

Teaching Notes & Resources

Early Years

Themes: Family | Starting school | Growing Up | Empathy

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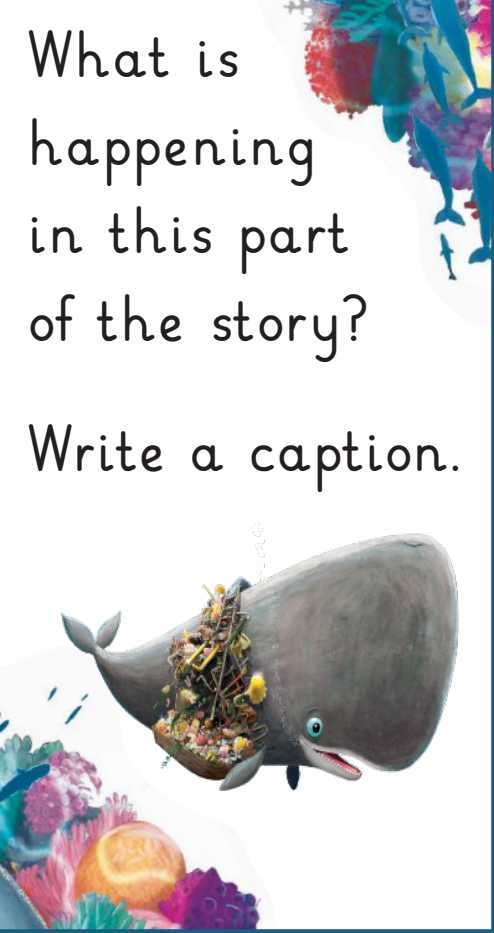


CAPTION WRITING

THE
WHALE
WHO WANTED MORE

What is
happening
in this part
of the story?

Write a caption.



Communication, Language and Literacy

Comprehension

Who are the main characters in the story?

Where do you think the story is set? What clues can we find for this in the story?

Do Humphrey's treasures make him feel happy?

What does Crystal ask Humphrey to do?

How does Humphrey feel at the end of the story? What has he learned?

Discussion Questions

Do you collect things like Humphrey?

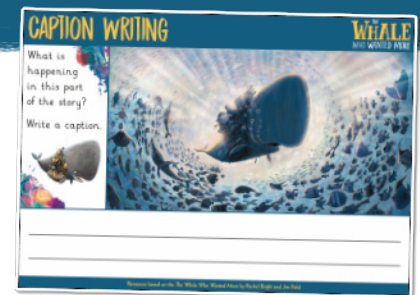
What makes you feel happy?

What gift can you share with your friends and family?

Caption Writing

What is happening in this part of the story?

Write a caption.



Story Sequencing

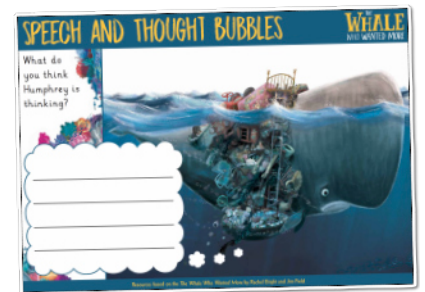
Can the children order the main events of the story?

Can they retell the story in their own words?



Speech and Thought Bubbles

What do you think Humphrey is thinking?



Personal Social and Emotional Development

Humphry just couldn't stop collecting. He felt that 'things' were all that mattered in the world, but no matter how much he collected, he was never satisfied. He soon came to learn that giving is far more important than getting.

Ask the children to go and get their favourite object from the classroom – this could be a book, toy, photo etc. Sit the children in a circle and ask them to pass the object to the person sitting next to them. The children can then be given a few minutes to go and enjoy the toy/book/etc before coming back to the circle. How does it make them feel when someone shares something with them?

Alternatively, you could ask each child to bring something in from home. We would recommend a discussion before this activity about how we treat things that do not belong to us to encourage children to be kind and respectful when handling toys and other objects that are not theirs.

Phonics

Humphrey's Treasure Chest

Use an old shoe box to create a treasure chest – paint brown and add strips of gold paper. Write phase 2 and 3 graphemes onto gems and bury them in the sand. Encourage the children to practise identifying graphemes by digging up the gems. Can they read the phonemes on the gems as they fill Humphrey's treasure chest?

Underwater Messages

Provide white wax crayons for the children to write secret underwater messages for their friends. Provide watery, blue paint for them to paint over the top of the hidden messages to reveal them.

Shell CVC

Write some graphemes onto shells and place them in the water tray. Challenge the children to find the shells they need to build CVC/CVCC words.

Rhyming words

Identify rhyming words in the story and find rhyming pairs e.g. deep/sleep; quest/chest; treasure/pleasure; tiny/shiny; sun/fun; place/space; eye/sky; mind/kind; fear/clear; stop/pop; find/kind; play/sway; long/song. What other words can the children think of that rhyme?

Tricky Word Fish

Write Phase 2 – 5 tricky words on images of fish. Cut out the fish and hide them under a layer of blue-coloured sand or rice. Challenge the children to find all the fish and read the tricky words.



Expressive Arts and Design

Wax Whale

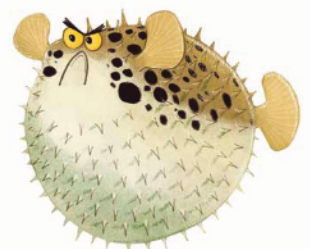
Provide the children with white paper and a white wax crayon. Can they draw a picture of Humphrey the whale under the sea? Water down blue paint. Can the children carefully slide the paint over their picture to reveal their wax whale?

Bubble Painting

Can the children create their own under the sea bubble paintings? For bubble painting you will need several cups (one for each colour), washing up liquid, food colouring, straws and paper.

Place a small amount of water and washing up liquid in each cup followed by a few drops of food colouring (one colour per cup – mix food colourings to make new colours).

Use the straws to blow into the cups until the bubbles form above the top of each cup. Place your paper over the top of the bubbles. Repeat the process to build up the picture.



Understanding the World

Where is the ocean?

Provide the children with paper maps, books and a globe. Where is the sea?

Share about the different oceans and see if the children can locate them.

Which ocean do they think Humphrey might live in? Do they think all the oceans are the same? Do they all have coral? Do whales live in all the oceans? Are they all warm or all cold?

Who Lives with Humphrey?

What other sea creatures do we notice in the story? Do you know any other animals that live in the ocean? Can the children create a spotter sheet for ocean animals?



Continuous Provision

Humphrey's Hidden Treasure

Hide treasure (beads and gems) in a tray of blue rice, blue jelly or blue sand. Can the children collect the treasure using their fingers or tweezers and move it to the tubs? A great exercise for practising fine motor control. Add numbers to the cups to extend to a simple counting to 10 activity.

Under the Sea Non-Fiction Book

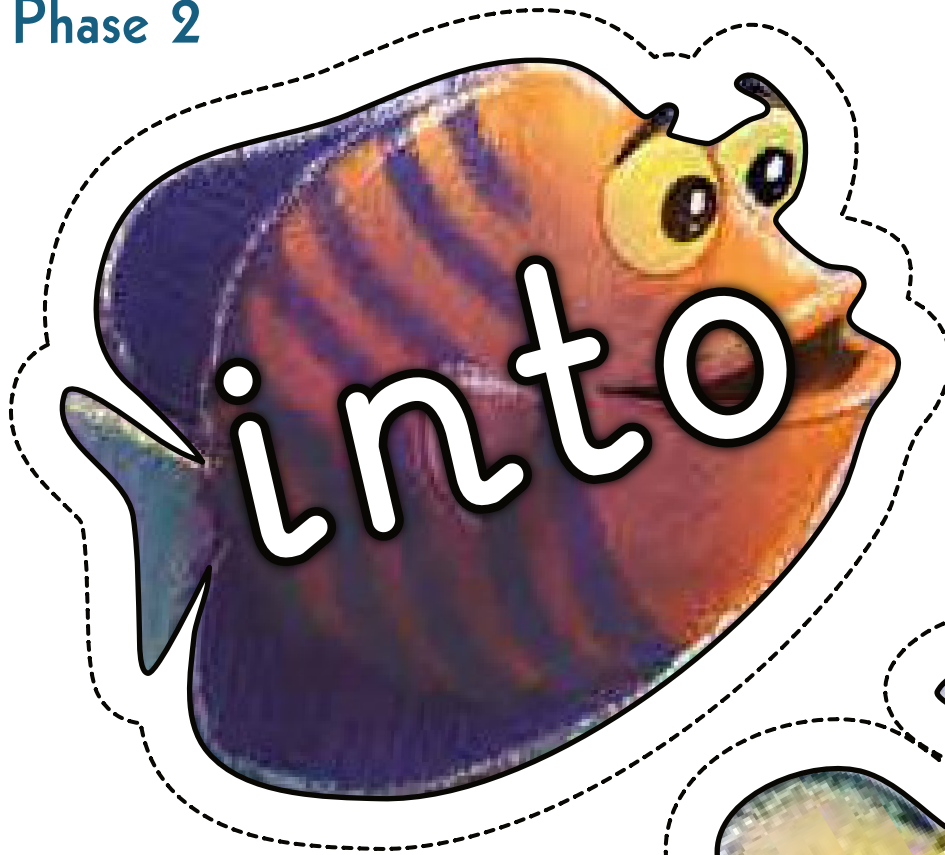
Provide photos of sea creatures that are featured in the book and simple writing frames. Can the children write about the sea creatures? Can they label the photograph? Pull all the writing templates together to create a class non-fiction book about animals in the ocean.

Sand and Water Tray

Create an ocean-themed water tray. Add small world sea creatures along with cellophane to use as seaweed, rocks pipe cleaners to use as coral. Encourage the children to talk about what they can find in the water and use new vocabulary to describe the different creatures.



Phase 2



Phase 2



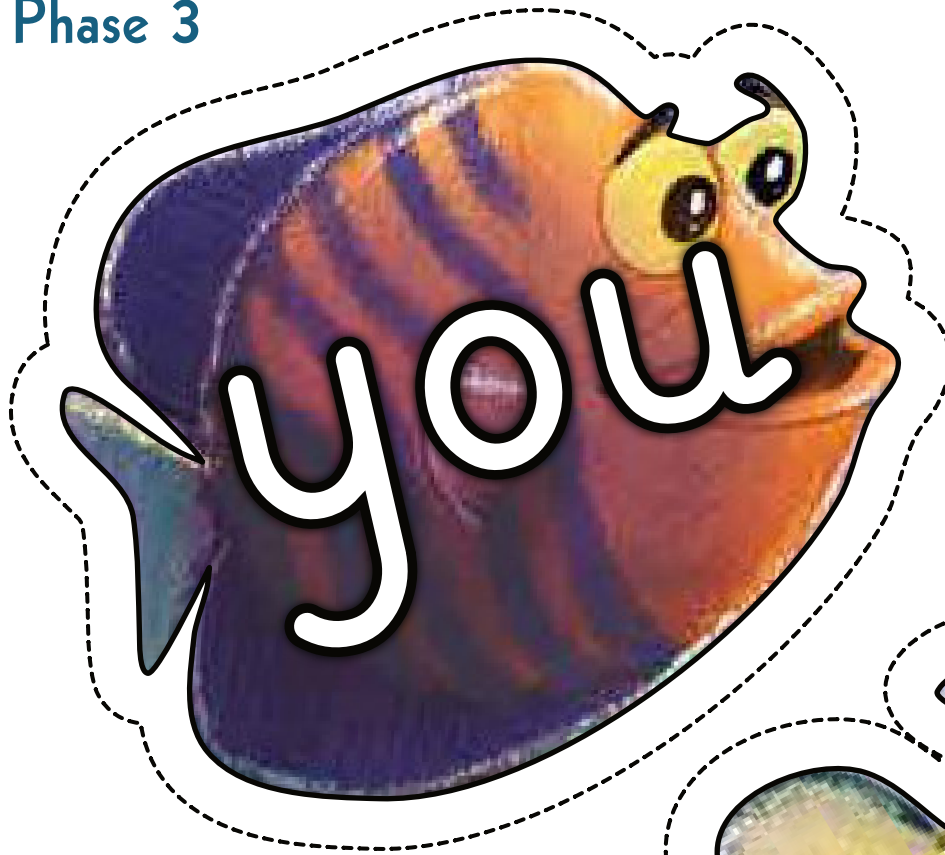
Phase 3



Phase 3



Phase 3



Phase 3



Phase 4



Phase 4



Phase 4



Phase 3



Phase 4



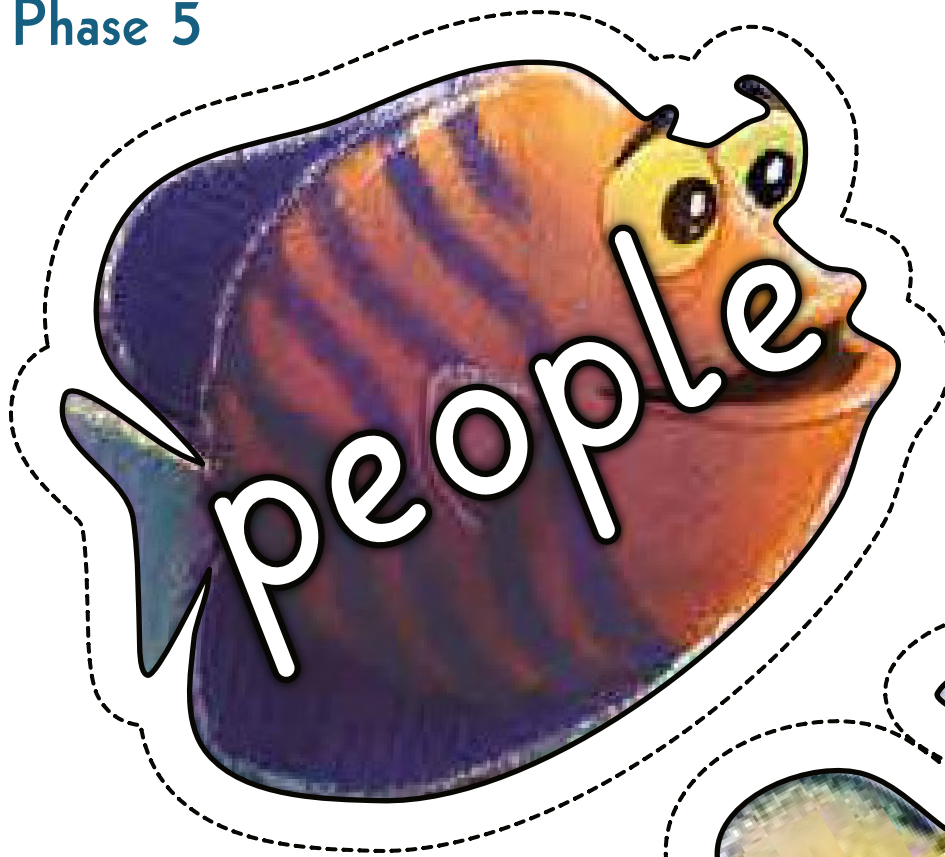
Phase 5



Phase 5



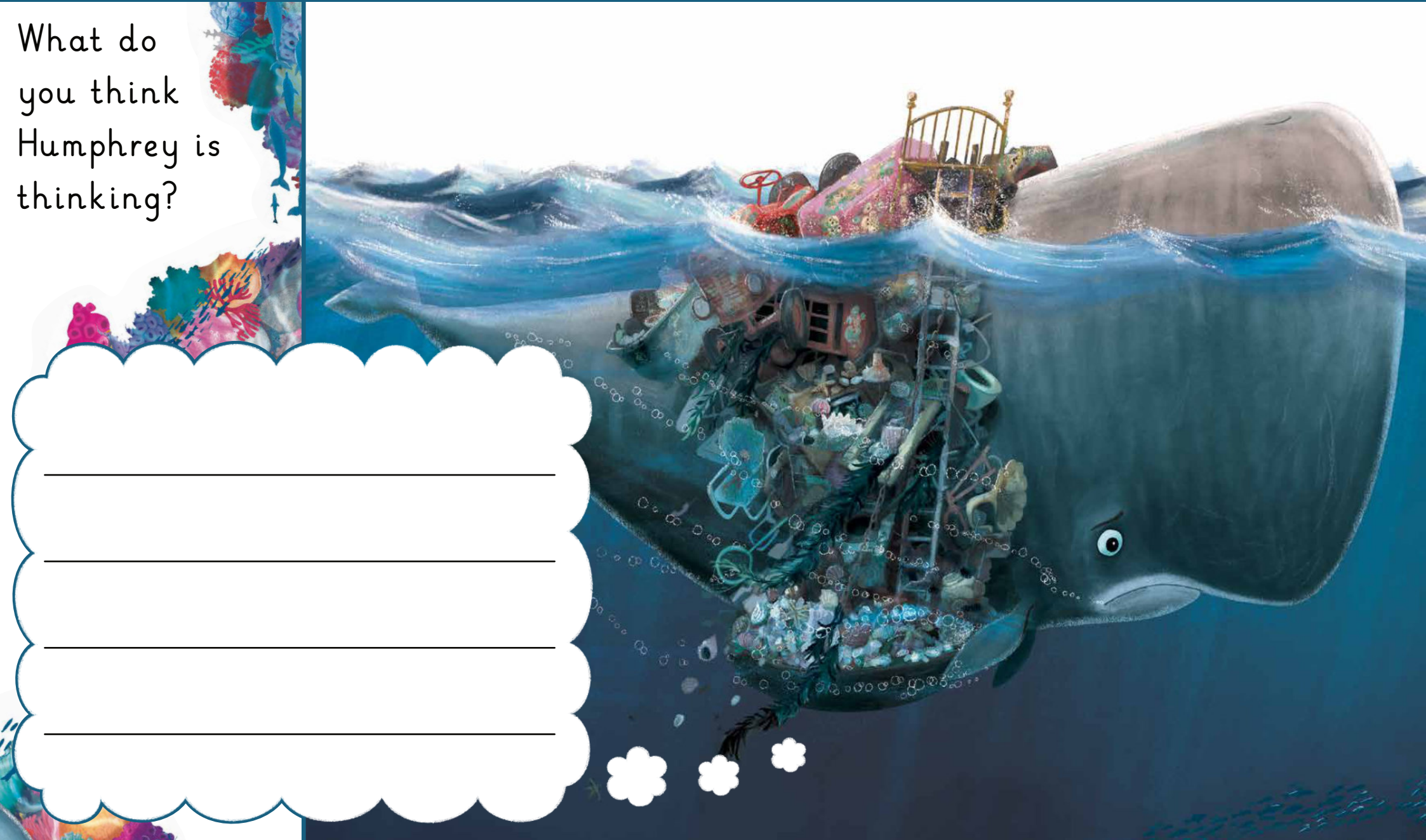
Phase 5



SPEECH AND THOUGHT BUBBLES

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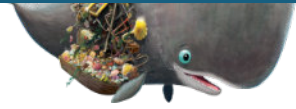
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STORY SEQUENCING

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Can you order the main events of the story?



STORY SEQUENCING

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