

# The Snowman by Raymond Briggs

“I remember that winter because it had brought the heaviest snow I had ever seen. Snow had fallen steadily all night long and in the morning I woke in a room filled with light and silence, the whole world seemed to be held in a dream-like stillness. It was a magical day... and it was on that day I made The Snowman.”  
- Raymond Briggs



Addressed to: 1-4 years old children

## What is the book about?

A winter classic wordless story with the pictures having a hazy air softness in the snow. On a wintry day, a young boy rushes out to play with the snow and build a snowman. That night in his dreams, the snowman comes alive. An experience that neither the young protagonist in the story, nor the young readers will forget.

## When we can use the book?



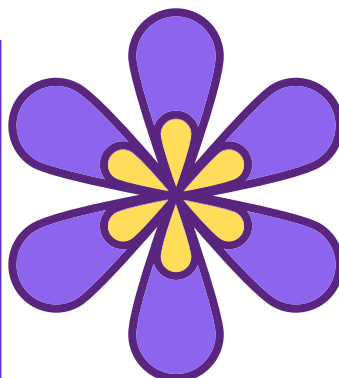
A book that can be used as a tool for kids to express their emotions. The need for having a snowman come alive may be a sign of loneliness, isolation, or problematic relationships. The child may lack a connection with friends, parents, or even siblings, and that is why he/she feels alone.



A book that awakens children's creativity and imagination. Building a snowman can also be seen as creating your own tool or an imaginary friend, which is often seen as a toy for young children at an early age, or for those kids that are introvert.

## Which skills we make flourish?

- creativity
- fantasy
- sociability
- problem solving



## Which Method we use?

- Collective reading
- Meaning making discussion and reflection
- Creative expression

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## Activity - let's put it into practice!

Duration: 30 - 45 min

Visual narratives in picture books can be seen as small-scale worlds that welcome and take us through the complex dynamic of reading and interpreting cultural, natural and inner images that we see.

### Structure



#### Collective reading

The educator/facilitator is presenting herself/himself and the book. Pages of the book are projected or physically shown to children. The facilitator makes some introductory questions:

- What do you think the book is about?
- What may happen to the character in the story?

Remember: There are no wrong or right answers :)



#### Meaning making discussion and reflection

We go through the whole book together and stop to hear and exchange reflections. After reading the book we can ask more focused questions. Here, we can also present Disney's film Frozen showing a [youtube video](#) that shows the relationship between two siblings and how the creation of a snowman is the tool for their better connection. .

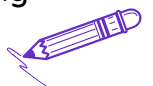
- If you could bring a snowman to life, who would that person be?
- What characteristics would this person have?



#### Creative expression

Let's build something together.

In this case, lego will be used for kids to build something together with their parents or their siblings if they are in the same room, do something creative and warm up their relationships.



### Do you know that...

- The Snowman published in the UK in 1978.
- The Showman broadcasted on channel 4, in 1982, on 26th of and has been shown every Christmas since.

### Practical Tip

What if "The Snowman" is not available in my country?

You can find available the animated cartoon/film of the book on [YouTube](#) with music by Howard Blake, or you can find it available featuring David Bowie's Intro, also on [YouTube](#).

