

# Graphic Novels

To get ready to read a graphic novel we are going to work on our "visual literacy". This means our ability to read pictures and words together as a story.

As practice you have two stories to read. "Read" each story frame, pick out significant details in the art to tell you what is happening and what is important. Do the same with the words.

Story 1: Read the following visual, moving from left to right, and try to figure out what occurs.



Notice how there is only one piece of dialogue, seen when I answer the phone, one piece of sound, expressed when the phone rings, and one piece of information about the setting. As readers we have to figure out the rest of what is happening purely from visual cues.

Story 2: Read the following visual story starting in the top left hand corner and then move clockwise from box to box



Notice how the box on the top left tells us the time. Besides that information we don't get any other information. We have to figure out what is going on by picking up cues from the visual and piecing those ideas together.