

Turn Your Students Into...

STORY PATTERN DETECTIVES



Stories have **PATTERNS**, parts that repeat.

Stories have **WORD PATTERNS**, words or phrases or sentences that repeat.

In *The Three Pigs*, some word patterns are . . .

“I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your house in.”

“Not by the hair of my chinny-chin-chin.”



Stories have **ACTION PATTERNS**, actions or story happenings that repeat.

In *The Three Pigs*, some action patterns are . . .

Wolf tries to blow down pig house after pig house

Pig runs to next brother’s house after his house is blown in



Challenge students to be **STORY PATTERN DETECTIVES** by looking for **WORD PATTERNS** and **ACTION PATTERNS** that repeat in **TRADITIONAL STORIES**:

Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Little Red Riding Hood

Jack and the Beanstalk

Have students look for patterns in **PICTURE BOOKS**:

We’re Going in a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything by Linda Williams

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr.

The Napping House by Audrey Wood

Challenge students to find patterns in a picture book that has **MEGA-PATTERNS**, such as *A Mountain of Mittens* by Lynn Plourde. Can they find a dozen different patterns in the book?

Use the **HANDOUT** on the other side of this paper as a way for you and your students to record patterns that you find in stories.

Once your students master finding patterns in stories, challenge them to **USE PATTERNS** when they **WRITE THEIR OWN STORIES**—both word patterns and action patterns.

For more information about Charlesbridge books, including *A Mountain of Mittens*, visit www.charlesbridge.com

For more information about Lynn Plourde’s picture books with patterns, visit www.lynnplourde.com

Your name: _____

Story title: _____

STORY PATTERNS

Many stories have patterns, parts that repeat. The words in a story can repeat: **WORD PATTERNS**. The action in a story can repeat: **ACTION PATTERNS**. For the story you read or heard, make a list of *all* the patterns you found in the story. Good luck!

WORD PATTERNS



ACTION PATTERNS

