Step 1: Make characters.

So when I make characters sometimes its great to create someone new out of thin air. Its a lot of fun and very exciting, its also hard. So more times than some I like to borrow and embelish. I mean imitation is the greatest form of flattery right? Also everything that is done is based on something that has been done, thats where inspiration comes from. So to make our charcters and begin creating our "story" aka fake world lets find some inspiration. I have found an unexpected resource for this inspriation. Childrens Picture Books! I know what you are saying "Jessica you are an adult, why are you reading childrens picture books?!" I'm reading childrens books for the upside, quick and easy reads, that can develope a whole charater with a backstory in less than 30 pages. In addition to that they come with their own art that you can draw from to help inspire your creations. The downside, their are a LOT of childrens books to choose from. It can be daunting to pick just one. Lucky for us we have a great resource that the Richland Library provides for free ninty nine! Its called Novelist and Novelist Plus. Just go to our webpage richlandlibrary.com and then click on research and learn. If you scroll down to reading you should see NoveList k-8 puls as well as NoveList Plus for reading suggestions. (you can also just type in NoveList in the search bar on that page) Once you are on the NoveList site search for something you find interesting. I did a search for tacos, as I find tacos very interesting. A list of books will show up after your seach, click on one you find interesting, for me it was Dragons Love Tacos by Adam Rubin. Another option, that also has worked for me, is to walk into your local branch and look at all the childrens books on display. I did that as well and I saw some books that looked cute to me. I saw Ada Twist, Scientist by Andrea Beaty, illustrated by David Roberts and If I had a Raptor by George O'Connor. Now a bonus about NoveList is that when you find a book you like They suggest read alikes for that book on the same page. For example, when I found If i had a Raptor I looked up in on NoveList and in my read alikes I saw another interesting looking book called We dont eat our classmates by Ryan T. Higgins. You can also click on the authors name and find other books they have written. For example if you pull up Dragons love tacos on NoveList and click on Adam Rubins name you will see Dragons love tacos 2: the sequel. Since I had stumbled onto the pattern that I like cute dinos and dragons (and that most of them were hungry) I kept searching different keywords like hungry dinosoars or food dragons. I also would look at other books authours I liked wrote and check out their read alikes. Eventually I found The super hungry dinosaur by Martin Waddell, illustrated by Leonie Lord and Tiny T Rex and the Impossible Hug by Jonathan Stutzman, illustrated by Jay Fleck. I told yall who illustrated the books because if you like the art, like I did for Tiny T.Rex exspecially, you can search for illustrators as well. I read the discriptions sometimes when I was searching but other times I just chose "a book by its cover". Once you have a good list going I would start searching for your books on the library website to see if we have them. Some I put on hold and had sent to my local branch. Others If they were listed as in I wrote down the call numbers and just swung by to try and pick them up myself. Some were available digitaly and I checked them out on Overdrive or Hoopla. Dragons love Tacos even had a video version of the book I could watch, like a storytime. If you come across a book we dont have you can even request that we purchase it. I have done that as well. You just go to our site and click services. Look for Suggest a Title, log in with your card number an pin and fill our the digital form. Be sure to add your email address so we can let you know if the item will be purchased or not. If it will be as soon as you get the email you may be able to go ahead and put yourself on hold for it so you will get it as soon as it comes in. Once you have your books, read them, then re read them. Then Decide who your characters will be. I decided that I wanted my characters to be. Penolope, the T.Rex from we dont eat our classmates, the Hungry T.Rex from the super hungry dinosaur, who i'm calling Hank Ree, get it, no? Tiny, the T.Rex from Tiny T.Rex and the impossible Hug, and the girl raptor from if i had a raptor, I named her Rogue, because she reminds me of my cat and thats my cats name. So Penelope, Hank Ree, Tiny, and Rouge will be my playable characters. I re read the books and made a short list of qualities that each of them had based off my interpretations of what I read.

Penelope:

scarred of goldfish as she knows they think dinos are delicious

is in 1st grade so seven years old

gets along with human children (now) but still thinks they are tasty

thinks the number of teeth you have is important

ponies are also delicious

likes apple juice

knows first hand how hard it is to make friends

Hank Ree:

when he is super hungry he prefers to eat people and/or their pets

when he is super hungry he will cause property damage

vulnerable to being tied up, if in the state fr a while he will cry and follow any commands given to be untied

loves meals prepared by his human friend Hals mom

when super full prefers to stay away from humans and their pets

Tiny:

his best friend is a stegosaurus named Ponty

his Dad is a scientist

his Aunt Junip is a yogi who like cucumber juice

he lives in a house with his Parents, Aunt, and Sister and Brother

his Mom is very sweet

his Brother and Sister, Rawrie and Trixie are athletic and like ping pong

he is good at planning and training and practicing

he always tries his hardest

he likes to keep the people closest to him happy

Rogue:

she was a humans pet from a baby

she was fluffy funny and cute as a baby

she is very quiet and good at hiding so you need a bell to help keep up with were she is

she likes to sit in her humans lap

she likes to be in warm cozy spots

she sleeps alot during the day and runs around at night but still rise early to say hello

she can see in the dark

she will be sure to let you know if she is hungry

her claws need to be clipped regularly

you must teach her right from wrong (so easily manipulated)

She likes to stalk "prey" and hunt (even if the prey is not real)

raptors in general are pretty awesome but she is the most awesome

Now that we have a starting place for our characters we can move on to the second thing we need. A fake world for our characters to interact with.