

NAME: _____

WHO'S TELLING THE STORY?

When you read a book, the **narrator** is who is telling you the story.

- ◆ A narrator can be a character in the story. This type of narrator uses words such as *I*, *we*, *my*, and *our* in the story.
- ◆ Some narrators are not characters in the story. This type of narrator uses words such as *he*, *she*, *they*, and *them* when writing about the characters.

Think about the book you are reading. Answer these questions.

1. What is the title of the book? _____

2. Is the narrator a character in this book? (Fill in one.) Yes No

3. Is the book's main character also the narrator? Yes No

4. How do you know? Explain your answers to questions #2 and #3.

5. Does the narrator know what the main character is thinking? Yes No

6. Does the narrator know what all of the characters are thinking? Yes No

7. Explain how you were able to answer questions #5 and #6.

A QUICK GUIDE TO WRITING CRAFT

What is it?

Writing craft is what the author's words tell us, how they tell us this information, and how they look on the page.

How do authors use writing craft to tell a story?

<p>Here are some ways picture-book authors use writing craft:</p>	<p>Here are examples from <i>The Cat in the Hat</i> by Dr. Seuss:</p>
<p>Language is the words chosen by the author to tell the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Do the lines rhyme? ◆ Do many words or lines repeat? ◆ Are the lines shorter and quicker than those in other types of books? 	<p style="text-align: center;">Language</p> <p>The lines in this book have a lot of rhymes. Sentences are quick and short. Many words are repeated, including the names of the characters.</p>
<p>Dialogue is the words the characters speak to one another. Voice is the personality of the narrator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ How do the characters know each other? ◆ What can we learn about the characters by what they say? ◆ How does the narrator tell the story or show us the events? 	<p style="text-align: center;">Dialogue and Voice</p> <p>We learn that the Cat is excited and playful, and that the Fish is worried and careful. The boy is the narrator, and he mostly tells us what is happening as if he is just watching.</p>
<p>Design is the way the words look on the page.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Are any words in different colors, sizes, or styles? ◆ Are words arranged in different or interesting ways? 	<p style="text-align: center;">Design</p> <p>In a few places, words are repeated. In other places, words are indented more and more on each line ("Sit! Sit! Sit!"). Near the end of the book, a few words are written in all capital letters ("SHOULD," "YOU").</p>

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FANCY WORD TRICKS

When it comes to words, authors are like magicians. They can do a lot of tricks. They can do a lot more than make words rhyme! This activity will focus on two tricks that writers of picture books use a lot: **onomatopoeia** and **personification**.

Onomatopoeia

This is the fancy name for words that sound like the words they describe. Here are some examples. Look at the underlined word in each sentence.

We heard the buzz of a bee.

Tim crunched on some chips.

That light bulb zapped me!

The water swooshed out of the hose.

Find and quote an example of onomatopoeia in your picture book.

Why is this is an example of onomatopoeia?

Personification

This is when an author makes something that is not a person do things that only a person could do. Here are some examples. Look at the underlined words.

The sun waved goodbye as it set in the west.

The tired old mitt was no longer good for catching baseballs.

Find and quote an example of personification in your picture book.

Why is this is an example of personification?
