Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ October 11-14, 2016

**Adding Meaning to Your Story**

THE PROCESS:

* Think about what the story is **REALLY** about. What is the deeper meaning? What is the **theme**?
* Reread the story looking for ***objects or actions that could stand for these ideas***.
  + Are these objects and/or actions **described** in detail?
  + Have you made their **importance** known?
* Can you ***repeat these objects or actions*** in a few places throughout the story to make them \*POP\* to the reader?

Try it with “Thirteen-and-a-Half” …

* What is the story REALLY about?

Growing up brings struggles and ups and downs.

* What are some objects and/or objects that reflect the deeper meaning?

The references to birds and Ashley’s desire to fly like a bird connect to the theme.

* How can these objects and/or actions be described in more detail? How can you add importance to these objects and/or actions?

Sweet Pea, the bird, is described as blue, green, and other colors. The Narrator describes the jewelry box that the bird is put in after he dies. Ashley is described at the end with her arms spread out as if she is flying. This helps add to showing the importance of the bird’s image.

* Are these objects or actions repeated in a few places throughout the story to make them \*POP\* to the reader?

The idea of a bird is evident throughout the entire story. It starts with Ashley mentioning her desire to fly, and it ends with Ashley acting as if she is flying. In the middle, there is the death and funeral of the bird in Ashley’s room.

Now it’s your turn with your story …

Work with your partner to make this process easier.

Be sure to add to and revise your story with this process in mind.