

Plot, Characters, Setting, and Theme

Plot:

The plot is made up of a series of events that take place in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.

- The beginning tells who the story is about and where it takes place. It also introduces the problem.
- The middle of the story includes events that tell how the problem will be solved.
- The end of the story tells the solution.

Characters:

The characters are the people or animals in the story. We learn about characters by what they say and do. We also learn what they look like, what they think about, and how they feel.

- The main characters are who the story is mostly about.
- The supporting characters play a smaller role, but they interact with the main character and have an effect on the story.

Setting:

The setting tells where and when the story takes place. The story may happen in a real place or in an imaginary place. It could happen any time in the past, present, or future. Some stories have more than one setting.

- The setting can affect what the characters do and how they feel.
- The setting can cause events in a story to change.

Theme:

The theme is the message of a story. To find the theme, ask yourself, "What does the author want me to know?" and use details from the story as clues.

- Character Details: How does the author describe the characters? What do the characters say and do? Does the main character change from the beginning of the story to the end?
- Story Details: What important events happen in the story? Is there a problem that needs to be solved? Do the problem and solution teach the characters an important lesson?

Story Structure

Story Map

