

ENGLISH · KS1-KS2

# Story Mountain

Every story has a shape

## Five Parts of a Story

Climb the mountain, then come down.

- 1. Opening: Set the scene. Who? Where? When? Hook the reader in.
- 2. Build-up: Develop the characters. Hint at what's about to happen.
- 3. Problem (climax): Something goes wrong. The biggest moment.
- 4. Resolution: How is the problem solved?
- 5. Ending: How does the story finish? What's changed?
- Every story has tension that goes UP then DOWN.
- The problem is at the TOP of the mountain.
- Plan all five parts BEFORE you write.

## Useful Starters by Section

Useful openers

- Opening: Once upon a time... / It was a stormy night... / Long ago, in...
- Build-up: Suddenly... / Without warning... / At that very moment...
- Problem: To the surprise of everyone... / Things went horribly wrong when...
- Resolution: After a long while... / Slowly but surely... / Just in time...





Ending: From that day on... / Years later... / Finally, peace returned to...

