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# “Out of My Element” Stories

## Objective

- Students will analyze the relationship of characters and settings as they write stories about characters placed in ill-fitting environments.



Imagine what it would be like if, when you arrived at school this morning, you found out that you were registered as a kindergartner due to a computer error. It might be fun—until you sit in the chair and your knees stick up in the air like two flagpoles, and you're bored to tears with the work. Just how many pictures of the letter “C” can a person color in one day? And what's up with the kid next to you who just ate his paste? It probably wouldn't take very long for you to feel out of place.

## Your assignment is to . . .

Write an “Out of My Element” story. You will need to choose a character—maybe yourself—and place him or her in a setting where he or she would not normally be found. For example: a pirate on a basketball team, a person living in a nest with baby birds, or a gorilla family on a cruise ship.

**This assignment is due** \_\_\_\_\_.



To make your story more fun to read, make the problem get WORSE before you solve it.

# Biographical Mini-Reports

## Your assignment is to . . .

Write a two-paragraph biographical mini-report using the information on your “Biographical Research” worksheet.

Your first paragraph should introduce the person you researched and provide basic information about the person’s birth, life, and death.

Your second paragraph should explain why the person is famous and provide examples of what he or she did. It should also describe how this person influenced or changed the world.

Turn in your “Research Bibliography” worksheet with your mini-report.

**This assignment is due** \_\_\_\_\_ .



Even though this is a non-fiction writing assignment, you still want to make it interesting, so use lively descriptive words and specific examples.