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How to Write Your Best Story Ever! at Christmas! Top Five Tips

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Here's five top tips to help you fan the flames of your child's creative writing in the run-up to Christmas.

1. Story Sparks

Every story needs a spark of inspiration. Encourage your child to look out for Christmas-themed story ideas. Maybe a last-minute shopping trip could be the setting for a comic Christmas tale, or a newspaper headline about refugees could inspire a story about the true meaning of Christmas.

2. All you need is a book

If you want to inspire a young author, books make the perfect Christmas gift. And why not present your child with a creative space that's all their own – a notebook or journal for them scribble down story ideas, invent incredible characters or even draw pictures of the places where they want to set their story. A writer's notebook is a private place where they can gather their inspiration, so don't go sneaking a peek when they've gone to sleep on Christmas Eve!

3. Santa's story

Everyone knows that Father Christmas eats the mince pies on Christmas Eve and leaves the crumbs behind. But how about Father Christmas leaving behind the first line of a story too? Tear out a scrap of paper from a diary showing the date 'December 24th' with the handwritten line, "Looks like being another busy night..." When your child finds this near fireplace, ask them to finish Father Christmas's diary for the busiest night of his year.

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4. Remix for Christmas

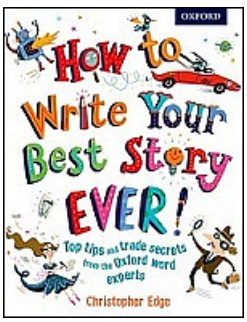
Making a mash-up story that mixes together characters from different books, films and TV shows can be a lot of fun. Cut out pictures of different characters from your Christmas TV guide and create a Christmas story that brings them all together. How about Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Who teaming up to solve a Christmas mystery on Coronation Street? Encourage your child to let their imagination run wild as they write their mash-up story.

5. Make it fun

Christmas is the perfect time to play games as a family, so why not create your own story-telling game too. Choose the first line of a book for inspiration – that's the opening line of your story. Now everyone has to make up the next sentence ofthe story before passing it on to the next person. Make these as wild and wacky as you can and you'll soon end up with a story that has the whole family laughing!

How to Write Your Best Story Ever! – Christopher Edge

From how to overcome writer's block to what words to use to best effect, *How to Write your Best Story Ever!* is designed to help all children unlock their story ideas and write their own best ever stories.



Packed with entertaining illustrations that will inspire your child, this book is filled with tips on how to write in particular genres, create exciting characters, and write powerful sentences using metaphors, similes, and idioms.

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