

Year 2 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 at the stage of reading books to improve their phonic knowledge, sounding out unfamiliar words accurately and without hesitation, or they are writing their own stories and narratives with the support of writing prompts and frames, 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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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 fantastic way for your children to explore their creativity and imagination.

Over the course of year 2, your child will discover 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. Through exploring a wide selection of stories, your child will apply their improving phonics and reading skills, read an increasing amount of words on sight and be able to sound out unfamiliar words with more accuracy. They will discover words that will expand their vocabulary - giving them more words to use and apply to their own work.

Your child will have fun investigating stories using role play, games, building activities, puzzles and through creative art, all of which build-up a positive opinion of stories and help to develop your child's imagination.

After your child has had fun with stories, explored a variety of fiction and become familiar with them, they will start to write their own stories and narratives. As well as recreating their own versions of existing tales, they will begin to write about their own experiences and create unique stories of their own. They will begin to use the different features of stories that they have learnt about in their own work, taking ideas from existing narratives and adapting and changing them to form something unique.

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 fiction and stories, both in their spoken language, reading and in their writing, are outlined below.

Read, Read, Read!

One of the best ways to explore stories and fiction with your child is to read as many as you can together. This can include not only your child reading books, but you sharing stories with them. As your child's reading skills improve, they will be able to read more and more complex stories and be able to discuss them with you. Can they explain to you what they liked or didn't like about the story?

Word Association Game

To begin with, ask your child to choose any word they want. When they say the word, you think of a synonym for that word. When you say your word, they have to think of another and say it. Keep going until one of you can't think of a word. For example, car, vehicle, motor... To help your child build up a larger bank of words and vocabulary, why not sign up to Twinkl Go! and play **this interactive game**? The game is all about spotting synonyms (words with similar meanings) for different feelings and placing them in the correct cauldron.

Vegetable Characters

For a creative activity to try together, why not use a combination of vegetables and craft materials to build an alternative version of a character from a story? For example, you could use a piece of cauliflower to create one of the Three Billy Goats Gruff.

Imaginative Explanation

Can your child create an imaginative/nonsense way in which a household appliance might work? For example, a radiator could have a tiny dragon living inside it that swims around the radiator blowing fire and heating up the water inside. Or a fridge could be powered by gnomes who live in the back of the unit and mine ice from a giant ice wall.

Step 1

Reading Fluency

During year 2, your child will develop their reading skills further. They will be able to read frequently-occurring words quickly and accurately, without having to sound out and blend too much. They will learn to use their phonics knowledge to sound out unfamiliar words, being able to work out what the word says and use it in the context of the sentence. These skills will be developed by reading a variety of different stories and fiction, learning about word reading and fluency as well as different styles of stories and narrative features. Reading word mats are a great way to explore different common and uncommon words, giving your child a chance to use their phonics blending to decode unfamiliar words.



Story Sack

In order to develop a greater understanding of stories (both reading and writing them), your child will explore stories in a variety of different ways. They could use role play to act out parts of stories; explore different vocabulary that is specific to the subject of the story; use arts and crafts to build different settings and characters and put the sequence of events of the story in order. All these activities can help to increase your child's familiarity and understanding of the story. You could help your child at home by using a selection of different story sacks. Story sacks are full of games, activities and creative drama exercises.

Step 2



Step 3

New Vocabulary Word Mat

As your child explores more stories, they will come across many new words. These words will often be related to the subject matter or relevant to certain types of settings and characters. For example, words like 'woodcutter' or 'magical harp' are more relevant for fantasy settings but may not work in a science fiction setting. Your child will start to discuss the meaning of these new words, clarifying what they mean and linking them to previous understanding. This will help to increase their own vocabulary and give them a wider selection of words to use in their own writing and stories. Word mats can be a good way to introduce new, story specific vocabulary to your child, giving you examples to talk about at home.



Step 4

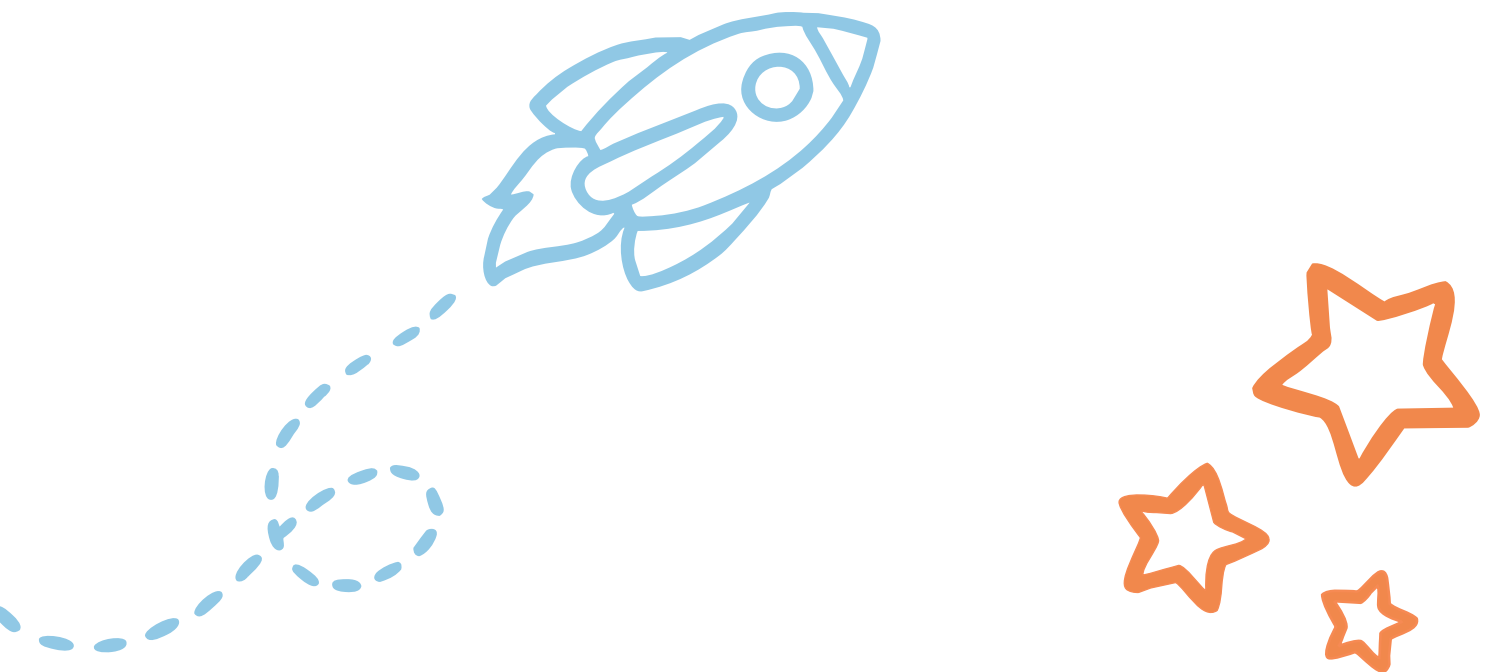
Story Inference

When your child reads different stories, they will learn to answer questions about the text. They will be able to ask sensible questions about the story and show a level of understanding of what is happening in order to ask about what might happen next or what a character is thinking or feeling. Inferencing is a challenging skill for your child to learn. It involves your child being able to 'read between the lines' of a story, i.e. understand characters' feelings, emotions and motives without directly being told something by the author. They will be able to describe why an event has happened and how that will make certain characters feel. As their understanding of story features increases, your child will begin to predict what might happen next in a story. Reading comprehension packs are a nice way to practise these skills with your child.

Creative Writing Frames

After your child has explored a range of fiction and stories (through reading, comprehension activities, role play and drama, sequencing tasks and creative art and games), they will be ready to begin writing their own versions. At this stage, rather than rewriting versions of existing stories, your child will now start to write their own narratives. They will write about their own personal experiences and use ideas from existing stories to create new pieces of fiction. You could try using writing frames and prompts at home with your child to practise using the story features they have learnt about in their own work.

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.



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Go!



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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!