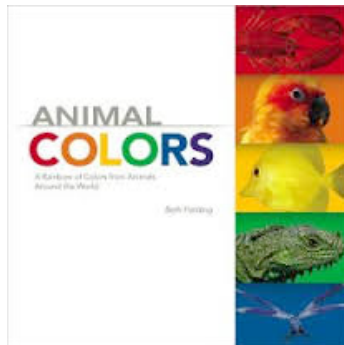


Use the Pictures

Animal Colors

By Beth Fielding



Description:

Inside this non-fiction book, animals are photographed and grouped by their color. With seven animals on each page we see a wide variety of birds, mammals, insects, fish, spiders, amphibians and more.

Connections:

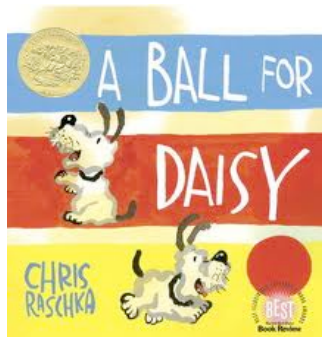
Visual learners will be drawn to this book. Each page explodes with color as your eyes travel from animal to animal. While there is factual text included, it feels secondary to the photographs. Young children will likely just “read” the color and enjoy the photographs. This makes the book accessible to all reading levels.

Animal Colors, is a book that will support the validity of reading the pictures. You can fully enjoy each page without reading a word.

Use the Pictures

A Ball for Daisy

By Chris Raschka



Description:

Daisy adores her bright red ball. Even though this is a wordless book we can “read” her range of emotions through the expressive illustrations.

Connections:

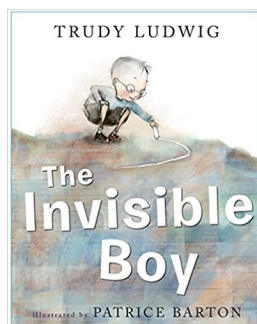
To demonstrate how to read the pictures, go through the book twice. The first time, speed through the book using just a word or two. Read the book again, but this time, pore over the illustrations and talk about the various characters, the setting, the problem, the feelings and the ultimate solution. Ask the children which reading gave them the most information. Explain that reading the pictures means looking carefully and discovering all the details the author/illustrator included.

It can be fun to give the children a chance to practice this skill. Have children work in pairs with a book. Challenge them to read using only the pictures. Remind them to look closely at the illustrations and then use many words to describe what’s happening.

Use the Pictures

The Invisible Boy

Written by Trudy Ludwig...Illustrated by Patrice Barton



Description:

Brian has no friends at school; he is literally invisible to his classmates. Will things change when Justin joins the group?

Connections:

In picture books of today, authors are limited to five hundred words and illustrators are encouraged to “tell” fifty percent of the story. This book does just that. Help students notice how Brian changes, through the illustrations, upon the arrival of Justin.

Questions to ask:

Why did Brian begin to change?

Have you ever felt like Brian?

What could you do to help yourself?

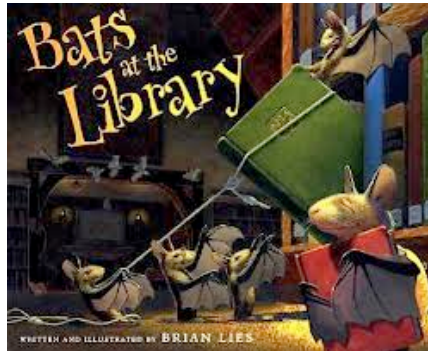
How can you help others to not feel invisible?

It's also important to note the diversity in the classroom is more reflective of schools today.

Use the Pictures

Bats at the Library

Written and Illustrated by Brian Lies



Description:

Spread the word...a window is open at the library...let's go. Bats flock inside to read the night away.

Connections:

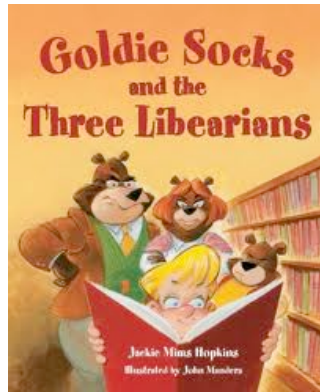
While the text in this book is engaging, the illustrations are equally appealing. In fact, there are elements within each picture that are not included in the text. Be sure to point that out to the students. Share with them that if authors include pictures in their books, they want you to look at and study them. The pictures are a big part of the story.

Because the pages in this book are packed with so much detail, demonstrate how to move around the page with your finger in a circle. As you point, think out loud and describe what you see. Explain that this is a good way to make sure you don't miss a thing.

Use the Pictures

Goldie Socks and the Three Libearians

Written by Jackie Mims Hopkins...Illustrated by John Manders



Description:

Once upon a time, Goldie stumbled upon the Bear's house. After she finds just the right book and a "bubble spot" to sit, the bears come home and join Goldie reading.

Connections:

Certainly, the best connection to this book is to know the traditional Goldilocks and the Three Bears story. While there are differences, the central thread remains the same until the end. In fact, you could read just the pictures and get the entire "gist" of the story. Try it and see.

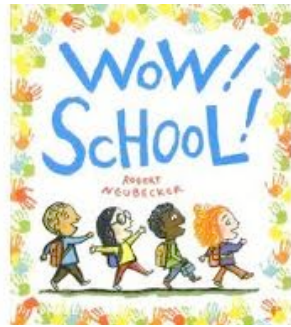
If you read other Goldilocks stories, this version could be used as an example of a different interpretation.

Because this book has a literary theme, there are references to book care, picking books of interest and finding just the right spot to read. There is also mention of the 5 Finger Rule of book selection.

Use the Pictures

Wow! School!

By Robert Newbecker



Description:

Wow! School! is a happy, happy book. From the primary colored handprints on the cover, to the detailed drawing on each page, this is a book every young child can enjoy.

Connections:

The text in this book is short and sweet. While technically this is not a wordless book, it's close. Each page spread begins with the word "wow" and another word is added to describes the picture.

Wow! Classroom!
Wow! Teacher!
Wow! Art!
Wow! Books!
Wow! Playground!

Since the illustrations are filled with so many details, use this book to show how you can talk about a story without having to read much text.

Perhaps the children could make a similar class book using the same format. Each child could take one part of the day or area of the classroom to illustrate. Add it to your class library. Wow! Reading!