

Improving your story

Make it better!

- ▲ Use a **story hook**. If you keep some information back it makes your reader want to ask questions.
- ▲ Use **powerful verbs**, **accurate nouns** and **interesting adjectives** and **adverbs**.
- ▲ Include more descriptions using **similes** and **metaphors**.
- ▲ Show us more about the character through **action**, **feelings**, **description** and **dialogue**.
- ▲ Control and vary the sentences. Try beginning a sentence with an adverb, e.g. *Frantically, he began ...*
- ▲ Use **precise adverbial expressions of time** and **place** to open paragraphs.
- ▲ If you are writing a story with a time slip or memory, make sure that the **beginnings** and **endings** of both **stories tie up**.
- ▲ Don't rush the ending.

Language check

Have you used:

- ▲ the same **tense** all the way through, except in dialogue?
- ▲ same person **pronouns** (e.g. *he, she, they*) except in dialogue?
- ▲ **adverbials of time** to tie the story together? (e.g. *Meanwhile, Later that day*);
- ▲ **adverbials of place** to show where and when things happen/characters are (e.g. *Under the rocks; Through the window*)?
- ▲ **speech marks** if you have used speech?

Oops! Things to check for

- ▲ Commas in lists of things and actions
- ▲ Commas after adverbials and in complex sentences
- ▲ Apostrophes for possession (e.g. *Motz's bomb*) and omitted words (e.g. *can't*) but not for plurals
- ▲ Spelling – check tricky words and unstressed vowel phonemes.

Publishing your story

Remember who your story is for.



role-play it



class anthology



storyboard



Think about:

- illustrations
- blurb
- cover

audio tape it

