

Story Smarts: Story 9

ESCAPING THE COLD



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Step A – What to do

Sit with your child, next to you, at a desk or table where you can comfortably read and write. Place the page so each picture is in clear view. Read aloud the words as you would with any story.

Do not ask your child any questions. If s/he asks a question, answer it and move on. If s/he asks many questions, say, “When the story is finished, I’ll answer your questions.”



It is a very snowy day and these little rabbits do not like being in the snow. It is making them very cold. They are feeling miserable and unhappy.



The rabbits want so much to get out of the snow. After looking around, they spot a tree with a big hole at the bottom. They decide to hop over to it and that is what they are doing now.



After reaching the hole, the rabbits go inside. The snow is not falling on them anymore. They feel nice and dry and much warmer.

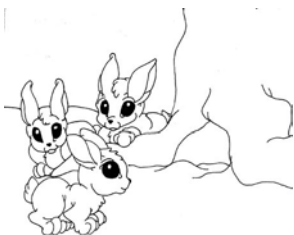
Story 9: Escaping The Cold

Story 9 - Step B: You Tell the Summary (with Picture Cues)

What to do: Put aside the story pages. Say, "I am going to tell you a summary of the story we just read." Point to the 1st picture below as you read aloud the 1st sentence. Repeat for each of the next two pictures & sentences. Then go to Step C.



On a snowy day, some rabbits were cold.



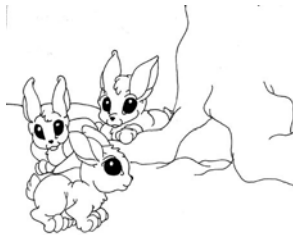
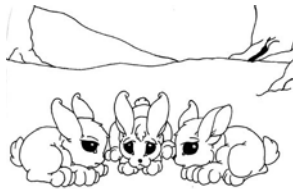
They hopped to a tree that had a hole.



They went inside the hole and felt warm.

Story 9 - Step C: Your Child Fills in Parts of the Summary (with Picture Cues)

What to do: Place this page so that your child can see the pictures. At the same time, you follow the directions on page 6.



Story 9 - Step C:

You will be asking your child to fill in words for each sentence of the summary. He or she does not have to use the words you used. A correct answer is any word(s) with a meaning that represents the idea in the story. You will see examples of correct answers under each sentence.

For each sentence, if the answer is

- correct, move to the next sentence.
- not correct, or if there is no answer, say the 1st example provided in the parentheses.

Then say, "Let's do that again" and repeat the sentence. Wait for your child to offer a correct answer. Repeat this sequence until your child independently supplies the word(s) correctly. Then move to the next sentence.

Now read each sentence below. At the same time, point to the appropriate picture on page 5. When you reach the last bolded word, pause & wait for your child to answer. Then write down what he or she says.

1. **On a snowy day, some rabbits were**

(cold, freezing cold, feeling cold).

2. **They hopped to a tree that had a**

(hole, opening, place to stay).

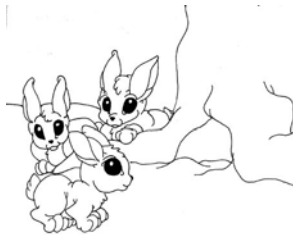
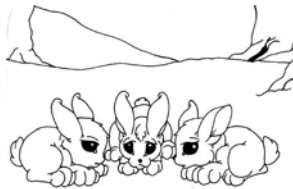
3. **They went inside the hole and felt**

(warm, not cold, nice).

After sentence 3, go to Step D.

Story 9 - Step D: Your Child Provides Full Summary (with Picture Cues)

What to Do: Place this page so that your child can see the pictures. At the same time, you follow the directions on page 8.



Story 9 - Step D:

Place this page so that you can write on it. Say, "Look at the pictures again and this time, tell me the whole story by yourself." As your child speaks, write what he or she says on the lines below.

After your child has answered, check the summary for the following three **Key Points**.

Some rabbits were cold in the snow.
They went into a hole.
The rabbits got warm.

Remember that your child's summary does not have to contain the exact words above; it is the idea that counts. However, the summary must include all three points and only those points. If it does, move to Step E. If it does not, go to the section below titled **Overcoming Problems**.

Overcoming Problems

A child's summary may have problems such as being **Incomplete** (missing some details), **Overly Detailed** (containing too many details), or showing **Hesitancy** (saying few or no words). In these cases say, "I'll help you." Then, read aloud – in order – all three sentences in bold type above. Then say, "Now you tell me that." Repeat this sequence until your child offers all three key points. Write down what your child says. Then move to Step E.

If your child does not retell the sequence independently after three repetitions, say, "Let's put this away and we will come back to it another day." Then after an interval of at least one day, repeat Story 9 starting with Step A.

Story 9 - Step E: Your Child Provides Full Summary (without Picture Cues)

Say, "I'd like you to tell me the story again, but this time, I want you to do it without seeing the pictures." As your child speaks, write what he or she says on the lines below.

After your child has answered, check the summary for the following three **Key Points**.

Some rabbits were cold in the snow.
They went into a hole.
The rabbits got warm.

Remember your child's summary does not have to be identical to yours. However, it must include all three points and only those points. If it does, go to **Moving On**. If it does not, go to the section below titled **Overcoming Problems**.

Overcoming Problems

A child's summary may have problems such as being **Incomplete** (missing some details), **Overly Detailed** (containing too many details), or showing **Hesitancy** (saying few or no words). In these cases say, "I'll help you." Then, read aloud – in order – all three sentences in bold type above. Then say, "Now you tell me that." Repeat this sequence until your child offers all three key points. Write down what your child says. Then go to **Moving On**.

If your child does not retell the sequence independently after three repetitions, say, "Let's put this away and we will come back to it another day." Then after an interval of at least one day, repeat Story 9 starting with Step A.

Moving On:

When your child has offered a complete summary, offer praise and end the session. Do not present another story on the same day. In a day or two, go to Story 10.

Aim to complete two to three stories a week.