

Ideas for sharing wordless books

We appreciate it can be frustrating to receive a book that has no words in it to read however a very important part of learning to read, even before words, is being able to use language to discuss what is seen and understood from pictures. Without the language to talk about and understand a story, it will be very difficult to make sense of the words. Decoding and reading words are skills that come alongside the understanding that print conveys meaning and that sounds can be blended or put together to make words and create sentences. A very complicated process for small people!

Please find below some ideas to use when sharing wordless books;

- Predict the story from the front cover/title
- Identify the main characters in the story
- Discuss the feelings of characters
- Predict what might happen next
- Discuss funny/sad/surprising events
- Get your child to suggest an alternative ending
- Ask questions about what they have seen in the pictures/said in their story
- Tell your own version of the story after making obvious changes
- Model how to add exciting vocabulary, what the characters might say

General book skills

- Being able to identify the correct way up for the book
- Identifying whether a book is a story/fiction or information/non-fiction text
- Knowing the terms title/cover/picture/illustration
- Practise turning the pages correctly, one at a time and from the corner
- Picking something simple from the pictures and make a rhyming family using that word e.g. dog, log, mog, bog, zog, rog, sog