Completing a story and making your own story

By Sriparna Tamhane | Jul 27, 2012

The lesson plan gives an idea about how a story can be used to enhance the imagination, creativity and problem solving skills of students by asking them to find a solution to a problem mentioned in the story. The lesson also takes the students through a guided process of writing their own story and illustrating it.

**Duration:**
01 hours 20 mins

**Introduction:**

The lesson plan gives an idea about how a story can be used to enhance the imagination, creativity and problem solving skills of students by asking them to find a solution to a problem mentioned in the story. The lesson also takes the students through a guided process of writing their own story and illustrating it.

**Support Material:**
- resource_1_completing_story.pdf
- worksheet_completing_story.pdf

**Steps:**

**READING: BIRBAL CATCHES A THIEF**

Birbal was one of the gems in the court of Emperor Akbar. He was respected by everyone for his intelligence and wit. Whenever Akbar was in difficulty, he always called Birbal for his help. Here is a story in which Birbal helps Akbar in catching a thief.

Emperor Akbar was very fond of jewellery. He had many rings of gold, pearls and diamonds. His favourite ring was the one with a large diamond at the centre and pearls around it.

At the Emperor's palace, there were eight servants who looked after his clothes and jewellery. They used to help him get ready to go to the court. No one else was allowed to enter his room.

One day, the Emperor wanted to wear his favourite ring. He asked one of the servants to bring it.

The servant went into the Emperor's room and came back saying he could not find the ring. But no servant could find it.

Akbar immediately asked his men to call Birbal. When Birbal came, he told him what had happened and asked him for help. Birbal called all the eight servants, who were in charge of the Emperor's room. He gave each of them a stick of the same size and asked them to come back with it the next day. He told them that the stick of the person who had stolen the ring would become longer by one inch that night. The next morning, eight servants stood in a line with their sticks. Birbal caught hold of one of them and took him to Akbar.

The man fell at Akbar's feet and admitted that he had stolen the ring. How did Birbal catch the thief? He had told the eight servants that the thief's stick would become longer by one inch. The thief had believed this and cut his stick by one inch. Birbal's trick worked and the thief was caught.

**Day 1**

**Step 1: Generating Interest**

The teacher asks the students to think of instances when they had seen someone using his/her wit to solve a problem. Some students are asked to come up and share their stories. The teacher shows them a picture of Akbar and Birbal and asks the students whether they recognize the characters. (Resource 1: Picture: Akbar and Birbal). The students of this class are expected to be familiar with both the historical characters. If not, the teacher introduces them. She announces that they are now going to listen to a story about Akbar and Birbal.

**Step 2: Activity**

The teacher reads out a part of the story (Refer to Reading: Birbal catches a thief) till the part when the king calls Birbal. While reading she notes new words on the board and asks the students to guess the meaning of the words. She asks a
student to refer to the dictionary and confirm whether the guess was correct. 

**Objective:** The students will listen to the story and acquire new vocabulary

**Step 3: Activity**

The teacher divides the class into groups and asks each group to discuss and find out a solution to the problem. She then asks each team to come and share the solution they have come up with.

**Objective:** The students will:

- Display comprehension
- Do co-operative brainstorming and thinking together
- Use their imagination, thinking and problem solving skills to come up with an original solution

**Step 4: Activity**

The teacher then asks the students to read out the rest of the story which describes Birbal's solution to the problem and find the meaning of new words by referring to the dictionary.

**Objective:** The students will read a part of the story and find out the meaning of new words

**Step 5: Activity - Recapitulation**

The teacher asks the students to complete 'Worksheet Birbal catches a thief - story summary' as a guided writing exercise for writing the summary of the story. The task is given as homework.

**Objective:** The students will write the summary of the story with the help of a guided framework

**For the teacher:**

*Students need to be slowly taught how to refer to a dictionary and encouraged to look up new words in class.*

*Encourage the students to lose their inhibition and talk freely without pointing out too many errors while they speak.*

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**Day 2**

**Step 1: Generating Interest**

The teacher helps the students recollect the story by asking some of them to read out the summary from their worksheets.

**Objective:** The students will familiarize themselves with the format of story writing through group sharing of the summary.

**Step 2: Activity**

The teacher divides the class into groups and asks each group to use the same guideline to write their own story. She gives the following pointers to be kept in mind for developing the story:

- The name of the story
- The main characters in the story
- The place where the event takes place
- The problem faced
- What is done to overcome the problem
- What happens in the end

**Objective:** The students will:

- Use their imagination to create a new story
- Organize and sequence the subject matter
- Write the story in a clear and logical manner

**Step 3: Activity**

The teacher corrects the first draft of the work. She asks the students to make the necessary corrections. They are asked to illustrate their stories. This task can be given as homework.

**Objective:** The students will:

- Prepare a corrected and final draft of their story
- Display their aesthetic sensibility through the illustration
For the teacher:

Making a corrected final draft is a useful task as it makes the students go through their work once again, recognize and correct the errors.

Day 3

Step 1: Activity
The teacher asks each student to present her story to the rest of the class and appreciate the stories written by others.

Objective: The students will:
- Present their stories clearly and confidently
- Appreciate the stories written by others

For the teacher:

The work of the students can be displayed in the classroom or in some other part of the school, for all to read.

Assessment:

Continuous and comprehensive assessment through the following activities:

Day 1
- Completing the story by finding a solution to a problem mentioned in it.
- Using a guideline to write a summary of the story

The teacher can assess the students’ handwriting, spelling, sentence construction, clarity of expression, summarizing and sequencing skills through the activity.

Day 2
- Using their imagination to write their own story

The teacher can assess the students’ handwriting, spelling, sentence construction, imagination, clarity of expression and sequencing skills through the activity.

Day 3
- Presentation of story

The teacher can assess the confidence and presentation skills through the activity.

Objective:

The students will be able to:
- Listen to a part of the story and find out the meaning of new words by referring to a dictionary
- Do co-operative brainstorming and thinking together
- Use their imagination, thinking and problem solving skills to come up with an original solution
- Read a part of the story and find out the meaning of new words
- Use a story-format to write a summary of the story
- Organize and sequence the subject matter
- Write the story in a clear and logical manner
- Use their imagination to write their own story
- Prepare a corrected and final draft of their story
- Display their aesthetic sensibility through illustration
- Present their stories clearly and confidently (Oral presentation)

Category:
Classroom Resources