

(To listen to this file, click on the audio file **Outline of Activities.m4a**)

## Activity Bundle 1

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Activity Bundle 1 focuses on getting to know yourself as a writer and building a base of knowledge from which you can start building stories. The writing prompts will help you generate story ideas that can be developed into full stories as you work through the other activity bundles.

### Writing Activities

1. Warm-up writing prompts
  1. Quieting the Editor
  2. Focus on Creating and Having Fun
2. Write what you know. Finding out what you know.
  - My What I Know List
3. Where to find story ideas.
  - What If?
  - Pick Four Words
  - Check These Online Resources
  - Other Places Where Stories Hide
4. Flash fiction, short stories, novels.

### Other Activities

- Create Your Own Small Book (Perfect for flash fiction)
- NaNoWriMo
- Start a journal.

## Activity Bundle 2

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Activity Bundle 2 focuses on learning about the characters that are going to be telling your story and deciding who is telling your story.

## Writing Activities

1. Warm-up writing prompts
2. Learning more about *your* character
  - Character Sketch
  - Pictures
  - Interviews
  - The Secret
  - Change
  - Character Sketch Template
3. Describing your character
4. Show don't tell
  - Emotions and Action
5. Point of View—Who is telling your story?
  - Third Person Limited
  - First Person
6. How to write characters' thoughts

## Other Activities

- Explore a site for young writers
- Drawing Characters

## Activity Bundle 3

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Activity Bundle 3 focuses on plotting and starting your story.

## Writing Activities

1. Warm-up writing prompts
2. Starting with conflict.
  - Person vs. Person
  - Person vs. Nature
  - Person vs. Self
  - Person vs. Society
  - Person vs. Supernatural

3. How to begin a story
  - In Media Res
  - With Action
4. Plotting basics
  - Plot Planner #1
  - Plot Planner Worksheet #1
  - Plot Planner #2
  - Plot Planner #3
  - Brain Dump
5. Ending a Story

## Other Activities

- Learn from other writers
- Drawing and Colouring
- One more plotting tip from Janice Hardy

## Activity Bundle 4

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The focus of Activity Bundle 4 is on writing description and world-building.

## Writing Activities

1. Warm-up writing prompts.
2. Tips for writing description that readers will read.
3. Describing the Setting
  - Think about how much you really have to describe
  - Use comparisons
  - Get the senses involved
  - Draw a Map or Use Photos
4. World Building
  - Useful Links
  - Checklist for World Building

## Other Activities

- Draw a map
- Using Google to set the scene.

## Activity Bundle 5

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Activity Bundle 5 focuses on writing dialogue—a key to making your characters come to life and to advance the plot.

## Writing Activities

1. Warm-up writing prompts
2. Tips for writing great dialogue
  - Using *said* is just fine
  - Show Don't Tell
  - Dialogue does more than just one thing
  - Dialogue isn't realistic
  - Don't have characters tell other characters what they already know
  - Mechanics: New speaker equals new paragraph
3. Dialogue excerpt for fun and practice
  - Dialogue Sample #1
  - Dialogue Sample #2
  - More dialogue practice

## Other Activities

- Cartooning
- Cover Designs Made Easy