

## Retelling Ropes

### This Really Good Stuff® product includes:

- 12 Sets of *Retelling Rope Discs*
- 12 *Rope Laces*
- This Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide

Congratulations on your purchase of these Really Good Stuff® **Retelling Ropes**—interactive tools that help students recall and retell the important details of a story.

### Meeting Common Core State Standards

These **Retelling Ropes** are aligned with the following Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts:

#### Key Ideas and Details

- RL.1** Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
- RL.2** Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
- RL.3** Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

### Assembling the Retelling Ropes

Before assembling the **Retelling Ropes**, make copies of this Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide and file the pages for future use. Or, download another copy of it from our Web site at [www.reallygoodstuff.com](http://www.reallygoodstuff.com). Use the included diagram to string the *Retelling Rope Discs* onto the *Rope Lace* in the correct order. (**Note:** Each *Disc* is numbered to ensure proper sequence of the *Retelling Rope Discs*. Be sure to thread the *Rope Lace* through the *Retelling Rope Discs* so that the *Lace* does not cover the front of the *Discs*.)

### Introducing the Retelling Ropes

Holding a **Retelling Rope**, tell students that it is a special tool to help them retell stories that they have read or heard. Show them how to use a **Retelling Rope**:

- Retell a familiar story that you have read aloud to the class, touching each *Disc* as you recall story elements and important details.
- For example, when you mention the characters, touch the *Characters Disc*, when naming the events, touch each *Event Disc* and include *first...*, *then...*, *at the end...*, or *last...*

- When naming the resolution of the story, tell how the story ended and tie that into how the main character felt, while touching the *Characters' Feelings Disc*.
- Use the *Most Important Event Disc* to highlight the turning point in the story and its importance to the overall theme. As you know, the turning point often occurs when a character realizes something important about the situation or when he or she changes in some way.
- If retelling is a new skill for your students, you may want to introduce each *Retelling Rope Disc* separately: Have students begin with the first *Disc* on the **Retelling Rope**; then add each *Disc* as you teach about each of the story elements.

### Partner Retelling

Separate students into pairs, and direct them to use their **Retelling Ropes**: The first partner begins by retelling his or her story, using the **Retelling Rope** as a guide. The second partner then retells his or her story in the same way. Indicate that each partner is to check each other's retelling by revisiting his or her partner's book or by asking questions to clarify.

### Retelling Wrap-Up

Distribute the *Retelling Wrap-Up Reproducible* after students have listened to you read a story aloud or when you want them to respond to a text that they have read themselves. Ask students to complete the reproducible, encouraging them to use both the **Retelling Rope** and evidence from the story to respond to the questions.

### Retelling Record

For a written record of students' retelling skills, copy and distribute the *Retelling Rope Note-Taking Reproducible*. Use the reproducible for times when you are unable to meet with students for a verbal retelling, or when you want to assess and capture a record of students' progress.

### School-to-Home Connection: Retell Me a Story

Send students home with a book that has been read in school at least once and their **Retelling Ropes**. Include the *Parent Letter Reproducible*.

# Retell Me a Story

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child is learning how to **retell** stories by remembering the most important parts of what he or she has heard and read. Retelling is skill that students must practice as they learn to pay attention to the most important parts of a story and increase their comprehension skills.

For tonight's homework, I have included your child's Retelling Rope along with his or her reading book. Please listen to your child read the story and then watch how he or she uses the Retelling Rope to recall important events and retell the entire story. Encourage your child to touch each of the discs that represent the parts of the story (character[s], setting, problem, events, most important event, resolution, and characters' feelings) while retelling it. Please send the Retelling Rope back to school along with your child's book.



I hope you enjoy listening to your child  
read and retell a story tonight!

Happy Reading,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Retelling Wrap-Up

Use your **Retelling Rope** to help you think about the main character's feelings at the end of the story. Describe how the character's feelings changed from the beginning to the end of the story. Use evidence from the story to support your thinking.



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Use your **Retelling Rope** to help you find the most important event in the story. Explain **why** you chose this event, and use evidence from the story to support your thinking.



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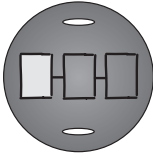
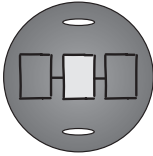
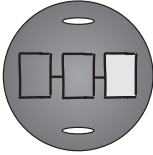



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Record your thoughts as you work through each of the *Discs* on your **Retelling Rope**.

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