

# Character, Plot

**Apply In:**

"A Sound for Baby Duck,"  
page 4

## 1 Reteach

Narrate a story:

- ▶ Pia can't find her book. She looks in her desk. She looks in her backpack. She asks Pham for help. Pham looks on the table. Pham finds Pia's book. Pia thanks Pham for his help.

Record children's responses in a chart as you ask: **What happens at the beginning of the story?** (Pia loses her book.) **What happens in the middle of the story?** (Pham helps find the book.) **What happens at the end of the story?** (Pia thanks Pham for his help.)

Then display and discuss this chart:

Our Story

Beginning	Middle	End
Pia loses her book.	Pham helps find the book.	Pia thanks Pham.

Explain plot and characters:

- ▶ A plot tells what happens in the beginning, middle, and end of a story. The characters are the people or animals in a story. Pia and Pham are the characters in our story.

## 2 Practice with the Group

Tell the group a simple story. It can be a retelling of a story with which they are familiar, or a story about something that happened in the classroom. Then have the group tell what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story and who the characters are.

## Character, Plot

### 3 Apply

Distribute copies of the **Character and Plot Bookmark** and “A Sound for Baby Duck.” Explain that children should refer to the Bookmark as they listen or read. Then form groups.

- ▶ **Beginning Readers** listen as you read the story aloud.
- ▶ **More Fluent Readers** read the story silently.

After reading, have children identify the characters and plot in the story. Use the **Multi-Level Strategies** to involve children at all proficiency levels.

BEGINNING	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
Have children point to the characters. Then have them act out the events in the story. Say: <b>Show me what happens (first) in the story.</b>	Have children respond in complete sentences. Ask: <b>Who are the characters? What happens (first) in the story? What happens at the end?</b>	Have children draw a chart that shows the characters and the events in the beginning, middle, and end. Children can use the chart to retell the story.

Record children’s ideas in a chart. For example:

*A Sound for Baby Duck*

Beginning	Middle	End
Baby Duck can’t make a sound.		

### CLOSE AND ASSESS

Have children tell you what a plot is (what happens in the beginning, middle, and end of the story) and what characters are (the people or animals in a story).

## Character

A **character** is a person or an animal in a story. Look at what the character does and says. This character cries. She says, "I want to go, too!" This tells me she is sad.



↑ Fold

## Plot

The plot is what happens in a story. A plot has a beginning, middle, and end.

**Beginning:** Mimi wants to go.



**Middle:** The bus is full.



**End:** Sali gives her a seat.

© Hampton-Brown



## Character

A **character** is a person or an animal in a story. Look at what the character does and says. This character cries. She says, "I want to go, too!" This tells me she is sad.



↑ Fold

## Plot

The plot is what happens in a story. A plot has a beginning, middle, and end.

**Beginning:** Mimi wants to go.



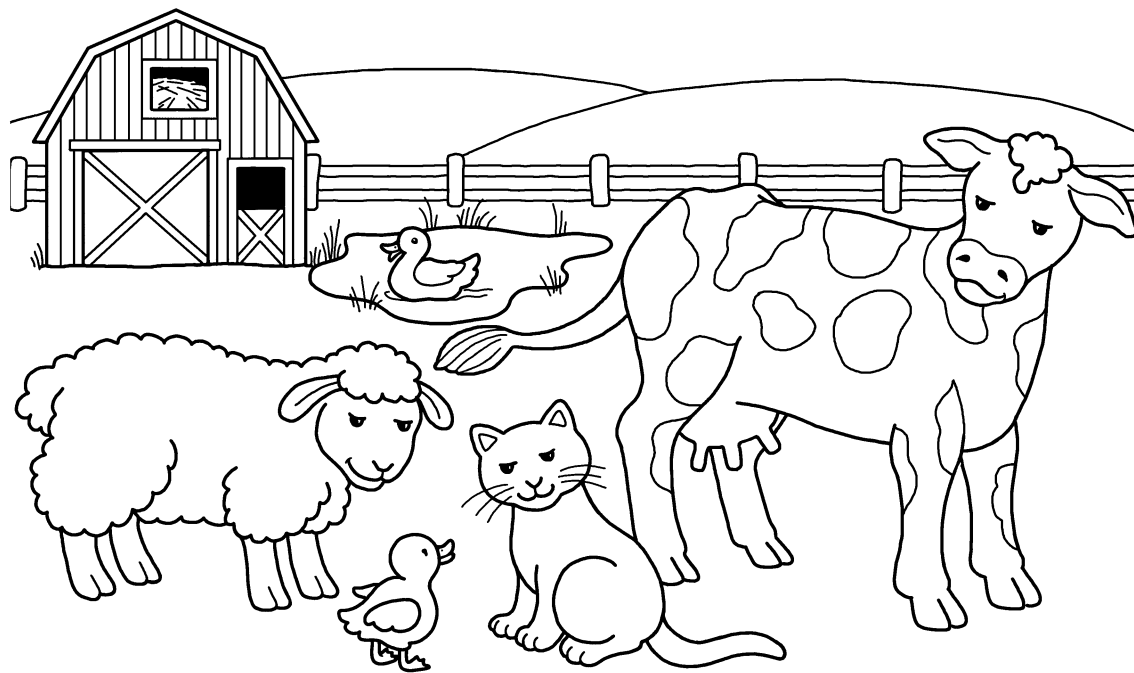
**Middle:** The bus is full.



**End:** Sali gives her a seat.

© Hampton-Brown





## A Sound for Baby Duck

Baby Duck is sad. She does not know what sound to make.

She sees a cow. The cow says, "Moo."

Ducks do not say, "Moo."

She sees a sheep. The sheep says, "Baa."

Ducks do not say, "Baa."

She sees a cat. The cat says, "Meow."

Ducks do not say, "Meow."

She sees Mother Duck. Mother Duck says, "Quack." Baby Duck quacks right back!