

# HOW YOU CAN HELP WITH WRITING STORIES

- \* Read and talk about stories together.
- \* Talk about characters from books or the television.
- \* Choose and use a 'Word of the Week'.
- \* Encourage children to enter story writing competitions.
- \* Listen to story tapes.
- \* Help children to plan stories and encourage them to proofread carefully.
- \* Use plenty of praise and encouragement.
- \* Make writing fun. Write some stories together!

## Stow Primary School

### Helping with Writing



### Imaginative Writing Second Level (2)

Interesting opening

### Old Witchery Wood

Creates atmosphere

The trees swished wildly as the wind blew them from side to side. It was a moonlit night in old Witchery Wood. Deep down in the forest where the animals of the night roamed freely without a single care, where the trees were as big as houses and where the abandoned cottage lay deep within the woods. But all was not well as the ghouls soon uncovered and Jess, Taz and Mickey were there to discover the secret.

Describes setting

BBBLLLLIIINNNGGG! Taz reached his arm out and stopped his alarm clock. He got up to and went to his mirror, only to see his pale face once again. His eyes were as blue as the ocean, his nose was small and his mouth it was medium sized with pale pink lips attached to it. Overall, he was a pale skinned boy.

"Taz" his mother called, "you better get ready for your little adventure and when you're ready come down and I'll fix you up some breakfast."

"Ok mum, thanks I guess"

"What was that?"

Describes characters

"Nothing." Taz went over to his wardrobe and got ready. He put on some black jeans, a blue t-shirt and a navy blue hooded top. He shut his wardrobe door and some photos fell from the top. "Ohh," sighed Taz, he picked them up and saw a picture of his best friends Jess and Mickey. Mickey was the brains of the three and Jess well was sort of the bossy boots. He always took charge even when it wasn't his place to, but he was still his friend, despite his actions. Then Taz realised what his mum was on about. Today was the day he was going on a two-day hike to old Witchery Wood with Mickey and Jess. Luckily, he was one of the prepared people of the world so naturally his bag was already packed. He ran over to his bed and put his arm under and pulled out a red backpack, he ran to the door, went down the stairs and ran into the kitchen. He grabbed some toast and ran to the car with his mum close behind and literally jumped into the car, his mum started up the engine and off they went.

When they finally arrived at Witchery Wood Taz met up with Jess and Mickey and after saying a huge goodbye his mum went home. "Well," said Mickey, "this is Witchery Wood," he was saying as they walked up the woodland path to the wood. They had been walking a good three hours when they saw an old cottage. They were eager to get inside so they set off to the door and entered it. The door slammed shut behind them and when they finally got it open again Mickey was gone.

"Where is he?" whispered Jess.

Varied sentence beginnings

"We'll have to go in again and look for him," said Taz. So, it was settled they went in and a great shock befell them....

Develops towards a climax

## Imaginative Writing

When writing stories children learn to:

write a clear introduction and sequence events to develop the story.

use a good title.

set the story in the past or present.

describe characters and setting and create atmosphere.

link characters with events.

write an ending that ties up all loose ends.

### *Tools for Writing*

- \* Use full stops, commas and question marks accurately and experiment with other punctuation for effect e.g. exclamation marks, inverted commas, dashes, brackets, etc.
- \* Accurate spelling of all common and familiar words.
- \* Use a range of joining words e.g. although, however, since, in order to, etc.
- \* Deliberately use adjectives and/or adverbs for detail and description.
- \* Vary sentence beginnings and lengths.
- \* Mark paragraphs correctly.
- \* Handwriting is accurate and consistent.