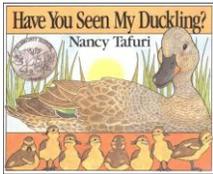




Wordless Books Read-Aloud Outline

There is a treasure chest of wordless books to explore. Kids are often thrilled with the possibility of creating their own story to fit the pictures. These books are a great way of getting group participation and having kids share their ideas and predictions. Reading research shows that when we present wordless books, we often use much richer vocabulary because we are not limited to the text on the page.

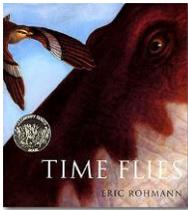


Have You Seen My Duckling? by Nancy Tafuri

Ages 2 and up

An anxious mother duck leads her brood around the pond looking for her missing duckling. The detailed pictures always include a butterfly and a glimpse of the missing duckling as well as many other species of animals.

Goodnight Gorilla by Peggy Rathman will also appeal to younger kids with its good-natured zookeeper and a host of animals.



Time Flies by Eric Rohmann

Ages 3 and up

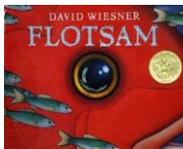
A bird enters a museum and flies through the dinosaur exhibit. As it flies into the dinosaur skeleton, it flies back in time. The book wordlessly shows that dinosaurs are the evolutionary ancestors of birds.



The Lion and the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney

Ages 4 and up

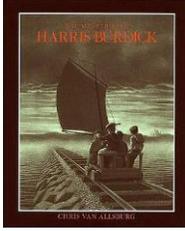
This 2010 Caldecott Medal winner tells an Aesop's fable with richly detailed illustrations and expressive characters. It shows how an act of kindness is never wasted.



Flotsam by David Wiesner

Ages 5 and up

Winning the Caldecott Medal in 2007, Wiesner presents the magic of discovery when a curious boy finds an old underwater camera. Wiesner's *Tuesday* is another wordless favorite, exploring the idea of what might happen if frogs could fly.



Mysteries of Harris Burdick by Chris Van Allsburg

Ages 10 and up

With black and white pictures, Van Allsburg's illustrations present more questions than answers. Titles and captions for each picture set the stage for a discussion about what is happening in each illustration. This is a great book for older, curious children, but the mysterious pictures could be scary for the very young.

More wordless books

Red Sled by Lita Judge

Ages 2 and up

Where's Walrus by Stephen Savage

Ages 3 and up

Good Dog, Carl by Alexandra Day

Ages 3 and up

The Red Book by Barbara Lehman

Ages 4 and up

Pancakes for Breakfast by Tomie dePaola

Ages 4 and up

Colors Everywhere by Tana Hoban

Ages 4 and up

Anno's Counting Book by Anno

Ages 4 and up

A Boy, a Dog, a Frog, and a Friend by Mercer Mayer

Ages 4 and up

The Snowman by Raymond Briggs

Ages 4 and up

Wave by Suzy Lee

Ages 5 and up

Mirror by Jeannie Baker

Ages 5 and up

For an extensive list of wordless books, go to the Allen County Library Wordless Book List (<http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/children/wordless.html>).

Go to the following website for an article about wordless books: <http://www.childrens-books-and-reading.com/wordless-picture-books.html>.

Activities

1. Play Charades. This website features a 3-minute video that explains the basic rules for Charades: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k046eyTqjo>. Below are two different lists of Charades ideas. For younger kids, you may want to limit options to animals.
 - <http://grammar.yourdictionary.com/games-puzzles-and-worksheets/charades-word-lists-kids.html>
 - <http://doctorkristy.hubpages.com/hub/Charades-Ideas-For-Kids>
2. Play I Spy. "I Spy with my little eyes, something ____" (for example, green, round, bumpy, etc.). Let each child have one guess at what you're spying until you have a winner.
3. Make flip books. For books with several pages, provide the kids with a few Post-it notes, still stuck together. Remind the kids that the pictures need to show a little bit of change on each page. <http://pbskids.org/zoom/activities/do/flipbook.html>
 - For a quicker project, try this. It uses just one slip of paper, two pictures and a pencil. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HhOMr8Rck-Q>
 - You can also give the kids each a small square of card stock. They can draw their two pictures – one on each side – and then tape the square to the end of a pencil. Then show them how to hold the pencil between their two hands and rub their hands back and forth, making the picture spin back and forth in their hands. There are samples in the TRC office.

Conversation Starters

1. Ask the kids what makes a book a book. Does it have to have words? If it doesn't have words, how do you read it? Can it tell a story? If it does have words, does everyone always understand the story the same way?
2. How do we communicate without words? See how many different ways your group can name. Don't limit the conversation to books. Be sure to include things like gestures, facial expressions, body language, symbols and logos and the visual and performing arts.
3. Ask the kids if they've ever heard the expression, "A picture is worth a thousand words." What do they think it means? Do they agree or not?