

# Fiction Writing Clues

## Describe:

### Who: the characters

names, ages (maybe); how they look/act/move/think

### What: character's problems or actions

what action must they take?

### Who solves their problem? (should be protagonist)

### Where: location

Are they at home/at work/on a trip/special event?

Are they in a fictional land? a dream?

### When: the time

Does time of day/week/month/year matter? Share why.

Did it happen long ago, yesterday or in the future?

### Why: what do you, the Author, want the reader to know?

Release information as needed

Hold back important details as long as possible

## Use:

### Your 5 senses

Share what you see, hear, smell, taste and touch.

Use weather if it changes the struggle along the way.

### Vibrant Verbs

Find more descriptive words than 'went', 'run', 'got'...

### Details, details, details

Draw us a word picture to put us in the scene.

### Interesting nouns

Instead of 'store', tell us the type of store, etc.

### Illustration

Use words to share important details on each page.

## Check:

Word Choice - Is there a better, more descriptive word to use?

Beginning, Middle and End - Does your story have all 3 parts?

SNT (Show not Tell) - Are your characters 'doing things'?

Add a surprise (when possible)

## Then:

Read aloud to yourself to check the flow and scout out word changes.

Ask another person to read your work, ask questions, share ideas.

Revise: check spelling, conventions, story flow, etc.

Step away as long as possible before you write your final copy (to turn in).