

GUIDE FOR WORDLESS PICTURE BOOKS



Translated by
parents, for
parents

English

This guide was created on the occasion of the Tel mee met taal project: connecting language learning at home and at school with the use of wordless picture books. This project is part of the research domain Tekstloos maar kansrijk of the associate lectorate Taalstimulering of Hogeschool KPZ. The aim of the project is to strengthen the educational partnership between parents and school and the educational home environment regarding reading. Professionals from three primary schools in Zwolle and from a local welfare organization have contributed to the creation of this guide together with parents. We thank the parents and professionals of OBS De Springplank, CBS Het Stroomdal, IKC De Wieden and Travers Welzijn for sharing their valuable insights.

Do you spot an error? Please send an email to L.mensink@kpz.nl

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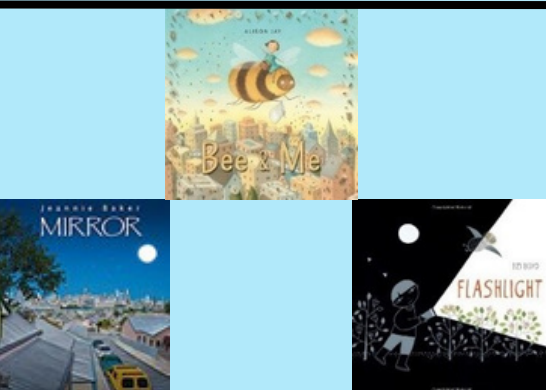
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Why is it important to read wordless picture books with your child at home in your native language?

If you read, you will learn more about yourself and about the world around you. Reading is valuable for your child's development. Also, reading in your native language is beneficial for that language. If the native language is improving, the other languages are also improving. Enjoying books together increases the motivation to read. Being [motivated to read](#) is a good fundamental to learn how to read. And reading is important for [success at school](#), because by reading you will learn new words and understand longer texts. To know a lot of words and to be able to read and understand texts is important for the other learning areas (mathematics, history and geography).

Reading wordless picture books together is giving an extra benefit towards reading books with texts. Because wordless picture books aren't containing any words or sentences, so your child doesn't have to be afraid to make mistakes during reading. This is great for the motivation to read. Your child can make up their own story with a wordless picture book. Reading motivation is important to keep wanting to read. When reading a wordless picture book, the child is using many words and sentences. There is a lot of [interaction](#) between the parent and the child. They are discussing more than just the story in the book. Therefore the child is learning more about the world. They have to look very closely to the pictures and discover how the story unfolds. Your child is free to bring in his own [knowledge of the world](#) and his own experiences. Hereby the child is preparing for [reading comprehension](#).



Reading motivation: to be motivated to (learn how to) read



Success at school: to have a good time at school and get good grades



Interaction: to have a conversation with another



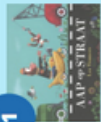
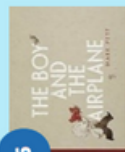
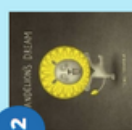
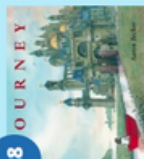
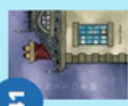
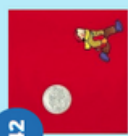
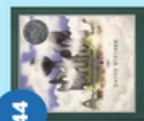
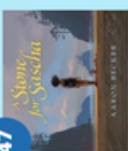
Knowledge of the world: to know what's going on around you



Reading comprehension: to understand what you are reading

The wordless picture books that are available at your child's school

Tekstloze prentenboeken bij ons op school

1		Aap op straat	2		Bee & Me	3		Blackout	4		Blue Rider	5		Bosch	6		The boy and the airplane	7		A boy, a dog, a frog and a friend	8		The boy, the bear, the baron, the bard	9		Chalk	10		Changes, changes	11		Ciao Ciao giocattoli	12		Dandelion's dream	13		Draw!	14		The farmer and the clown	15		Flashlight	16		Float	17		Flora and the Flamingo	18		Flotsam	19		The flower man	20		Found	21		Grace for Gus	22		De grote dag	23		Here I am	24		Hike	25		I walk with Vanessa	26		Ice	27		Ik wil een ander bed	28		Journey	29		Kleur	30		Konijntango	31		The midnight fair	32		Mirror	33		Monkie	34		Monsterboek	35		Naar de markt	36		Nope	37		One little bag	38		Owl bat, bat owl	39		Picknick met taart	40		Professional crocodile	41		Rainstorm	42		The red book	43		Reis naar de maan	44		Sector 7	45		Sidewalk flowers	46		The snowman	47		A stone for Sascha	48		Stormy	49		Waar is de taart?	50		Wolf in the snow
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Wordless picture books in our school

1. Aap op straat - Leo Timmers
2. Bee & Me - Alison Jay
3. Blackout - John Rocco
4. Blue Rider - Geraldo Valério
5. Bosch - Thé Tjong-Khing
6. The boy and the airplane - Mark Pett
7. A boy, a dog, a frog and a friend - Mercer & Marianne Mayer
8. The boy, the bear, the baron, the bard - Gregory Rogers
9. Chalk - Bill Thomson
10. Changes, changes - Pat Hutchins
11. Ciao ciao giocattoli - Marta Pantaleo
12. Dandelion's dream - Yoko Tanaka
13. Draw! - Raúl Colón
14. The farmer and the clown - Marla Frazee
15. Flashlight - Lizi Boyd
16. Float - Daniel Miyares
17. Flora and the flamingo - Molly Idle
18. Flotsam - David Wiesner
19. The flower man - Mark Ludy
20. Found - Jeff Newman & Larry Day
21. Grace for Gus - Harry Bliss
22. De grote dag - Arnoud Wierstra
23. Here I am - Patti Kim & Sonia Sánchez
24. Hike - Pete Oswald
25. I walk with Vanessa - Kerascöet
26. Ice - Arthur Geisert
27. Ik wil een ander bed - Tjarko van der Pol
28. Journey - Aaron Becker
29. Kleur - Marieke ten Berge
30. Konijntango - Daan Remmerts de Vries
31. The midnight fair - Gideon Sterer & Mariachiaria di Giorgio
32. Mirror - Jeannie Baker
33. Monkie - Dieter Schubert
34. Monsterboek - Alice Hoogstad
35. Naar de markt - Noëlle Smit
36. Nope - Drew Shenehan
37. One little bag - Henry Cole
38. Owl bat, bat owl - Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick
39. Picknick met taart - Thé Tjong-Khing
40. Professional crocodile - Giovanna Zoboli & Mariachiaria di Giorgio
41. Rainstorm - Barbara Lehman
42. The red book - Barbara Lehman
43. Reis naar de maan - John Hare
44. Sector 7 - David Wiesner
45. Sidewalk flowers - JonArno Lawson & Sydney Smith
46. The snowman - Raymond Briggs
47. A stone for Sascha - Aaron Becker
48. Stormy - Guojing
49. Waar is de taart? - Thé Tjong-Khing
50. Wolf in the snow - Matthew Cordell

How do you read a wordless picture book?

- Find a quiet place
- Take your time to look at the pictures
- Let your child hold the book or hold the book together
- Let your child be in charge of the story and follow your child's lead
- Look at the body language of your child: what is your child pointing at? Where is he looking at?
- Silence is okay!
- Share your own wonderment
- Talking together about what you are seeing is important
- Challenge your child by using new/difficult words and by using longer sentences
- Reading the same book several times is beneficial for the language development
- You can read the story together in different ways, for example: imagining conversations between characters; or dividing roles (the all-knowing narrator, the I-narrator and the third-person narrator).
- You can read the book in every language! It's okay if your child is speaking another language than you do, as long as you understand each other. You can encourage your child to speak the other language, but don't make it a battle. Reading textless books is about having fun together.
- Most importantly: Enjoy the book!

Questions you can ask while reading a wordless picture book



3 FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS FOR READING A WORDLESS PICTURE BOOK

What do you see?

What is
happening?

How do you
know that?

How will the
story continue?



5 ADVANCED QUESTIONS FOR READING A WORDLESS PICTURE BOOK

Which character would
you like to be and why?

Which picture do you like
the most and why?

Do you know how ... is
feeling? How do you know
that?

What would you like to
ask ...?

What would you do if you
were ...?

