Invent a Character and Tell a Three-Picture Story

Adult conversation guide. Accept original, connected ideas.

There is no single correct story.

Let the child choose their character and ideas. They may tell you captions to write, draw without captions first, or use a familiar communication aid. This is story planning, not a handwriting test.

A character to follow

Can the child tell you who the character is and what they want? Look for the same character in each picture; a simple recognisable feature is enough.

A problem that matters

Does the middle picture show something getting in the way of the character’s goal? Ask “What happened next?” without choosing the answer for the child.

An ending connected to the problem

Does the ending respond to that problem? It can be happy, surprising or unresolved if the child can explain the connection.

Read it back together

Point to Beginning, Problem and Ending. Invite the child to tell the whole story. Praise a specific connection, then ask whether any picture needs one more useful detail.