Lesson 3: Tell Chester's Story

UNIT: Where's Chester?

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Anne.

When I was younger, my friend and I went to an adventure camp. We had the most amazing time. We went horseback riding through the deep forest, rode zip lines in the mountains, and slept in tents under the stars. It was awesome!

When I came home, I told my dad all about it. I told him we went horseback riding, rode zip lines, and we slept in tents. It was so much fun!

He smiled at me and said, "that sounds really nice." I thought, *nice? It wasn't just nice, it was amazing*. I then realized that the way I had described it to him left out lots of important details from my adventure.

To help my dad understand how special the trip was, I needed to describe what I saw, heard, and felt during my trip.

Here's a video of my friend riding the zip line.

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: How would you describe this experience—what you saw, heard, and felt?

HOOK 2

I'm sure you came up with lots of great ways to describe it. Here's how I described what it was like for me:

I saw tall mountains all around me. I heard the wind rushing past my ears and I felt scared and excited at the same time.

Describing what I saw, heard, and how I felt really helped my dad understand what an amazing trip it was.

Writers use details like these to turn simple ideas into powerful stories.

You've been planning a story about Chester, the escaping hamster. Your plan has lots of events with details and a lead.

Today, you're going to draft your story. Using your Story Plan, you'll imagine Chester's adventure and describe what he sees, hears, and feels, helping to make your story more exciting and fun to read.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

Get your Story Plan.

Read what you wrote. If anything is missing, fill it in.

If you want, you can make changes.

STEP 3

Get your desk ready to draft. You'll be drafting your story on your lined paper.

Put your Story Plan and your Transition Phrases worksheet in a neat pile nearby.

Get a sharp pencil and anything else you need to get started on your writing.

STEP 4

When writers make a draft, they know that they might make changes to it along the way or later on.

To make room for changes, you can write on every other line of your lined paper. That way, you have space to add or change sentences later on.

On your lined paper, draw a small "x" at the start of every other line to remind yourself to skip those lines for now.

STEP 5

Write your story draft.

Begin by copying your lead from your Story Plan onto your lined paper. Then use your plan to write each part of your story.

Describe what happens, but also make sure to describe what Chester sees, hears, and feels. If you need help, use your Transition Phrase worksheet, it's full of words and phrases that you can use while you draft your story.

Write as much of your story as you have time for today.

WRAP UP

Amazing job, writers! Your Where's Chester story is coming to life, and it's going to make a great addition to Natalie's new book series.

So far in Natalie's writing process, you've brainstormed ideas, made a plan, and started a draft of your story. It's okay if you didn't get to finish your draft today. You can always finish it at another time.

In the next lesson, you'll revise and edit your writing to make it exactly how you want it to be. Then you can create your final draft and design a fun cover for your Chester story.

Your draft pages are V.I.P.s, so be sure to keep them somewhere safe with the rest of your worksheets.

I'll see you next time.