

Plot Elements Sort

Card Sort • Plot Diagrams • Story Sorts

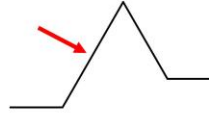
Word	Definition	Plot Diagram Visual	Visual
Exposition	Every background information needed to understand a story.		
Rising Action	Major events that develop the plot and lead to the climax.		
Climax	The turning point, or the high point, of a story.		

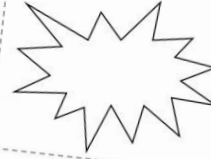


Climax

The turning point, or the high point, of a story.

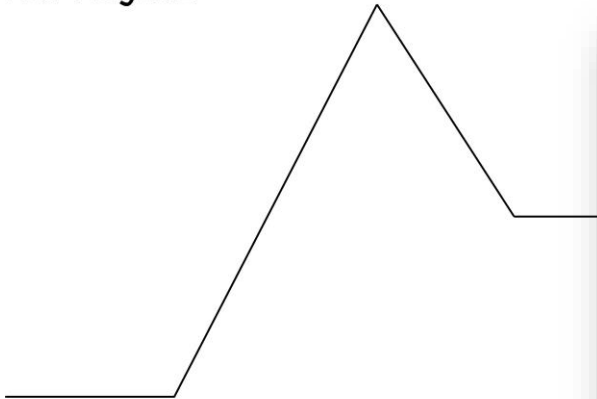
Plot Elements Vocabulary Sort

Word	Definition	Plot Diagram Visual	Visual
Exposition	Events that give the reader background information needed to understand a story.		
Rising Action	Major events that develop the plot of a story and lead to the climax.		
Climax	The turning point, or the high point, of a story.		

Falling Action	Events after the climax of a story but before the resolution.		
Resolution	The outcome of a story, when loose ends are wrapped up.		
Conflict	A struggle between opposing forces. Can be internal or external.		
Protagonist	The main character who deals with the conflict in the story.		
Antagonist	The character in opposition to the protagonist.	No plot diagram visual	
Theme	The central idea, message, or purpose of a literary work.	No plot diagram visual	
Plot	The sequence of related events that make up a story.		

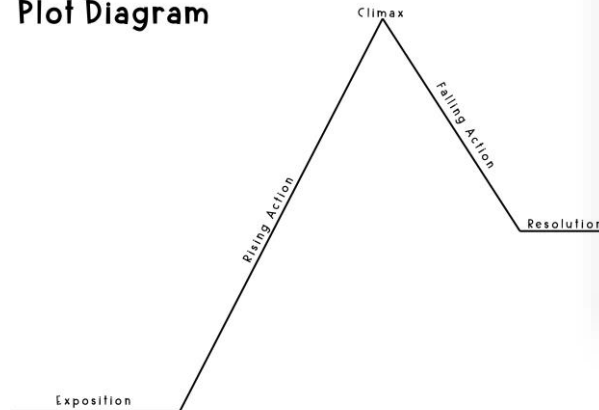
Plot Diagrams

Plot Diagram



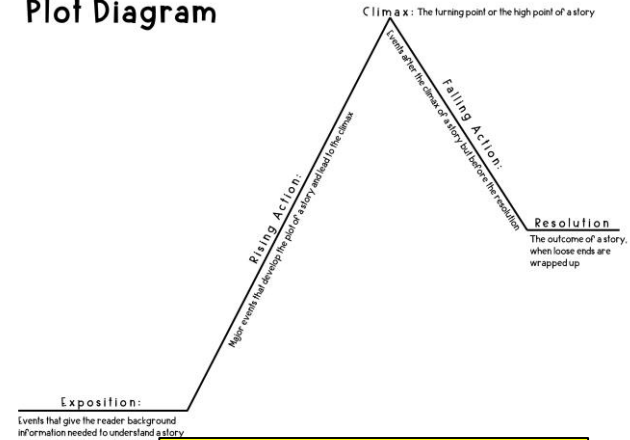
Blank

Plot Diagram



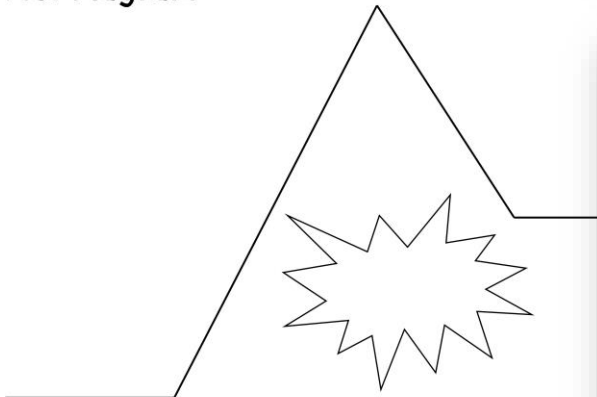
Labeled

Plot Diagram



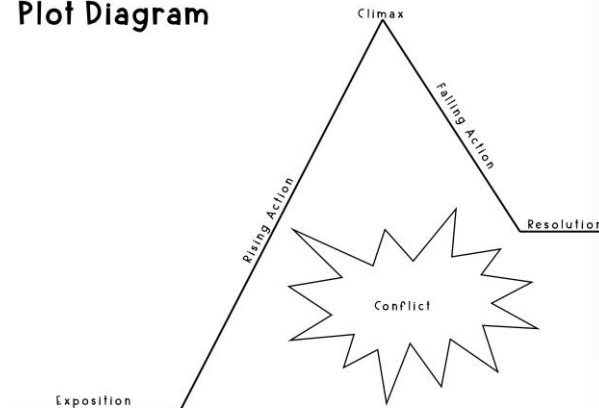
Labeled with definitions

Plot Diagram



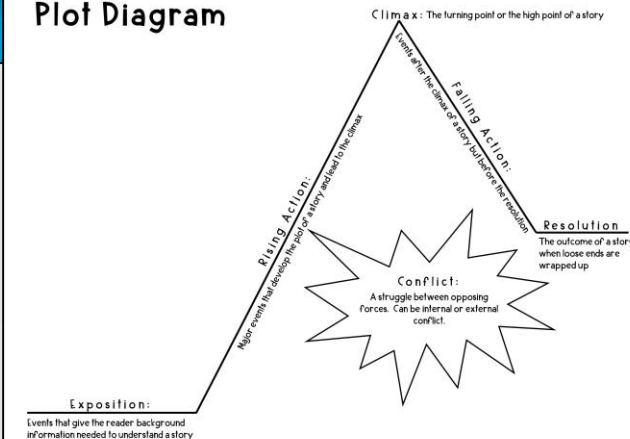
Blank, includes conflict

Plot Diagram



Labeled, includes conflict

Plot Diagram



Labeled with definitions, includes conflict

Short Story and Sort

Directions: Read the story. Use the cards to put the events of the story in the correct place on the plot diagram.

Christopher Keeps Trying

Christopher was so nervous. He was playing on the school baseball team for the first time. He had never played before and wasn't very good yet! All the other players could run, catch, and hit better than him. His teammate, Oliver, didn't think he was good enough for the team. When Coach put Christopher out on the field Oliver would groan and roll his eyes. "We'll never win if HE plays left field!" he complained behind the coach's back.

After missing every catch and striking out during his first game, Christopher decided to practice extra every day. He spent time catching, running, and hitting.

Now it was time for the team's second game of the season and Christopher was up to bat. Would his hard work pay off or would he strike out again? The pitcher stared right at Christopher and then threw the ball. Christopher took a deep breath and swung. Oliver's jaw dropped when Christopher's bat hit the ball with a loud "crack!". Christopher's heart pounded with joy as he ran to first base. He made it.

Directions: Read the story. Use the cards to put the events of the story in the correct place on the plot diagram.

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Directions:

- Print and cut the story cards. These will last longer if printed on cardstock and laminated.
- Print plot diagrams or use the heading cards from the vocabulary sort for students to use for sorting or placing the cards.

ACTIVITY:

- Students sort the story cards and place on a plot diagram to show understanding of plot or sort the story under the heading cards provided in the vocabulary sort. You can use this sort as a pre-assessment or post-assessment, or to use as a review activity. This works well in centers, partners, and small group settings. Students can take a picture of their finished sort or fill out a blank plot diagram, provided on pages 7 and 8. Two versions of the blank diagram are included. The first includes a starburst for the conflict and the second does not.

Story Sort – Christopher Keeps Trying

Christopher was nervous about playing on the school team. He had never played baseball on a team before and one of his teammates was mean.	After missing every catch and striking out during his first game, Christopher decided to practice extra every day.	Christopher goes up to bat during the second game of the season.	Christopher hits the ball and makes it on base.
Christopher's team wins the game.	They go out for ice cream to celebrate.	If you aren't successful at first, keep trying.	Christopher doesn't feel like he is good enough to play on the team.
Oliver is mean to Christopher.			

Story Sort – Christopher Keeps Trying

ANSWER KEY

Exposition Christopher was nervous about playing on the school team. He had never played baseball on a team before and one of his teammates was mean.	Rising Action After missing every catch and striking out during his first game, Christopher decided to practice extra every day.	Rising Action Christopher goes up to bat during the second game of the season.	Climax Christopher hits the ball and makes it on base.
Falling Action Christopher's team wins the game.	Resolution They go out for ice cream to celebrate.	Theme If you aren't successful at first, keep trying.	Internal Conflict Christopher doesn't feel like he is good enough to play on the team.
External Conflict Oliver is mean to Christopher.	Protagonist Christopher	Antagonist Oliver	

Short Narrative Story in Two Formats: Full Page and two to a page

Story Sort

Answer Key

Fairy Tale Sorts

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Cinderella

Once upon a time there was a girl who lived with her mean stepmother and her two ugly stepsisters. They mistreat her and make her sleep in the ashes.

An invitation to the ball arrives but Cinderella's stepmother won't let her attend.

Cinderella's fairy godmother arrives and gives her a ball gown, glass slippers, and a carriage so she can attend the ball.

Cinderella dances with the prince at the ball but must leave by midnight. As she rushes out, she leaves one glass slipper behind.

The prince searches for Cinderella, using the glass slipper.

Her stepsisters try to convince the prince that the slipper fits, but it only fits Cinderella.

Cinderella and the prince marry.

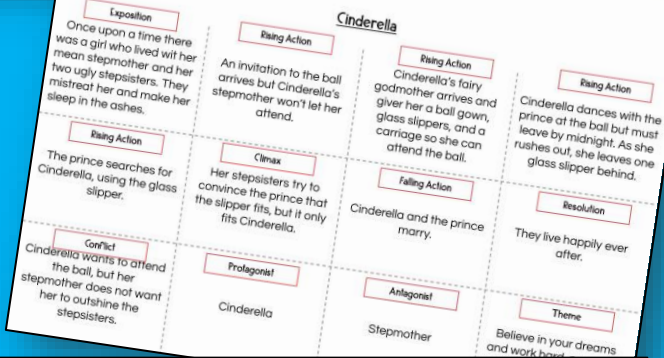
They live happily ever after.

Cinderella wants to attend the ball, but her stepmother does not want her to outshine the stepsisters.

Stepmother

Believe in your dreams and work hard, no matter what obstacles you face.

ANSWER KEY



Cinderella

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Snow White

Once upon a time there was a girl named Snow White. Her stepmother, the Evil Queen, wanted to be the prettiest woman in the land.

When the magic mirror told her that Snow White was the fairest, the stepmother sent a Huntsman into the woods with Snow White, to kill her!

Snow White ran away and found the dwarves' house in the woods.

Snow White lived with them until her stepmother found out, dressed up in disguise and fed Snow White a poison apple.

Snow White ate the apple and fell into a deep sleep. The dwarves built her a glass coffin and placed it in the woods.

One day, a prince saw her and woke her up with a kiss.

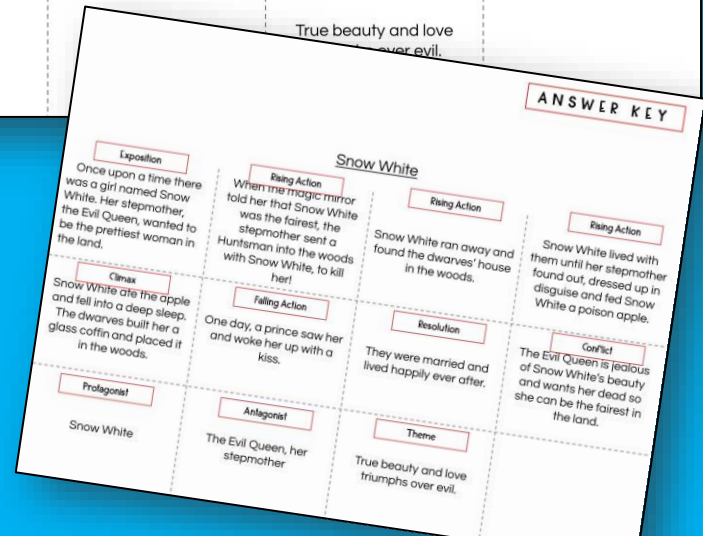
They were married and lived happily ever after.

The Evil Queen is jealous of Snow White's beauty and wants her dead so she can be the fairest in the land.

Snow White

True beauty and love triumph over evil.

ANSWER KEY



Snow White

Fairy Tale Sorts

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Jack and the Beanstalk

Jack and his widowed mother are poor farmers. They need money so Jack take their cow to the market to sell it.	Jack is fooled into trading the cow for magic beans. His mother is upset and throws the beans out the window.	The next morning, a huge beanstalk has grown. It goes all the way into the clouds!	Jack climbs the beanstalk and finds a giant living in the world above the clouds.
Jack steals the giant's golden goose and escapes down the beanstalk.	Jack chops down the beanstalk, causing the giant to fall to his death.	Jack and his mother live in comfort and are never poor again.	The giant finds Jack stealing from him and chases him down the beanstalk
Jack		Overcoming adversity	

ANSWER KEY

Exposition Jack and his widowed mother are poor farmers. They need money so Jack take their cow to the market to sell it.	Rising Action Jack is fooled into trading the cow for magic beans. His mother is upset and throws the beans out the window.	Rising Action The next morning, a huge beanstalk has grown. It goes all the way into the clouds!	Rising Action Jack climbs the beanstalk and finds a giant living in the world above the clouds.
Climax Jack steals the giant's golden goose and escapes down the beanstalk.	Falling Action Jack chops down the beanstalk, causing the giant to fall to his death.	Resolution Jack and his mother live in comfort and are never poor again.	Conflict The giant finds Jack stealing from him and chases him down the beanstalk
Protagonist Jack	Antagonist The Giant	Theme Overcoming adversity	

Jack and the Beanstalk

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The Three Little Pigs

Three little pigs leave home for the first time and build their own homes.	The first pig builds his house out of straw. A wolf comes, blows down the house, and the pig runs away to his brother's house.	The second pig builds his house out of sticks. A wolf comes, blows down the house, and the pigs run away to their third brother's house.	The third pig builds his house out of bricks. The wolf comes but can't blow it down.
The frustrated wolf climbs down the chimney to try to get the pigs.	The wolf falls into a boiling pot and runs away.	The three little pigs live happily ever after and the wolf never bothers them again.	The pigs must defend themselves against the wolf, who wants to eat them.
The three little pigs		Taking the time to do something right pays off.	

ANSWER KEY

Exposition Three little pigs leave home for the first time and build their own homes.	Rising Action The first pig builds his house out of straw. A wolf comes, blows down the house, and the pig runs away to his brother's house.	Rising Action The second pig builds his house out of sticks. A wolf comes, blows down the house, and the pigs run away to their third brother's house.	Rising Action The third pig builds his house out of bricks. The wolf comes but can't blow it down.
Climax The frustrated wolf climbs down the chimney to try to get the pigs.	Falling Action The wolf falls into a boiling pot and runs away.	Resolution The three little pigs live happily ever after and the wolf never bothers them again.	Conflict The pigs must defend themselves against the wolf, who wants to eat them.
Protagonist The three little pigs	Antagonist The wolf	Theme Taking the time to do something right pays off.	

The Three Little Pigs

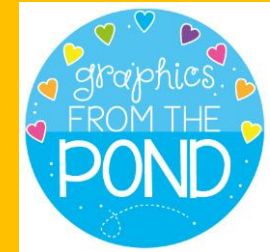
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