



## Episode 3

Can you believe we have made it to Episode 3 of the Hank the Cowdog Podcast? The story is getting very exciting. We have designed activities for this lesson that will let students explore setting. So far, we have had two different settings, which gives us an excellent opportunity to compare and contrast!

We will also explore engineering through a STEM project. In this episode Hank and Madame Moonshine get tangled up in vines. Students will explore how strong the knots in the vines would have to be to hold Hank and Madame Moonshine!

### LEARNING STANDARDS IN EPISODE 2 ACTIVITIES:

#### Common Core Standards:

CCSS.ELA.RL.4.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

#### CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.3

Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

#### CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.3

Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

#### Next Generation Science Standards

3-5-ETS1-1. Define a simple design problem reflecting a need or a want that includes specified criteria for success and constraints on materials, time, or cost.

3-5-ETS1-2. Generate and compare multiple possible solutions to a problem based on how well each is likely to meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.

3-5-ETS1-3. Plan and carry out fair tests in which variables are controlled and failure points are considered to identify aspects of a model or prototype that can be improved.



## Setting

CONTENT AREA: English & Literature

TOPIC: Setting

**OBJECTIVE:** Students will identify words, images, and details that construct setting. They will explain multiple significances of setting in the podcast, and analyze the significance in a shift from setting to another.

**MATERIALS:**

- Podcast, Episode 3
- Security Folder
- SETTING REPORT FORM
- Setting Slides
- Script for Episode 3

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

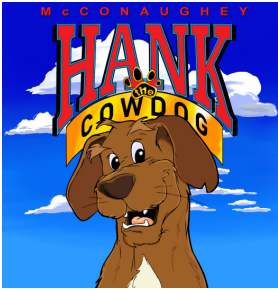
It is important to review setting BEFORE listening to the episode in order to give students an opportunity to pay close attention to setting as they listen. A set of slides have been provided in a separate link for your convenience. Slides 1 through 7 contain the review. Slides 8-end contain a quiz for students to complete after listening to Episode 3 of the podcast. A script (also provided in a separate link) is provided for students who would like to review the text for clues.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Setting is an important element of a story.

**LET'S GET STARTED!**

- Use the slides 1 through 7 in the PowerPoint slideshow to review setting with class before listening to the podcast.
- After listening to the podcast, continue showing PowerPoint slideshow, slide 8 to end.
- Assessment: Have students fill out the SETTING REPORT FORM. They can refer to the script to fill in details and found answers.



# RANCH SECURITY

## Setting Form

For use by official Ranch Security Deputies for  
*Podcast Episode 3*

Answer the following questions about setting

1. In episode 3 of Lost in the Dark Uncharted Forest, the story takes place in two settings. Fill in the blanks below.

It begins at the \_\_\_\_\_ and ends at the \_\_\_\_\_ .

2. Hank does a great job of showing, not telling about the Uncharted Forest.

List three examples from the script where Hank uses his senses to describe the scenery.

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3. Draw a picture of what you think the Dark Uncharted forest looks like, based on what you heard in the podcast or read in the script.



# Mystery Plots

CONTENT AREA: English & Literature

TOPIC: Mystery Plot Diagram

MATERIALS:

- Podcast, Episode 3
- Security Folder
- MYSTERY PLOT DIAGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS:

In the activities for the first two episodes of the podcast, students should have begun filling out the MYSTERY PLOT DIAGRAM as a class. This activity is one that will continue to be added to for episodes one through four. Students may want to keep the Mystery Plot diagram at the front of their folders for easy access. If students have filled up their diagram, print out a second one for them to continue adding to.

LET'S GET STARTED!

1. Listen to Podcast Episode 3.
2. Review MYSTERY PLOT DIAGRAM (see Episode 1 Activities)
3. Add to the diagram. Here are a few questions that may help students get started:
  - What new characters have been introduced?
  - Any new clues?
  - New setting?
  - New problem?
  - Any red herrings?



# RANCH SECURITY

## Mystery Plot Diagram

For Official Use by Ranch Security Deputies

Use this mystery diagram to map out Lost in the Dark Uncharted Forest. After each podcast episode, you can work to add to the diagram.

### Characters

Detective: \_\_\_\_\_

Sidekick: \_\_\_\_\_

Suspects: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Clues

These are the events that are part of the rising action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Setting

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Problem

The problem is the crime or mystery to be solved.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Red Herrings

Misleading clues (they are meant to throw the reader off)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Solution

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Deputy Knot Tying Challenge

CONTENT AREA: Science/STEM

TOPIC: Engineering

MATERIALS:

- Security Folder
- DEPUTY KNOT TYING SKILLS WORKSHEET
- A rod or pole that will not break (strings will be tied to it)
- A spool of thread, yarn, string or light weight fishing line
- A bucket
- Small weights (you can use coins, small science weights, or anything that will fit in the bucket)

**OBJECTIVE:** Students will define a simple design problem with specified materials, generate and compare multiple possible solutions to the problem, and plan and carry out fair tests in which variables are controlled.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

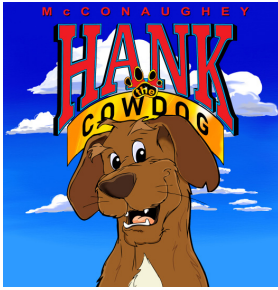
In episode 3, Hank and Madam Moonshine find themselves tangled in vines. Could a vine really hold up an owl? A dog? Challenge your students to tie the best knot. Different knots stress the string at different points, either spreading out the stress or centering it on one point. Have your students practice different ones to figure out which ones hold the most weight. For a quick review on knot tying, check out: <https://www.animatedknots.com/scouting-knots>.

**LET'S GET STARTED!**

1. Give students the DEPUTY KNOT TYING SKILLS TEST WORKSHEET. You can do a review on knots, or just let students play around with the string to figure out how to tie various knots.
2. Partner students in groups of 2.
3. Give students a 6 to 12 inch piece of string material. Have students practice knots.
4. Once students think they have a knot figured out, give each group a length of knot (length determined by you) and have students tie their knots in front of you. One student will tie a knot to the pole, and the other will tie the knot to the bucket
5. Suspend pole between two desks, chairs or tables.
6. Gradually fill bucket with weight to determine which one holds the most weight.

**ASSESSMENT-** One suggestion for assessment is to evaluate students, with 25% of their grade for each of the following:

1. Have students write a step-by-step knot-typing procedure
2. Demonstration of knot tying by both partners
3. Explanation of strategy
4. Conclusion and reflections based on results



# RANCH SECURITY

## Deputy Knot Tying Skills

For use by official Ranch Security Deputies for  
*Podcast Episode 3*

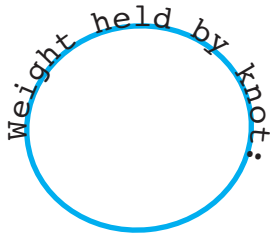
To be a deputy on this ranch, you must be prepared for any situation. In this training drill, you must tie a knot that will hold the most weight.

### TRAINING DRILL RULES:

- You and your partner will design and tie a knot.
- The knot will be tied to a pole and a bucket.
- You and your partner must both be able to demonstrate how to tie the knot.
- You can only use a single string of a length set by your teacher. You will be given short pieces of string to practice with.
- Once the knots are tied, the pole will be set across two desks, and the bucket will be suspended from the string.
- Your teacher will add weight to the bucket until the string snaps.

Write step-by-step knot tying procedures in the box below:

Based on your results, what would you do the same? different?



# ANSWER KEY



## RANCH SECURITY Setting Form

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*Podcast Episode 3*

Answer the following questions about setting

1. In episode 3 of Lost in the Dark Uncharted Forest, the story takes place in two settings. Fill in the blanks below.

It begins at the Ranch Headquarters and ends at the Uncharted Forest.

2. Hank does a great job of showing, not telling about the Uncharted Forest.

List three examples from the script where Hank uses his senses to describe the scenery.

"Those clouds did look like bad weather. And that forest was getting even darker than usual."

"My old heart was banging like a bass drum and I could feel those little needles of fear pricking the back of my neck again, but I tried to put it all out of my mind."

"It made a low creaking sound every time the wind bent it one way or another."

3. Draw a picture of what you think the Dark Uncharted forest looks like, based on what you heard in the podcast or read in the script.

