

Digital Story Ideas

Story Ideas

☐ Character Stories

- How we love, are inspired by, want to recognize, or find meaning in our relationship to another person or even pet, is deeply important to us.

☐ Memorial Stories

- Honoring and remembering people who have passed is an essential part of the process of grieving. While these stories are often the most difficult and painful to produce, the results are the most powerful.

Questions to Ask Yourself

- ☐ What is or had been your relationship to this person?
- ☐ How would you describe this person (physical appearance, character, etc.)?
- ☐ Is there an event/incident that best captures their character?
- ☐ What about them do/did you most enjoy?
- ☐ What about them drives you crazy?
- ☐ What lesson did they give you that you feel is important?
- ☐ If you had something to say to them, that they may have never heard you say, what would it be?

The Story About an Event in Your Life

☐ Adventure Stories

☐ Accomplishment Stories

- What was the event (time, place, incident, or series of incidents)?
- What was your relationship to the event?
- With what other people did you experience this event?
- Was there a defining moment in the event?
- How did you feel during this event (fear, exhilaration, sharpened awareness, or joy)?

- Why did you learn from this event?
- How did this event change your life?

The Story About a Place in Your Life

- ▣ How would you describe the place?
- ▣ With whom did you share this place?
- ▣ What general experiences do you relate to this place?
- ▣ Was there a defining experience at the place?
- ▣ What lessons about yourself do you draw from your relationship to this place?
- ▣ If you have returned to this place, how has it changed?

Other Story Ideas

- ▣ Tell the story of a mentor or hero in your life.
- ▣ Tell the story of a time when "it just didn't work" – a point, at your job, or at an activity at which you are competent or are usually successful, when everything fell apart before your eyes.
- ▣ Describe a time when you felt really scared.
- ▣ Tell the story of a "first": first time trying something really difficult, the first time you heard a favorite song, etc.
- ▣ And of course, the old standby, what was the most embarrassing thing that ever happened to you?

More Story Ideas

- ▣ Personal Stories: Creating Living Memories Around Defining Moments of Life
- ▣ Kinship Stories: Family Stories of Who We Are
- ▣ Hyper-Interactive Stories: Group Stories with Diverse Paths and Endingsß Personal Expression: Creating Visual Expressions of Thoughts and Feelings
- ▣ Myths, Legends and Tales: Past, Present and Future of Self, Family or Ideas
- ▣ Informative or Expository Stories: Information Beyond Words
- ▣ Persuasive Stories: Influencing and Impacting Others
- ▣ Itza Wrap: Stories of Lessons Learned
- ▣ Future Vision Stories: Imagining the Future NOW

- ▣ Talking book
- ▣ Number book
- ▣ Shape book
- ▣ Famous artist, writer, singer
- ▣ Famous historical person or building
- ▣ Scientific processes
- ▣ Field trip Report
- ▣ Favourite Sportsperson
- ▣ My Hero
- ▣ A Day in the Life
- ▣ Local historical landmark

Social Studies

▣ Lewis and Clark

- Be one of the explorers and tell the story from their perspective

▣ Historical event

- Groups of students tell their version of what happened making connections to the other student's stories (weaving in the events bringing out the connections)

▣ Authentic stories

- Compare and contrast current events to historical events
- The decades project adapted, but with various "voices" (Each decade needs to find people from that decade to interview and explain significant events)

▣ Our community

- Meet our community
- Looking at our town, how have we changed?
- Important people that have shaped our community

▣ Regional or local stories

- Midwest, what is it like to live here?
- How does weather affect the way people live, work and play?
- Tell the "wild weather stories" from Illinois
- Create a commercial and sell your region to the visitors bureau
- Mr. Mayor you should know this

Science

▣ Inventions

- Explain how inventions and discoveries are important to others
- Simple machines, how have they changed the world?

▣ Animals

- Tell the story from the butterfly's point of view
- Focus on descriptive words or anticipation
- Informational story, follow the monarchs etc.
- How have animals adapted?

▣ Farming

- Tell the story of the fading small farmer
- Challenges then and now
- Technology on the Farm

Language Arts

▣ Authentic student writing

- Students write stories and then illustrate or act out
- Family tree stories (think about point of view of someone else)
- Take a character to court, students are judge, jury etc.

▣ Fiction

- Change the setting, how would it be different today?
- Compare and contrast fairy tales from various regions
- Change an ending to a favorite tales
- Bring a set of characters to life and act out the story

▣ Math Ideas

- Take a geometry walk and show and tell what you found
- Math is all around the town, really where? Split up in groups and find out
- Explain to others a concept like adding fractions using real life examples
- Act out math problems using various strategies

Specials

▣ Health

- How do we stay healthy? (Interview doctors, others)

- Story from a different point of view, inside the heart, the opinion of the bones why we all like the circulatory system (tell the story about all working together)
- Public service announcement about the importance of sleep, tell from the point of view of a sleepy driver, crabby sleepover breakfast, student in school. Embed science facts.
- Nutrition portion size from what we should have to most restaurants, calories have two groups one healthy nutrition other fast food junkies, junkies try to get everyone eat not healthy.

▣ PE

- Fitness, who cares?
- History of a sport
- Sell the PE teacher on something new
- Create an Eye Toy ad for the couch potato

▣ Art

- There are artists everywhere, meet some of our local artists
- Meet the masters
- Our artist changed the world because..
- This is how graphics are created on the computer

General Ideas

▣ Teachers

- Tell stories from the front line
- Moments you will never forget
- Moments you wish you could forget!

▣ Re-enact

- A piece of literature
- A picture book
- An event in history
- Abraham Lincoln is more than a big statue in Washington
- Study and debate issues important to students in the class

▣ Technology

- Gathering accurate information on the Internet
- Technology tools then and now

▣ Instead of just images of the students as they graduate

- How we have grown...
- Who were the teachers?

- Scan some of the art projects
 - Funny things students remember
 - How the building changed
 - How has the world changed?
 - New products or changes (see the decade project)
 - Interview where we hope to go
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- ▣ Create the storytelling journey of a leaf eaten by an earthworm. Make the facts come alive from beginning to end as if you were one of the digestive parts along the way.
 - ▣ Be the youngest child of a Japanese family living in California, unfolding the facts and emotional experience of the Japanese internment camps.
 - ▣ Be a decimal point, sharing your journey of being misunderstood and needing to clearly make a difference in the world.
 - ▣ Be a literary, scientific, or historical character sharing a defining moment when a choice you made touched the world forever.
 - ▣ Dialogue with another person across other eras or time periods, sharing your perspective and lessons learned on issues and events.
 - ▣ Dialogue as parts of the brain on memorable experiences with the body.
 - ▣ Be the pen that signed the Declaration of Independence, a treaty, or one of the Amendments, and explain how your life has impacted the lives of countless others.
 - ▣ Describe an event and why it matters, connects, or makes a difference to our humanity or communities today.
 - ▣ Tell about a person and what his or her life or work has taught us—or perhaps how his or her work or choices in life continue to touch our lives today.
 - ▣ Describe bees and what you now realize about their contribution or importance to our world.
 - ▣ Help convince others to make better choices by sharing a defining moment when a decision or experience (e.g., drugs, guns, Internet chat rooms, dropping out of school, drinking, smoking, recycling our garbage, helping a friend, or stopping the bullying of others) changed or touched lives forever.
 - ▣ Be a squirrel, eagle, bear, whale, or toucan convincing others to take care of the environment through a personal story of what happens when you do or what happens when you do not.
 - ▣ More ideas at <http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/index.htm>