

A GUIDE TO SHARING WORDLESS PICTURE BOOKS WITH YOUNG READERS

With wordless picture books, readers take an active part in bringing each story to life by combining the visual storytelling techniques and clues provided by the artist with their own words. This format allows readers to find clues, make discoveries, fill in gaps in information, and revise ideas.

Share these activities with your young readers to help them discover the joys of inspiring, playful, and engaging wordless picture books.

1

Predict what the book is about. Examine the paper cover (front and back), the cover flaps, and the title page. Take off the cover and look at the illustrations underneath. What information can you find? Jot down what you see. Based on this information, what do you think the book is about? Make a prediction. When you finish reading the book, see if you were correct.

2

Examine the pictures on each page. Then, with your classmates or a partner, tell the story in your own words.

3

After telling the story, discuss the following story elements: character, setting, plot, and big idea.

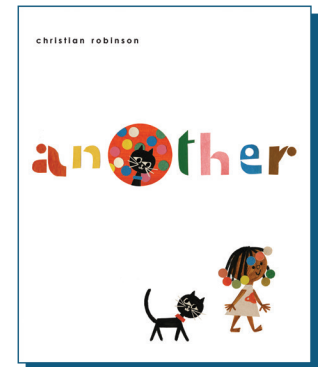
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Think about how you came up with your storyline. What clues did you find in the pictures to support your ideas?

5

Describe your experience reading a wordless picture book. Comment on your experiences doing the following:

- Telling the story in your own words
- Looking at the pictures in the book
- Finding clues in pictures that helped you tell the story
- Adding your own thoughts to the story
- Asking questions about the story



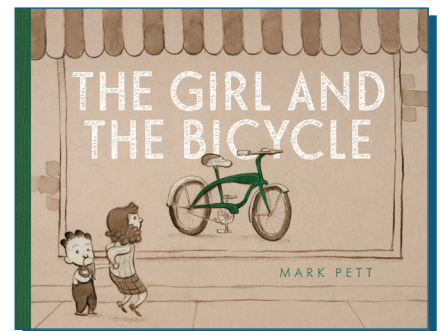
Another

Written/illustrated by Christian Robinson
HC: 9781534421677



The Boy and the Airplane

Written/illustrated by Mark Pett
HC: 9781442451230



The Girl and the Bicycle

Written/illustrated by Mark Pett
HC: 9781442483194

6

Why do you think the author chose to write a wordless book? Why do you think the story might change depending on who is reading it?

7

If there's an Author's Note included at the end of your book, discuss what the author tells you about. Why do you think the author included this information at the end of the book? If you go back and retell the story, do you notice any additional details or add in different plot points based on what you learned in the Author's Note?

8

Draw your own wordless story. What surprised you most as you were creating? What was the most challenging part? What was the most exciting?

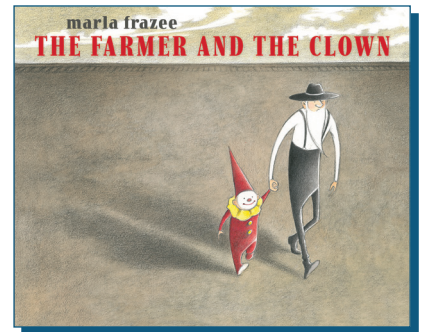
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Continue the story that takes place in this wordless picture book. What do you think happens next? Try writing and illustrating a few scenes.

10

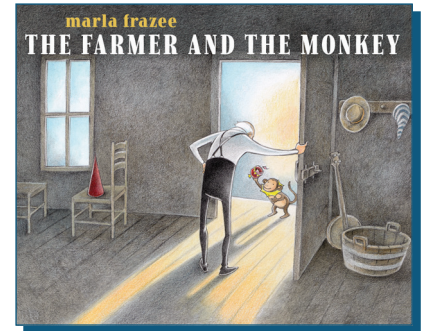
Read other wordless picture books; see below for a list of suggestions, or try one of the other picture books featured in this guide. Then compare and contrast the books you've read. How are they similar? How are they different? Explain what you notice.

- *Changes, Changes* by Pat Hutchins
- *Good Dog, Carl* by Alexandra Day
- *The Grey Lady and the Strawberry Snatcher* by Molly Bang
- *Look What I Can Do* by José Aruego
- *Once Upon a Banana* by Jennifer Armstrong, Illustrated by David Small
- *Owly & Wormy, Bright Lights and Starry Nights* by Andy Runton
- *Owly & Wormy, Friends All Aflutter!* by Andy Runton
- *Boom Boom* by Sarvinder Naberhaus, Illustrated by Margaret Chodos-Irvine
- *Delivery* by Aaron Meshon
- *Found* by Jeff Newman, Illustrated by Larry Day



The Farmer and the Clown

Written/illustrated by Marla Frazee
HC: 9781442497443



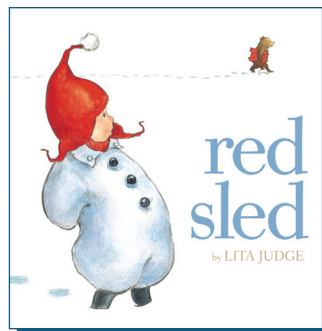
The Farmer and the Monkey

Written/illustrated by Marla Frazee
HC: 9781534446199



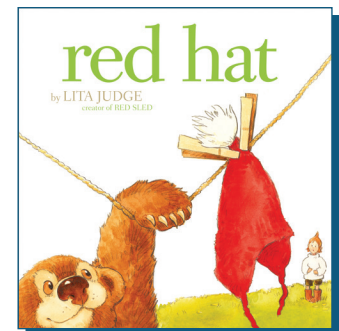
The Boys

Written/illustrated by Jeff Newman
HC: 9781416950127



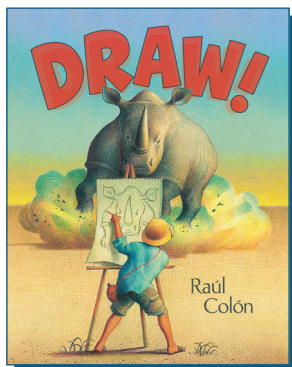
Red Sled

Written/illustrated by Lita Judge
HC: 9781442420076



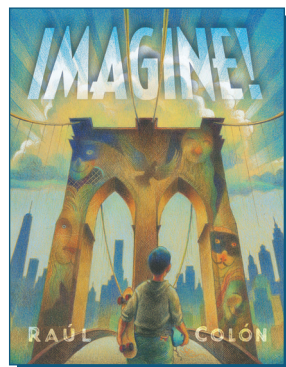
Red Hat

Written/illustrated by Lita Judge
HC: 9781442442320



Draw!

Written/illustrated by Raúl Colón
HC: 9781442494923



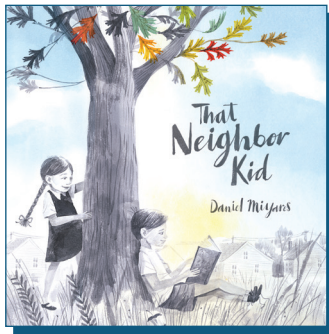
Imagine!

Written/illustrated by Raúl Colón
HC: 9781481462730



Beehive

Written/illustrated by Jorey Hurley
HC: 9781481470032



That Neighbor Kid

Written/illustrated by Daniel Miyares
HC: 9781481449793



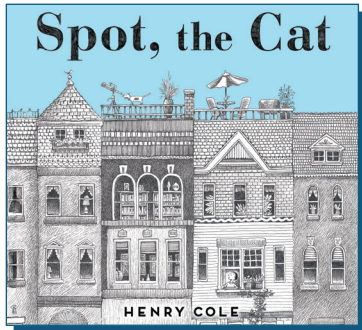
Float

Written/illustrated by Daniel Miyares
HC: 9781481415248



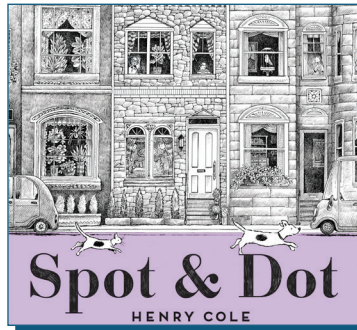
Sign Off

Written/illustrated by Stephen Savage
HC: 9781534412101



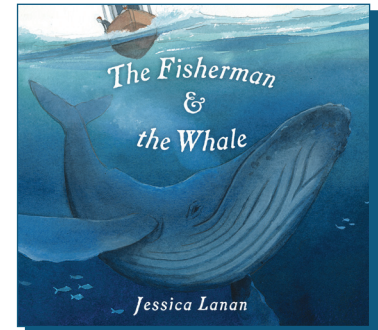
Spot, the Cat

Written/illustrated by Henry Cole
HC: 9781481442251



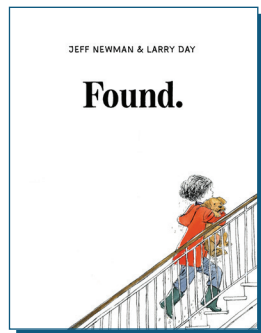
Spot & Dot

Written/illustrated by Henry Cole
HC: 9781534425552



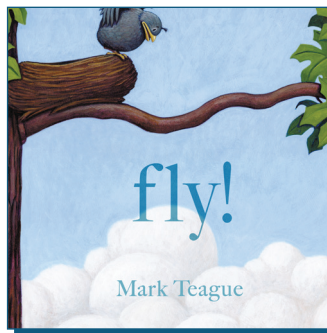
The Fisherman & the Whale

Written/illustrated by Jessica Lanan
HC: 9781534415744



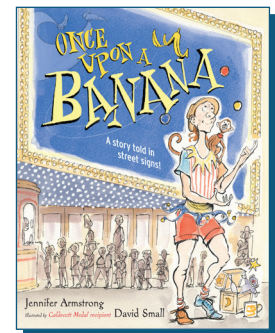
Found

Written by Jeff Newman
& illustrated by Larry Day
HC: 9781534410060



Fly!

Written/illustrated by Mark Teague
HC: 9781534451285



Once Upon a Banana

Written by Jennifer Armstrong
& illustrated by David Small
HC: 9780689859519



Delivery

Written/illustrated by Aaron Meshon
HC: 9781481441759



Spencer's New Pet

Written/illustrated by Jessie Sima
HC: 9781534418776