

## What to do today

*IMPORTANT! Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.*

### 1. Story time

Re-read *The Little Story That Didn't Want to Be Told*.

- The Cat is described as *nice*, *clever* and *fat*. Suggest three new words that mean the same things as these.

### 2. Direct Speech

- Find the speech bubbles on page 11 of the story.
- Read them aloud in a characterful way so that your voice shows how each speaker is feeling.
- Now find the three examples of direct speech to be found in the text.
- Check on *Direct Speech in The Little Story* to check you got each one.
- Carefully work through the *PowerPoint: Punctuating Direct Speech* but don't read the last slide. If this is not possible, read through the *Learning Reminders*.

### 3. Writing dialogue

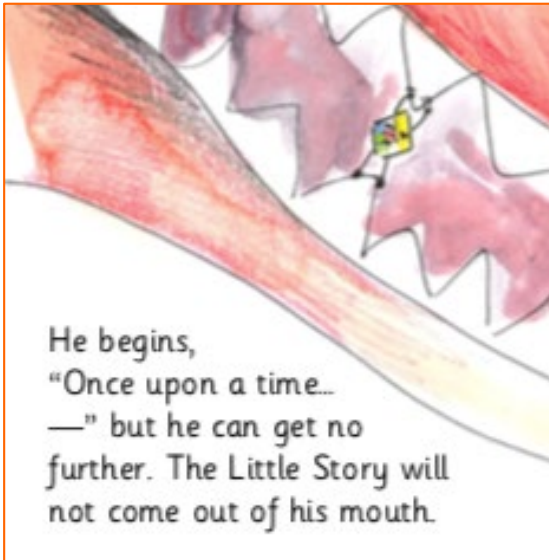
Look at the final slide of the *PowerPoint*.

- Carefully read the instructions in the green box on the right hand side of the slide.
- Write your conversation down on *Cat Chat*.
- Read your conversation out, changing your voice with each new speaker so that you can tell who is who and how they are feeling.

### Now try this Fun-Time Extra

- Find a comic you like or use the page from *Calvin and Hobbes*.
- Turn the speech bubbles into punctuated direct speech.

## Direct Speech in *The Little Story*



# Learning Reminders about Direct Speech



## Punctuating Speech

Speech bubbles can show us what a character is saying.

Okay, I'll tell you a story.

The words *said* are called **direct speech**.

"Okay, I'll tell you a story," *said the Red Gold Dragon*.

Bubbles take up too much room when we are writing, so we use **speech marks**. **Speech marks** work in pairs to hug the **direct speech**.

We report who is speaking using a **reporting clause**.

Speech marks are also called *inverted commas*.

## Punctuating Speech – capital letters open **direct speech**

**Direct speech** begins with a capital letter, even if it is in the middle of a sentence.

*The Red Gold Dragon explained, "It is normally fine – it was just this once."*

*The Cat responded, "Yes and that's why you came to me."*



It is the beginning of the speaker's sentence so a capital letter is used.

## Punctuating Speech – commas separate clauses

**Direct speech** and **reporting clauses** are usually separated by a comma.

"I am very happy that it all worked out," *sighed the cat*.

*The dragon smiled, "So am I!"*

The comma is placed at the end of the first clause. The speech marks follow the comma.



## Punctuating Speech – a new line shows a change of speaker



"I keep my stories in my golden heart," *said Dragon*.

"That's a good place to keep them," *commented the Mice*.

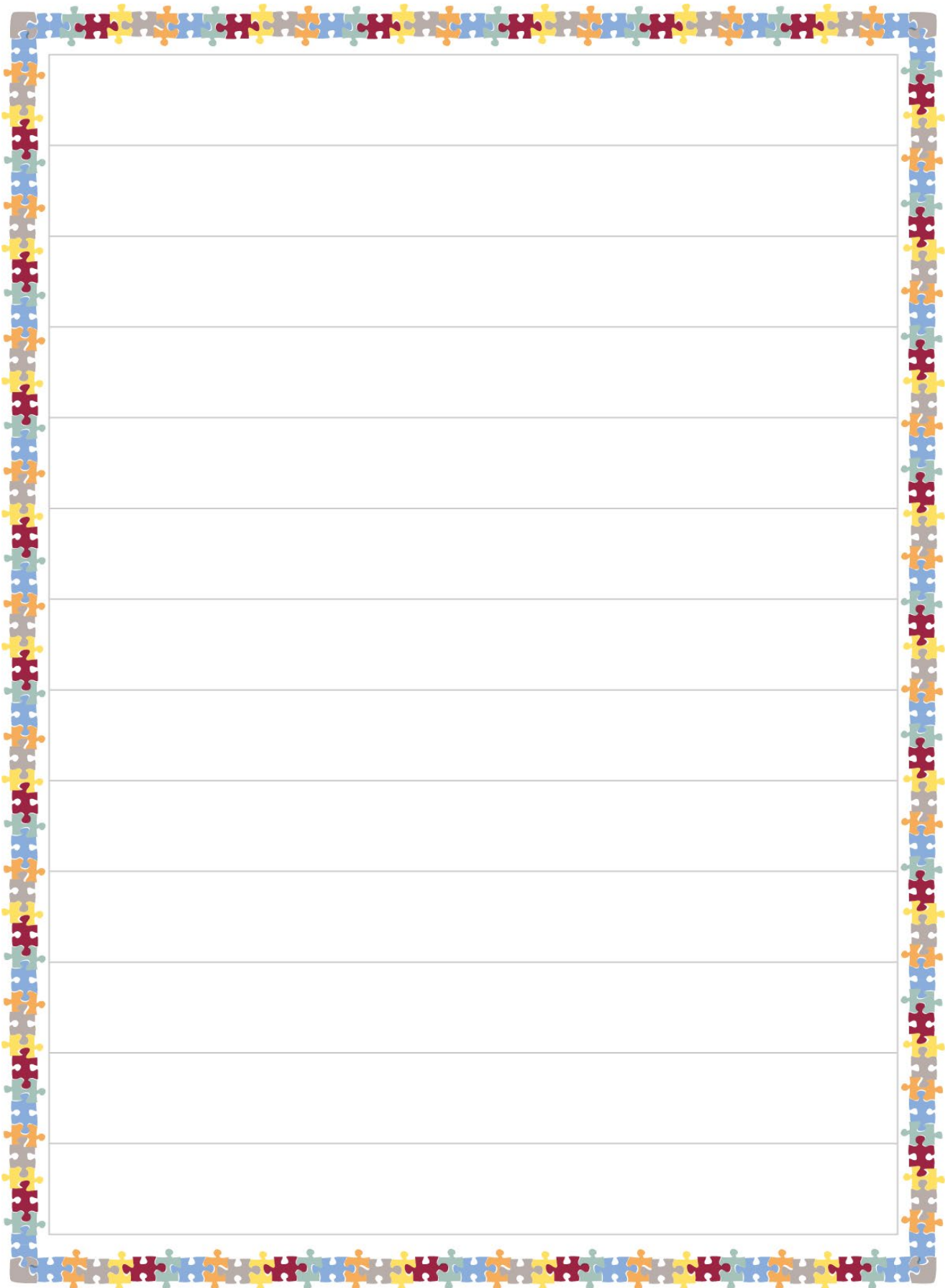
"It's always been fine," *sighed the Dragon*.

*The Mice squeaked, "Well, now we want a story!"*

We show each **change of speaker** by starting a new line.

This makes it clear when the speaker changes.

# Cat Chat



A large rectangular area with a decorative border of colorful puzzle pieces (red, yellow, blue, green, and grey) and horizontal lines for writing. The puzzle pieces form a frame around the central writing area, which contains 12 horizontal lines.

In this comic strip, the little boy is called Calvin. His pet tiger is called Hobbes.



Write out Calvin and Hobbes' conversation as punctuated direct speech on the lines below.

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