

Objectives we are covering this half term:

Composition

1. Can make detailed observations about the structure, vocabulary and grammatical features of example texts in order to help plan their own writing.
2. Can write detailed setting and character descriptions that contain rich adjectives, verbs and adverbs.
3. Can propose changes to grammar and vocabulary to improve sentences and alter meaning.

Grammar and punctuation

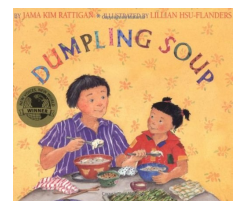
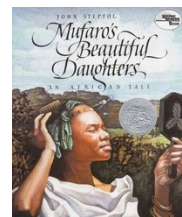
1. Can use fronted adverbials (*Moving slowly, he edged along the ridge*).
2. Can use a comma after fronted adverbials.
3. Can punctuate direct speech, putting speech marks around anything said aloud and beginning a new line for each speaker.

Take one book!

Choose a story, which is set in a different part of the world. This can be a story that you have read before, or one that you would like to read. If you haven't got a story like this at home, you could borrow one from your local library, or we have a selection at school you could choose from.

Activities:

- Draw a story mountain or text map your story, illustrating the opening, build up, problem, resolution and ending.
- Choose two characters from your story and think of a place they can meet. This could be a setting from your story or you can magpie a setting from another story. Imagine what the characters might be doing in this setting. Create a conversation they might have; write this out using correct speech punctuation.
- Choose a character from your book who is experiencing a problem and write a letter to them offering some helpful advice.
- Draw the outline of one of the main characters from your story. Write words and phrases to describe what they look like around the outside of the outline. Inside the outline of the character, write words and phrases to describe their personality and their feelings about things.



Let's write...

Use your imagination to help you create two characters, like Dog and Magpie from the book 'Fox', that we have been focusing on in English. Think of something that could happen to one of the characters, causing them a problem and making them very sad.

Use the questions below to help you to create your own story, where one character becomes a very good friend to another character and really helps them out.

- What happened to the character to make them sad? Think about what happened to Magpie in our story to give you some ideas.
- How do they feel about this?
- How has it made them behave?
- How does the other character become their friend and help them to overcome their problem?
- What did they say?
- What did they do?
- Is the problem actually resolved?

You could write or type up your story in the form of a book. You could tell your story using a comic strip format, or you could record yourself telling the story to share with your class.

Grammar fun

Fronted Adverbials

Adverbials are words or phrases that help to describe the action in a sentence. Fronted adverbials are positioned at the beginning of a sentence and are always followed by a comma. Adverbials can be one word (verbs or adverbs) or phrases that tell us **when**, **where** or **how** something happened.

After the rain, when saplings are springing up everywhere, a fox comes into the bush.

Through scorched woodlands, Fox runs so fast that his feet scarcely touch the ground.

Sighing, Magpie does as he asks.

- ◆ **Make a collection of fronted adverbials that tell you **when**, **where** or **how** something happened.**
- ◆ **Use them to describe the action in three sentences of your own.**
- ◆ **Bring them back to school to share.**