



DISSECT-A-PLAY ASSIGNMENT

In this week's Theatre Activity, we will be using the play that you've been reading. By now, you should have read it completely. Now, you're going to break that play down into three specific parts: 1) The Storyline 2) The Characters 3) The Theme/Moral of the play.

Step 1: In the space below, recap the ACTION of the play that we would call The Storyline. Here, you are simply summarizing the play. Make sure to identify the major parts of a story: Rising Action, Climax, and Resolution. Follow this example of a Storyline summary for the fairy tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears: *"In the story "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," the action rises when the title character, Goldilocks, travels through the woods and comes across a seemingly abandoned cottage. In her exploration of the cottage, she samples porridge, sits in and breaks a chair, and ultimately falls asleep in one of the beds. The story reaches its climax when the cottage owners return home to find Goldilocks still asleep in their bed. The story is resolved when the cottage owners, who are bears, chase Goldilocks out of their home."*

Summarize your play here using the underlined phrases above as a guide.

Step 2: Identify and list the play's characters in the space below, explaining the relationship to one/another and/or the storyline. For example:

Goldilocks Protagonist/Main Character

Papa Bear Cottage Owner/Head of the Bear Family

Mama Bear Wife of Papa Bear

Baby Bear Child of Mama and Papa Bear

List the play's characters using the example above as a guide.

Step 3: In the space below, identify what you believe is the THEME or MORAL of the play. Use specific examples from your play to support your claim. For example:

“In the story “Goldilocks and the Three Bears,” the moral is do not take things that do not belong to you. This can be considered true because when Papa Bear chases Goldilocks away, he yells at her and tells her, ‘This is not your house! You do not belong here!’ This moral is also supported by Baby Bear’s broken chair.”

Identify your play’s theme or moral using the example above as a guide. Use the back of this page if needed.