

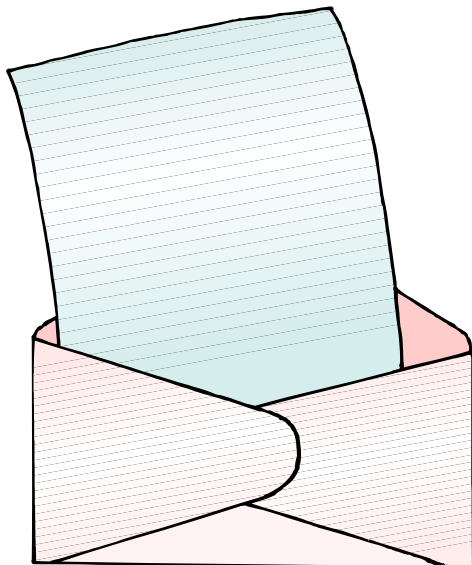
# Sentence/Story Puzzles

## Why?

- Sentence/Story Puzzles may be used to check for understanding of story sequence.
- Use Sentence/Story Puzzles to teach and practice identifying "signal" words such as "first, next, then, finally."

## How?

- Select paragraphs or short stories that are written in a fairly simple, but logical order. A good alternative (but timely for preparation) is a familiar picture book. Use your computer to type and print the story in a larger font size, but save for future use! Use a familiar story to teach the strategy and then move to unfamiliar texts.
- Cut the story into sentences or paragraphs, placing one complete story in each envelope with a copy of the whole text for self-checking.
- Students benefit from working in pairs to reassemble the story in a logical sequence. As they work, they may discuss their reasoning for placement, reread the story and perhaps change the order of the sentences for the most logical and sequential reading.
- Option: You may want to select stories that are leveled and that match the reader and the text.



Once upon a time . . . . .

First the three bears . . . .

Next the little girl named . . .

Then she went . . .