

Name _____

Date _____

Make a Summary

A **summary** of a story is a brief retelling that gives only the most important details. When you summarize a story, you use your own words to answer the basic questions who? when and where? and what happens? A story map like the one shown can help you organize your answers:

- Title and Genre(kind of story)
- Setting
- Conflict
- Main Events(several events in order)
- Outcome/Resolution

Read the following story excerpt and answer the questions.

The Midnight Journey

Jamie had always been afraid of the dark, but when her little brother's puppy went missing on a camping trip, she knew she had to be brave. The family was camping near Silver Lake, and everyone else had fallen asleep in their tents after searching all afternoon.

At midnight, Jamie heard a faint whimpering sound coming from the forest trail. Armed with only a flashlight, she carefully followed the sound. The moonlight filtered through the trees, casting eerie shadows all around her. After walking about ten minutes, she discovered the puppy trapped in a shallow hole beneath some fallen branches.

Name _____

Date _____

Make a Summary

Jamie gently lifted the puppy and carried him back to camp. Her parents woke up as she returned and were both worried and proud. Jamie realized that sometimes our biggest fears need to be faced to help those we care about. The next morning, her little brother called her his hero, making the scary midnight journey worth every moment.

1. Create a summary of this story using the story map elements.

Title and Genre: _____

Setting: _____

Conflict: _____

Main Events: _____

Outcome/Resolution: _____

2. What would be a good first sentence for a summary of this story?

Name _____

Date _____

Make a Summary-Answer Key

1. Create a summary of this story using the story map elements.

Title and Genre: "The Midnight Journey" is an adventure story.

Setting: A family camping trip near Silver Lake at night.

Conflict: Jamie must overcome her fear of the dark to find her brother's missing puppy.

Main Events: Jamie hears whimpering at midnight; she follows the sound into the forest; she finds the puppy trapped under branches.

Outcome/Resolution: Jamie rescues the puppy, returns to camp, and her family is proud of her bravery.

2. What would be a good first sentence for a summary of this story?

"The Midnight Journey" is an adventure story about a girl named Jamie who must overcome her fear of the dark to rescue her brother's missing puppy during a family camping trip.