

Name _____

Plot and Theme • Visualize

- The important events in a story make up the **plot** with a beginning, middle, and end.
- The “big idea” of the story is called the **theme**. It can be stated in a single sentence.
- As you read, form a picture in your mind about what is happening in the story.

Directions Read the following story. Then fill in the chart below.

The ants felt sorry for the grasshopper. He'd saved no food and was starving. So they shared what they had. The grasshopper swore he'd remember their kindness and repay them someday. When summer came, the ants were playing outside and accidentally hurt themselves.

How would they gather their food? Just then the grasshopper stopped by. When he heard what happened, he told the ants to climb on his back. The ants told the grasshopper where to go and what to gather. Soon the trio had all the food they needed for the winter ahead.

What happened at the beginning of the story?

1. _____



What happened in the middle of the story?

2. _____



What happened at the end of the story?

3. _____

4. What is the “big idea” of this story?

5. On a separate sheet of paper, draw what you picture in your mind as you finish reading this story.



Home Activity Your child identified the plot and theme of a story. Read a favorite story together. Ask your child to retell the beginning, middle, and end of the story and to say one sentence that tells the “big idea.”