Plan your talk: answers and notes

What your child practised: choosing a talk's purpose, thinking about the listener, and planning a beginning, middle and end.

Page 1 · Warm up

Stripy: **D** · Ice: **E** · Lights: **S** · Proud: **F**

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. Look for simpler words for the 5-year-old, a polite start and more detail for the head teacher, and a clear ending both times.

Page 2 · A. Purpose

1. **explain** · 2. **tell a story** · 3. **describe** · 4. **share a feeling** (saying why you felt it is part of sharing a feeling)

Page 3 · B. Listeners

5-year-old → **"Shall I tell you about a fluffy dog…"**
Head teacher → **"Good morning, Mrs Hughes…"**
Best friend → **"Guess what!…"**

Page 3 · C. Sam's talk

From the top: **4, 5, 1, 3, 2**

Page 3 · D. Your own plan

Answers will vary. A place: describe. A sandwich: explain. A best day: tell a story.

Challenge: No. "…and then we had lunch" sounds like the middle, so listeners don't know she's finished. She could sum up and thank them: "So that was my best holiday ever. Thank you for listening!"

Watch out for

- **Mixing up purposes.** Ask, "Are you saying what it's like, how or why, what happened, or how you felt?"
- **Talking the same way to everyone.** Ask, "Who's listening? What do they already know?"
- **No ending.** A talk that just stops leaves listeners waiting. Practise a closing line: sum up, then "Thank you."

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Finger plan:** before your child tells you about their day, they plan it on their fingers: one beginning, two middle, one end.
- **Purpose ping-pong:** call out a topic ("volcanoes"). Your child names a purpose and a first sentence for it.
- **In the game:** Chapter 2, Clear descriptions and explanations: precise detail, steps in order and because.