



ALIENS IN THE ARCTIC

Science Fiction

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.A, W.3.3.B, W.3.3.C, W.3.3.D, W.4.3, W.4.3.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, W.5.3.E, L.K.2, L.1.2, L.2.2, L.3.2, L.3.2.C, L.4.2, L.4.2.B and L.5.2.

This is a great lesson for addressing arctic animals, practicing dialogue and writing Science Fiction.

Now for the lesson!

1. Tell the story line to your writers: "Arctic animals are playing. All of a sudden friendly aliens land in the arctic and are lost OR aliens attack the arctic. The arctic animals have to help or get rid of the aliens."
2. Brainstorm arctic animal super powers. Examples include:
 - Arctic Foxes--Claws that extend really far and cut
 - Beluga Whale--Shoots Webs
 - Ermines--Lightning Fast
 - Musk Ox--Horns extend and crush anything in its path
 - Polar Bears--Lasers that freeze (or melt) anything in its path
 - Reindeer Horns--Shoot webs that freeze anything it catches
 - Seals---Super Whack
 - Snowshoe Hares--Blind people/animals with their whiteness
3. Brainstorm alien super powers or problems. Here are a few to get you started.
 - Aliens---Shoot toxic slime
 - Aliens--Melt the ice around them
 - Aliens--Blow bubbles that pop a sticky substance
 - Aliens--Change the weather
 - Aliens--Communicate back to their mother ship
 - Aliens--Innocent super strength
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4. Show the 5 sections on the board:
 - a. Dialogue
 - b. Introduce the characters
 - c. All of a sudden,
 - d. Reaction/Action
 - e. Solution/Conclusion

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. *There is a K-1st example in italics for your own guidance.*

1. Begin the story with a conversation:

“Goal!” polar bear yelled.

NOTE: If you want your student(s) to practice punctuating dialogue, start off slow. Verbalize the following steps for your writers:

- a. Write the opening quotation marks.
- b. Write what the character is saying. Begin the sentence with a capital letter.
- c. Finish the sentences with a ?, ! or comma.
- d. Write the closing quotation marks.
- e. Write who said it.

2. Second, name the main characters and write about them playing.

Polar bear was playing fish soccer with his friends.

3. Write about the arctic animals suddenly noticing the aliens and the problem.

BOOM! All of a sudden, aliens crash landed.

4. Write about the animals or aliens reactions and actions.

Polar bear ran to the ship.

NOTE: If you are working with older students, this is a good time to encourage them to SHOW the reactions and feelings by describing in detail the character's actions.

For example, if a character is brave, a student can write:

Polar bear didn't hesitate. He ran straight for the ship. He confronted the aliens.

5. Write about how the problem gets solved and any thoughts for the future.

He used his eye lasers to fix it. The aliens were thankful and went home.