You're a clown. You're standing on a street corner selling balloons. "Buy! Buy! Who will buy my bright balloons? Balloons for sale! Buy! Buy! Who will buy?"

Whenever you write stories, you are doing what clowns do. You are taking something from inside you—words—just like the clown takes something from inside him—air he uses to blow up his balloons.

Putting your thoughts and ideas and dreams out where other kids can get their hands on them is what you do when you write what you've seen and heard and dreamed and imagined. We write what we cook up and create.

Writing is FUN so let's get started.

First, so we know you can write what you see, select an animal.

Give him a name.

Give him a house to live in with an address. Make it your house and your address. And give him a room to sleep in. Your room!

Now, on the lines that follow, write a description of your house and your room. Give the address of the house and tell what animal family lives there. Tell how many rooms your house has and then tell where your room is.

Tell where the door of your room is, where the bed is, where your desk or table is, where you keep your clothes, what pictures you have on your walls, what color everything is. You don't have to tell those things in this order, but tell us what it is like so we can picture it in our minds.

We're doing this so you can show that you can write what you actually see. You're a reporter, first of all.

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