Defeating the Monster Story - The Reluctant Dragon – Week 4

The Reluctant Dragon

One evening, long ago, a shepherd ran home, terrified. “I saw something terrible,” he cried to his wife and son. “It’s as big as four horses. It has long, sharp claws, a long pointy tail and shiny blue scales all over its body.” His son looked up from his book. “That sounds like a dragon,” he said. His parents got scared, but the boy wasn’t scared.

The next day, he set off up the hill to find the dragon. “He might be friendly,” thought the boy. The dragon was friendly and he was thrilled to see the boy. The boy smiled and sat down and asked the dragon all kinds of questions.

The dragon told stories of long, long ago. “There were dangerous dragons everywhere and brave knights fought them to rescue princesses,” he told the little boy. The boy came back every day to hear the stories.

But then, the villagers found out about the dragon. They were terrified. The boy ran straight to the dragon and said “The villagers want to get rid of you!” “But I would not hurt even a fly,” said the dragon. That afternoon, the boy heard even worse news. Saint George, the dragon killer, was there to fight the dragon. Immediately, the boy rushed back to the dragon.

“Saint George, the dragon killer, wants to fight you’” gasped the boy. “And he has the longest spear I’ve ever seen!” “But I don’t like fighting. I’ll just hide in my cave until he goes away,” said the dragon. “You can’t! Everyone wants a fight!” cried the boy. The dragon yawned. “I’m sure you’ll think of something,” he said.

The boy walked slowly back down to his village. A crowd of villagers was talking about the dangerous dragon. “He eats ten sheep for breakfast! He burned down five houses!” roared the villagers. “It’s not true!” said the boy. “The dragon wouldn’t hurt a fly!” “But everyone wants a fight,” said George. “What can I do?” “Follow me!” said the boy and he took George to meet the dragon.

“What a perfect place for a fight,” said George. “No fighting!” said the dragon, firmly. “Not even pretend to fight?” asked the boy. “Maybe…” said the dragon. The boy turned to George, “Do you promise not to hurt him?” “Well, it has to look real,” said George. “Will there be a feast afterward?” asked the dragon. “There will, and you can come,” promised George.

The next morning, lots of villagers arrived to watch the fight. The boy waited nervously by the dragon’s cave. They cheered and waved when Saint George rode into view. Soon, a roar echoed through the hills. Flames filled the air. Everyone gasped as the dragon appeared. His scales sparkled and he breathed out fire. “Charge!” cried George. He galloped hard, his spear held high. The dragon bounded up and they shot past each other. “Missed,” yelled the crowd.

George and the dragon turned around and charged again, This time, there was no way they could miss. Finally, after a lot of fight, the dragon slumped to the ground. George towered over him. “Cut off his head,” shouted the crowd. “I think the dragon has learned his lesson,” George declared. “Let’s invite him to our feast!”

And he lead the villagers, the boy and the dragon back down the hill. The boy was happy because they’d seen a fight. George was happy because he’d won. But the dragon was happiest of all. He had lots of new friends and a full tummy. “Jolly night it’s been,” he murmured and began to snore. “How will I get him home?” said the boy. “I’ll help,” said George. He gave the dragon a prod and they set off up the hill arm-in-arm, the saint, the dragon and the boy.

**Monday – Complete plan for innovated story**

Today you are going to finish the plan for your innovated version of the story, using the monster you created last week. Look at the left hand side of the grid below which gives you the general version of the story. In the boxes on the right you are going to write the plan for each paragraph of your innovated story. You will need to decide who your MC is, and who your hero is going to be. You can change some things and leave some things the same. An example plan for the first box might be like this:

*A farmer runs home, terrified. He tells his wife and daughter that he’s seen something terrible and describes how terrible it is. His daughter says it sounds like an ogre.*

Today, aim to complete the second half of the boxes. Remember this is only a plan, so keep it simple. You do not need to include all the detail that your story will eventually have.

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| General | My Innovated Story Plan |
| Someone runs home, terrified. He tells his family that he’s seen something terrible and describes how terrible it is. MC says it sounds like a X (giving the name of a monster). |  |
| MC1 goes to find the monster because he thinks it might be friendly. The monster is friendly and tells MC1 stories. |  |
| A group of people find out about the monster and are terrified. MC1 warns the monster that the people want to get rid of him. The monster says he wouldn’t hurt anyone. Then MC1 hears about a hero who is coming to fight the monster, so he rushes back to the monster. |  |
| MC warns the monster that the hero wants to fight him. He describes one of the hero’s weapons. The monster says he doesn’t like fighting and will hide. MC tells him that everyone wants a fight. The monster tells MC that he’ll think of something. |  |
| MC goes back to where he came from and hears the people describing terrible things that the monster has done. MC tells them it’s not true and that the monster wouldn’t hurt anyone. The hero says that everyone wants a fight and asks what he can do. MC tells the hero to follow him to meet the monster. |  |
| The hero says it’s the perfect place for a fight. The monster says no fighting. MC suggests pretending to fight. The monster says maybe. MC asks the hero to promise not to hurt the monster. The hero says the fight has to look real. The monster asks if there will be a celebration afterwards. The hero says yes and the monster can come. |  |
| The people arrive to watch the fight and MC waits by monster’s home. The people cheer when they see the hero. There is a loud sound and the monster appears. They see something scary to do with the monster. The people gasp. The hero and monster charge at each other, but miss. |  |
| The hero and monster charge again and fight each other. The monster is beaten and the hero wins. The people tell the hero to kill the monster. The hero says the monster has learnt his lesson and they should invite him to the celebration. |  |
| The hero leads the people, MC and the monster back. Everyone is happy. The hero and MC take the monster back to its home. |  |

**Tuesday – Christmas poetry competition**

Please see the attached poetry competition details.

Please send it on Seesaw and we will forward your entry along with those of the children at school.

**Wednesday – Start to write your innovated story using your plan.**

Use the boxed up plan you have made to start to write your story. Remember to ‘magpie’ interesting vocabulary from the original text above. Aim to get 3 paragraphs written today.

**Thursday – Continue writing your innovated story using your plan.**

Use the boxed up plan you have made to start to write your story. Remember to ‘magpie’ interesting vocabulary from the original text. Aim to get another 3 paragraphs written today.