The page is framed by a decorative border of intricate, light gray floral and scrollwork patterns. The patterns consist of swirling vines, leaves, and small flowers, creating a delicate and elegant frame around the central text.

*Creative Writing Made Easy*

*The New Millennium Girls*

*Curriculum:*

*Introducing Isabel*

By Jan May

Illustrated by Julianna Davis

*Creative Writing Made Easy – The New Millennium Girls Curriculum:  
Introducing Isabel* by Jan May  
Copyright, Jan May, 2011.

Education and Language Arts

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

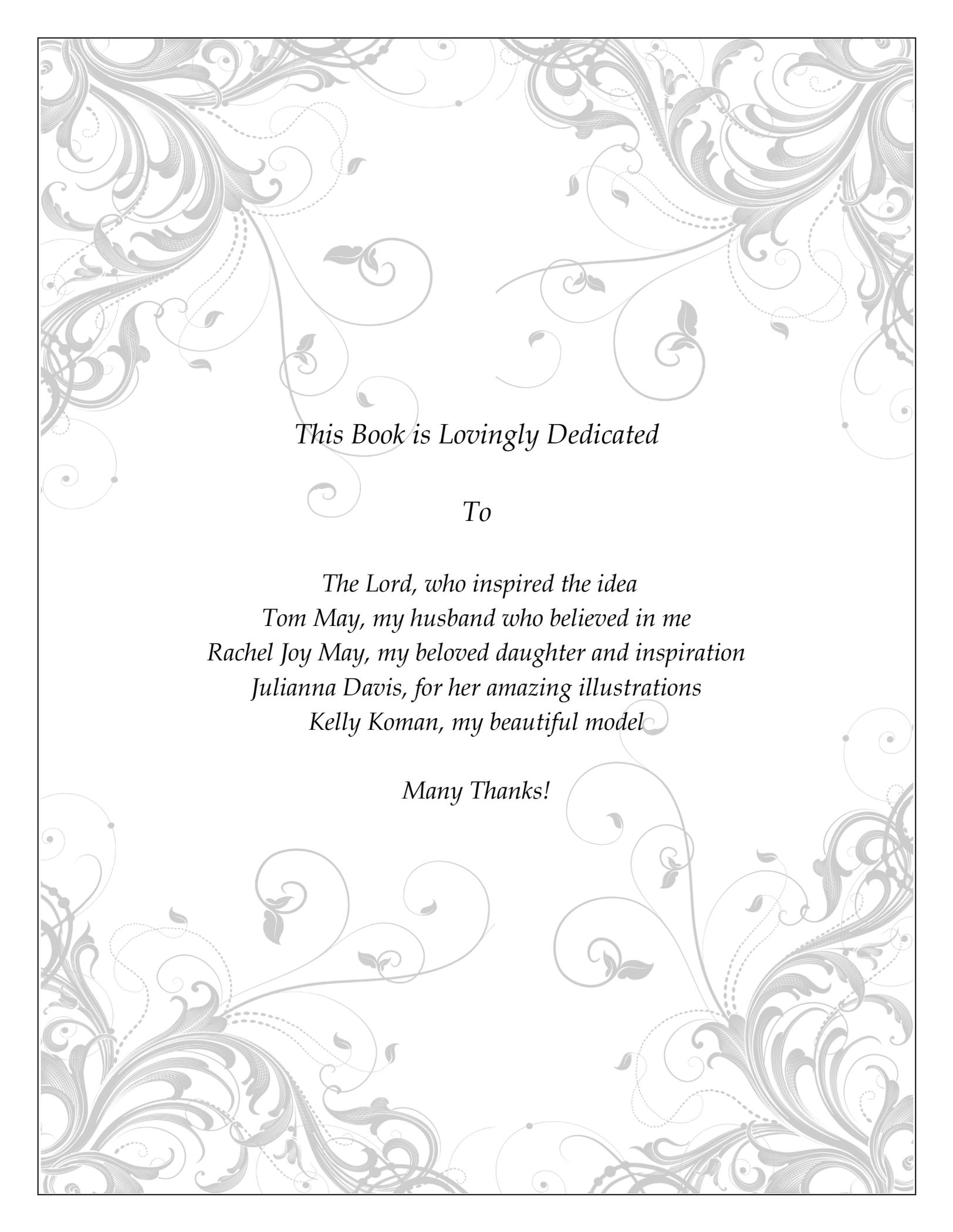
Second Edition

Published by New Millennium Girl Books

ISBN 978-0-9835281-1-1

Cover by Julianna Davis

[www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com](http://www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com)

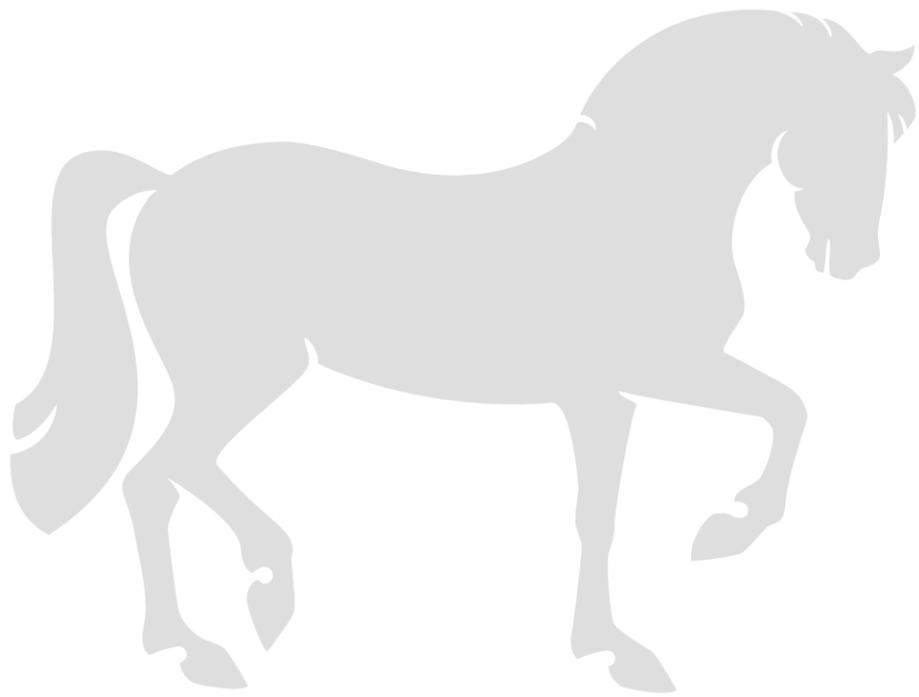
A decorative border with intricate floral and scrollwork patterns in shades of gray, framing the central text.

*This Book is Lovingly Dedicated*

*To*

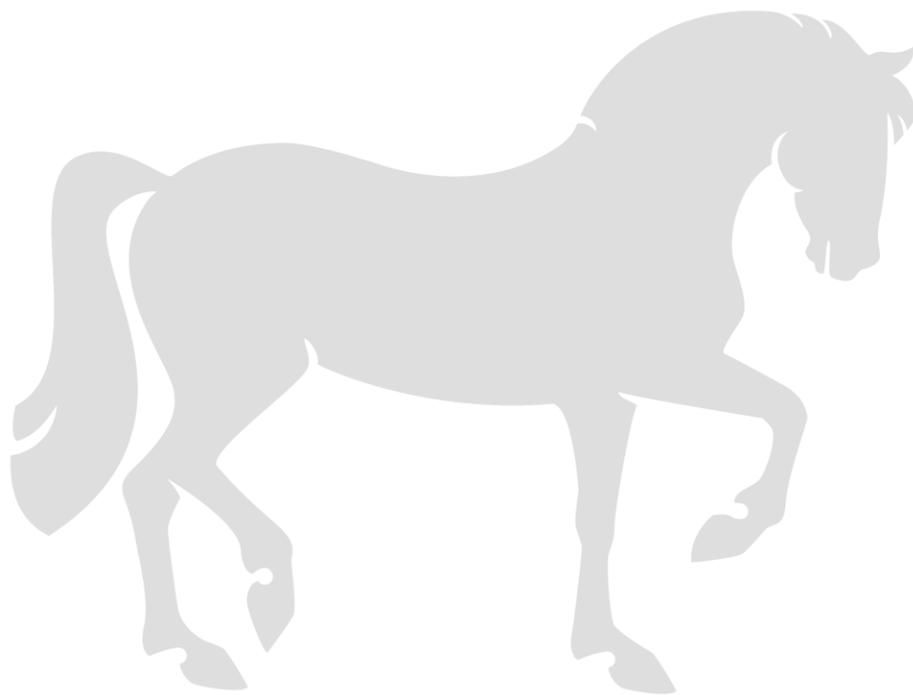
*The Lord, who inspired the idea  
Tom May, my husband who believed in me  
Rachel Joy May, my beloved daughter and inspiration  
Julianna Davis, for her amazing illustrations  
Kelly Koman, my beautiful model*

*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!



This is a fun and exciting creative writing curriculum designed to eliminate the work for the teacher. It is user friendly for grades 3-6 with easy step by step instructions. Whether your student is a skilled writer or just starting out, this curriculum will inspire a love for writing. A wonderful paper doll project is presented in each lesson that will keep your students happily busy for hours. (The paper doll book, *Isabel's Closet*, is sold separately.) The course will culminate at the end of 12 weeks with a story and illustrated cover. It teaches:

- 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 super summer project. It can be celebrated at the end of the course 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 girl with faith in an extraordinary God, growing up in this New Millennium. Like Joshua and Caleb, she chooses to see that God is bigger than any giants she has to face. She is mighty in spirit, part of the Joshua generation, a New Millennium Girl.

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 [www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com](http://www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com)



## *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!

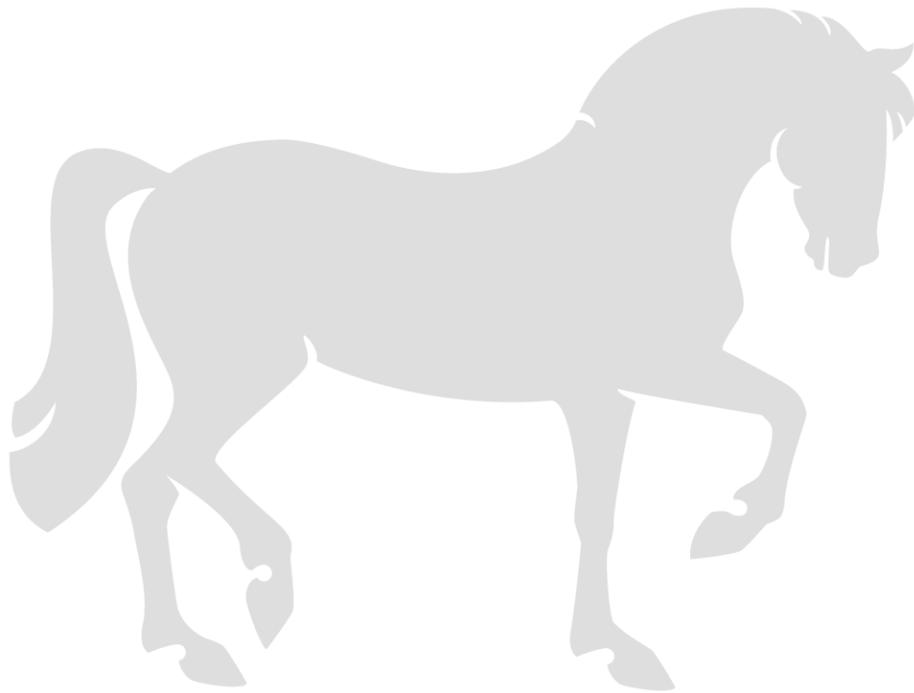
I also love going to church with my family, hanging out with my best friend Holly, and going frogging down at Dinosaur Creek.

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:**

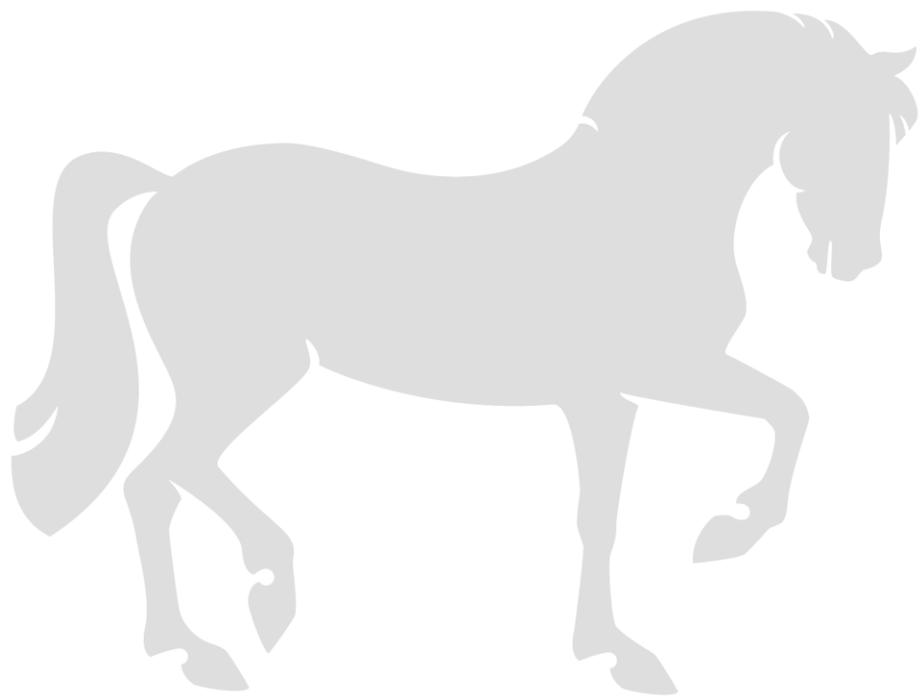
- Plain white 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper to draw illustrations
- Plastic research paper cover
- Folder to keep papers and illustrations in

## **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 ½ 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 she is from \_\_\_\_\_

Height \_\_\_\_\_

Hair and eye color \_\_\_\_\_

Special Features (Big eyes, ruby lips, freckles, shiny hair)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Favorite book \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite movie \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite foods \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite song \_\_\_\_\_ Favorite 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?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

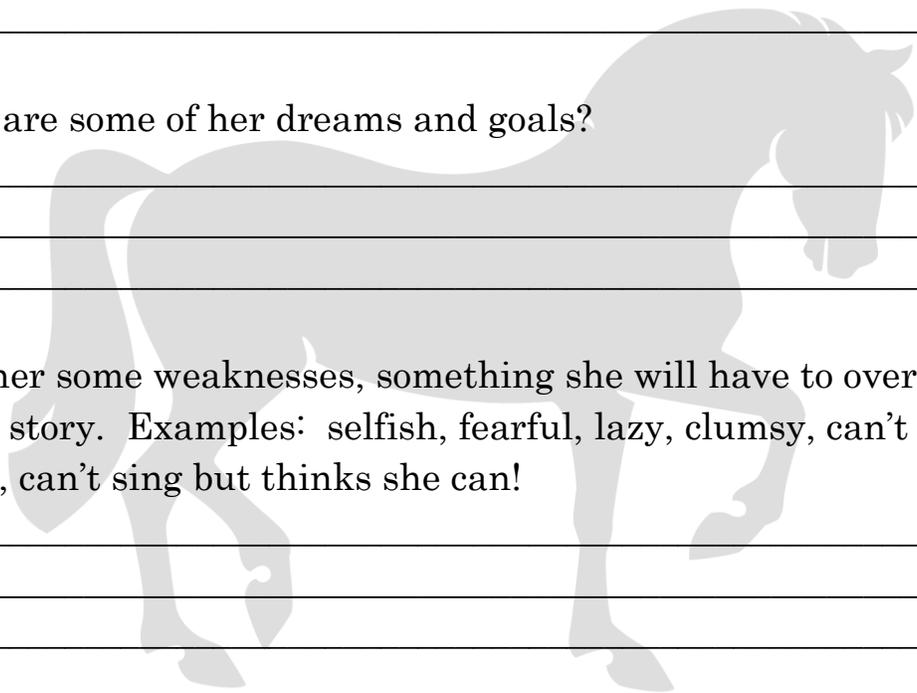
\_\_\_\_\_

Give her some weaknesses, something she will have to overcome in the story. Examples: selfish, fearful, lazy, clumsy, can't cook, proud, can't 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

1. 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.

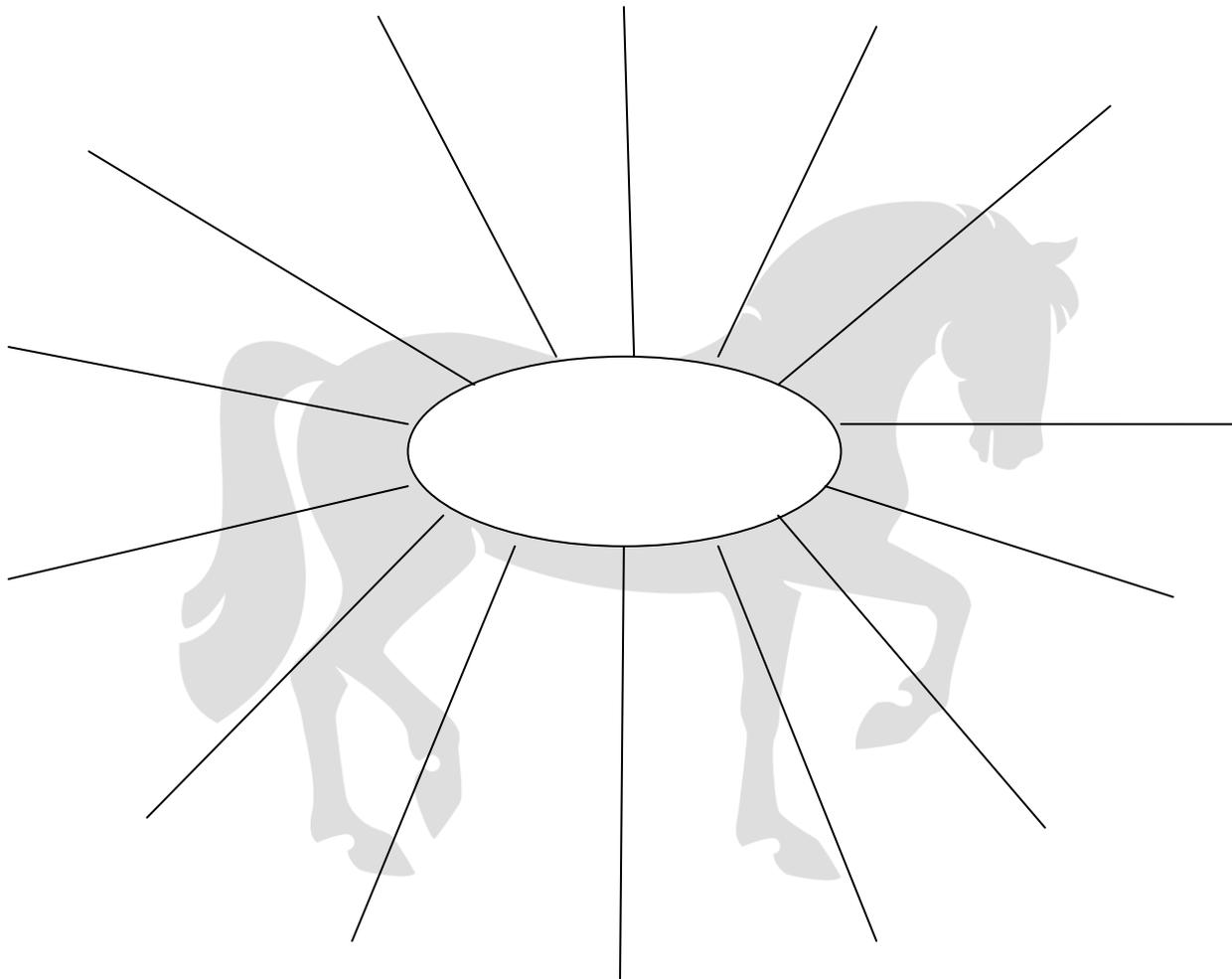
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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.

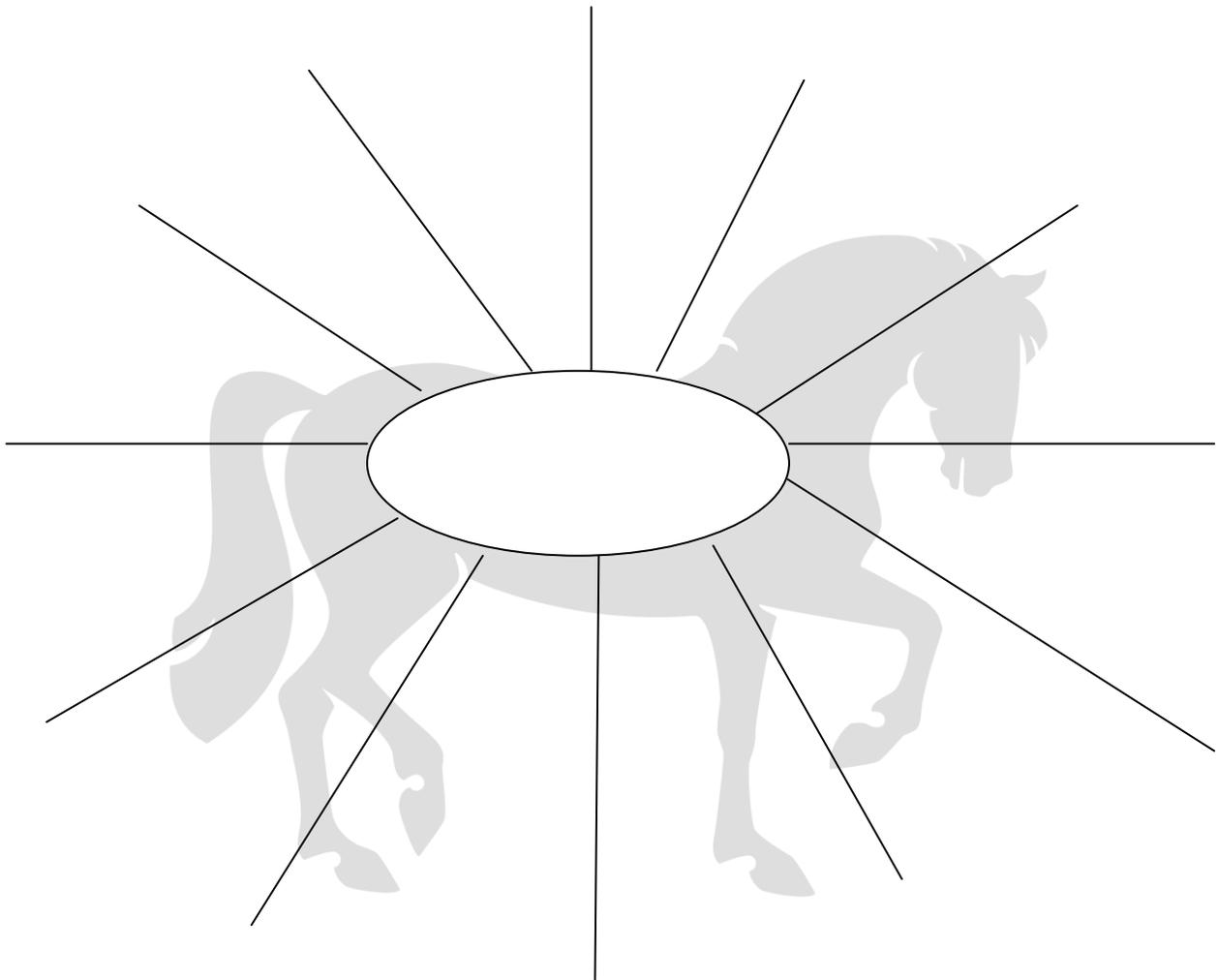
## Writing Time

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 pops into your head about that theme, on one of the lines. Keep going, until all the lines are filled. There is 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.



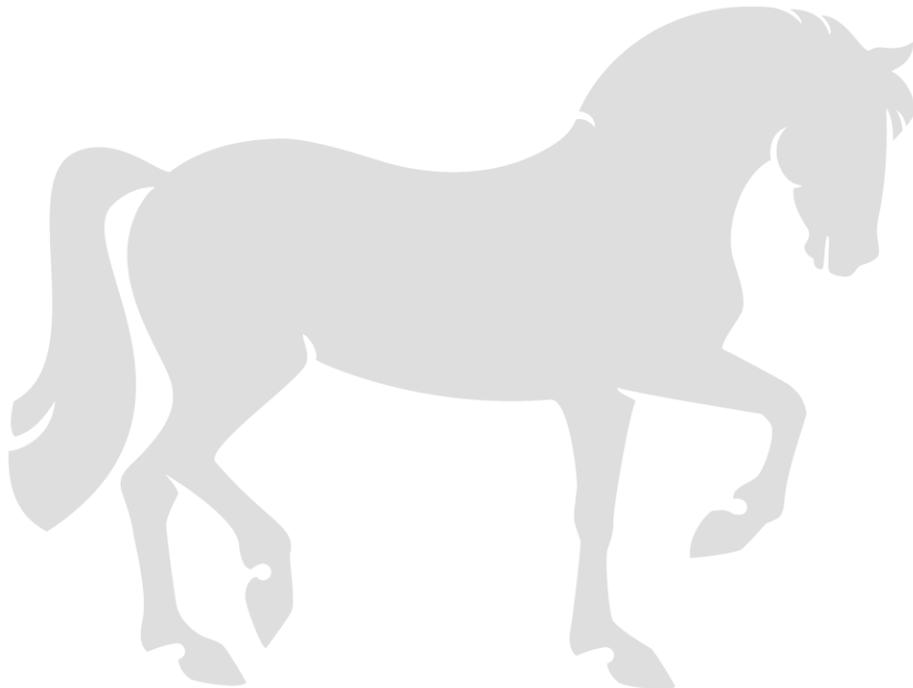
## Craft Time

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."





## Lesson Three

### Creating a Plot



### Learning Time

A plot is like writing your own recipe. Start with a character who wants something, add a few obstacles to keep them from getting it, mix in some fun antics along the way and help them reach their goal at the end.

The first part of your plot is already set: Isabel is a girl with a horse who lives on Angel Ridge Horse Ranch in Colorado. Her best friend, Holly, goes away for the summer and a new mysterious guest, who just happens to be a real princess, moves in next door. Make up an adventure with a problem that the girls have to solve. A good story will increase the tension by almost letting the character solve their problem, but fail in the first attempt. The story even gets more exciting if they fail twice!

Every good story has three major parts: A beginning, middle and an end.

**The Beginning** introduces your main character and the problem they face. The first sentences should start the story off with some interesting action to draw the reader in.

**The Middle** of a story is where your character tries to solve the problem. It might even get worse. Think drama, drama, drama! Some writers use the one, two, three method: The first two attempts to solve the problem fail and on the third try, the character succeeds.

**The Ending** is where your main character overcomes her problem and grows in the process. If they start out fearful, they learn to trust God and be brave. If they start out selfish, they learn the joy of serving others. Your characters should be very real people. Think about some things you or people you know might be afraid of. Think about your own weakness and those of the people around you, they will give you ideas.

## Writing Time

Read the Example of *Creating a Plot* on the next page, then fill out the next two pages.

## Craft Time

Pick out an outfit for both girls to wear from the paper doll book, *Isabel's Closet*. Color them and cut them out. Act out some of your ideas from today's lesson with Isabel and the princess.

## Examples of Creating a Plot

**1. What is the season in the story?**

Example: It is summer time.

**2. What is the theme of your story?**

Example: Isabel is going to grow in serving others.

**3. What is the goal of your character?**

Example: To have a fun summer outing after a long school year.

**4. How is your character going to reach this goal?**

Example: By planning a picnic down by the lake with her best friends Holly and Kara.

**5. Create an obstacle in their way.**

Example: Busy Aunt Matilda comes in town and needs Isabel to watch her three children ages four, six and eight.

**6. How will she *almost* get past the obstacle but fail? Can you thicken the plot by adding more obstacles?**

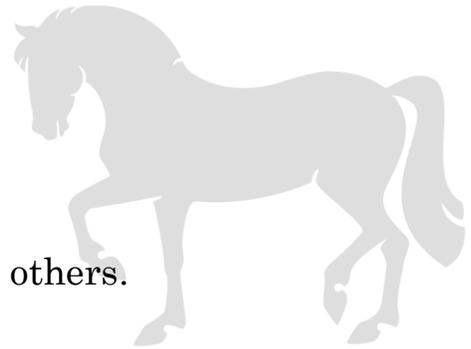
Example: Isabel offers to pay Holly's little brother to do it. When her mom finds out, she encourages Isabel to spend time with her cousins.

**7. How will she try again and finally reach her goal?**

Example: Isabel gets her friends Holly and Kara to help her plan a fun fair at the picnic for her cousins.

**8. What has your character learned in this process?**

Example: They all have fun and the characters learn that you can receive joy and happiness when you give to others.





## Creating a Plot Worksheet



1. What is the season of your story?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the theme of the story?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the goal of your character?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How is your character going to reach her goal?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Create an obstacle for her to overcome:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. How will she almost get past the obstacle but fail?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. How will her faith in God help her to try again?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What has your character learned in this process?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## Lesson Four

### Creating a Setting



### Learning Time

A setting is the time in history and the place where a story happens. It could be in a neighborhood, a city, or a school. For Isabel and the princess, the setting is Misty Springs, Colorado, a little town of about 6,000 people in modern day America.

It is important that you describe the setting with vivid colors and use all of your senses. The five senses are: sight, sound, smell, texture and taste. Below are some examples:

#### Sight:

- Isabel could see the giant purple mountains outside her bedroom window.
- Tall green pine trees surrounded Angel Ridge Ranch.

#### Sound:

- The sound of the gurgling brook made Isabel smile.
- Isabel loved to hear Starlight whinny when he saw her cat, Tinkerbelle.

#### Taste:

- Isabel loved to eat fresh crunchy cucumbers from the garden sprinkled with salt.
- Mom and Isabel make tangy pickles in the fall with them.

**Texture:** (How something feels when you touch it)

- Isabel felt the warmth of Starlight as she ran her hands over his soft mane.
- The crunchy hay poked Isabel when she jumped on the hay wagon.

**Smell:**

- Isabel loved the smell of fresh hay in the barn.
- Hot sugar cookies baking in the oven, always bring a smile to Isabel's face.

## Writing Time

Using your imagination, make a list of things that you might experience in the town of Misty Springs, Colorado.

**Sights**

---

---

---

---

---

**Sounds**

---

---

---

---

---

**Smells**

---

---

---

---

---

**Tastes**

---

---

---

---

---

**Textures-how does it feel?**

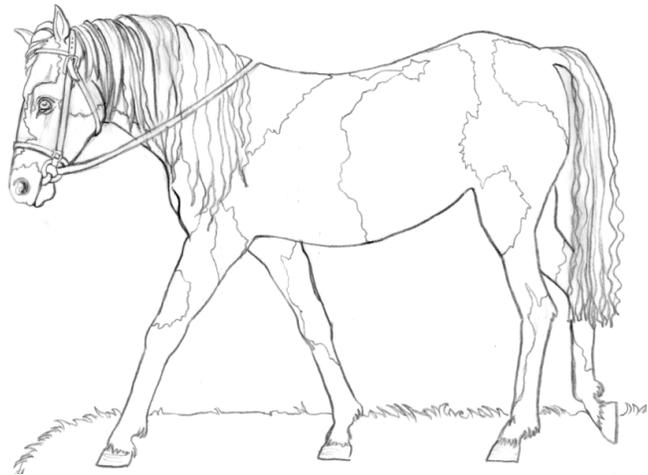
---

---

---

---

---



## **Research**

If you want your story to be more authentic, do what the professional writers do: Research! Go to the library or with your parent's help, Google "Colorado." Write down any fun details you learn on the lines below and on the next page.

**Interesting activities in Colorado**

---

---

---

**Fun community events like fairs, rodeos, flower festivals, etc.**

---

---

---

**Interesting horse details**

---

---

---

## **Interesting historical events**

---

---

---

## **Other interesting details**

---

---

---

## **Craft Time**

### **1. Draw Illustrations**

On a plain white 8 1/2 x 11 inch piece of paper, draw and color Isabel and the princess meeting for the first time. It could be a scene from Isabel's house, neighborhood, or her special hang out spot down by the creek. Use your imagination. When you are finished, save it in your folder to add as one of the illustrations in your story at the end.

### **2. Make a Backdrop**

Take a piece of poster board and cut it in half. Using your research on Colorado, draw Misty Springs and color it. You can bend it in the middle to help it stand up. This will be a great backdrop when the girls want to ride their horses or explore outside. You could include Dinosaur Creek.



## Lesson Five "Show, Don't Tell"



### Learning Time

C.S. Lewis, author of the *Chronicles of Narnia*, once said, "Don't tell me that your character is afraid, describe it in such a way that the very hairs on my head stand up when I read it."

A good story will describe the body language of the character's emotions, making the story feel more real. Here are two examples of someone who is afraid:

**1. These sentences TELL me she is afraid:**

Isabel walked into the forest and heard a sound. She was afraid.

**2. These sentences SHOW me her body language when she is afraid:**

Isabel walked into the forest and heard a sound. Her heart started racing and she froze in her tracks.

Can you feel Isabel's emotions better in the second sentence? Can you see them, too? Now, you try. Turn to the next page and fill in the blanks.

## Writing Time -Practice Showing Different Emotions

A person's facial expression and how they move their body is called body language. They don't even have to say a word; you can SEE what they are feeling. What would a person LOOK LIKE if they experienced each of these things? You can use more than one sentence.

Fear

---

---

---

Excitement

---

---

---

Anger

---

---

---

Curiosity

---

---

---

Pride

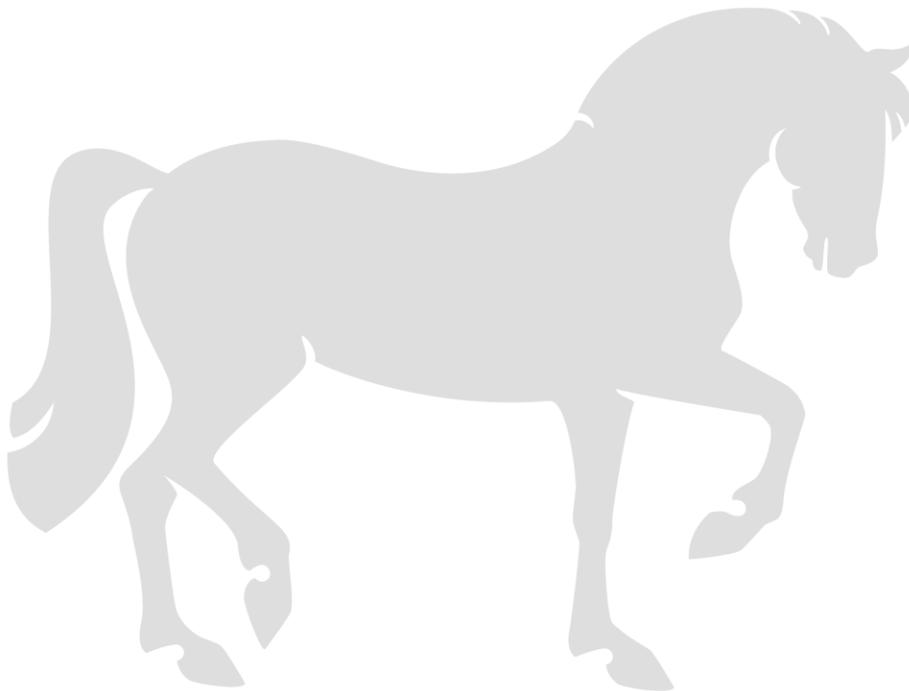
---

---

---

## Craft Time

Think about the plot you are working on. In your paper doll book, *Isabel's Closet*, design an outfit for both girls from one of those scenes, color and cut them out. By acting out some of the plot with your paper dolls, you might get some ideas for your story.





## Lesson Six

### Writing the Beginning of your Story



#### Learning Time

Now it's time to write the beginning of your story. Tear out your plot and setting sheets and set them next to you so you can easily refer to them as you are writing. A good beginning introduces the main character and a problem that they will try to solve.

Like a fisherman choosing the right kind of bait to hook a fish, using an interesting and exciting first sentence will hook your readers into reading more.

For example:

*Isabel woke up on a sunny day. She washed her face and put on her shoes.*

This sentence doesn't tell me an adventure is about to happen. Read the next sentence.

*Racing to the creek, Isabel jumped the picket fence and charged over the fallen oak tree. She laughed so hard she hardly noticed the mysterious person following her.*

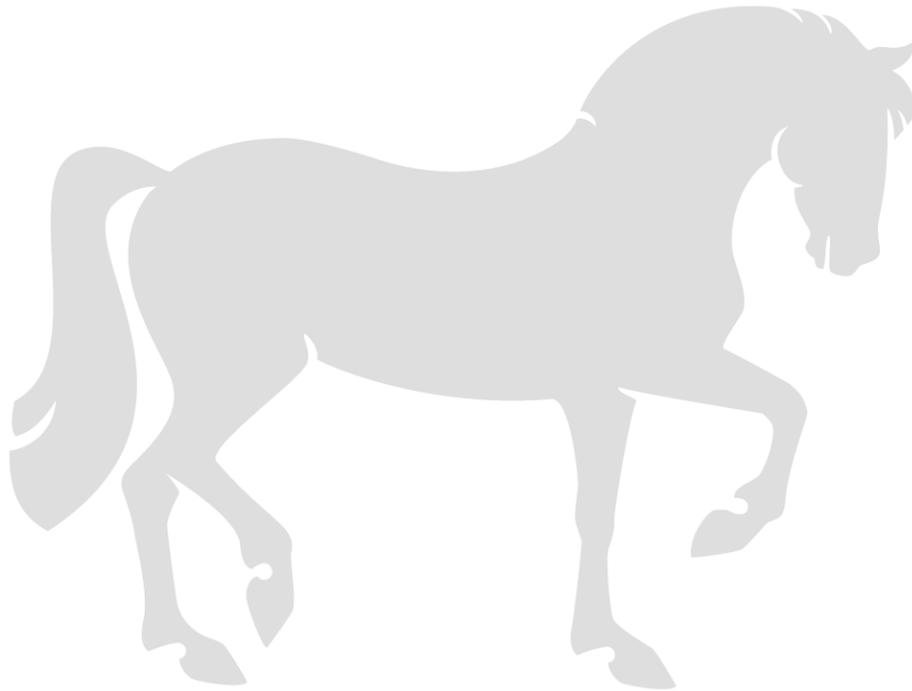
There is a lot more action in these sentences. Can you see how these sentences hook a person into reading more than the first one?

## Writing Time

Can you begin your story with some interesting action? Can you remember to *“Show, Don’t Tell?”* On the next page, write the beginning of your story. Try to write at least six sentences. You can write more if you want, as long as you introduce your main character and the problem she must solve.

## Craft Time

Now it’s time to color and cut out Isabel and her horse, Starlight, and the princess and her horse, Patches, found in the back of *Isabel’s Closet*.



**Use every other line when writing your story.  
It will make it easier when you want to add things in later.**

A series of 20 horizontal lines provided for writing. The lines are spaced such that only every other line is intended for text, creating a ruled writing area.





---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Lesson Seven

### Using Dialogue to Give Your Story “Punch”



### Learning Time

Dialogue is when a person in your story is talking. Use quotation marks when your characters start to talk and at the end, when they are finished. Put all ending punctuation marks, like periods, inside of them. Example: “Isabel, I can’t wait to see the fossils you dug up in the creek,” said Holly.

Good dialogue adds interest and action to a story. To get the most out of dialogue, fill it with information about the character, the setting or the plot.

**1. Dialogue gives information about the character. Example:**

“Guard the castle while I’m gone,” said Kyle. This tells us that Kyle is imaginative and likes playing adventure games.

**2. Dialogue gives information about the setting. Example:**

“I love coming to your house,” said Holly. “My mom would never let me have two dogs, a cat and three lizards.” This tells us that Isabel’s house is busy with animals.

**3. Dialogue gives important information about the story.**

**Example:**

“Look,” said Isabel, rubbing the dirt off of an old pot, “There’s a secret message written on it! Let’s look in the guide book to see what it means.” This tells us important details about what is happening in the story.

**Writing Time**

Think about who could be talking to give details about the princess. Write some dialogue that gives information about the princess:

---

---

---

Think about who could be talking to give details about the setting. Write some dialogue to give information about your setting:

---

---

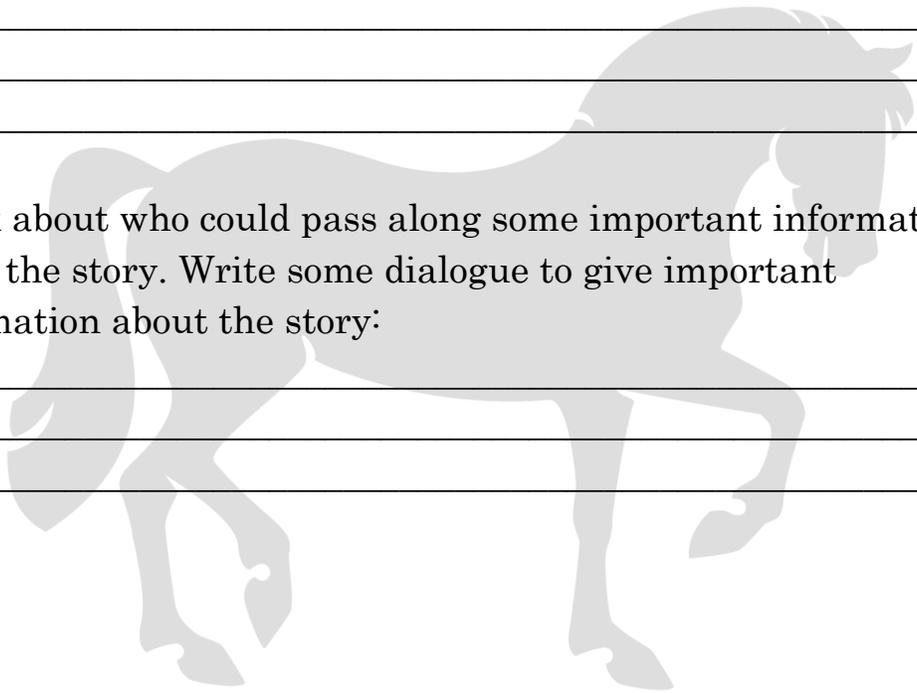
---

Think about who could pass along some important information about the story. Write some dialogue to give important information about the story:

---

---

---



Another way to spice up your dialogue is to “fill in” some details about what the person is doing while they are talking. Pay attention to the part that is underlined.

For Example:

“Guard the castle while I am gone!” said Kyle, swinging his pretend sword.

“Holly, you never finish what you start,” said her mother, wading through the projects on Holly’s bedroom floor.

“Why, you are as tall as a tree!” exclaimed Aunt Betty, grabbing her suitcase from the car.

Remember how we left an empty line between our sentences? Now we have room to add in some important details. Go through your story’s dialogue and see if you can “fill in” some of the details about what the characters are doing as they are talking. Try to “fill in” details to about half of the dialogue, doing it to every line would be too much.

## Craft Time

In your paper doll book, *Isabel’s Closet*, design an outfit from the beginning of your story for both girls. Color them and cut them out. Have fun acting out the beginning of the story with them.



## Lesson Eight

### Writing the Middle of Your Story

#### Learning Time

The Middle of your story is where your characters try to reach their goal, but you as the writer put a problem in their way. They should try several times, and not get there.



#### Writing Time

What was your story problem?

---

List four ways the problem could get worse when the characters try to solve it. Maybe some of the ways can be funny.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

Take out your plot and setting sheets to help you remember your ideas.

- Turn to the next page and write the next five - ten sentences of your story, developing the problem. Remember it's always a more interesting story if your main character doesn't reach their goal right away.
- Remember on page 28 how you wrote about your five senses? Try to use as many of the senses as you can in your story today as you write. The five senses are: sight, sound, taste, smell and texture. It's OK to use new ideas for the five senses if they fit better.

## Craft Time

1. Draw a scene from the things you wrote today and color it. Save this in your folder. You will use this as an illustration when you put your book together at the end of the course.
2. We already made a bedroom for Isabel, now make one for the Princess. Using magazines, cut out furniture items and glue them onto a piece of cardstock. When you are finished, you can slip it into one of the plastic sleeves in your folder to create another room.











## Lesson Nine

### Writing the Ending of Your Story



### Learning Time

Ending a story is helping the characters reach their goal. It's time to help Isabel and the princess solve the problems in the story and come out winners.

It's also time to give them a moment where they realize they have learned something.

What was the problem in the story? \_\_\_\_\_

How can they solve it? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What did Isabel learn in the story?

\_\_\_\_\_

How did she grow in character?

\_\_\_\_\_

What did the princess learn in the story?

\_\_\_\_\_

How did she grow in character?

---

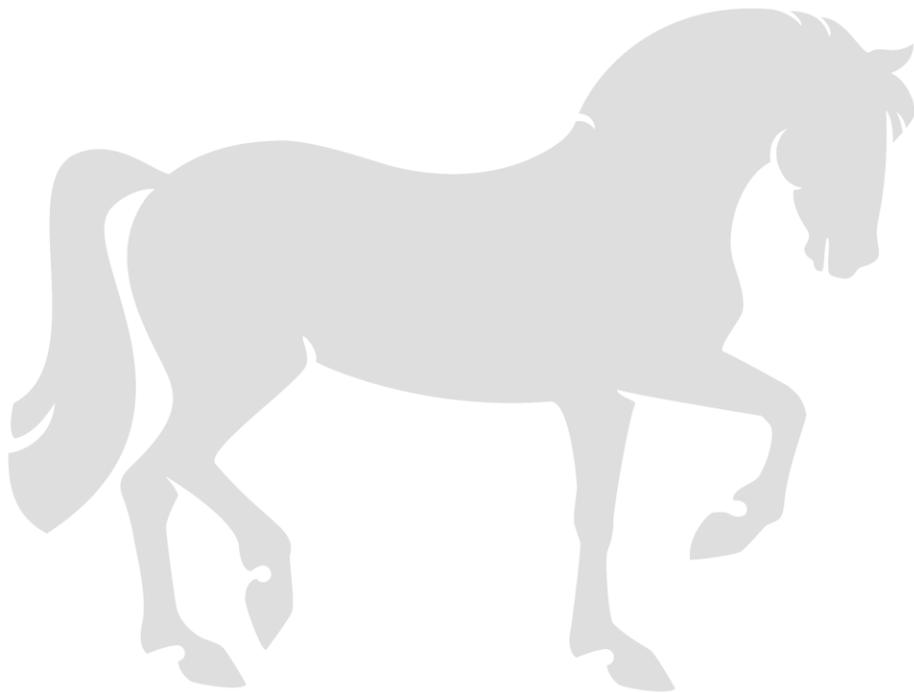
---

## **Writing Time**

Turn to the next page and write five-ten sentences to finish the story. You can write more if you want to.

## **Craft Time**

Color and design an outfit for the ending of the story for both girls. Cut them out and have fun acting out the ending with them.



**Use every other line when writing your story. It will make it easier when you want to add things in later.**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 21 horizontal lines.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Lesson Ten

### Spicing up Your Story



### Learning Time

Now that you are finished writing your story, it's time to spice it up. Adding adjectives to the nouns in your story helps to create a picture in the mind of the reader. This also helps the reader to experience your story, not just read it.

**A noun is a person, place or thing.**

**An adjective is a word used to describe a noun. It can tell which one, what kind, how many, what color, or what texture.**

### Writing Time

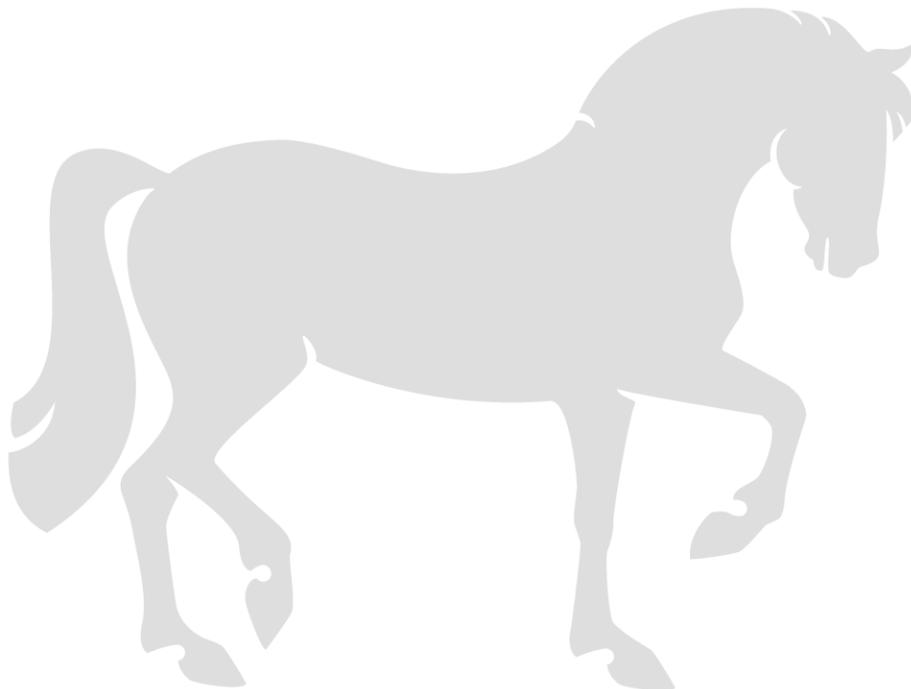
Add an adjective in each of the blanks below for practice:

1. The pouring rain made \_\_\_\_\_ puddles in our \_\_\_\_\_ yard.
2. Isabel smelled the \_\_\_\_\_ hay in the \_\_\_\_\_ barn.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ princess raced her horse across the \_\_\_\_\_ meadow.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ horse ran up the \_\_\_\_\_ hill.
5. Isabel shimmied up the \_\_\_\_\_ tree, cupped her eyes and gazed at the \_\_\_\_\_ field.

Take time now to read over your story and see if you can add at least one adjective to every other sentence. You can write adjectives on the skipped line above the noun.

### **Craft Time- Illustrating**

Draw and color a picture showing the happy ending in the story. Use a plain white sheet of 8 ½ x 11 inch paper. Put it in your folder when you are finished to use for your book at the end. Make new outfits for your dolls from the ending of your story.





## Lesson Eleven

### Final Editing and Revising



### Learning Time

To revise something means to change it and make it better. Many great writers revise their stories ten to twenty times! We will only revise our story once. Here is a list to help you. You can check it off as you complete it.

### Writing Time

\_\_\_\_ 1. Add at least one adjective to every other sentence in your story. An adjective is a word that describes a person, place or thing; like color, size, texture, etc.

\_\_\_\_ 2. Check that every sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a period, question mark or exclamation point.

\_\_\_\_ 3. Can you combine any two smaller sentences and make them into one big one? For example: Holly runs fast. Holly plays soccer. To combine: Holly runs fast and plays soccer.

\_\_\_\_ 4. Are all the punctuation marks in your dialogue *inside* the quotation marks?

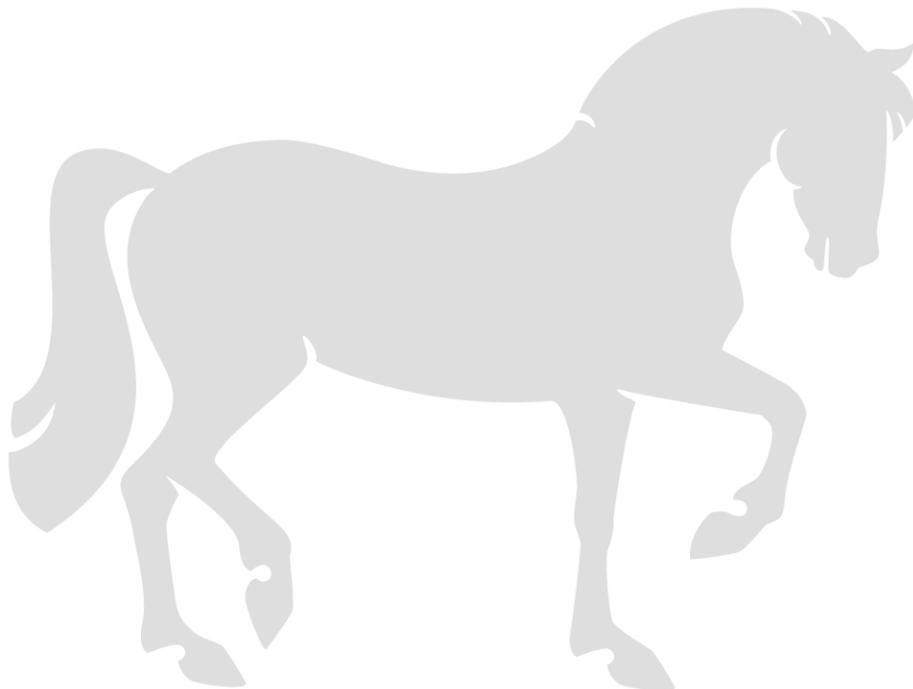
\_\_\_\_ 5. Have you used all five senses in describing the setting somewhere in your story?

Sights \_\_\_\_\_ Textures \_\_\_\_\_  
Sounds \_\_\_\_\_ Smells \_\_\_\_\_ Tastes \_\_\_\_\_

After you have checked these off, you can neatly rewrite your story with all the corrections in it. You can use the fun decorated paper in the back of the book or type it out on the computer.

## **Craft Time**

Every girl needs a party dress. Take out your paper doll book, *Isabel's Closet*, and design a party dress for each of the two girls. Have fun acting out a special party where they can wear them.





## Lesson Twelve

### Putting it All Together



#### Learning Time

Congratulations! With all your hard work, you should have a wonderful story with a good beginning, middle and end. You have developed interesting characters and a sensory setting with a good plot. You're a writer!

#### Writing Time

Take out your finished story and your folder with all your illustrations. Insert the illustrations at the right places within your story. When you have the order that makes the most sense to you, number the pages in the center of the bottom edge.

#### Craft Time

Today we will finish the book by making a cover.

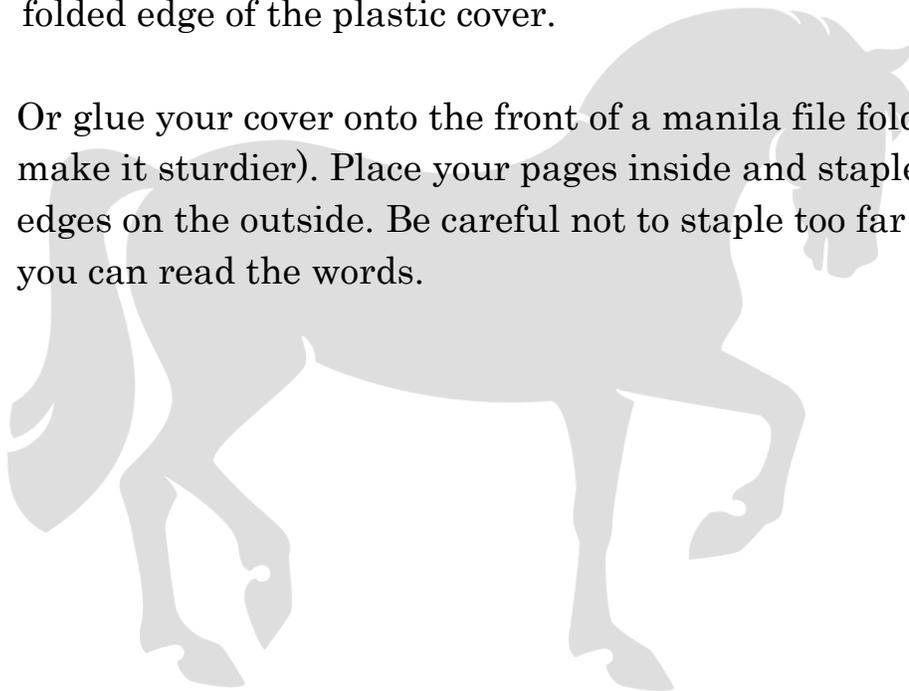
- Trim half of an inch around all sides of a plain white 8 1/2 x 11 inch sheet of paper. With a pencil and ruler, very lightly draw a line across the top third of the paper. Write your title in this space. Think about the plot, setting, a quote or

key object from the story to help you come up with a catchy title.

- On the bottom part of the page you can either trace or draw the two girls in one of your favorite outfits.
- Color them in with colored pencils.
- Color the background with blue sky, green grass or any other scenery you choose but fill in the whole page with color.

### **Materials you can use to put your book together:**

- Using a glue stick, glue your cover on a piece of colored construction paper, being careful to center it.
- Put all these pages inside a plastic research paper cover (found at a Superstore or Office Supply store). You can use the plastic bar to hold it all together or you can staple the folded edge of the plastic cover.
- Or glue your cover onto the front of a manila file folder (to make it sturdier). Place your pages inside and staple the edges on the outside. Be careful not to staple too far in so you can read the words.







A series of horizontal lines for writing, with a faint silhouette of a horse overlaid on the lower portion of the lines.





A series of horizontal lines for writing, with a faint silhouette of a horse overlaid on the lower portion of the lines.





A series of horizontal lines for writing, with a silhouette of a horse overlaid on the lower portion.





A series of 18 horizontal lines for writing, arranged in a central column. A faint silhouette of a horse is visible in the background, partially overlapping the lines.



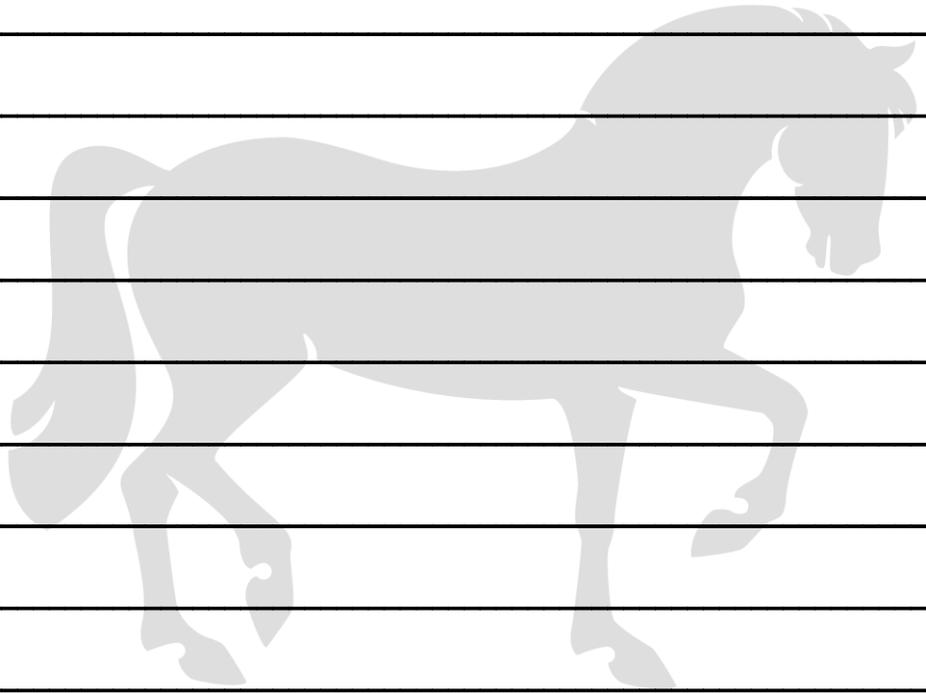


A series of 15 horizontal lines for writing, spanning the width of the page. A faint silhouette of a horse is visible in the background, partially overlapping the lines.





A series of horizontal lines for writing, spanning the width of the page. The lines are evenly spaced and cover most of the page's height.







A series of 18 horizontal lines for writing, arranged in a central column. A faint silhouette of a horse is visible in the background, partially overlapping the lines.





A series of horizontal lines for writing, with a faint silhouette of a horse overlaid in the lower half of the page.





A series of 15 horizontal lines for writing, spanning the width of the page. A faint silhouette of a horse is visible in the background, partially overlapping the lines.



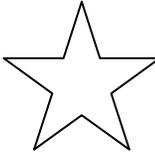


A series of horizontal lines for writing, with a faint silhouette of a horse overlaid on the lower portion of the lines.



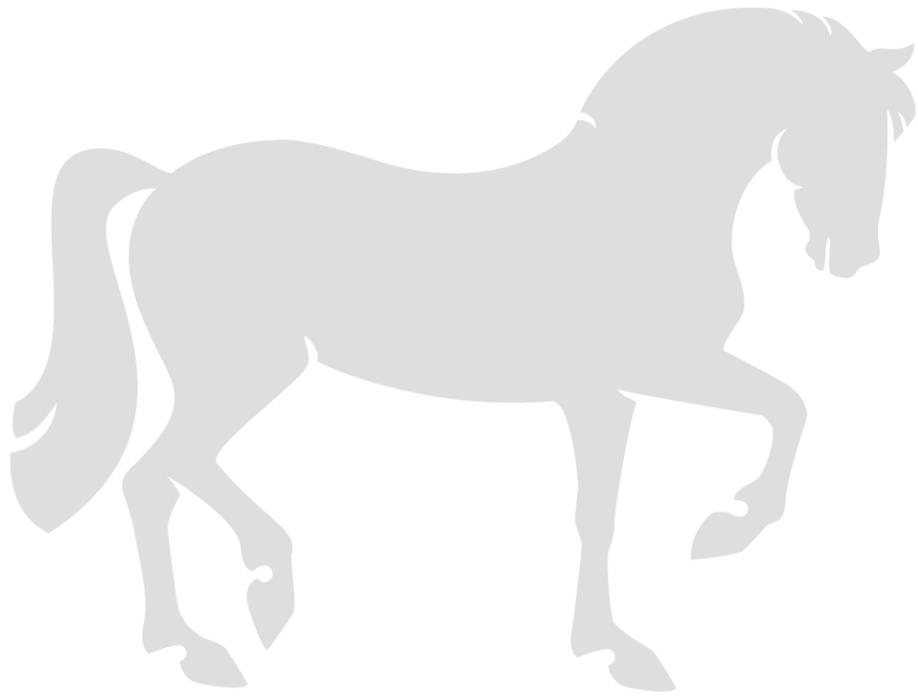
*Congratulations, you're an author!*

*When you have completed this course, your teacher may fill out this certificate for you.*

	<p>This Certifies that</p> <hr/>	
<p>Has successfully completed <i>The New Millennium Girls Creative Writing Course: Introducing Isabel</i> Congratulations, you're an author!</p>		
<p>Teacher Signature _____ Date _____</p>		

It's always fun to share your writing with others:

- Have a flashlight theatre with your class, family, or friends. Turn all the lights out and flash several flashlights on the reader. Make popcorn or other fun snacks and read your story.
- Host a fashion show and tea party to showcase the clothes you have made.
- Make a special dinner for your family and invite grandma and grandpa to come. Read the stories for them.



## About the Author

Jan May has been teaching children to write for over twenty years. She is the Co-Author of *Creative and Crafty Writing* the fun way to get kids to write. She is also a graduate of the Institute of Children's Literature and has a college background in Biblical studies and Christian Education from North Central University in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Look for the new fiction book, *Isabel's Secret*. Isabel Morningsky is a spirited eleven year old girl who lives on Angel Ridge Horse Ranch in Colorado. "Winners never quit and quitters never win, for I serve the mighty God that lives deep within!" This has been Isabel's motto since she was three years old. Can it help her win the annual Thanksgiving Day bareback race against Kip Johnson, even though she's a girl? Can it help her uncover the deep family secret that Grandmother Biltmore never wants her to find out? Will she survive "girl camp"? Join Isabel and her loveable horse, Starlight, as the mystery unfolds in the faith adventure: *Isabel's Secret*.

Check out the New Millennium Girl's web site for fun crafts, recipes, and homeschool resources.

**You can order this book and others at:**  
[www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com](http://www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com)

