

# PICK-A-PATH WEB STORIES

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Use this proforma with students to plan a 'Pick-a-Path' story to be made in a Power Point format. Also suitable for Hyperstudio, web page and other multimedia programs.



## Timeframe:

8 weeks – including at least 2 computer lessons per week. Limit working on images until 3rd week, unless construction is finished.

## Process:

- View 'Pick-A-Path' / 'Choose Your Own Adventure' books and teach explicitly before writing first draft [rather than trying to convert a story into this format, we'll start knowing the task].
- Lots of effort needs to go into explaining the structure of a non-linear story such as this. Begin the draft process in pairs – so they can collaboratively work on the story.
- Clearly labeling each level and page of the story is very important as it can become unwieldy and it is easy to get confused once it comes time to build the presentation.
  - 1 Come up with theme (eg. sci fi, fantasy, mystery, spy story);
  - 2 Decide on characters and profiles;
  - 3 Plan beginning-middle-end in dot points on proforma, remembering that there may be multiple middles and endings;
  - 4 Using dot points on proforma, write a branched draft of story with choices, branches, dead ends e.t.c.. Make sure every slide on the proforma is clearly labeled.
  5. Begin working in Power Point or web authoring program.
  6. Student-created artwork is preferable to clip art so some lessons need to be dedicated to creating digital images.
  7. Peer assessment of final product.

# SCI FI Story Ideas

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1. As the smoke spiralled past a grim, derelict cityscape towards a harsh red sky, the ship began its descent. A brilliant blue vapour trail following the craft was the only indication of life, a tiny flicker of energy that contrasted sharply with the grimy, desolate surroundings. The pilot wiped his forehead and sighed deeply. He'd been to this place before, back when it was home to a thriving, joyous community made up of beings from throughout the galaxy. But now, things were different...

2. "Finally!" the scientist shouted gleefully. "After all this time, after all the energy I've put into this, I've finally made the discovery that will change the world forever!" Her assistant wasn't so sure. She had seen people do some crazy things in her time, but even she shuddered in fear at the thought of what could happen if this experiment went wrong...

3. Frank loved looking at stars. In fact, his mother had grown worried that his love had become an obsession. Every night he wolfed down his dinner, did his chores and headed out to the balcony where he pointed his battered telescope lovingly at the night sky. He'd seen some great sights and still got goosebumps when he saw a shooting star or a satellite. But after what he saw tonight, Frank's life would never be the same again...

4. "Shields up!" bellowed Captain Snorkel, startling his bridge officers. "They're heading right at us!!!" The captain was referring to the menacing, grey metallic vessel on the view screen. It was hurtling through space at a tremendous speed and seemed destined to be on a collision course with the Starship Kazooey.

"Prepare for impact!" Captain Snorkel barked.

The craft was getting closer and closer. The Kazooey bridge crew all looked at each other a final time and then turned to face their destiny.

Closer, closer... Three, Two, One...

No sound, just a blinding flash of light that embraced the crew along with a sharp tingling sensation from the head to the toes.

"Hey..." a voice whispered. "We're still here..."

5. As he approached the spinning blue-green orb that is the planet Earth, Qwert smacked his lips, all eight of them. After all, humans taste sooooooo gooooood...

6. The three friends woke in a daze. Without speaking, they staggered to their feet. Rubbing their bleary eyes, they gazed in astonishment at what they saw next. One thing's for sure – they had to get the time machine fixed so they could get back to where they came from...

7. Sergeant Bill McElroy unlocked his phaser in readiness. As he did so the soldiers followed him. Their ship would be touching down on the red planet in just a few moments. Several weeks ago Earth had lost contact with the first earth colonists to live on Mars and there were some horrible rumours doing the rounds. McElroy, who was sent to investigate, tried to put them out of his mind as the craft landed with a jolt. The hatch door swung open...

8. With this invisibility suit, Dr Jenner knew she had created a thing of enormous power. With it, one could go just about anywhere undetected, solve crimes, sneak around and see things in a way that no-one had ever done before. But then she gasped as the realisation finally washed over her – what if it ever got into the wrong hands?

**PICK-A-PATH WEB STORY.** NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PARTNER: \_\_\_\_\_

THEME (e.g. science fiction, horror, mystery, comedy, fantasy):

CHARACTER PROFILES:



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BEGINNING:

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MIDDLE:

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END:

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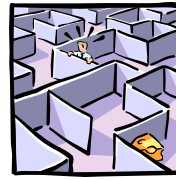
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# PICK-A-PATH Assessment



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## Self Assessment:

<i>Quality of Writing</i> (Is the story interesting? Are the characters well developed? Is the story well structured? Are the spelling and grammar correct?)	<i>Graphics &amp; Presentation</i> (Do the graphics help convey the story? Are there original graphics? Is the presentation eye-catching and well-planned?)	<i>ICT Skills</i> (Is the Pick-A-Path well designed? Does it work the way it should? Is it easy to navigate different pathways? Has the use of ICTs improved the story?)	<i>X-Factor</i> (Does this Pick-A-Path have features that make you go 'Wow!'? Does it have things that are extra special?)
A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E

Comment:

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## Peer Assessment:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Quality of Writing</i>	<i>Graphics &amp; Presentation</i>	<i>ICT Skills</i>	<i>X-Factor</i>
A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E

Comment:

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## Peer Assessment:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Quality of Writing</i>	<i>Graphics &amp; Presentation</i>	<i>ICT Skills</i>	<i>X-Factor</i>
A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E

Comment:

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## Peer Assessment:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Quality of Writing</i>	<i>Graphics &amp; Presentation</i>	<i>ICT Skills</i>	<i>X-Factor</i>
A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E

Comment:

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## Teacher Assessment:

<i>Quality of Writing</i>	<i>Graphics &amp; Presentation</i>	<i>ICT Skills</i>	<i>X-Factor</i>	<i>Grade</i>
A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E	A B C D E

Comment:

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