

Tuffet Times

Decoding a Story

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- **Student Poster Version**
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Tuffet Times

Eyes on the Spider - Deconstructing the Story Web
(Knowing the Parts of a Story)

Junior Level

Protagonist



Little Miss Muffet

Setting

Sat on a tuffet,



Action



Eating her curds
and whey;

Antagonist

Along came a
spider,



Conflict



Who sat down
beside her,

Resolution

And frightened
Miss Muffet
away.



Primary Level

Hero

Time
and
Place

What
Happens

Villain

Problem

How it
Turned
Out

Teacher Notes

You will likely find that the terms used for the parts of a story will lead to some interesting discussions with your students. As you apply them to a variety of stories, it will soon become apparent that the definitions of some of the terms will broaden.

For example:

- the conflict can be a difference of attitude or directions
- not every antagonist is a villain, but perhaps an opponent
- there may not be another character who is the antagonist which means the conflict can be the hero against nature (caught in a snowstorm driving home) or within one's own mind or body (a disability for example)- a struggle between good and evil or a choice between two options (doing one's homework or not!)
- resolution may be interpreted to mean that a solution is found to the problem, but this may not always be the case



Tuffet Times

Eyes on the Spider - The Parts of a Story

Time
and
Place



Little Miss Muffet

Hero

Sat on a tuffet,



Eating her curds
and whey;

What
Happens

Villain

Along came a
spider,



Who sat down
beside her,

Problem

How it
Turned
Out

And frightened
Miss Muffet
away.



The Ant and the Grasshopper

One day, Ant was working hard out in the field. He was gathering wheat. Grasshopper came along, singing and dancing in the lovely sun. He saw Ant working and he stopped to ask why he was not playing on this beautiful day. Grasshopper said, "Come and play with me." Ant huffed and puffed and said that he had to work now. He wanted to have enough food for the winter. Grasshopper teased ant and tried to get him to come and play. But Ant kept getting ready for winter.

When the frosty winter came, lazy Grasshopper was outside. He was very cold and hungry. Wise Ant was warm inside, with lots of food to last until spring.

Parts of the Story	
Hero	<input type="text"/>
Time and Place	<input type="text"/>
What Happens	<input type="text"/>
Villain	<input type="text"/>
Problem	<input type="text"/>
How it Turns Out	<input type="text"/>

Name: _____

Story Title _____

Parts of the Story	
Hero	<div></div>
Time and Place	<div></div>
What Happens	<div></div>
Villain	<div></div>
Problem	<div></div>
How it Turns Out	<div></div>

Plan Your Own Story

Name: _____

Parts of Your Story	
Hero	<div></div>
Time and Place	<div></div>
What Happens	<div></div>
Villain	<div></div>
Problem	<div></div>
How it Turns Out	<div></div>

My Story Title: _____

Tuffet Times

Eyes on the Spider - Deconstructing the Story Web
(Knowing the Parts of a Story)

Term		Meaning
Protagonist	 <p>Little Miss Muffet</p>	Hero
Setting	 <p>Sat on a tuffet,</p>	Time and Place
Action	 <p>Eating her curds and whey;</p>	What Happens
Antagonist	<p>Along came a spider,</p> 	Villain
Conflict	 <p>Who sat down beside her,</p>	Problem
Resolution	<p>And frightened Miss Muffet away.</p> 	How it Turned Out

The Ant and the Grasshopper

One day, Ant was very busy out in the field gathering wheat. Grasshopper passed by singing and dancing in the lovely sun. When he saw Ant working so hard he stopped and asked, "Why are you slaving away like that on this beautiful day? Come and play with me." "I'm sorry", replied Ant, "I have to work now so that I will have enough food for the winter." Grasshopper tried once more to convince the ant to come and play, but Ant kept harvesting for winter.

When the frosty winter weather arrived, lazy starving Grasshopper shivered outside under a frozen stalk. Since he had spent all of his time playing, he hadn't prepared a warm place to stay and had no food. Wise Ant was cosy and warm, relaxing in his home with plenty of food to last until spring.

Deconstructing the Story	
Protagonist (Hero)	<input type="text"/>
Setting (Time and Place)	<input type="text"/>
Action (What Happens)	<input type="text"/>
Antagonist (Villain)	<input type="text"/>
Conflict (Problem)	<input type="text"/>
Resolution (How it Turns Out)	<input type="text"/>

Name: _____

Story Title: _____

Deconstructing the Story	
Protagonist (Hero)	
Setting (Time and Place)	
Action (What Happens)	
Antagonist (Villain)	
Conflict (Problem)	
Resolution (How it Turns Out)	

Plan Your Own Story

Name: _____

Developing the Story	
Protagonist (Hero)	
Setting (Time and Place)	
Action (What Happens)	
Antagonist (Villain)	
Conflict (Problem)	
Resolution (How it Turns Out)	

Story Title: _____