Super Flip and the Plot Elements

Objective: Students identify the plot elements in a fiction story.

Time for Lesson → **45 minutes**
Standard → **Language Arts - Plot Elements (setting, character, conflict, resolution)**
Art integration → **Visual Art – Produce drawings by creating a comic strip**
Supplies → **Worksheet, Pencil, Colored Pencils/markers**
Video → **www.takethestage.tv**

♿ → Entire activity can be done from a seated position.

PREPARATION:
- Preview video. *(video is 9 minutes)*
- Test playback of video on smartboard or monitor before lesson.
- Bring to class an age-appropriate comic strip, comic book or graphic novel to share as an example.
- Print and pass out a worksheet for each student from www.takethestage.tv.
- Pass out colored pencils/markers and instruct students to take out a pencil.

INTRODUCTION:
1) Explain, "In this activity, you will identify the **plot elements** of a fiction story, and create your very own **comic strip** using those plot elements! A comic strip is like a very short comic book on one line, or strip." Provide visual examples for reference: a comic strip from a newspaper, a comic book, or a graphic novel.
2) Explain "Fiction stories have plot elements and these elements are Character: Who's in the story. Setting: Where and when the story takes place. Conflict/Problem: Where something goes wrong and needs to be fixed. Resolution: How the conflict/problem is solved at the end of the story.

ACTIVITY:
1) Once each student has the worksheet and is seated, **PRESS PLAY**.
2) When the video says **PRESS PAUSE**, pause the video for students to draw their comic strip. Each comic box represents a plot element, though 'Character' and 'Setting' will be in the same first comic box.
   (Remind students that the characters can talk in speech bubbles to help tell the story.)
3) In lines provided below the comic boxes, have students write the action of the story in their own words.
4) Allow students time to share their comic strips with the class.
5) **UNPAUSE**, and complete watching the video.

REVIEW:
1) Ask students to provide examples of plot elements from other well-known stories. Fairytales and animated movies are good references that students know.
2) Play a game where the teacher calls out a plot element. The students guess which plot element the teacher is describing:
   EXAMPLES:
   Teacher: A dark and stormy night in the city of London. Plot Element: **Setting**
   Teacher: Timon, a meerkat, and Pumba, a warthog, are best friends. Plot Element: **Character**
   Teacher: Ariel, a mermaid, falls in love with a human who is a prince. Plot Element: **Conflict/Problem**
   Teacher: They lived happily ever after. Plot Element: **Resolution**