# Pathways to a Theme

**When you have read your chosen story, respond to the following questions:**

1. What is happening in the story? Answer in point form or full sentences.

Beekle is an imaginary friend an he is waiting for a child to imagine him. He’s waiting many nights for his turn to play. No child wanted to imagine or play with beekle so he decided to go out to the real world and find a friend himself. Beekle climbed a tree in search to find a friend, but no one came. Until there was a girl named alice who said hello to him. They werent really sure what to do, but longer they were together they started to realize they were perfect.

1. Identify and describe the conflict in the story.

The conflict in the story is that beekle was struggling to find his friend. He was feeling very down and alone. He pondered on how far he came and what he had accomplished to not find his friend.

1. Brainstorm words or phrases that connect to the class discussion on the human condition.

Human nature/society

* What leads to happiness: he kept searching for what he want/what he was looking for.
* How does one manage stress and expectation: he sat in a tree and pondered about how far he came and he was very sad. But he was still very patient and waited for his friend to come.
* Patience
* Lonliness
* Adventure
* Hope
* Believe

1. **What are 2-3 themes or big ideas of the story? Create a theme statement**.

-You can create a theme statement by using the formula **topic+treatment (+/-) = result**. Eg. In Macbeth, one could say that “ambition + too much = destruction”. Therefore the theme statement would be “*Too much ambition can lead to destruction*”

**-A theme statement has** **no absolutes, no cliches and no conversational language**. Eg. “*I think its to never judge a book by its cover”* **is NOT a good theme statement.**

Topic hope + treatment(+/-) patience = happy ending

Theme Statement

If you have hope and and patience it will lead to a happy ending.

Topic love + treatment(+/-) kindness = result happy relationship

Theme Statement

With a little love and kindness a happy relationship will be created.

Topic determination + treatment(+/-) persistence = results positive results

Theme Statement

Determination and persistence will lead you to have positive results in life.

1. **Change the theme statements into a deep questions.** Eg. *What can be the result of too much ambition?* OR *Can too much ambition lead to destruction?*

* **Does hope and patience really lead to a happy ending?**
* Is there such a thing as too much love?
* What kind of sacrifices will you have to make to achieve positive results?
* When is it time to lose hope?