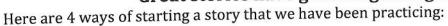
Great stories have great beginnings!





1. **An Action**: Put the main character in the setting doing something interesting. Example: I Walked along the shady forest path on a magical afternoon.

2. <u>Dialogue</u>: Have the main character say something that expresses a feeling, creates worry, or raises the reader's interest or curiosity. Example:

"What a magical day for a walk in the woods," I said.

3. A Thought/Question: Show what the main character is thinking or worrying about. Example: Today seems sort of magical I thought as I looked into the forest.

4. A Sound: A story-relevant sound effect is a great attention getting technique. Example: Zing! Whoosh! I spun around and stared into the forest. What

had made that peculiar sound?

Practice starting your own stories **each** of these ways. You will be amazed how well you start to write!

Great Story Writing Ideas:

- Simple everyday problem
- Wanting a pet
- Adventures of an escaped pet
- Magic goes wrong stories
- Character searching for something
- Friendship problems
- Sports
- Main character is transported to another time or world (harder)
- Rescue lost/wounded animal