



## EnglishMat 5 • Content Connection: Tell a Story

**Theme:** Animals, Nature, Weather

**ELA CCSS:** W.CCR.3-4, SL.CCR.1-2, 4

### Build Vocabulary

Show the illustration and ask students to describe what they see. Write down key ideas and details to create an anchor chart that will provide students with ideas and prompts during the writing stage.

### Suggested Vocabulary

Newcomers	Intermediate	Advanced
ants	weather	setting
bird	help	storm
feathers	protect	shield
food	cooperate	hole up
leaf	shelter	assist
nest		
sick		

### Examples

**Newcomers:** What do you see? I see \_\_\_\_\_. / What color is this?

**Intermediate:** What are they doing? They are \_\_\_\_\_. / Describe the bird.

**Advanced:** Why do you think the bird is sleeping? I think \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

### Play a Game: Pick a Card

Write each vocabulary word on an index card and place them in a bag. Invite students to draw a card from the bag and make a sentence with the word as it relates to the picture. More proficient students can pick two or three cards and use those words in the same sentence.

### Build Comprehension

Explore the details in the illustration by asking comprehension questions to prepare students to write a story. Encourage them to use adjectives to describe size and appearance.

### Conversation Questions:

- Who are the main characters?
- What do they look like?
- Where are they?
- What are they doing?
- What happens next?

Have more advanced students expand on the questions. (What are the ants bringing the birds? Why?)

### Speak to Write: Tell a Story

Introduce options for starting the story:

*One day ...*

*Once upon a time, ...*

*In a forest far away, ...*

As a class, create a story together, writing it on the board as you go. Remind students that they should include the following information in their stories:

- Who is in the picture and what they look like
- Where they are
- What they are doing and why
- What happens next

Depending on the language ability of students, have them work individually or in pairs to create their story orally and then in writing. Have students present their stories to the class.