

Wordless Picture Books

Week of July 20 Stories

Wordless picture books speak for themselves, but also make great opportunities for storytelling, especially for beginning readers! The following booklist features titles in the Princeton Public Library collection.

Armstrong, Jennifer, *Once Upon a Banana*, illustrated by David Small An entire town turned upside down, all by a banana peel and a runaway monkey. Not *entirely* wordless—the story is told only by rhyming street signs as the chaos ensues.

Baker, Jeannie, *Window* Looking out her window, a girl sees her neighborhood changing from urban blight to a greener community.

Baker, Jeannie, *Mirror* Everyday life in two cultures (urban Australia and rural Morocco) is the focus of this unique double story.

Baker, Jeannie, *Window* The view from a bedroom window changes as a boy grows to adulthood and a wilderness becomes a city.

Becker, Aaron, *Journey* Using a red marker, a young girl draws a door on her bedroom wall and through it enters another world where she experiences many adventures, including being captured by an evil emperor.

Becker, Aaron, *Quest* The children we met in *Journey* are caught up in a quest to rescue a king and his kingdom from darkness, while illuminating the farthest reaches of their imagination.

Becker, Aaron, *Return* Failing to get the attention of her busy father, a lonely girl turns back to a fantastic world for friendship and adventure. It's her third journey into the enticing realm of kings and emperors, castles and canals, exotic creatures and enchanting landscapes.

Boyd, Lizi *Flashlight* Explore the secret world of a forest at night, illuminated by the light of a flashlight.

Cole, Henry, *Spot, the Cat* A cat named Spot ventures out an open window and through a city on a journey, while his owner tries to find him.

Cole, Henry, *Spot & Dot* Spot the cat follows another runaway, a dog named Dot, through their city neighborhood, trying to guide her back to her owner.

Cole, Henry, *Unspoken: A Story from the Underground Railroad* A brave farm girl discovers a runaway slave in her family's barn. Unspoken gifts of humanity unite the two characters.

DePaola, Tomi, *Pancakes for Breakfast* Pancakes on a cold morning? What could be better? But first there are ingredients to obtain, and even then, success isn't guaranteed, but "if at first you don't succeed . . ."

Hartas, Leo, *The Apartment Book* Illustrates a day in the life of an apartment building by showing activities—increasingly zany activities—going on in different units at various times between 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m.

Lee, Suzy, *Shadow* A dark attic, a lightbulb, and an imaginative little girl demonstrate the joy of creative play and the power of imagination.

Lee, Suzy, *Wave* Share a child's day at the beach as she plays with the waves.

Lehman, Barbara, *The Secret Box* Secret messages left in secret places lead to timeless adventure.

Lehman, Barbara, *Museum Trip* A boy's visit to an art museum leads to a very interactive encounter with an exhibit on mazes.

Lehman, Barbara, *Rainstorm* A mysterious key leads to an unexpected place, and an afternoon that's a lot more interesting than sitting at home during a rainstorm.

Lehman, Barbara, *Trainstop* What if your ordinary metro train commute was rerouted to somewhere extraordinary?

Lehman, Barbara, *The Red Book* A mysterious book found in the snow leads a girl to world of possibility where a friend she's never met is waiting. . . .

Lehman, Barbara, *Museum Trip* The red book continues to connect lonely islands with faraway cities, and to connect the hearts of new friends, bringing the story full circle.

Savage, Stephen, *Where's Walrus?* A sly walrus evades the zookeeper, all the while hiding in plain sight.

Wiesner, David, *Flotsam* "Flotsam" means something that floats. If that something is an old underwater camera found at the beach, there might be some interesting photos to be developed.

Wiesner, David, *Free Fall* A silent dream carries a boy through some amazing landscapes with incredible characters.

Wiesner, David, *Sector 7* A school trip to the Empire State Building gives a chance to see the world in a new way.