

By Jan May, Illustrations by Julianna Pavis



# The New Millennium Girls Creative Writing Curriculum: Introducing Isabel

0

By Jan May Illustrated by Julianna Davis

Copyright Jan May, 2010. All rights reserved

*The New Millennium Girls: Introducing Isabel* by Jan May Copyright Jan May, 2010.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner, whatsoever, without written permission, except where noted in text.

Printed in the United States of America

First Edition

Cover by Julianna Davis

www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com

# This Book is Lovingly Dedicated

25

#### То

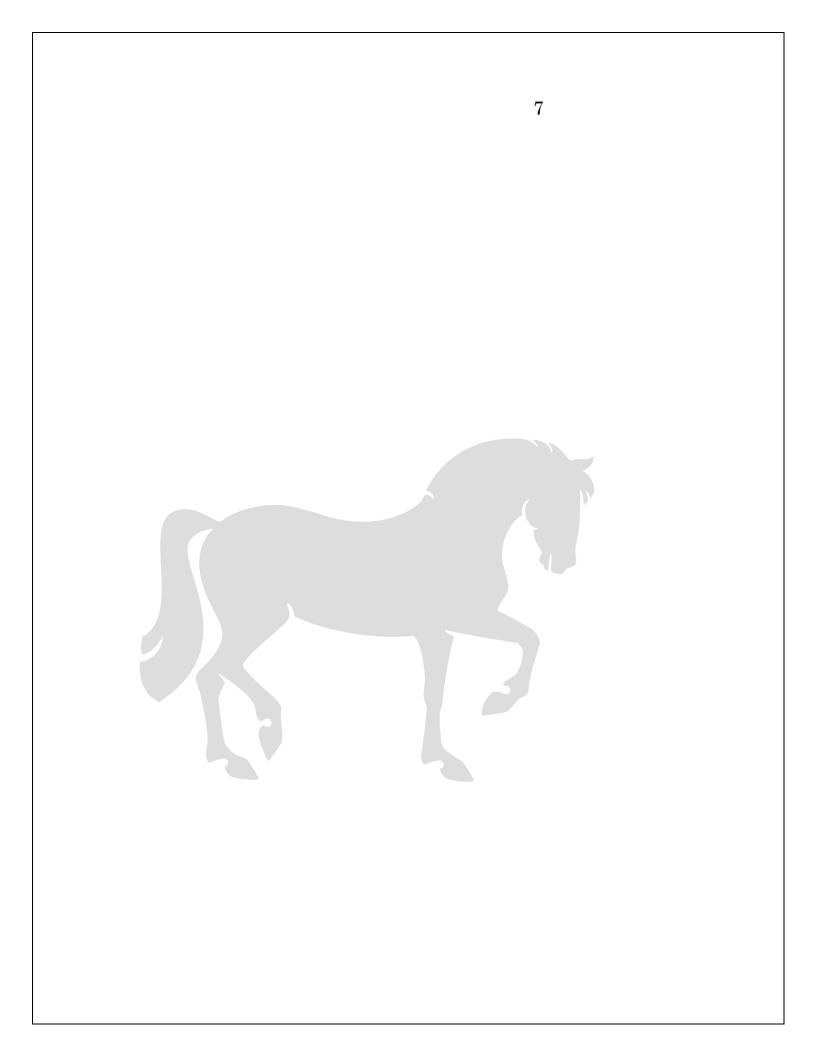
The Lord, who inspired the idea Tom May, my husband who believed in me Rachel Joy May, my beloved daughter and inspiration Julianna Davis, for her amazing illustrations Kelly Koman, my beautiful model

Many Thanks!



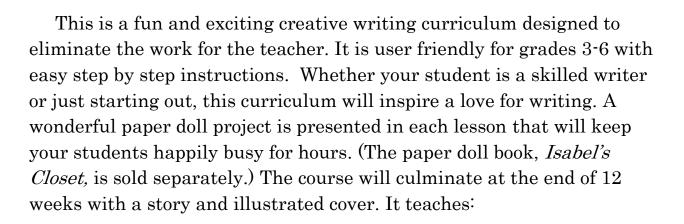
# Table of Contents

Introduction	7
Supply List	11
Lesson One: Developing a Character	13
Lesson Two: Developing Themes and Story Ideas	18
Lesson Three: Creating a Plot	24
Lesson Four: Creating a Setting	28
Lesson Five: "Show, Don't Tell"	32
Lesson Six: Writing the Beginning	35
Lesson Seven: Writing Dialogue that Works	41
Lesson Eight: Writing the Middle	44
Lesson Nine: Writing the Ending	50
Lesson Ten: Spicing up Your Story	56
Lesson Eleven: Editing	58
Lesson Twelve: Putting it all Together	60
Certificate of Completion	83





# Welcome to the New Millennium Girls Creative Writing Curriculum!



- Developing a character
- Using your senses in creating a setting
- How to spice up your dialogue
- How to create an interesting plot
- Show, Don't Tell, the golden rule of writing
- Choosing a theme that encourages character growth

Each lesson has three sections:

- Learning Time
- Writing Time
- Craft Time

The companion book, *Isabel's Closet*, presents Isabel as a paper doll and includes the beginning of her story. There is also a princess paper doll that the student will finish drawing and coloring. There are 32 pages of clothing to design and instructions on how to create a fun folder closet with bedrooms and scenery. This curriculum can be used in your homeschool or with a group. It's also a great summer project. It can be celebrated at the end with a tea party and fashion show with the outfits the girls made for their paper dolls.

What is a *New Millennium Girl*? She is an ordinary young girl with faith in an extraordinary God, growing up in this New Millennium. She looks at life as a big faith adventure.

It is both a privilege and challenge to raise daughters of righteousness in this world. My prayer is that the Lord will use this curriculum to inspire daughters for His glory.

Look for *Isabel's Secret*, the first New Millennium Girl book in the fictional series at <u>www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com</u>



# Hi! I'm Isabel

Isabel Morningsky, to be exact and I live in the mile high state of Colorado. There's a new adventure every day in Misty Springs, where I live. Like the time Holly and I found a clay pot with a secret name on it.



I love to ride my horse, Starlight, through the fields full of bluebells that grow wild on Angel Ridge Ranch. That's where I live with my mom and dad. We own a horse ranch. It's the best thing in the whole wide world!

I also love going to church with my family, hanging out with my best friend Holly, and going frogging down at Dinosaur Creek.

I have a motto that gets me through everything in life, winners never quit and quitters never win, for I serve the mighty God that lives deep within. My dad taught me

that when I was three.

I just found out a secret from our neighbor Mrs. Paddington. The girl who is staying with her for the summer is a real princess from

(You make up the name of the country.) Can you believe it? Before, I was so bummed because Holly is visiting her grandma in California for the whole summer. Now I'm sure that something wonderful is going to happen.

I want to take the princess down to Dinosaur Creek where we can dig for fossils and up to my tree house for a sleep over. I wonder if she can ride a horse. If not, I'll take care of that! I wonder if she has a bunch of fancy clothes. She won't need them out here!

Can you help to create the princess and her clothes as a paper doll and write about a fun adventure that we can share? I can't wait 'til Holly comes back and hears about this!



### List of Supplies needed to make the story book:

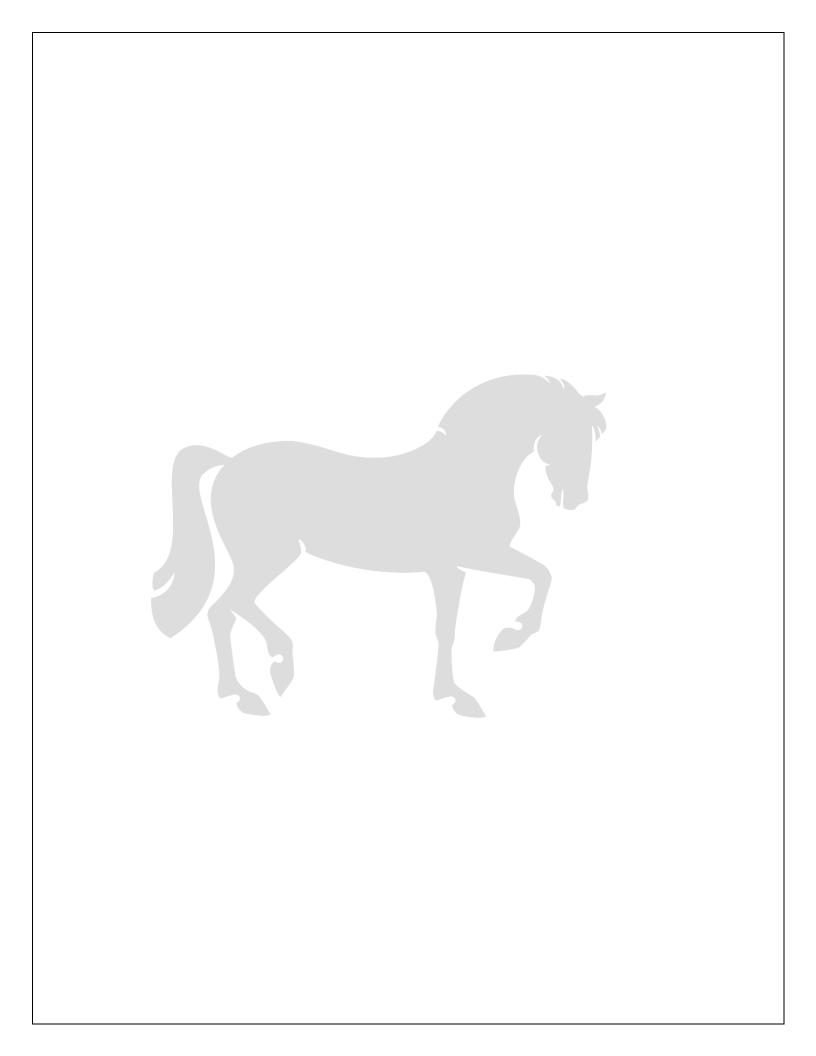
- Plain white 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper to draw illustrations
- Plastic research paper cover
- Folder to keep papers and illustrations in

# Supplies needed for paper doll craft:

- *Isabel's Closet* paper doll and craft book
- Colored pencils
- Colorful three prong folder with fun designs for doll closet and house
- Four to six plastic paper protector sleeves that open on top
- Scrap- booking papers or colored construction paper for closet background
- 10-15 pieces of 8  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 11 inch cardstock (3 white, the rest in fun colors)
- 1 piece of large white poster board
- Glue dots for applying doll hats and shoes (found at any craft store)

# **Optional Supplies:**

- Scrapbooking papers for additional clothing materials
- Glitter pens to enhance clothing
- Small butterfly, flowers, stars, and smiley face stickers to embellish t-shirts, jeans and other clothing items
- Plastic zipper or snap insert for folders, like a pencil case, to keep extra clothes in





Lesson One Developing a Character

#### Learning Time



Developing a character takes a little time and thought. Don't be surprised if after you start this curriculum, ideas come to you about your character all throughout your day. Keep a special notebook handy that you can write your ideas in so you don't forget them. When you are ready for writing time, you can retrieve your notebook and add in your new ideas. Some professional writers say it takes them months to completely develop their characters, but we will not take that long!

In order to make your characters realistic, they should have some weaknesses. A good story will help the characters grow in character. If she starts out selfish, give her opportunities to learn how to give. If she is fearful, give her a situation where she learns that God is bigger than her fears. Think about your own life and the lives of the people you know. That will give you ideas. Your characters can learn to trust God on the journey. Maybe the princess doesn't know God yet and Isabel helps her to find Him, you decide.



Writing Time Creating the Princess Character

Your first assignment is to create the princess. Fill out the character worksheet below and on the next two pages. Even though Isabel and the princess are from different continents, they may have a lot of things in common. Maybe they could share a favorite sport or hobby.

Name	_ Nick Name					
Age Name of Country s	he is from					
Height	_					
Hair and eye color						
Special Features (Big eyes, ruby lips, freckles, shiny hair)						
Favorite book						
Favorite movie						

	The second
Favorite foods	
Favorite songFavorite singer	
Favorite outfit	
Hobbies	
Special Awards	
Favorite Dress	
Why has the princess come to Misty Springs?	
Does she have any pets? Did she bring them with her?	Tell about them:
What are some of her dreams and goals?	
Give her some weaknesses, something she will have to story. Examples: selfish, fearful, lazy, clumsy, can't c	
sing but thinks she can!	· • ·

What famous American does she admire and want to meet?

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

What has she had to overcome in her past? (Ideas: Broken leg, broken friendship, parents' tension, pressures to be perfect, sibling rivalry)

Name her family members and ages

What is something that she is afraid of?

Does she like being a princess? Would she rather be something else?

Does she have any special skills? Ballet, horse riding, etc.

Add anything else you want:



### Circle all the personality traits that she has:

Outgoing	Funny	Serious	Loud	Dependable
Smiles	Frowns	Glares	Strong	Awkward
Curious	Determined	Wise	Industrious	Mysterious
Brave	Shy	Afraid	Kind	Helpful
Playful	Silly	Sporty	Generous	Sassy
Spunky	Sneaky	Witty	Mean	Nice
Humble	Clumsy	Quiet	Creative	Weak
Proud	Sensitive	Calm	Smart	Stubborn

### **Craft Time**

 In the paper doll book, *Isabel's Closet,* cut out Isabel from the cover and color and design her first outfit. Colored pencils work great.
Outline the clothes with a darker color that matches. For example if you want to color the top pink, outline the details with a darker pink.

2. In the paper doll book, *Isabel's Closet*, turn to the page with the princess on it. Follow the directions on what to do. On the next page after the princess are several hairstyles you can choose from or you can draw your own. You will find her outfits on the following pages. Choose one, color and cut it out.



Lesson Two Developing Story Ideas and Choosing a Theme that Helps Your Characters Grow in God



#### Learning Time

A theme is the main idea that your story is about. Choose a theme that will help your characters grow in their faith. Here are some ideas: **Patience-learning to trust God's timing** 

When we pray for patience, God doesn't send us a basket full of patience but He gives us opportunities to grow in patience. Usually, it comes with a difficult situation that forces us to use our faith muscles. Another word for patience is longsuffering. Yep, that says it all, suffering for a long time. God is the most patient of all!

The Bible tells us in the book of James to consider it joyful when you have to put up with hard situations, knowing that they create patience in us. (James 1:2-3)

Can you make a list of some things that a person might have to be patient about?

#### Courage-learning to trust God's protection

Courage isn't the absence of fear, but the ability to do what's right even though we are afraid.

The Bible says, "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind." (II Timothy 1:7)

He also says that He will never leave us, so we know that we can rely on His strength to help us in our time of need.

Make a list of things a person might be afraid of.

#### Contentment-learning to trust God's provision

Contentment is being happy with what you have and believing that God has a plan to give you what you need at the right time. Even if you have to wait a little while or be uncomfortable for a time, you can trust Him that everything will work out for good.

The Bible says that Paul knew a secret. He might have everything he wanted, or not have anything at all and still be happy inside. He knew God would give him strength for everything he would face. (Phillipians 4:11-13)

Can you make a list of times a person may not feel happy or content with what they have?

#### Self Acceptance-trusting God's design

A person can be joyful on the inside knowing that we are made in the image of God. We don't have to live up to what someone else thinks is beautiful. Sometimes we want to be the friend of someone who is pretty, but after time, if they are grumpy or selfish, it's not fun to be with them anymore. Outward beauty will fade, but the beauty inside our hearts will last forever.

Sometimes we may be tempted to feel jealous of someone who we think is prettier or has more things than we do. We can learn to love and accept ourselves the way God does. The Bible tells us that man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart.

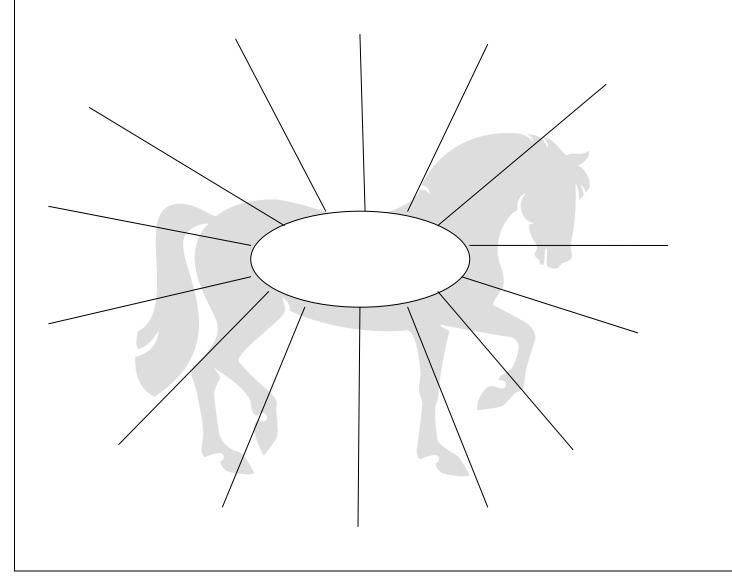
Can you think of ways someone may not feel happy with the way they look or what they have? Make a list.

After reading these four character qualities, you should have some good ideas for writing a story. Use the diagram on the next page to develop your ideas.

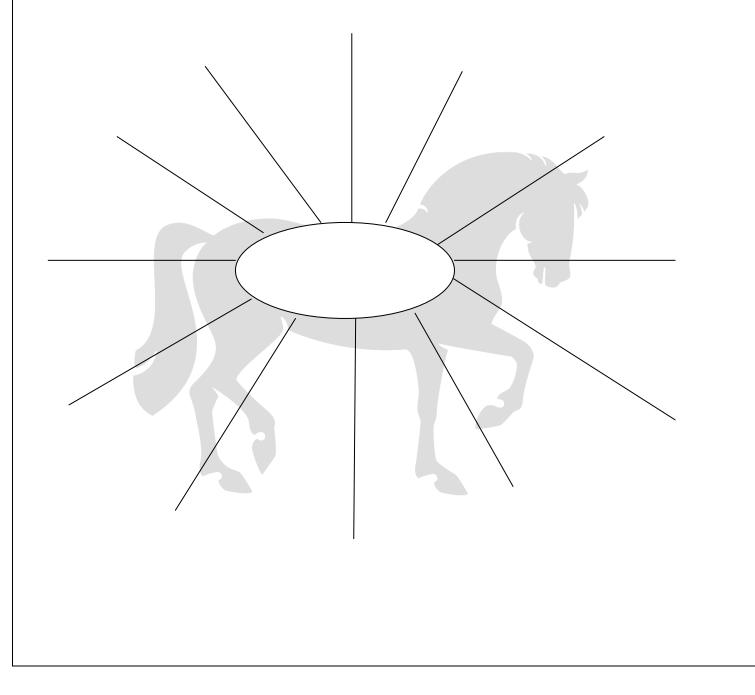
### Writing Time

What theme did you choose? \_\_\_\_\_

Use the story web below to develop your theme. Write the theme you chose in the center of the circle. Write whatever ideas that pop into your head about that theme, on one of the lines. Keep going, until all the lines are filled. There are no right or wrong answers, so let the ideas fly off your pencil! You can also add more lines if you want to. For example, I choose "Courage" and wrote it in the middle. Then I added what I thought people were afraid of, like bullies, storms, dark or not being accepted.



Now that you have a theme, create a fun adventure that you can weave together with it. Use the story web below to create a fun adventure for Isabel and the princess. Follow the same method you used on the previous page. Write a fun adventure idea in the center of the circle and all the ideas you can think of that relate to it on the lines. Keep going until all the lines are filled. There are no wrong answers! You can even add more lines if you want. For example, I wrote "A Scavenger Hunt on Horseback," in the circle. Then I added playing down at the creek, looking for treasure and sleeping up in the tree house on the lines.



### **Craft Time**

Build a closet and bedroom for Isabel and the Princess.

#### Gather together:

- Your fun folder
- 4-6 plastic sleeves that open on top
- 8-10 pieces of 8 ½ x 11 inch solid card stock any color or 4-6 fun designed scrap booking papers same size
- Department store magazines that have pictures of furniture in them
- Glue stick and scissors

Follow the instructions in the back of the paper doll book, *Isabel's Closet*, on how to "Build a Closet and Bedroom."

