

ANNEXE 3 - Tips to write a fable

How will you start it ?

How many characters will be involved ? humans ? animals ?

In which tense(s) will you write it ?

Shall we all decide on the animals or on the moral ? Or shall we leave it up to everyone to decide for themselves ?

Adapted from [ehow.com-how to write a fable](http://ehow.com-how-to-write-a-fable) (extract)

and [ehow.com-write your own fable.html](http://ehow.com-write-your-own-fable.html) (extract)

- ❖ Choose a moral or lesson that you want your characters to learn.
- ❖ Introduce your characters. Describe them. Determine their personality traits and how they will act.
- ❖ Describe your setting. Choose the place and time of your fable. This can be real or imaginary.
- ❖ Develop a plot. Place the characters in a difficult situation or a moral dilemma.
- ❖ Decide what happens, what the major problem or the conflict is. There must be interaction between the characters. Think about the dialogue.
- ❖ End the story. Determine how the characters solve the problem and learn their lesson. Decide who learns the lesson and how. What is the surprise or unexpected element in the story?
- ❖ Make sure the moral of the fable is based on the lesson learned from the action taken and try to show how a central character has been affected.
- ❖ Write several drafts. Let your first draft sit for a few days and return to it later with fresh eyes.

Let your imagination run wild but keep in mind that your fable must have a moral base that becomes clear at its conclusion.

More tips :

You may use your own experience of life to think of a moral.

Think of some advice you would give to avoid some difficult situations.

Turn a bad experience into a life lesson.

BBC Bitesize : Characters (extract)

Imagine :

- what they think they want right now
- what they want in the long term
- what they may be afraid of
- their strengths and weaknesses

Pay special attention to:

- the way they speak
- their relationships with the other characters