

# Story Writing



**Level 3**

## Where to Start?

This kind of writing will be great fun for you as you learn about plots, characterization, and the setting for a good story. Perhaps you could write a story set in the historical time period you are studying right now. Use your imagination!

## Characters and Plots

Your teacher will give you either a Story Map or a Characterization Grid as a starting point. Use this tool to help you plan your story.

## Writing the First Draft

- \* Try using a tape recorder and telling your story into it. Once you have finished, you can start writing it down.
- \* If you are having a hard time starting the story, start writing in the middle. You can come back to the beginning and write it later.
- \* Keep your story simple. You don't want to have too many characters or events that you need to write about.
- \* If you get tangled in your plot lines, go back to your Story Map and untangle them with your teacher's help.
- \* Don't forget to *end* your story. Ask for help if you need it.

## Editing the Draft

Your teacher has a list of questions to discuss with you once you have finished writing the first draft. Let her help you with the details of your story, showing you how to rewrite different areas to make them better. Writing stories is fun, but it also takes practice and lots of rough drafts!

## Odds and Ends

Think about who your audience will be.

- \* Can Dad read your story out loud at the dinner table?
- \* Can you submit it to a story-writing contest?
- \* Will you send it to the *Tapestry* website for publication?