

Year 6 Fiction and Stories: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to fiction and stories can help you support your child's learning at home. Each subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring fiction and stories together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is using detailed reasoning and justifications to answer questions about a story and giving evidence from the text to support their thinking, or they are creating drama performances of their own or someone else's story and are thinking clearly about tone, volume and physical movement, you will find a step that matches where your child is at as well as some ideas for where to go next.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.



We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

Fiction and Stories

What Are Stories and Fiction?

Stories are a wonderful way for children to explore their creativity and imagination.

During year 6, your child will continue to explore a wide range of different stories through shared reading, guided reading, English topics, reading at home and class topics. Your child will look at many different stories and learn about diverse characters, settings and plot ideas.

In reading comprehension, the focus is on reasoning and providing evidence. Your child will still read a variety of stories and be asked questions that need them to retrieve, infer, sequence and predict. However, there will be a much greater focus on your child being able to give reasons and evidence from the text to justify their answers. They will have to use personal experiences and textual evidence to provide explanations of their ideas.

Your child will learn to recognise and use different examples of figurative language. As well as reinforcing their understanding of metaphors, similes and alliteration, they will also learn how to use idioms and hyperboles within their writing. This will also include being able to describe the effect these types of language have on the overall story and the reader.

As well as reading and writing stories, your child will also explore fiction through drama activities. They will act out different events and scenes from their favourite stories, take part in hot-seating games (where they answer questions in the role of a character) and freeze-framing (where they create poses that act as pictures of a scene). These activities give your child opportunities to explore stories in a variety of different ways.

As well as using the resources found in this category and the suggested keyword searches to help your child with exploring fiction and stories, a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to find out about language features and vocabulary used in fiction and stories are outlined below.

Read, Read, Read!

One of the best ways to explore stories and fiction is to read as many as you can with your child. As your child's reading skills improve, they will be able to explore stories in more detail. Don't be afraid to ask your child questions about the stories they are reading. Ask about characters feelings, events that have happened in the story and your child's thoughts and opinions of the story. Encourage your child to give detailed reasons for their answers.

Hyperbole Creator

A hyperbole is an exaggerated statement that is not designed to be taken literally. For example, 'I'm so hungry I could eat a horse' or 'you could knock him over with a feather'. After you have looked at some real examples of hyperboles with your child, they could try and attempt to make their own versions.

Alternate Endings

After your child has read a story, see if they can create an alternate ending for the narrative. Based on the stories of the genre that they have read in the past, can they think of an ending that would still be appropriate for the style of story?

Vocabulary Dice Game

To help your child practise exploring vocabulary, synonyms, antonyms and creativity, you could play **this dice game** with them. Depending on the number they roll, they could have to define the word, say a word that means something similar, say a word that means the opposite, draw something to represent the word or act out something that represents the word.

Step 1

Reading Comprehension Year 6

In year 6, the focus of reading comprehension is definitely on justification. Your child will continue to make predictions about the stories they read, deciding on reasonable ideas of things that could happen next in the narrative. They will sequence events in the story and retrieve information directly from the text, stating why certain vocabulary choices have an effect on the reader. They will also infer about information hidden in the story - reading between the lines and spotting things that are not directly said. With all these things, your child will learn to give detailed evidence from the text to support their thinking. They will identify parts of the story that back up their answers, providing detailed justification. Why not take a look at this reading comprehension pack with your child? It contains different story types for your child to explore as well as a wide variety of questions, challenging their ability to reason and justify their thinking.



Figurative Language

Up to this point, your child will already have explored some forms of figurative language (similes, metaphors, alliteration and onomatopoeia). Figurative language is a great way to add extra creativity and imagery to your writing. At this stage, your child will begin to identify, create and use idioms and hyperboles. Idioms are phrases that have a meaning that is different from the literal meaning of the words used (it was a piece of cake; they buried the hatchet). A hyperbole is when exaggeration is used to make a point (this bag weighs a ton; I'm so hungry I could eat a horse). To help your child spot different forms of figurative language, you could try playing a game. Show your child the statement and get them to use the fan cards to show which form of figurative language is being used. Can they create their own statements?

Step 2



Step 3

Vocabulary Year 6

Vocabulary choices can have a massive impact on a story. When writing stories, your child will take into account the audience and purpose of the story, they will recognise the genre they are writing and make appropriate vocabulary choices to take account of these things. They will make specific choices and changes to the language they use in their story to enhance it and give it more meaning. Word mats are a great way to explore and discover new vocabulary and to remind your child of the different words they could use. Why not combine the word mats with a dictionary and thesaurus to see if your child can define any unfamiliar words and find any synonyms for the words they do recognise?



Step 4

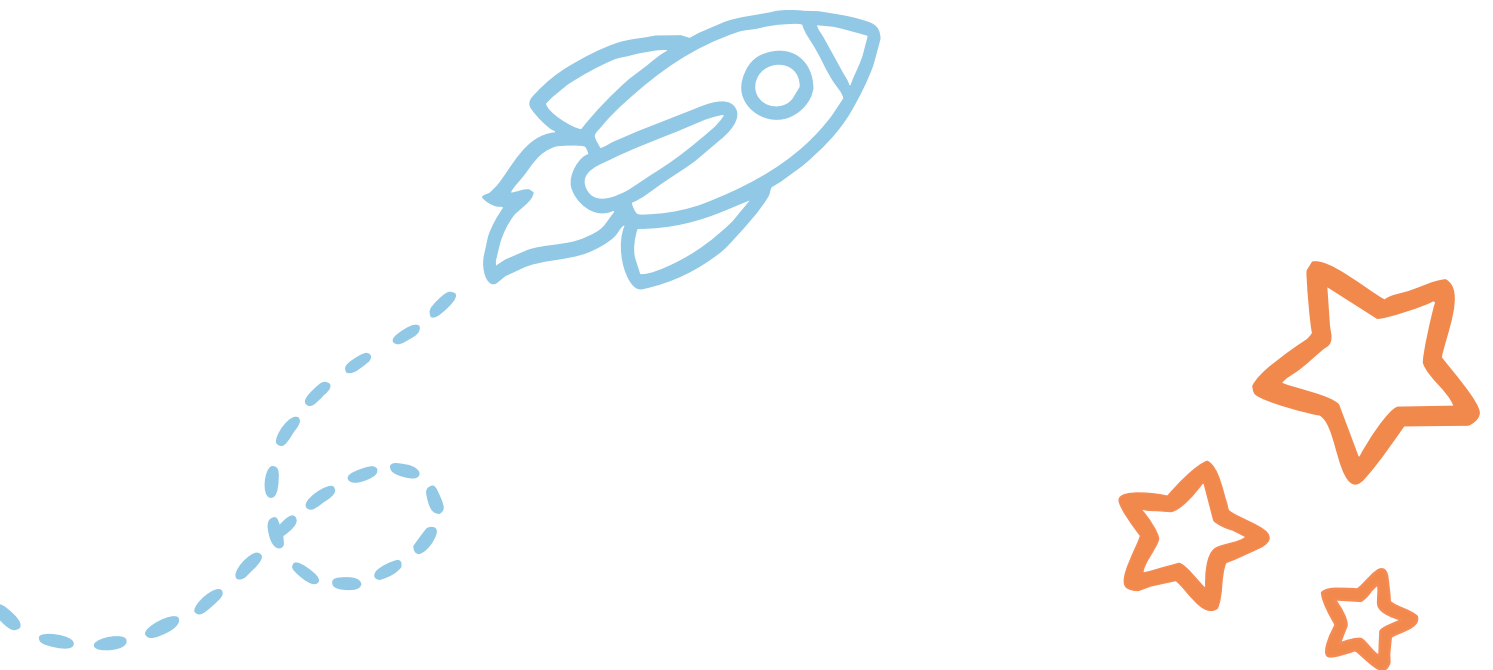
Edit and Improve

During year 6, your child will assess, edit and improve writing in much more detail. When they read stories and fiction, they will start to identify effective features (plot points, vocabulary choices, character development etc.) and things that they might change or improve. They will proofread their own stories, checking for consistent tenses, correct subject verb agreement and making sure there are no spelling and punctuation errors. Editing station display packs can be a good way to remind your child of the different steps they need to carry out when editing and improving writing.

Drama

Once your child has read and written a variety of different stories and become familiar with genre types, conventions and themes, they will begin to explore stories using more complex drama activities. This will include performing stories (both others and their own) using different tone, volume and physical movements to capture the events of the narrative. Before your child moves to performing full narratives and plays, you could use some shorter drama and acting activities together, experimenting with different ways of delivering lines or improvising the next part of a scene based on a one-line introduction.

Step 5



Explore and Discover More

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.



twinkl
Go!



twinkl
Book Club

Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!



twinkl
Boost

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



twinkl
imagine

Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.



twinkl
ORIGINALS

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



twinkl
KIDS' TV

Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!