

Class 4

Literacy

Remarkable Rainforests

Short story writing

Over the next few weeks we will be looking at short story writing in Literacy. We will eventually try to write a short story using the structure from 'The Great Kapok Tree'.

Lesson Objective: To explore the class text to identify common features of a short story.

How to Write a Good Story

Characters

Who are the characters in your story?



Setting

Where is your story set? Is it in a forest, a town, in the park or somewhere else?



Opening

Introduce the characters and the location of the story.



Build-Up

Begin to write about what is happening at the start of your story. Don't forget to use the characters you introduced at the beginning of your story.



Dilemma

Write about a problem that is happening in your story. What is it that has gone wrong?



Resolution

Write about how the problem will be fixed. Think about how the characters might work together to solve whatever has gone wrong.



Closing

Bring everything in the story to an end and make sure the problem has been fixed.

What makes a good short story?

Jot down what you think a good short story should include.

Elements of a Short Story

1. Setting: Location and time.
2. Characters: The people and their relationships.
3. Plot/story line: Actions and events.
4. Theme: Main or recurrent idea.
5. Style: Writing techniques.

- Listen to 'The Great Kapok Tree' again using the link below.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1Teb-_jTyI

Now consider 'The Great Kapok Tree'.

- Where is this story set?
- Who are the characters?
- What is the story line?
- What is the theme of the story?
- What do you notice about the writing? Is speech used?
Alliteration? Similes? Sentence length?
- These are the main things to consider when writing a short story.

Task

Create a spider diagram which considers the key elements of a short story. Use 'The Great Kapok Tree' to answer the key questions.

Where is this story set?

Who are the characters?

What is the story line?

What is the theme of the story?

What do you notice about the writing? Is speech used? Alliteration?

Similes? Sentence length?