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Magazine Pictures Story

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- **A partner**
- **A stack of magazines**
- **Paper**
- **Pencil**
- **Scissors**
- **Glue**
- **Poster board**

Steps:

1. **Select a minimum of 5 interesting pictures from the magazines.**
2. **Cut out the pictures.**
3. **Write an interesting story using the pictures for your ideas.**
4. **Glue the pictures and your story on to a piece of poster board.**
5. **Read your story to the class.**

Rating:

	Delicious	So-so	Could be better
Topic	Clear and focused, holds attention	Somewhat clear, generally on topic	No clear focus, disconnected, random
Flow	Good beginning and ending, smooth flow, thoughtful transitions	Recognizable beginning and ending, sequence shows some logic, transitions mostly work	No clear beginning or ending, sequence needs work, transitions confusing
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Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar	Spelling, punctuation and grammar correct	Spelling, punctuation and grammar usually correct	Frequent errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar.
Appearance	Pleasing to the eye.	More time needed to make more readable and pleasing to look at	Difficult to read because of format.

2

Morphological Matrix Story

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- A partner
- A blank Morphological Matrix
- Paper
- Pencil
- Crayons or Markers
- Glue
- Poster board

Steps:

1. With a partner, fill out the attached Morphological Matrix below by brainstorming:
 - 6 types of characters
examples: a teenager, an alien, an artist
 - 6 settings
examples: a birthday party, a classroom, the mall
 - 6 time periods
examples: during summer vacation, after school
 - 6 situations or challenges
examples: something is found or lost, someone is embarrassed, something has just happened to celebrate
2. Roll a dice 4 times. The first number rolled will choose the main character of your story from the “character” column. The second number rolled will choose where the story will take place from the “setting” column. The third number rolled will choose when the story will take place from the “time period” column. The fourth number rolled will be the situation or challenge that involves the main character from the “situation/challenge” column.
3. Partners will write and illustrate a story based on the character, setting, time period and situation/challenge you have now chosen.
4. Paste your Morphological Matrix, your completed story and your illustration(s) on a piece of poster board.
5. Read your story to the class.

Morphological Matrix

	Character	Setting	Time Period	Situation/ Challenge
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

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Writing a Story Board Game

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- A partner
- Game Markers
- Dice
- Board Game
- Pencil
- Paper

Steps:

1. Begin writing a partner story using one of the following story starters:

- What if there were no clocks?
- What if there were no gravity?
- What if every wish came true?
- What if we could only eat pizza?
- What if money grew on trees?

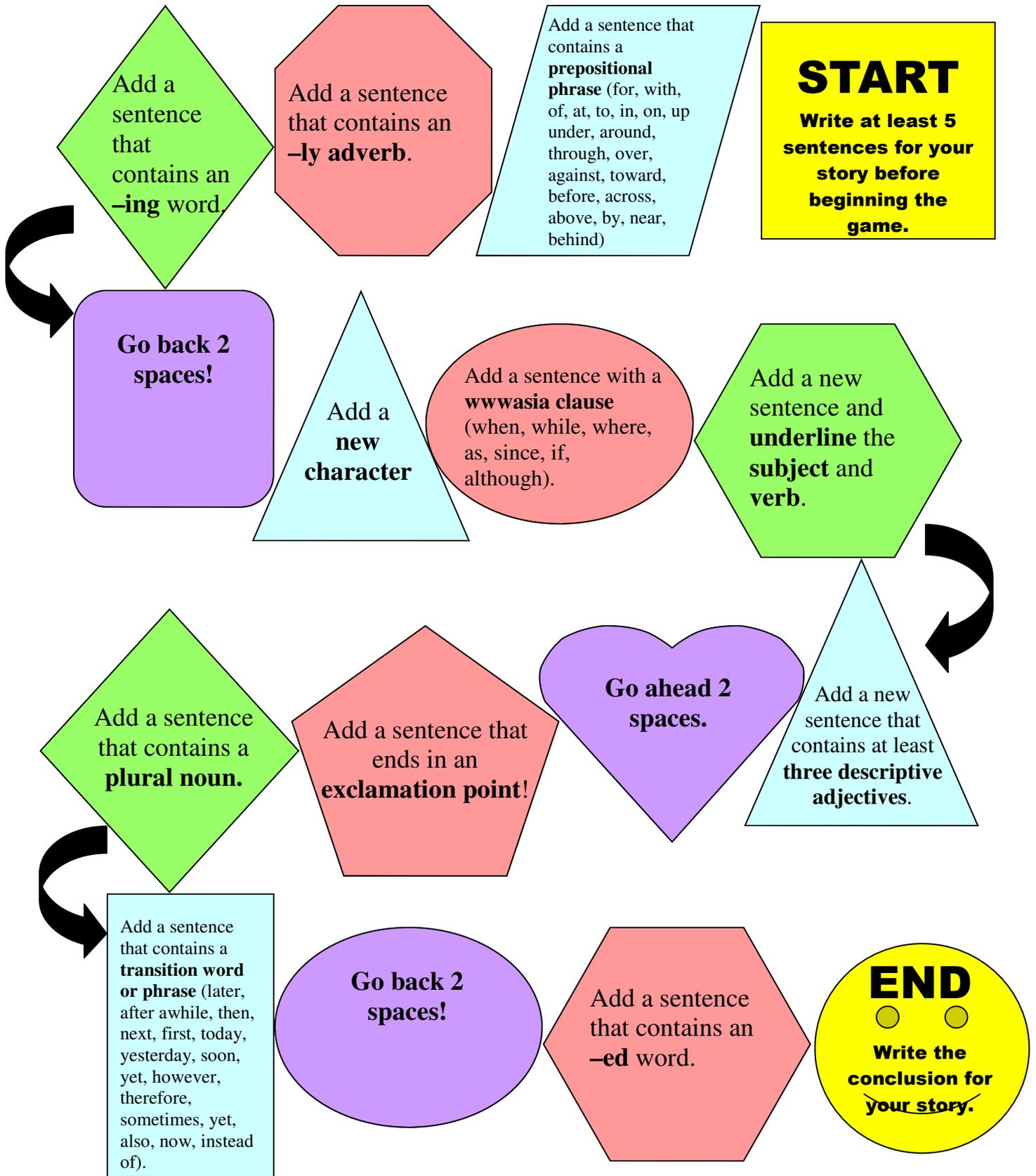
2. After writing at least 5 sentences, begin playing the board game.
3. Take turns rolling the die.
4. After each roll, add a sentence to your story by following the directions on the board game.
5. When you come to the end of the board game, write a conclusion for your story.

Rating:

Use the Checklist below to assess your story. Did you write an introduction with at least 5 sentences? Check “Yes” or “No.” After your first roll, write down on the Checklist what you rolled. Example: Roll 1—Prepositional Phrase. Then, check “Yes” if you think you included a Prepositional Phrase in the sentence that you added or “No” if you did not.

CHECKLIST	YES	NO
Introduction—at least 5 sentences		
Roll 1		
Roll 2		
Roll 3		
Roll 4		
Roll 5		
Roll 6		
Conclusion		

Writing a Story Board Game



2

Where in the World Are We?

Story

Recipe for Success



Ingredients:

- **A partner**
- **Maps of the world, atlases**
- **Plastic Bottle or Container (plastic “performs” can be obtained from Educational Innovations at teachersource.com)**
- **A large bowl or fish tank**
- **Paper**
- **Pencil**

Steps:

1. **With your partner, write an imaginary tale about a trip that has left the two of you stranded on an imaginary island.**
2. **Consult a map or atlas and decide together where your imaginary island is located, where you began your trip and where you are going.**
3. **Make sure you explain in your story who you are, where you think you are stranded, where you were going when you got stranded, and where you left from. Include information about the island, such as the climate, what the island looks like, what you have seen on the island, what you are doing to survive and your present health condition.**
4. **Make a copy of your story for your writing journal, put the original copy in a plastic bottle and set the bottle afloat in a bowl or fish tank that your teacher has provided.**
5. **Have another partner group fish your bottle out of the water and read your tale aloud to the class. See if the class can figure out where you are stranded!**

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Where in the World Are We?

Story



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Story Starter Spinner

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- A partner
- Paper
- Pencil
- The “Story Starter” spinner
- Glue

Poster board

Steps:

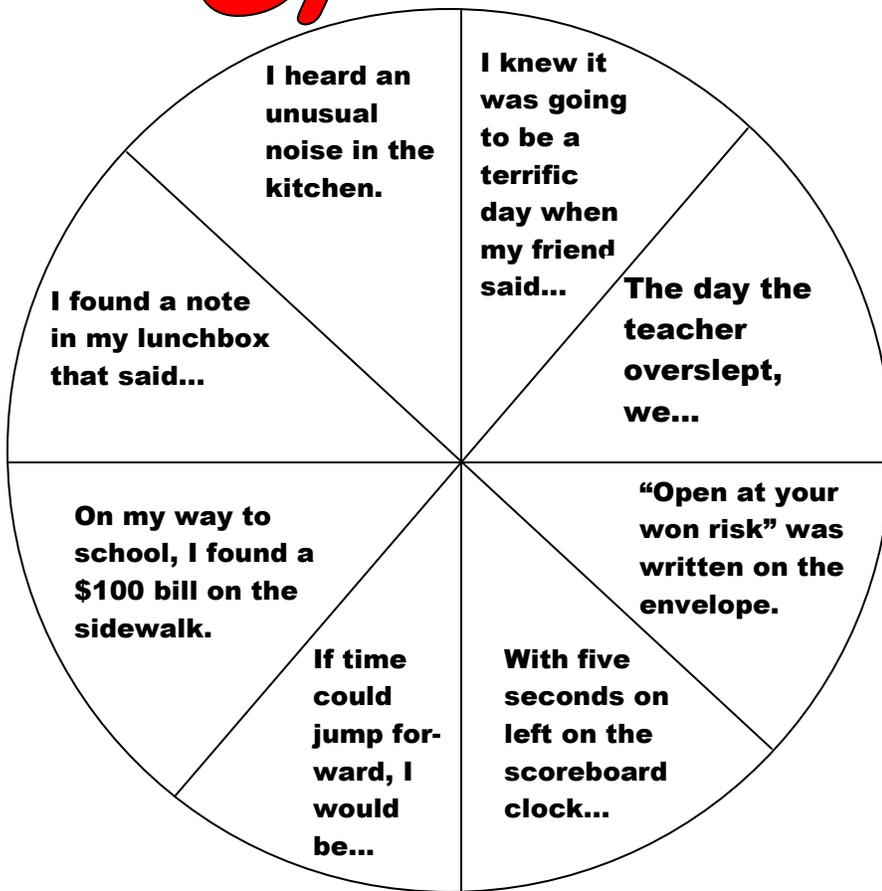
1. Spin the “Story Starter” spinner. This is the first sentence that you and your partner will use for your story.
2. Write a story with an interesting beginning, middle and ending.
3. Illustrate your story.
4. Glue the story and your illustrations to poster board.
5. Read your story to the class.

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Story Starter Spinner



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Story Ending Spinner

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- **A partner**
- **Paper**
- **Pencil**
- **The “Story Ending” spinner**
- **Glue**
- **Poster board**

Steps:

- 1. Spin the “Story Ending” spinner. This is the last sentence that you and your partner will use for your story.**
- 2. Write a story with an interesting beginning, middle and ending.**
- 3. Illustrate your story.**
- 4. Glue the story and your illustrations to poster board.**
- 5. Read your story to the class.**

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Story Ending Spinner



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Story Cube

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- **A partner**
- **The “Cube” pattern on the following page**
- **Scissors**
- **Tape**
- **Paper**
- **Pencil**
- **Poster board**
- **Colored crayons, markers or pencils**

Steps:

1. **Cut out the “cube” on the following page. Cut on the SOLID lines.**
2. **Fold the cube on the DASHED lines. Fold so that the words are on the outside of the cube.**
3. **Tape the sides together so that you form a six sided cube.**
4. **Toss the cube as if you were tossing a pair of dice.**
5. **Look at the story idea that lands facing UP or on top of the cube.**
6. **Use this idea to write a story, paying particular attention to character, plot and setting.**
7. **Illustrate your story.**
8. **Glue the story and your illustrations to poster board.**
9. **Read your story to the class.**

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UNLUCKY

Write a story about an unlucky day. What goes wrong? What happens?

THE MAGIC DOOR

Imagine you discover a magic door that leads to a fantastic adventure. Where do you go? What adventures do you have there?

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

You just turned 100 years old. Your great grandchildren want to hear about your life. What exciting things can you tell them? What were the best and worst times of your life?

I'M FAMOUS!

Imagine that you become famous. Why do you become famous? What is it like being famous?

A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Imagine that you take a journey into space and land on an undiscovered planet. What do you find there? Would you like to stay? Why or why not?

MY FAMOUS FRIEND

Pretend you know a famous person. Who is this person? Why are they famous? What are they most proud of? What else would they like to accomplish? What regrets do they have?

2

Hunt for a Story

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- **A partner**
- **Paper**
- **Pencil**
- **Metric scale**
- **Metric ruler or meter stick**
- **Metric measuring cup**
- **Scavenger Hunt Activity Sheet**
- **Glue**
- **Poster board**

Steps:

1. **Use the Scavenger Hunt Activity Sheet to find an item in your classroom for each metric measurement listed. Write the item you found on the Scavenger Hunt Activity Sheet and record it's exact measurement or weight.**
2. **Now work with your partner to use each of the items you have in an interesting, creative story that has an exciting beginning, middle and ending.**
3. **Illustrate your story.**
4. **Glue the story and your illustrations to poster board.**
5. **Read your story to the class.**

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Hunt for a Story

Scavenger Hunt Activity Sheet

What to find	What we found	Exact weight, measurement, or volume
Find something that weighs about 5 grams		
Find something that weighs about 25 grams		
Find something that weighs about 500 grams		
Find something that weighs about 1 gram		
Find something that measures about 1 millimeter		
Find something that measures about 1 centimeter		
Find something that measures about 1 meter		
Find something that holds about 1 liter		
Find something that weighs about 1 kilogram		
Find something that holds about 500 milliliters		
Find something that measures about the same as your height.		

2

Blue Plate Special

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

- A partner
- “Blue Plate Special” Pattern Pieces
- Scissors
- A blue plastic or paper plate
- Stapler
- Paper
- Pencil
- Glue
- Poster board

Steps:

1. Use the “Blue Plate Special” pattern pieces to describe parts of a story that you would like to see written by another group.
 - On the first bread slice – write the title of the story
 - On the mayonnaise – name and describe the main characters
 - On the lettuce – tell about the setting of the story
 - On the tomato – describe the story’s problem
 - On the cheese – describe the story’s solution
 - On the meat – tell what happens at the end of the story
 - On the last bread slice – draw a scene from the story
2. Stack the parts of the sandwich in the order listed above and using only one staple, attach the sandwich to a paper or plastic plate.
3. Put your “Plate” at a designated place in your classroom.
4. With your partner, choose another group’s “Plate” and write an exciting story using the ideas from that “Plate.”
5. Illustrate your story.
6. Glue the story and your illustrations to poster board.
7. Read your story to the class.

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Blue Plate Special

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How Many Scoops?

Recipe for Success

Ingredients:

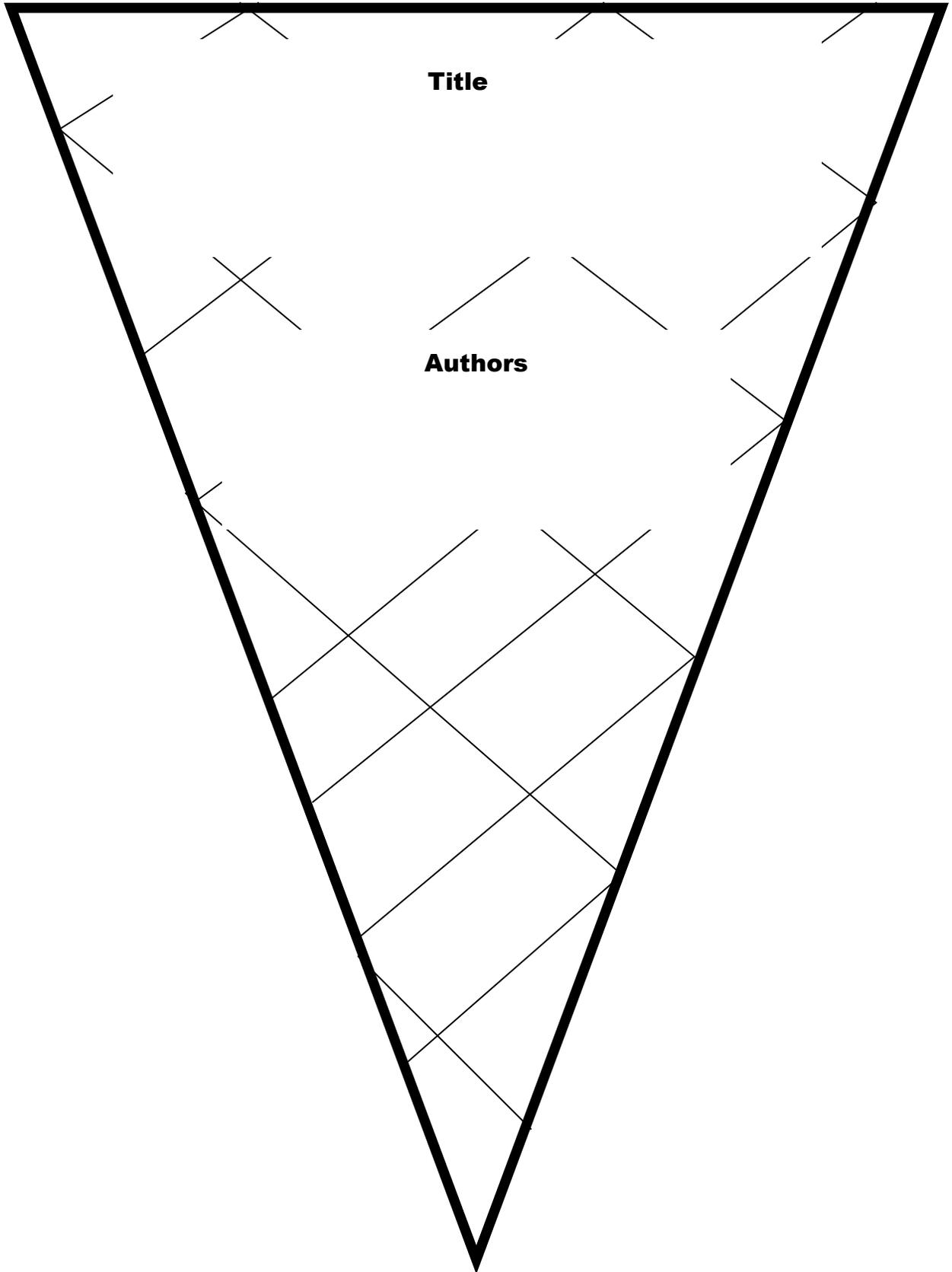
- A partner
- Cone pattern—found on the following page
- Ice cream scoop patterns in different colors
- Scissors
- Tape
- Pencil
- A bulletin board designated for this project. The title of the bulletin board should be “How Many Scoops.”

Steps:

1. Can you and your partner make the tallest ice cream cone in the class? If you take this challenge, you must produce quality writing on each scoop!
2. Cut out the cone pattern to use as the base of your story. Put both of your names on the cone as the authors of the story and give this special “ice cream” story a name.
3. Brainstorm a list of things you might write about using “ice cream” or “ice cream cones” as the topic. Just to get you started, you might want to write about:
 - What eating ice cream reminds you of...
 - Some of your favorite ice cream flavors.
 - How ice cream help to cool you off on hot days.
 - How much you enjoy ice cream as compared to other foods.
 - Where you purchase the very best ice cream.
 - How you make an ice cream sundae or banana split.
 - The best toppings for ice cream.
4. Begin writing about your topics on “scoops” of ice cream. Each time you change topics, use a new “scoop.”
5. Cut out the “scoops” and stack them on top of the cone. Use tape to connect them.
6. Display your ice cream cone on the “How Many Scoops” bulletin board.

Title

Authors



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