



Imagination Writing

CHARACTER MEMORIES

What is it?

Every time we try to make sense of something going on in our lives, we use our past experiences to try to figure it out. We look for patterns to make meaning based on what we already know.

The characters we meet in stories do the same thing. They have a past, even if we don't see it all on the page. And that past influences the story of in the present.

So why not have some fun imagining that past?

Activity

Choose a favorite character from your favorite book or series.

- Imagine one event that happened to them long before. Often the author will leave clues in the form of flashback or dialogue—but you're not confined to their ideas!
- As a starting point, consider one of your own childhood memories—could you adapt something like that to your character?
- Write the scene as if that was the present for your character.
 - How old is your character in your scene?
 - Where are they?
 - Who are they with?
 - What's happening to them?
 - Why is it happening?

Modifications

- Write it as long or a short as you want.
- Write more than one scene from different times in your character's life.
- Work together: brainstorm ideas and write as a group