Our story structure cue cards are designed so you can cue the story structure elements with one side and the transition words with the other. The story structure elements help children identify the important parts of the story while the transition words help them connect ideas and prevent gaps in the story.

**How to use the story structure cue cards:**

1. Teach the story structure elements (refer to Story Structure Elements PDF)
2. Put the story structure cue cards in order
3. Identify the story structure elements in a story
4. Practice associated transition words common in story
   a. **Orientation:** Once there was a _______ who..., One day..., First..., First of all...
   b. **Complication:** But..., Then..., However..., All of a sudden...
   c. **Action:** So..., Next...
   d. **Resolution:** Finally..., Eventually...
   e. **Ending:** Now..., In the end..., And that is why/how...
5. Retell a story using the story structure cue cards
6. Create a story using the story structure cue cards

**Once there was a _____ who...**

**But then...**

Check out our iPad app, **Little Stories Pro**, on the App Store for cleverly written stories using these story structure elements.

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