



Map your story

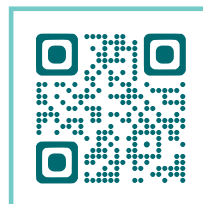
- Develop a unique concept and build on it through your story.
- Create a 'sparkling start'.
- Plan a beginning, middle and end; build tension and an interesting problem your characters solve.
- Share your characters' changing feelings and goals, so readers care what happens next.
- Create a plot that is memorable and unexpected (would your friends talk about it?).

Draw readers in and hold their attention

- Use clear, descriptive language that brings readers into your story – call on all five senses and use powerful imagery (similes; metaphors).
- Build your 'world' (setting) with interesting and unique details.
- Introduce characters with memorable details and have them speak to move the story forward (dialogue).

Learn ... and teach

- Is your story concept original, interesting and exciting and appealing?
- Is the theme **Footprint** incorporated?
- What's that 'special something' that readers will remember about your story?
- Does your story help readers learn; make them think; make them laugh and/or cry?
- Does your story change it's characters and/or your readers in some way? If your characters learn a lesson, your readers will too!



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