Today you are going to:

• Create a crazy creature to write a mini saga about
• Learn the structure of a mini saga
• Think about the 5 ‘Ws’ – Who, What, Where, Why and When
• Use your knowledge to plan, draft and compose a mini saga for Crazy Creatures competition
What is a Mini Saga?

• A mini saga is a story told in up to 100 words
• It must have a beginning, middle and an end
• It must be original – you can be inspired by other stories but your mini saga must be written in your own words
What is a story?

• Tell your teacher your favourite stories
• Your teacher will pick one story
• Can you tell your teacher what happens in the story using as few words as possible?
A Story’s Structure Part 1

• The plot is the main events that happen in the story – you’ve just told your teacher the plot of the story you’ve been discussing

Stories also need:

• **Events** – these are situations or actions that happen to move your story along, this could be someone being kidnapped, an alien visiting, falling out with a friend, meeting your hero, going on holiday etc

• **Settings** – this is where events happen, this could be in a forest, in space, under the sea or in your classroom. In a mini saga, there is usually only one setting

• **Characters** – these are the people/creatures in your story that the events happen to
A Story’s Structure Part 2

Stories also need:

• **A beginning** – action, dialogue or description to open your story
• **A middle** – an event to move the story along
• **A end** – tie up loose ends or end on a cliff-hanger

Remember, a mini saga only has 100 words, which means you only have one or two sentences each for a beginning, a middle and an end!
Creating a Crazy Creature

Using the Crazy Creature worksheet you now need to:

• Draw your own original crazy creature in the space provided in box 1

• Complete your crazy creature’s profile in box 2

If you need help or ideas look at the suggestions on the right hand side of the worksheet.
The 5 Ws

Now move on to box 3, where you will plan what your story is about...

You need to:

• Think about the profile you created for your crazy creature in box 2
• How will you use these ideas in your story?
• Use the 5 Ws (Who, What, Where, Why and When) to help you plan your story!
Who?

• Who features in your story – just your crazy creature or anyone else?

Tip!
Don’t add too many characters as you only have 100 words to write your story in!
Where and When?

- Where and when is the story set?

What?

Every story needs an event or conflict to move the plot along,
- What happens to the creature?
- Does the creature save the day, have a problem or dilemma?
- Maybe it’s at a celebration or is on a trip?
- It could be a naughty creature up to no good or a kind, friendly one doing good deeds ...

What will you choose?
Why?

• Why does the event or conflict happen to the creature?
• Why does your creature behave the way it does?
• Is it in the wrong place at the wrong time? Or maybe the creature is a troublemaker!
• How will you resolve the conflict / dilemma? Or will you write a cliff-hanger ending...
Writing Your Own Mini Saga

• Write your ideas out first, using the planning sheet, then write your mini saga
• Be brutal – cut out any unnecessary words – do we need to know the building was high or the trees were green or that your creature likes eggs on toast for breakfast? If it’s not crucial edit it out!
• Use ellipses (...) to suggest tension, excitement, mystery and suspense
• Abbreviate words – ‘it is’ becomes ‘it’s’ / ‘you are’ becomes ‘you’re’ etc
• Count hyphenated words as one word e.g. ‘in-between’
• Create a clever title that hints about your story e.g. “The Not-So-Crazy Creature”
• Write your mini saga out on to the Crazy Creatures entry form – one word per box please! Remember to write your name and age on your entry form too.
Feedback

• Share your mini saga with a friend
• They need to tell you one thing they like about it and something they think could improve it
• You then give your friend your feedback on their work
• Make any final changes to your mini saga
• Hand it in to your teacher!
We hope you enjoyed creating your crazy creature and writing your mini saga! We can’t wait to read your work!

CLOSING DATE: 21ST DECEMBER 2016