# The Storybuilding Tool Kit – Setting

**ABC Me screening details: Friday** 15 May 2020 – 11:20am

This episode can also be viewed on [ABC iView](https://iview.abc.net.au/show/storybuilding-tool-kit) after the scheduled screening time.

**Key learning areas: English**

**Level:** upper primary

**About:** The 'setting' is an important story writing tool. Learn how it can help you to be more creative!

## Before the episode

1. What does ‘setting’ mean for story writing?
2. Write and draw some settings from your favourite stories below. Think about how these settings made the story more interesting.

## During the episode

1. Look out for the ‘setting’ writing tips during the episode and make notes below:


## After the episode

1. A good story setting can help make your story interesting by:
* creating a certain atmosphere and mood for readers (spooky, suspenseful, mysterious, peaceful)
* placing characters in interesting places or stressful situations (inside a haunted house or a foreign planet floating in outer space)
* revealing the traits of characters as they come up against the ‘rules’ of the setting (the haunted house has a mind of its own or a lack of oxygen in outer space).

Think of some interesting story settings to create the following moods. First draw and write key words to describe the setting. Then think of the ‘rules’ for each setting and how these will challenge the story’s characters.

| Mood | Peaceful | Mysterious |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Draw and write** |  |  |
| **Setting rules & character challenges** |  |  |

**Follow-up activity:** Write an orientation for a story based on one of the settings you have created. An orientation is where you introduce the characters (who) and describe the setting (when, where), to create an atmosphere and mood for the story.

# NSW teacher notes

This is an optional standalone resource that could supplement student learning. The activities align with syllabus outcomes across stages and can be modified to meet the needs of your students. Students can complete the activities while learning at home and in the classroom. All activities can be completed without access to the internet or a device. Teachers could collect student work to offer feedback and as evidence of learning.

## Learning intentions

* To identify the ways ‘setting’ can enhance a story and engage readers.
* To create settings in my own writing to drive the storyline, reveal the traits of characters and to develop an overall atmosphere and mood for readers.

## Resources

* Coloured pencils

## NSW English K-10 Syllabus outcomes

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Stage 2 | Stage 3 |
| Writing and representing | plans, composes and reviews a range of texts that are more demanding in terms of topic, audience and language (EN2-2) | composes, edits and presents well-structured and coherent texts (EN3-2A)  |

[English K-10 Syllabus](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/english-year-10/english-k-10) © 2012 NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales. See the [NESA website](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/mini-footer/copyright) for additional copyright information.