



STUDENT WORKSHEETS

CHECKLIST: YOUNG STORYTELLERS

CHECKLIST: RISING AUTHORS

CHECKLIST: MASTER STORYCRAFTERS

STORYTELLING ADVENTURE

Draw your adventure story in the spaces below.

1

First: (What happens at the start of the adventure?)

2

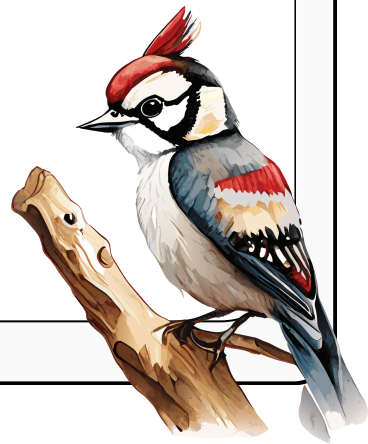
Then: (What happens next?)

4

After: (What happens after that?)

3

Lastly: (How does the adventure end?)



CHECKLIST

young storytellers

STEP 1: PICK YOUR STYLE. WILL YOU...

- ☐ Tell It? Share your story out loud.
- ☐ Draw It? Create pictures of your characters.
- ☐ Build It? Use toys or clay to make your characters.
- ☐ Craft It? Use art materials to bring your characters to life.

STEP 2: THINK ABOUT YOUR CHARACTER

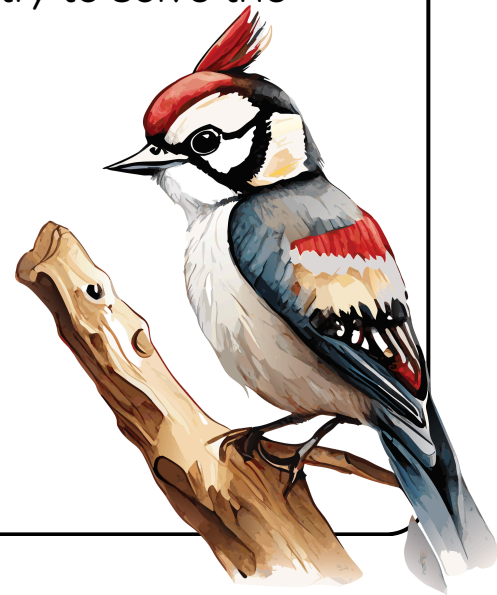
- ☐ Who Is the Main Character? What's their name?
- ☐ What Do They Look Like? Are they tall, short, big, or small? Do they have special clothes or features?
- ☐ What Is Their Personality? Are they brave, kind, silly, or strong?
- ☐ What Do They Want? What is their goal or mission in your story?

STEP 3: CREATE YOUR STORY

- ☐ Start Your Adventure: What does your character do first?
- ☐ What's Next? Does your character meet a friend or face a challenge?
- ☐ What Happens After? How does your character try to solve the problem?
- ☐ End Your Story: Does your character succeed?
How do they feel at the end?

STEP 4: SHARE YOUR STORY

- ☐ Title It: Give your story a name.
- ☐ Show or Tell It: Share your story with someone special.



DEVELOPING YOUR CHARACTER

activity: rising authors



WHAT IS CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT?

Character development is all about showing who your character is—what they look like, what they want, and how they feel. By giving your character personality and goals, you make them interesting and help your readers connect with them.

WHY IT MATTERS

Strong characters make your readers care about what happens in the story. If your readers know what your character wants or fears, they will be excited to see how the story unfolds.

WHAT TO DO

As you work on your adventure story, here are some tips to make your characters more exciting:

1. **Describe what your character looks like:** What does your character look like? Are they tall or short? Do they have any special features, like Sawyer's twinkling blue eyes or Brooks' mischievous smile? Example: "Sawyer's dark hair caught the morning light, and his blue eyes twinkled with quiet excitement."
2. **Give your character a goal:** What does your character want? Maybe they're trying to solve a mystery or help someone. Think about what drives your character forward in the story. Example: "Sawyer wanted to figure out if the tracks they found were made by a moose. He was determined to find out!"
3. **Show how your character feels:** Think about how your character feels during the story. Are they scared, excited, or determined? Use words to show their emotions. Example: "Sawyer's heart raced when he heard the snap of a twig behind them, wondering if it was a wolf or a bear."

activity: rising authors

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT HUNT

After completing your draft, go back and see how you can make your character more interesting!

Character Appearance

Write down two things you've described about how your character looks:

- Appearance Detail 1: _____
- Appearance Detail 2: _____

Character Goal

What does your character want in this story? Write it down:

- Character's Goal: _____

Character Emotions

Write down one place where you showed how your character feels. What emotion did you describe?

- Emotion: _____



CHECKLIST

character development

CHARACTER APPEARANCE

- ☐ Did I describe what my character looks like?
- ☐ Write down two details about your character's appearance:
 - 1.
 - 2.

CHARACTER PERSONALITY

- ☐ Did I show my character's personality through their actions or dialogue?
- ☐ Write down one example of how you showed your character's personality:

CHARACTER GOALS

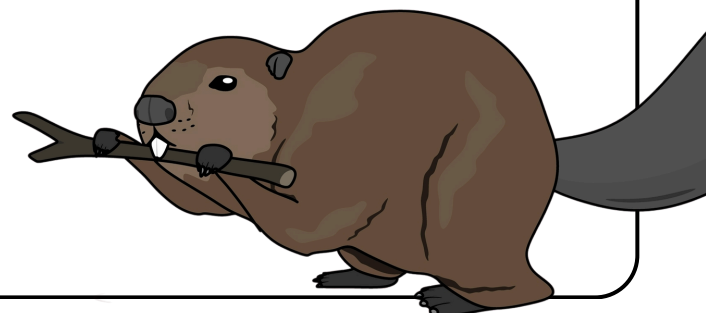
- ☐ Did I give my character a goal or something they want to achieve in the story?
- ☐ Write down your character's goal:

CHARACTER EMOTIONS

- ☐ Did I show how my character feels during the adventure?
- ☐ Write down an example of where you described your character's emotions:

FINAL TOUCHES

- ☐ Did I make sure my character is interesting and helps move the story forward?
- ☐ Is my character's goal clear to the reader?
- ☐ Did I double-check for spelling or grammar mistakes?



BUILDING COMPLEX CHARACTERS

activity: master storytellers

MASTER STORYCRAFTERS: BUILDING COMPLEX CHARACTERS

Main Characters vs. Secondary Characters

The main character, also known as the protagonist, is the one driving the story forward. The protagonist usually faces challenges, makes decisions, and grows throughout the adventure. Secondary characters, also called supporting characters, play crucial roles in the story by helping the main character or adding depth to the plot. They are important but don't undergo as much change as the protagonist.

What Makes a Character Complex?

A complex character isn't just about what they look like or what they do. It's about their inner world—their desires, fears, and challenges. A character becomes interesting when they have something they want, something they fear, and an obstacle they must overcome. By showing these elements, you make your characters feel real and relatable.

What to Do

As you work on your adventure story this month, think about what makes your main character interesting. Here are some steps to guide you:

1. Create Your Character's Inner World:

- Desire: What does your character want? This could be a goal or dream they are working toward.
- Fear: What is your character afraid of? What is holding them back?
- Challenge: What is getting in your character's way? How will they overcome it?

Example: Sawyer wants to make sure Brooks is safe, but he's nervous when Brooks gets stuck in the mud and they hear something moving in the forest. His challenge is to stay calm and figure out how to get them both out of the situation safely.

2. Build Your Character's Goals and Struggles:

- Think about what your character is trying to achieve.
- How does your character react when things go wrong?
- What lessons does your character learn throughout the story?



activity: master storycrafters

ACTIVITY: MAPPING YOUR CHARACTER'S DEPTH

1. Character's Desire:

What does your character want in this chapter?

Character's Goal: _____

2. Character's Fear:

What is your character afraid of, and how does it affect them?

Character's Fear: _____

3. Character's Challenge:

What challenge or obstacle does your character face?

Character's Challenge: _____

4. Character's Reaction:

How does your character react to the challenge?

Character's Reaction: _____

5. Character's Growth:

Does your character learn something or change by the end of the chapter?

Character's Growth: _____



CHECKLIST

master storycrafters

CHARACTER DEPTH

- ☐ Have I given my character a clear goal or desire that drives their actions?
- ☐ Have I included a fear or internal struggle that makes the character more relatable?
- ☐ Does my character face a meaningful challenge that pushes them to grow or change?

CONSISTENCY AND GROWTH

- ☐ Is my character's behavior consistent with their personality and motivations?
- ☐ Does my character react in a believable way to challenges or obstacles in the story?
- ☐ Have I shown how the character changes or grows by the end of the chapter?

CHARACTER MOTIVATION

- ☐ Have I made it clear why my character is acting the way they do?
- ☐ Does the reader understand what drives my character, and how their desires and fears affect their decisions?

INTERACTION WITH OTHERS

- ☐ Have I shown how my character interacts with other characters or creatures in the story?
- ☐ Do these interactions reveal more about the character's personality, motivations, or growth?

CLARITY AND FLOW

- ☐ Is the character's journey clear and easy to follow?
- ☐ Do the character's actions and decisions flow naturally from one event to the next?

FINAL TOUCHES

- ☐ Have I reviewed my character's dialogue to ensure it reflects their personality and goals?
- ☐ Did I check for spelling, grammar, and clarity in my character's actions and thoughts?
- ☐ Does the reader feel connected to my character and understand their emotional journey?





EXTRA PLANNING AND DRAFTING PRINTOUTS

FLEXIBLE PLANNING AND DRAFTING RESOURCES

In the **Adventure Story Studio**, we've included a variety of worksheets to support your child's storytelling process, no matter their level. Some of these sheets might look familiar from past packs, while others are new and specifically focused on this month's focus. You'll find brainstorming sheets, story planning guides, first draft templates, writing prompts and revision checklists—each designed to match different skill levels.

*** Update: many sheets have now been moved to the Treasure Trove for simple printing.*

Feel free to choose the sheets that suit your child best; do not try to use them all!

The goal is to help your child enjoy the process, whether they're planning, drafting, or revising their adventure. Adjust the materials as needed to fit your child's style and keep the experience fun!

All About the Main Character

WHY KNOWING YOUR CHARACTER MATTERS !

Before you dive into writing your adventure story, it's important to really get to know your main character. Why? Because your character is at the heart of the story—they're the one going on the adventure, facing challenges, and growing along the way. When you understand who they are, what they like, dislike, fear, and are good at, you can make your story more exciting and easier to write.

YOUR CHARACTER'S GOALS DRIVE THE PLOT

Every story needs a purpose or a direction, and that usually comes from what your main character wants or needs. Whether they're trying to find a hidden treasure, save a friend, or simply get home safely, your character's goal is what moves the story forward.

Example: If your character is afraid of heights but needs to climb a tall mountain to rescue someone, their fear adds tension and excitement. Knowing this about your character makes your story more interesting.

FEARS AND STRENGTHS CREATE CHALLENGES

A good story has obstacles, and those obstacles become more meaningful when they connect to your character's weaknesses or fears. On the flip side, your character's strengths help them overcome those challenges. When you know what your character is afraid of or where they shine, you can build challenges that feel real and engaging.

Example: If your character is shy but has to speak up to solve a mystery, the story becomes about more than just solving the mystery—it's about your character growing and changing.

LIKES AND DISLIKES MAKE YOUR CHARACTER RELATABLE

What your character enjoys or dislikes helps readers connect with them. Maybe they love animals, but are terrified of spiders. These small details make your character feel like a real person, and readers will want to follow along on their adventure.

Example: If your character loves the forest but has never spent a night camping, their first night in the woods could be an exciting moment in your story that shows how they feel about new experiences.

IT HELPS YOU WRITE CONSISTENTLY

When you know your character well, it's easier to write them consistently throughout your story. Their decisions, actions, and reactions should make sense based on who they are. If you don't know enough about your character, you might accidentally have them act in ways that don't match their personality.

Example: If your character is brave, they shouldn't run away from every challenge. If they are cautious, they shouldn't jump into risky situations without a second thought.

The Bottom Line: The more you know about your character before you start writing, the more exciting and dynamic your story will be. Your character's traits, strengths, fears, and motivations shape the story and keep readers engaged from beginning to end. So, take some time to think about your main character and let their unique personality shine through in your writing!

CREATE A CHARACTER



1 How old is he/she?

2 Does he/she have a big or a small family?

3 What music does he/she like?

4 Where does he/she live?

5 What is his/her favorite sport?

6 What does he/she do with his/her friends?

7 What makes him/her happy?

8 What is he/she afraid of?

9 Does he/she have a superpower?

10 What does he/she do when he/she is bored?

11 What is his/her favorite food?

CHARACTER TRAITS

WORDS THAT DESCRIBE WHAT A CHARACTER IS LIKE.

HONEST	ENERGETIC	BASHFUL	SERIOUS	CAREFREE	DREAMER	INSECURE
HELPFUL	CREATIVE	TIMID	LOVING	LOYAL	CURIOUS	GENTLE
BRAVE	FUNNY	SHY	SERIOUS	OPTIMISTIC	DARING	DAINTY
SMART	CHEERFUL	LAZY	RESPECTFUL	AMBITIOUS	CRITICAL	FOOLISH
CARING	BOLD	RUDE	THANKFUL	CONFIDENT	HATEFUL	ANXIOUS

CHARACTER: _____

TRAIT:

TEXT EVIDENCE FROM YOUR STORY

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ANATOMY OF A MAIN CHARACTER

What are some traits that make up your main character? Add their traits to the body below.
How do they show these traits? What makes the traits "good" for a lead character in an adventure story?

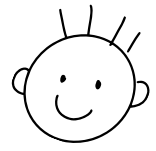
The diagram features a central stick figure with five arrows pointing to specific body parts, each associated with a 'Trait:' label and a dotted box for notes:

- Head:** An arrow points from the top of the head to a 'Trait:' label and a dotted box.
- Upper Torso:** An arrow points from the upper chest area to a 'Trait:' label and a dotted box.
- Lower Torso:** An arrow points from the lower chest/abdomen area to a 'Trait:' label and a dotted box.
- Right Arm:** An arrow points from the right arm to a 'Trait:' label and a dotted box.
- Right Leg:** An arrow points from the right leg to a 'Trait:' label and a dotted box.

Each 'Trait:' label is in a rounded rectangle, and each dotted box is a larger rounded rectangle with a dotted border.



ALL ABOUT MY MAIN CHARACTER



NAME:

AGE:

BIRTHDAY:

FAVORITE TOY:

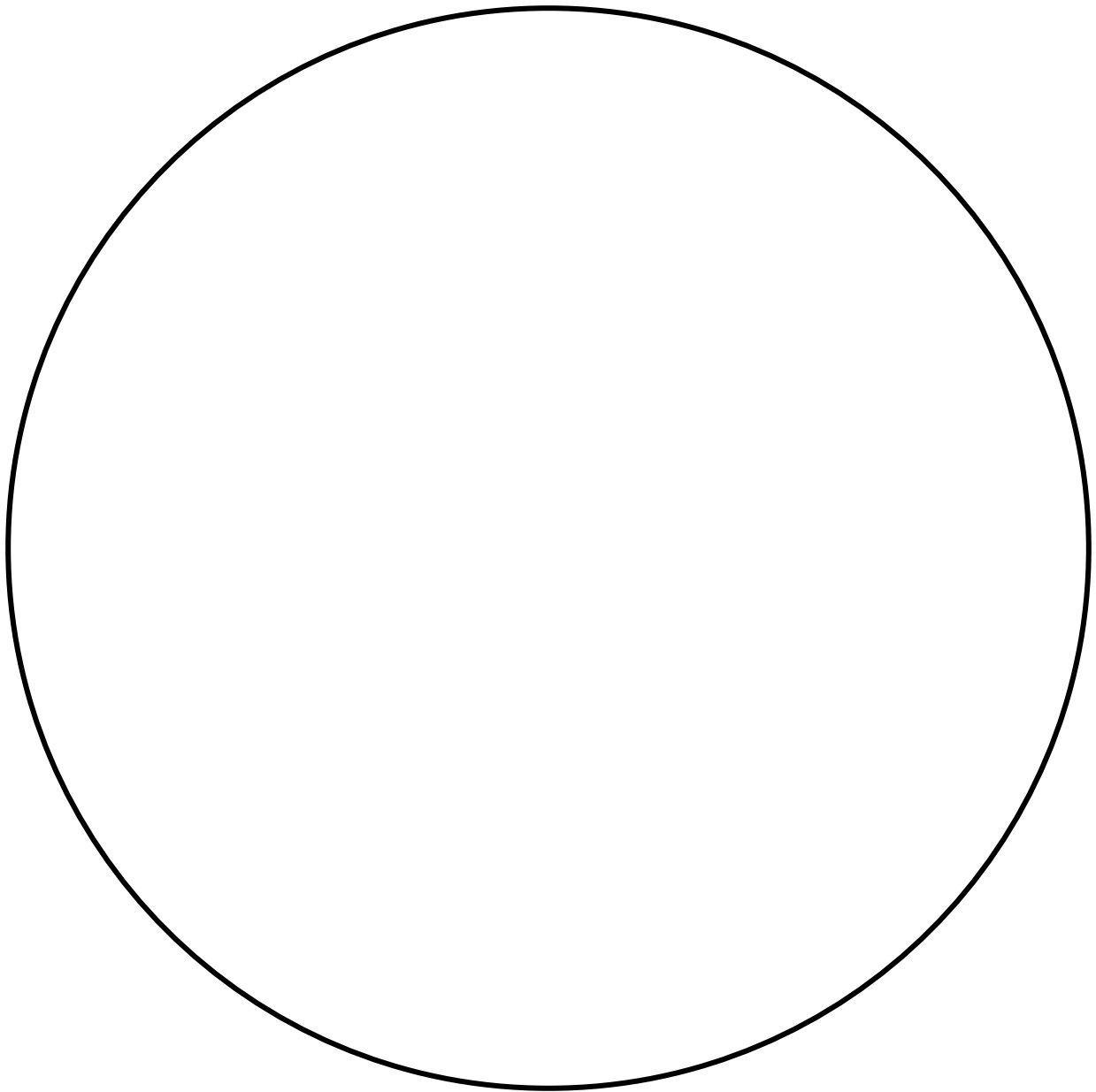
FAVORITE COLOR:

FAVORITE FOOD:

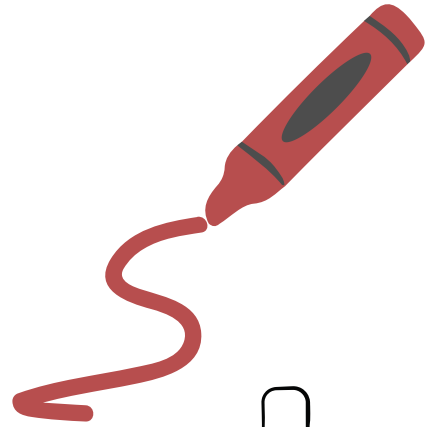
3 WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOUR MAIN CHARACTER

ALL ABOUT MY MAIN CHARACTER

make a portrait below using different art materials



STORY PLAN



Character(s)

Setting

Event

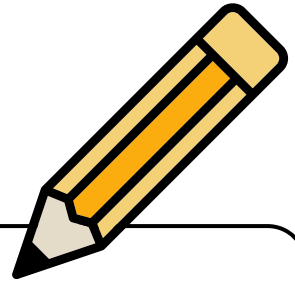
Event

Event

Problem

Solution

STORY PLAN



Title:

Characters

Setting

Plot

Problem

Solution

NARRATIVE WRITING WORKSHEETS AND BLANK TEMPLATES- FREE IN THE TREASURE TROVE

www.creaturecurriculum.com/treasure-trove

Narrative

STORY PLAN

Title _____

Characters _____

Setting _____

Plot _____

Problem _____

Solution _____

Narrative

STORY PLAN

Character(s) _____

Setting _____

Event _____

Event _____

Event _____

Problem _____

Solution _____

1 Parts of a Story

NARRATIVE WRITING

Orientation

Character: Who are the characters?

Setting: Where is the setting?

Complication: What is the complication?

Resolution: How does the complication end?

2 Orientation

MAIN CHARACTER

Think about your character. Describe your character's personality and traits.

CHARACTER'S NAME: _____

Describe your character.

What does your character do to show that personality?

What does your character feel like on the inside?

3 Orientation

SETTING

Think about the setting and use your senses to describe it.

Where is your setting? _____

SEE	HEAR
SMELL	TASTE
FEEL	

Draw your setting.

5. Resolution

RESOLUTION

How was your problem resolved?

THE ENDING

Think about the ending your character's have learned! What was the lesson or more of your story?

4 Complication

LET'S BUILD UP TO YOUR PROBLEM

What is the problem?

Attempt 1:

But, _____

Attempt 2:

But, _____

PLANNING A SHORT STORY

Theme

What lesson, idea or message do you want to convey in your story? What do you want readers to learn?

Setting

Time	Place	Atmosphere / Mood
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider if it's a past setting or a present setting. Consider if it's a real place or a made-up place. Consider if it's a day or night. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider if it's a real place or a made-up place. Consider if it's a day or night. Consider if it's a real place or a made-up place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider if it's a real place or a made-up place. Consider if it's a day or night. Consider if it's a real place or a made-up place.

Time frame

What is the time frame for the events of your story? 10 minutes, an hour, a day etc.

Characterisation

Character 1	Character 2 (if applicable)
Name and Role (e.g. protagonist, antagonist, supporting character, minor character)	
Appearance - face, hair, clothing, posture, body type, objects associated with the character	
Speech - accent, slang or formal language, simple or complex vocabulary, intonation	
Actions - movements, manner (aggressive, passive, angry, reflective), how they treat others (kind, unkind), how they react to others (happy, sad, angry, nervous, etc.)	

Plot Structure

Exposition / Orientation
Describe an engaging setting. How will you hook or create interest? How will you set the mood of your story?
How are established setting, character objectives and goals set at your conflict?
Rising action
How will you build tension or interest? What complications or obstacles might your protagonist face to reach?
Climax
What is the highest point of tension in your story? What is what will succeed in solving the conflict?
Resolution
What is the final outcome? How will you provide your reader to feel at the end of the story?