

## Elements of a Story

**Exposition:** The beginning of a story where the author introduces the setting, characters, and other important information the reader needs to know. In grades K-3, this is often called the “beginning”.

**Rising Action:** A series of events that builds from the beginning of the story and the conflict. Rising action ends with the climax.

**Climax:** The climax is the high point of the story. It is the highest point of interest in the story. The climax often leads the reader to wonder, “What will happen next?” The climax is also often a turning point for character(s) in the story.

**Falling Action** The events of the story after the climax. The events are leading to the end of the story and the resolution.

**Denouement [resolution]** This is the final outcome or untangling of events in the story. In grades K-3, this is often called the “end”.

