



The children can sometimes be shocked by the fact that they are being given a book to read but there are no words in it. Don't panic they haven't fallen out! Books without words are a crucial part of learning to read, and learning how to obtain as many details from the illustrations as we can is essential. After all when we are reading and come across a tricky word that we don't recognise, the picture might provide all the clues we need to work it out. Also not being restricted by the words in the book can allow us to have great fun with our imaginations! We can make the most basic of pictures into a great adventure.

So here are a few tips for how you can use the books

- Allow your child to look through the pictures on their own, let them gather ideas as to what may be happening
- Focus on the picture on the front cover. Ask them what they think it might be about before you tell them the title
- As you go through the story look at each of the pictures. Ask to find out what they have noticed? Why is the boy laughing? Why is that dog running off? How is that lady feeling? How do you know?
- After looking at all the pictures go back to the start of the book and make up a story, as simple or complicated.
- Then give them a chance to do the same. They may need help at first but they will soon get the hang of it, and of course there is no right or wrong answer, just different imaginations.

When you have shared a book with your child let us know by signing your name and if possible entering a few comments. Books will be changed when required by placing them in the blue box just inside the classroom.

Many Thanks for helping us to help your child.

Alison Stewart