

PUDDLE JUMPING Fantasy

Kids like this prompt for two reasons. One, ANYTHING can happen in their story and two, they get to add a charming rain art accent to their border.

This prompt was created with fantasy in mind, but if students want to use Science Fiction, by all means let them!

NOTE: This lesson can address the following Common Core State Standards: CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.K.3, W.1.3, W.2.3, W.3.3, W.3.3.B, W.3.3.C, W.3.3.D, W.4.3, W4.3.A, W.4.3.B, W.4.3.C, W.4.3.D, W.4.3.E, W.5.3, W.5.3.A, W.5.3.B, W.5.3.C, W.5.3.D and W.5.3.E.

Now for the lesson!

- 1. Tell the storyline: A character is having a bad, takes a walk, steps into a magic puddle. Something happens in the puddle that helps the character solve the problem or gain a new perspective for the problem. The character feels better at the end.
- 2. Brainstorm reasons the character is having a bad day. Write them on the board.
 - -a boy lost his dog.
 - -his/her mom won't let him/her have a play date, go to a party etc.
- 3. Show the five sections of the story:
 - a. Character and problem
 - b. Walking Outside
 - c. Magic Puddle
 - d. Inside the Puddle
 - e. Solution/Lesson

Remember: K-1st Graders are encouraged to write 1 sentence for each section, 2nd Graders 2 sentences, 3rd Graders 3 sentences and so on.

Now to write!

Guide the students through the following steps. They are free to use their own words. Remind them that ANYTHING can happen in their story as long as they follow the steps to keep their story organized. (I've written examples in italics just for your own guidance.)



1. Introduce the character:

Sam was a friendly boy. He liked to play basketball and chase his dog, Ace.

2. Introduce the problem:

Ace got out of the house and Sam couldn't find him. He was worried.

3. Describe walking outside.

Sam went outside to look for him. It was raining. The streets were wet and empty.

4. Describe the magic puddle and entering it.

There were so many puddles. One caught Sam's eye. It was big and shiny. He decided to step in it.

5. Describe what happens in the magic puddle.

Suddenly, Sam started spinning. He landed in a sparkling park. The rain drops had faces and were talking...

6. Tell how the problem is solved and what the character thinks and feels. The next thing Sam knew, he was home on his porch. Ace was there too! He was surprised and relieved!