### Essential Element, Linkage Levels, and Mini-Map

**ELA: Grade 6**  
**ELA.EE.RL.6.3**

<table>
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<th>Grade-Level Standard</th>
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<td>ELA.RL.6.3</td>
<td>ELA.EE.RL.6.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution</td>
<td>Can identify how a character responds to a challenge in a story</td>
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**Initial Precursor**
- Can perform requested actions on objects. ("Kiss it. Throw it.")

**Distal Precursor**
- Student can identify the explicitly-stated actions of characters in a story

**Proximal Precursor**
- Can identify how a character's actions make them feel OR can identify how the character's desires or feelings lead to an action

**Target**
- Student can correctly identify how a character responds to a challenge that is presented within a story

**Successor**
- Can identify and recall how characters' actions affect the consequences that occur in the story afterwards

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### How is the Initial Precursor related to the Target?

**Initial Precursor:** Understanding the actions a character takes or the way a character responds to a challenge requires students to understand actions. At the Initial Precursor level, students are working to demonstrate their understanding of basic action words that appear in texts. During repeated shared readings, teachers can help students interact with objects that relate to the book and perform actions with those objects. For example, the DLM Familiar Texts that are aligned with this linkage level are situated in familiar settings (e.g., home, school, neighborhood) and include clearly described objects and actions. Teachers can gather the objects named in the book and use them during repeated shared readings to help students begin to understand the actions of characters in the story.

### How is the Distal Precursor related to the Target?

**Distal Precursor:** Understanding the way a character responds to a challenge that is presented in a story requires students to identify the actions of characters. Students working at the Distal Precursor linkage level are working to identify the actions of characters that are explicitly stated and often illustrated in familiar stories. The DLM Familiar Texts aligned with this Essential Element and linkage level highlight characters and the actions they perform. Teachers can use these and other books in repeated shared reading to help students become familiar with the story, the characters, and the actions characters perform. Teachers might support students in acting out the things characters do or might show them what the actions look like as they occur in the book.

A diagram showing the relationship of nodes in the mini-map appears below.

**Key to map codes in upper right corner of node boxes:**
- IP: Initial Precursor
- DP: Distal Precursor
- PP: Proximal Precursor
- T: Target
- SP: Supporting
- S: Successor
- UN: Untested

**T**
ELA.EE.RL.6.3 - Can identify how a character responds to a challenge in a story.