

---

## Stories for Malaysian Kids

---

Everything is on the website: <http://storiesformalaysiankids.weebly.com> (notice there is no 'www')

**Children who read a lot do better than children who do not.  
We want our Malaysian school children to read and enjoy reading.**

The ***Stories for Malaysian Kids*** project is designed to create vibrant new stories about Malaysian kids that Malaysian kids will want to read because:

- They are curious to know what happens in the story
- The story is about themselves, someone they know, or someone they can relate to.

Malaysian educators are encouraged to join the project to

1. Share stories and story ideas
2. Use the stories that others are sharing.

### Story Setting

Obviously the stories should be set in Malaysia, but there is a great deal of variety within this beautiful country. Firstly, the story is in English, so avoid using words like 'kampung' and use the English word 'village'. Secondly, look for opportunities within the story itself to make reference to the Malaysian background. We want local kids to recognise their own surroundings, but in the long run we hope that children elsewhere can learn about life in Malaysia.

### Characters

We want the characters to be authentic. So the stories could be about an actual Malaysian kid – using their real name, or a made up name if for any reason they are uncomfortable about using their name. Or the story could be about an incident from *your* past. Or the story could be a composite of several stories involving real and imaginary characters.

If the story involves a real child, we want them to notice themselves in the story. There should be elements of their physical characteristics and character traits, but without making them feel hurt or embarrassed. And there is no harm in making them slightly 'larger than life' and heroic to encourage them to dream.

### Story Ideas

What do modern day Malaysian children get excited about? What do they find amusing, amazing, frightening, sad, or embarrassing? What are they likely to be interested in reading about?

Children could be asked questions like these: *(Please try answering them yourself on the page below.)*

1. If you could have a super-power, what would it be?
2. If you were granted 3 wishes, what would you ask for?
3. What is the most embarrassing / frightening / sad / funny / happy thing that has happened to you?

### Story Plan

We are going to create a "Little Book" and use it to plan our story. This book design can be used to easily create quick personalised books for your students to read, and also work as a writing activity.

***Please complete the worksheet and return it to the facilitators so that we can assist you in the future.***