BUILD-A-PLAY
YOUR FINAL SCENE

Here we are, DAY 11! It’s time to write your FINAL SCENE. You have written all the scenes in your play up to the last one—THE ENDING. You have been incorporating everything you have learned about CHARACTER, SETTING, DRAMATIC ACTION and DIALOGUE. It is time write your CONCLUSION.

TODAY, we are going to write YOUR FINAL SCENE. Endings are important. It is how you wrap up everything you have written into your play. It’s how you bring all the threads together and tie them up.

REMEMBER that DRAMATIC QUESTION? The one raised way back in SCENE ONE? It is now time to ANSWER IT? Do the Three Pigs survive in the Big Bad World? In the Final Scene we find out- we answer the question. So, let’s get to it!

We will NOT be adding more INGREDIENTS to include in your FINAL SCENE. But, if you had trouble getting all the ingredients we used so far into your play, try to use those now. Also, if you get stuck, you can always go back to the ingredient lists from other days and use one or two again to keep writing. On the following page are key instructions to use for writing your FINAL SCENE and find your PERFECT ENDING.

You may write your scenes by hand on paper or type them on a computer or tablet.

NEXT TIME: We will do a READ THROUGH of your play and START REVISIONS.
WRITING YOUR FINAL SCENE

1) REFER TO YOUR DRAMATIC ACTION OUTLINE. What was your DRAMATIC QUESTION?

2) What needs to happen in this scene? The big answer is that you need to make sure your **Dramatic Question** is answered. You need to answer this by **SHOWING** your audience the answer. **NOT** telling it to them.

**THREE PIGS EXAMPLE:**

If we look back at our Three Little Pigs example, we can see that the dramatic question of whether they survive in the big, bad world, is answered by what the Three Pigs **DO** in the Final Scene. They do something different than what they had done in previous scenes, but it is not “out of character.” They work together to figure out a plan to defeat the Big Bad Wolf for good. We **SEE** them execute their plan. We see what happens to the Big Bad Wolf. We see the Three Pigs celebrate their victory.

Imagine **HOW** you will **SHOW** your audience, through what your characters **DO** in the scene to answer your dramatic question.

3) **REMEMBER** everything you have set up in all your other scenes. You know who your characters are and how they have acted throughout the play. Use what you know about your characters fully to pull your ending threads together. Be a detective. See what you’ve already done and said. How can you use what you have already done to create your ending?

4) Imagine your final scene. What happens? Who is there? Where are they? What is the time of day?

5) **START YOUR FINAL SCENE** with the STAGE DIRECTION – **LIGHTS UP**. Then, **tell us** in the Stage Directions WHERE we are, WHEN we are, and WHO is there. **THEN,** WRITE YOUR SCENE through dialogue to show us WHAT HAPPENS in the ending. Your scene is not done until you have shown us the answer to your **DRAMATIC QUESTION**.

6) When your scene is done, **END IT WITH** the STAGE DIRECTION – **LIGHTS DOWN**. And then add – **END OF PLAY**.
7) REMEMBER to write the scene number at the beginning of your scene and continue your page numbering as we have throughout the play.

8) Make use of the INGREDIENT LISTS from previous days, if you need to.