



# The Booklist Project



Focus: Themed Wordless and Almost Wordless Picture  
Book List

Love, Romance, Valentine's Day & Friendship

Developed by: Elif Sevinc

Spring, 2013

**RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE**

**TESL507 SPRING 2013**



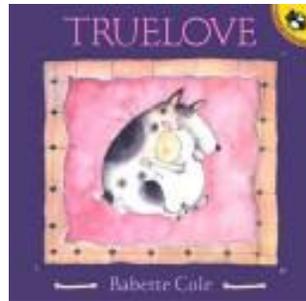
**WORDLESS & ALMOST WORDLESS PICTURE  
BOOK LIST FOR CHILDREN**

**THEME:**

**LOVE, ROMANCE, VALENTINE'S DAY,  
FRIENDSHIP**

[Ages 3-8]

**By ELIF SEVINC**



**Cole, B. (2002). True Love. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers**

**ISBN 0-8037-2717-8**

**Availability:** Hardcover, paperback and on YouTube

**Guided Reading Level:** Ages 4-8

**WIDA Level:** Emerging to Developing

**Summary:** Truelove loves his family more than anything, but when a new baby arrives he feels left out. He loses his spot on the bed, gets in trouble for trying to share his mouse with the baby, and even gets sent outside to sleep in the doghouse. With nowhere left to turn, Truelove runs away. When Truelove's family discovers he is missing, they suddenly understand what real love is all about. Even though love isn't easy, Truelove reminds us there's always enough love to go around.

**Review:** This is a good book for ELLs because many of the kids in our classrooms could be experiencing the same jealous feelings caused by a new baby in the family. The book gives the kids a wonderful message.

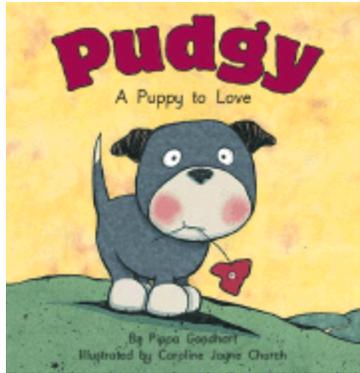
## Helpful Links:

<http://babette-cole.com/> (Author's page)

[https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&q=cache:wMhI3r0cXdcJ:edu.wyoming.gov/sf-docs/trait-crate-lessons-a-z/Trait\\_crate\\_lessons--Truelove+activities+%2B+truelove+by+cole&hl=en&gl=us&pid=bl&srcid=ADGEESiIYTdNTPUh4yggqLW3pTX6GgPaEuGppL11Ru0IuTmx1gotdXI-vTOp\\_WjydLZca3dRxvRgqr0NHkT6b04kAAp8d2k6GXUYNTiMNnJT\\_0ixVgA4QSFTO4QXcabn5EAmSZVPBRgY&sig=AHIEtbS8dWsZQ-m1B3LNIKF5yVgcdirr3g](https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&q=cache:wMhI3r0cXdcJ:edu.wyoming.gov/sf-docs/trait-crate-lessons-a-z/Trait_crate_lessons--Truelove+activities+%2B+truelove+by+cole&hl=en&gl=us&pid=bl&srcid=ADGEESiIYTdNTPUh4yggqLW3pTX6GgPaEuGppL11Ru0IuTmx1gotdXI-vTOp_WjydLZca3dRxvRgqr0NHkT6b04kAAp8d2k6GXUYNTiMNnJT_0ixVgA4QSFTO4QXcabn5EAmSZVPBRgY&sig=AHIEtbS8dWsZQ-m1B3LNIKF5yVgcdirr3g)

(Lesson plan)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmyzHrIZISo> (Video by successfulReading.com)



**Goodhart, P. (2003). Pudgy: A puppy to love. UK: The Chicken House.**

**ISBN 978-0-439-45699-9**

**Guided Reading Level: Ages 3 and up**

**WIDA Level: Entering**

**Availability: Hardcover**

**Summary:** This is a cute story about friendship and love. Pudgy is a dog that nobody likes, and he feels all alone and sad. Lucy is a lonely little girl with no friends as well. One day Pudgy and Lucy meet in the forest and they discover how much they have in common. They love each other so much and become the best of friends.

**Review:** The book has some simple text and large full page illustrations that will appeal to young ELLs. They will be interested in this book because they may at first felt left out and sad but later find new friends with whom they feel complete and happy.

**Helpful Links:**

<http://www.pippagoodhart.co.uk> (Author's page)



**Berger, C. (2010). Forever friends. New York: HarperCollins Children's Books.**

**ISBN-13: 978-0-06-1915284**

**Guided Reading Level: Ages 4-8**

**WIDA Level: High Developing**

**Availability: Hardcover**

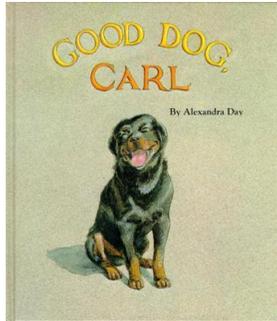
**Summary:** A blue bird and a brown rabbit frolic together through spring, summer, and fall. By late autumn, the bird announces that it must fly south but promises to be back once the weather warms up again. The rabbit spends the cold winter months missing its friend, while the bird longs for the bunny. Before long, spring returns and the two are reunited. The succinct prose touchingly expresses the value of friendship and love between these two very different creatures. Although they must spend a portion of the year apart, there is still the promise of more good times to come, which shows young readers the value of patience if you love someone.

**Review:** The book teaches the readers that different characters can be good friends despite their differences. ELLs coming from different cultures will connect to the book easily. The story can also be connected to the fact that although ELLs left people who they love in their home country, they are still friends and family. Distance doesn't kill the love and friendship.

**Helpful Links:**

<http://www.carinberger.com> (Author's page)

<http://www.brimfulcuriosities.com/2010/03/forever-friends-by-carin-berger-book.html>



Day, A. (1985). Good dog Carl. New York: Simon & Schuster Books

**ISBN 10:** 0689807481

**ISBN13:** 9780689807480

**Guided Reading Level:** Ages 3-8

**WIDA Level:** Emerging to Developing

**Availability:** Hardcover and paperback

**Summary:** The book begins with the mother saying, "Look after the baby, Carl. I'll be back shortly." Let the adventure begin! Carl looks out the window to make sure Mom is gone. Once the coast is clear, the baby crawls out of the crib and onto Carl's back. First stop? Mom's bed. Second stop? The top of the dresser where powder puffs are sported as hats. The infant--now in Carl's capable paws--slides down the laundry chute, swims in the fish tank, dances, raids the refrigerator, and makes a huge mess. Carl dutifully bathes the baby, cleans up the chaos, puts his charge back in the crib, and plays it cool when Mom comes home. "Good dog, Carl!" she says upon her return.

**Review:** The theme of caring for someone you love is reflected throughout the book. The book will reach ELLs because they will be able to think about people who care for them. Also, they might have pets that they love and enjoy.

**Helpful Links:**

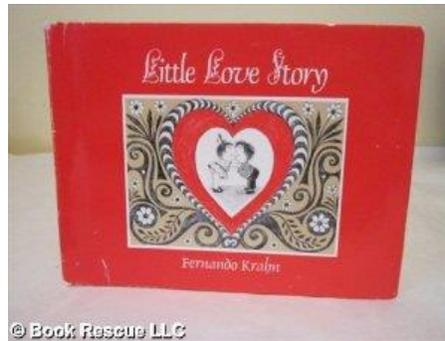
<http://www.brighthubeducation.com/lesson-plans-grades-1-2/26356-creative-writing-with-good-dog-carl/>

[http://www.writingfix.com/Picture\\_Book\\_Prompts/GoodDogCarl1.htm](http://www.writingfix.com/Picture_Book_Prompts/GoodDogCarl1.htm)

<http://www.proteacher.net/discussions/showthread.php?t=39840>

<http://www.lessonplanet.com/teachers/lesson-plan-p-instead-of-said-dialogue-adventures-p>

<http://www.lessonplanet.com/teachers/lesson-plan-making-movies-in-your-mind>



**Krahn F. (1967). Little love story. New York: HarperCollins Publishers**

**ISBN-10:** 039731700X

**ISBN-13:** 978-0397317004

**Guided Reading Level:** Ages 4-8

**WIDA Level:** Developing and up

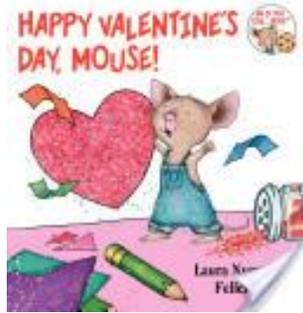
**Availability:** Hardcover

**Summary:** A mother and little boy visit the other mother and the girl on a Valentine's Day. They bring a gift-wrapped package with them. The present is something red that needs to be blown up. No one can do that. But then a man with a tire pump inflates it, just in time to cushion the fall of the little girl. The girl's gift is that heart shaped balloon that actually saved her.

**Review:** The book is like a TV show. There is a movement on each page. The story will bring ELLs another perspective of Valentine's gifts. They can relate to the story because they may observe their parents and other people sharing gifts on Valentine's Day.

**Helpful Links:**

<http://gatheringbooks.wordpress.com/2011/04/02/fernando-krahns-little-love-story>



Numeroff, L. (2009). Happy Valentine's Day mouse! New York: HarperCollins Publishers.

**ISBN-10:** 0061804320

**ISBN-13:** 978-0061804328

**Guided Reading Level:** Ages 1-2

**WIDA Level:** Emerging and up

**Availability:** Hardcover

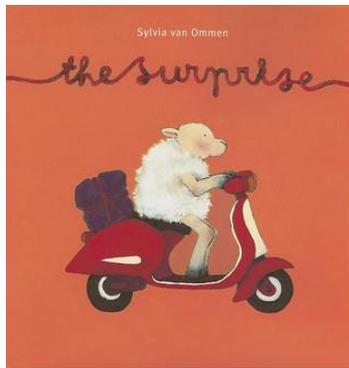
**Summary:** The mouse celebrates Valentine's Day with all his friends he loves. He makes gift for them. Each page has one simple sentence expressing why each friend is special to him and the images of the gifts he is planning to give to each friend.

**Review:** The book reaches ELLs with the idea of gifts that little ones can make for their friends instead of buying presents. After reading the book, the kids can design their own Valentine's Day gift for a friend. Also, they can talk about their best friends and why they are special.

**Helpful Links:**

<http://www.thinkplaytoday.com/activity-ideas-happy-valentines-day-mouse-lesson-plan/>

<http://www.teachersnotebook.com/product/dmlp/happy-valentines-day-mouse>



Van Ommen, S. (2007). The surprise. New York: Lemniscaat.

**ISBN-10:** 1932425853

**ISBN-13:** 978-1932425857

**Guided Reading Level:** Ages 5-7

**WIDA Level:** Developing to Expanding

**Availability:** Hardcover and i-phone application

**Summary:** A silent love story. Sheep carefully charts the growth of his wool coat. When it's long enough, he rides his moped to buy some red dye and dyes his wool and shaves it off. She takes the wool to Poodle, who spins it into yarn. Back at home, Sheep knits a beautiful red sweater. She packages it and drops it off at Giraffe as a surprise present.

**Review:** The book keeps the reader wondering what the sheep is up to and in the end it gives a sweet message of generosity, friendship and love. The ELLs can try

to guess the surprise throughout the book. They can talk about special people in their lives and how they show their love for those people.

### **Helpful Links:**

<http://www.lemniscaat.nl/Jeugd/Prentenboeken/auteurs/Sylvia%20van%20Ommen>

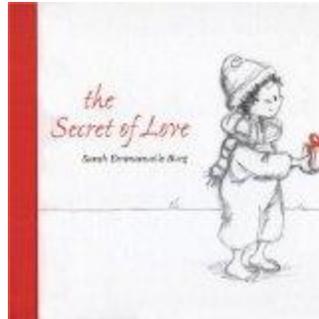
(Author's page)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/apple/6077119/Apple-joins-with-publisher-to-put-first-picture-book-on-iPhone.html>

<http://books.google.com/books?id=srDhm6SKEXgC&pg=PA140&lpg=PA140&dq=learning+to+write+and+loving+it%2Bthe+surprise+by+van+ommen&source=bl&ots=SDqk8MBrzi&sig=Y->

[0FUKxQaMQ3tW5NEs2dwOLboA8&hl=en&sa=X&ei=6UZ3UdbKNvPK0AGui4H4Cg&ved=0CC4Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=learning%20to%20write%20and%20loving%20it%2Bthe%20surprise%20by%20van%20ommen&f=false](http://www.google.com/books?id=srDhm6SKEXgC&pg=PA140&lpg=PA140&dq=learning+to+write+and+loving+it%2Bthe+surprise+by+van+ommen&source=bl&ots=SDqk8MBrzi&sig=Y-0FUKxQaMQ3tW5NEs2dwOLboA8&hl=en&sa=X&ei=6UZ3UdbKNvPK0AGui4H4Cg&ved=0CC4Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=learning%20to%20write%20and%20loving%20it%2Bthe%20surprise%20by%20van%20ommen&f=false) (The book "Learning to

Write and Loving It!" mentions "The Surprise".)



**Burg, S. E. (2006). The secret of love. New York: Penguin Young Readers Group**

**ISBN-10:** 069840050X

**ISBN-13:** 978-0698400504

**Guided Reading Level:** Pre-school and up

**WIDA Level:** Developing and up

**Availability:** Hardcover

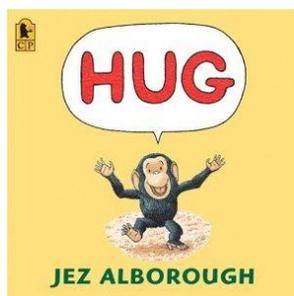
**Summary:** When two best friends can't share the special heart-shaped flower they've found, they go their separate ways, only to realize they miss each other more than any torn flower. Each brings the other a gift of seeds, and together they water them to nurture a whole new field of flowers to walk in. The book has a beautiful red ribboned closure.

**Reviews:** The book reaches ELLs with its powerful message of love for a friend.

**Helpful Links:**

<http://illustration-burgsarahemmanuelle.blogspot.com> (Author's blog)

[http://www.minedition.com/en/illustrator\\_detail.php?id=3](http://www.minedition.com/en/illustrator_detail.php?id=3) (Author's biography and other books)



Alborough, J. (2000). Hug. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press.

**ISBN-13:** 9780763615765

**Guided Reading Level:** 3 months to 5 years

**WIDA Level:** Entering and up

**Availability:** Hardcover, paperback, board book

**Summary:** Bobo the chimp needs a hug. But his friends don't seem to understand. He seeks hugs among various jungle animals, but he does not get what he wants. He gets sad but finally finds his mother and gets his hug.

**Review:** The book evokes strong emotions. ELLs can relate the story to a time when they felt alone and needed a hug, support or love from someone special to them.

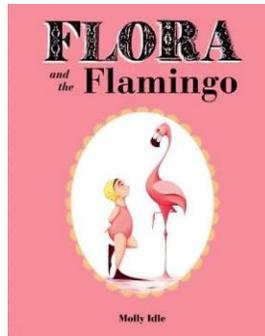
**Helpful Links:**

<http://www.jezalborough.com/bobo/hug.html> (Author's Page)

<http://www.speakingofspeech.com/uploads/Hug.pdf> (Lesson Plan for Pre K)

<http://simplekids.net/hug-jez-alborough/> (Lesson plan ideas)

<http://cms.tigertalesbooks.com/uploads/23861c3671c4cfd32d52c909a237c8e0.pdf> (A follow book "Hugless Douglas" and activities)



Idle, M. (2013). Flora and the flamingo. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books

**ISBN-10:** 1452110069

**ISBN-13:** 978-1452110066

**Guided Reading Level:** Ages 4-6

**WIDA Level:** Emerging and up

**Availability:** Hardcover

**Summary:** In this innovative wordless picture book with interactive flaps, Flora and her graceful flamingo friend explore the trials and joys of friendship through an elaborate synchronized dance. With a twist, a turn, and even a flop, these unlikely friends learn at last how to dance together in perfect harmony. The story is full of humor and heart. When the girl does a move wrong, the flamingo laughs at her. The flamingo realizes the girl's feelings are hurt, and he apologizes. Then the dance continues.

**Reviews:** The illustrations are full of expressions and postures and would serve as a great classroom tool for teaching children to read emotions, body language and actions as well as understand social cues.

**Helpful Links:**

<https://twitter.com/the1stdaughter/status/298816730132791296>

<http://blaine.org/sevenimpossiblethings/?p=2526>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9d3llsrs7tc> (Book demo video)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOSA8w7F730> (Book trailer)

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## The Booklist Project

A Project of the  
M.Ed. In TESL Program,



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Rhode Island College

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