

**CRAZY
CREATURES**

The logo features the word "CRAZY" in a red-to-pink gradient, bold, sans-serif font with a black drop shadow. The word "CREATURES" is in a green-to-yellow gradient, also bold and sans-serif with a black drop shadow. The letter "C" in "CREATURES" is stylized as a green alien head with two antennae and large eyes. The letter "Y" in "CRAZY" has a red-eyed, black-furred creature's face integrated into it. A green, curved tail-like shape is positioned below the "C" and "R". Small black and white paw prints are visible at the bottom right of the "S".

Today you are going to:

- Create a crazy creature to write a mini saga about
- Learn the structure of a mini saga
- Think about the 5 'Ws' – Who, What, Where, Why and When
- Use your knowledge to plan, draft and compose a mini saga for Crazy Creatures contest

What is a Mini Saga?

- A mini saga is a story told in up to 100 words
- It must have a beginning, middle and an end
- It must be original – you can be inspired by other stories but your mini saga must be written in your own words

What is a story?

- Tell your teacher your favorite stories
- Your teacher will pick one story
- Can you tell your teacher what happens in the story using as few words as possible?

A Story's Structure Part 1

- The plot is the main events that happen in the story – you've just told your teacher the plot of the story you've been discussing

Stories also need:

- **Events** – these are situations or actions that happen to move your story along, this could be someone being kidnapped, an alien visiting, falling out with a friend, meeting your hero, going on holiday etc
- **Settings** – this is where events happen, this could be in a forest, in space, under the sea or in your classroom. In a mini saga, there is usually only one setting
- **Characters** – these are the people/creatures in your story that the events happen to

A Story's Structure Part 2

Stories also need:

- **A beginning** – action, dialogue or description to open your story
- **A middle** – an event to move the story along
- **An end** – tie up loose ends or end on a cliffhanger

Remember, a mini saga only has 100 words, which means you only have one or two sentences each for a beginning, a middle and an end!

Creating a Crazy Creature

Using the Crazy Creature worksheet you now need to:

- Draw your own original crazy creature in the space provided in box 1
- Complete your crazy creature's profile in box 2

If you need help or ideas look at the suggestions on the right-hand side of the worksheet.

The 5 Ws

Now move on to box 3, where you will plan what your mini saga is about...

You need to:

- Think about the profile you created for your crazy creature in box 2
- How will you use these ideas in your story?
- Use the 5 Ws (Who, What, Where, Why and When) to help you plan your work!

Who?

- Who features in your story – just your crazy creature or anyone else?

Tip!

Don't add too many characters as you only have 100 words to write your story in!

Where and When?

- Where and when is the story set?

What?

Every story needs an event or conflict to move the plot along,

- What happens to the creature?
- Does the creature save the day, have a problem or dilemma?
- Maybe it's at a celebration or is on a trip?
- It could be a naughty creature up to no good or a kind, friendly one doing good deeds ...

What will you choose?

Why?

- Why does the event or conflict happen to the creature?
- Why does your creature behave the way it does?
- Is it in the wrong place at the wrong time? Or maybe the creature is a troublemaker!
- How will you resolve the conflict / dilemma? Or will you write a cliffhanger ending...

Writing Your Own Mini Saga

- Write your ideas out first, using the planning sheet, then write your mini saga
- Be brutal – cut out any unnecessary words – do we need to know the building was high or the trees were green or that your creature likes eggs on toast for breakfast? If it's not crucial, edit it out!
- Use ellipses (...) to suggest tension, excitement, mystery and suspense
- Abbreviate words – 'it is' becomes 'it's' / 'you are' becomes 'you're' etc
- Count hyphenated words as one word e.g. 'in-between'
- Create a clever title that hints about your story e.g. "The Not-So-Crazy Creature"
- Write your mini saga on the Crazy Creatures entry form – one word per box please! Remember to write your name and age on your entry form too.

Feedback

- Share your mini saga with a friend
- They need to tell you one thing they like about it and something they think could improve it
- You then give your friend your feedback on their work
- Make any final changes to your mini saga
- Hand it in to your teacher!



**We hope you enjoyed creating your
crazy creature and writing your mini saga!
We can't wait to read your work!**

CLOSING DATE: OCTOBER 31, 2017