

Good Tidings
♥ BOOKS & LEARNING ♥

Rainy Day STORY CHALLENGE

A Collaborative, Surprise Story Adventure!



WORK TOGETHER. KEEP IT SECRET. CREATE SOMETHING AMAZING!



SECRET ROLES

Each student creates one piece of the story without sharing!



BIG REVEAL

Put all the pieces together for one hilarious story!



TEAMWORK

Listen, build ideas, and turn surprises into a masterpiece!



CREATIVE FUN

Draw, imagine, and write in fun new ways!



EVERYONE SHINES

Every idea matters. Every student gets a part!

Because the best stories are made together.

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

TEACHER HOW-TO GUIDE



Students secretly create different pieces of a story, reveal their work, and then collaborate to make the unexpected pieces fit. The result is part creative-writing lesson, part art activity, and part storytelling game.

BEST FOR	GROUP SIZE	TIME	SKILLS
Elementary classrooms	4-5 students per group	35-60 minutes or 2 sessions	Story elements • sequencing collaboration • speaking

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Print one packet set for each group. Students will need pencils and drawing supplies. If possible, seat role partners near each other but give groups enough space that students working on different parts cannot easily see one another's pages. Explain one rule before passing out the sheets: **no sharing, peeking, or asking for clues until the Big Reveal.**

1. ASSIGN THE SECRET ROLES	Character Creators — 2 students: Create one or two characters using the question and art pages. Setting & Scene Artist(s) — 1-2 students: Create one or two settings/scenes without knowing who will appear in them. Story Starter — 1 student: Creates the basic beginning, problem, next step, and ending without naming a character or setting.
2. CREATE — BUT DON'T PEEK	Students complete only their assigned pages. Partners may talk to each other when they share the same role, but different roles stay separate. When a student finishes, have them turn their work face down. This keeps one team from adjusting its ideas to match another team's work.
3. THE BIG REVEAL	Once everyone is ready, have students reveal their character art, settings, and Story Starter at the same time. Give groups a few minutes simply to react and notice the combinations. A goofy character, an odd setting, or a plot that seems not to fit is exactly what you want.
4. MAKE THE PIECES FIT	Hand out one Big Reveal sheet per group. Now everyone works together. Students decide how the character(s), setting(s), and plot can belong in the same tale. They may add connecting details, dialogue, explanations, or silly twists, but should try to keep the original mystery pieces in their story.
5. TELL THE STORY	Groups give their story a title and decide how to present it. They can hold up the character and scene artwork as they tell the story. Students may use the Big Reveal sheet for support; this is oral storytelling, not a memorization exercise. Make sure every group member has a speaking, showing, or storytelling part.

WHAT STUDENTS ARE PRACTICING

Character • setting • plot • beginning/middle/end • sequencing • oral language • creative problem-solving • listening • teamwork • presentation skills

TEACHER TIP: Don't fix combinations that seem ridiculous. The challenge is for students to explain how the pieces connect. Those unexpected combinations are often where the best collaboration, problem-solving, and funniest stories happen.

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE



CHARACTER CREATOR — CHARACTER 1

TOP SECRET! Create Character 1. Keep your ideas hidden from the Setting & Scene Creators and Story Starter until the BIG REVEAL!

Character Creator: _____

1. What is your character's name?	Character name: _____ _____
2. What kind of character is it?	Person, animal, creature, object, imaginary being... or something completely new. _____ _____
3. Pick TWO words that describe the character.	Funny? Brave? Grumpy? Curious? Sneaky? Kind? Dramatic? Shy? _____ _____
4. What does your character love OR do really well?	A favorite thing, talent, hobby, skill, or unusual ability. _____ _____
5. Add one silly surprise.	A funny habit, fear, catchphrase, secret, outfit, pet, or strange detail. _____ _____

NEXT: Draw Character 1 on the matching Character Art page. When you're finished, keep your question sheet and drawing face down until the BIG REVEAL!

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

CHARACTER ART — CHARACTER 1



Draw your character big! Add expressions, clothing, special features, props, or other details that help bring the character to life.

Character name: _____ Artist: _____

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE



CHARACTER CREATOR — CHARACTER 2

OPTIONAL SECOND CHARACTER! Use this page if your team is creating two characters. Give Character 2 its own personality and surprises - and keep it TOP SECRET!

Character Creator: _____

1. What is your character's name?	Character name: _____ _____
2. What kind of character is it?	Person, animal, creature, object, imaginary being... or something completely new. _____ _____
3. Pick TWO words that describe the character.	Funny? Brave? Grumpy? Curious? Sneaky? Kind? Dramatic? Shy? _____ _____
4. What does your character love OR do really well?	A favorite thing, talent, hobby, skill, or unusual ability. _____ _____
5. Add one silly surprise.	A funny habit, fear, catchphrase, secret, outfit, pet, or strange detail. _____ _____

NEXT: Draw Character 2 on the matching Character Art page. When you're finished, keep your question sheet and drawing face down until the BIG REVEAL!

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

CHARACTER ART — CHARACTER 2



Draw your character big! Add expressions, clothing, special features, props, or other details that help bring the character to life.

Character name: _____ Artist: _____

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

SETTING & SCENE CREATOR — 1



TOP SECRET! Create your own setting for the mystery story. Don't ask about the characters or plot - you won't see those until the BIG REVEAL!

Scene Artist 1: _____

1. WHERE does your story world take place?	Choose a place - real or imaginary. It could be a school, forest, city, beach, castle, backyard, outer space... anywhere! _____ _____
2. WHEN is it happening?	Think about time and atmosphere: morning, nighttime, long ago, the future, summer, winter, sunny, stormy, foggy, snowy... _____ _____
3. What should we SEE in the scene?	Choose 2-4 important things to include - buildings, trees, furniture, signs, objects, weather, paths, mountains, etc. _____ _____
4. Add ONE strange or unexpected detail!	Put something in the setting that normally would not belong there. For example: a giant teacup sitting in the middle of a playground, or a tiny door hidden in the trunk of a tree. Our unexpected detail: _____ _____

NOW DRAW IT! Use your matching Scene Art page to bring this setting to life. Don't draw the mystery characters - another team is secretly creating them. Keep your work hidden until the BIG REVEAL!

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

SETTING / SCENE ART — 1



Draw your setting big and fill it with details. Remember to hide your strange or unexpected detail somewhere in the picture. Don't draw the mystery characters!

Setting / Scene: _____ Artist: _____

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

SETTING & SCENE CREATOR — 2



TOP SECRET! Create your own setting for the mystery story. Don't ask about the characters or plot - you won't see those until the BIG REVEAL!

Scene Artist 2: _____

1. WHERE does your story world take place?	Choose a place - real or imaginary. It could be a school, forest, city, beach, castle, backyard, outer space... anywhere! _____ _____
2. WHEN is it happening?	Think about time and atmosphere: morning, nighttime, long ago, the future, summer, winter, sunny, stormy, foggy, snowy... _____ _____
3. What should we SEE in the scene?	Choose 2-4 important things to include - buildings, trees, furniture, signs, objects, weather, paths, mountains, etc. _____ _____
4. Add ONE strange or unexpected detail!	Put something in the setting that normally would not belong there. For example: a giant teacup sitting in the middle of a playground, or a tiny door hidden in the trunk of a tree. Our unexpected detail: _____ _____

NOW DRAW IT! Use your matching Scene Art page to bring this setting to life. Don't draw the mystery characters - another team is secretly creating them. Keep your work hidden until the BIG REVEAL!

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

SETTING / SCENE ART — 2



Draw your setting big and fill it with details. Remember to hide your strange or unexpected detail somewhere in the picture. Don't draw the mystery characters!

Setting / Scene: _____ Artist: _____

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

STORY STARTER



TOP SECRET! You're creating the bones of the story - not the whole story! Don't ask who the characters are or where the story takes place. Your group will discover that at the BIG REVEAL.

Story Starter: _____

1. At the beginning...	What is someone doing when the story starts? Keep it general - don't name or describe the character. _____ _____ _____
2. UH-OH! What happens?	Create an unexpected problem, mix-up, surprise, or discovery. _____ _____ _____
3. Then what?	What does someone try to do about the problem? It doesn't have to work perfectly! _____ _____ _____
4. How does it end?	How is the problem solved - or what funny, surprising, or unexpected thing happens at the end? _____ _____ _____

BONUS SILLY TWIST — OPTIONAL!

Add one weird, funny, or unexpected thing that could happen in the story.

KEEP IT SECRET! Turn this sheet face down when you're finished. At the BIG REVEAL, your group will combine your story idea with the mystery characters and settings. Then everyone will work together to turn the pieces into one story!

RAINY DAY STORY CHALLENGE

THE BIG REVEAL!



Time to uncover the mystery pieces! Share your characters, settings, scenes, and Story Starter with one another. Your challenge is to make **every piece** belong in one story - even the silly, strange, or totally unexpected ones.

Our Storytelling Team: _____

MEET OUR CHARACTER(S)

Who showed up?

WELCOME TO OUR SETTING(S)

Where did our story land?

THE GROUP CHALLENGE: Before writing, talk it out. What surprised you? Which pieces seem like they don't belong together? Those are the pieces that can make your story the most fun. Decide together how you can connect them.

1. FIRST...

How does the story begin now that you know who and where?

2. THEN...

Bring in the Story Starter's problem, surprise, or discovery. What happens?

3. BUT SUDDENLY...

Work in a funny character trait, strange setting detail, second scene, or unexpected twist.

4. FINALLY...

How does it all come together? Give your story an ending your group likes.

OUR STORY TITLE: _____

GET READY TO TELL YOUR TALE!

Use your artwork and this page while you present - no memorizing required. Decide who will introduce the story, show the character art, show the scene art, and tell each part.

Our plan: _____

Remember: Everyone gets a part, and everyone helps tell the story!