

## Weekly Concept **Sharing Stories**



### Essential Question

What kinds of stories do we tell? Why do we tell them?



**Go Digital!**





# Show and Tell

Wherever we travel in the world, the words, “Once, long ago,” let us know a story has begun.

- ▶ Some stories are written, some are told aloud, and still others are performed, as you see here, using puppets, light, and shadow.
- ▶ Whether stories teach lessons or entertain us with humor, exaggeration, or heroic adventure, they always help to show us who we are.

## Talk About It



Write words you have learned about sharing stories. Then talk about one of your favorite stories and why you like to tell it.



# Vocabulary

Use the picture and the sentences to talk with a partner about each word.



**commenced**

The horse race **commenced** on time and ended only three minutes later!

What is an antonym for commenced?



**deeds**

Doing good **deeds** for others can make us feel useful and happy.

What good deeds might you do to help a neighbor?



**exaggeration**

Dad's description of the giant fish must be an **exaggeration** since the fish in this lake are not that big.

How is an exaggeration like a lie?



**heroic**

The **heroic** acts of firefighters help save lives.

What heroic acts do police officers perform?





## impress

Carolina hoped to **impress** the class with her amazing science project.

What might an athlete do to impress a coach?



## posed

The family members stood very still as they **posed** for photographs.

Why do you think they stood still as they posed?



## sauntered

We all enjoyed the sights as we slowly **sauntered** through the park.

What is a synonym for sauntered?



## wring

After soaking a wash rag, **wring** it out to remove excess water.

When might you have to wring a towel?

## Your Turn

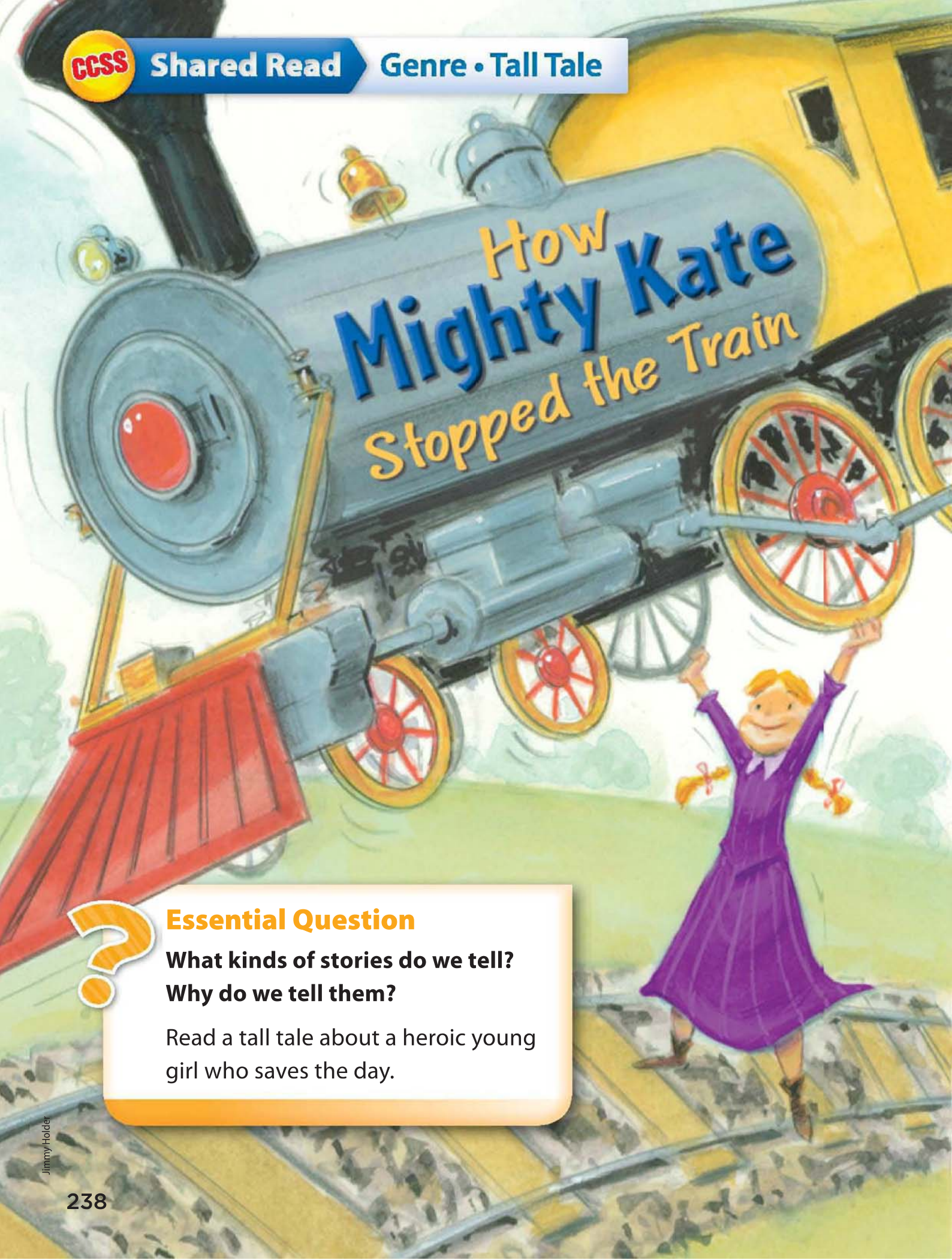
COLLABORATE



Pick three words. Write three questions for your partner to answer.

**Go Digital!** Use the online visual glossary



A colorful illustration of a steam locomotive on tracks. The locomotive is blue and yellow with red wheels. A young girl in a purple dress stands on the tracks, holding onto the wheels. The title 'How Mighty Kate Stopped the Train' is written on the side of the locomotive.

# How Mighty Kate Stopped the Train




## Essential Question

**What kinds of stories do we tell?  
Why do we tell them?**

Read a tall tale about a heroic young girl who saves the day.





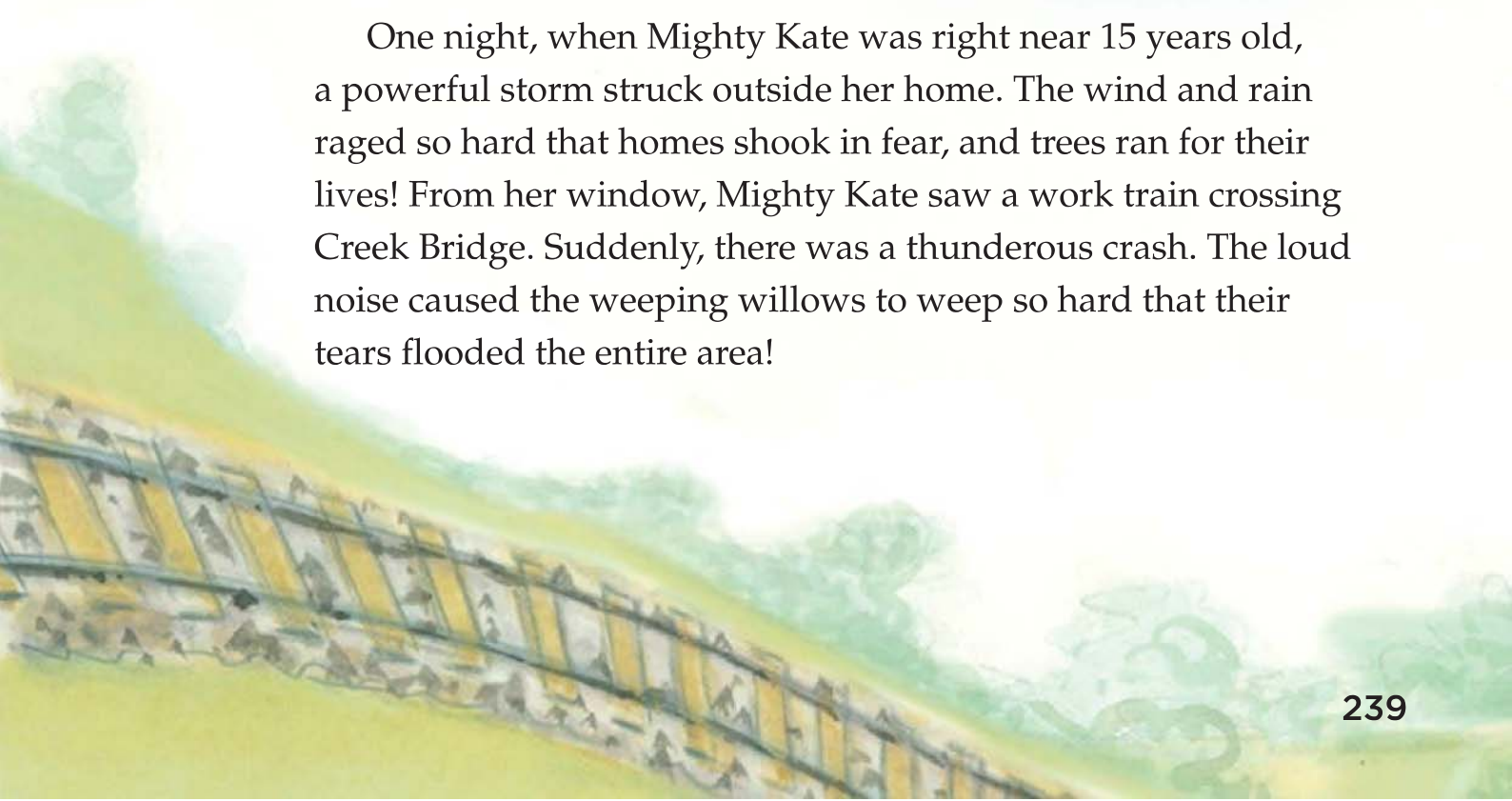
Chances are y'all have seen a railroad train passing through your neck of the woods. Some of you lucky critters may have even ridden one once or twice. But this here story takes place back in the days when railroads were still pretty new in the American South.


The star of this amazing tale is a young gal that folks around here call Mighty Kate. She got that name at birth, on account of how unbelievably strong she was. After the doctor weighed her on a scale, the tiny babe picked up the doc to see how much he weighed! **Deeds** like that proved just how mighty Kate was, and her nickname stuck like paper to glue.

Growing up, Mighty Kate continued to **impress** her family and neighbors with her great strength. When she went walking through the woods, if a boulder was in her path, she never stepped around it. She just picked up that rock, tossed it aside, and **sauntered** along her way! Once, her pappy's horse and buggy got stuck in a ditch. Mighty Kate stepped in and pulled them both out—with just one hand!

But let's not get "off track" from the amazing railroad story you really should hear now.

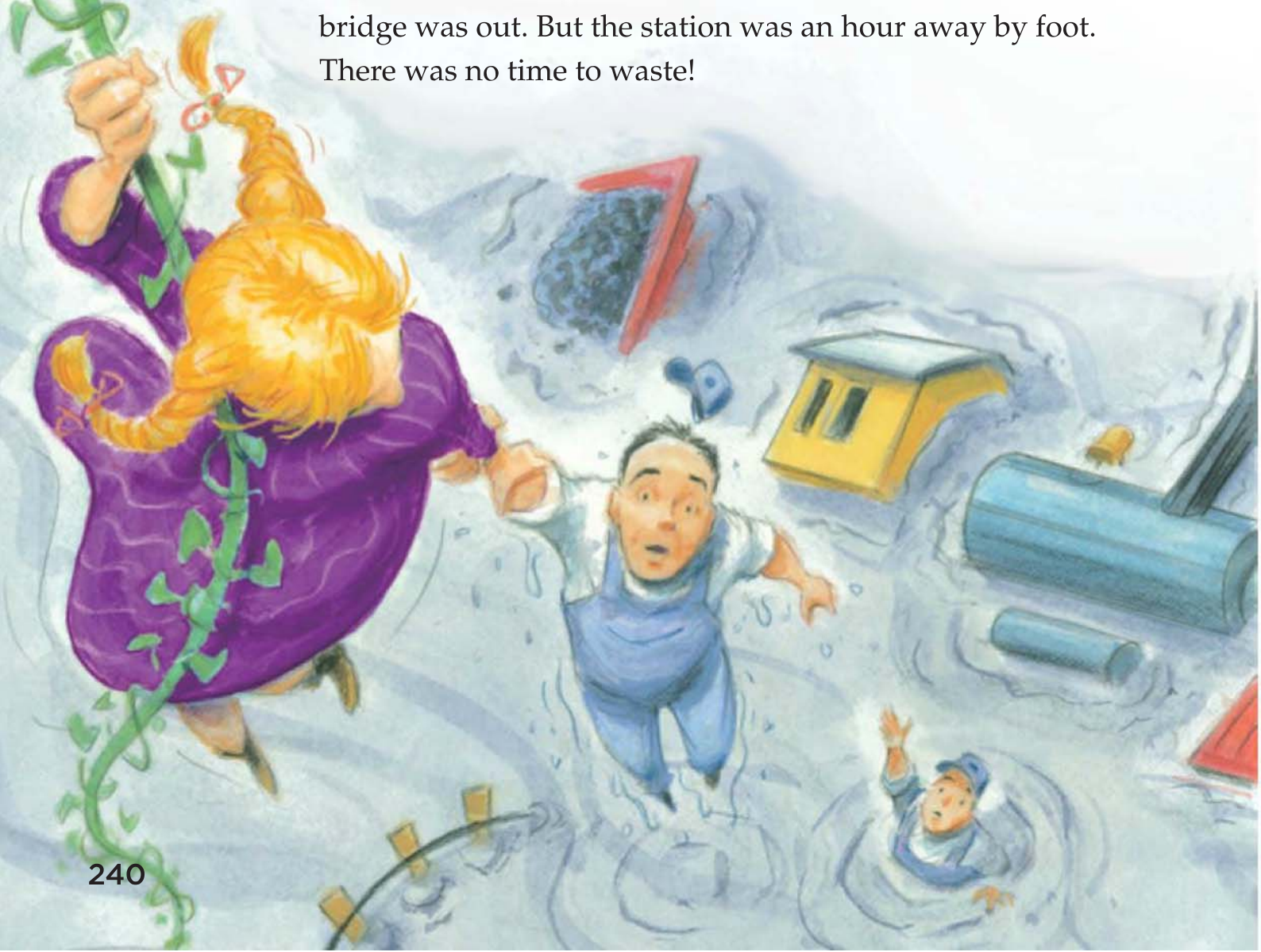
One night, when Mighty Kate was right near 15 years old, a powerful storm struck outside her home. The wind and rain raged so hard that homes shook in fear, and trees ran for their lives! From her window, Mighty Kate saw a work train crossing Creek Bridge. Suddenly, there was a thunderous crash. The loud noise caused the weeping willows to weep so hard that their tears flooded the entire area!



A woman with a long, thick blonde braid is climbing a large green vine. She is wearing a purple dress and is holding onto the vine with both hands. The vine is thick and has small green leaves. The background is a light, misty grey.

Mighty Kate ran outside to see what had happened. The bridge, whipped by the storm, had fallen into the creek. So had the train! Kate grabbed a long vine on a nearby plant and slid down to the crash site. She found two railroad workers trapped under a pile of twisted rails. With one push of her arm, she swept away all that mess. Whoosh!—the men were free. She yanked each man up with one hand and ascended the vine back up to land with the other hand—no **exaggeration!**

I reckon y'all may be guessing Mighty Kate was done with her **heroic** deeds for the night. But you'd be wrong. She knew the 10:30 local train, filled with passengers, would soon be rolling through the area. She had to tell workers at the nearest railroad station to hold the train, since the bridge was out. But the station was an hour away by foot. There was no time to waste!





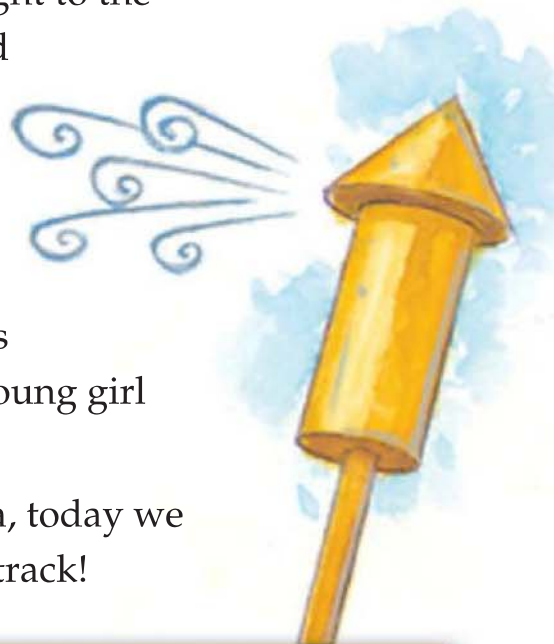
With the wind and rain attacking her, Mighty Kate set out for the train station. Soon she came to River Bridge, which had somehow managed to stay up in the storm. Kate **commenced** to cross the bridge. Floodwaters rushed just beneath her feet. Suddenly, she spotted a huge log floating in the river. It was headed straight for the bridge—and for Kate!

Mighty Kate leaned over the railing. She stood still, as if **posed** for a photograph. As the log was about to strike, Kate grabbed it. She began to **wring** the wood with her bare hands. Pretty soon, that fat, wet log was nothing but a shriveled twig!

After crossing the bridge, Mighty Kate ran straight to the station. When she got there, the passenger train had already left. Kate raced after it along the tracks but couldn't catch up. Then she got an idea. She whistled loudly—so loudly that the engineer heard it and stopped the train.

Kate ran up and told him how Creek Bridge was out. The engineer hugged and thanked the brave young girl who had saved the day.

And because of Mighty Kate's mighty good idea, today we have whistles on trains to give warnings along the track!



### Make Connections



Discuss the way the author told the story of Mighty Kate. Why do you think she told it this way?

#### ESSENTIAL TEXT

What stories do you most like to tell to people?

How do you tell them? **TEXT TO SELF**