

Story Map

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

A STORY MAP is a graphic organizer that helps students learn the elements of literature by identifying characters, plot, and setting. It is used during and after reading a text. This strategy supports students' comprehension by providing students with a framework for identifying and organizing the elements of literature.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

- Establish the purpose of the story map.
- Discuss the main components of a story, e.g., beginning, middle, and end OR characters, setting, plot, point of view, and theme.
- Provide students with a story map graphic organizer and model how to use it, using a class text(s) and a think aloud to illustrate your thinking; scaffold as needed.
- As students read, have them complete the story map. After reading, have students fill in any missing parts; scaffold as needed.

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Teacher observation
- Conferring
- Student journaling
- Graphic organizer post-reading as formative assessment

RESEARCH

Dexter, D. D., & Hughes, C. (2011). Graphic organizers and students with learning disabilities: A meta-analysis. *Learning Disability Quarterly*, 34(2), 51-72.

Hattie, J.A.C. (2009). The contributions from teaching approaches: Concept mapping. *Visible Learning*. New York: Routledge, 168-169.

Kim, A., Vaughn, S., Wanzek, J., & Wei, S. (2008). Graphic organizers and their effects on the reading comprehension of students with LD: A synthesis of research. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 37(2), 105-118.

Little, D. C., & Box, J. A. (2011). The use of a specific schema theory strategy-semantic mapping to facilitate vocabulary development and comprehension for at-risk reader. *Reading Improvement*, 48(1), 24-31.

Wisconsin State Standards

Reading: Literature
– Key Ideas and
Details

Grade Level

K-5

Purpose

Use with students
to support
comprehension:
identify elements of
literature and
organize ideas
within a text

When to Use

During Reading
After Reading

Grouping

Whole Group
Small Group
Partners
Individuals

Name: _____

Story Map

Draw a picture and write a sentence for the beginning, middle, and end of a text.

Title: _____

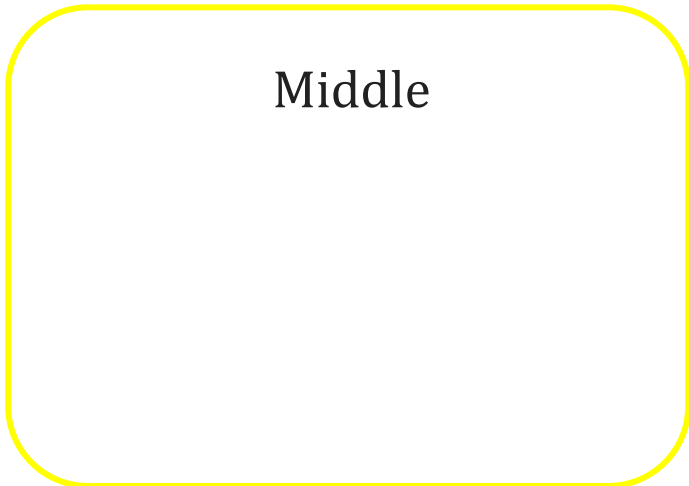
Author: _____

Illustrator: _____

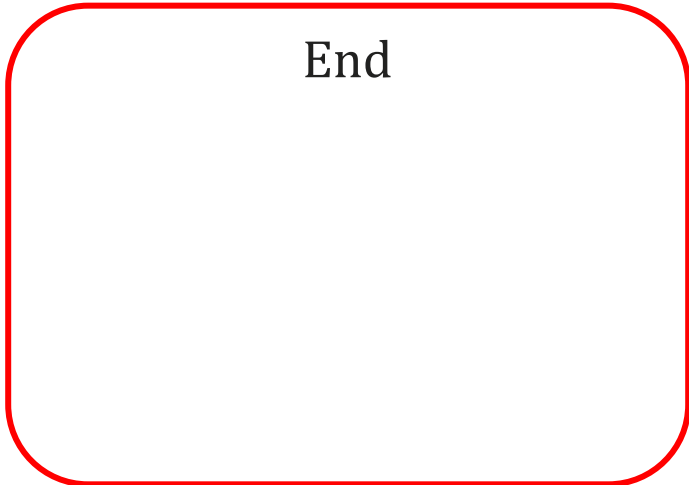
Beginning



Middle



End



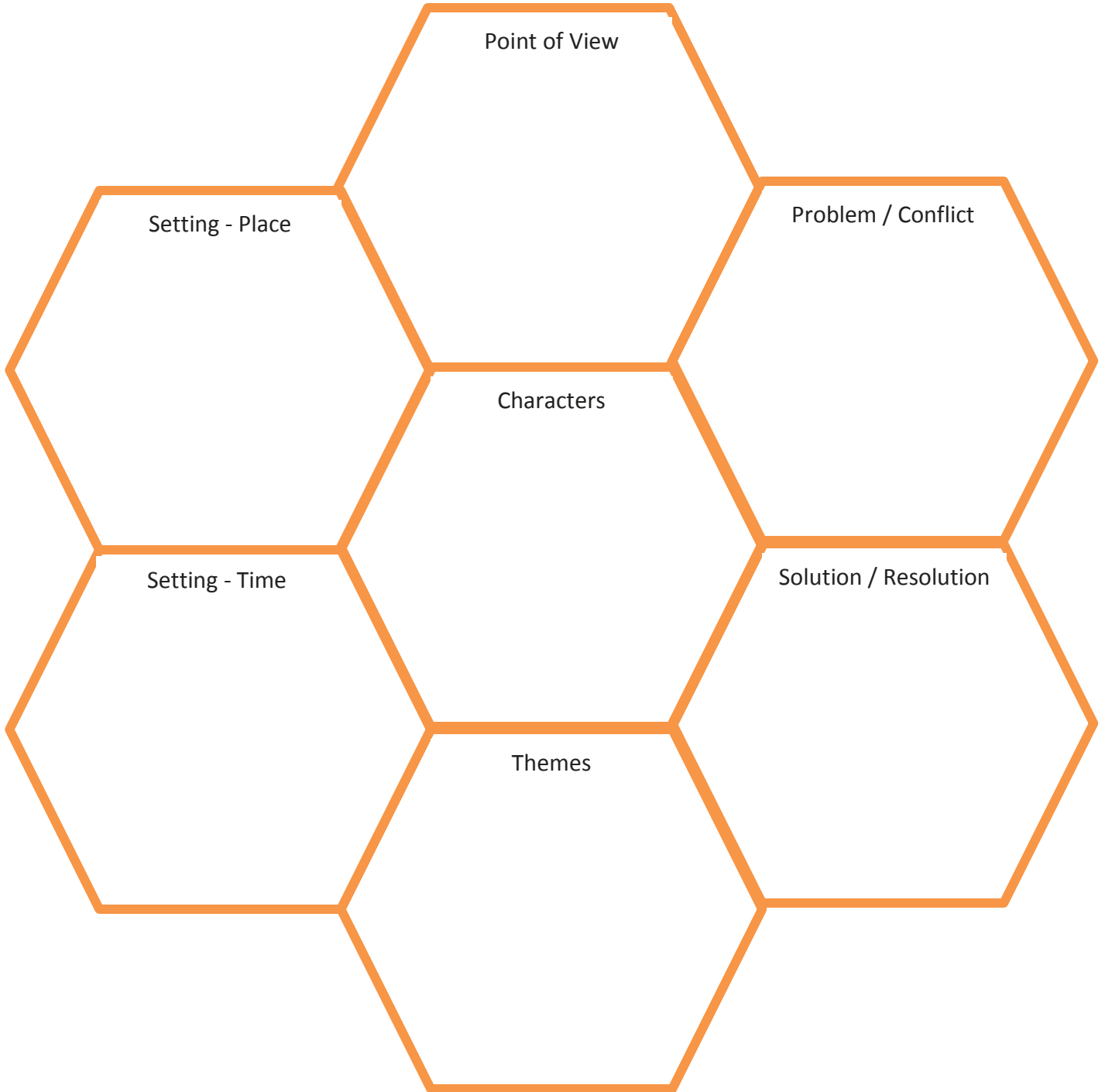
Name: _____

Story Map

Draw a picture or write a sentence for each of the elements of story.

Title: _____

Author: _____ Illustrator: _____



Name: _____

Story Map



Add events on the plot line.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Illustrator: _____

