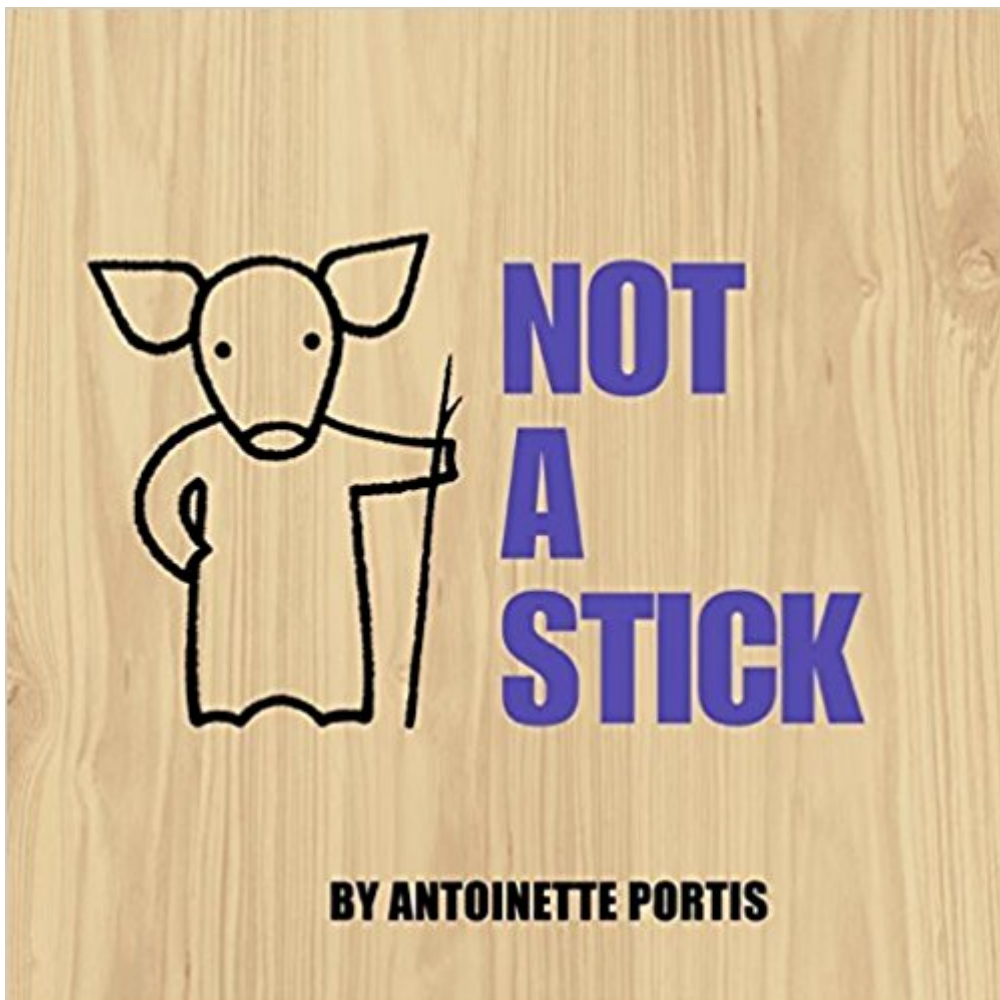


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# Not A Stick



## Synopsis

A celebration of the power of imagination from the Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Award-winning creator of *Not a Box* Experience the thrill of the moment when pretend feels so real that it actually becomes real! Following the critically acclaimed *Not a Box*, this book proves that a stick is not always just a stick. Whether it's conducting an orchestra, painting a masterpiece, or slaying a dragon "give a child a stick and let imagination take over and the magic begin.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 1 edition (December 26, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061123250

ISBN-13: 978-0061123252

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 79 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #28,298 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pigs](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 1

## Customer Reviews

(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.)

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's 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

I teach English as a Second Language (ESOL) to prekindergarten students. This book became the basis of a lesson on imagination. We read the book and then imagined other things that a stick might be. I then brought in small sticks gathered in a park and had the children draw what they might imagine what a stick could be. I then taped the sticks to the drawings and wrote what the children told me about what they had drawn beginning with the phrase, "It's not a stick, it's a ....." I would recommend this highly for students in prekindergarten or kindergarten. I would also recommend the author's other book "Not A Box."

If you have a preschooler, you have to get this book! It is easy to read; really cute; and just think of all the things you can make with a stick. I am a preschool teacher and use this book every single year. After reading it 3 or 4 times, we follow up with a craft using a stick. My 3 and 4 year olds come up with really great ideas! I also love listening to them "read" the book. Yes, they have memorized it and use the pictures, but that is the first step in becoming a good reader.

Sequel to *Not a Box* which was one of my very favorite books to read to children. Cute simple pencil type drawings of a little pig and a stick that clearly is *Not a Stick!* Wonderful imagination

What child can resist grabbing a stick while playing outside? I love the message of this new book by Portis which encourages imagination, just as her previous book, "Not a Box". We have gifted this to friends and family with younger kids and couldn't resist a coffee table copy for our home with older kids.

cute book

We will use this book as a primer for parents and child care professionals who we teach on a monthly basis regarding the benefits of daily outdoor unstructured play.

Great fun book..

I bought this book because my students love the book, Not a Box, by the same author. We were not disappointed. We thoroughly enjoyed this book and hope the author will release another book soon.

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