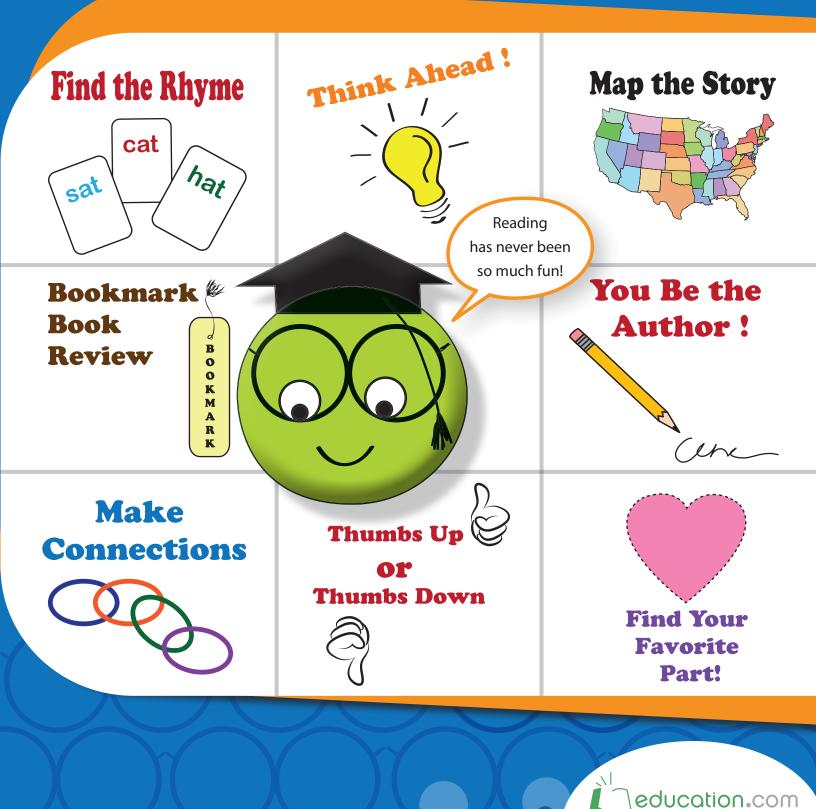
# Ready, Set, Read

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#### Ready, Set, Read

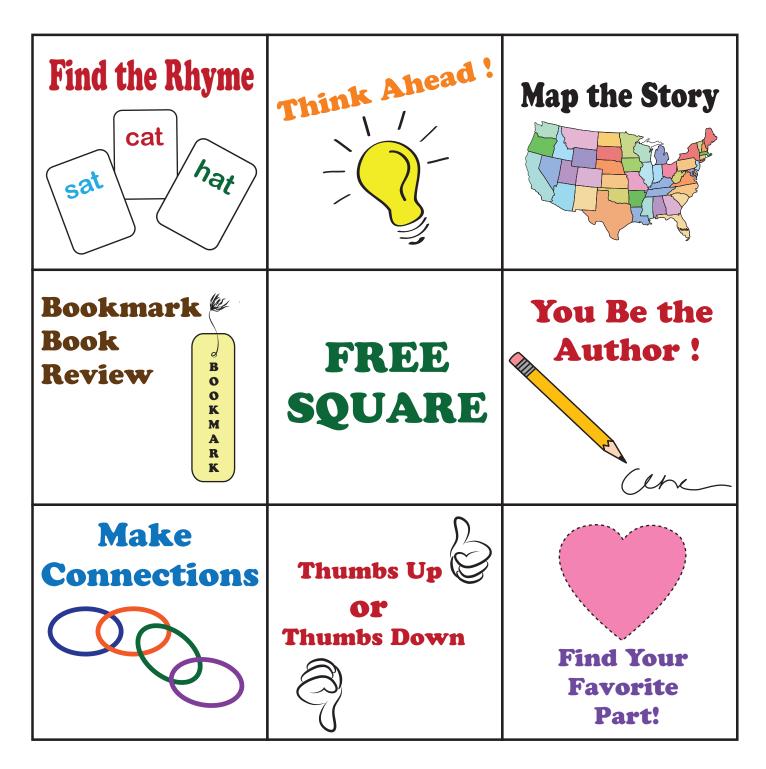
Reading Challenge Bingo Find the Rhyme Think Ahead! Map the Story Bookmark Book Review Make Connections Find Your Favorite Part! Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down You Be the Author!

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#### **Reading Challenge Bingo**

Reading Challenge Bingo will help you track your child's progress. Ask him to cross out the appropriate box when he finishes a reading challenge. Each time he completes 3 in a row, treat your child to some candy, a pencil, or anything small that will make him smile.

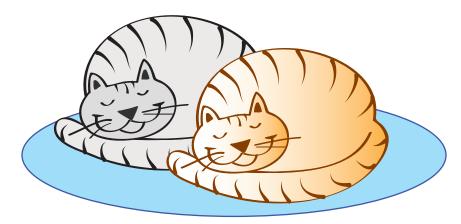






Read the poem and fill in the missing rhyming words using the help of the word bank.

# Cats on a Mat



Sid the cat was round and fat. He slept all day on a small blue

Friendly Rex said, "Hey, let's play!" But Sid just slept the day away.

Rex was sad that Sid was asleep. He got so mad, he started to\_\_\_\_\_.

Then Rex said, "Wait, I don't have to be blue. I'll play by myself. That's what I'll do!"



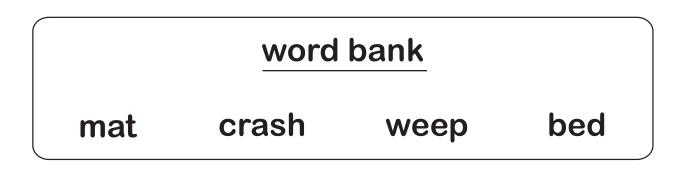
He jumped in his milk and made a splash! He climbed up a lamp and made it \_\_\_\_\_!

Sid woke up and had a stretch. He looked around at the great big mess.

"Let's play!" he said, "This looks like fun!" "No," said Rex, "this day is done."

Rex yawned and laid down his head. "Oh well," said Sid, getting back in

The friends purred the whole night through, sleeping on the mat that was right for two.







Have your child read a book from the library and write pairs of rhyming words that he found in it.

Here is a list to help you and your child get started, of suggested authors who are great at rhyming, and specific picture books.

Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes

There are so many books out there boasting beautiful illustrations and a collection of these classic nursery rhymes. Find your favorite and read along.

Dr. Seuss

Dr. Seuss books rhyme from nose to toes. *The Sneetches*, *The Cat in the Hat*, *Horton Hears a Who*, these are just a few of those.

Shel Silverstein He wrote books full of imaginative and silly rhymes, and illustrations. Books like, *A Light in the Attic*, *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, and *Every Thing On It*.

*Bats at the Ball Game* by Brian Lies There is a series of "bats at" books by Brian Lies.

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr. & John Archambault

Good Night Moon by Maragaret Wise Brown

Mrs. Spider's Tea Party by David Kirk

Steam Train, Dream Train by Sherri Duskey Rinker

The Caboose Who Got Loose by Bill Peet

Kermit the Hermit by Bill Peet

King Bidgood's in the Bathtub by Audrey Wood



Name of the book :
Author :
Illustrator :



Choose a topic. Then ask your child to use the box below to write or draw to show three things he knew about the topic. Ask him to read the short story and underline something he knew already and circle something new that he learned. In this case the topic will be **giraffes.** 



One day Lisa and Sam went to the zoo. They were excited to see all of the different animals!

"Sam, there's a giraffe!" said Lisa. "Can you see it?

It's a little hard to find because the giraffe's spots help it camouflage with its surroundings."

"I read that each giraffe's spots are different, kind of like snowflakes. That's how they tell each other apart." said Sam.

"And look!" said Lisa. "That giraffe has a blue tongue!"



"Yes, and do you know why it's blue?" asked Sam.

Lisa thought for a minute. "Does it have something to do with what they eat?" she asked.

"Sort of," said Sam. "Blood vessels are what make our tongues red or pink in color. A giraffe's tongue has fewer blood vessels in it, which makes it look blue. It also makes the tongue tougher and less sensitive, so giraffes can eat rough tree bark, sharp leaves and prickly shrubs without getting hurt."

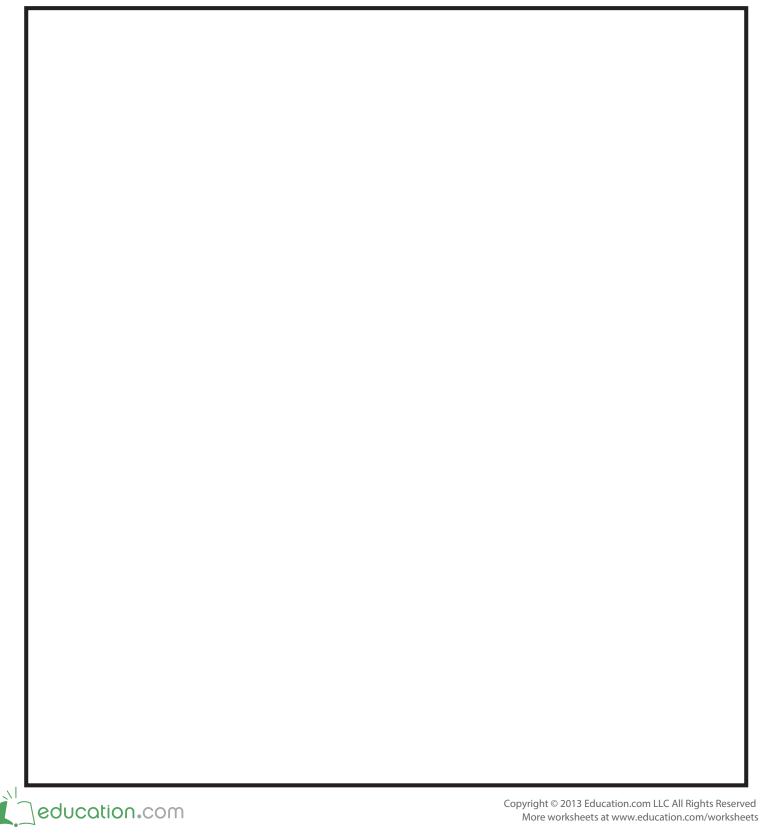
Lisa looked at Sam and then back at the giraffes.

"How cool!" she said. "You can learn a lot at the zoo!"



Parents - Choose a topic. Ask your child to write or draw to show three things he knows about the topic in the box below. Then ask him to go the library and read a book on the same topic and use the box on the next page to write or draw three new things he found out.

## Story Topic -



### Story Topic -

Name of the book : \_\_\_\_\_

Author :\_\_\_\_\_

Illustrator : \_\_\_\_\_

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Map the Story

A story map helps students' comprehension as they learn about the different elements of a story. It also teaches them the importance of identifying the characters of the story, the plot, setting, the problem and the solution.

# How to use a story map:

Parent tip: At first, focus on fairy tales as it's much easier to make sense of their various story elements.

Here's a list of simple stories perfect for helping beginners understand how to use a story map.

The Three Little Pigs

Little Red Riding Hood

Hansel and Gretel

TheThree Billy Goats Gruff

Jack and the Beanstalk

Discuss the main components of the story with your child.

- 1. Characters: Who are the main characters in the story?
- 2. Setting/Place/Time : Where and when does the story take place?
- 3. **Problem:** What is the problem in the story?
- 4. **Solution:** How do the characters try to solve the problem?



# Baby Bird Flies High

Once upon a time there were three birds who lived in a cozy nest at the top of a tall green tree in the middle of the forest. The baby bird was afraid to leave the nest. His big brothers would fly through the forest every day playing tag and having fun, but the littlest baby bird was afraid to leave the nest.

"I'm just too scared to fly," said the baby bird.

You don't know what you're missing!" said his brothers. "There is so much to see and do out there!"



Day after day, the baby bird would sit alone in the nest while his brothers went off exploring. Then one day, the baby bird heard his brothers chirping and chirping and chirping from below.

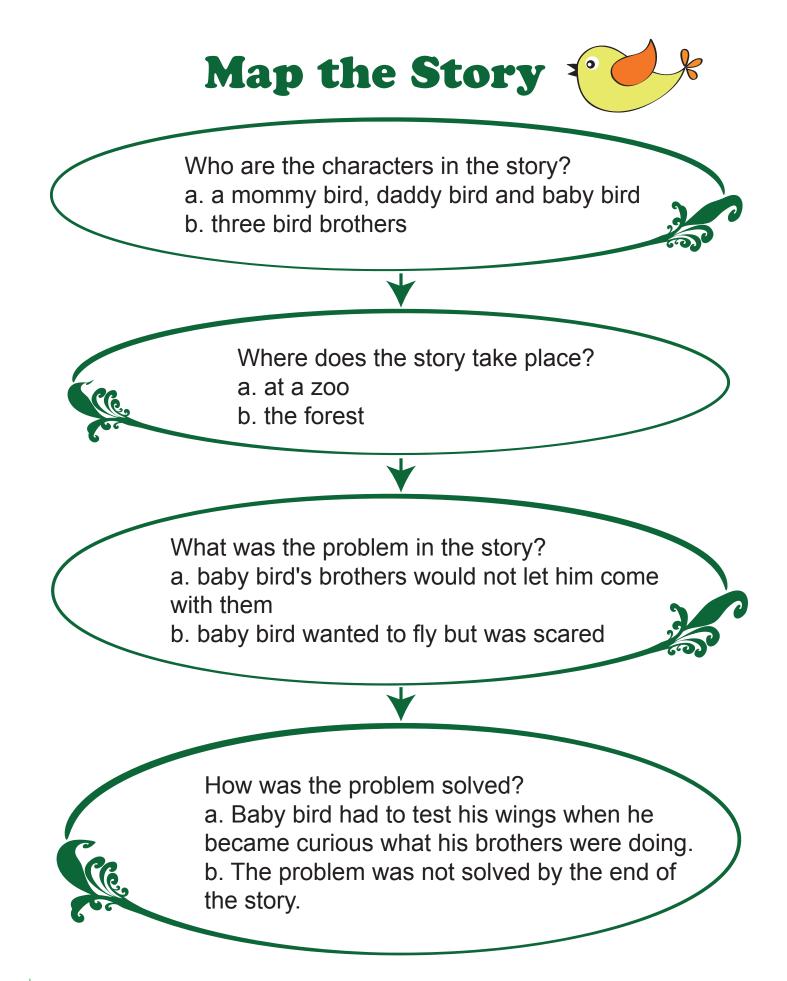
The baby bird was curious! He moved toward the edge of the nest to look over and before he knew what had happened, he toppled right out of the nest and was falling...fast!

Quickly, the baby bird began to flap his wings. All of a sudden, he realized that he was flying! The baby bird flew and flew until he found his big brothers playing in a cool blue stream on the other side of the forest. He swooped down to join them.

"Look at me! I'm flying!" he chirped.

"Hooray!" chirped his brothers. "We knew you could do it!"

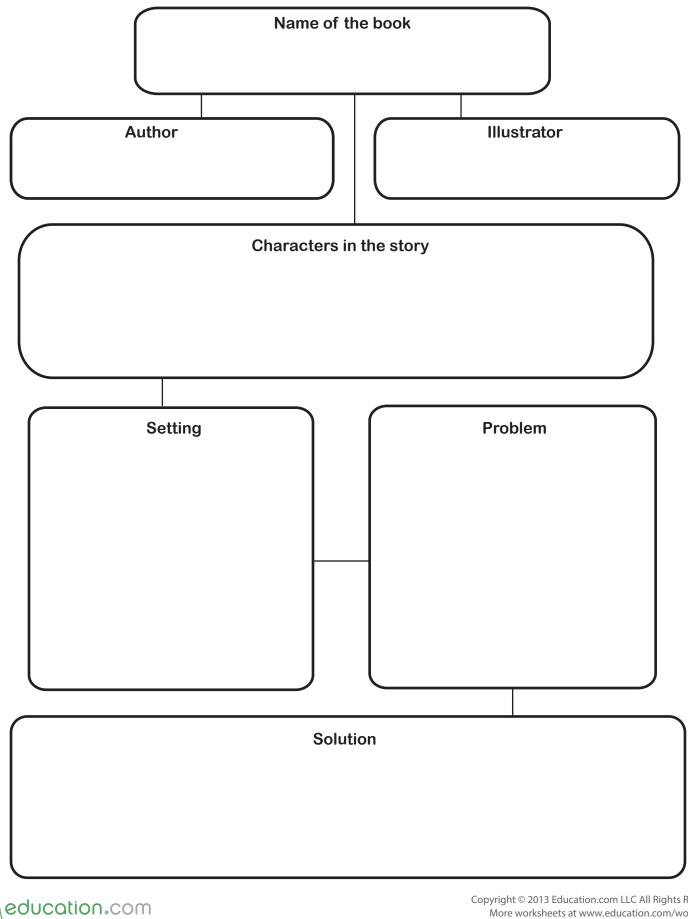




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Read a storybook from the library or from your collection and fill out the story map.



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#### **Bookmark Book Review**

Ask your child to read this story. Then tell them to draw what happened in the beginning of the story, the middle and the end in the bookmark book review.



Tess really wanted a pet, but her parents always said no.

On Monday, Tess asked her mom for an elephant. Her mom said, "No, our house isn't big enough."

On Tuesday, Tess asked her dad for a leopard. Her dad said, "No, they're dangerous!"

On Wednesday, Tess asked them both for a horse. Her parents said, "Heavens, no! Think of the mess!"

On Thursday Tess said, "If I earn the money to buy my own pet, then can I have one?" Her parents thought and thought, and finally said, "Okay, Tess, if you can pay for a pet yourself, then



we will take you to the pet store this weekend."

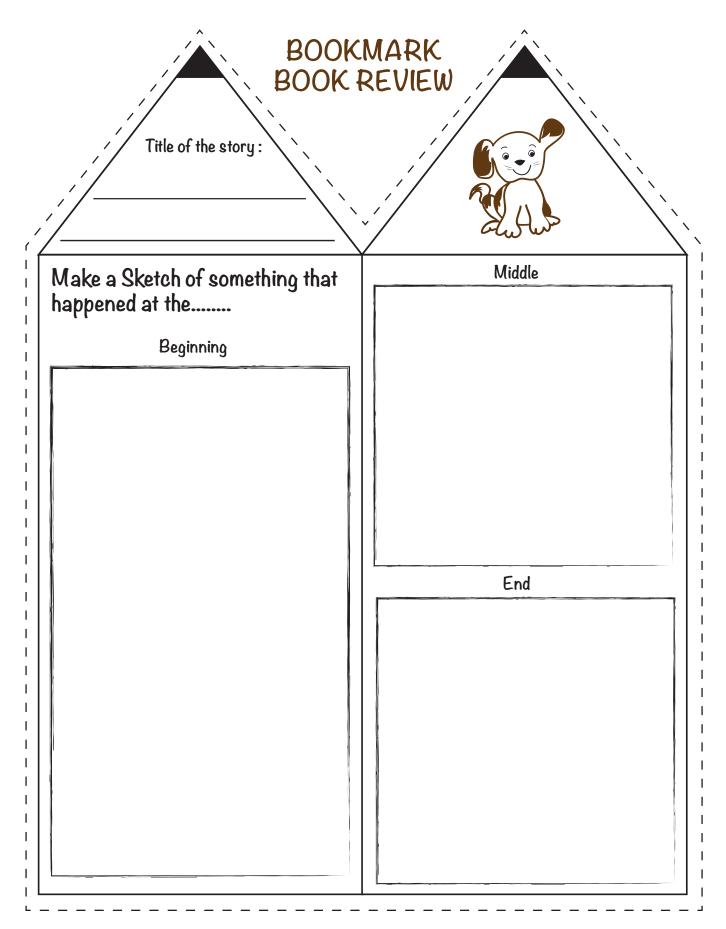
On Friday, Tess opened up her very own lemonade stand at the end of her driveway. She sold lemonade all day long! After dinner that evening, Tess counted all of the money she had earned. It was enough to buy a pet!

On Saturday, Tess went to the pet store with her parents. There were no elephants. There were no leopards. There were no horses. Tess was very sad.

Just as she was about to leave the pet store, a little puppy trotted over and licked Tess on the hand. She knew that she had to have it! A puppy was the perfect pet! Tess looked at her parents and said, "Mom, Dad, can I have this puppy?"

"Well, why don't you count your money?" they said. " Do you think you have enough?"Tess counted her earnings from the lemonade sale, and she had just enough money to buy her puppy! She went home happy, excited to finally have the perfect pet.





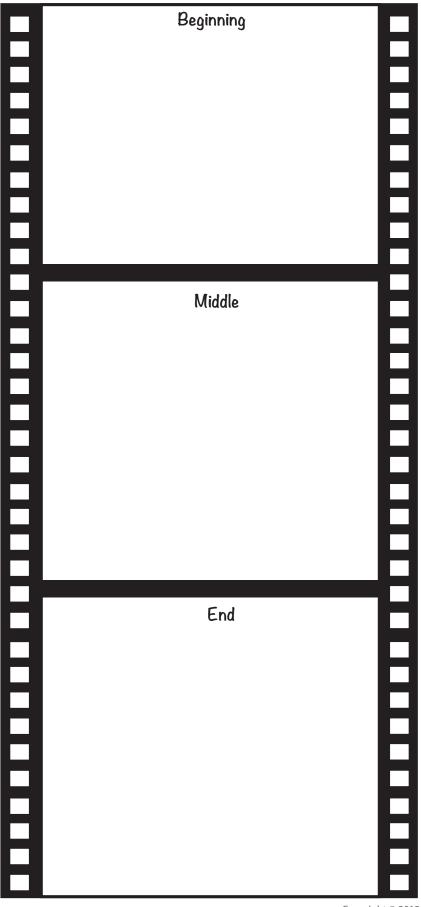
Cut along the dotted lines. Fold in half and paste together to make your very own bookmark.

Tip: Bookmark works best if printed on thick paper or colored stock paper.



#### **Bookmark Book Review**

Read your own book or a book from the library and draw a beginning, middle and end.



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Students, and readers of all ages should think carefully about the stories they read and make connections to other books, their own life and the world.

Ask your child to read the story and make connections to things in real life.



Maria looked out the window. The ground was covered with snow. She jumped out of bed and yelled, "No school!" She put on her hat, mittens and jacket, and ran outside. Maria played in the snow until her nose and cheeks were red. Finally she came inside. She sat by the fire and drank hot chocolate. Maria smiled. It was the best snow day ever!

Ask your child to match the beginning of each sentence to the ending that makes the most sense. They can draw a line or fill in the blank with a letter.

This book reminds me of myself<br/>because...a) Noses and cheeks get red when it<br/>is cold.This book reminds me of a book<br/>I read because...b) I feel happy when there is snow.This book reminds me of the real<br/>world because...c) The Snow Day is about a kid who<br/>plays in the snow.



# **Make Connections**

Ask you child to read a book from the library or from his own collection. Then encourage him to make connections between the story and his own life.

#### This book reminds me of myself because...

#### This book reminds me of a book I read because...

#### This book reminds me of the real world because...



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# Find Your Favorite Part!

Ask your child to read the story and then talk about his favorite part.

#### **Dog Saves The Day**

A cat went up a tree. She looked down at the dog next door and hissed. "He barks too much," she thought. She hissed at him again. The dog barked back. This went on all day.

When it was dinnertime, the cat was too scared to come down. She was too high up! She meowed for help. She waited but no one came. Suddenly the dog next door barked. He barked and barked and barked. People came outside to see what all the fuss was about. They saw the cat stuck in the tree.

They helped her down. The cat looked back at the dog, but this time she purred. The dog just barked and barked and barked. Some things never change!

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My favorite part was: (circle one)

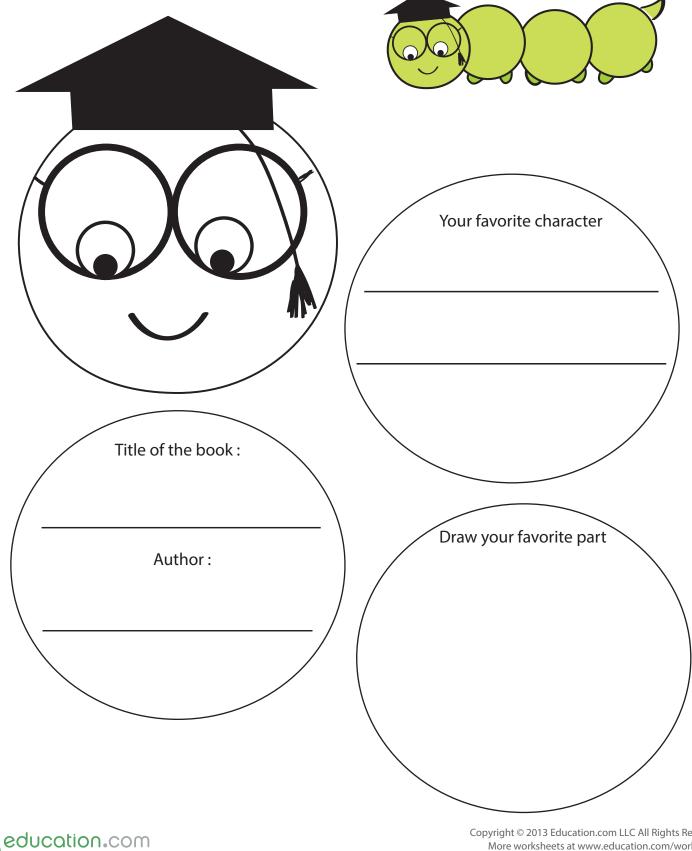
- a) when the cat hissed at the dog
- b) when the dog barked and got the people to come outside
- c) when the cat was saved
- d) when the cat purred at the dog
- e) when

because





Ask your child to read a book. Then have him write inside the circles to make his very own caterpillar book review. After he is done writing, ask him to cut out the circles and glue them one behind the other to form the caterpillar.



#### **Tell What You Think !**

Ask your child to read a book, and then answer the questions below to share what he thinks.

Title of book:

Author of book:

Write a sentence or two to describe the main idea of this story:

What did you think about this book (Color your choice).



Write a few sentences to explain your choice.



Tell the reader why you did or did not like the story. Use complete sentences to explain.

If you gave the book a Thumbs Up, would you recommend this book to a friend? What would you tell them? If you gave the book a Thumbs Down, explain why you wouldn't recommend it.



How would you change the story to make it better?

Write a letter to the author explaining your ideas.

How would you describe the book to someone who is thinking about reading it?





Ask your child to read a short passage, then write an alternate ending of his own. This activity will help readers retell stories and add new ideas of their own.



