

Character, Plot

Apply In:

- ● Leveled Book: *Tomás and the Library Lady*

1 Reteach

Ask two volunteers to help you tell a story. Ask the audience: **Who is in the story?** Then say: **Yes, Juan and Tonya are in the story. They are the characters. A character is who is in a story.**

Have the volunteers role-play as you tell the story: **One morning in class, Juan can't figure out a math problem. Tonya helps Juan, and he says, "Thanks."**

Then ask: **Where does this story happen?** (in a classroom) **When does it happen?** (in the morning) Explain: **This is the setting of the story—a classroom in the morning. The setting is where and when a story happens.**

Discuss plot by asking these questions:

- ▶ **Juan, what happened at the beginning of the story?**
(I had trouble with a math problem.)
- ▶ **Tonya, what happened next?** (I helped Juan.)
- ▶ **What happened at the end?** (Juan thanked me.)

Explain: **The plot is the order of events in a story. A plot has a beginning, a middle, and an end.**

Then display and discuss this chart:

Character	who is in a story
Setting	where and when a story happens
Plot	the order of events

2 Practice with a Partner

Have partners page through the book, using the illustrations to identify the characters, setting, and plot.

Materials

- familiar picture book, such as *Little Red Riding Hood*

Character, Plot

3 Apply

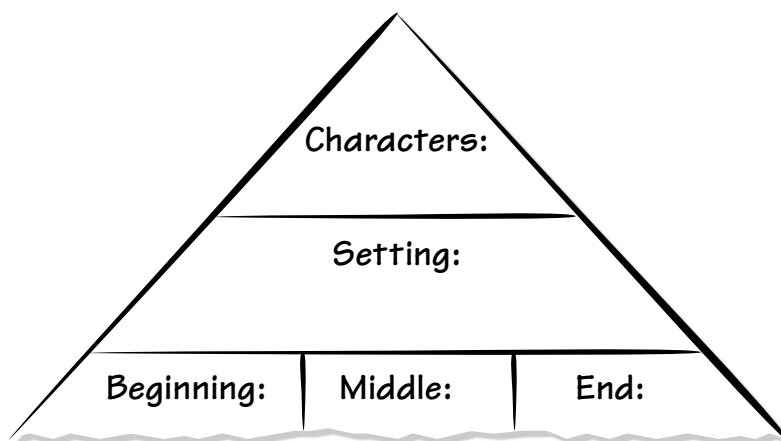
Distribute copies of the **Character and Plot Bookmark**. Explain that students should refer to the Bookmark as they listen or read. Then form groups.

- ▶ **Beginning Readers** listen as you conduct a Picture Walk and read the book aloud.
- ▶ **More Fluent Readers** read silently.

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

BEGINNING	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
Have students point to the characters and a setting. Then ask: Does Tomás's family go to Iowa in the beginning or end?	Ask: Where (When) does this story take place? Who are the characters? What happens in the beginning (middle, end)?	Have pairs of students identify the characters, setting, and plot of the story on a storyboard with captions.

Record students' ideas in a story pyramid like this:



Students can use the completed pyramid to retell the story.

CLOSE AND ASSESS

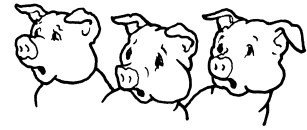
Have students define character (who is in a story), setting (where and when a story takes place), and plot (the order of events).

Character

A **character** is a person or an animal in a story. A character's words and actions show what the character is like. In the story "The Three Little Pigs," the wolf and pigs are characters.



The wolf is mean.

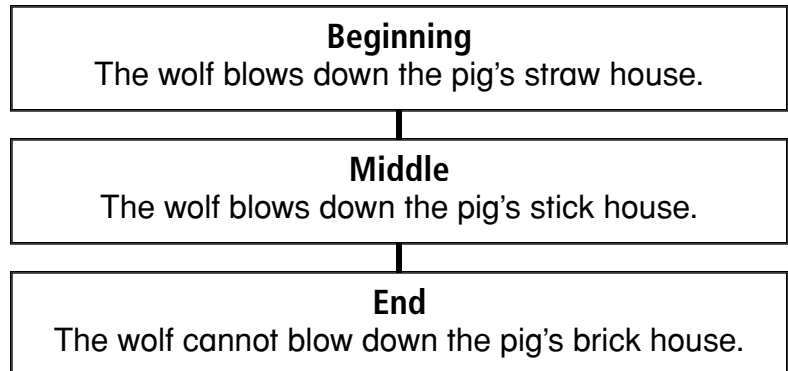


The pigs are scared.

Plot

The **plot** is the order or sequence of events in a story. A story plot has a

- beginning
- middle
- end.



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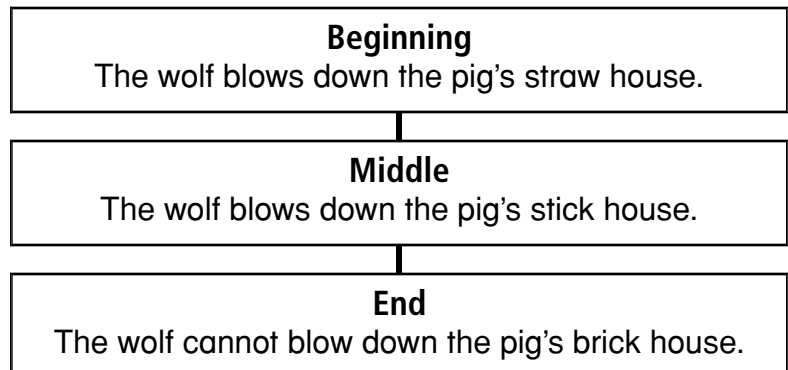


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