

# Kindergarten Summary Skills Pre-Writing Instruction and Practice

## Summary Skills Pre-Writing Instruction and Practice

### Directions:

- Choose an age appropriate selection such as the The Tortoise and the Hare, or any story that is short with a plot that has a strong beginning, middle (conflict), and end. Read aloud the story with your child.

### Writing Assignment:

- After reading the story with your child, have him/her retell the story to you.
- Record their retell of the story (recording device is recommended), then write their story for them neatly on age appropriate handwriting paper.
- Encourage them to draw one picture of the story to go with their retell. For more advanced students, fold an 8" x 11" paper into thirds. Have the child draw a picture of what happened *first* in the top section, what happened *next* (conflict) in the middle section, what happened *last* in the bottom section.
- Staple all pages together forming their "storybook".
- Sit together and read their "storybook" back to them as many times as they desire. As a minimum, try to do one new book each week.
- During the week for additional practice, read a new book, but only have them draw their three pictures of the story using the tri-fold paper, OR read the story and have them only say their retell of the story.

## **ONLINE BOOKS**

Now you don't have to wait to go to the library in order to read books to your children for "retell" practice. Consider visiting these two popular websites. Caution: many of the selections on these sites will be too advanced for a Kindergartener. For this age and for "retell" practice, you want to look for selections that are short and have simple plots and story lines.

### **LibriVox: Free Audio Books**

<http://librivox.org/>, then click on "Listen to LibriVox", click on "Our catalogue" (use the title/author search), OR click on "Browse entire catalogue" for a listing of all of their books with the links. Another title/author "search" is at the bottom of each page of book links.

LibriVox is a wonderful source of public domain books that volunteers have read and released as audio files back onto the net. Read the book yourself online, or use their audio files to have the book read to your child.

### **Aesop's Fables**

<http://www.aesopfables.com/>

Now you can have access to and read all of the popular Aesop's Fables online--many with a "moral to the story" explanation. Another nice feature of this website is that the fables often come with a built in reader.


# Story Retell Rubric

Directions: Mark the sentences that are correct for your story retelling. With practice, you can become a Super Storyteller!

## Super Storyteller

- My beginning sentence is interesting and makes the listener want to hear more.
- My story has interesting details about the setting, characters, and their problem.
- My story has a beginning, middle, and end.
- The events are told in order.
- The ending tells how the problem is solved and how the story ends.

## Beginning Storyteller

- My beginning sentence could be more interesting to make the listener want to hear more.
- My story could have more details about the setting, characters, and their problem.
- A story event (beginning, middle, or end) is missing.
- The story events are not told in order.
- My ending needs to tell how the problem is solved and what happens as the story ends.