APPENDIX 1.7 Model Story: "Olivia and the Stolen Markers"

Olivia and the Stolen Markers

Olivia had never wanted anything as much as she wanted Laura's colored markers. They were perfect markers. They came in a yellow cardboard case, and there were sixteen colors. Sixteen!

One day, when everyone else was busy putting on their coats, Olivia took the markers from Laura's desk and put them in her backpack. She ran all the way home. She was sure someone had seen her, and she watched the street from behind a curtain.

When she decided the coast was clear, Olivia took out the markers. She lined them up on the rug. The colors were beautiful. Robin's-egg blue, and lemonyellow, and rose-pink. There were two shades of green. There was a silver marker and a gold marker.

Olivia spent a long time moving the markers around on the rug. Then she took out some paper and began to draw, and that was even better. The markers swooshed across the page. Olivia drew a castle and a dragon. (The castle was blue, and the dragon was purple. It was the best drawing she'd ever made.)

At dinner, Olivia was too upset to eat.

"What's wrong, sweetheart?" asked her mother.

Olivia mumbled that she wasn't hungry. She ran upstairs. She felt terrible.

Olivia couldn't sleep all night. She imagined someone taking Tulip, her stuffed rabbit, and how sad she would feel. She wondered if Laura was worried.

The next morning, Olivia stopped Laura at the cubbies.

"I took your markers," she whispered. "I'm sorry. I don't know why I did it."

"Oh!" said Laura. "I thought I lost them."

Olivia began to cry. Mrs. Roth called everyone to their seats.

At recess, Laura found Olivia. She said, "Will you make a drawing with me?"

Olivia nodded.

They divided up the markers. They drew another castle and an elephant. (The castle was green, and the elephant was yellow with blue polka-dots. It was the best drawing they'd ever made.)