



Beyond Words

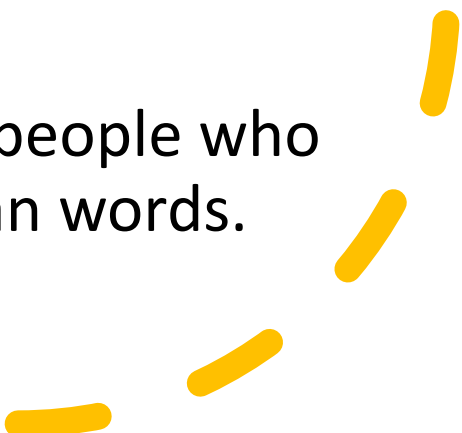
empowering people through pictures

Jayne English



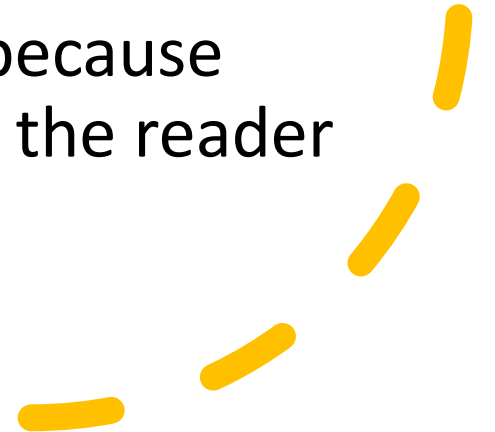
Books Beyond Words

What are Books Beyond Words?

- Books Beyond Words are award-winning wordless picture stories – They come in paper back format or e books.
 - They cover topics including physical and mental health, lifestyle and relationships, abuse and trauma, grief and bereavement, employment, and criminal justice.
 - Each story is co-created with and for people who find pictures easier to understand than words.
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Why do we need wordless stories?

- People who can't read or who don't like written words are often very good at reading pictures.
- We call this **visual literacy**, and it's the reason why there are no words in the picture stories.
- All of the books tell a story, but because there are no words, they also let the reader tell their own story.



Why do we need wordless stories?

- Whatever it is that they see in the pictures. How they interpret the pictures can tell you a lot about their understanding of a situation, experiences they have had and the things that matter to them.
- The picture stories do provide information, but the main aim of the books is to open up conversations.





As communication tools, the stories empower people. They remove barriers to understanding, reduce anxiety and enable people to make their voice heard.

Feeling Cross and Sorting It Out




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empowering people through pictures

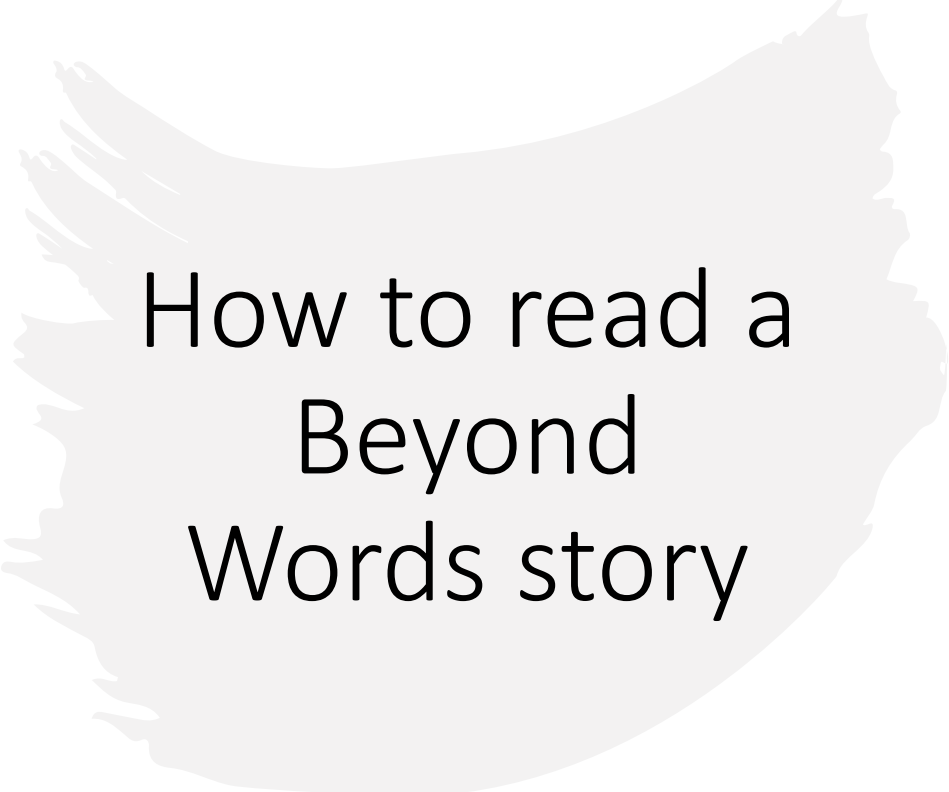
Sheila Hollins and Nick Barratt

illustrated by Beth Webb



How to read a Beyond Words story

1. Start at the beginning and read the story in each picture.
Encourage the reader to turn the pages at their own pace.
2. Whether you are reading the book with one person or a group, encourage people to tell the story in their own words.
3. It can help to prompt the people you are supporting, gradually going deeper into the meaning, for example:
 - I wonder who that is?
 - I wonder what is happening?
 - What is he or she doing now?
 - I wonder how he or she is feeling?
 - Do you feel like that? Has it happened to you/ your friend/ your family?



How to read a Beyond Words story

4. You don't have to read the whole book in one sitting. Allow people enough time to follow the pictures at their own pace.

5. Some people will not be able to follow the story, but they may be able to understand some of the pictures. Stay a little longer with the pictures that interest them.



Thank you
for listening

Any
questions?

- More information can be found on the Books Beyond words web site.

