

Comic Writers' Workshop

Six flexible lessons. Their words. Their worlds.

A free writing resource from Sparkbug for families and homeschool co-ops. Use it on paper or alongside the studio. No account is needed to use these lessons.

A rhythm that fits your family

Talk about the prompt. Write or dictate ideas. Read a little aloud. Reflect together. Try one lesson each week, or revisit a lesson whenever your writer wants more time.

Start small / Go deeper

Every lesson includes a simpler starting point and a deeper challenge. Choose by confidence and interest, not by age. There is no requirement to finish or publish a comic every week.

The child is the author

Children invent the characters and write the story. If you use Sparkbug, AI can help illustrate their ideas. Keep their original writing separate from AI-created pictures, and discuss choices together.

For co-op leaders

Share the prompt, not private family accounts. Each parent controls their own stories and sharing. Invite discussion without requiring children to share work. Never ask for children's real names or personal details.

What this workshop is - and is not

A flexible writing companion, not a complete curriculum or formal assessment. No claim of official standards alignment or ESA approval. Parents decide what fits their learning plans.

Lesson 1

Meet your main character

Writing focus: Character and motivation

Your writing invitation

Invent a character who wants something, but has a surprising problem.

Start small

Say your idea aloud, then write three sentences about your character.

Go deeper

Show what your character wants through an action instead of explaining it.

Reflect together

What would your character never give up on?

My ideas / notes / next steps

Lesson 2

Build a world

Writing focus: Setting and sensory detail

Your writing invitation

Choose a place for your character. What makes it ordinary—or extraordinary?

Start small

Describe one thing they see, hear, and feel.

Go deeper

Make one detail in the setting create a problem or offer a clue.

Reflect together

How does this place change what your character can do?

My ideas / notes / next steps

Lesson 3

Something goes wrong

Writing focus: Plot and cause and effect

Your writing invitation

Interrupt your character's day with a problem they cannot ignore.

Start small

Write a beginning, a problem, and one thing your character tries.

Go deeper

Make their first attempt change the situation in an unexpected way.

Reflect together

Why does one event lead to the next?

My ideas / notes / next steps

Lesson 4

Let your characters talk

Writing focus: Dialogue and perspective

Your writing invitation

Two characters disagree about what to do next. Write their conversation.

Start small

Give each character two lines of dialogue.

Go deeper

Give each character a distinct voice and something they leave unsaid.

Reflect together

What do we learn from what each character says?

My ideas / notes / next steps

Lesson 5

Make your words work harder

Writing focus: Revision and clarity

Your writing invitation

Read your draft aloud. Choose one moment to make clearer, livelier, or more surprising.

Start small

Replace one vague word and add one helpful detail.

Go deeper

Revise a scene's pacing: slow down an important moment or trim repetition.

Reflect together

Which change helps your reader imagine the scene?

My ideas / notes / next steps

Lesson 6

A chapter worth keeping

Writing focus: Resolution and reflection

Your writing invitation

Write an ending—or a cliffhanger. Decide what your character has learned or what comes next.

Start small

Finish your scene, even if the larger story is still in progress.

Go deeper

Connect the ending to an earlier detail, then explain your choice.

Reflect together

Which part feels most like your own voice?

My ideas / notes / next steps
