WRITING

Narrative writing

Name _____ Date _____

I can plan and write a story with a beginning, middle and end.

1 How it is built

A narrative tells a story. It has characters and a setting, a problem, events in order and a solution. Signal words like first, then and finally help the reader follow along.

C Characters Who is in the story?	**S** Setting Where and when?	**P** Problem What goes wrong?	**E** Events What happens, in order?	**S** Solution How is it solved?

2 Read the model: The Lost Puppy

One afternoon, Ali found a tiny puppy shivering under the slide at the park. It had no collar, and it was getting dark.

Ali carried the puppy home, and his mom helped him make posters. The next morning, they taped the posters to every tree on the street.

That afternoon, a girl knocked on the door. "That's Biscuit!" she cried. The puppy licked her face, and Ali smiled. He had made a new friend too.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Map the story

Name _____ Date _____

Read the story. Answer each question in a few words.

1 Story map: The Lost Puppy

Use the story on page 1.

Who are the characters?

What is the setting?

What is the problem?

What happens first, next and then?

How is the problem solved?

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Plan your writing

Name _____ Date _____

I can plan my ideas before I write.

1 Choose a prompt. Circle it.

- ○ The day everything went wrong
- ○ A surprise in the backyard
- ○ The best day I ever had

Signal words: One day | First | Next | Then | Suddenly | After that | Finally

2 Organize your ideas

Characters	
Setting	
Problem	
First	
Next	
Then	
Solution	

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Write it

Name _____ Date _____

I can write from my plan, then check my work.

1 Title _____

Check my writing

- [ ] My story has characters and a setting.
- [ ] There is a clear problem.
- [ ] Events are in order, with signal words.
- [ ] I used details so the reader can picture it.
- [ ] The ending solves the problem.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: narrative writing

1 Map the story

Who are the characters? Ali, his mom, the girl and the puppy (Biscuit)

What is the setting? The park and Ali's home, one afternoon and the next day

What is the problem? Ali finds a lost puppy with no collar.

What happens first, next and then? Ali takes the puppy home, makes posters with his mom, and puts them on the trees.

How is the problem solved? The puppy's owner sees a poster and comes to get Biscuit.

2 Check the writing with this list

My story has characters and a setting. · There is a clear problem. · Events are in order, with signal words. · I used details so the reader can picture it. · The ending solves the problem. · I checked capitals, spelling and periods.

3 Teaching tip

Tell the story out loud to a partner before writing it. Children who can tell a story with a beginning, middle and end can write one.

Watch for: Stories that are just a list ("Then... then... then..."). Ask, "What was the problem? How did your character feel?"

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