

# Never-Ending Story

**Learning Objective:** Sustaining a cumulative and collaborative piece of creative writing.

## **Materials:**

- Three Ring Binder
- Recording Form
- Hole Punch

## **Presentation and Storage:**

Collect student contributions to the Never-Ending Story and organize them in a three ring binder. Use the recording forms to maintain uniform-looking pages. The notebook takes virtually no space; keep it on a shelf with other small centers.

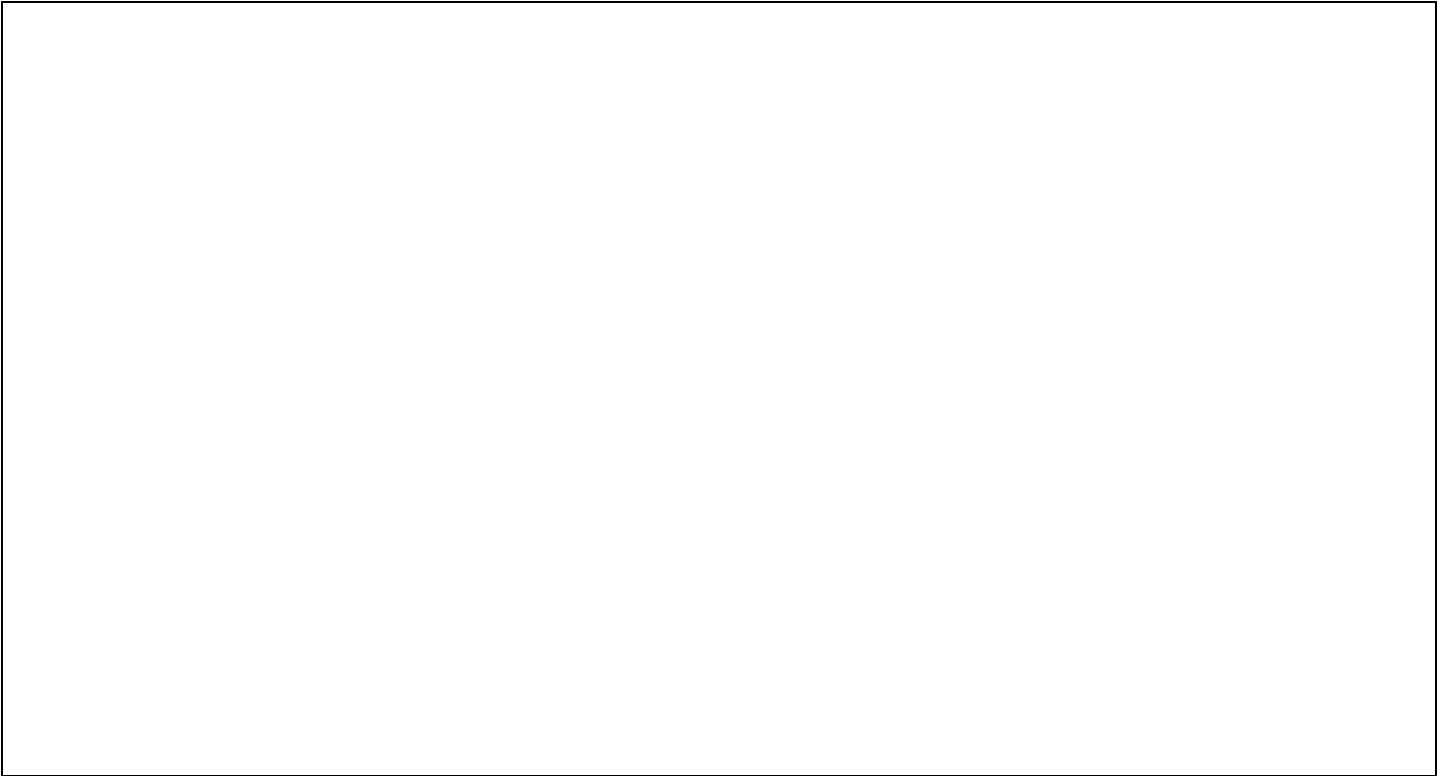
## **Process:**

This center is designed for fairly advanced writers. It becomes increasingly difficult as the year progresses, matching the progress students are making. The first writer begins the story without limitations or rules, except that the story must be appropriate for school and neatly written. The next writer reads the first writer's piece and continues the story in logical, sequential manner. The third writer reads the other two writers' pieces and continues the story. As the story becomes longer, it also becomes increasingly more difficult because there is more reading involved. At the end of the year, bind the Never-Ending Story into a book and keep it in your class library.

## **Helpful Hints:**

Read the Never-Ending Story aloud to the class periodically to motivate students to participate. If students notice spelling errors or other mistakes in their classmates' work, invite them to tactfully point them out or to ignore them. The point of this center is to create a story that is spontaneous and collaborative rather than one that is perfect and publishable.

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