



G2-5

New Years Resolutions Writing Project

Plan, write, publish your story in Build My Story

Mini-Lesson



While you watch...

- What was your highlight last year?
- Think of one goal you have this year.

[Click For Video](#)

G2-5

Session 1

Brainstorm and Plan your story

Learning Objectives

- ☐ I can think of 3+ ideas and pick my best one.
- ☐ I can sort my ideas in the boxes to make a plan.
- ☐ I can listen to a partner and add one helpful suggestion.

Plan your journey

- Your teacher will hand out a worksheet
- Think about last year and what you learned
- Choose one goal for this year
- Think:
 - Why is this goal important to you?
 - What steps will help you reach it?

BUILD MY STORY New Year's Resolutions

Name: _____

Date: _____

? Use this page to plan your New Year story!
Think about last year, your goal for this year, and how you can work toward it.
Ask your teacher if you need help.

I am _____ years old, and one thing about myself is: _____

One thing I learned in 2025 _____

My GOAL this year: _____

When do you aim to achieve this GOAL?
Example: August _____





Three things I will do to reach this goal are:

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

www.buildmystory.com

 ☒ Brainstorm  ☐ Plan  ☐ Write  ☐ Build My Story

Dream BIG!

- Choose one idea
- Dream as big or as little as you like, its your journey!



Brainstorm your ideas



You get 10 minutes

- Use the Brainstorm sheet
- Words or quick sketches
- Use your senses
- Fill the page

Use the word bank to help

Word Bank	Linking Words & Phrases
- new year	- first
- resolution	- next
- goal	- then
- promise	- after that
- plan	- mindset
- choice	- finally
- habit	- also
- challenge	- and
- effort	- another
- practice	- strength
- improve	- skills
- learn	- progress
- grow	- achievement
- try	- goal-setting
- focus	- planning
- responsible	- practice
- proud	- improvement
- confident	- reflection
- patient	- effort
- kind	- confidence
- healthy	- independence
- organized	- responsibility
- brave	- fresh start
- determined	- new beginning
- motivated	- goal setter
- success	- positive change
- progress	- effort matters
- mistake	- daily practice
- reflect	- healthy habit
- future	- good choice
- past	- strong mindset
- action	- personal goal
- step	- self-belief
- timeline	- responsibility
- routine	- courage
- support	- patience
- reminder	
- celebrate	

Linking Words & Phrases
- one reason is
- this shows
- as a result
- for this reason
- step by step
- little by little
- over time
- every day
- each week
- by the end
- if I try
- even if
- I will keep going
- I can ask for help
- I will not give up
- to begin with
- one goal is
- one step is
- another step is
- this will help me
- I plan to
- I will try to
- I can practice
- I can improve by
- little by little
- over time
- each day

New Years Resolutions
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BUILD MY STORY

BUILD MY STORY New Year's Resolutions

Name: _____

Date: _____

My goal for this year is: _____

Use your ideas to start planning your New Year story. Think about your goal and how you will try to reach it.

What will I try this year? What goal do I have for this year? What do I remember from last year? What made me feel proud? What do I want to get better at?

☒ Brainstorm ☐ Plan ☐ Write ☐ Build My Story

Turn to the person next to you and ask...

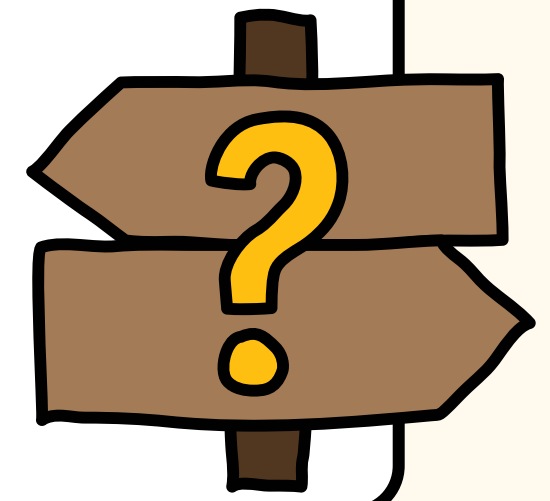


- What is your goal?

- What might be challenging?




- When do you want to reach it?



You get 2 minutes



Your story shows your journey

 You get 15 minutes

New Year's Resolutions Name: _____

Use this page to plan your goals!
If you're doing Option 1, you'll type this into the web app.
If you're doing Option 2, use it as notes to help write your full story.
Ask your teacher if you need help.

1 Introduction _____ _____	Write a few sentences to tell what your New Year story will be about.
2 My Reflection _____ _____	Write about something that happened last year and how it made you feel.
3 My Goal + Reason _____ _____	Write your goal for this year and tell why you want to reach it.
4 My Action Steps _____ _____	Write 2 or 3 things you can do to help yourself reach your goal.
5 Closing _____ _____	Write how you hope your year will end and how you want to feel at the end.

3 Goal
What Do I Want to Achieve?

2 Reflection
What Happened Last Year?

4 Action Steps
How Will I Get There?

1 Beginning
Who I Am Now?

5 Closing
What Do I Hope For?

Turn to the person next to you and ask...

- What is your goal?
- How do you hope the year ends, and how do you want to feel?



You get 2 minutes




Build your main character



You get 10 minutes

- Name and age
- Are they Human, Animal or Fictional
- What colors are they wearing, do they wear glasses
- Looks and clothing
- One memorable detail

 **BUILD MY STORY.**

Character Profile

Name: _____


Date: _____

? This page helps you create your main character for your story. You'll fill in details about who they are, what they look like, and even draw them. Later, you'll use this profile to guide your writing and bring your character to life in Build My Story.

My Character Is: ☐ A Human ☐ An Animal ☐ Fictional





Character Name

How Old Is Your Character?
_____ Years Old

Draw Your Character 

What do they look like?

What are they wearing?

 ☐ Brainstorm  ☒ Plan  ☐ Write  ☐ Build My Story

www.buildmystory.com

Wrap Up & Next Time

Before you go – check

- Goal and reason written?
- Action steps included?
- Name on every sheet?



Please hand in
your amazing
work so far!

Next time – your writing choices

- Summary → Help me write (you'll type what you wrote)
- Full draft → Type it myself (aim for ≤ 200 words)

Learning Objectives

- ☒ I can think of 3+ ideas and pick my best one.
- ☒ I can sort my ideas in the boxes to make a plan.
- ☒ I can listen to a partner and add one helpful suggestion.

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Session 2

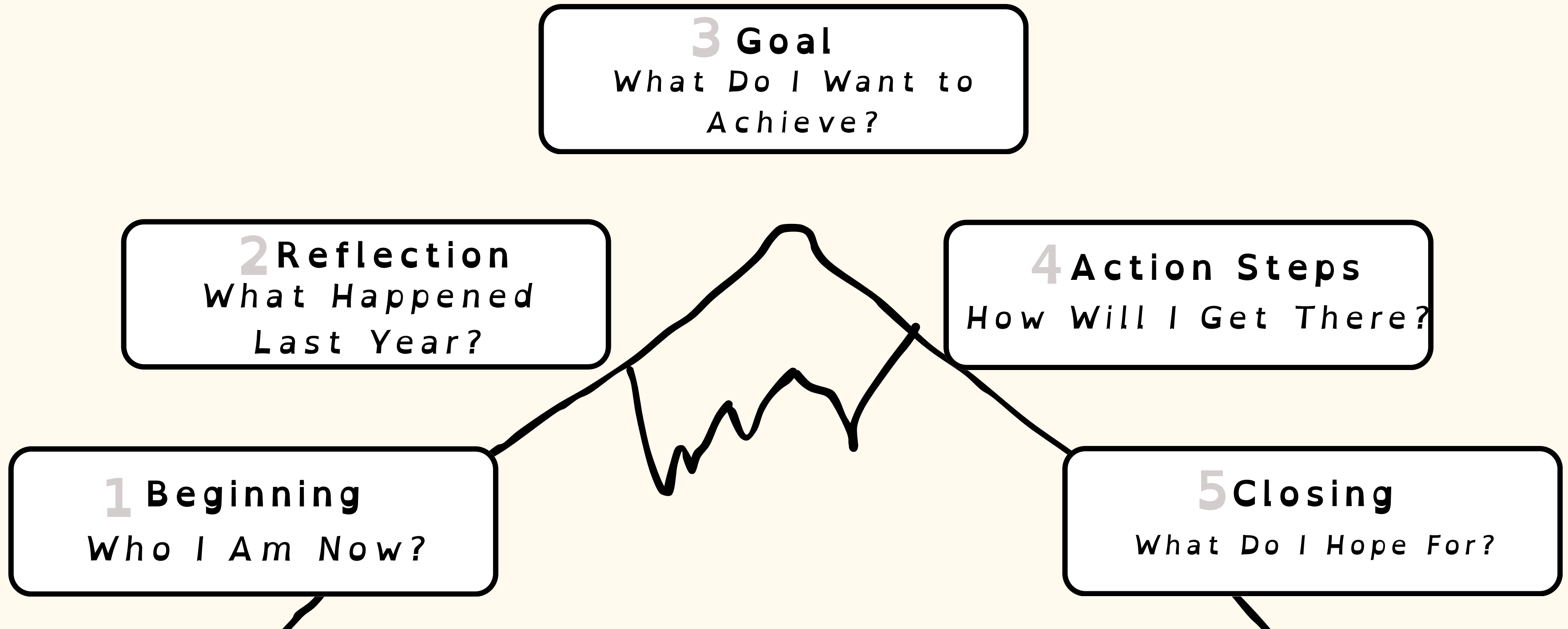
Write Your Story

Learning Objectives

- ☐ I can turn my plan into a draft.
- ☐ I can use words like first / next / because to connect ideas.
- ☐ I can add a detail so my writing is clearer.

The 5-part story plan

Reminder



Choose your path

Either path is great — pick the one that helps you do your best

PATH A

New Year's Resolutions

Name: _____

Use this page to plan your goals!
If you're doing Option 1, you'll type this into the web app.
If you're doing Option 2, use it as notes to help write your full story.
Ask your teacher if you need help.

1 Introduction

Write a few sentences to tell what your New Year story will be about.

2 My Reflection

Write about something that happened last year and how it made you feel.

3 My Goal + Reason

Write your goal for this year and tell why you want to reach it.

4 My Action Steps

Write 2 or 3 things you can do to help yourself reach your goal.

5 Closing

Write how you hope your year will end and how you want to feel at the end.

BUILD MY STORY

Brainstorm

Plan

Write

Build My Story

1

2

3

4

5

PATH B

Page 1

Page 2

Page 3

Author Name

BUILD MY STORY

Brainstorm

Plan

Write

Build My Story

1

2

3

4

5

OR

Story Summary
(4–6 sentences)

Full Draft
(About 500 words)

Only as much as you can do

Path A: Story Summary — 4–6 sentences

- 1) Where Am I Now
- 2) My Reflection
- 3) My Goal
- 4) Steps I'll Take
- 5) My Closing

Example Story Summary 1

- 1) I'm 9 years old, and last year was busy but exciting for me.
- 2) One thing I learned last year was how to stay calm when work feels hard.
- 3) My goal this year is to get better at reading longer books.
- 4) I will practice every day and ask for help when I need it.
- 5) At the end of the year, I hope to feel proud and confident.

Example Story Summary 2

- 1) I am a student who worked hard last year, even when things were tricky.
- 2) Last year taught me that mistakes help me learn.
- 3) My goal this year is to be more organized with my schoolwork.
- 4) I will use a planner and clean my desk each week.
- 5) I hope the year ends with me feeling proud of my progress.

Path B: Full Draft - About 500 words

- Around 500 words total - do as much or as little as you can!
- Short sentences
- Use this order:

Me, Now → Reflection → Goal → Action Steps → Closing

Draft guide

- Where I am now — 2–3 lines
- My reflection — 2–3 lines
- My goal — 3–5 lines
- Action steps — 2–3 lines
- My closing — 2–3 lines

Write on the worksheet page by page. Think about the 5 part structure you used in planning

Page 1

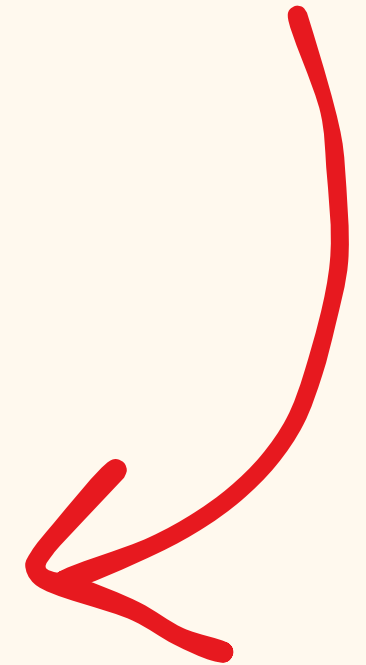
Page 2

Page 3

Author Name

☐ Brainstorm ☐ Plan ☒ Write ☐ Build My Story

BUILD MY STORY



Show, don't tell

Tell → I felt proud of myself.

Show → I smiled, stood taller, and kept going.

Tell → Last year was hard.

Show → My hands shook, but I finished anyway.

Swap one “tell” for a “show.”

Write Time!



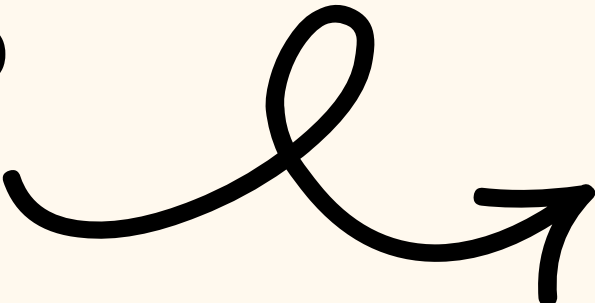
You get 20 minutes

Summary path: finish 5 sentences.

Draft path: aim for 300-500 words.

Tip: Use 2–3 linking words.

Use the word bank to help



Word Bank

- new year
- resolution
- goal
- promise
- plan
- choice
- habit
- challenge
- effort
- practice
- improve
- learn
- grow
- try
- focus
- responsible
- proud
- confident
- patient
- kind
- healthy
- organized
- brave
- determined
- motivated
- success
- progress
- mistake
- reflect
- future
- past
- action
- step
- timeline
- routine
- support
- reminder
- celebrate
- self-control
- perseverance
- teamwork
- commitment
- mindset
- attitude
- balance
- energy
- strength
- skills
- progress
- achievement
- goal-setting
- planning
- practice
- improvement
- reflection
- effort
- confidence
- independence
- responsibility
- fresh start
- new beginning
- goal setter
- positive change
- effort matters
- daily practice
- healthy habit
- good choice
- strong mindset
- personal goal
- self-belief
- responsibility
- courage
- patience

Linking Words & Phrases

- first
- next
- then
- after that
- finally
- also
- and
- another
- for example
- such as
- because
- so
- since
- when
- before
- after
- during
- if
- while
- to help
- to improve
- in order to
- at the end
- overall
- in the future
- this year
- last year
- one reason is
- this shows
- as a result
- for this reason
- step by step
- little by little
- over time
- every day
- each week
- by the end
- if I try
- even if
- I will keep going
- I can ask for help
- I will not give up
- to begin with
- one goal is
- one step is
- another step is
- this will help me
- I plan to
- I will try to
- I can practice
- I can improve by
- little by little
- over time
- each day

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Swap your worksheet with the person next to you

3 quick checks (circle or say Yes/No)

- 1) Does it follow the 5 parts? Me, Now → Reflection → Goal → Action Steps → Closing
- 2) Are there 2–3 linking words? (first, next, then, after that, because, so, finally...)
- 3) Is there one “show, don’t tell” sentence?

Fix one thing, then put your name on your work.



You get 2 minutes

Learning Objectives

- ☒ I can turn my plan into a draft.
- ☒ I can use words like first / next / because to connect ideas.
- ☒ I can add a detail so my writing is clearer.

G2-5

Session 3

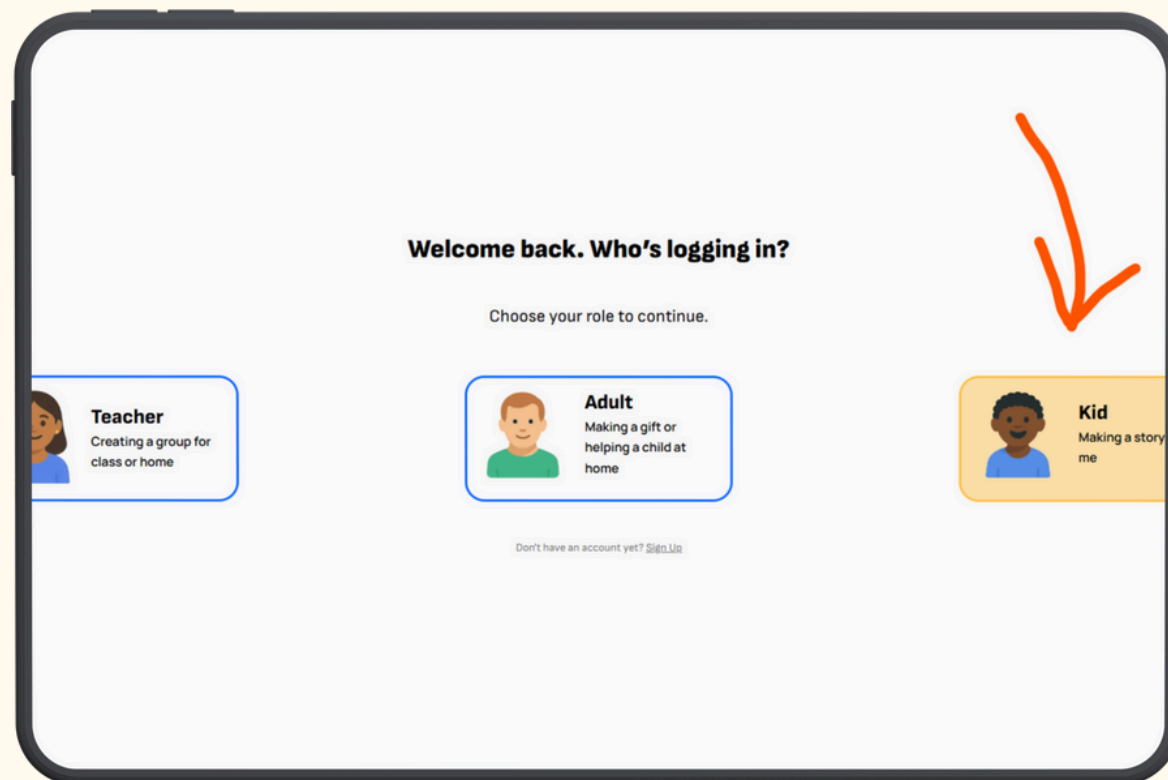
Build Your Story

Learning Objectives

- ☐ I can revise my draft story to make it clearer
- ☐ I can fix capitals, punctuation, and spelling.
- ☐ I can type my story and give it a great title.
- ☐ I can publish a book!
- ☐ I can make an AI picture

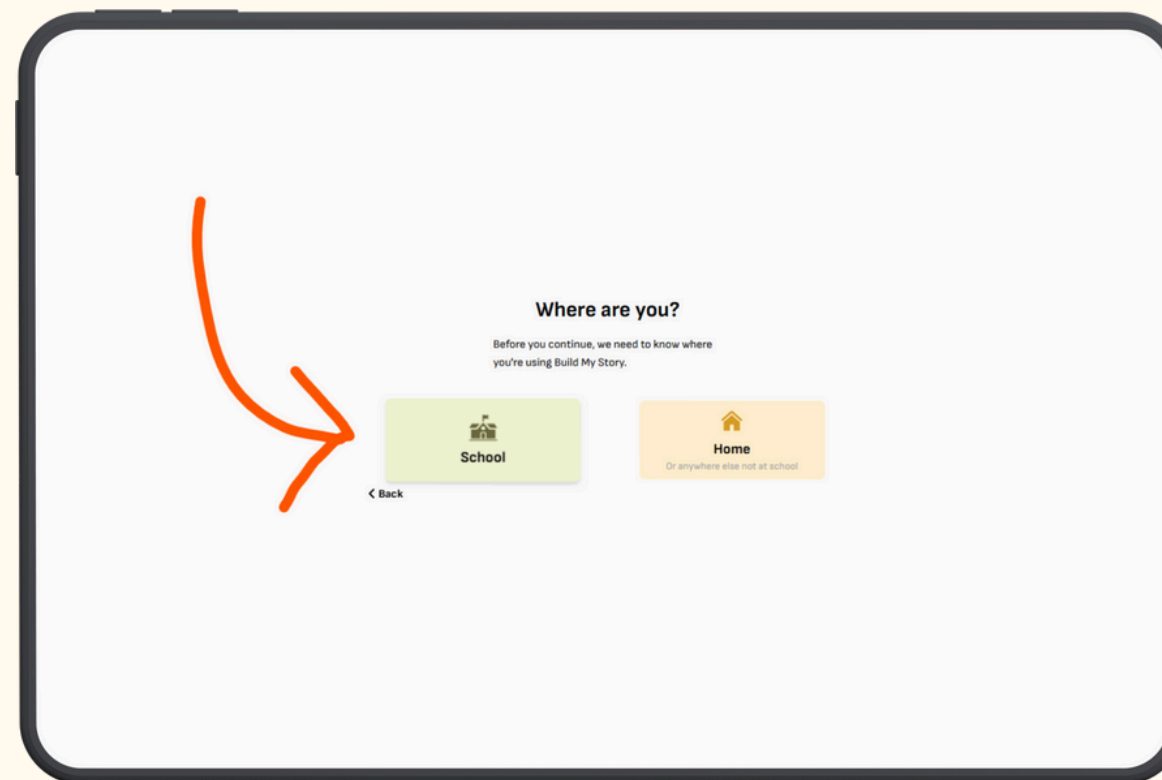
Sign in

1



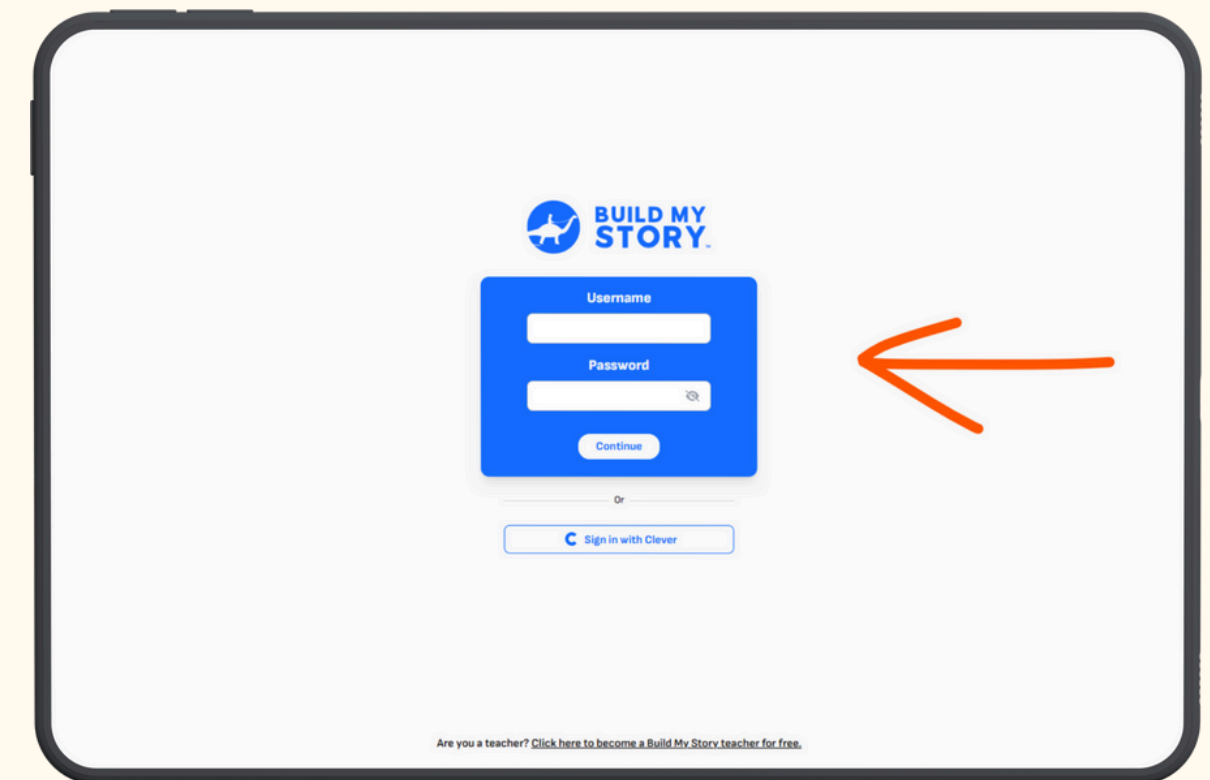
Open Build My Story

2



Tap Kid to sign in

3



Log in using username

Your teacher will help with usernames or Clever or Google Classroom

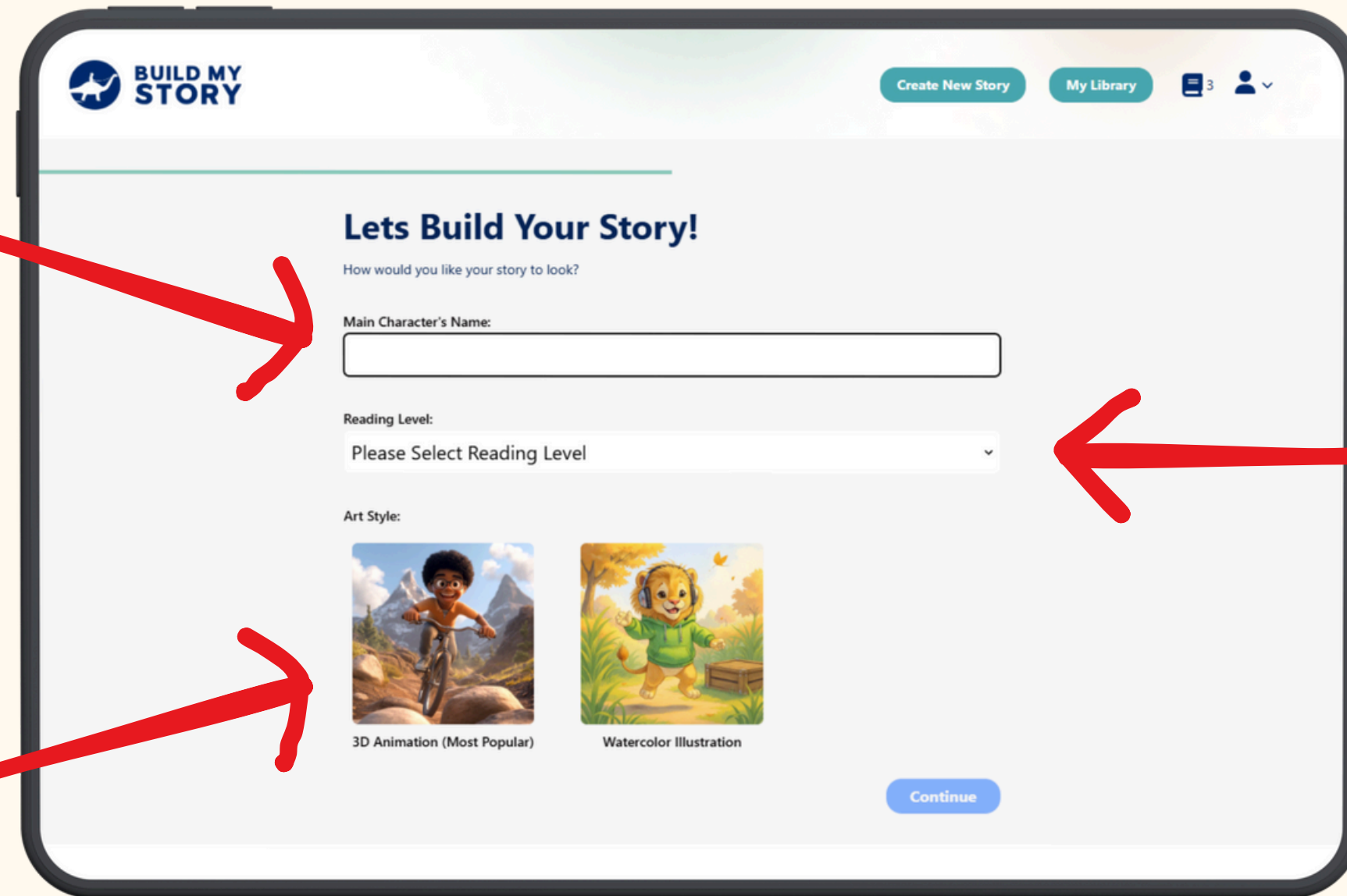
Set up your book

1

Type your main
character's name

3

Pick your picture
style



The screenshot shows the 'BUILD MY STORY' website's setup page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the logo, 'Create New Story', 'My Library', and a user icon. The main heading is 'Lets Build Your Story!' followed by the question 'How would you like your story to look?'. Below this, there are three sections: 'Main Character's Name' with a text input field, 'Reading Level' with a dropdown menu showing 'Please Select Reading Level', and 'Art Style' with two image options: '3D Animation (Most Popular)' and 'Watercolor Illustration'. A blue 'Continue' button is at the bottom right. Three red arrows point from the numbered instructions to these fields: from instruction 1 to the name input, from instruction 3 to the 3D animation image, and from instruction 2 to the reading level dropdown.

2

Choose your
reading level
(ask if unsure)

4

Click Continue

Choose how to write

Path A

BUILD MY STORY Create New Story My Library 12

Lets Build Your Story!

Tell us a little about your character and what the story's about

Help Me Write My Story
Start with your idea and we'll bring it to life as a real storybook.

I Want to Write It Myself
Already know what happens? Start writing your version.

Story Setting & Goal:
ex: An abandoned research station hidden in the Arctic, where a kid discovers old technology and must uncover what happened to the missing scientists.

Story Type: Please Select Story Type Writing Style: Please Select Writing Style Write Story Inc: English (US)

< Back Continue

Help me write — paste your summary

Path B

BUILD MY STORY Create New Story My Library 12

Lets Build Your Story!

Tell us a little about your character and what the story's about

Help Me Write My Story
Start with your idea and we'll bring it to life as a real storybook.

I Want to Write It Myself
Already know what happens? Start writing your version.

Page by page story breakdown

Page 1
One sunny morning....

Page 2

Page 3

Page 4

Page 5

Type it myself — type your story

Help me write — paste your summary

1

Paste your 4–6
sentence
summary

2

Choose Story
Type

3

Choose Writing Style

4

Choose
Language

5

Click Continue

BUILD MY STORY Create New Story My Library 12

Let's Build Your Story!

Tell us a little about your character and what the story's about

Help Me Write My Story
Start with your idea and we'll bring it to life as a real storybook.

I Want to Write It Myself
Already know what happens? Start writing your version.

Story Setting & Goal:
ex: An abandoned research station hidden in the Arctic, where a kid discovers old technology and must uncover what happened to the missing scientists.

Story Type: Please Select Story Type Writing Style: Please Select Writing Style Write Story In: English (US)

< Back Continue

Type it myself

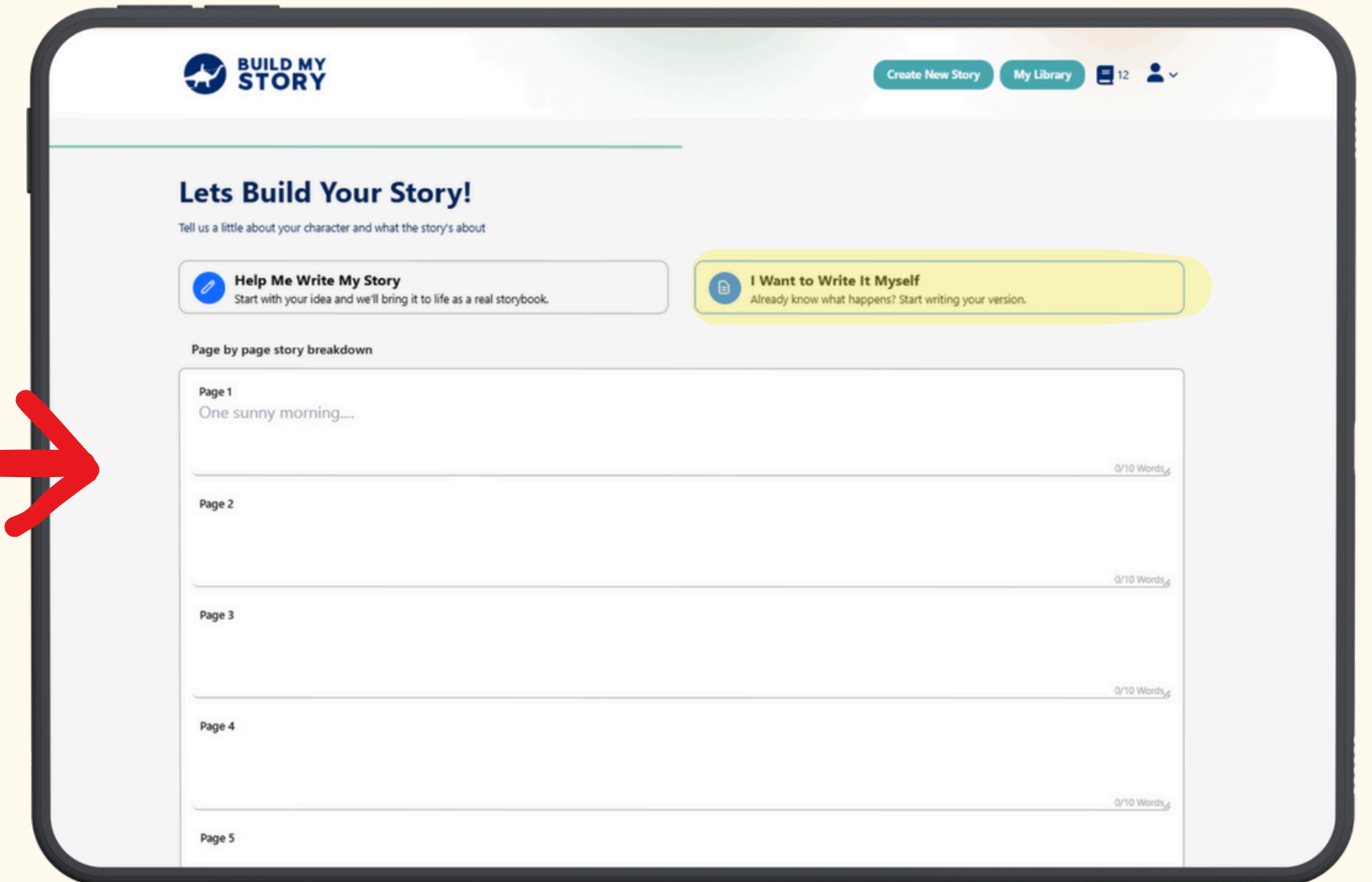
Type into the 11 pages

1

Remember:

Beginning → Build-up → BIG
moment → Fixing it → Ending

Use 2–3 linking words

A screenshot of the 'BUILD MY STORY' app interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the app logo, 'Create New Story', 'My Library', and a user icon. Below this, a heading 'Lets Build Your Story!' is followed by a subtext 'Tell us a little about your character and what the story's about'. Two main options are presented: 'Help Me Write My Story' (with a blue icon) and 'I Want to Write It Myself' (with a yellow icon and highlighted background). The 'I Want to Write It Myself' option includes the text 'Already know what happens? Start writing your version.' Below these options, a section titled 'Page by page story breakdown' shows a list of pages. 'Page 1' is expanded, showing the text 'One sunny morning....' and a '0/10 Words' indicator. Pages 2 through 5 are listed below it, each with a '0/10 Words' indicator. A large red arrow points from the 'Remember' section of the first slide to the 'I Want to Write It Myself' option in the app interface.

2

Click Continue

Build your character



Upload a drawing

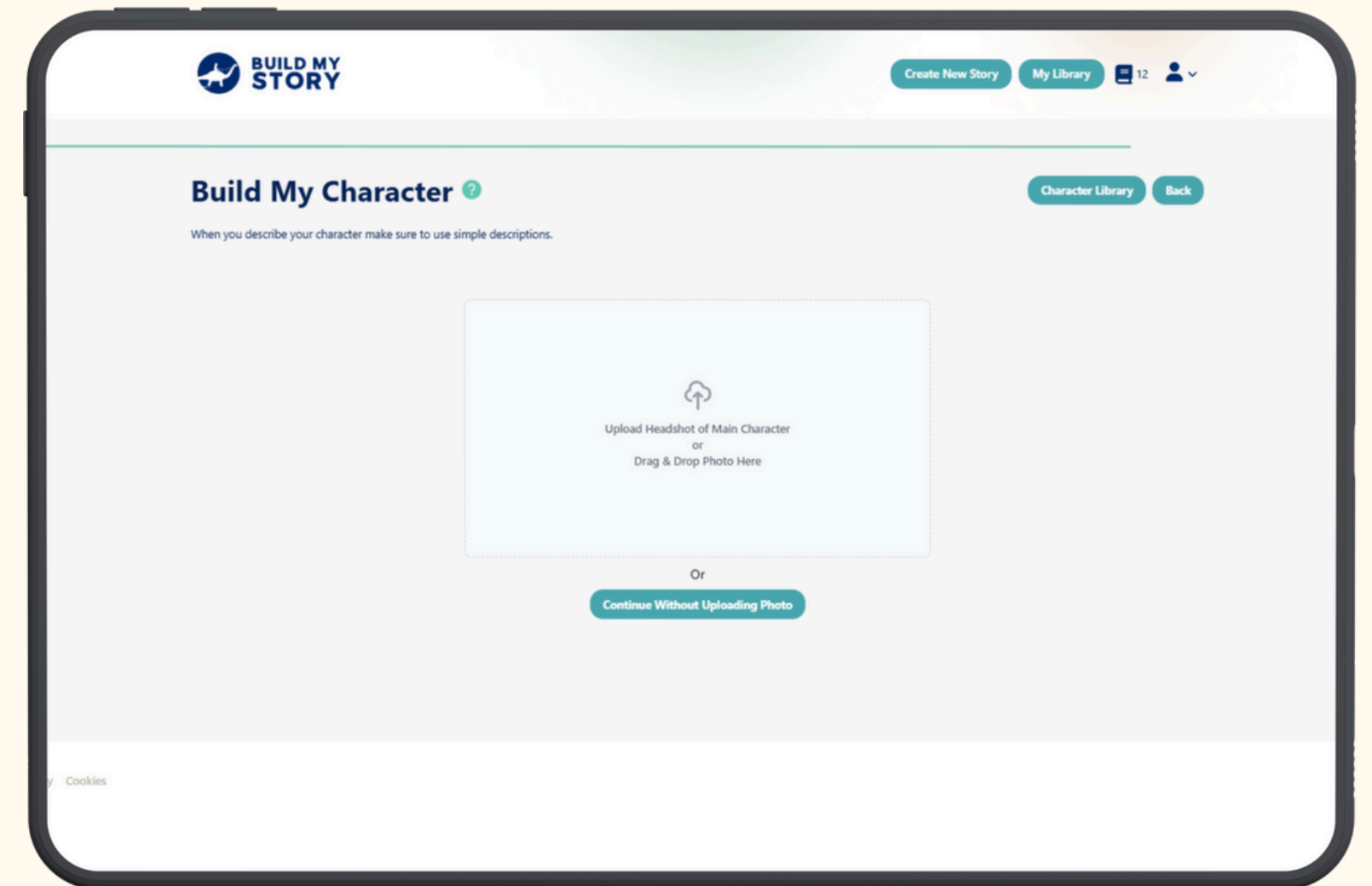
OR



A picture of a character

OR

Click 'Continue without uploading character'



Build your character

1

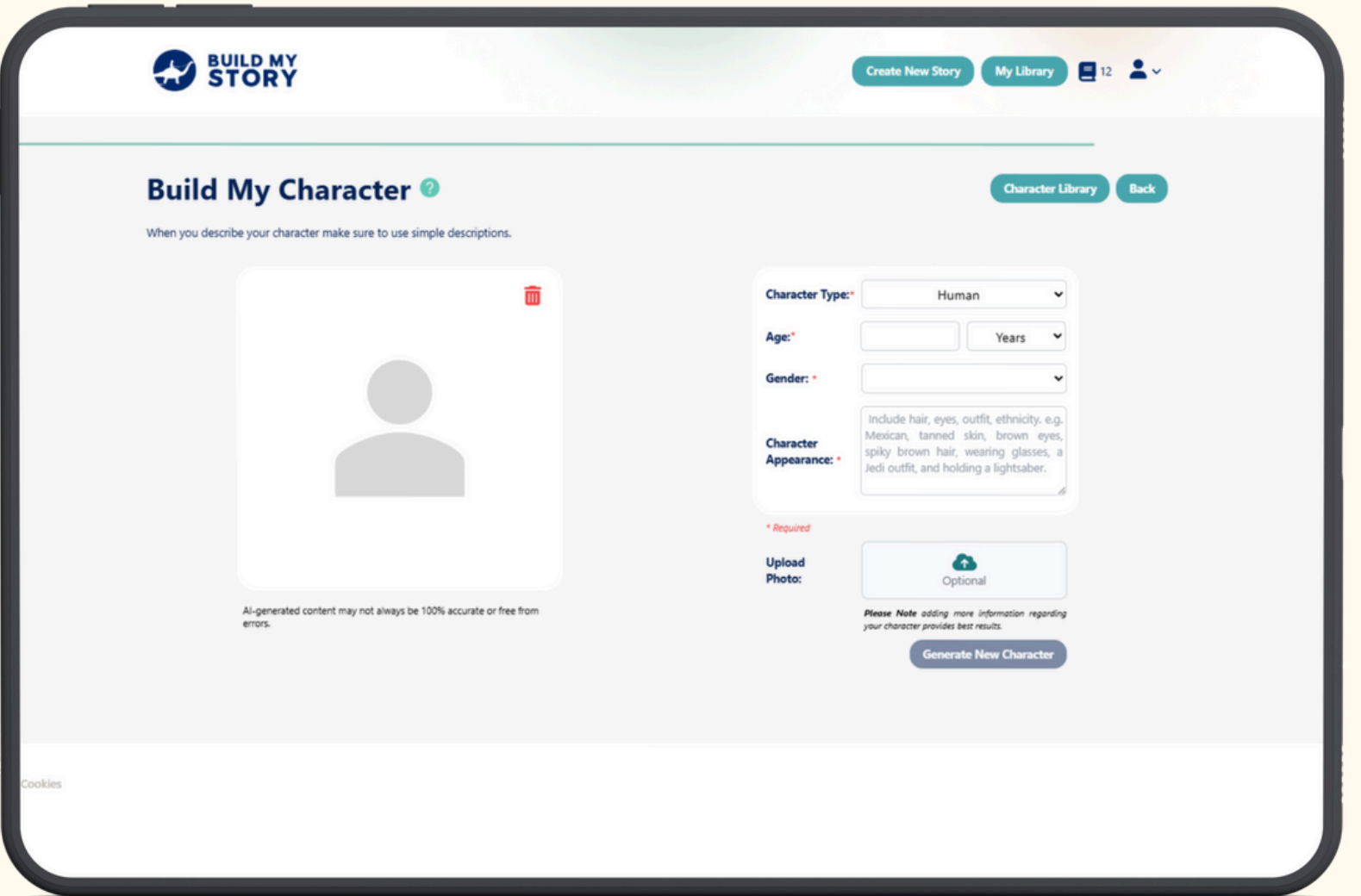
Choose Character Type:
Human, Animal or Fictional

2

Age or character type if
its an animal or fictional

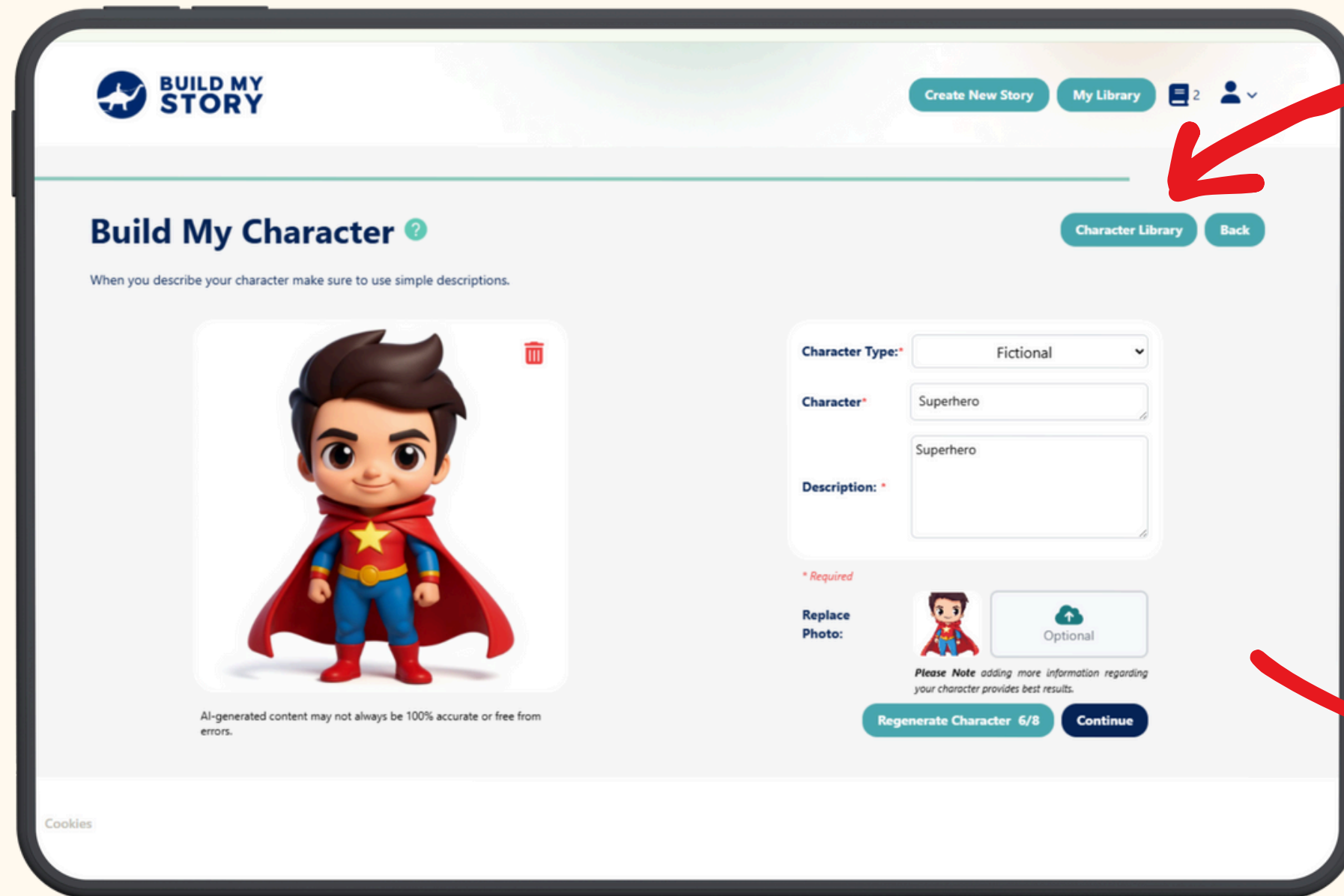
3

Type character appearance.
What does the character look like?

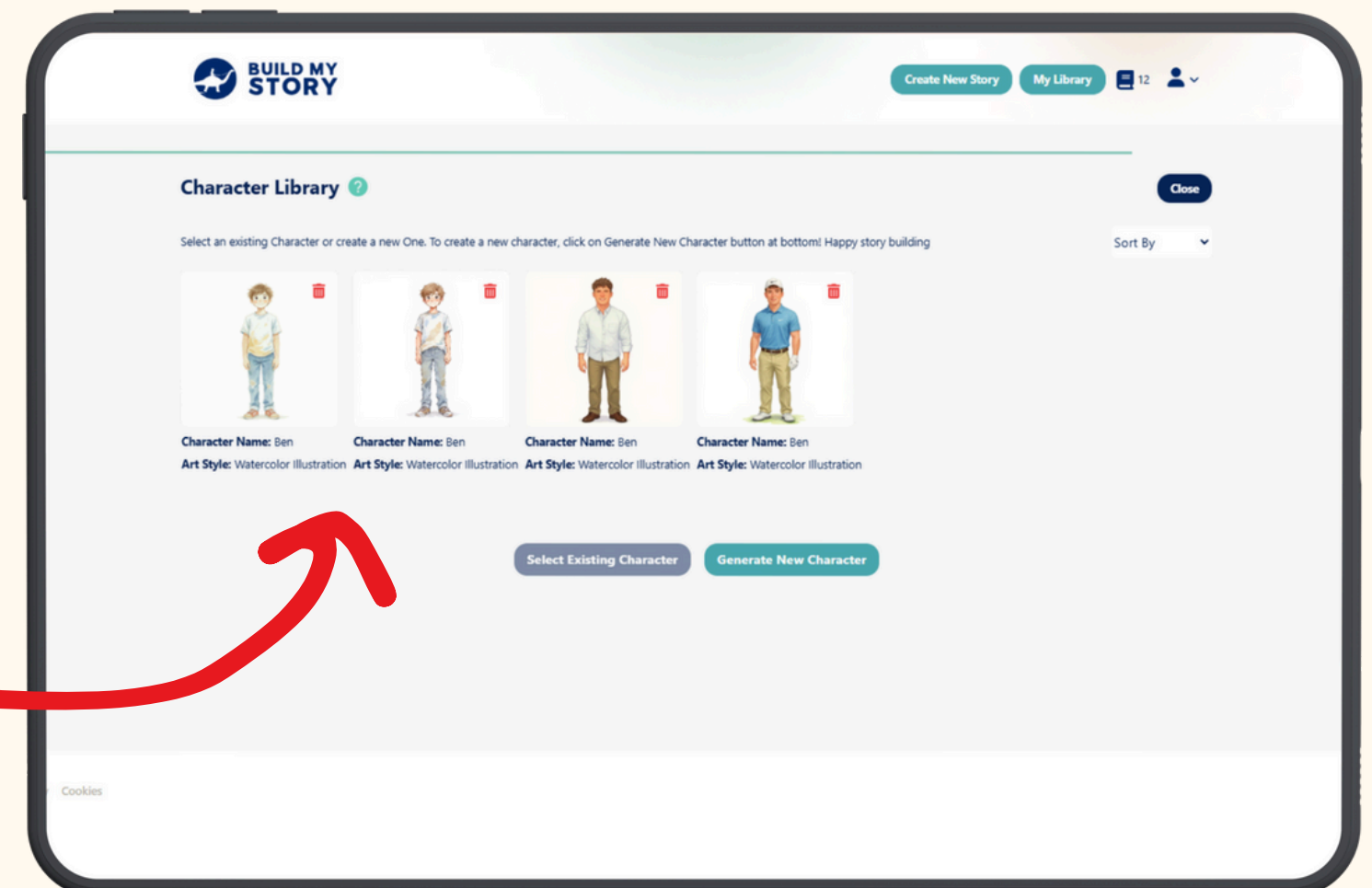
A screenshot of the 'Build My Story' website's character creation interface. The page has a light blue header with the 'BUILD MY STORY' logo, a 'Create New Story' button, a 'My Library' button, and a user profile icon. The main content area is titled 'Build My Character' with a subtitle 'When you describe your character make sure to use simple descriptions.' Below this is a large placeholder for a character image. To the right of the image are input fields for 'Character Type' (set to 'Human'), 'Age' (with a 'Years' dropdown), and 'Gender'. Below these is a text area for 'Character Appearance' with a small example text: 'Include hair, eyes, outfit, ethnicity, e.g. Mexican, tanned skin, brown eyes, spiky brown hair, wearing glasses, a jedi outfit, and holding a lightsaber.' At the bottom right, there is an 'Upload Photo' section with an 'Optional' button and a 'Generate New Character' button. A small disclaimer at the bottom of the image placeholder reads: 'AI-generated content may not always be 100% accurate or free from errors.'

4 Click 'Generate New Character'

Build your character



Click to view all of the characters you have made

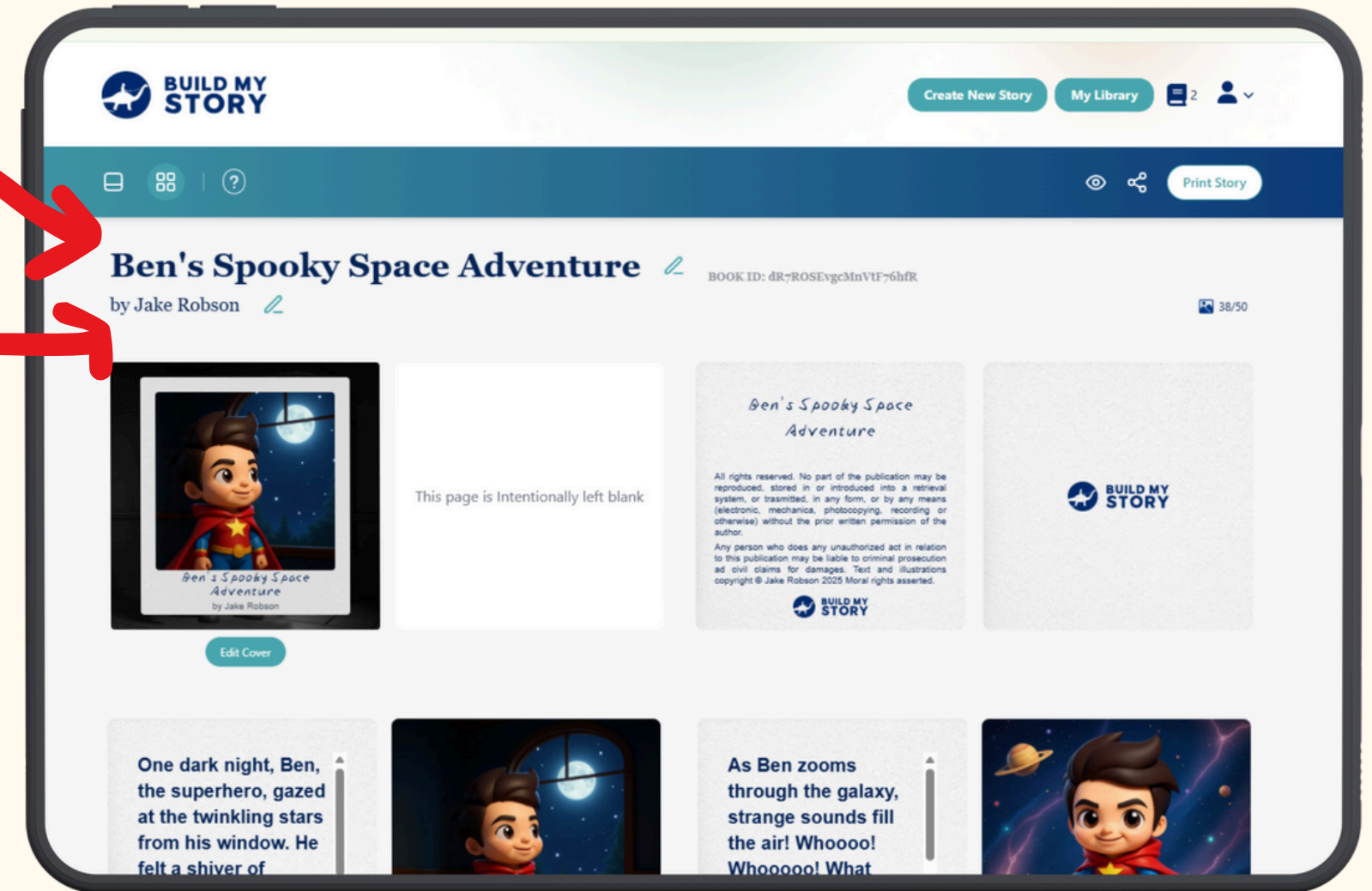


Edit Your Book Until You Are Happy!

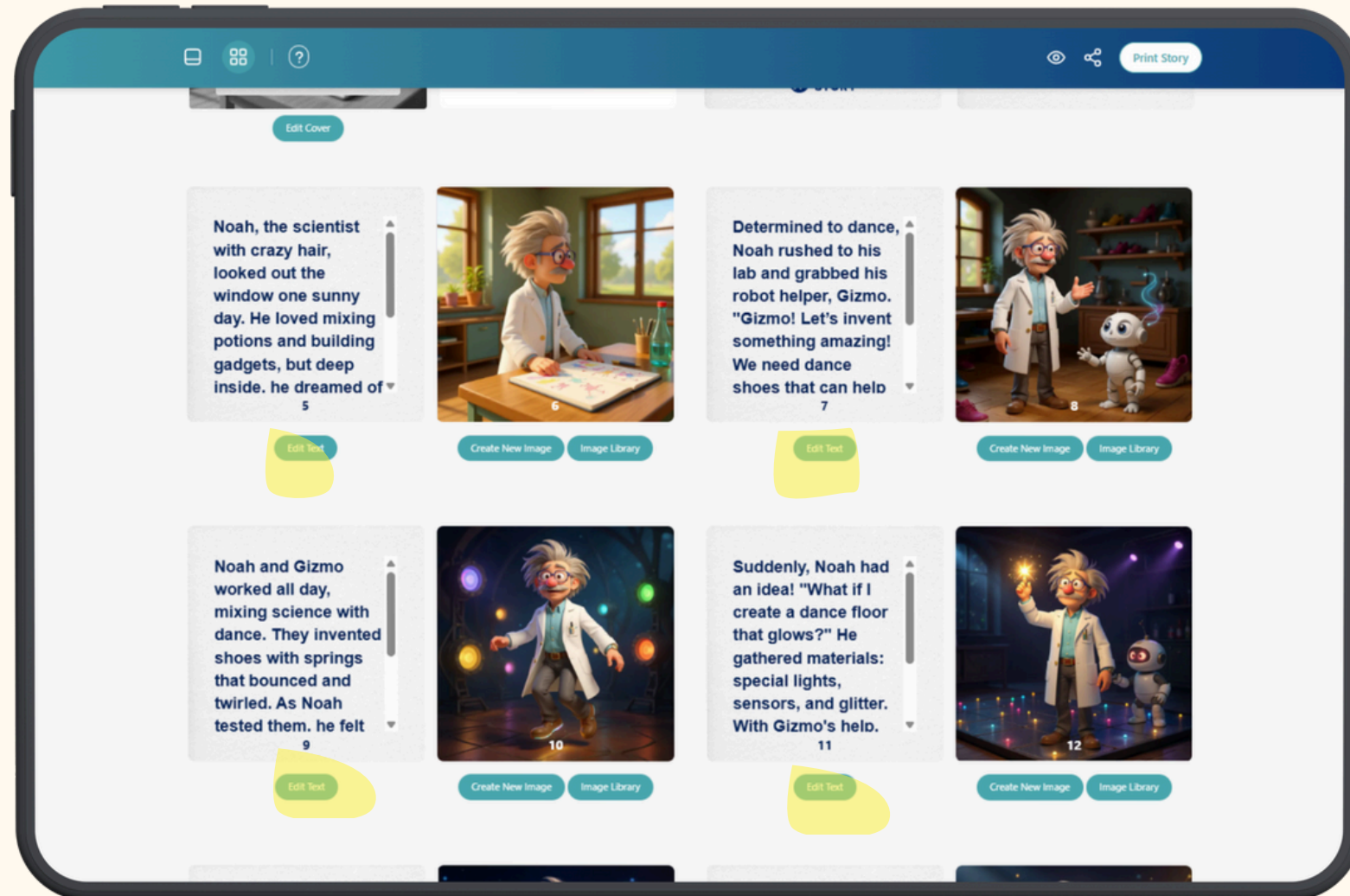
Edit Your Title

Edit Author Name

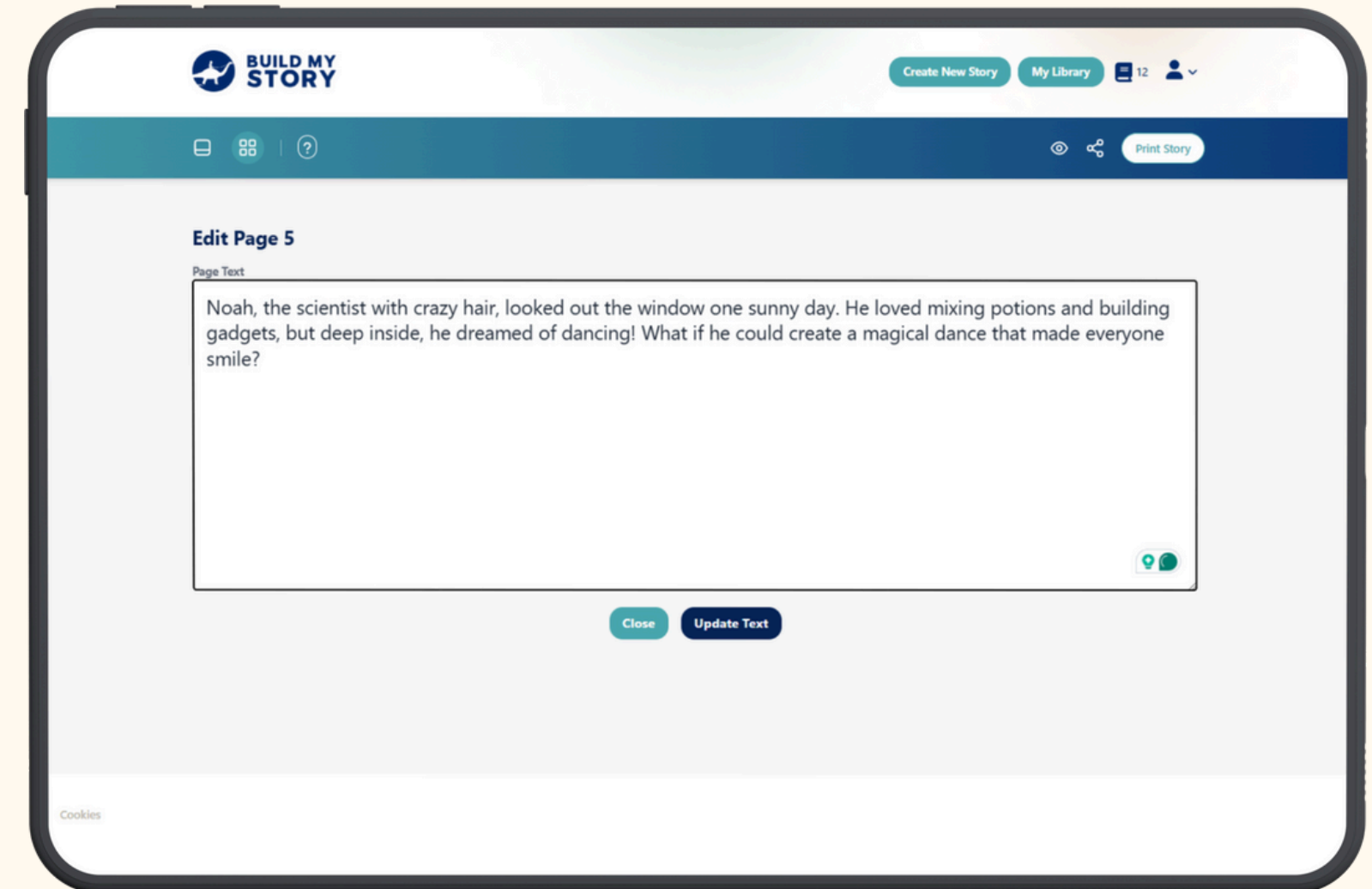
Scroll and Read your
amazing story!



How to edit text

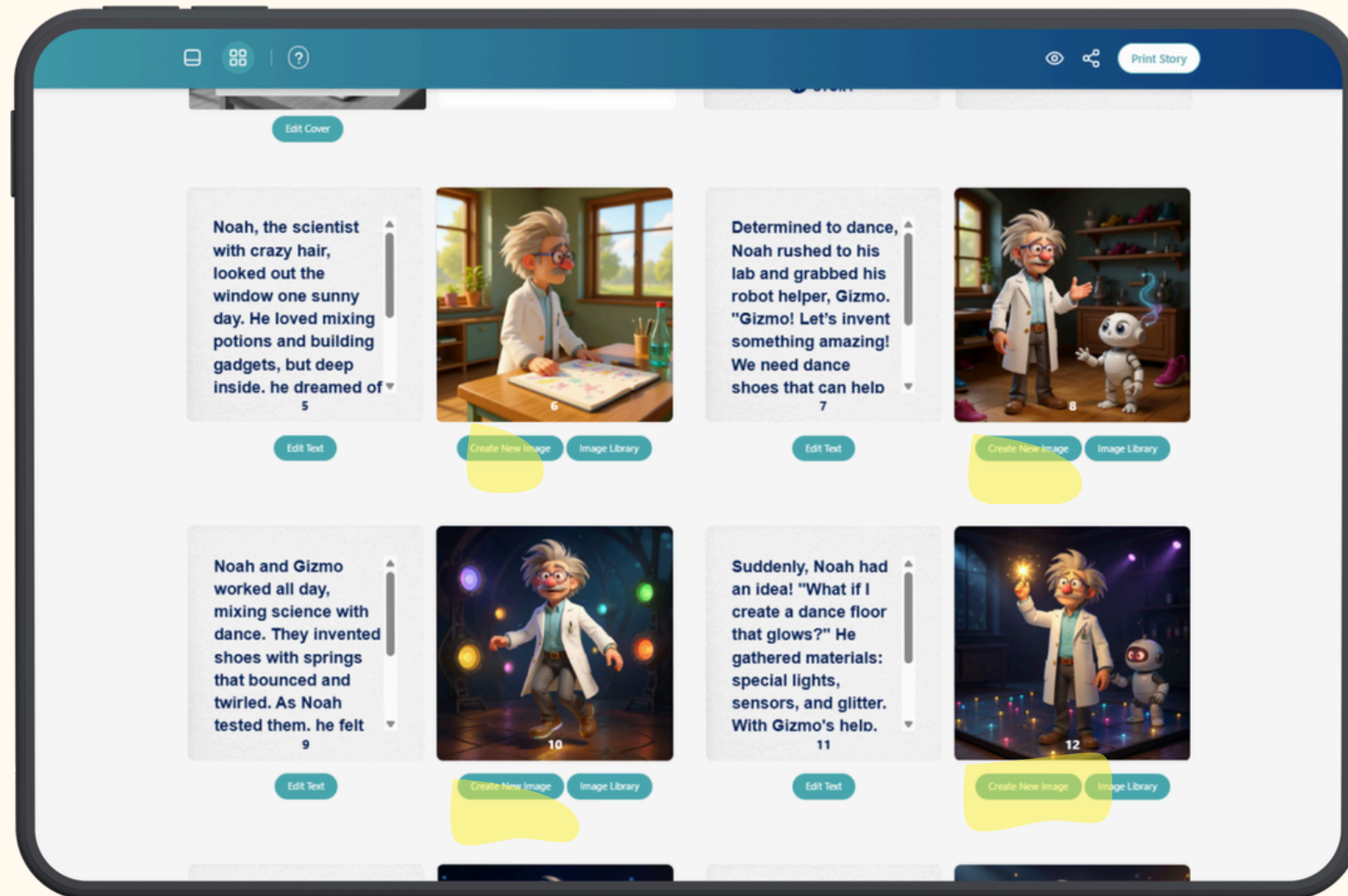


Click 'Edit Text'

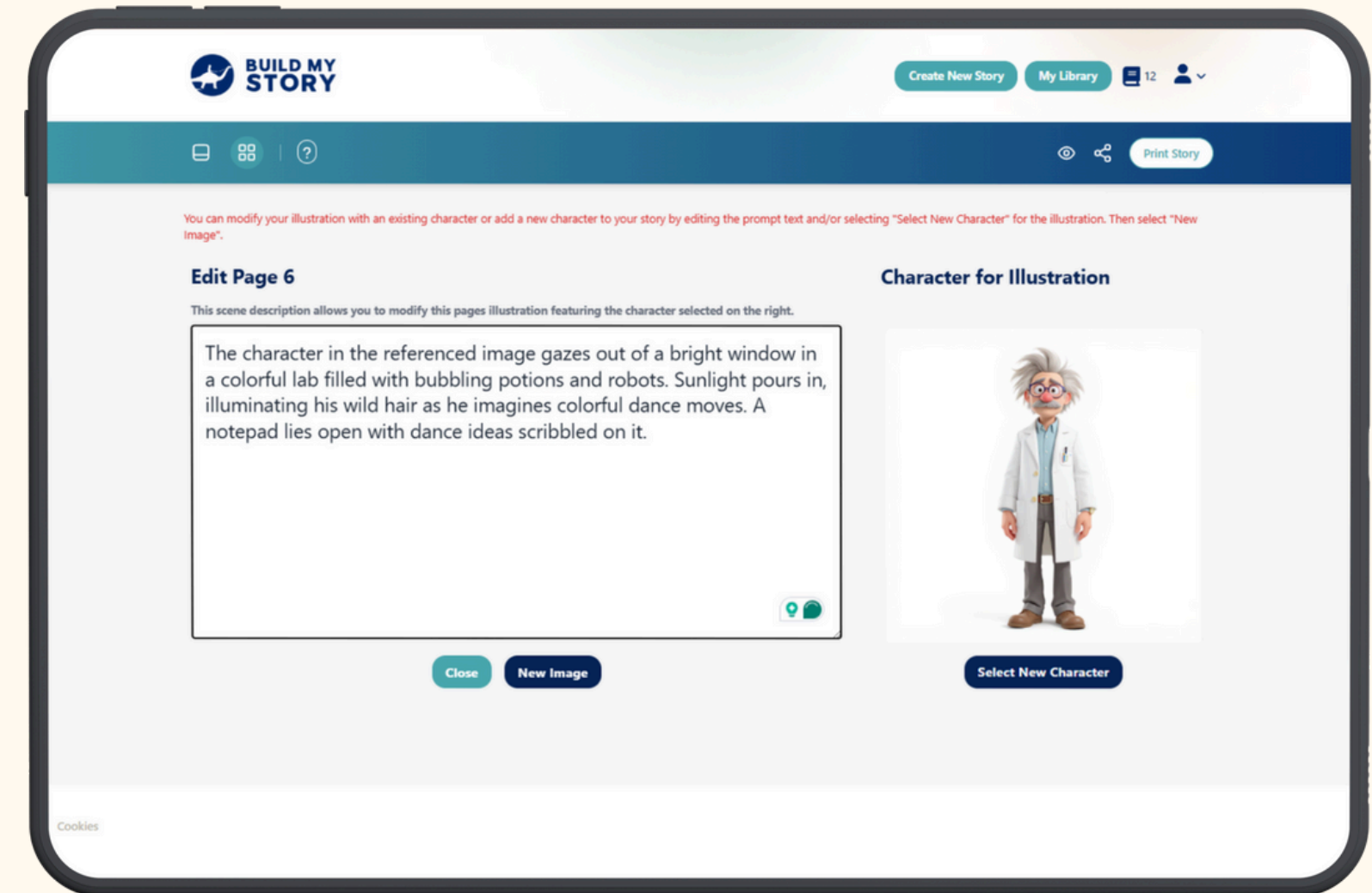


Type, Edit and 'Update Text'

How to edit Images



Click 'Edit Image'



Type in your Image Prompt

What is an image prompt? →

What is a good image prompt?

What's a prompt?

It's the sentence that tells the app what to draw on this page.

Your main character stays the same—you change the **action, place, and details**.

The 4 Magic Parts (A-P-O-M)

- Action – what is the character doing?
- Place – where is it happening?
- Objects – 1–2 things to include (props).
- Mood/Time – how it feels (cozy, windy) or when (evening, rainy).

Quick Example Image Prompts

Good Prompt

“The student writes goals at a desk in the evening; a notebook is open, a calendar is nearby, and the room feels calm and hopeful.”

Not Good Prompt

“The student at a desk.”

Why is this not a good prompt? Put your hand up

Remember The 4 Magic Parts (A-P-O-M)

Action + Place + Objects + Mood/Time

Why is this a bad prompt?

Not Good Prompt

“The student at a desk.”



Action – No Action



Place – “Desk”



Objects – No Objects



Mood/Time – No Mood/Time

The bad prompt has not passed
the 4 magic parts!



Why is this a good prompt?

Good Prompt

“The student writes goals at a desk in the evening; a notebook is open, a calendar is nearby, and the room feels calm and hopeful.”



Action — “Writes goals”



Place — “At a desk”



Objects — “Notebook”, “Calendar”



Mood/Time — “Evening”, “Hopeful”

The good prompt has passed

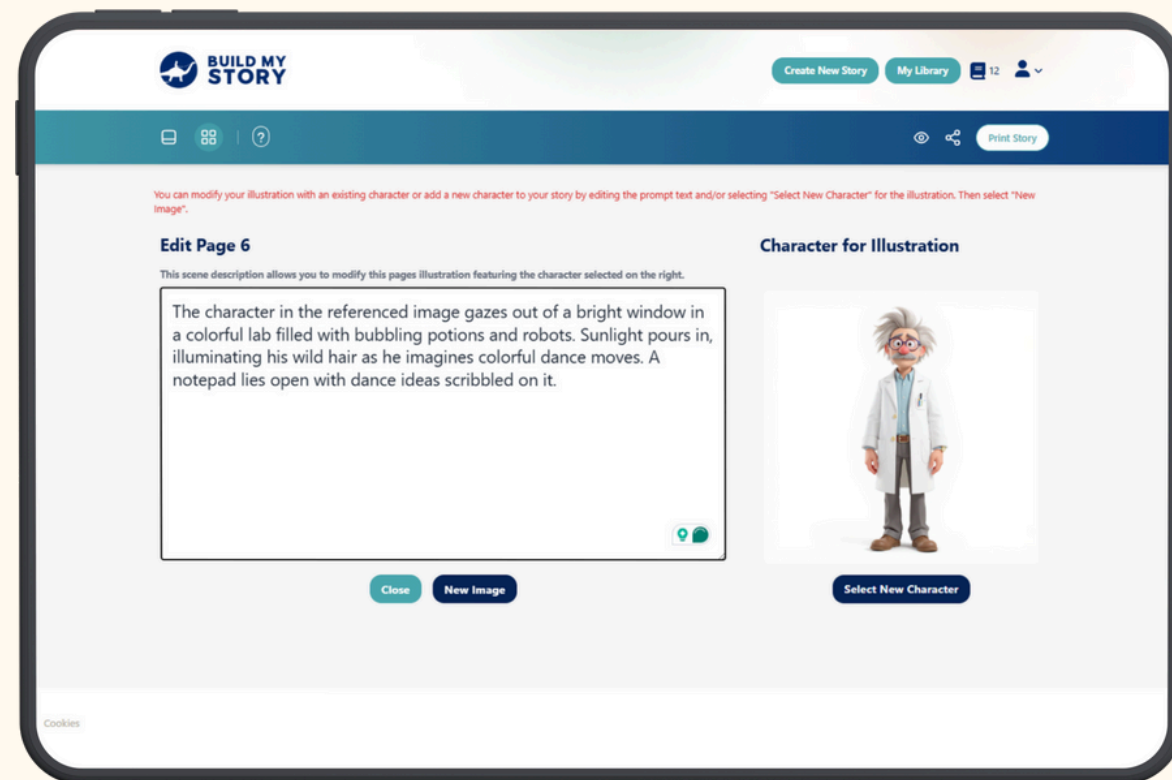
the 4 magic parts!



And that’s how to use AI!

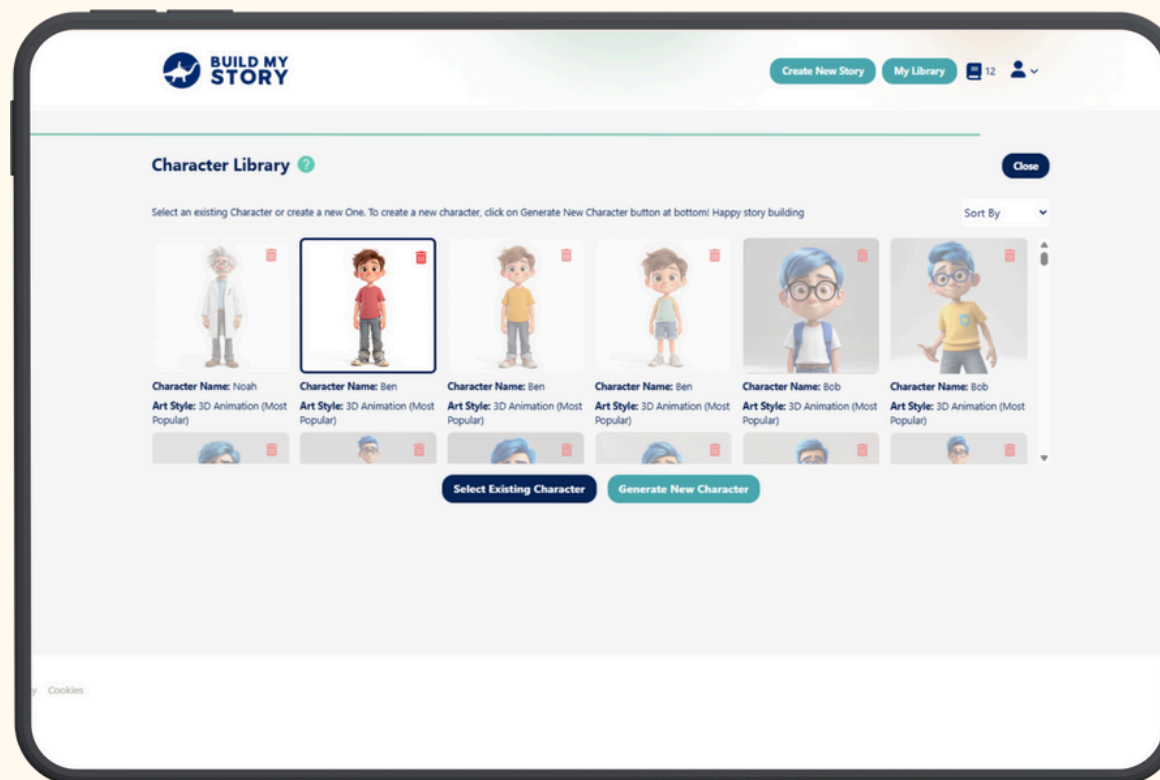
You can even add more characters!

1



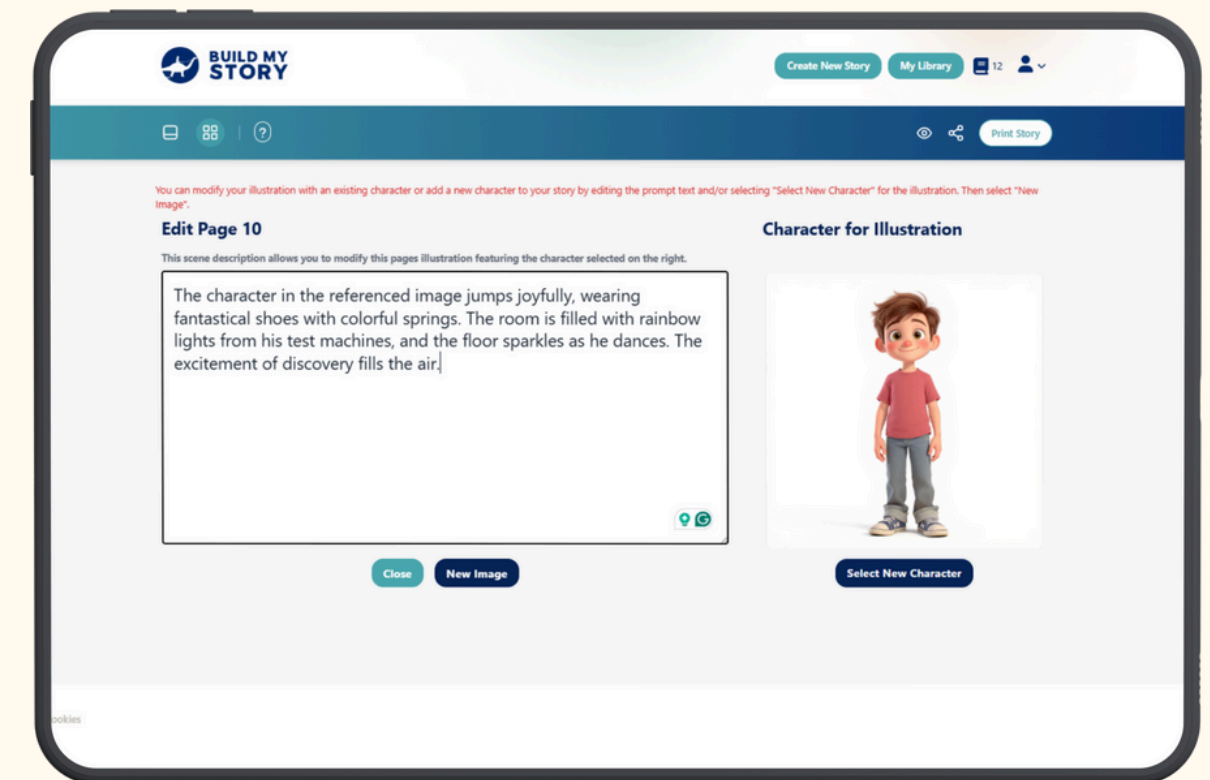
Click 'Select New Character'

2



Create or choose a new character

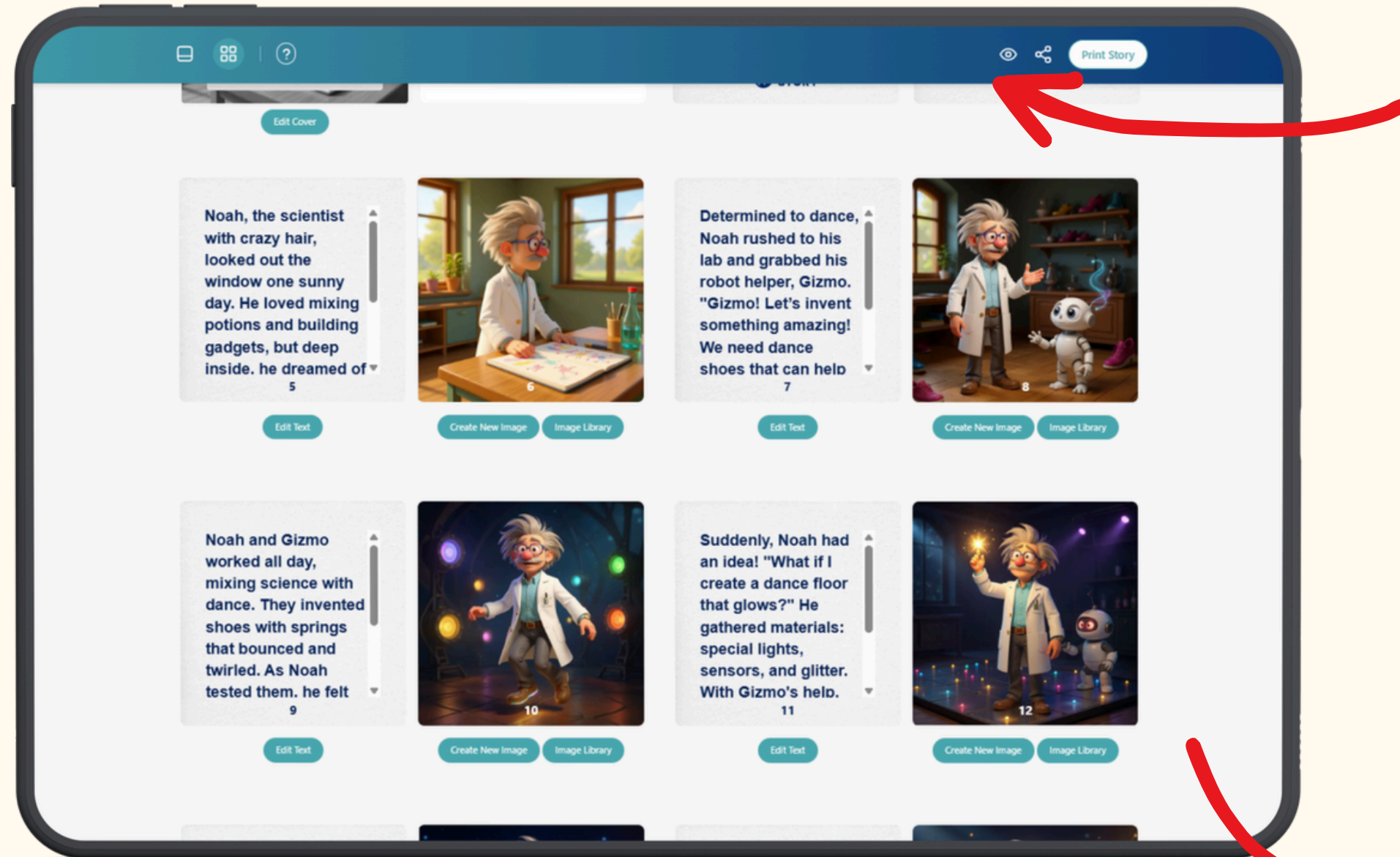
3



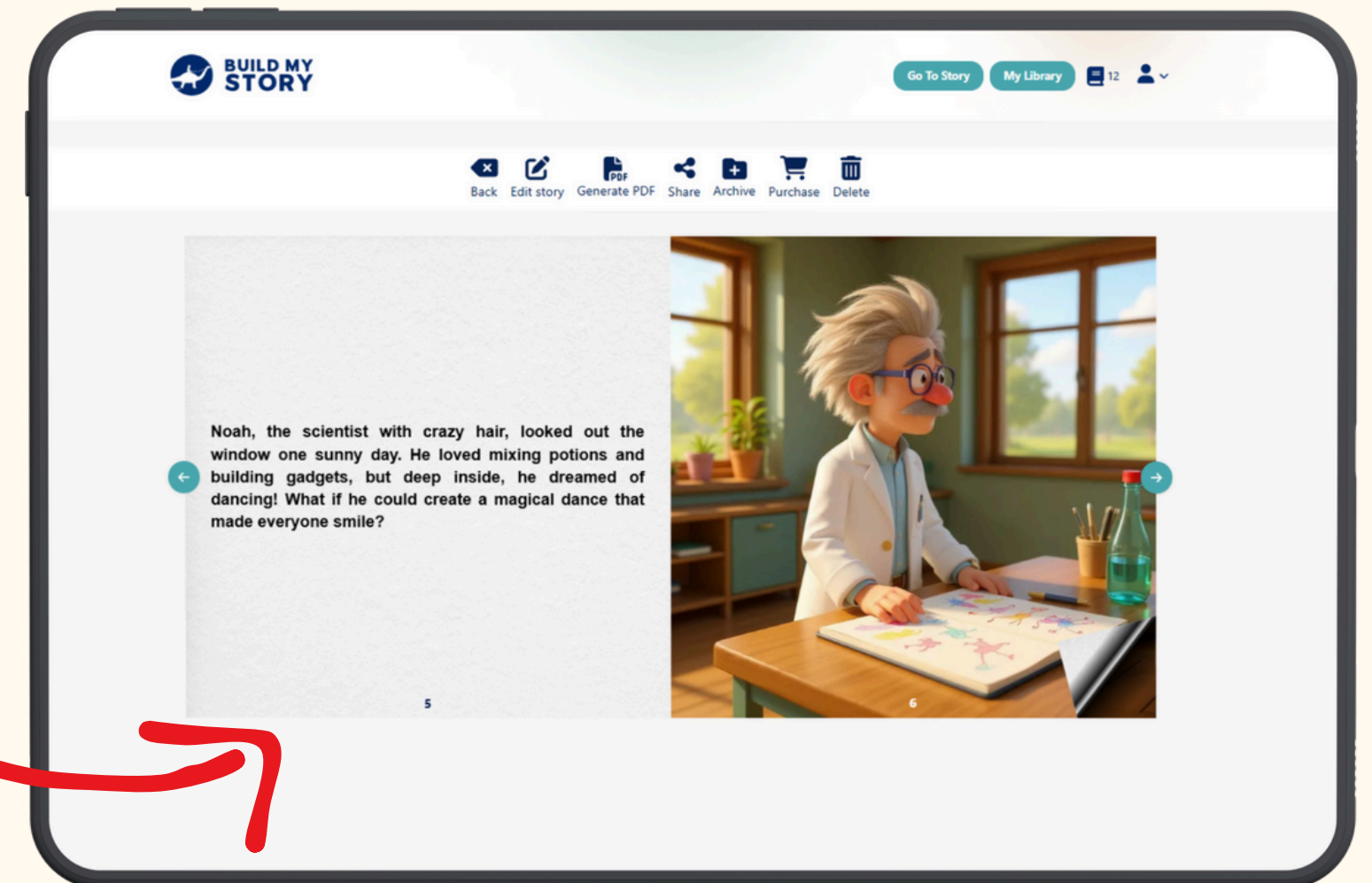
Edit Image Prompt

Remember to change your image prompt with your new character!

Proof Read when you're finished!



Click on the 



Learning Objectives

- ☒ I can revise my draft story to make it clearer
- ☒ I can fix capitals, punctuation, and spelling.
- ☒ I can type my story and give it a great title.
- ☒ I can publish a book!
- ☒ I can make an AI picture

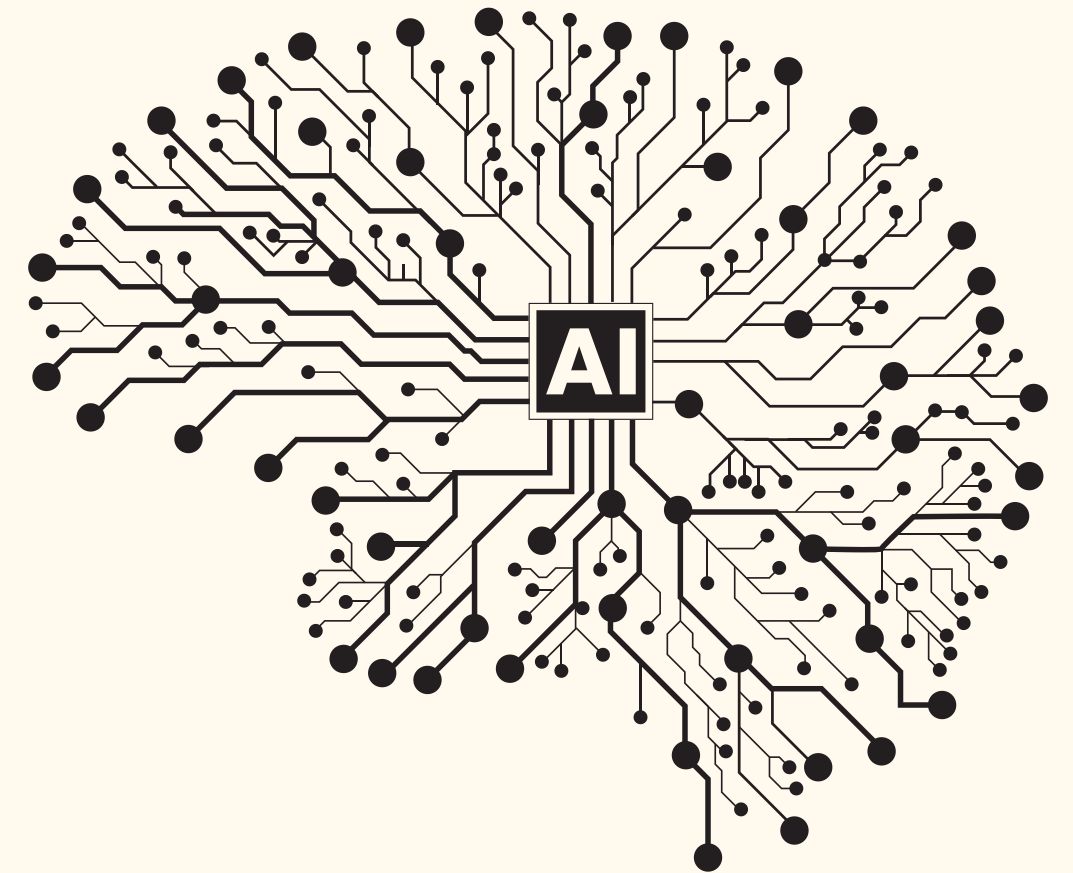
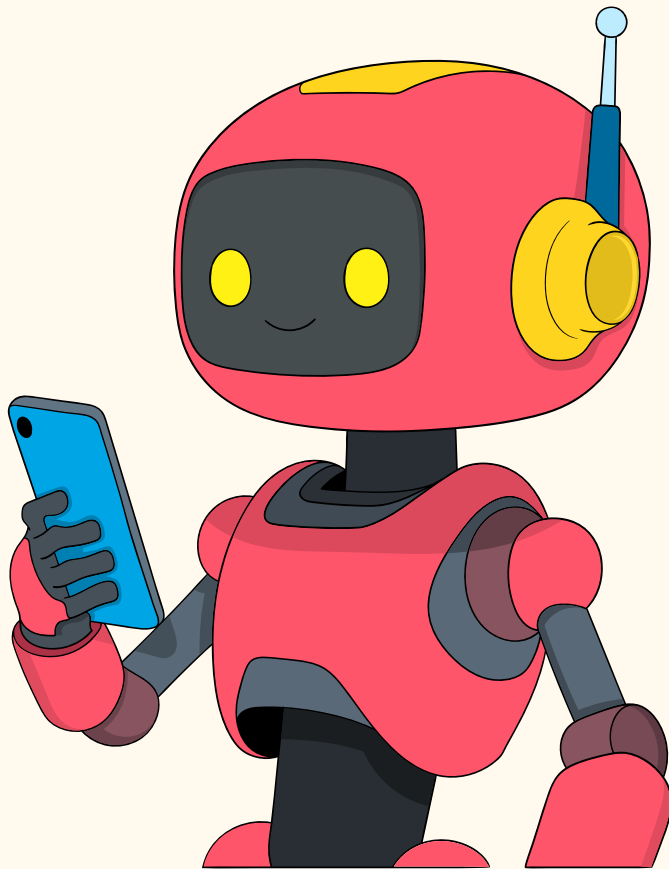
G2-5

What is AI?

Optional Add On

The first question is...

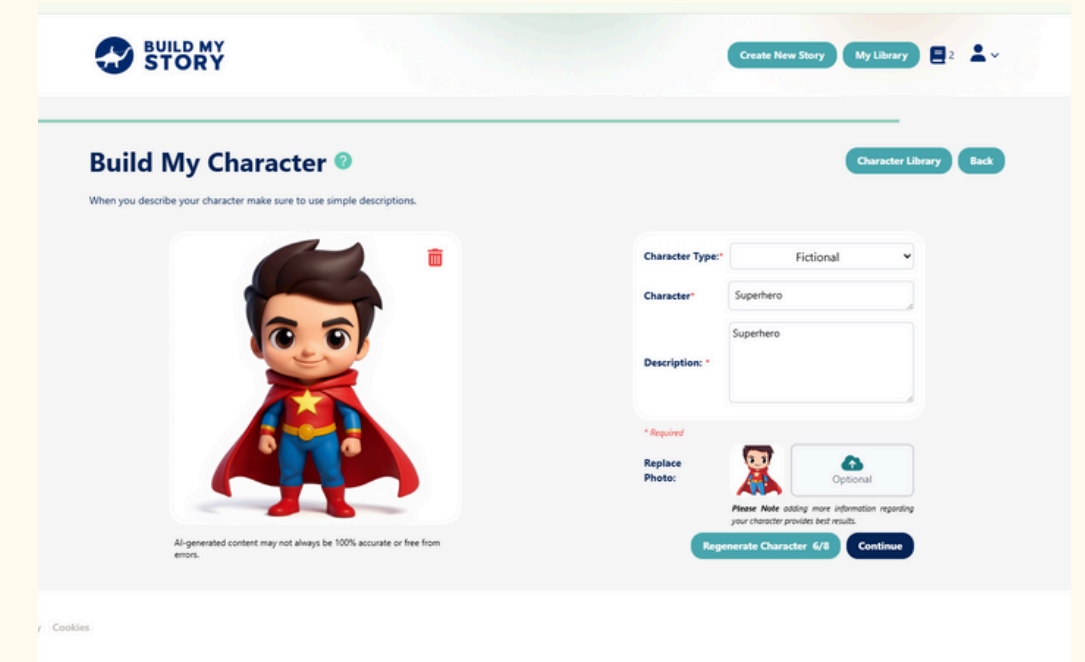
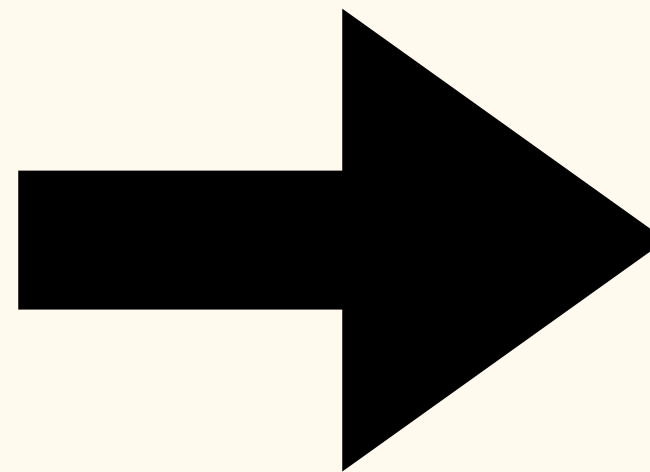
What is A.I?



What is A.I?

AI = Artificial Intelligence.

- It means computers learn patterns from lots of examples.
- Then they use those patterns to help us: recognize voices, suggest words, translate, draw pictures from words, and chat.



That's how your character was made!

In Build My Story, AI can:

- grow your summary into a story (Help me write)
- make pictures from your prompt (Create new image)

Remember!

AI is NOT a person. It has no feelings and can make mistakes.

YOU are the author — check, edit, and choose what to keep.

Story Summary → Big Story

Image Prompt →



Be smart & kind online:

- Don't share private info (full name, address, passwords).
- Ask an adult if something doesn't look right.