



STUDENT WORKSHEETS

CHECKLIST: YOUNG STORYTELLERS

CHECKLIST: RISING AUTHORS

CHECKLIST: MASTER STORYCRAFTERS

Name: _____

Date: _____

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?)

Name: _____

Date: _____

CHECKLIST: young storytellers

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

- Tell It? Share your Arctic story out loud.
- Draw It? Create pictures of the Arctic—snowy landscapes, animals, and icy adventures.
- Build It? Use toys, clay, or other materials to build your Arctic scene.
- Craft It? Use art supplies to create a snowy Arctic setting or the animals in your story.

STEP 2: SET THE SCENE OF THE ADVENTURE

- Where Does Your Adventure Take Place? Is it on a frozen lake, in the forest, or near an icy cave?
- What's the Weather Like? Is it a snowy blizzard, a clear and frosty day, or a windy Arctic night?
- What Animals Live There? Are there reindeer grazing, arctic foxes sneaking through the snow, or owls perched on snowy branches?
- What Sounds Do You Hear? Do you hear the crunch of snow, the howl of wind, or the call of an Arctic bird?

STEP 3: CREATE YOUR LAPLAND ADVENTURE

- Start Your Adventure: What is the first thing your character sees or hears in the Arctic?
- What Happens Next? Does your character meet an animal or face a challenge in the icy environment (like crossing a frozen stream)?
- Add a Problem or Challenge: How does the Arctic setting create a problem (like losing their way in a snowstorm or sliding on the ice)?
- End Your Story: Does your character solve the problem or find something unexpected? How do they feel at the end of their adventure?

STEP 4: SHARE YOUR STORY

- Title It: What's the name of your Arctic adventure?
- Show or Tell It: Share your adventure with someone special. You can tell it out loud, show your drawings, or act it out with toys.

CREATING EXCITING ADVENTURES

activity: rising authors

WHAT IS AN ACTION STORY?

Action is what brings your story to life! It's all about what the characters are doing and how they're moving through their adventure. Strong verbs, the words that describe these actions, make your story more exciting and help readers feel like they're right there with your characters.

WHY IT MATTERS

Verbs are the action words in your story, and choosing strong ones makes your writing exciting and fun to read. Instead of just saying your character "went" somewhere, you could say they "dashed," "crept," or "tumbled." Strong verbs make the adventure feel more real, and they help readers imagine every moment of the story.

WHAT TO DO

As you write your Arctic adventure story, follow these steps to bring the action to life:

1. Use Strong Verbs to Show Action:

- Think about how your characters move and what they do. Replace weak verbs like "went" or "got" with more specific ones.
- Example: "The sled went across the tundra" could become "The sled glided across the tundra, pulled by eager huskies."

2. Show How Characters React in the Moment:

- Verbs can show how characters handle challenges. Are they slipping, scrambling, or sliding?
- Example: "Aila crouched low, her voice soft as she guided the reindeer forward, while Lennon clutched her stuffed toy tightly."

3. Use Verbs to Add Excitement:

- Think about how your character's actions make the story more adventurous. Are they racing through a snowstorm, gliding across the tundra, or carefully guiding an injured reindeer?
- Example: "Parker shouted, her voice sharp and clear, as the sled raced toward the trees where the faint tracks disappeared into the snow."

Name: _____

Date: _____

activity: rising authors

ACTION VERB CHALLENGE

This month, we're focusing on using action verbs to make your writing exciting and full of movement. After writing your draft, go back and check if you've used strong action words to show what's happening in your story. Use this worksheet to revise your sentences and make them more dynamic!

Find and Replace Weak Verbs

Look through your story and find two places where you used a weak verb like "went" or "got." Rewrite those sentences using stronger verbs.

- Original Sentence: _____
- New Sentence: _____

- Original Sentence: _____
- New Sentence: _____

How Action Drives the Story

Write down a moment where a character's actions moved the story forward.

- What Happened?: _____
- How Did Their Action Change the Story?: _____

Verb Makeover

Take these simple sentences and make them more exciting by adding action verbs that show movement or reaction. Use examples from the story!

Sentence 1: "The sled moved across the snow."

Your sentence: _____

Sentence 2: "The reindeer walked slowly."

Your sentence: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

RISING AUTHORS CHECKLIST

Action and Adventure: Bringing Your Story to Life with Verbs



ADDING ACTION VERBS

- Did I use strong action words to show what characters are doing?
- Write down two examples of action verbs you used:

1.

2.

USING ACTION TO DRIVE THE STORY

- Did I show how a character's actions moved the story forward?
 - Write down one moment where the action made the story exciting:
Example: "The sled raced over the snow as Lennon pointed toward the faint tracks."
-

SHOWING HOW CHARACTERS REACT

- Did I use verbs to show how characters react to challenges?
 - Write down one example of a reaction you described:
Example: "Lennon clutched her stuffed reindeer tightly as the huskies barked and pulled harder."
-

ADDING VARIETY TO ACTION WORDS

- Did I use different verbs to describe similar actions?
- Write down two verbs you used to keep the story interesting:

1.

2.

FINAL TOUCHES

- Did I make sure my verbs help readers picture the action clearly?
- Did I double-check for spelling or grammar mistakes?
- Did I reread my story to make sure it feels exciting and fun?

BUILDING ACTION AND ADVENTURE

activity: master storycrafters

BUILDING ACTION IN YOUR STORY THROUGH STRONG VERBS

This month, your focus is on creating dynamic and exciting action scenes using strong verbs. Verbs are the engine of every story—they move the action forward and help readers imagine what's happening. Strong verbs make your writing more powerful and keep readers on the edge of their seats.

What Makes Action Engaging?

Action scenes aren't just about describing what characters are doing—they're about showing how those actions feel, how they affect the story, and how they create tension. Strong verbs bring these moments to life by showing characters racing, sliding, gripping, or scrambling, instead of just walking or moving.

What to Do

As you work on your Arctic adventure this month, follow these steps to craft vivid, action-packed scenes.

1. Use Strong Verbs to Show Action

Think about how your characters move and what they do. Replace weak verbs like "went" or "got" with more specific and exciting ones.

Example:

- Weak: "Parker went across the ice."
- Strong: "Parker dashed across the ice, her boots slipping slightly with each step."

2. Show How Characters React to Challenges

Use verbs to describe how your characters handle obstacles. Are they slipping, balancing, or gripping something tightly?

Example:

- "Lennon skidded to a stop, gripping the handlebars of the snowmobile as it teetered on the edge of a snowy ridge."

3. Add Tension with Action

Think about how your verbs can add excitement to the story. Are your characters racing against time, escaping danger, or pushing through tough conditions?

Example:

- "The snowmobile roared to life as Parker steered it over the uneven tundra, dodging low-hanging branches and patches of deep snow."

Name: _____

Date: _____

activity: master storycrafters

Examples of Strong Verbs for Arctic Adventures

Here are some strong verbs you might use in your story:

- Basic Actions: ran, jumped, slid, climbed
- Arctic-Themed: skidded, steered, scrambled, trudged, balanced
- Advanced: lunged, dashed, veered, careened, navigated

Quick Writing Challenge

Take one of the following sentences and rewrite it with stronger verbs:

1. Lennon went across the snowy field.
2. Parker moved the snowmobile forward.
3. The reindeer got to the corral.

Bottom Line:

Action makes your story exciting! Strong verbs keep readers engaged and bring your characters' adventures to life. Focus on showing your characters' movements, reactions, and challenges through vivid, descriptive verbs.

Name: _____

Date: _____

MASTER STORYCRAFTERS CHECKLIST

action and verbs edition

PHYSICAL DETAILS

- Have I used strong, specific verbs to describe what my characters are doing?
- Did I include verbs that show how characters move through the environment (like trudging, skidding, or racing)?
- Have I varied my verb choices to make the action scenes more engaging?

Write down two examples of strong action verbs from your story:

- 1.
- 2.

CHALLENGES AND REACTIONS

- Have I shown how characters react to challenges, like slippery ice or harsh weather?
- Did I use verbs to show characters' emotions and physical actions (like gripping, scrambling, or steadying themselves)?
- Have I included moments where the characters overcome or adapt to challenges?

Write down one challenge your characters face and how they respond:

BUILDING EXCITEMENT THROUGH ACTION

- Have I used verbs to make scenes feel more exciting or tense?
- Did I include fast-paced actions to show urgency (like dashing, steering, or darting)?
- Have I balanced quiet moments with bursts of action for variety?

Write down one way action builds excitement in your story:

INTERACTION BETWEEN ACTION AND STORY

- Does the action influence what happens next in the story?
- Have I used the environment (like icy terrain or snowstorms) to affect characters' actions?
- Did I show how characters' actions change the outcome of the adventure?

Write down one way an action changes the course of your story:

FINAL TOUCHES

- Have I reviewed my verbs to ensure they create a vivid, action-packed narrative?
- Did I double-check for spelling, grammar, and clarity in my action scenes?
- Have I replaced weak verbs (like went or got) with stronger, more descriptive ones?



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 Action and Strong Verbs

Before you start writing your adventure, it's important to think about how your characters move and react in the story. Why? Because verbs—action words—are what bring your story to life! The right verbs can make a moment feel thrilling, suspenseful, or even heartwarming. Strong verbs show readers exactly what's happening and create a sense of adventure on every page.

STRONG VERBS BRING ENERGY TO YOUR STORY

Using strong, specific verbs makes your writing more vivid and exciting. Instead of telling the reader what happens in a general way, strong verbs paint a clear picture.

- Example: Instead of writing "The sled went across the tundra," try "The sled raced across the tundra."

ACTION CREATES ADVENTURE

Verbs show how your characters respond to challenges and move the story forward. Are they sprinting to escape danger or trudging through deep snow?

- Example: "Aila guided the huskies through the snow" becomes "Aila steered the huskies, her voice sharp with urgency."

VERBS SHOW CHARACTER REACTIONS

Verbs can reveal how characters feel about a situation. Are they struggling, fleeing, or searching?

- Example: "The reindeer moved through the snow" could be "The reindeer trudded through the snow, its legs trembling with exhaustion."

VERBS ADD TENSION AND EXCITEMENT

Action-packed verbs keep readers on the edge of their seats. Are your characters leaping over obstacles, sliding on ice, or dashing toward safety?

- Example: Instead of "The girls went into the forest," write "The girls crept into the forest, their boots crunching softly on the frozen ground."

STRONG VERBS HELP READERS VISUALIZE

The best verbs create images in the reader's mind, helping them imagine the action. Choose verbs that show the movement, speed, or intensity of the moment.

- Example: "The huskies pulled the sled" becomes "The huskies lunged forward, their paws kicking up sprays of snow."

THE BOTTOM LINE

Action drives adventure! The verbs you choose can make your story thrilling, suspenseful, or heartwarming. When you pick strong verbs, your writing comes alive, and readers feel like they're part of the journey. Take a moment to think about how your characters move, react, and face challenges—and let their actions create a story full of excitement and adventure!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lapland Adventure Worksheet

FINDING ACTION IN THE STORY

Excerpt from the Story:

"The snowmobiles sped across the tundra, leaving trails of white behind them. Parker gripped the handles tightly, her breath forming clouds in the icy air. Lennon leaned forward on her snowmobile, scanning the snowy expanse for any signs of tracks. Suddenly, Parker shouted, 'Over there!' and pointed toward faint hoofprints leading toward a cluster of trees. The girls slowed their snowmobiles as they entered the forest, the quiet crunch of snow and the distant rustle of branches filling the air. They spotted the reindeer—three adults huddled together, one of them moving sluggishly. 'We found them!' Lennon exclaimed, her voice rising with excitement."

Questions: Finding Clues About the Setting:

1. What actions are the characters taking in this scene?

Write down two action words (verbs) from the excerpt that describe what Parker and Lennon are doing:

- Action 1: _____
- Action 2: _____

How does the story show movement in the tundra?

Find and circle all the words in the excerpt that describe movement:

Sped

Gripped

Scanning

Shouted

Slowed

3. What makes the story feel exciting?

What specific verbs or phrases in the excerpt make the adventure feel fast-paced or thrilling?

Your answer: _____

4. Try It Out: Adding More Action!

Rewrite this simple sentence from the story with stronger action words:

Your answer: _____

VERBS IN THE ARCTIC

Verbs are action words. They show what someone or something is doing.

Circle the verbs.

moves

sled

glides

snow

hikes

freezes

tracks

howls

builds

cold

skis

eats

rests

melts

slides

Write three Arctic-themed verbs that describe what animals or people do in the tundra.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Use a verb of your choice to complete the sentences below.

1. The reindeer _____ across the snowy tundra.
2. The Arctic fox _____ quietly in the fresh snow.
3. The ice _____ in the warm sun.
4. A Sámi herder _____ a fire to keep warm.
5. The huskies _____ their way through the icy wind.
6. The snowmobile _____ quickly across the frozen lake.

VERB VAULT FOR ARCTIC ADVENTURES

Simple Verbs:

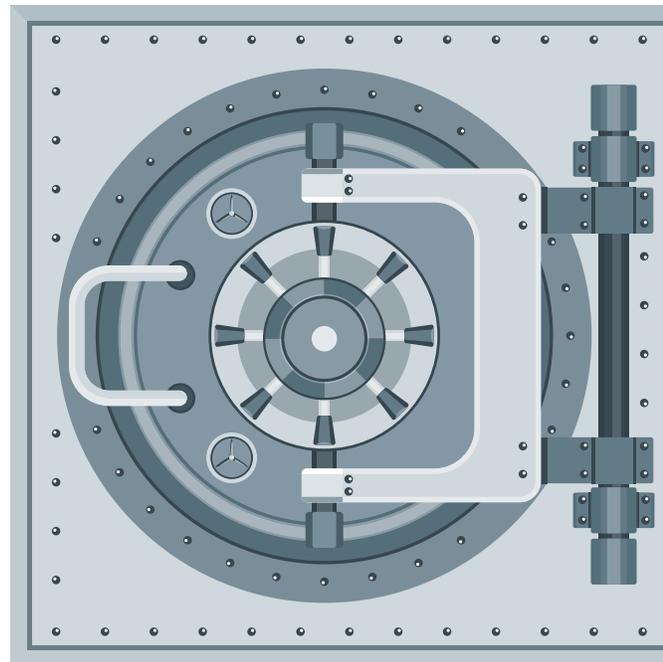
- slide
- run
- jump
- walk
- pull
- ride
- sit
- look
- glide
- sled

Intermediate Verbs:

- dash
- race
- crunch (through snow)
- peer (into the distance)
- skate
- shiver
- push
- search
- guide
- spot

Advanced Verbs:

- trek
- trudge (through deep snow)
- crouch
- scan (the horizon)
- navigate (through the tundra)
- nudge
- scramble
- trace (hoofprints)
- steer (a snowmobile)
- balance (on icy patches)



Name: _____

Date: _____

Narrative Writing

STORY PLAN



Title:

My story

Empty rounded rectangular box for writing the title.

Large empty rounded rectangular box for writing the story.

Two horizontal lines for additional writing or notes.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Narrative Writing

STORY PLAN



Title: _____

Characters



Setting



Problem



Solution



Name: _____

Date: _____

Narrative Writing

STORY PLAN

Title:

Characters

Setting

Plot

Problem

Solution

Name: _____

Date: _____

PLANNING A SHORT STORY



Theme

What theme, 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 general setting or specific setting• Consider time of day, week, month, year, historical era	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Country - culture, landscapes, weather• Town - rural, urban, city• Dwelling - house, factory, school, police station, park, beach etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dark and eerie• Busy and bustling• Strange and unfamiliar• Joyful and elated etc.

Time frame

What is the time frame for the events of your story? 15 minutes, an hour, a day etc.

Name: _____

Date: _____

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, interests	
Actions - mannerisms, manner (aggressive, passive, sporty, reflective), how they treat others (rude, intolerant, kind, shy, secretive), how others treat them (accepting, excluding, following, leading)	

Name: _____

Date: _____

Plot Structure

Exposition / Orientation

Consider an engaging opening - how will you 'hook' your reader's attention? How will you set the mood of your narrative?
Ensure you establish setting, introduce characters and give hints of your conflict.

Rising action

How will you build suspense or tension? What complications or obstacles might your protagonist have to face?

Climax

What is the highest point of tension in your story? Who or what will succeed in winning the conflict?

Resolution

What is the final outcome? How will you position your reader to feel at the end of the story?

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 _____

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1 Parts of a Story

NARRATIVE WRITING

Orientation	Setting
Character	What is the situation?
Complication	Resolution
What is the complication?	How was your problem resolved?

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 like to do in his/her life?

3 Orientation

SETTING

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

Where is your setting?

SEE	HEAR
SMELL	TASTE
FEEL	

Describe your setting.

5. Resolution

RESOLUTION

How was your problem resolved?

THE ENDING

Think about the ending your characters have reached. What was the lesson or moral of your story?

4 Complication

LET'S BUILD UP TO YOUR PROBLEM

What is the problem?

Attempt 1:

Ref. _____

Attempt 2:

Ref. _____

PLANNING A SHORT STORY

Theme

What theme, 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 the period of time. Consider the time of day. Consider the weather. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the location. Consider the time of day. Consider the weather. Consider the season. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the mood. Consider the atmosphere. Consider the tone.

Time frame

What is the time frame for the events of your story? (5 minutes, an hour, a day etc.)

Characterisation

Character 1	Character 2 (if applicable)
Name and title (job, profession, nickname), supporting characters (name if relevant)	
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, quiet), reflected, how they treat others (kind, unkind), how they react to others (fear, anger, surprise), how others react to them (concerning, worrying, following, leading)	

Plot Structure

Exposition / Orientation
Consider an engaging setting. Use all of your senses to describe it. How will you set the mood of your story? How are the main characters introduced? How do you set the mood of your story? How are the main characters introduced? How do you set the mood of your story?
Rising action
How do you build tension or conflict? What complications or obstacles might your protagonist have to face?
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 promise your reader to feel at the end of the story?

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