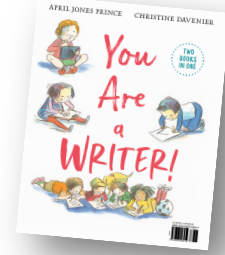


# Juicy Story Starters

What can you create from these story springboards?

Be creative and have fun. **YOU** are a **Writer!**



If...

- If you could be any inanimate object, what would you be? Why? (April says she would be a library because they are free, open, and empowering. Illustrator Christine Davenier says she would be a bench near a river because you can sit on it to contemplate, listen, and learn!)
- If you could fall into one book and spend a whole day in that story, which would it be? Why?
- If you use these 5 words in a story—penguin, spatula, splatter, roof, rainbow—what emerges?

What happens next...?

- In the middle of math class, you unexpectedly get called to the office. When you arrive, you find your two favorite adults waiting for you. They say, “Go get your backpack, we’re going \_\_\_\_\_!” Then what happens?
- On your route home from school, a vending machine has appeared. But it’s no ordinary vending machine. Inside, there are rows and rows of \_\_\_\_\_. And instead of money, the machine accepts juicy words. What words do you feed the machine, and what do you get in return? Then what?
- You can’t believe your eyes. The bookshelf—it’s actually a door! It creaks open, revealing \_\_\_\_\_. What happens next?
- You’re at the nursery buying plants with your favorite adult when you spy a neon packet in the rack that says, “TREEHOUSE SEEDS. Grow your own hideaway before you can say ‘rope ladder!’” Your eyes widen. “Well, what could go wrong?” your grownup asks. Grinning, you add the seeds to your purchases. What happens when you get home?
- You wake up on your birthday morning to find just one crisp, perfectly wrapped package waiting for you. Inside, there’s a pair of boots that allows you to fly. Where do your magic boots take you?
- You’re at the park playing a soccer with a friend when your friend accidentally kicks the ball into the woods. You go after it. In the woods, you find the ball—and a \$1,000 bill. No one else sees the money. What do you do?
- You arrive at school one morning to discover that your teacher is wearing one gold hoop earring, and she’s gotten a parrot tattoo on her shoulder. During morning meeting, she refers to you and your classmates as “mates” and “me buckos,” and says there’s a new penalty for late homework—walking the plank. How does the rest of your week unfold?
- As you sit down to dinner, your spaghetti noodles start arranging themselves into letters and words. No one else in your family seems to be able to see this strange phenomenon. What do the words say... and more importantly, why?

Created by author *April Jones Prince*

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