

*Go-Along Page 1*

# Topic Hunt

Write observations of things you hear, see, and smell around the school.

**HEAR**

**SEE**

**SMELL**

*Write-On Sheet 1*

# Take a Topic and Run With It!

Turn an observation from Go-Along Page 1 into a funny topic for a story.

## THINK ABOUT

- Have I chosen a topic that I really like?
- Do I have something new to say about this topic?
- Am I writing about what I know and care about?
- Have I gathered enough information so that I'm ready to write?

*Go-Along Page 2*

# From Big to Small

**Big Topic**

**Details About the Main Character**

**Details About the Setting**

**Problem for the Main Character**

**My Focused Topic**

*Write-On Sheet 2*

# What's the Big Idea?

Write a story based on your focused topic from Go-Along Page 2.

## THINK ABOUT

- Have I zeroed in on one small part of a bigger idea?
- Can I sum up my idea in a simple sentence?
- Have I chosen the information that best captures my idea?
- Have I thought deeply about what the reader will need to know?

*Go-Along Page 3*

# If the Swing Could Talk

List four interesting facts that only the swing in *The Swing* would know.

**Fact 1**

**Fact 2**

**Fact 3**

**Fact 4**

*Write-On Sheet 3*

# I've Got a Reason

If the swing in *The Swing* could talk, what story would it tell Josey about why it helped her find all the missing objects?

## THINK ABOUT

- Am I sure my information is right?
- Are my details chock-full of interesting information?
- Have I used details that show new thinking about this idea?
- Will my reader believe what I say about this topic?

*Go-Along Page 4*

## Double Details

In the chart below, gather physical details and feeling and emotion details from *The Swing*. Hunt for them in the book's words and pictures.

### Physical Details

Messy yard

### Feeling and Emotion Details

Josey embarrassed

*Write-On Sheet 4*

## Where's Leopoldo?

Imagine you are a character in *The Swing*. Choose one physical object from the book and give it magical powers to help you find Leopoldo, the dog. Be sure to use physical details and feeling and emotion details to create pictures in your reader's mind.

### THINK ABOUT

- Did I create a picture in the reader's mind?
- Did I use details that draw upon the five senses? (sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch)
- Do my details stay on the main topic?
- Did I stretch for details beyond the obvious?