

Name: _____ Date: _____

Fiction

Write a Picture Book

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a picture book author or illustrator? This activity will give you a chance to find out. Imagine that you are going to rewrite the book you just read for a first- or second-grade child. What are the most important events of the book? How could you describe them in a simple way?

MATERIALS

8½- by 11-inch white construction paper (cut or folded in half to form 8½- by 5½-inch sheets), markers or crayons, stapler

DIRECTIONS

- 1 Find a fictional book that interests you and is at an appropriate reading level for you. Have your book approved by your teacher.

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

- 2 Write a brief summary of the beginning, middle, and ending of the book:

Beginning: _____

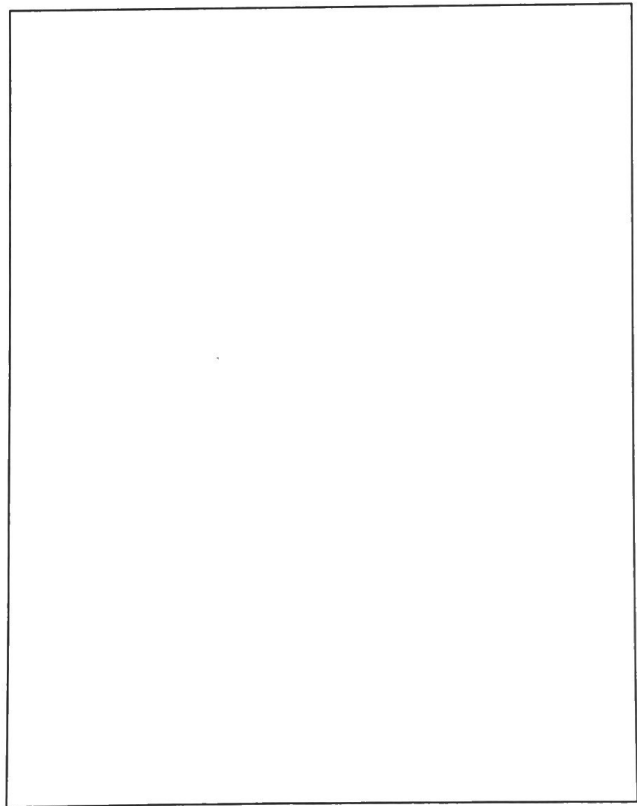
Middle: _____

DUE DATES
Book approved _____
Book finished _____
Project finished _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ending: _____

- 3 Read your summaries and think about how you can rewrite the information as a story for children. Write a rough draft of the story, using language that a first- or second-grade student could understand. (If you are having a difficult time simplifying the story, you might retell your favorite chapter or episode instead of the whole book.) Plan to include about a paragraph of text on each page. Include dialogue and some details to make the story interesting. Decide how you will illustrate each page.
- 4 Transfer the story onto white paper. Draw and color a picture on each page.
- 5 Add a cover and write the title of the book, your name, and the original author's name—for example: "Black Beauty," retold by (your name), original story by Anna Sewell. Draw and color a picture on the cover. Sketch the cover below before creating your final copy. Arrange the pages in order with the cover on top and staple along the left side.



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	POSSIBLE POINTS	POINTS EARNED
1 Did you have your book approved on time?	5	
2 Did you hand in your project on time?	10	
3 Did you write a paragraph summary of each part?	10	
4 Did you write a rough draft of your story?	10	
5 Did you revise?	10	
6 Did you complete your children's book?	25	
7 Is your project thoughtful and well written?	10	
8 Is your project neat, colorful, and attractive?	10	
9 Are the spelling, punctuation, and grammar correct?	10	

Comments: _____
