

WriteShop

StoryBuilders

World of Animals



by Kim Kautzer and Debra Oldar

WriteShop®

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WriteShop®

World of Animals StoryBuilders

For all ages.

INCLUDES

- 1 deck World of Animals StoryBuilders cards, black print
- 1 deck World of Animals StoryBuilders cards, colored print
- Blank cards for writing your own story elements
- Instructions and ideas

ABOUT STORYBUILDERS

What's this? A curious porcupine hears, "Help! Save him!" . . . and it's coming from the pantry? A forgetful robin flies into a car and gets separated from his family? What kid wouldn't love to write a story filled with such intrigue, mystery, humor, or whimsy?

WriteShop® StoryBuilders card decks help to jumpstart a creative writing project by providing students with the basic elements of a story—character, character trait, setting, and plot—laying a foundation for a joyful writing experience with some clever surprises thrown in along the way.

StoryBuilders may be used by students of all ages, from kindergarten through high school. Using the StoryBuilder Cards, they'll develop their tales by picking one card from each category. Does the hero save the day? Will the notorious bad guy learn a lesson? And what twists and turns appear in the character's path? A hurricane? A bag of loot? A mysterious letter?

Break up your routine or add punch and variety to writing lessons by offering StoryBuilders occasionally. Use them in addition to or instead of a daily writing activity. At first, to help your student write concisely, limit her to a specific number of sentences or paragraphs. As she improves (or if she thrives on writing creative fiction), allow her to compose longer, more thoroughly developed stories. And with hundreds of possible story combinations, no two will be alike!

You can mix and match cards from other WriteShop® StoryBuilders decks, because every card is different! Expand character options, settings, and plot possibilities by adding to your StoryBuilder collection. Watch for new titles coming soon!

Tip: Because story writing lends itself to dialogue, review the basics of writing dialogue with your students. A good English handbook will help.

PREPARE THE CARDS

1. PRINT

This set contains two identical decks of printable cards from which to choose.

- **Option 1: Print with Black Ink on Colored Paper**
 - Print black-text cards (pp. 5-32).
 - Print each category of cards on a different color of paper. Card stock makes for sturdier cards than regular copy paper. These colors are merely suggestions.

<u>Card Category</u>	<u>Paper Color</u>
Character Cards	Blue paper
Character Trait Cards	Yellow paper
Setting Cards	Green paper
Plot Cards	Lavender paper

- **Option 2: Print with Colored Ink on White Paper**
 - Print colored-text cards (pp. 33-60).
 - Print all cards on white card stock or copy paper.

2. CUT

3. STORE

- Keep cards in separate zip-top sandwich bags, one for Characters, one for *Character Traits*, one for *Settings*, and one for *Plots*; or
- Store cards in a small file box, separating them by category; or
- Store each category of card in its own little jar.

CHOOSE STORY ELEMENTS

Students can use various methods for choosing one of each card. Then, based on the cards selected, they will construct a story, whether fanciful, funny, or serious.

For example, a student might draw randomly, resulting in a silly mix of cards (a mysterious tourist in Ancient Egypt who grows wings). Or she might purposefully choose the elements for her story (a courageous slave on a plantation who holds secret meetings).

Here are three ways students can pick their cards:

- **Blind Pick:** Draw one card from each category. No peeking allowed!
- **Roll the Die:**
 1. Make 4 stacks of cards on the table, one stack for each category, with 6 cards in each stack.
 2. First, the student picks a character card by rolling the die. If he rolls a five, he must draw the fifth card in the stack. This becomes his story's main character.
 3. Repeat to pick trait, setting, and plot.

- **You Decide:** Let the student choose the character, character trait, setting, and plot that he wants to write about.

WRITE THE STORY

Once the student has drawn or selected four cards, he may begin to write his story. Here are ideas for using WriteShop StoryBuilder activities::

- **Pick-a-Plot:** Let the student draw a new card if a plot or problem seems too outrageous for the character
- **Add-a-Card:** If the student wants his story to take a different turn, he may draw one or more new cards to add another character, perhaps, or introduce a twist to the plot.
- **Daily Timed Writing**
 1. Each student chooses four cards.
 2. Set the timer for 5, 10, or 15 minutes.
 3. Students write till the timer goes off, stopping mid-sentence if need be.
 4. Daily (or less often), set the timer and let them continue with their stories.
 - Optional: Do the Add-a-Card activity every day.
 5. On the last day of the week, students must wrap up their tales with a conclusion.
- **Poetry Fun:** Instead of writing a story, students can compose a short poem.
- **Round Robin:** A “Round Robin” is a good activity for a group of students or siblings to practice narrative or imaginative story writing. Teach them that even though they may have fun with a topic, they must always remain gracious. Stories may be humorous but not crude, realistic but not graphic.
 1. Each student picks 4 StoryBuilder cards.
 2. Set the timer for 2-3 minutes and let them write.
 3. When the bell rings, pencils must be set down (students may finish the word but not the sentence).
 4. Students then pass their papers to the person on the left.
 5. Set the timer again and tell students to add to the story that’s before them.
 6. They will continue exchanging papers every 2-3 minutes for as many rounds as you decide (4-6 rounds work well).
 7. Before they begin writing during the last round, inform them that they must now write a conclusion.
 8. Instruct students to write neatly and legibly, since others must read their work. If younger and older students are writing together, you may need to have everyone print rather than use cursive.
- **Travel Game:** Take your StoryBuilder deck with you on a road trip or vacation. Your family can make up stories orally, in Round Robin fashion.

If you have a pre-writer, consider doing one of these activities orally with her:

- **Narration:** Have your child narrate her story to you.
 1. You write it down as she dictates.
 2. Stop and read what you've written after every sentence or two. Reviewing the story with the child helps her remember what she has already said, which keeps her more focused.
- **Tape Recorder:** Have your child dictate into a tape recorder.

ABOUT EDITING AND GRADING

Though most parents use WriteShop StoryBuilders for fun, you may certainly require editing and revising with the goal of giving a grade. But don't be afraid to just let your kids write for pure enjoyment, leaving writing lessons, history reports, and other assigned compositions for teaching writing skills.

ant

WriteShop® World of Animals

bat

WriteShop® World of Animals

bear

WriteShop® World of Animals

boa constrictor

WriteShop® World of Animals

butterfly

WriteShop® World of Animals

camel

WriteShop® World of Animals

cat

WriteShop® World of Animals

caterpillar

WriteShop® World of Animals

chicken

WriteShop® World of Animals

cow

WriteShop® World of Animals

crocodile

WriteShop® World of Animals

dinosaur

WriteShop® World of Animals

dog

WriteShop® World of Animals

donkey

WriteShop® World of Animals

eagle

WriteShop® World of Animals

elephant

WriteShop® World of Animals

fish

WriteShop® World of Animals

fox

WriteShop® World of Animals

giraffe

WriteShop® World of Animals

gorilla

WriteShop® World of Animals

hawk

WriteShop® World of Animals

horse

WriteShop® World of Animals

kangaroo

WriteShop® World of Animals

lion

WriteShop® World of Animals

lizard

WriteShop® World of Animals

lobster

WriteShop® World of Animals

monkey

WriteShop® World of Animals

moose

WriteShop® World of Animals

mouse

WriteShop® World of Animals

octopus

WriteShop® World of Animals

owl

WriteShop® World of Animals

panda

WriteShop® World of Animals

peacock

WriteShop® World of Animals

penguin

WriteShop® World of Animals

porcupine

WriteShop® World of Animals

raccoon

WriteShop® World of Animals

rat

WriteShop® World of Animals

rattlesnake

WriteShop® World of Animals

robin

WriteShop® World of Animals

sea horse

WriteShop® World of Animals

skunk

WriteShop® World of Animals

shark

WriteShop® World of Animals

snail

WriteShop® World of Animals

spider

WriteShop® World of Animals

turtle

WriteShop® World of Animals

whale

WriteShop® World of Animals

wolf

WriteShop® World of Animals

worm

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

bashful

WriteShop® World of Animals

bold

WriteShop® World of Animals

bossy

WriteShop® World of Animals

confident

WriteShop® World of Animals

confused

WriteShop® World of Animals

curious

WriteShop® World of Animals

dainty

WriteShop® World of Animals

daring

WriteShop® World of Animals

determined

WriteShop® World of Animals

dignified

WriteShop® World of Animals

disobedient

WriteShop® World of Animals

downhearted

WriteShop® World of Animals

evil

WriteShop® World of Animals

feeble

WriteShop® World of Animals

finicky

WriteShop® World of Animals

forgetful

WriteShop® World of Animals

furious

WriteShop® World of Animals

hysterical

WriteShop® World of Animals

kindhearted

WriteShop® World of Animals

indecisive

WriteShop® World of Animals

insolent

WriteShop® World of Animals

lazy

WriteShop® World of Animals

merry

WriteShop® World of Animals

mischievous

WriteShop® World of Animals

moody

WriteShop® World of Animals

obnoxious

WriteShop® World of Animals

persistent

WriteShop® World of Animals

picky

WriteShop® World of Animals

lonely

WriteShop® World of Animals

mean

WriteShop® World of Animals

naughty

WriteShop® World of Animals

nervous

WriteShop® World of Animals

prudent

WriteShop® World of Animals

puzzled

WriteShop® World of Animals

restless

WriteShop® World of Animals

ridiculous

WriteShop® World of Animals

rude

WriteShop® World of Animals

sad

WriteShop® World of Animals

shy

WriteShop® World of Animals

spunky

WriteShop® World of Animals

stingy

WriteShop® World of Animals

sympathetic

WriteShop® World of Animals

talkative

WriteShop® World of Animals

truthful

WriteShop® World of Animals

ungrateful

WriteShop® World of Animals

unkind

WriteShop® World of Animals

untidy

WriteShop® World of Animals

witty

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

**abandoned
railroad track**

WriteShop® World of Animals

airplane

WriteShop® World of Animals

amusement park

WriteShop® World of Animals

the Arctic

WriteShop® World of Animals

barn

WriteShop® World of Animals

basement

WriteShop® World of Animals

cage

WriteShop® World of Animals

car

WriteShop® World of Animals

closet

WriteShop® World of Animals

carnival

WriteShop® World of Animals

behind a waterfall

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busy city

WriteShop® World of Animals

deep in the jungle

WriteShop® World of Animals

distant planet

WriteShop® World of Animals

dresser drawer

WriteShop® World of Animals

dryer

WriteShop® World of Animals

forest

WriteShop® World of Animals

fountain

WriteShop® World of Animals

grandfather clock

WriteShop® World of Animals

grocery store

WriteShop® World of Animals

hole in the ground

WriteShop® World of Animals

iceberg

WriteShop® World of Animals

in a hollow tree

WriteShop® World of Animals

in the street

WriteShop® World of Animals

in the tall grass

WriteShop® World of Animals

meadow's edge

WriteShop® World of Animals

on a mountain peak

WriteShop® World of Animals

on top of a table

WriteShop® World of Animals

pantry

WriteShop® World of Animals

pet shop

WriteShop® World of Animals

pocket

WriteShop® World of Animals

rocket

WriteShop® World of Animals

roof

WriteShop® World of Animals

school

WriteShop® World of Animals

seashell

WriteShop® World of Animals

shoe

WriteShop® World of Animals

**spaceship or
space station**

WriteShop® World of Animals

spider web

WriteShop® World of Animals

toy box

WriteShop® World of Animals

trash can

WriteShop® World of Animals

under the bed

WriteShop® World of Animals

under the couch

WriteShop® World of Animals

under a fern

WriteShop® World of Animals

under a rug

WriteShop® World of Animals

under a tree stump

WriteShop® World of Animals

vegetable garden

WriteShop® World of Animals

windy prairie

WriteShop® World of Animals

zoo

WriteShop® World of Animals

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WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

WriteShop® World of Animals

**becomes a
stuffed toy**

WriteShop® World of Animals

becomes king

WriteShop® World of Animals

**best friend
disappears**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**can become
invisible**

WriteShop® World of Animals

cannot sleep

WriteShop® World of Animals

**can turn into
a human**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**can turn rocks
into gold**

WriteShop® World of Animals

caught in a trap

WriteShop® World of Animals

**circus comes
to town**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**every wish
comes true**

WriteShop® World of Animals

finds a clue

WriteShop® World of Animals

**finds a
secret message**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**finds a
secret tunnel**

WriteShop® World of Animals

forest fire

WriteShop® World of Animals

**gets separated
from _____**

WriteShop® World of Animals

gets sick

WriteShop® World of Animals

**grows much larger
(or smaller)**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**had the strangest
dream**

WriteShop® World of Animals

hears a crash

WriteShop® World of Animals

**hears a knock
at the door**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**hears a noise
in the dark**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**hears
"Help! Save him!"**

WriteShop® World of Animals

house is a mess

WriteShop® World of Animals

in danger

WriteShop® World of Animals

invaded by _____

WriteShop® World of Animals

invents something

WriteShop® World of Animals

lands on the moon

WriteShop® World of Animals

learns to fly

WriteShop® World of Animals

lives all alone

WriteShop® World of Animals

lost

WriteShop® World of Animals

makes a mistake

WriteShop® World of Animals

**meets a long-lost
friend or relative**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**meets a man
in disguise**

WriteShop® World of Animals

misunderstood

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**the monkeys have
escaped**

WriteShop® World of Animals

needs a new home

WriteShop® World of Animals

needs help

WriteShop® World of Animals

no one has manners

WriteShop® World of Animals

plans a surprise

WriteShop® World of Animals

**receives an
unwelcome guest**

WriteShop® World of Animals

sees flashing lights

WriteShop® World of Animals

**sees strange
footprints**

WriteShop® World of Animals

**stalked by a
predator**

WriteShop® World of Animals

a sudden storm

WriteShop® World of Animals

**takes the wrong
path**

WriteShop® World of Animals

takes a vacation

WriteShop® World of Animals

**travels to a
distant land**

WriteShop® World of Animals

tries to escape

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mouse

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octopus

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owl

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panda

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peacock

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penguin

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porcupine

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raccoon

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rat

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rattlesnake

WriteShop® World of Animals

robin

WriteShop® World of Animals

sea horse

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skunk

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shark

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snail

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spider

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turtle

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wolf

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bashful

WriteShop® World of Animals

bold

WriteShop® World of Animals

bossy

WriteShop® World of Animals

confident

WriteShop® World of Animals

confused

WriteShop® World of Animals

curious

WriteShop® World of Animals

dainty

WriteShop® World of Animals

daring

WriteShop® World of Animals

determined

WriteShop® World of Animals

dignified

WriteShop® World of Animals

disobedient

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downhearted

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evil

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feeble

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finicky

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forgetful

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furios

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hysterical

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kindhearted

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indecisive

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insolent

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lazy

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merry

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mischievous

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moody

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obnoxious

WriteShop® World of Animals

persistent

WriteShop® World of Animals

picky

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mean

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naughty

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spunky

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stingy

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sympathetic

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talkative

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