



Reading in Reception - Wordless Books

Wordless picture books are told entirely through their pictures. They are books without words, or sometimes just a few words.

Sharing wordless books with a child provides an opportunity to talk and have a conversation.

Each "reader" listens and speaks, and creates their own story in their own words.

Sharing wordless books also reinforces the idea that, in many books, the story and the pictures are connected.

Below are a few tips for sharing wordless picture books with your child:

- ❖ Recognise that there are no "right" or "wrong" ways to read a wordless book. One of the wonderful benefits of wordless books is how each child creates their own story.
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- ❖ Look at the cover and talk about the title. Make a few predictions about the story.
- ❖ Take a "picture walk" through the pages of the book. Enjoy the pictures. Look carefully at the characters and the setting. Talk to each other about what you see.
- ❖ Enjoy the pictures and point out a few things, but don't worry too much about telling a story yet. Just enjoy the pictures and get a sense of what the book is about.
- ❖ Go back through the book a second time and get ready for some great storytelling! You could tell the story first. Put on different voices for the characters.
- ❖ Encourage your child to "read" the book to you. Help your child to improve their story. One way to encourage more details is by asking "W" questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why?

Sharing wordless books is a terrific way to build important literacy skills, including listening skills, vocabulary, comprehension and an increased awareness of how stories are built with a beginning, middle and end. Have fun! Please add a short comment in your child's reading comment book to let us know that you have shared this book with your child.