

Story Worm – Comprehension Practice (Story Elements)

Activity Designed to go with How Lizard Beat Big Deer

M. Lockett, 2010

It is important for students learn to enjoy **hearing, reading** and **telling** good **stories**.

Teachers can help students understand what they read by teaching about **story elements**. Talk about examples of story elements with the entire class about stories the students already know. Encourage the students to work in groups and independently to practice finding the story elements in new stories.

Who are the **characters**? (people, animals or creatures the story is about)

Lord of the Woods, Lizard, Big Deer, other animals

What is the **setting**? (where and when the story takes place)

Mexico, outside, wooded area

What is the **conflict**? (problem in the story)

Animals race for a prize, Lizard is poked fun of by other animals

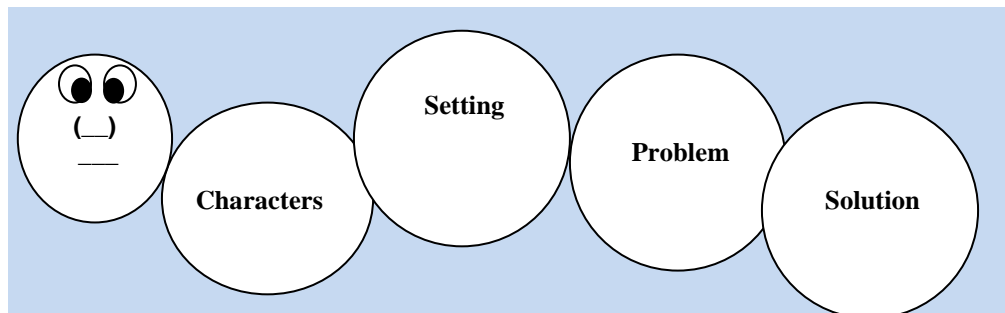
What is the **Solution**? (how the conflict is solved by the characters)

Lizard uses his brains to win the race and the respect of the other animals

Story Worm - Story Caterpillar

Activity 1 Read **How Lizard Beat Big Deer**

Discuss the story elements. Use the chalkboard, whiteboard or computer to draw several circles to make a worm or caterpillar. Label the story elements on the circles.



Activity 2 Share a new story with the students...

Divide the class into small groups. Ask each group to complete a story worm for a new story. Ask students to find the story elements of the new story. Ask them to write information that tells about each story element on the group project. Teachers can have individual students complete their own Story Worm and share it with the class.

*Reading Hint: It is not necessary to analyze **every** story. Doing so can discourage some students from reading.*