



Not a Stick

By Antoinette Portis

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A stick is just a stick... unless it's not a stick. From fishing rod to dragon-taming sword a small pig shows that a stick will go as far as the imagination allows.

Antoinette Portis captures the thrill of when pretend feels so real that it actually becomes reality. Her simple, spare text and illustrations show that seeing truly depends on the ability to believe in the possibilities.

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Not a Stick By Antoinette Portis Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #215076 in eBooks
- Published on: 2011-02-22
- Released on: 2011-02-22
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

(*Starred Review*) Where Portis's *Not a Box* featured a plain brown wrapper, this winning sequel proffers a faux wood-grain cover. And where the earlier title featured a deceptively boxlike, hollow rectangle (which an inventive rabbit treated as a rocket or a race car), this follow-up introduces a little pig holding a long, forked object. An unenlightened voice offstage suggests, "Hey, be careful with that stick." The pig corrects the false impression ("It's not a stick") and demonstrates the item's many uses. Portis traces pig and plaything in a heavy black line on negative space, then superimposes jaunty blue line drawings that act as overlays to reveal the pig's imaginings. The pig stands astride the stick, and a rearing horse shape appears. The pig holds the stick at its midpoint and it becomes a paintbrush, aiming toward Vincent van Gogh's *Starry Night*. Where the offstage warnings appear in white italics on a gray ground, implying a drab rejection of fantasy ("Watch where you point that stick"), the pig's statements are printed against a deep and dreamy blue. Portis repeats her previous formula down to the conclusion, where the pig calls the DIY toy "my Not-a-Stick!," once again appealing to those who think outside the box. Ages up to 6. (Jan.)

From [Booklist](#)

This is literally a follow-up to *Not a Box* (2007), in which a rabbit notes the imaginary things a box can be. Here, the animal is a pig, and the object is a stick. When the unseen narrator urges, "Be careful with that stick," the pig replies that it's not a stick. And sure enough, on succeeding pages, the object is a sword, a fishing rod, and inexplicably, a horse. Once again Portis' very simple black line drawings, set against clean backgrounds, leave plenty of room for imagination. Children will hope for others in the *Not a* series. Preschool-Kindergarten. --Ilene Cooper

Review

Praise for *Not a Box*: "Dedicated 'to children everywhere sitting cardboard boxes', this wonderful little book perfectly captures the amazing capacity of a child's imagination to create endless possibilities out of a humble box. Brilliantly illustrated with a cute bunny (bearing a passing homage to the graphic minimalism of Duck Bruna's *Miffy*), the box becomes all manner of wonderful things, from a rocketship to a hot-air balloon - anything but a plain old cardboard box. A super book that's as close to perfection as a picture book can get!" Junior "Simple and appealing... Nicely packaged in a cardboard cover, it looks like a kids' classic in the making." Time Out "A stylish paean to the imagination for two- to four-year-olds." Financial Times Magazine "This fashionably simple book has Rabbit encouraging young children to explore imaginary worlds whilst sitting in a cardboard box - on land or water or up into space. Great fun." Carousel "The adorable story of Rabbit and imaginative world within a simple cardboard box." Practical Parenting

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Agnes Higa:

Are you kind of active person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book when compared with can satisfy your short time to read it because all of this time you only find publication that need more time to be study. Not a Stick can be your answer mainly because it can be read by anyone who have those short free time problems.

Traci Farris:

The book untitled Not a Stick contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains her idea with easy means. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was authored by famous author. The author will take you in the new time of literary works. You can easily read this book because you can please read on your smart phone, or model, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can available their official web-site in addition to order it. Have a nice examine.

Rafael Rainey:

As we know that book is essential thing to add our understanding for everything. By a book we can know everything we want. A book is a pair of written, printed, illustrated or blank sheet. Every year ended up being exactly added. This book Not a Stick was filled concerning science. Spend your free time to add your knowledge about your technology competence. Some people has different feel when they reading some sort of book. If you know how big advantage of a book, you can truly feel enjoy to read a book. In the modern era like today, many ways to get book that you simply wanted.

Anne Hernandez:

That guide can make you to feel relax. This book Not a Stick was bright colored and of course has pictures on the website. As we know that book Not a Stick has many kinds or variety. Start from kids until young adults. For example Naruto or Private investigator Conan you can read and believe you are the character on there. Therefore not at all of book are generally make you bored, any it makes you feel happy, fun and unwind. Try to choose the best book for you personally and try to like reading in which.

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