

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Plot and Theme

- 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.

A crow was thirsty, but she couldn't find a drop of water. She spotted a broken pitcher on the side of the road. She looked inside. Some water lay at its bottom. The crow's beak was too short to reach down into the pitcher. She turned her head from

side to side. She walked in a circle around the pitcher. Finally, she pushed the pitcher with her beak until it fell over. At last, she could reach the water. With the pitcher on its side, she could drink all the water.

What happened at the beginning of the story?

1. **A crow looked for something to drink and found a pitcher with some water in it.**

What happened in the middle of the story?

2. **The crow's beak was too short to reach the bottom of the pitcher where the water was, so she pushed the pitcher over.**

What happened at the end of the story?

3. **The crow finally reached the water in the pitcher and drank.**

4. What is the “big idea” of this story? **Responses may vary.**

**If you really need or want something, you'll find a way to get it.**



**Home Activity** Your child identified the plot and theme of a story. Write a short story together about a real or imaginary pet. Help identify what happens at the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Ask your child to state the “big idea.”