How to Teach with Wordless Picture Books

_Tziporah Cohen_

**Description:** Wordless picture books help students develop inference, grow visual literacy, improve storytelling skills, expand vocabulary and aid interpretation of facial and body expressions. An added bonus, wordless stories are less intimidating to beginning and struggling readers and can be “read” in any language. With Jews living in almost every country in the world and speaking hundreds of languages, Jewish wordless picture books are instantly accessible without requiring translation, uniting global Jewry with universal stories. This presentation will use the author’s newly published wordless picture book, _Afikomen_, to illustrate using wordless picture books to teach the skills listed above.

_Tziporah Cohen_ has an MD from Harvard Medical School and an MFA in writing for children and young adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Her debut novel, _No Vacancy_, for middle-grade readers, was a Sydney Taylor Award Honor book and a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award. She is the author of the picture book biography _On the Corner of Chocolate Avenue: How Milton Hershey Brought Milk Chocolate to America_ (Clarion Books), the picture book _City Beet_ (Sleeping Bear Press) and the wordless picture book _Afikomen_ (Groundwood Books), illustrated by Yaara Eshet. Tziporah lives in Toronto, Canada with her husband and three children.