

A Festive Winter's Tale: Illustrating the Magic

Learning objective: To use descriptive language and visual literacy to create a detailed narrative scene based on a Christmas story.

Read the scene description below and use your artistic skills to bring it to life. Focus on using sensory details to show the atmosphere. Once your illustration is complete, use the word bank to label your drawing and answer the reflective questions provided.

Draw: Draw the snowy village scene described in the passage. Use a 'storybook illustration' style with soft, rounded edges and rich colours. Include the giant pine tree as the central focal point. Add intricate patterns to the ornaments and ensure the cottage looks inviting with a warm glow emanating from the windows. Use shading to show the contrast between the cold blue of the snow and the warm golden light of the festivities.



Label words: glistening · festive · tranquil · luminescent · ornate · shimmering · hallowed · twinkling

Steps:

1. Explain why the author chose to describe the sky as 'velvet-dark' rather than just 'black'. What feeling does this create?
2. Compare and contrast the atmosphere inside the cottage with the temperature outside in the town square. How might you use colour to show this difference?

3. If you were to add a character to this scene, who would it be? Justify your choice based on the setting.
4. What might happen if the glowing lights on the tree suddenly flickered out? Describe the change in mood.
5. Label your drawing with at least three adjectives from the word bank, ensuring they describe specific features of the scene.
6. Create a title for this specific festive scene that hints at a secret story happening inside the cottage.