

# Show Me Short, Short Stories

Short, short stories are snapshots/quick views/mini-stories to start young writers thinking. They are one or two paragraph stories with details about one specific person or one specific incident.

Directions: Pass out or allow students to select one story starter. Encourage them to write details in 2-3 more sentences with the goal of aiming for 1-2 paragraphs that will interest their readers/listeners. Share them aloud, noting on how each of us may use the same story starter and end up with totally different stories. They may enjoy writing more than one of these to stimulate thinking about individual ideas to add to their story starter lists.

## 14 Sample Story Starters:

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My grandfather is funny. I remember the time he \_\_\_\_\_.

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I had a busy yesterday today when I \_\_\_\_\_ I had to  
\_\_\_\_\_ then \_\_\_\_\_.

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Our best family vacation was the time we went to \_\_\_\_\_.

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The best birthday party I ever had was when I \_\_\_\_\_.

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Recess is fun. I like to play \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

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We usually \_\_\_\_\_.

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My favorite food is \_\_\_\_\_. It reminds me of \_\_\_\_\_.

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The first time I had it, I thought \_\_\_\_\_.

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My pet's name is \_\_\_\_\_. He/She is a \_\_\_\_\_.

(tell us 2 or 3 things your pet does.)  
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My favorite place to play is \_\_\_\_\_ . I like it  
because \_\_\_\_\_ .

The best holiday for my family is \_\_\_\_\_ . I like it because we  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

My favorite sport to play is \_\_\_\_\_ . If I had a chance I'd play the  
\_\_\_\_\_ position because \_\_\_\_\_ .

One family vacation we had, lots of things went wrong. First \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Then \_\_\_\_\_ .

My chores at home are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ . If I could give one  
chore away, I'd give (who) \_\_\_\_\_ my job of \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_ .

The best place to play in my neighborhood is \_\_\_\_\_ . I like it because \_\_\_\_\_ .

If I could change one thing at school, we'd have more time for \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_ . I'd save \_\_\_\_\_ for the end of the day.