



Tips for sharing wordless picture books

At Sedlescombe School we aim for every child to leave our school being a confident, fluent reader.



As your child starts school they will begin their journey of learning to read with wordless picture books. These books may, to some people, seem as though the children are not developing their reading skills at all, however they are actually a magical and essential beginning to your child's journey to becoming a confident, fluent reader.

Here is how to make the very best out of these books when sharing them with your child.

1. Recognise that there is no right or wrong way to read wordless books. One of the fantastic benefits of using wordless books is how each child will create their own story, (or stories) from the same pictures.



2. Spend time looking at the cover and talking about the title. Based on what they have discussed, make a few predictions about the story and what might happen in it.
3. Take a "picture walk" through the pages of the book. Look carefully at the expressions on characters' faces, the setting and the colours they can see. Talk together about what you can see, what has happened to make the character feel the way it's feeling? These conversations will not only develop your child's language skills but enrich the end result of story telling.

4. Enjoy the picture and point out a few things, but don't worry about telling the story yet, just get a feel of what the story is about.

5. Go back through the book a second time and get ready for some great story telling. Consider modelling the story telling yourself, especially if this is new to your child. Have different voices for different characters, add sound effects and use interesting and exciting vocabulary.



6. Encourage your child to "read" the book to you doing their own storytelling. Focus on the words your child uses, help them explain their thoughts and encourage them to add information from the illustrations. Ask them questions; Who? Where? When? Why?

7. Don't rush revisit the same book two or three times letting your child add detail to the story they have already created or to tell a completely new story using the pictures.



Sharing wordless picture books is a brilliant way to develop children's listening skills, speech and language, vocabulary development and comprehension skills.

Have fun and enjoy the amazing adventures which await you in your child's picture book.

For further information and some great picture book recommendations scan the bar code or visit:



<https://speechandlanguageathome.com/blog/over-100-wonderful-wordless-picture-books-to-boost-your-childs-language>