



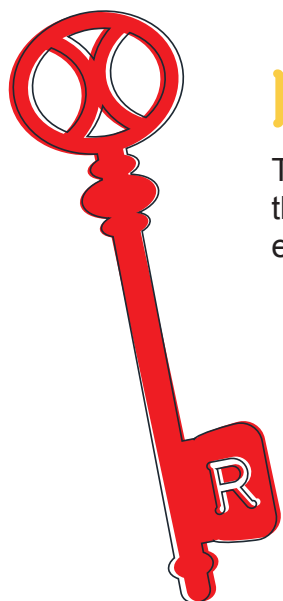
# Retell Beginning, Middle, and End

Keys to  
Comprehension

**Ruby  
Reader**

© Ruby Reader, LLC

# Retell Beginning, Middle, and End



## Keys for the Teacher

The act of retelling helps students recall key points and events while putting them in sequential order. It also encourages identifying the most important elements and develops a sense of story structure.

## Keys for the Children

Good readers can tell the most important things that happened in the beginning, middle, and at the end of story.

---

### Lesson

Use the class schedule to illustrate this concept. Talk about what happens at the beginning of the day, in the middle, and at the end. Next, shift the focus to picture books and discuss how stories also have a beginning, middle and end, too.

Model retelling again and again after read alouds. Students can also practice by “**retelling the retell**” just demonstrated in groups of three. Hand a craft stick to one person in each group; they retell the beginning. When finished, they pass the stick to the next child to retell the middle. Finally the last child gets the stick to tell the ending.

Young children often have a difficult time determining the most important events to include in a retelling. To illustrate this concept use an orange. As you peel the orange, make the connection that the most important part of the story is like the inside of the orange. . . what we eat. The details we don't include are like the peelings. While the peelings are part of the orange, the middle is the best part.

