

Ghost Stories Discussion

Discuss ghost stories with a partner, or as a group.

What ghost stories do you know?

Make a list below of the things they have in common,
and the things which are different about them.

Mind map your setting

Create a setting for your ghost story.

Where does your ghost haunt?

Setting is very important in a ghost story.

Will you go for something traditional like a graveyard or a haunted house? Or somewhere less traditional like a library or an ice-cream van?

In 'Seaglass', the setting is a caravan park which lies between the woods and the sea.

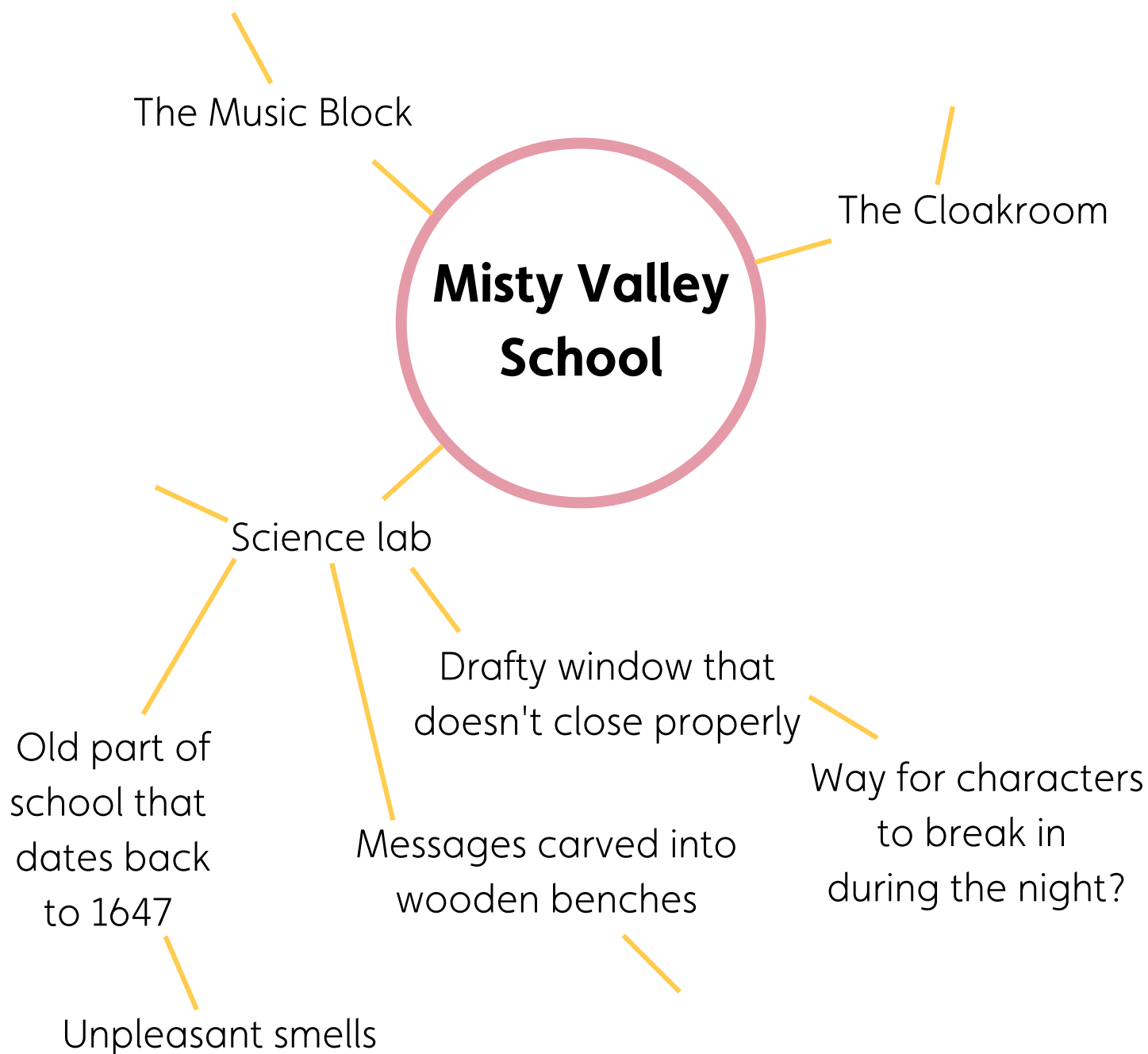
Choose your setting and mind map the possibilities for how it can be used. Start by writing your location in the circle in the middle, then from there you can write things like rooms, objects, ideas for what could happen, history of the place...

Think of your senses too.

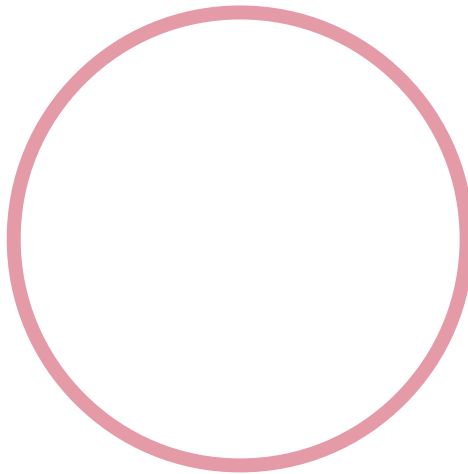
You can use a larger piece of paper for more room.

Mind map your setting

Example



Mind map your setting



Create a life for your ghost

Name:

Era in which they lived:

Age at which they died:

How they died:

Are they friendly or scary:

Occupation:

Where they lived:

Their best memory:

Their worst memory:

Their heart's desire:

Things they love:

Things they hate:

Things they keep secret:

Why they are haunting (Ghosts usually have unfinished business):

Any extra details:

Plan your ghost story

You already have a good idea of your ghost and where your story will be set. Now you can start thinking of other things, such as the story line.

Plan your story by looking at the characters, opening, build-up, main event and ending.

Tip: Ghost stories build to a main event. Start with a hint of a ghost, then build from there!

Plan your ghost story

Characters

Opening

Plan your ghost story

Build-up

Main event

Ending

Write your ghost story

Use all the information you have gathered to write your story.

Use lots of senses to bring your story to life.

Make sure your story builds towards the main event.

Personal experience helps an author. If you are writing a scary story think about what scares you to inform your writing.

Similarly, If you are writing a funny story think about what makes you laugh.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of 15 horizontal black lines.

Name:

Winter Writing Workshops with Eloise Williams

Workshop 2 - Seaglass

Ages 10-14

The logo for Children's Laureate Wales features the words "CHILDREN'S", "LAUREATE", and "WALES." stacked vertically. Each letter is composed of multiple vertical bars of varying heights and colors, including yellow, blue, orange, and pink, creating a vibrant, multi-colored effect.[illegible]

Name:

Read your ghost story

Gather together and read your stories to each other.

If your story is meant to be scary you might want to turn off the lights and use a torch to read by.

If it is funny you might want to see if your listeners laugh in the places you expected them to.

Reading a story out loud can help you to identify where the story is working and where it needs editing.

Extra tasks

Do some local research. Are there any stories of ghosts in your locality? In your family?

Research how ghosts are represented in other countries across the world.

Read some ghost stories. There are hundreds to choose from!