 Selecting stories for drama

When selecting a picture book to use for drama lessons, there are some points to consider that are outlined below.

* Characters, whether they are human or non-human, should have distinct personalities.
* There should be some action in the story, whether it is visually represented or with words.
* The story should appeal to the age group that you are teaching.
* Make sure that the story has conflict, it is necessary for the playbuilding process.
* For young children, there should be a happy resolution to the story, because young children expect stories to have poetic justice.

Picture books are defined by the strong presence of the images accompanying the text, pictures which do not merely illustrate or embellish the story, but are an integral part of the narrative (Van der Linden, 2006).

* Do not just pick books with pretty pictures. It is important that the images are integral in the telling of the story.