

stories of hope: dragonfly and mosquito

DRAGONFLY BACKGROUND

Dragonflies are found around freshwater habitats such as lakes, streams, ponds, and small wetlands. The life cycle of dragonflies can be from six months to seven years. They spend most of their life in the larval form under the water, using gills to

breathe. In the flying adult stage, dragonflies have strong transparent wings, a long body, and large eyes with a 360... field of vision. They are the world's most skilled and fastest flying insects. Some can fly up to 97 km/h (60 m.p.h.). Adult dragonflies eat flies, bees, small insects, and are predators

of harmful insects, such as the mosquito. The dragonfly is valued in Africa because it eats the malaria-carrying mosquito. On your classroom poster, you can see a drawing of dragonflies chasing a mosquito. What might each of these insects be saying, if they could talk?

- Use what you have learned about folktales to write and illustrate your own story of hope.
- **Idea 1:** Mosquito is spreading malaria. He tries to trick dragonfly, but dragonfly wins in the end and succeeds in stopping malaria.
- **Idea 2:** Invent your own tale involving another issue (hunger) and different characters (lion and mouse).
- On the lines, jot notes about rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.
- Share your story plan with your teacher before you begin writing and drawing.



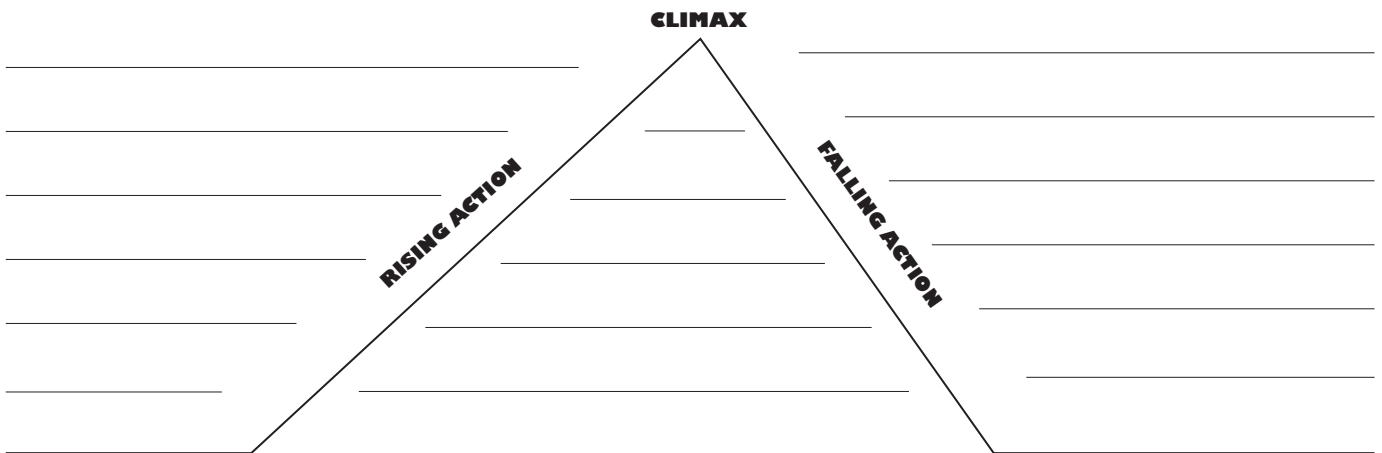
SETTING:
AFRICA



PROTAGONIST:
DRAGONFLY



ANTAGONIST:
MOSQUITO



RESOLUTION:
