

Paragraph Frame for Summarizing Fiction

A **summary** is a short retelling of the main events in a story.

Sequence words help us understand the order of events.

Sequence words are useful in writing summaries for fictional texts.

Common Sequence Words		
Beginning →	Middle →	End
First In the beginning At first	So Then After that Next	Finally In the end Last

Directions: Read the fictional story. Highlight the beginning of the story with a green highlighter, the middle with a yellow highlighter, and the end with a pink or red highlighter. Then, use the paragraph frame below to write a summary of the story.

A Bike Ride Cut Short

It was Sunday morning, and the sun was shining brightly. "What a perfect day for a bike ride!" Selena said to herself. Selena asked her mother for permission to ride her bike. When her mom said yes, Selena headed happily toward the front door. Selena's big brother, Matthew, sat in the living room playing a video game. "Where are you going?" he asked. When Selena told him, Matthew replied, "That's a boring idea," and went back to playing his game. However, Selena wouldn't let Matthew's criticism stop her from going for a ride. So she headed outside, put her helmet on, and took off riding down the sidewalk. Suddenly, the neighbor's cat, Fishbone, dashed across Selena's path! She swerved to avoid hitting Fishbone and fell right off her bike. Matthew must have heard Selena's bike clatter to the ground, because before Selena knew it, he was there, helping her stand up. "Let's get you home," said Matthew, picking up Selena's bike and wheeling it toward the house. When they got home, Matthew helped Selena clean her wound. Though she scraped her knee and walking hurt a little, Selena found herself smiling. Brothers and sisters may fight sometimes, Selena realized, but deep down, they will always love each other.

Summary

First, _____

_____. Then,

After that, _____

_____. In the end,