**Retelling a Story (Writing Strategy)**

Do you remember some of the stories you read? Do you sometimes want to tell a friend or other person about a story that was funny, interesting, or exciting?

To do that, you can **retell** the story in your own words. When you retell a story-

* don’t include every detail.
* use only a few sentences to tell the main ideas.
* tell the beginning, middle, and end.

**Here’s an example** of retelling the story *Jack and the Beanstalk*:

* **Beginning**: A poor boy named jack traded his cow for some beans. His mother was angry and threw the beans out the window. The beans grew into a giant beanstalk high into the sky. Jack climbed the beanstalk.
* **Middle:** Jack found a giant at the top of the beanstalk. While the giant was asleep, jack stole a goose that laid golden eggs.
* **End:** Jack climbed down the beanstalk with the goose, but the giant came after him. Jack chopped down the beanstalk and killed the giant. Jack and his mother were rich and lived happily ever after.

Now we can put the story together:

A poor boy named jack traded his cow for some beans. His mother was angry and threw the beans out the window. The beans grew into a giant beanstalk high into the sky. Jack climbed the beanstalk. Jack found a giant at the top of the beanstalk. While the giant was asleep, jack stole a goose that laid golden eggs. Jack climbed down the beanstalk with the goose, but the giant came after him. Jack chopped down the beanstalk and killed the giant. Jack and his mother were rich and lived happily ever after.

**Your turn!**

Think of a short story that you know really well, and tell the beginning, middle, and end:

Name of story:

* Beginning:
* Middle:
* End:

Now put it all together:

Now, let’s think about the *Velveteen Rabbit*! Can you do the same for that story?

* Beginning:
* Middle:
* End: