

Introduction

Story Opener Ideas

Once upon a time,
Early one morning,
Late one night,
It was a hot summer's day and...
In the middle of the forest,
there stood a...



Describe the Setting

the haunted castle
the deep, dark wood

Use Adverbs

quietly next
slowly soon
then

Describe the Characters

Use Their Names

Fiona was not a normal princess.

Use Powerful Verbs

muttered, stumbled, chased, fought

Use Amazing Adjectives

the sly, clever fox
the heroic knight



Describe the Character's Feelings

When she saw the castle,
she felt afraid.



Paint a Picture for the Reader

Give hints and clues about what might happen.

What's missing?
What's dangerous?
What looks unusual?



Use the 5 Senses to Build the Picture:

sight
sound
touch
smell
taste



Remember...

full stops •
capital letters **ABC**
exclamation marks **!**
commas in lists ,

Apostrophes

contractions
can't, won't, they're

possession
Cinderella's slipper



Use Powerful Verbs

trembled tiptoed
whispered creaked

Build Up

Paragraphs

Organise your writing into paragraphs around a theme.

Use Conjunctions

when or
if and
that but
because

She was walking in the woods when she saw a little cottage.

Characters



What are they thinking?
What are they doing?



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Use Dialogue (Direct Speech)

"I'm afraid," she confessed.

Stop!

Reread your work to check it makes sense!



Uh oh! What's Happened?

a surprise, a problem, an event

Who?

someone, something, a mysterious new character, an old friend or enemy, a prince or princess, a dragon, a monster, a wolf.

Where?

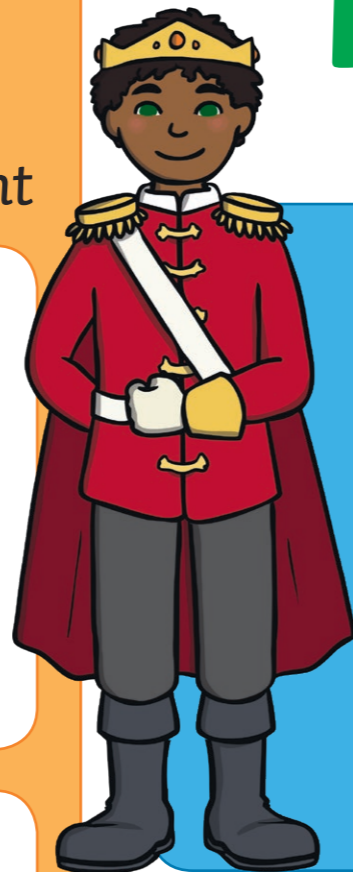
beside the fireplace, onto the chimney, from out of the sky.

When?

first thing in the morning, as the clock struck twelve.

How?

suddenly, without warning.



Problem or Dilemma

Use Dialogue (Direct Speech)

"Stay back!" the brave knight warned the fierce dragon.
"I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down!" shouted the wolf.

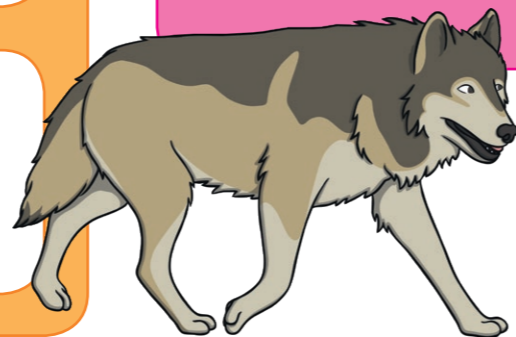


Build Excitement

Use paragraphs with quick, short sentences.

Use the Past Tense

He wondered...
She felt...
He was wondering...
She was feeling...



Characters



What are they thinking?
What are they doing?

What Happened Next?

How did the characters solve the problem?

Did someone arrive to help?

Was there a surprise?

Did the main character find some inner strength?

Was it all a dream?

Has the mystery been solved completely or is the story to be continued?



All of a sudden, in rushed the woodcutter.



She bravely asked if she could try putting her foot into the glass slipper.

Out of the blue, the prince came riding in.

Resolution

She arrived back home but she didn't notice that she had accidentally brought home a strange friend...



The children stepped back through the old wardrobe and into their room.



Finish the Story

Return to the first setting.
What's different from the beginning?

Describe How Things Have Changed

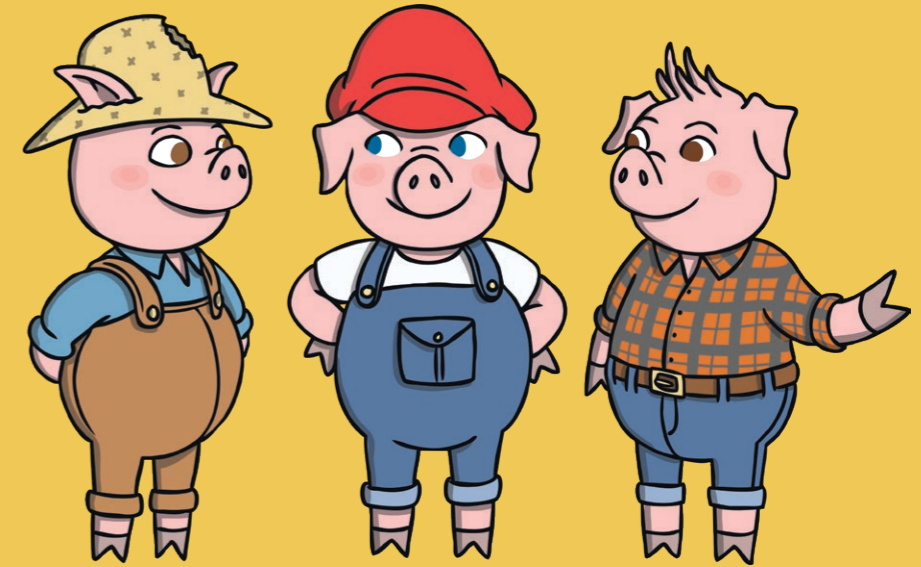
She never saw her mean, unkind stepmother or stepsisters again!
Since then, the wolf has never returned!

Conclusion or Ending

Have Any Lessons Been Learned?

The three little pigs never built a house out of straw or sticks again!

Little Red Riding Hood always listened to her mother after that!



Use Dialogue (Direct Speech)

"Phew! I'm home now!" she announced.

"Thank you for rescuing me!" he shouted happily.

