



Highly Visual Books

Picture Books

Miss Rumphius, Barbara Cooney

When Grampa Kissed His Elbow, Cynthia DeFelice

Tar Beach, Faith Ringgold

Home Place, Crescent Dragonwagon

Tales of a Gambling Grandma, Dayal Kaur Khalsa

Longer Books

Grassroots, Carl Sandburg (poetry)

The Van Gogh Cafe, Cynthia Rylant (53 pages)

The Whipping Boy, Sid Fleischman (89 pages)

Because of Winn Dixie, Kate DiCamillo (182 pages)

Julie of the Wolves, Jean Craighead George (170 pages)

The Ancient One, T. A. Barron (367 pages)

Tips

- One image leads to another, helping you develop a deeper appreciation of what you read.
- Mental images are connected to your life experiences and memories.
- Mental images bring forth not only still snapshots of reading, but smells, tastes, feelings, and chills and thrills as well.
- Reading becomes three-dimensional when you call on your sensory images. It makes reading fun!
- Sensory images help you remember what you read as you personalize characters, scenes, plot lines, social studies facts, and so on.
- When your reading camera shuts off, it's a warning that there might be a breakdown in comprehension.
- Watching words unwind like a movie in your mind helps you stay with the book longer. You want to "see" the extended story or watch how science facts unfold.
- Using sensory images helps you move from a literal interpretation of the story to inferential thinking. You'll see the concrete representation in your mind's eye, and then extend the image to new thinking.