

## "Bone-a Fide" Comprehension

### Identifying the beginning, middle, and end of a story

*The Hallo-wiener* by Dav Pilkey

In the beginning the neighborhood dogs make fun of Oscar, but later they proclaim him a hero. What causes them to switch Oscar's nickname from "Wiener Dog," to "Hero Sandwich?"

To start, read the book aloud. Before reading tell the students they are going to be doing an activity identifying events at the beginning, middle, and end of the story. After reading encourage students to remark on the book, then return to the book to look at the humor conveyed in the illustrations and the text.

To check comprehension, give each student a brown paper lunch bag. Have each student write her name on the bag and the title of the story. She can then decorate the bag with her ideas from the book; it can be the cover, an illustration from the book, or just something she creates. Inside the bag, she will have three white construction paper "bones," (approximately 3" by 8"). The student will draw a scene from the beginning of the book on one side of a bone, and summarize the corresponding part of the story on the other side. On the two remaining bones, she recaps the middle and end of the story in a similar manner. She numbers the illustrated side of each bone to show the sequence and then places the bones in her bag. The student takes her unique doggie bag home to share the story with her family.

This activity could be modified to use with story elements, with students identifying characters, setting, events, problem, and solution. Just change the number of bones in the bag. For very young children, it might be enough for them to simply draw the pictures for beginning, middle, and end.

Adapted from [http://www.theeducationcenter.com/print/editorial\\_content/48216](http://www.theeducationcenter.com/print/editorial_content/48216)