

# Story Writing

Grades 1-3

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Illustrated by S&S Learning Materials

ISBN 1-55035-730-1

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Revised January 2006

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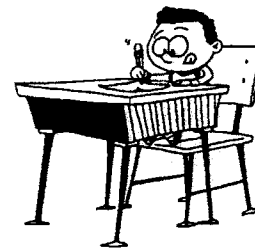
Published in the United States by:  
On the Mark Press  
3909 Witmer Road PMB 175  
Niagara Falls, New York  
14305  
[www.onthemarkpress.com](http://www.onthemarkpress.com)

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Published in Canada by:  
S&S Learning Materials  
15 Dairy Avenue  
Napawee, Ontario  
K7R 1M4  
[www.sslearning.com](http://www.sslearning.com)

OTM-2509 • SSY1-09 Story Writing

# Story Writing



## What is a paragraph?

A **paragraph** is a group of sentences that tell about the same thing.

## Example:

John traveled a long way with his family to their new home in our city. He used to live in a fishing village on the west coast. Sometimes he went out in a fishing boat.

## Tips for Writing a Paragraph

1. *Indent* the first word of the paragraph.
2. Leave a *space* between each line of writing.
3. A paragraph should have a good *beginning* or *topic* sentence. The *middle sentence* or *sentences* should be about the topic sentence. The *last* sentence should end the paragraph.
4. Each sentence in a paragraph must begin with a *capital letter* and end with a *punctuation mark*.
5. A story may be *one paragraph* or made up of *many* paragraphs.
6. A paragraph describes *one topic* or *subject*.



## What's the Main Idea?

**Read** each paragraph carefully.

Draw a **line** under the **main idea** in each one.

**A) Teaching Baby Bears**

A mother black bear spends two years training her cubs. The first lesson she teaches them is to climb a high tree when danger is near. Then she shows them how to catch fish in the middle of a river.

**D) Dressing Up**

Last Saturday it rained all day and my little sister and I had to stay in the house. Mother let us dress up in some of her old clothes and shoes. When she wasn't watching, we used some of her lipstick. She didn't like that at all and made us wash it off.

**B) Signs of Spring**

On the way to school I saw many signs of spring. Daffodils were nodding in the gardens. A mother robin was carrying grass in her beak for a nest. A gardener was planting some shrubs in a freshly dug bed. The grass was turning green.

**E) A Strange Dream**

Today, I painted a picture of a strange dream that I had last night. I was visiting a land at the bottom of of the sea. Huge green weeds grew there. Trees of pink coral stretched up through the blue water. Colorful fish swam by me. When I reached out to touch them, I woke up.

**C) The Hidden Nest**

Beside Mr. White's boathouse by the Salmon River, a mother mallard built a large nest. It was hidden from view by leafy, low-growing bushes. In the nest she laid ten speckled eggs. Her feathers completely covered them while she sat on the nest. The color of her feathers blended with the ground making her hard to find.

**F) The Secret Place**

Emily had a secret hiding place in in her house. It was in the attic. She liked to go there and play with all the toys stored in the old trunks. Sometimes she looked out the window and watched the people who lived on her street.



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Draw a **line** under the **main idea** in each one.

<p>A) <b>The First Snowfall</b></p> <p>On Saturday morning I looked out the window and saw snowflakes dancing about. I jumped up and down with joy. Quickly I got dressed and rushed outside. The world looked beautiful and sparkling white. Every tree was wearing a snowy coat.</p>	<p>D) <b>Earthworms</b></p> <p>Earthworms are very small animals. There are hundreds of them in the soil. They move the soil as they go through the ground. After a rain, they come to the top of the ground where robins stand, waiting to catch them.</p>
<p>B) <b>A Mouse Problem</b></p> <p>The barn mice were having a problem with the farmer's cat. He was killing many of their friends. One mouse suggested they tie a bell around the cat's neck. When the bell rang they would hear the cat coming and they would have time to get to their holes.</p>	<p>E) <b>Trolls</b></p> <p>There are many kinds of trolls. Some live in the water while others live deep in the mountains of Norway. Trolls are usually very ugly and have eyes as big as saucers. Some trolls are small while others are as big as giants.</p>
<p>C) <b>Maple Sugar</b></p> <p>The maple tree only grows in North America. No one knows when people discovered that its sap could be made into maple sugar. We do know that the Native People discovered the secret long, long ago.</p>	<p>F) <b>Spider Silk</b></p> <p>A spider web is made of silk by the female spider. She can make five or six different kinds of silk. Some are smooth and some are different colors. A spider uses one kind of silk for trapping insects, another kind for wrapping eggs and a different kind for running along to catch trapped insects.</p>