

What Happened Previously?

How many times have you heard the tale of Goldilocks or Cinderella? Have you ever you pondered what happened to these famous characters before their star roles in classic fairy tales?

Allan Ahlberg with his book, *Previously*, connects the lives of these characters and invents pasts for each of them.

Encourage your student to recall some other classic fairy tales. Can he imagine what happened to those characters before the start of the tale?

If your student is inspired, have him create a backstory for a nursery rhyme or fairy tale character that was not included in Ahlberg's book.

Four prompts are given on the next four pages , if your student would like to use one. The characters chosen for the writing pages are [the elves](#) (that helped the shoemaker), [Rumpelstiltskin](#), [Little Red Riding Hood](#), and the wolf (from The Three Little Pigs).



