



# UNDERSTANDING STORY STRUCTURE

## *Year 5 Lesson Plan 3*

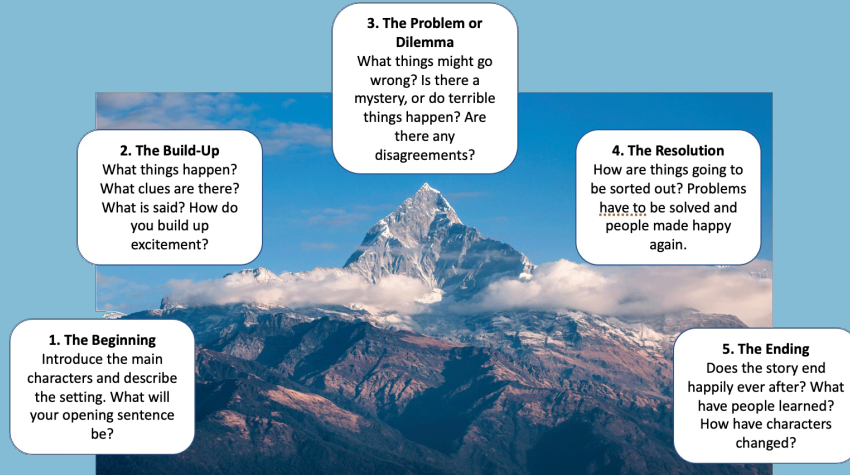
This lesson will explore story structure

# Story Structure

All stories have a beginning, a middle and an end. In the beginning there's an opening and build up, something exciting or important happens in the middle and then we come to the ending as the story winds down.

Think of this as the Story Mountain.

(This is the story mountain and it describes how a story is split into a few sections. Every story has a beginning, middle and an end)





Choose one of these and decide how  
the story fits into the Story Mountain

Rapunzel  
Three Billy Goat's Gruff  
Sleeping Beauty

Jack and the Beanstalk  
The Gingerbread Man



Watch the video:

<https://www.literacyshed.com/the-lighthouse.html>



Can you spot the Story Mountain in 'The Lighthouse'?

Write down the opening, crisis, complication, resolution  
and ending



## Fairytale Newsreaders

Ask each group to choose a different scene from the Cinderella story, for example:

- the invitation
- the fairy godmother
  - the ball
  - midnight
- fitting the shoe;

or

- the prince and Cinderella's wedding.
- Then encourage each group to think of a headline for their chosen scene, for example:
  - Royal Invitations Cause Chaos! or
  - Mystery Girl Leaves the Ball at Midnight!
- Ask each group to decide which member will adopt the role of newsreader, interviewer or other character. Encourage them to structure a scene from the headline to camera, add some further detail of the story and then conduct an interview on location with a character.
  - Give the children time to prepare their news item.

Encourage them to formulate questions and answers and use different accents for effect.



Model class planning, using the story mountain planning sheet

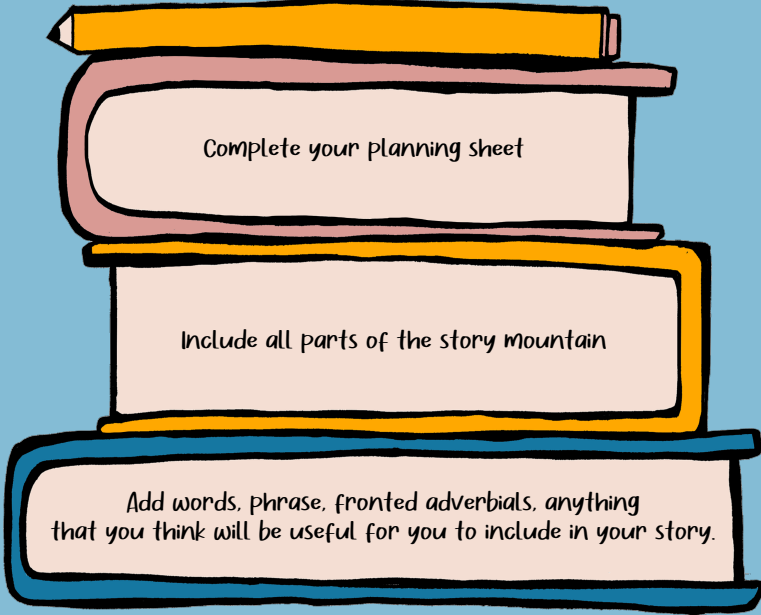
As a class, plan your own story using the story planner.

Think about the following questions:

Where will the story take place, who will be the main character?

What will the problem or the dilemma be and how will this problem be solved?

- Background
- Rising action
- Climax
- Falling action
- Resolution



Complete your planning sheet

Include all parts of the story mountain

Add words, phrase, fronted adverbials, anything  
that you think will be useful for you to include in your story.



## What are the main parts of your story going to be?

Use the story mountain template to decide on the opening, rising action climax, falling action and resolution.

The plan can include the person and the dog.

Discuss your idea with your partner. Have you included all stages?







Let's share our ideas with the class

Can we make them even better??

