

## Three Little Pigs

by David Wiesner

## We are in a Book! (Elephant & Piggie #13) by Mo Willems

## Whisperer

by Pamela Zagarenski

For more titles, go to:

[https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/82505.Picture\\_Books\\_That\\_Break\\_the\\_Fourth\\_Wall\\_](https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/82505.Picture_Books_That_Break_the_Fourth_Wall_)

### Metafiction Techniques

- Narrator(s) who directly addresses the reader or character
- Characters who directly address the narrator or the reader
- Characters who comment about their story or other stories
- Intrusion of author and/or illustrator
- Reader's interaction with the text
- Stories within stories
- Breaks or interruptions in the narrative
- A disruption of time and place
- Parody, mocking or lamenting the text
- A mix of type or illustration styles
- A mix of language or speech styles
- Something about the design or layout of the book is new or unusual
- Something makes readers aware of the method used to create the story

### Benefits of Metafiction

**Clue recognition** - As we listen to or read text, we search for clues to help us understand the story. These clues might include different fonts or illustrative styles, multiple voices, or the identity of the author/illustrator/self as characters. When children recognize these clues, they become more aware of those same types of clues in other books.

#### Identification of literary elements -

Metafiction often illuminates the elements of a story - setting, plot, characters, author, illustrator, etc.- as well as how a book is created. Metafiction challenges children to put the pieces of the puzzle together.

**Confidence building** - Young metafiction readers feel like they're in on the joke. They *get it*. They enjoy a sense of satisfaction and often have an *aha* moment when they can go behind the scenes, understand the unusual structure, and appreciate the humor.

**Enjoyment** - Almost all metafiction is an elaborate form of play and rich with humor. As with all picture books, there is a range of quality. However, because metafiction is innovative, quirky and often engages children to become part of the story, these books are especially enjoyable and memorable.



## Metafiction Picture Books

Fall Into Books  
October 25, 2017

## *Discussion Titles*

*Abe Lincoln Crosses the Creek* by Deborah Hopkinson and John Hendrix

*Redwoods* by Jason Chin

*Wolves* by Emily Gravett

*Written and Drawn by Henrietta* by Liniers

*Z is for Moose* by Paul Zelinsky and Kelly Bingham

## *More Fun*

*Black and White* by David Macaulay

*A Book* by Mordicai Gerstein

*Book With No Pictures* by B. J. Novak

*Chester* by Melanie Watt

*Chloe and the Lion* by Mac Barnett and Adam Rex

*Circle Square Moose* by Kelly Bingham and Paul Zelinsky

*Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt

*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* by Mo Willems

*Flsh* by Liam Frances Walsh

*Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson

*Help! We Need a Title* by Herve Tullet

*How This Book Was Made* by Mac Barnett and Adam Rex

*Interrupting Chicken* by David Ezra Stein

*This Is Not a Picture Book* by Sergio Ruzzier

*Monster at the End of This Book* by Jon Stone and Mike Smolin

*My Lucky Day* by Keiko Kasza

*No Bears* by Meg McKinlay and Leila Rudge

*No Monkeys, No Chocolate* by Melissa Stewart and Allan Young

*Pencil* by Allan Ahlbery and Bruce Ingman

*Quit Calling Me a Monster* by Jory John and Bob Shea

*Red Book* by Barbara Lehman

*Snappy the Alligator* by Julie Falatko and Tim Miller

*There Are Cats in This Book* by Viviane Schwarz