

GIVE IT A LISTEN!





Story Season 4, Episode 4 The Creepy Weepy Dollhouse/ Rockstar

WHAT'S THIS ACTIVITY ABOUT?

Learn one way to tell a spooky, suspenseful story!

WHAT STUFF DO I NEED?

Paper and something to write with (or just your brain!)



In "The Creepy Weepy Dollhouse" by a kid from North Carolina named Emery, a girl named Sally keeps getting told, "Don't go into the Creepy Weepy Dollhouse!" Then, later in the story, just when you least expect it, Sally finally -- well, we won't spoil it for you because we want to keep you in...

SUSPENSE!!



Being in "suspense" means that you are a little nervous and excited because there's something strange going on in the story, and you want to find out what happens next. Suspense is used in lots of stories like mysteries, ghost stories, and thrillers to make the reader want to read to the end. The Creepy Weepy Dollhouse built suspense in a couple of different ways:

WARNINGS:



A warning is when a character is told not to do something, but it usually means that the character WILL do it! In "The Creepy Weepy Dollhouse" Sally is warned three times not to go there, so it makes it pretty clear that she will go there by the end of the story.

WEIRD DETAILS:



Including weird, out-of-place details also creates suspense. In "The Creepy Weepy Dollhouse" the front door is wet, the house is full of small furniture, and someone is crying behind a bookcase! These details are so weird that it makes the reader want to know what's going on.

Try it yourself! Create a story (you can either write it down, or just make it up and tell it to a friend or family member) where the main character gets a warning not to go somewhere or do something. When they don't listen and do it anyway (because, come on--the story will be more exciting that way), decide on some weird details that make the reader wonder "what is happening here??"

We can't wait to see what you come up with!

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