

Settings

Explore different settings in various stories

ENGAGE

Talk about how every story has a setting in which the story takes place. A setting is the time and place, or when and where, a story happens. Select a familiar picture book that has a clearly defined setting. Ask questions like:

- Where does this story take place?
- What clues help you know this?
- Why do you think the author chose this setting for the story?

EXPLORE

Ask the students to rebuild their minifigures from their LEGO set. Ask students to brainstorm what type of setting they would like to create for their LEGO minifigures that they developed in the Characters session. Provide each student with a blank piece of paper and crayons/markers. Allow time for students to create a background for their LEGO minifigure to represent the setting of their story. Students may also leverage bricks/elements from their LEGO sets to create 3D models for their setting as well.

EXPLAIN

When students have finished creating, provide an opportunity for students to share their characters in their settings. Ask questions like:

- What setting did you build?
- What specific details did you include in your background that you would like to share?
- How does this setting fit with your LEGO minifigure character?
- When does this story take place?

ELABORATE

Continue the discussion about settings. Most stories have multiple settings. Specifically, stories can have multiple locations included throughout the story, which affects the "where" of the story, as well as the time of stories can change, which affects the "when" of the story. Ask students to consider examples of changing settings in literature (e.g., locations of the Gingerbread Man as he ran away from different characters).

EXTEND

Challenge the students to create three different backgrounds for their LEGO minifigure(s). Have a background for the beginning, middle, and end.