

Does a Story Have Elements?

Learning Target: Using a story map, students will identify the main character(s), setting, events, problem and resolution in a story. Students will summarize the elements of a story by writing a paragraph.

Activity: Activate prior knowledge by asking students to recall a time when they struggled to comprehend a story. Allow students to share their experiences. Explain how using visual maps help people structure ideas in their mind. Explain how visual maps also help us organize information for comprehension. Ask students if they can list the elements of a fiction story. Then, explain the elements of story structures in fiction text (characters, settings, events, problems, and resolution). Read a short story selection to model how to identify story elements. After the read aloud, discuss each story element and place in appropriate boxes. See the story map below. Have students retell the story using the story map. Tell students that they will identify the main character(s), setting, events, problem, and resolution. Explain that they should use the story map and record their responses. Students will then read a fiction story and record the story elements on the map below.

Main Character(s)	Title of Story	Setting
Events	Problem	Resolution

Formative assessment: After students have read and completed the story maps, students will summarize the elements of the story by writing a paragraph to retell the story. Collect students' story maps and paragraphs to determine if they have correctly identified story elements in the story selection.