

# Creating a Childhood for a Character

## Project Options

Now that you have an idea about what your character's childhood might have been like, you must select the best format in which to tell your story. Read the information below and select the best format for the story you want to tell. Follow the instructions to write your version of the character's childhood.

### **Short Story**

The short story format will work well if:

- plot is important to the story you want to tell.
- you want to focus on a key event, problem or crisis that will be resolved.
- you want to use dialogue between characters.
- you want to tell the story in the third person.

Your short story must have a clear beginning, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution.

### **Journal Entry**

The journal entry format will work well if:

- you want the reader to really understand the character's thoughts and feelings.
- you want to tell the story in the first person.
- you want to focus on a key event or particular day or days in the character's life.

Your journal entry must include a date for each entry and be written in the first person.

### **Time Capsule Letter**

The time capsule letter format will work well if:

- you want the reader to hear directly from the character.
- you want to focus on events in the world around the character.
- you want to give a more general picture of the character's life, rather than focusing on a specific day or specific event.

Your time capsule letter must contain the attributes of a friendly letter (heading, greeting, body of the letter, closing, signature line). The letter must be written for someone—the character, a specific person or a stranger—to read in the future.