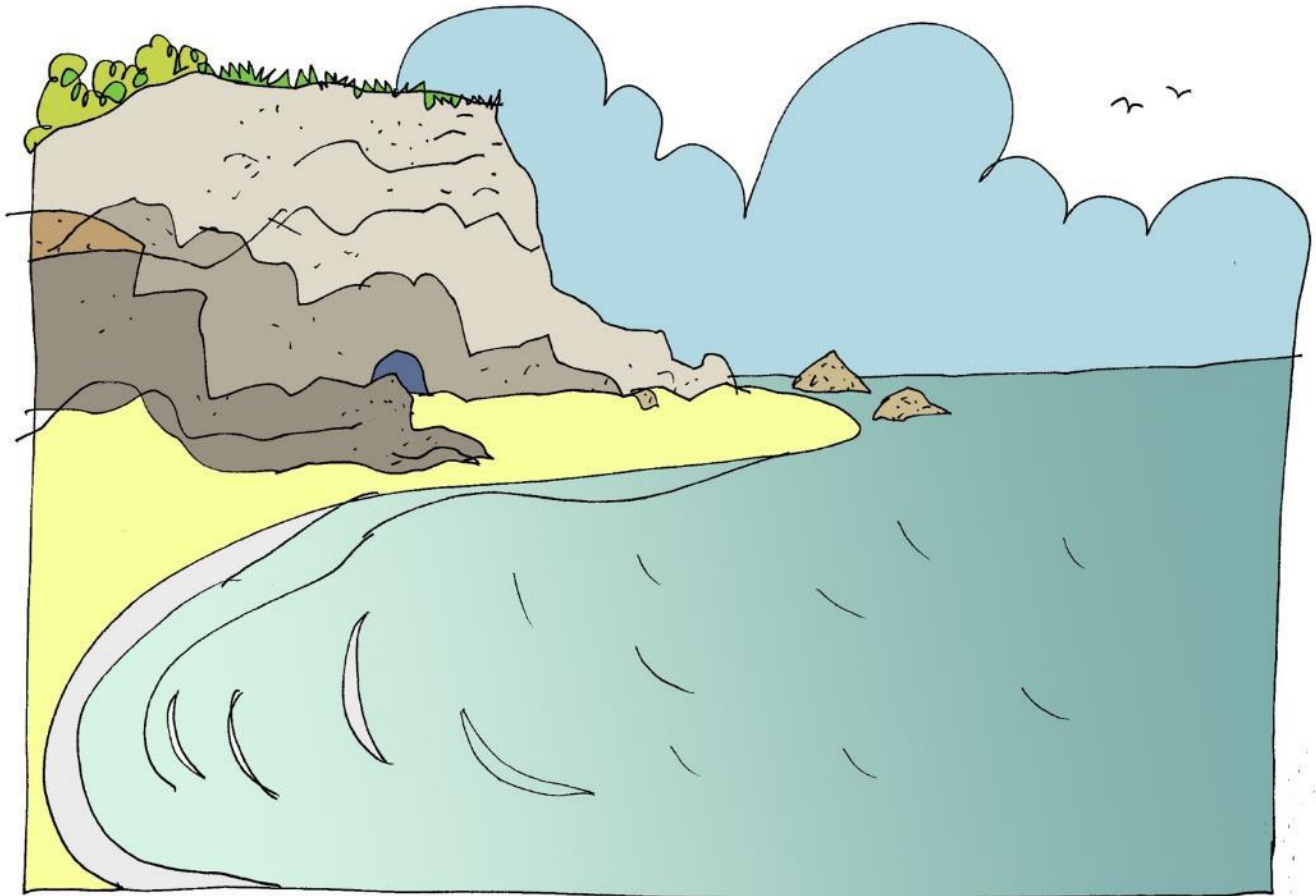


Model text - Adventure at Sandy Cove

Here is our model text: *Adventure at Sandy Cove* by Pie Corbett. It is a good example of a finding tale that uses suspense. Read below and have a listen here:

<https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/sandy/s-cpd0mheQjwP>

Adventure at Sandy Cove



"Hurry up," shouted Joe as he climbed over the rocks. Carefully, Rahul followed. The two boys stopped at a rock pool and began to search for shells. "Hey, what's this?" shouted Joe to Rahul. In the rock pool was a small, black box wrapped in plastic. The boys tugged it loose. What was inside? Joe pressed the silver catch and the lid popped open. The box was full of sparkling jewels!

At that moment, a scruffy old man shouted at the boys. His wolf-like dog barked menacingly. Joe snapped the lid down, picked up the box and the two boys began to scramble over the rocks. They slipped and struggled towards the cliffs.

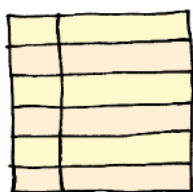
"Quick! Let's hide in here," said Joe, rushing into a cave. It was dark and damp inside and they could hear water dripping. They felt their way further in and crouched behind a rock. Rahul's heart pounded like a bass guitar. All at once, the scruffy man appeared at the cave mouth. He shone a torch around. The light cast shadows on the cave wall. The children ducked down and kept as still as stone, but the dog could sense them. It padded closer and closer, growling menacingly. Rahul gripped Joe's arm. They could see its white teeth, smell its damp hair and feel its hot meaty breath.

Suddenly, there was a distant shout. "Here, dog!" hissed the man, roughly grabbing its collar. "Those boys have got away - quick, after them!" Joe and Rahul held their breath until they could hear the sound of the man and his dog stumbling back across the rocks. They waited for a long while before creeping out. Even though the beach was empty, the boys ran home as fast as they could.

At first, Mum didn't believe them. It was only when Joe opened the box that she decided to call the police. When the police arrived, they told Mum that the big house up the road had been burgled only the night before. They had spent all day searching for a trace of the jewels. Their only clue had been the footprints of a large dog. Joe shut his eyes. He could imagine the headlines: 'PRICELESS JEWELS FOUND BY SCHOOLBOY DETECTIVES. And there was a reward too.

© Pie Corbett

Activity 2: Underlying pattern of finding tales



Below, I have picked out the underlying pattern of the model text by boxing it up. This gives you the basic plan for writing your own finding tale, but remember you can change, adapt, add in more sections and change the ending if you like. It is just a guide.

Title	Adventure at Sandy Cove
<p>Opening <i>Main characters in an everyday setting</i> <i>Find an interesting object</i></p>	<p>“Hurry up,” shouted Joe as he climbed over the rocks. Carefully, Rahul followed. The two boys stopped at a rock pool and began to search for shells. “Hey, what’s this?” shouted Joe to Rahul. In the rock pool was a small, black box wrapped in plastic. The boys tugged it loose. What was inside? Joe pressed the silver catch and the lid popped open. The box was full of sparkling jewels.</p>
<p>Build up <i>Danger arrives</i></p>	<p>At that moment, a scruffy old man shouted at the boys. His wolf-like dog barked menacingly. Joe snapped the lid down, picked up the box and the two boys began to scramble over the rocks. They slipped and struggled towards the cliffs.</p>
<p>Dilemma <i>Danger increases and it looks like there is no escape</i></p>	<p>“Quick! Let’s hide in here,” said Joe, rushing into a cave. It was dark and damp inside and they could hear water dripping. They felt their way further in and crouched behind a rock. Rahul’s heart pounded like a bass guitar. All at once, the scruffy man appeared at the cave mouth. He shone a torch around. The light cast shadows on the cave wall. The children ducked down and kept as still as stone, but the dog could sense them. It padded closer and closer, growling menacingly. Rahul gripped Joe’s arm. They could see its white teeth, smell its damp hair and feel its hot meaty breath.</p>
<p>Resolution <i>Danger overcome in some way</i></p>	<p>Suddenly, there was a distant shout. ‘Here Dog!’ hissed the man, roughly grabbing its collar. “Those boys have got away - quick, after them!” Joe and Rahul held their breath until they could hear the sound of the man and his dog stumbling back across the rocks. They waited for a long while before creeping out. Even though the beach was empty, the boys ran home as fast as they could.</p>
<p>Ending <i>Main characters safe</i> <i>More information revealed about the object/rewards</i></p>	<p>At first, Mum didn’t believe them. It was only when Joe opened the box that she decided to call the police. When the police arrived, they told Mum that the big house up the road had been burgled only the night before. They had spent all day searching for a trace of the jewels. Their only clue had been the footprints of a large dog. Joe shut his eyes. He could imagine the headlines: ‘PRICELESS JEWELS FOUND BY SCHOOLBOY DETECTIVES. And there was a reward too!</p>