

# **Between The Pages Jr.**

## **Piecing Together A Story**

**With Author Alane Adams**

## **Teacher's Guide**



# Welcome to Between The Pages Jr.!

## Meet Alane

Alane Adams is a literacy advocate and founder of the Rise Up Foundation which has supported thousands of teachers with classroom needs since 2008. In 2020, Alane created Between The Pages, an award-winning video series that teaches students how books get written to inspire them to write their own stories. Alane also oversees Alane Adams Studios which has created award-winning animated shorts designed to inspire kids to create their own narratives. She is the author of several middle-grade series and four historical picture books set in the 1920s.



## What Is Between The Pages?

Between The Pages Jr. is the companion video series created by Alane to replicate her popular author talk and is specially designed for younger students Grades K-2. The video segments are designed to get your students excited about reading by helping young students understand what an author is and how stories are created. The series focuses on the importance of imagination and problem solving in story-telling and includes an animated Read Along of Alane's picture book *The Egg Thief*.

## How Does It Work?

There are two videos in the series. Part One covers what an author is and where ideas come from. Students learn how important imagination is and how Alane was inspired to write her picture book series. Alane then takes students on a journey between the pages of her picture book as she reads aloud from it. The video ends with a challenge to students to think about some things an author needs to think about when they are writing a story. Supporting worksheets help reinforce the learning and prepare students for Part Two. The second video delves into some important author topics such as titles, characters, and the role of conflict in a story. Using *The Egg Thief* as an example, Alane expertly teaches students the importance of each element in creating a story you want to read over and over again.

## Who Should Watch It?

The video segments are packed with fun animations, graphics, sound effects, and Alane's signature style of humor. Students in grades K-2 will thoroughly enjoy it but it can be used in any grade.

We hope you enjoy these free resources in your classroom!

*Alane Adams*

## Follow Alane On Social Media At:



*@AlaneAdamsofficial*



*Alane Adams Studios*



*AlaneAdamsOfficial*

# Between The Pages Jr.

## Description of Episodes

### **Part One: What is an Author?**

The segment introduces Alane to the students, giving a little bit of her background and how she became an author, and introduces the importance of imagination. Then Alane magically transports to a barn where she reads from her award-winning picture book *The Egg Thief*. The segment ends with the task of students thinking about the things an author has to think about in order to write a good story.

### **Worksheet 1 & 2: What Comes First & The Egg Thief**

Using the What Comes First worksheet, have students brainstorm individually or as a class what some of the first things an author has to think about when they're writing a story. Discuss their answers as a class before starting Part Two. Complete The Egg Thief worksheet so students are ready to discuss the important elements that make up a good story.

### **Part Two: What Makes A Good Story?**

In this episode, Alane discusses some of the important concepts an author has to think about in order to write a good story. Concepts covered include title, characters, setting, and the importance of a big problem for a story to be interesting. With fun illustrations and side-by-side comparisons of her picture books, students will be able to quickly master these concepts and develop a deeper understanding of what author's do when they are writing stories.

### **Worksheets 3-5: Characters, Setting, and What's the Problem?**

Using the Character worksheet, encourage students to think of an interesting character to write a story about. Have them share their characters with the class and tell a bit about what makes their character interesting. The Setting worksheet reinforces the concept of setting in story writing by reminding students of *The Egg Thief* scene elements. What's The Big Problem takes a familiar story, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, and teaches students the importance of conflict to a story by having them revisit *Goldilocks* and think about the different problems she encounters.

## **Bonus Worksheets**

Two bonus worksheets have been included for teachers seeking to continue to deepen students understanding. The first worksheet, Happily Never After helps students connect the idea that stories are about solving problems which is why most stories have happy endings. The final worksheet is a genre exercise to teach students about the many different types of stories they will read.