Central Message

The **big idea** or lesson of a story

1. **What was the problem?**
   What did the character **want** or face?
2. **What did the character do?**
   Look at their **choices**
3. **How did it end?**
   What **changed** by the end?
4. **What did they learn?**
   That **lesson** is the central message

A central message is a **lesson for everyone**, not just the character: "Be kind." "Never give up."