

As the Page Turns...

Picture books are written to be read aloud and pacing is a critical component of creating a story that readers will want to return to again and again. Good pacing is essential to keeping your readers engrossed in your story. Sounds carry extra emphasis and the page turn is a unique device that can be used to heighten the drama, change perspective, show the passage of time or unleash the unexpected.

Before our workshop session I'd like you to look at some of your favorite picture books and pay close attention to how the author and illustrator make use of page turns. Answer the questions below and feel free to bring your books as examples for our session.

1. Find a picture book where page turns are used to heighten tension in the story. Describe the book and how the page turn(s) are used.
2. Find a picture book where page turns are used to change perspective. Describe the book and how the page turn(s) are used.
3. Find a picture book where page turns are used to show the passage of time. Describe the book and how the page turn(s) are used.
4. Find a picture book where page turns are used to surprise the reader. Describe the book and how the page turn(s) are used.
5. Of all the page turn examples you've discovered which is your favorite and why?