



Retell Step Directions

1. Use the **Retell Organizer** to organize your thoughts.
 - What's the **main idea** of this story? What is it mostly about?
 - What are some **details** the author discusses in the story? These details should support the main idea.
 - **Tell me more:** What do you think or what connections can you make to this story? You may start with...
 - I think this is important because...
 - The author said this because...
 - I think the author meant...
 - This was a good ending because...
 - I agree or disagree because...
 - I think the character feels...
 - This reminds me of... or I felt the same when... (ALWAYS back this up by relating your connection back to something that happened or was discussed in the story.)
2. Begin with a **topic sentence** that gives me a good idea of what this story is about.
3. You should include **two supporting details** from the story. The supporting details should support your topic sentence and come from what the author has written. You can write, "according to the author...", but do NOT write word-for-word what the author wrote—that's plagiarism. It has to be in YOUR words.
4. For each detail, write a sentence starting with one of the suggestions in step 1 under "tell me more."
5. Write an **ending**. Sum up how the story made you feel, why it was interesting, or what the story taught you.
6. After writing your retelling, check your work against the items on the **Retell Checklist**. Write a plus (+) or check mark (✓) in each square after you have checked for that item. If you think you've done a good job, put a smiley face (☺) in the "How do you feel..." square!



Retell Checklist

Name_____ Date_____

Level_____ Story _____

After writing your retell, check your work against each of these items. Write a plus (+) or check mark (✓) in each square after you have checked for that item. To download directions and the Retell Organizer, go to: www.readnaturally.com/retell

Used Organizer												
Topic Sentence												
2 x Story Details												
2 x "Tell Me More"												
Good Ending												
Spelling												
Capitalization												
Punctuation												
Makes Sense and Sounds Good												

How do you feel about your retelling of this story? ☺ ☹												
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Story #												
Date												