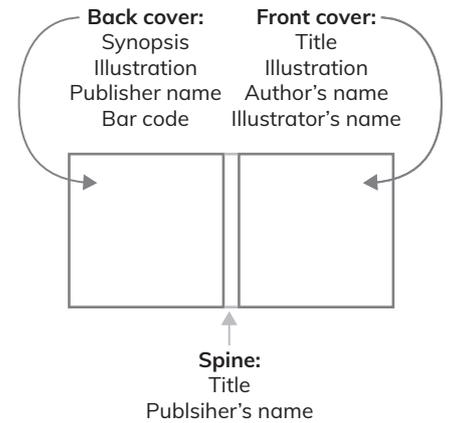


# Picture Book Template

Picture books are traditionally 500 words or less and the illustrations are used to help tell the story. Some are hard covered and some are soft covered. They vary in size and number of pages. These decisions are made by the publisher. If you are writing a picture book, visit your library or local bookshop to get a sense of how they are designed.



The template consists of 32 pages arranged in a grid. The first page (page 1) features a grey background and a fish illustration. The second page (page 2) features a copyright symbol. The third page (page 3) features a title. The fourth and fifth pages (pages 4-5) are for the start of the story. The sixth and seventh pages (pages 6-7) are for conflict. The eighth and ninth pages (pages 8-9) are blank. The tenth and eleventh pages (pages 10-11) are blank. The twelfth and thirteenth pages (pages 12-13) are blank. The fourteenth and fifteenth pages (pages 14-15) are blank. The sixteenth and seventeenth pages (pages 16-17) are blank. The eighteenth and nineteenth pages (pages 18-19) are blank. The twentieth and twenty-first pages (pages 20-21) are blank. The twenty-second and twenty-third pages (pages 22-23) are blank. The twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth pages (pages 24-25) are blank. The twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh pages (pages 26-27) are blank. The twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth pages (pages 28-29) are for conflict resolution. The thirtieth and thirty-first pages (pages 30-31) are for the story's end. The thirty-second page (page 32) features a grey background and a frog illustration.

Endpapers

1  
Half title

2  
Copyright

3  
Title

4 5  
Story starts - character and environment established

6 7  
Conflict / problem / hurdle identified

8 9

10 11

12 13

14 15

16 17

18 19

20 21

22 23

24 25

26 27

28 29  
Conflict / problem / hurdle resolved

30 31  
Story wound up

32  
Happy ending

Endpapers

## Book covers

Book covers are printed separately on sturdy material to protect the book. They are printed using **hard covers** or **soft covers**. Hard covers are known as the **case** of the book and are attached to the internal pages of the book by end pages. Soft covers do not need end pages. If the book does not have a lot of pages, the inside front cover will be used to contain information about the publisher along with copyright information.

## End pages

Hard cover books start and end with end pages. They are used on hard cover books and attach the pages of the book to the book cover with glue. They usually include illustrations and images that are in the story and set the tone of the book. They are like a pause before the story starts.

## Half title

This is the very first page of the book and contains just the title of the book.

## Copyright

This page contains copyright information about the book such as who owns the text, and illustrations along with the publisher's information and date of publication.

## Title

The title page contains the title, subtitle, author, illustrator, publisher and edition.

## Pages

Together, the pages in a book are known as the **book block**, the individual pages are referred to as the **leaves**. Books are printed in multiples of 4 which means picture books can vary from 16, 20, 24, 28 or 32 pages.

Not all books have separate half title, copyright or title pages, and some may be combined, but this template will give you some ideas about what to expect if you are creating a picture book. Cost of production will influence the number of pages and production quality of a book. These decisions are made by the publisher.



A template helps with planning. The illustrator usually decides how the text is broken up and where it lives on each page. It is useful for authors to understand this process, especially if you want to be an author/illustrator.

Illustrators add rough sketches to the template to indicate and plan what happens on each page. This is then cut up and put together and becomes what is known as a dummy book. It is a mock-up of the book and captures what it will look like when it is finished. Once this is approved the illustrator begins work on the final illustrations.