

The Tailor

Tips for Telling

This quiet story can be used to bring down the energy level of the Beavers. It won't take long for them to catch on to the refrain and join in when you repeat the lines, "He wore it, and he wore it, and he wore it ...". Don't be surprised if they also pick on, "At least it seemed to be worn out." I've considered using a flannel board with this story.

The Story

In a little village there once lived a poor tailor. He had made overcoats for many people, but he had never made one for himself, though an overcoat was the one thing he wanted most. He never seemed to have enough money to buy material and set it aside for himself, without first making something to sell. But he saved and saved, bit by bit, and at last had saved enough.

He bought the cloth and cut it carefully, so as not to waste any. He sewed up the coat, and it fit him perfectly. He was proud of that coat. *And he wore it, and he wore it, and he wore it, until at last it was all worn out.*

At least it seemed to be worn out. But when he looked more closely, he could see that there was still just enough good material left to make — a jacket. So he cut up the coat, and he made a jacket. It fit just as well as the coat, and he could wear it even more often. *And he wore it, and he wore it, and he wore it, until at last it was all worn out.*

At least it seemed to be worn out. But when he looked more closely, he could see that there was still just enough good material left to make — a vest. So he cut up the jacket and sewed a vest. He tried it on, and he look most distinguished in that vest. He wore it every single day, and people admired it. *And he wore it, and he wore it, and he wore it, until at last it was all worn out.*

At least it seemed to be worn out. But when he looked more closely, he could see that there was still just enough good material left to make — a cap. So he cut up the vest, sewed up the good pieces, and made a cap. He tried it on, and it looked just right. Here wore it outdoors and it kept his head warm. And he wore it inside too. *And he wore it, and he wore it, and he wore it, until at last it was all worn out.*

At least it seemed to be worn out. But when he looked more closely, he could see that there was still just enough good material left to make — a button. So he cut up the cap and made a button. It was a good button; a handsome and sturdy button. He wore it every day. *And he wore it, and he wore it, and he wore it, until at last it was all worn out.*

At least it seemed to be worn out. But when he looked more closely, he could see that there was still just enough good material left to make — a story. So he made a story out of the button and I just told it to you.