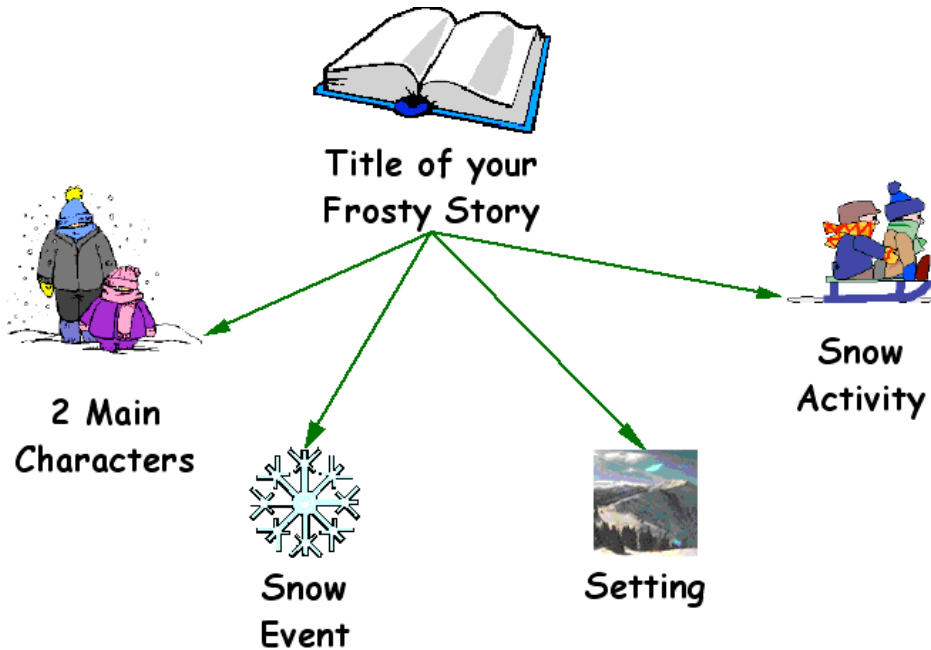As many other New England towns this winter, we have been longing for snow and the activities that Peter enjoyed in *The Snowy Day* by Jack Keats, which we read aloud for Kidspired Frosty Readers 2007. I updated my Frosty Webquest, http://www.gcds.net/judysoto/first/frostywebquest/snowwq.htm, which I used with last year's first graders, and we began our project.

After the read aloud, we spent time independently visiting a variety of frosty sites. Because the webquest is posted on our school site, students were also able to revisit favorite web sites in their free time in the classroom or at home. The next week we used our graphic planner template, the Kidspiration document, to plan our story. We worked on it in our lab time so we could discuss the meaning of main characters and setting and brain storm ideas for a title and the snow event needed for our story.

Title of your Frosty Story

2 Main Characters

Snow Event

Setting

Snow Activity

Our stories were written independently in the classrooms and then keyboarded, illustrated and audio recorded in the lab using Kid Pix. One of the first grade classes wrote their story independently in the tech lab on the computer. A cover was also created in Kid Pix and audio recorded as well. Our final product is a podcast, published on our school site.

I used Kid Pix Deluxe 3 by MacKiev. When making the slide show and selecting the timing of the slide, be sure to select the *Advance to next slide when music or sound ends*.

Also choose *File/Export to iPod format*. Remember a Pod Cast is just an audio blog and it can be viewed online with out an iPod.

Kidspiration Plan for the Story

Title Page

Story Page

An optional Kidspiration activity using a Venn diagram is included.

Drag a winter picture to the yellow winter circle, a summer picture to the blue summer circle and a picture for both seasons to the middle green area.