**Legend Notes**

A legend is a story that is passed on by story tellers by word of mouth, by oral tradition. They are passed down by story-tellers or the older people in the culture to the next generation

“You have been asked by a children’s publishing company to select a natural phenomenon and write a legend that tells us how it came to be, or how it got it’s special/unique characteristics.

* Tornadoes, hurricanes, rain, freezing rain, snow, hail, sunshine, clouds, rainbow, waterfalls, volcanoes, tsunamis, planets, stars, sun, moon, meteors, mountains, canyons, deserts, rain forests, glaciers, gravity, tides.

Legend Anchor Chart

**Beginning**: Introduction and description of characters/setting/problem

**Middle**: Steps to solve problem or steps that complicate the problem. Lead up to a solution or leading up to boiling point (climax).

**End**: wise figure, punishment/reward is given, consequences of punishment/reward, how the characters change, a moral/lesson

Good story-telling characteristics chart.

•ENTERTAINING & INTERESTING

•An introduction that grabs attention, has an interesting situation

•A middle that is humorous/adventurous/dramatic. Shows steps to resolution.

•An ending where a wise character awards reward/punishment, gives a resolution that clearly shows change in the characters’ lives.

•Well-described characters (physical/emotions/personality)

•Easily visualized setting/scenery.

•Strong and descriptive language

•Powerful and challenging word choice.

Tips to write your legend backwards (start at the end)

* Do you want to explain your topic as a whole or one of its characteristics? For example, meteor showers as a whole, or just their tail of light?
* Do you want your topic to be a reward, or a punishment?
* If it is a reward, what is it for? If it is a punishment, what is it for?
* What happened beforehand? What steps led to the reward/punishment?
* What was the problem that started everything?
* Describe your characters and the setting.

Idea reflection

• Are there some ideas that don’t seem to flow?

• Are there ideas that are out of order?

• Are there ideas that you’ve thought of and you want to add?