Teachers Guide:
Story Contest

Submit stories to STEMTaught: stemtaught@gmail.com

Photographs of the students stories can be submitted via email. Please take a photo of each two page spread (with page numbers included) and send the photos in an email to stemtaught@gmail.com Please keep the originals if we need to obtain more detailed scans.

Brainstorm and Plan the Story:

- Encourage creativity: Help students choose a topic from the list to base their story off of.
- Help with brainstorming: Guide them through creating characters, a setting (e.g., vibrant forest, a deep ocean), and a plot (adventure, problem-solving, etc.).
- Story Structure: Worksheets are provided to help them with the writing process.

Writing the Story:

- Set goals for writing: Encourage students to write at least one page, but let them know they can write more if they are inspired.
- Provide feedback: As students write, circulate around the room to offer positive feedback and help them if they ask.

Illustrating the Story:

- Encourage creativity: Let students use markers, crayons, construction paper, or digital tools (like Canva). Remind students to add page numbers and to design a fun cover.

Refining the Story:

- Review and edit: Help students review their stories for spelling and grammar. Encourage them to read their stories out loud to spot any mistakes or areas to improve.

Story Read-Aloud (Optional) and Submitting the Story:

- Read stories to the class: Allow students who want to share their stories the opportunity to read them aloud to the class. This is a great way to celebrate their hard work!
- Final check: Remind students to double-check their work for completeness and neatness.
- Submission: Collect stories from students and submit to STEMTaught by email. Take photos of the story pages and email them. Once winners are chosen in January, STEMTaught will contact you to retrieve the original copies. Please keep the submitted stories safe until then.