

# adventure story studio

Vol 4: Lapland

Bringing Stories to Life, One Adventure at a Time.  
Writing Focus: Adventure Action Words



# CREATIVE WRITING

**This Creative Writing Lesson is a stand alone activity,  
but was also designed to be paired with Creature  
Curriculum's monthly study and fits within Decembers  
greater theme of Polar Regions.**

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# GETTING STARTED: A MUST READ IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST MONTH IN THE ADVENTURE STORY STUDIO

The Adventure Story Studio pack is designed to guide your child through creating their own adventure story each month, encouraging creativity, enhancing writing skills, and building a love for storytelling. Here's just one suggestion on how to break up the process. But remember - let your writer lead! If they have moments of inspiration, don't hold them back!

## WEEK 1: INTRODUCE THE STORY AND START BRAINSTORMING

- **Read the Adventure Story Aloud:** Start by reading this month's "CREATURE QUEST" aloud to your child. Make it an engaging experience by using expressive voices and pauses to build excitement.
- **Discuss the Story:** After reading, discuss the setting, the animals, the adventure, and any new vocabulary words. Ask your child what they liked about the story, what surprised them, or what they would have done differently. This discussion helps deepen their understanding and sparks their creativity.
- **Begin Brainstorming:** Right after the discussion, let your child start brainstorming their own adventure. Use the brainstorming sheets included in the pack to help them come up with ideas for their own story in the same habitat. Encourage them to think about what animals they might encounter, what challenges they might face, and how they would solve them.

## WEEK 2: PLANNING AND DRAFTING

- **Develop the Story Plan:** Use the ideas from the brainstorming session to plan the adventure. For younger children, this might involve drawing pictures or using toys to act out scenes. Older children can outline their story, noting key events and characters.
- **First Draft:** Have your child start writing (or drawing) their adventure story. Remind them that this is just a first draft, and it's okay to make changes later. The goal is to get their ideas down on paper.

## WEEK 3: CREATIVE WRITING CONCEPT AND REVISION

- **Introduce the Writing Concept:** As your child works on their draft, introduce this month's creative writing concept. Spend some time learning about it together, discussing how they can apply it to their story.
- **Revise the Story:** Use the included checklists to review the story together. Focus on the writing concept for the month (e.g., bringing action words to life) and guide them in making revisions. Encourage them to think about how their story can be improved or made more exciting.

## WEEK 4: FINAL DRAFT AND SHARING

- **Finalize the Story:** After revising, it's time to create the final draft. Encourage your child to add any final touches, such as illustrations or a title page.
- **Share the Story:** Celebrate their hard work by sharing the story with family and friends. They can read it aloud, show off their illustrations, or even act out the adventure. Sharing their work helps build confidence and makes the experience more rewarding.

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# WRITING LEVELS: AN OVERVIEW

The goal of Adventure Story Studio is to inspire children to become storytellers, whether through writing, drawing, or hands-on creations. By the end of the year, each child will have built a collection of adventures, filled with their unique creative touch—whether that’s in words, pictures, or imaginative builds.

## MONTHLY STORIES AND CREATIVE GROWTH

Every month, a new adventure story is introduced as part of the Writers Workshop Companion Pack. Throughout the month, children will create one chapter of their grand adventure, working at their own level. By the end of the year, they will have a complete ‘book’ of stories—whether written, illustrated, or built—that reflects their creativity and growth as a storyteller.

## THREE LEVELS OF STORYTELLERS

The Adventure Story Studio provides lessons, creative focuses, and checklists tailored to three different groups of writers. Each group is designed to meet children at their individual skill levels while encouraging them to explore storytelling in a way that feels fun and meaningful.

### Young Storytellers

- For children who are just beginning their storytelling journey, focusing on verbal storytelling, drawings, creative builds and short stories.

### Rising Authors

- For children developing foundational writing skills, working on narrative structure, and using descriptive language to tell cohesive stories.

### Master Storycrafters

- For more advanced writers honing their storytelling abilities through character development, compelling plots, and detailed revisions.

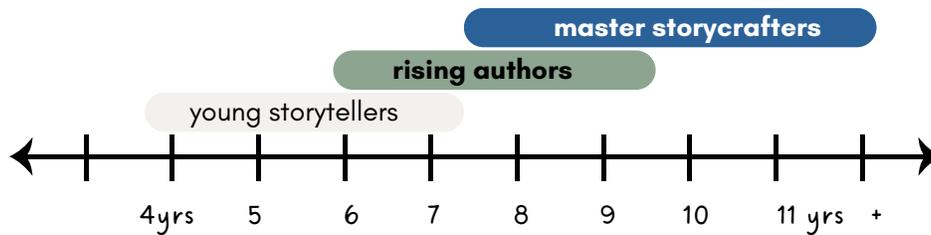
**Adventure Story Studio** ensures that each child, regardless of their level, has the opportunity to express themselves creatively. Whether they are drawing their scenes, writing captivating chapters, or building story worlds with their hands, the program nurtures a love for storytelling while helping them grow as confident and imaginative creators.

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# CHOOSING THE RIGHT LEVEL

This workshop is meant to foster a love for storytelling, so feel free to move between groups or adapt activities as needed to keep the experience fun and engaging. The goal is for your child to **enjoy** the creative process, not to get frustrated with the writing!



## YOUNG STORYTELLERS

- **Who It's For:** This group is perfect for our youngest creators who are just beginning to explore the world of storytelling. If your child loves to tell stories aloud, draw pictures, or build scenes with their toys or clay, they'll thrive as a young Storyteller.
- **Foundational Skills:** At this stage, children are still developing their verbal communication skills, starting to express their ideas creatively, and learning to use art and play to share their stories. They may be recognizing letters and even sight words but are not yet focused on writing full sentences.
- **Activities:** Verbal storytelling, illustrating stories, building scenes with clay or blocks, and early writing (labeling pictures).

## RISING AUTHORS

- **Who It's For:** Rising Authors are young writers who are beginning to turn their imaginative ideas into written stories. If your child is starting to write short paragraphs and enjoys expressing themselves on paper, this group is a great fit.
- **Foundational Skills:** Children in this group are building their writing skills by learning to construct complete sentences and short paragraphs. They focus on using capital letters, punctuation, and basic grammar, such as nouns, verbs, and adjectives, while starting to create simple narratives with a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- **Activities:** Writing guided prompts, expanding vocabulary and descriptive language, revising and editing with attention to grammar and sentence structure, and crafting short, cohesive stories that emphasize clarity and creativity.

## MASTER STORYCRAFTERS

- **Who It's For:** This group is ideal for older children who are ready to take their storytelling to the next level. If your child enjoys writing longer stories, developing characters, and using descriptive language, they'll find a home among the Master Storycrafters.
- **Foundational Skills:** These young writers are refining their narrative skills, focusing on elements like character development, point of view, dialogue, and plot structure. They are learning how to craft more engaging and polished stories, with attention to detail and coherence.
- **Activities:** Advanced writing techniques, revising and editing for style and clarity, exploring different narrative perspectives, and creating well-rounded characters and plots.

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# MATERIAL LIST

Below you'll find a list of recommended materials to have in order to complete this Writers Workshop . This list includes basic supplies as well as optional tools that can enhance the creative process, allowing flexibility depending on each child's preferences.

## CREATIVE WRITING PROCESS MATERIALS

- **Paper:** Lined paper, plain paper, or story template sheets. (provided)
- **Pencils:** Regular pencils, colored pencils for added creativity.
- **Erasers:** To help with editing and revising.
- **Crayons/Markers:** For illustrations, especially for younger children.
- **Art Supplies:** for learners who want to bring the story to life.
- **Highlighters:** To mark important ideas or sections during revisions.
- **Stapler/Binders:** To create booklets or bind the final stories.
- **Revision Checklists:** To revise their rough drafts (provided)
- **Story Planning Sheets:** Templates for brainstorming and outlining stories (provided)



# PARENT/EDUCATOR LESSON PLANS

**THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE**  
**LESSON: YOUNG STORYTELLERS**  
**LESSON: RISING AUTHORS**  
**LESSON: MASTER STORYCRAFTERS**

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# THIS MONTH: FULL OF ACTION: CREATING EXCITING ADVENTURES

## 1. YOUNG STORYTELLERS: BRINGING ADVENTURES TO LIFE THROUGH ACTION

**Description:** This month, the youngest writers will focus on adding action to their stories. They'll use words, drawings, or even pretend play to show what their characters are doing. Through exploring movement and actions—like running through the forest, building a fort, or splashing in a stream—they'll begin to understand how action moves a story forward.

**How They'll Learn:** Young Storytellers will act out scenes, create drawings of their characters in motion, and label these actions with simple words like "running," "jumping," or "climbing." Questions such as "What is your character doing?" or "How are they moving through the forest?" will guide them to think about action in their story. Those ready to write can add short phrases to describe the actions in their drawings. The goal is to encourage creativity while introducing the idea that actions keep a story exciting.

## 2. RISING AUTHORS: ADDING ENERGY WITH STRONG VERBS

**Description:** Rising Authors will focus on using strong, specific verbs to make their stories more exciting and dynamic. They'll learn how action words like "dashed," "hurled," or "leaped" can paint a vivid picture of what's happening, helping readers feel like they're part of the adventure.

**How They'll Learn:** Rising Authors will write short scenes that focus on high-energy moments, like chasing an animal, climbing a tree, or building a fort in the forest. They'll highlight verbs in their drafts and practice swapping out weaker ones (e.g., "went" becomes "charged" or "darted"). Activities may include verb lists, rewriting action scenes with more powerful language, and comparing how strong verbs change the tone of a sentence. By the end of the month, these writers will have learned how verbs can add energy and excitement to their stories.

## 3. MASTER STORYCRAFTERS: CREATING THRILLING ACTION SCENES

**Description:** Master Storycrafters will take their writing to the next level by crafting action-packed scenes that grip readers. They'll focus on how verbs and pacing work together to create tension and excitement, learning techniques like short sentences for urgency and varied verbs to keep the narrative fresh.

**How They'll Learn:** Master Storycrafters will write and refine key action scenes, such as escaping danger, tracking an animal, or building something under pressure. They'll analyze examples of action writing to see how strong verbs and sentence structure create momentum. Activities will include revising a draft to heighten tension, experimenting with sentence length to build suspense, and ensuring their verbs match the tone of the scene. The goal is to craft moments that leave readers on the edge of their seats.

# LESSON PLAN: YOUNG STORYTELLERS

## Bringing Adventures to Life Through Action and Play

**This Month's Focus:** Adding energy to storytelling by focusing on action! Young Storytellers will practice showing what their characters are doing using movement, pretend play, and drawings. They'll discover how action makes their stories exciting and fun to tell.

### STEP 1: INTRODUCE THE ADVENTURE

- Read the Adventure Story Aloud: Begin by reading the Arctic: Lapland Adventure story to your child. Use expressive voices and ask questions about what the characters are doing.
- Discuss the Story: After reading, talk about the actions in the story—what did the characters do? Did they climb, run, or jump? What other exciting things could happen in their adventure?

### STEP 2: START CREATING THE ACTION

- Act It Out: Encourage children to act out scenes from the story. Ask, "How would your character move through the snow? Are they trudging, sliding, or climbing over icy rocks?"
- Drawing the Scene: Provide crayons and paper for children to draw their character in action. Suggest details like "sledding down a snowy hill," "tracking footprints in the snow," or "building an igloo."
- Labeling for Early Writers: For children ready to write, encourage labeling their drawings with action words like "sledding," "tracking," or "building."

### STEP 3: EXPANDING THE ACTION

- Build a Scene: Use toy animals, blocks, or other materials to recreate a part of the story. Encourage children to focus on movement—how would the beaver move? What about the moose or the boys running through the mud?
- Ask Questions: Prompt children to imagine new actions. "What happens if they run into a river? How do they move if they're in a hurry?"

### STEP 4: FINALIZING AND SHARING

- Review Their Work: Sit with your child to talk about their drawings or acted-out scenes. Ask them to add more action—what else could the characters be doing?
- Share Their Creation: Encourage them to share their adventure with family or friends by describing the actions their characters take.

## conversation cards

# YOUNG STORYTELLERS:

What makes the Arctic a special place?

How do animals find food and water in the icy tundra?

What would the Arctic smell like in your story?

How does the landscape change during the winter season?

If your character could talk to a polar bear, what would they say?

What happens when your character gets caught in a snowstorm?

Where does your adventure begin—in the snowy tundra, by a frozen lake, or somewhere else?

How would your character feel crossing a sheet of ice?

What do you think animals dream about during the long Arctic night?

## additional conversation cards

What do you see  
in the Arctic  
snow?

What sounds do  
you hear in the  
icy wind?

How does the  
cold air feel on  
your skin?

What animals live  
in your Arctic  
adventure?

What do you  
think animals do  
to stay warm in  
the snow?

What is the  
weather like in  
your story?

Do any animals  
help each other in  
the Arctic?

What happens  
when the  
Northern Lights  
appear?

What do you  
think the Arctic  
looks like at  
night?

# LESSON PLAN: RISING AUTHORS

## Bringing Stories to Life with Action Words

This Month's Focus:

Using strong, specific action words to create dynamic and engaging narratives, helping readers feel immersed in the adventure.

### STEP 1: INTRODUCING ACTION WORDS

- Read the Arctic Adventure: Start by reading the story and pausing to discuss the actions the characters take in the Arctic setting. Ask, "Can you picture what the characters are doing? What verbs describe their actions?"
- Explore Action Verbs: Work together to brainstorm exciting action verbs. For example, how would you describe the movement of animals or the wind? (Example: "leaped," "sprinted," "howled," "crunched.")

### STEP 2: START WRITING WITH ACTION

- Action Word Lists: Create a list of action words like "darted," "scrambled," "swerved," "shivered," or "bounded." Encourage your child to use these words in their writing.
- Short Paragraph Practice: Ask your child to write a few sentences describing a specific action scene, such as escaping a snowstorm or watching a wolf chase its prey. Focus on strong verbs to make the scene exciting.
- Illustration and Caption: They can draw the scene and add a caption filled with action words to describe what's happening.

### STEP 3: EXPANDING THE ACTION

- Rewrite a Scene: Take a short part of the story (like crossing an icy river) and ask your child to rewrite it, using more dynamic verbs to bring the action to life.
- Verb Variation Activity: Provide two versions of an action scene—one with weak verbs and one with strong verbs. Discuss how stronger verbs make the story more exciting and engaging.

### STEP 4: FINALIZING AND SHARING

- Review Action Verbs: Help your child polish their paragraphs by replacing weak verbs with stronger ones and varying the verbs they use.
- Sharing Their Work: Encourage them to read their action-packed scenes aloud to family or friends, asking if listeners can picture the adventure clearly.

# LESSON PLAN: MASTER STORYCRAFTERS

## Bringing the Arctic to Life with Action and Adventure

This Month's Focus: Creating dynamic and immersive stories by using strong verbs to enhance action and adventure in an Arctic setting. Writers will think about how characters interact with the environment—whether trekking through snow, avoiding predators, or navigating icy landscapes—and will use powerful verbs to build excitement.

### Step 1: Introducing Action and Adventure

- Read and Analyze the Story: Begin by reading the Arctic adventure together. Discuss how verbs bring action to life in the story. For example, point out words like "trudged," "bounded," or "howled." Ask, "How do these action words make the scene feel more exciting?"
- Research Arctic Actions: Explore real-life Arctic adventures, like how animals survive or how people move across ice and snow. Talk about action words that fit the setting, like "skidded," "glided," or "charged."

### Step 2: Start Building Action-Packed Scenes

- Action Verb Profiles: Create a list of strong action words specific to the Arctic setting. Break them into categories like movement (e.g., "trudged," "slipped"), survival (e.g., "dug," "clawed"), and weather (e.g., "lashed," "swirled").
- Action Mapping Activity: Draw a map of the Arctic setting from the story, marking key locations like snowdrifts, icy lakes, and dense forests. Add notes about the types of actions characters or animals might take in each spot (e.g., "slid down the icy hill" or "dove into a snowbank").
- Write an Action Scene: Ask students to write a short scene where their character encounters an Arctic challenge, like crossing thin ice or escaping a wolf. Focus on strong verbs to show the action clearly and make it thrilling.

### Step 3: Expanding the Action in the Story

- Rewrite a Scene with New Action: Take a moment from the Arctic story and rewrite it, adding stronger verbs to heighten the tension or excitement. For example, replace "walked" with "stumbled" or "dashed" depending on the mood.
- Create an Action Backstory: Encourage students to create a backstory for an action-packed moment in the story, like how an animal escaped a predator or how a character trained to survive Arctic conditions.

### Step 4: Finalizing and Sharing

- Refine Their Work: Help your student review and enhance their action scenes, ensuring verbs make the narrative more engaging and vivid.
- Share the Adventure: Have them present their rewritten scenes or maps to the family or class, explaining how the verbs they chose make the story more exciting and realistic.