

Creative Writing — Planning and Drafting an Original Short Story

Base Sheet

The child plans and begins writing an original short story with a clear beginning, middle, and end. They use a story planning graphic organizer, then draft the opening paragraphs with attention to character, setting, and problem.

What You Need:

- Story planning graphic organizer (printed or drawn)
- Lined paper
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Colored pencils for planning sketches

Steps:

1. 'Authors don't just start writing — they PLAN first. Today you will plan YOUR story.'
2. Story planning organizer: Character (who?), Setting (where and when?), Problem (what goes wrong?), Solution (how is it fixed?), Ending (how does it turn out?).
The child fills in each section with words and quick sketches.
3. Model: 'Once there was a girl named Maya who lived in a treehouse in the forest.'
4. Now write the beginning of your story. Start by introducing the character and setting.'
5. The child writes the opening (at least 4-5 sentences).
6. 'We will continue writing tomorrow!'

Work Space:

A large, dashed rectangular border occupies the bottom half of the page, intended for the child to write their story.

Montessori Homeschool • Print on US Letter (8.5 x 11") • Activity sheet — print on standard paper