

How to Introduce Story Starter Task Cards

A Quick-Start Guide for Teachers

Step 1: Explain

Show sample cards and explain their purpose. Read a few aloud and brainstorm ideas together.

Step 2: Model

Pick a card and think aloud as you create a story beginning—characters, setting, and first line.

Step 3: First-Day Fun

Let students choose a card or roll a die. Write for a short time, then share opening paragraphs.

Step 4: Build a Routine

Use cards for warm-ups, early finishers, centers, or partner challenges.

Step 5: Stay Organized

Store cards by theme or season. Assign a “card captain” to help manage materials.

Step 6: Keep It Fresh

Rotate cards throughout the year. Invite students to create their own prompts!

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