

sticky
notes

PICTURE
BOOK
TEMPLATE

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These templates will help you:

- visualizing page breaks
- pace your books
- make sure you have a narrative arc
- make sure you have strong beginnings and endings.

What it is:

There are three versions - 32-page self-ended, 32-page colored-ends, and a blank for making your own. Each square in the template should be one

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page of your picture book. It's sized so that a 3 inch x 3 inch sticky note perfectly fits the space.

In the self-ended and colored-ends versions I have added helpful information to keep you on track: where text starts and stops, where to put the resolution, reminders to include a good hook, and checklists to make sure you have strong opening and solid endings.

How you use it:

Grab a printed template, your manuscript, and a stack of sticky notes. Write out your text onto sticky notes. Each sticky note should be a page's worth of text in the final picture book. Stick these onto the template and see how it fits.

Does the resolution come when it should? Does your text fit in the right number of pages? Look at each spread, is there a compelling page turn that will move the reader forward?

You'll probably realize at this point that you need to make some changes. Working with your text page by page shows you things that are hidden when your text is flat on the page. At this point you can go back to your manuscript and make changes.

You can also revise right there with the sticky notes. Move them around, scratch out lines, jot down notes, mess them up as much as you like. And deleting words is a lot easier when you can crumple up a little square and bank shot it into the trashcan.

Happy revising!

Angela M. Isaacs

SELF-ENDED 32-PAGES

Beginning checklist:

- Who
- What do they want
- When
- Where

1

PASTED IN

2

|--- END --->

3

<--- PAGES ---|

4

COPYRIGHT PAGE

5

TITLE PAGE

SELF-ENDED 32-PAGES

6

STORY STARTS

Opening hook

7

8

9

10

11

SELF-ENDED 32-PAGES

12

13

14

15

16

17

SELF-ENDED 32-PAGES

18

19

20

21

22

23

SELF-ENDED 32-PAGES

24

25

26

I- RESOLUTION ->

27

<---HERE ---I

28

I--- OR --->

29

<---HERE ---I

SELF-ENDED 32-PAGES

30

|--- END --->

31

<--- PAGES ---|

32

PASTED IN

Ending checklist:

- Problem solved
- MC solves problem
- MC changes
- Satisfying
- No loose ends

COLORED-ENDS 32-PAGES

Beginning checklist:

- Who
- What do they want
- When
- Where

1
COPYRIGHT PAGE

2
TITLE PAGE

3
STORY STARTS
Opening hook

4

5

COLORED-ENDS 32-PAGES

6

7

8

9

10

11

COLORED-ENDS 32-PAGES

24

25

26

27

28

I- RESOLUTION ->

29

<---HERE ---I

COLORED-ENDS 32-PAGES

30

|--- OR --->

31

<--- HERE ---|

32

TYING UP LOOSE
ENDS

Ending checklist:

- Problem solved
- MC solves problem
- MC changes
- Satisfying
- No loose ends

BLANK TEMPLATE

