

Year 3 English: Christmas Story Vocabulary and Storytelling

Learning objective: To develop vocabulary related to festive storytelling and understand the key elements of a narrative structure.

Read the front of each flashcard carefully. Try to guess the definition or answer before checking the back. Use these terms to help you write your own festive adventure story!

Protagonist

The main character in a story, such as our friend Pip the caterpillar embarking on a winter journey.

Setting

Where and when a story takes place, for example, a snowy forest on Christmas Eve.

Atmosphere

The mood or feeling created by the author, such as 'cosy', 'magical', or 'mysterious'.

Climax

The most exciting or important part of the story where the problem reaches its peak.

Resolution

How the story ends and how the problem is solved by the characters.

Festive

An adjective used to describe things related to a celebration or holiday, like Christmas.

Adjective

A word that describes a noun, such as 'sparkling' snow or 'golden' stars.

Alliteration

When two or more words close together start with the same sound, like 'bright, beautiful baubles'.

Personification

Giving human qualities to objects, for example: 'The wind whispered secrets through the pine trees'.

Narrative

A spoken or written account of connected events; a story.

What is the role of Max the monkey in a maths-themed Christmas story?

Max would likely be the character trying to calculate how many presents fit into a sleigh using his maths skills!

Why might Zara the zebra use 'colourful' and 'patterned' adjectives in her story?

Because Zara sees art and patterns everywhere, she would describe the festive decorations in great detail.