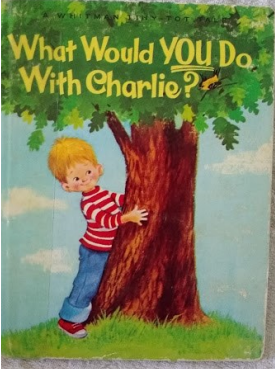
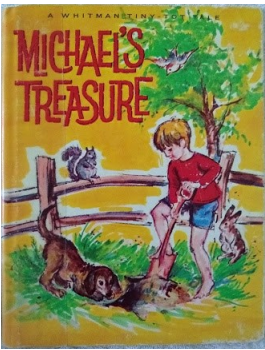


## Books to Check Out—thinking skills, problem solving

Although everything in every category helps to develop thinking skills, some of these don't really fit in other categories—solving mysteries, practicing visual acuity, and problem solving. Some of the following skills are touched on in other categories, but I have included them anyway.



Read aloud. A fun story to help teach thinking outside the box. Limited text in a nice size font. Whitman Tiny Tot Tales, other titles listed inside front cover.



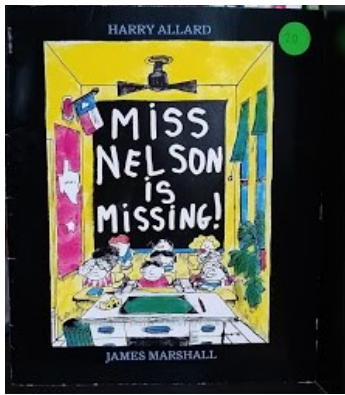
Read aloud. Michael goes treasure hunting with specific ideas about what the characteristics of a treasure are. What will he find, and where? A good book to practice predicting, surmising, comparing Michael's ideas to our own. Whitman Tiny Tot Tales, other titles listed inside front cover.



A mystery to solve, using clues. World of Reading level 1, beginning readers: PreK to grade 1. Otherwise, a read aloud.



Limited text in large font. Step into Reading level 1—ready to read, preK to K. How does each puppy match its princess? You can retell the stories of the princesses, or predict what will happen to each, or talk about the princesses' friends.

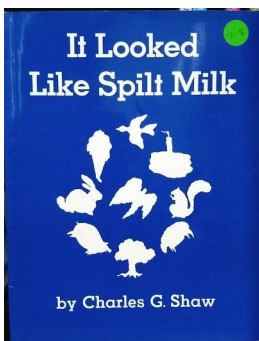


Problems to solve on more than one layer . . .  
Class continually misbehaves, disrespects teacher . . .  
Mystery: where's Miss Nelson, and where did this sub come from?  
(see sequels, including Miss Nelson Has a Field Day)

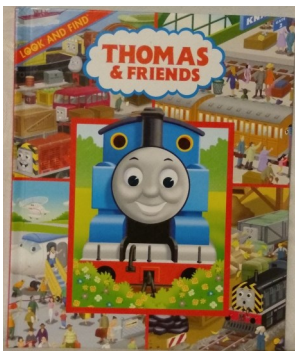
Read aloud for young children; DRA reading level 20, 2nd grade



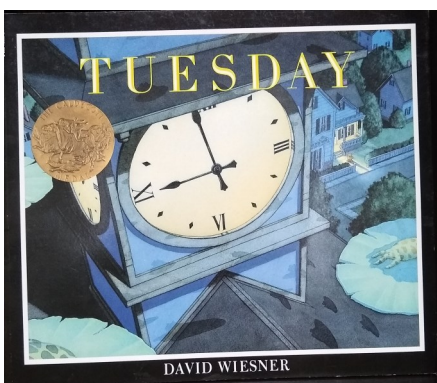
My favorite Eric Carle book. Discerning characteristics to find a lost cat. Lots of details to talk about. Few and simple words, repetition. Pictures help the story . . . Show something about habitats, as well. You can check it out online, such as, at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlqrg2RMs-Q>



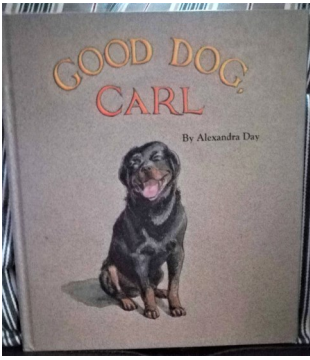
Developing imagination, creativity, as well as shape recognition, visual comparison . . .



A search and find book for younger kids. Develops visual acuity, attention to detail, and can be used to develop storytelling, creativity, recognition, prediction, and so forth.



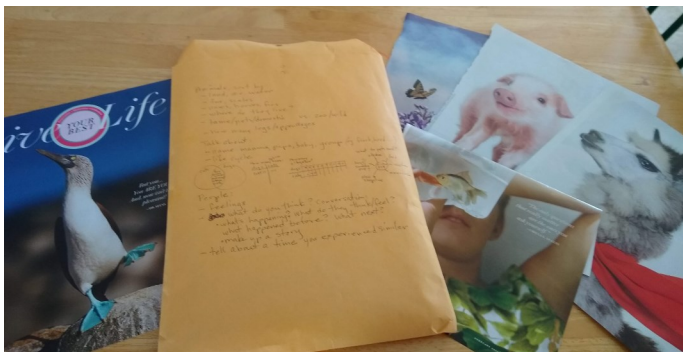
An imaginative, mysterious, nearly wordless book, encouraging creative storytelling and looking for details in the illustrations. Opportunity to engage in lots of unscripted conversation. An animated version:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A6Uvxjsooik>



An engaging wordless storybook. A good opportunity to ask questions about what the child thinks, what is real and pretend, pets, baby care, etc.



You can collect magazine pictures of houses and household accoutrements, for sorting, gluing onto pages for labeling, and developing vocabulary, making connections, and talking about form and function, etc. They can also be used for foreign language learning.

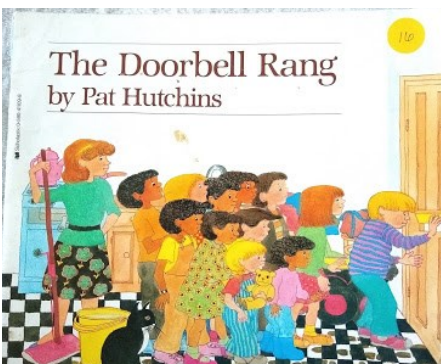


You can collect magazine pictures of animals to sort and classify—animals with paws, with claws, with feathers, with fins, insects, reptiles, mammals, etc. Talk about where they live, what they eat . . . Compare, for example, how are cats and dogs alike, and how are they different?

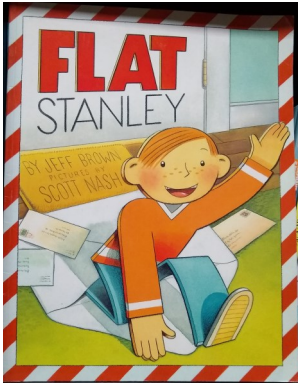


Although meant to teach reading, using Little Boy Blue, depending on readiness, preschoolers can just put the picture cards in order, or match 6 word cards with the pictures . . .

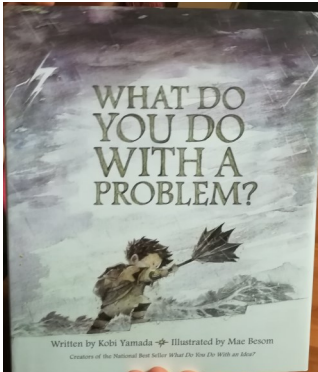
You can do something similar with all of the Nursery Rhymes, drawing, copying, or printing pictures off the internet.



Read aloud. A fun story to introduce the concept of dividing cookies among friends. Limited text, large font, repetition. Engaging illustrations. Look for details. DRA reading level 16, end of 1st grade.



Picture book edition. Flat Stanley has some challenges . . . How will he solve them? There is also an I Can Read series.



Problem solving in simple terms. What to do? Worry? Fear? Hide? Will it take over your life? What if you face it? Protagonist finds that it's really an opportunity to grow. You can check it out online, such as, at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYeHODPyfno>