O

Open-ended questions

"What should Pete do about losing his buttons?"

W

WH questions

"What shape are the buttons?" (circle)

D

Distancing questions

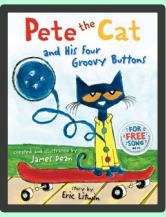
"How would you know you had a button missing on your shirt?"

STEM Words & Ideas to Explore

- Counting
- Numbers
- Shapes



stemie.fpg.unc.edu



PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT/DEAF-BLINDNESS/MULTIPLE DISABILITIES:

STORYBOX

Select corresponding items and place them in a container/box. Items may include:

- A shirt
- Buttons
- Braille number blocks
- Toy cat



Image credit: Pixabay

This adaptation can also...

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children with sensory challenges



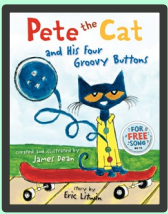
Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.



PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF COMMUNICATION:

PICTURES, SYMBOLS, SIGNS, AND/OR ICONS

- Select pictures that correspond to items/objects/animals in the book
- Add signs and icons to the story
- Use pictures along with a communication board to support STEM learning

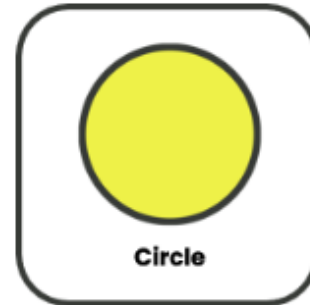
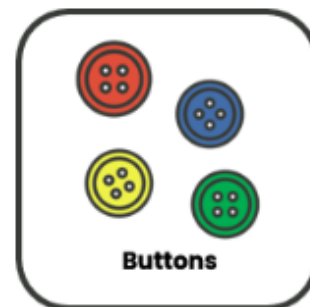


Image Credit: STEMIE

This adaptation can also...

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children' learning
- Support children who are deaf/with hearing impairment



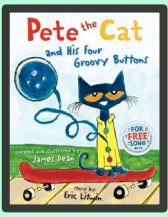
Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.



PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

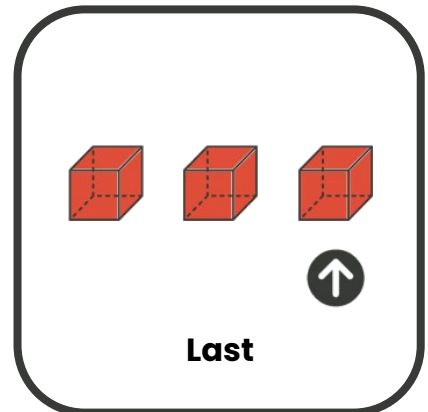
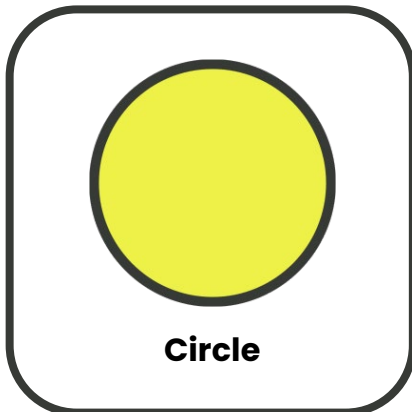
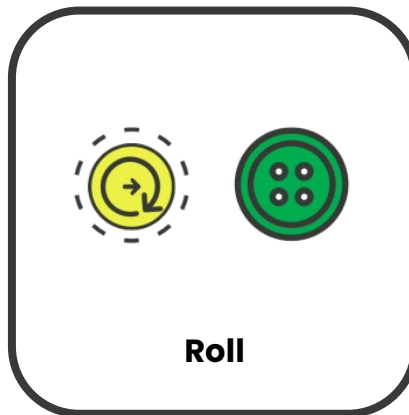
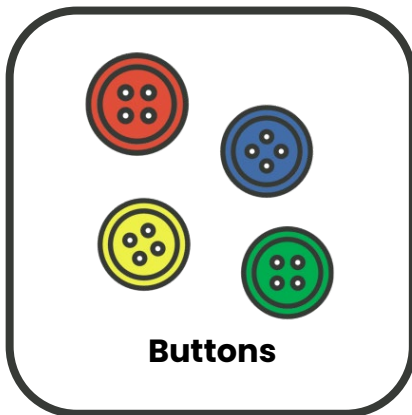
Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

VISUAL CUES:
USE TO PROMPT

HOW TO:

Step 1: Print and cut out the images. You can also create your own visual cues (empty squares included).

Step 2: As you read, use tape or Velcro to attach the pictures to the corresponding pages in the book.



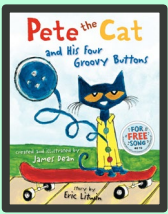
Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



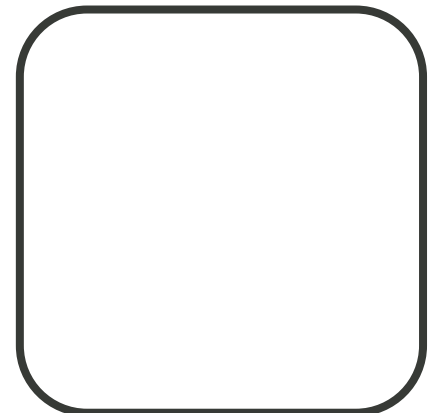
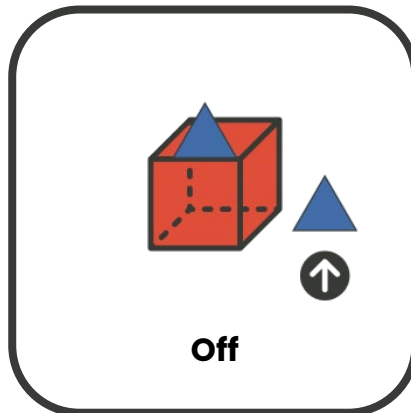
Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.



PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.



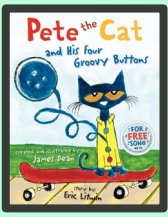
Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.



PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS

EXPLORATION I

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

Button Counter

Description: Help your child learn to **count** during daily routines, such as getting dressed.

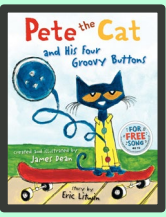
What My Child Is Learning!

Children are naturally curious about their environment. Help children make a connection between the **numbers and counting**. Help your child make a connection between words and real-life experiences and develop fundamental critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as math skills.

Getting dressed and undressed can be a simple time to practice number operations like **subtraction**. Give your child the lead to **count!**

- Ask, "**How many** buttons do you notice on your shirt? On my shirt?" Encourage your child **count the number** of buttons on each shirt.
- "You have **six** buttons on your sweater. If you **undo one**, **how many are left?**"
- If children count the buttons accurately, ask "So, **how many all together?**"
- Support children in understanding the principal of **cardinality** by gesturing to all the buttons together.
- If children need support **counting one by one**, point to each button as children count, correcting as needed.





PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS

EXPLORATION II

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

Shape Observer

Description: Help your child **notice shapes**. Provide household items of different shapes on the floor or table for your child to explore. Allow your child to explore those items in their own way and using different senses. Narrate the actions and experiences as they explore the items. You may say, "What **shape** are you holding?"

What My Child Is Learning!

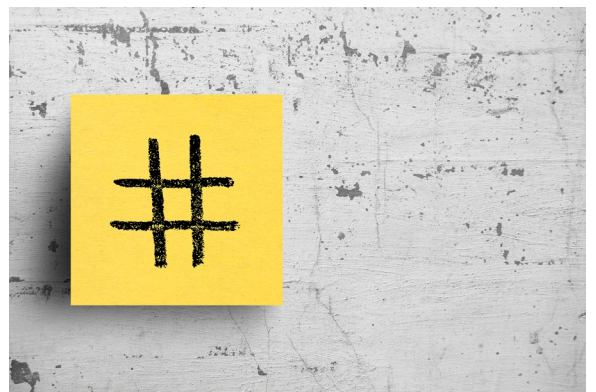
Children learn best by interacting with people and objects. Introduce STEM words, ask questions, and encourage them to recognize shapes in their daily routines. Help your child make a connection between words and real-life experiences and develop fundamental critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as math skills.

Play a game of *I-Spy* with your child, adding in a rule to say the shape of the object you 'spy'. Go first, so your child has a model of how to incorporate shapes into the game. Begin with simpler shapes then increase the difficulty, just like the author did in the book! Say,

- "I spy, with my little eye, a **big circle**." (clock)
- "Wow, I like how you told me the **shape of the object is a square**. A **square** has **4 sides** that are all the **same length**."

Encourage children to search for and name shapes in their environment. Try asking:

- "What objects are shaped like a **circle**?"
- "What can you find in your room that is shaped like a **triangle**?"
- "How many **squares** can you find?"



PETE THE CAT AND HIS FOUR GROOVY BUTTONS



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY IDEAS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this daily routine. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.

- Try counting body parts and clothing with children as they get ready in the morning. **"Count your pockets!"** Ask: **"Who has more, me or you?"** While brushing their teeth, your child can **count** how many teeth they have. Look in the mirror for extra help! When putting on shoes, ask, **"How many times do your shoelaces cross before being tied?"**
- Snack-time is also a great opportunity for practicing number operations, like addition and subtraction, and is already a part of a child's daily routine! Ask questions like: **"I am giving you five crackers to start....I see you ate two crackers. How many do you have left?"** **"How many more apple slices do you need to need to have five on your plate?"**
- While out and about, ask your child about **shapes** they see. For example, if you're in the car, talk about wheels on the car, other cars, bikes, skateboards, etc. You can explore with your child why they are the **shape** they are and **what might happen** if they were a **different shape**.
- Having your child help set the table is a great opportunity to explore **numbers and shapes**. You can encourage your child to plan for a family meal - **how many** plates? Cups? Napkins? Point out to your child how you do the **same thing over and over again** while setting the table - until everyone has their stuff. You can also explore the **shapes** at meal time, including the unique shapes of forks and spoons. Encourage your child to think about why they might be those **shapes**.

