

# Year 2 Creative Writing: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to creative writing 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 creative writing together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is beginning to plan out more detailed stories, or they are beginning to write different types of texts and for different purposes (to persuade, to instruct, to discuss), 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.

Planning Stories



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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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.

# Creative Writing

## What Is Creative Writing?

During year 2, your child will start to plan their writing in more detail. They will begin to organise their sentences and gather their thoughts into sections. They will recognise that stories have different parts (introduction, build-up, problem and resolution) and begin using some of these when creating their own narratives.

As their confidence and skills grow, your child will start to write for different purposes. They will explore different text types including poetry, instructions and balanced arguments. At this age, your child will start to take the audience into consideration - they will begin to consider why the text is being written and how it will help the reader.

As well as using the resources found in this category and the suggested keyword searches to help your child with creative writing, here are a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to use adjectives and adverbials, both in their spoken language and in their writing.



### Alphabet Game

To help your child prepare for writing acrostic poems, you could try playing the alphabet game. Choose a subject (e.g. an animal, object, place) for the game, then take it in turns to describe it using each letter of the alphabet. For example, if the subject was a whale, player 1: “**A**bsolutely huge”, player 2: “**B**lows water in the air”, player 1: “**C**reature of the sea” etc.

### Build a Scene

When you have finished reading a story together, your child could try using playdough or building bricks to construct a scene from the story. Can they then describe which part of the story it is and what is happening in the scene?

### Freeze-Frame

To build up more familiarity with different stories and how stories are broken down into different parts, why not try some freeze-framing? When you and your child have read a story together, get them to act out a different scene from the story before freezing in a pose. Can you guess which part of the story they are framing?

### Read, Read, Read

One of the best ways to support your child’s creative writing is to read a wide selection of books together. Start to mix up the types of things you read with your child, not just stories. You could try reading recipes, adverts or information texts to give them experience of non-fiction.

## Step 1

### Planning Stories

In year 1, your child focused on creating sentences and putting them together to form short, simple narratives. This skill is developed further, and in more detail, in year 2. Your child will start to specifically plan out what they are going to write in advance, recognise that stories are made up of different parts and begin to think about these before writing. They may start to think about what is going to happen at the end of the story and try to build their character up to this event. To help practise this skill, you could use a variety of different planning templates, such as story mountains or mind maps.

### Writing Narratives

Your child will develop greater stamina for writing in year 2. They will start to write longer, more complex stories, putting together a series of ideas rather than just a series of sentences. Through the use of conjunctions (joining words, e.g. 'when', 'if', 'because', 'and', 'but'), your child will use different sentence types, rather than just simple sentences. They will also begin using more complex expanded noun phrases and different statements, questions and exclamations. With the help of different displays and posters, you could look at the different features that may need to be included in each section of a story (introduction, build-up, problem, resolution).

## Step 2

## Step 3

### Writing Poetry

As your child's skills grow, they will start to explore a variety of different text types, not just stories. They will begin to recognise that writing can be written for different purposes (not just entertaining stories), such as giving someone instructions, persuading someone or giving information. Another text type that your child will discover in year 2 is poetry. You could try using our selection of poetry templates to explore shape and acrostic poems.

### Edit and Improve

Being able to edit and improve different parts of their writing is a skill your child will start to develop in year 2. This process will gradually become more complex as they move through school and into key stage 2. At this early stage, your child will proofread their work - making sure that it makes sense and double-checking for any punctuation and spelling mistakes. They will also begin to check the **verbs** (doing words/actions) they have used in their writing to see if they are in the correct tense. For example:

- The tiny mouse was **ran** through the field.
- The tiny mouse was **run** through the field.
- The tiny mouse was **running** through the field.

Visual cues, such as this poster, can be helpful for reminding your child of some of the things they need to check as part of proofreading their work.

## Step 4

# 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.



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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!



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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.



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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.



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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.



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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!