

Live Unit 1.2 *Storytellers*

About this unit:

The children are introduced to a traditional tale from ancient India, *The Best of Friends*. Activities involve selecting words to describe the characters vividly, identifying good storytelling techniques and exploring strategies for remembering a sequence of events. The children then compose and rehearse their own retellings of the story. They perform their retellings in small groups, both to the rest of the class and to a wider audience. Finally, the children evaluate their performances and reflect on their learning.

Spelling list:

[L AR 1.2.1 Spelling List: Storytellers](#)

Recommended grammar activities:

New: [Y1_12 The Purpose of Punctuation](#)

Other sessions available in the [Lesson Bank](#):

Depth Focus 3: Interesting sentences

- Start sentences in a variety of ways
- Compose longer sentences using the conjunction 'and'

Sentence grammar: Sentence punctuation

- Understand how punctuation affects how we read aloud

Short composition: poster

- Design a poster to advertise an oral retelling of a story

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Week 1	Comprehension 1 <i>Listen and respond to a story</i> <i>Orally sequence key events from a story</i>	Comprehension 2 <i>Use adjectives to describe story characters</i>	Depth Focus 1: Story-telling skills <i>Listen to and evaluate different oral retellings of a story</i>	Depth Focus 2: Remembering a story <i>Explore strategies for remembering a story</i>	Long Composition: Day 1 <i>Plan and begin to compose a written retelling of a story</i>
	Objective				
	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them; Sequence sentences to form short narratives; Explain clearly their understanding of what is read to them	Discuss word meanings, linking new meanings to those already known; Make inferences; Spell words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them; Participate in discussions and listen to others; Spell words containing each of the 40+ phonemes already taught	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them; Participate in discussions and listen to others; Sequence sentences to form short narratives	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them; Sequence sentences to form short narratives; Compose a sentence orally before writing it; Re-read what they have written to check that it makes sense; Leave spaces between words; Begin to punctuate sentences
	Spoken Language				
	Participate actively in conversations; Give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives; Build their vocabulary	Give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives; Build their vocabulary	already taught Spoken language: Listen and respond appropriately; Articulate and justify answers	Consider and evaluate different viewpoints; Articulate and justify answers	Give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives; Participate actively in conversations
	Success Criteria				
	I can listen and respond to a story I can orally sequence key events from a story	I can use adjectives to describe story characters	I can listen to and evaluate different oral retellings of a story	I can explore strategies for remembering a story	I can plan and begin to compose a written retelling of a story

	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
	Long Composition: Day 2 <i>Finish composing and review written story retellings</i>	Presentation: Day 1 <i>Plan and rehearse an oral performance of a story retelling</i>	Presentation: Day 2 <i>Perform oral story retellings to the class</i>	Presentation: Day 3 <i>Perform oral story retellings to a wider audience</i>	Presentation: Day 4 <i>Evaluate performances of oral story retellings</i>
	Objective				
	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them; Sequence sentences to form short narratives; Compose a sentence orally before writing it; Re-read what they have written to check that it makes sense; Leave spaces between words; Begin to punctuate sentences	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them; Re-read books to build fluency and confidence	Become very familiar with key stories and retelling them	Participate in discussions and listen to others
Week 2	Spoken Language				
	Give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives; Participate actively in conversations	Speak audibly and fluently using Standard English; Participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates; Gain the interest of the listener; Listen and respond appropriately	Speak audibly and fluently using Standard English; Participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates; Gain the interest of the listener; Ask relevant questions	Speak audibly and fluently using Standard English; Gain the interest of the listener; Participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates	Listen and respond appropriately; Ask relevant questions; Articulate and justify answers; Participate actively in conversations
	Success Criteria				
	I can finish composing and review written story retellings	I can plan and rehearse an oral performance of a story retelling	I can perform oral story retellings to the class	I can perform oral story retellings to a wider audience	I can evaluate performances of oral story retellings