



Dear Parents/Carers,

In your child's book bag they will have a fiction book, a non-fiction book and a reading for pleasure book.

The reading for pleasure book is a book that the children have chosen from our book areas within the classrooms. We would not yet expect Nursery children to read these books by themselves. These books are for adults at home to read to children, perhaps before bedtime or when relaxing at home. We give children these books to instil their passion for reading; our aim at Abbey Hey is for every child to love reading!

The fiction and non-fiction books are lilac band reading books. These books contain no words.

A wordless book is a book that tells a story purely through the illustrations. Wordless picture books are valuable tools for literacy development as they engage children, regardless of reading level, in prediction, critical thinking, meaning making and storytelling. Guiding your child's interaction with a wordless book can also develop a richer vocabulary and greater understanding of story structure.

## How to Read a Wordless Picture Book with Your Child

At first it might feel a little strange to sit down to "read" a wordless book with your child but I encourage you to tap into your inner child to give it a go. Here are some tips to get you started:

1. Begin by looking at the cover. What can you see? What clues to the story does the cover illustration show?
2. Read the title. Does the title give you any ideas for what the story might be about? Make predictions about the story based on the cover and title.
3. Take a picture walk. Look through the pages of the book with the sole purpose of enjoying the pictures. Talk about anything that captures your attention.
4. "Read" the story. You might go first, inviting your child to add to your story as they see fit. Don't be afraid to tell your story with dramatic flair. Add sound effects and interesting voices that suit the characters of your tale.
5. Encourage your child to take a turn telling their own version of the story.
6. Ask questions about the book — Look at the front cover. What could the book be about? Who are the main characters? What do you think will happen next? Do you like how the story ended? Can you think of another way the book could have ended?

Please aim to **read with your child for 10-15 minutes every day**. Don't forget to write a comment in their reading record. Comments could include things such as "Discussed the story and characters well" "Used good spoken expression" "Enjoyed reading this book a lot".

We thank you for looking after the school books and for bringing your book bag into school every day.

Abbey Hey Primary Academy  
Abbey Hey Lane  
Gorton  
Manchester  
M18 8PF

t 0161 2231592

f 0161 2310422

e [admin@abbeyheyprimary.org.uk](mailto:admin@abbeyheyprimary.org.uk)  
www.abbeyheyprimary.org.uk

**Principal:** Paul Graham B.Ed (Hons)

**Senior Vice Principal:** Catherine Horton-Hale LL.B (Hons)

Abbey Hey Primary Academy is part of United Learning. United Learning comprises: UCST (Registered in England No: 2780748. Charity No. 1016538) and ULT (Registered in England No. 4439859. An Exempt Charity). Companies limited by guarantee. VAT number 834 8515 12. Registered address: United Learning, Fairline House, Nene Valley Business Park, Oundle, Northamptonshire, PE8 4HN