Lesson 3: The Bandit Strikes!

UNIT: Campsite Bandit

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Anne. I love going on hikes. Most of them start like this, and they usually all end with me getting back to the parking lot. But the middle of the hike is usually filled with huge trees, cool animals, exciting views, and sometimes even a waterfall. The middle of the hike is usually nothing like the beginning or the end.

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: What did you notice about the middle of a hike? How is it different from the beginning and end?

HOOK 2

Maybe you noticed that there was a lot more to see in the middle, or that the middle was more fun to look at. One thing I noticed about the middle of my hikes is that it's where the most exciting parts happen. In fact, I usually only take pictures when I'm in the middle of the hike because those are the parts I want to remember. The middle of your story is similar. It's where all the exciting parts happen.

You've been working on your story about the campsite bandit and the missing marshmallows. In the last lesson, you wrote the beginning of your story. In today's lesson, you'll get to plan and draft the middle of your story.

Before you get started planning, Aly needs your help with her story. Here's what she's written so far:

> - "It was a bright and sunny day at the campgrounds. The pond was sparkling like glitter. I woke up from a relaxing nap. I stretched and got ready to start my day. I felt a little bored. I wondered what fun thing I could do today! Then I got an idea! I could build a bouncy pit to bounce and play in all day!"

Now Aly can plan and write the middle of her story. Here are the ideas Aly knows for the middle of her story: Took marshmallows, and it's happening near the campsite. She can add this to her plan, but we know from the beginning that Aly's character is still over here at the pond. She could say, "He walked over to the campsite." Or that "He danced over to the campsite."

But wait a minute. No one saw what happened. So that means her character got to the marshmallows without being seen by all the people at the campsite. That means the campsite bandit had to be extra sneaky.

Maybe the fox tried disguising himself and walked right up to the marshmallows. Or maybe the fox dug a tunnel underground and crawled his way to the marshmallows.

Here's what Aly thought of: the fox pretends to be a leaf pile and sneaks into the campsite. Here's how she added it to her writing plan.

> - Pretended it to be leaf pile.

Now it's time for the bandit to strike. It's the part where the fox takes the marshmallows. Maybe the fox used a drone to grab the marshmallows and drop them into the leaf pile, or maybe the fox used a shovel to scoop them up.

DISCUSSION 2

Discuss: How do you imagine the fox took the marshmallows?

HOOK 3

I'm not sure how you answered, but here's what Aly thought of: He used a fishing pole to hook the marshmallows and drop them into the leaf pile. Here's how she added it to her writing plan:

- Used fishing pole to hook marshmallows.

Finally, she needs to think about how the fox got away. Maybe he put on some sunglasses and walked away. Or maybe they caught a ride out of the campsite on a hang glider. Aly thinks he jumped out of his leaf pile and ran away as fast as he could. Here's how she added it to her writing plan:

- Jumped out of leaves and ran away fast.

This plan for the middle of Aly's story looks great! Now she's ready to start writing.

It's your turn to plan and write the middle of your story. You'll add notes to your journal page, and then you'll start drafting.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

In today's lesson, you'll need someone to share ideas with. This could be a partner or someone you sit near. When everyone knows who their talk partner is, move on to the next step.

STEP 3

In the last lesson, you wrote the beginning of your campsite bandits story. Silently read what you have written so far. You can make changes if you want.

STEP 4

Get your Story Plan worksheet. It's time to plan the middle of your story. Later, you'll use your plan to start drafting your middle. Since everyone's middle is happening in the same place—the campsite—it's already filled out for you.

First, you'll think about how your character got into the crowded campsite without being seen. Then, you will discuss with your partner. Take a moment to think about how your character got into the crowded campsite. When you have your idea, give a silent thumbs up.

Discuss: How did your character get into the crowded campsite without being seen? Here were some of Aly's ideas.

STEP 5

When you write your idea, you don't have to write in a complete sentence. Just a quick note that will help you when you start drafting later. As a reminder, here's how Aly wrote her note.

Write your idea here in the first box under where it says "Middle."

STEP 6

Imagine how your character took the marshmallows. Here were some of Aly's ideas.

I'll give you a moment to think. When you have an idea, give a silent thumbs up.

Discuss: How did your character take the marshmallows?

STEP 7

Write your idea here in the next box. As a reminder of how to write your note, here's how Aly wrote her note.

STEP 8

Imagine how your character got away. Here were some of Aly's ideas.

I'll give you a moment to think. When you have an idea, give a silent thumbs up.

Discuss: How did your character get away?

STEP 9

Write your idea here in the next box.

STEP 10

Here's how Aly pictured the middle of her story.

Draw a quick sketch of what's happening in the middle of your story. If you need help drawing, you can use one of these examples.

STEP 11

Now that you have a plan, you're ready to start drafting.

Get your Story Page 1 worksheet and put it next to your Story Plan, like this.

You'll continue drafting on the next line. On the next line, draw an arrow like this.

STEP 12

To write the middle of her story, Aly is going to imagine she's the fox. And in the middle of her story, this is what she sees.

> *- "Oh my goodness. Are those marshmallows? They're so fluffy. They would be perfect for the bouncy pit. But there are so many campers. Must get marshmallows. Must not be seen. Mwahahaha!"*

Here's how Aly used her plan and what she saw as the fox to start the middle of her story.

> - "I was walking around the campgrounds, and then I saw the fluffiest marshmallows at a campsite. I needed to get the marshmallows without being seen by the campers."

Imagine how your character first saw the marshmallows at the crowded campsite. I'll give you a moment to think. When you have an idea, give a silent thumbs up.

Start writing at the arrow about how your character first saw the marshmallows. Remember to pretend you are your character and use "I" in your sentences. If you need more room, you can ask your teacher for another page.

STEP 13

This is what Aly has in her plan about how she got into the campsite as her character without being seen. After she imagined what it looked like, she came up with this:

> - "I found some leaves and covered myself in a leaf pile. Then I crept onto the campgrounds under the leaves."

Use your plan and imagine what it looked like when you got into the campsite as your character without being seen. I'll give you a moment to think. When you have an idea, give a silent thumbs up.

Keep writing where you left off.

STEP 14

Here's how Aly described how she took the marshmallows as her character:

> - "I took out a fishing rod and hooked the marshmallows! Then I dropped them into my leaf pile!"

Use your plan and imagine what it looked like when you took the marshmallows as your character. I'll give you a moment to think. When you have an idea, give a silent thumbs up.

Keep writing where you left off.

STEP 15

Use your plan and imagine what it looked like when you got away as your character. When you have your idea, keep writing where you left off.

STEP 16

Take turns sharing the middle of your story with your partner. You can make changes if you want.

WRAP UP

Wow! Amazing job. You just finished writing the middle to your campsite bandit story. You planned it out and imagined what it looked like by adding lots of exciting parts. I can't wait to see how your story will end.

Next time, you'll work on planning and writing the end of your story.

Before you go, the papers shown on the screen are V.I.P.s—very important papers. Your teacher will tell you where to put them, so you will have them for the next lesson.

That's all for now. I'll see you next time.