# WIP First Chapter Critique Worksheet

**My questions for this work-in-progress critique session:**

Please add your questions here at the top – this is where we will begin our session.

**My children’s book chapter manuscript:**

1. Add this line BEFORE the words in your manuscript: **When the first chapter begins,** [add the main character’s name] **wants** [add a physical goal that can be seen with actions] **because** [add an emotional goal that can be shown with feelings].

Please copy your first children’s book chapter here.

2. Add this line AFTER the words in your manuscript: **When the first chapter ends, NOW** [add the main character’s name] **wants** [add a physical goal that can be seen with actions] **because** [add an emotional goal that can be shown with feelings].

Understanding the main character’s physical and emotional goals at the beginning and the end of the chapter will help us see if the chapter had turned. (If the physical and emotional goals don’t change at the end of the chapter that means the chapter doesn’t have a turning point—yet.)

*Although the main character’s ultimate goal remains the same throughout the story, reaching that ultimate goal requires constant change as physical and emotional obstacles block the way over and over and over. Unwelcome surprises keep the main character off guard and that makes the story interesting for your readers.*

**The first chapter sets up the entire book!** That gives you TWO more things to consider as you revise:

* How does the first chapter set up the midpoint, that moment of clarity in the middle of the book? *The midpoint looks back at the beginning of the story and forward to the end of the story.*
* How are the first chapter and the last chapter opposites?

Thanks!

*Anastasia*