



Indigenous Storytelling

Leilani Diablo & Loreleigh Epp

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Introductions

- Our knowledge comes from families and community. We are grateful for their gifts of story they have shared with us.

Discussion:

- Does storytelling have a place in your family or classroom?
- What are your storytelling traditions?

Learning Targets

- I can learn about two different types of Sto:lo story: Sxwōxwiyám (origin stories or how things came to be) and Sqwélqwel (“news” stories from the recent past).
- I can learn how story can connect students to the core competencies (Communication, Creative & Critical thinking, Personal & Social).
- I can make meaning with story (storywork) .
- I can practice storytelling with my peers.

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Why storytelling & storywork?

- Stories teach us about how to live and be in the world
- Stories show us that everything is connected

Storytelling

Is about:

- Communicating
- Engaging
- Connecting
- Relating

Ṣxwọ̄x̣wiyám
Sqwélqwel

Storywork

Is about:

- Nurturing and nourishing heart, mind body and spirit.
- Communicating learning in a meaningful way.
- Connecting personally & socially to a story in order to think critically about the world we live in.

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Protocols

- Protocol is different in each territory. Some general rules:
- Be sure to acknowledge the source of the story. Think about **Who, Where, You**.
 - **Who** is the storyteller? Go deeper than just a name. Find out something about them. Speak about them like you know them as a whole person. Is there a short bio about them in the book? What other tools can you use? Memorize a few important details.
 - **Where** – Where did the story come from? Sometimes a story has been passed down for many generations, and rather than the story belonging to a specific person, it “belongs” to the place it comes from. Go further than just a place name. Add one bit of interesting information about that place or how it connects to the story.
 - **You**-Don't forget about including yourself in the introduction. How did you first hear about this story? Did you have a special connection to the story when you heard it? Did someone important in your life share it with you? What is your connection to the story?
- Practice the 4 R's while working with the story (Respect, Relevance, Reciprocity, Responsibility-Verna Kirkness)
- Following protocol is important in developing relationships, accessing and sharing knowledge, and speaking with our Elders.

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Two types of Stó:lō Stories

- Sxwōxwiyám- origin stories or how things came to be.
- Sqwélqwel- Personal life experience “news” stories from the recent past.

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Jobs/Roles/Responsibilities:

With storywork everyone has a job to do.

Storyteller

- Prepares the space and self for the work about to take place. (remove distractions, engage the senses)
- Shares where the story came from & how the story came to them
- Cares for their audience by being engaging and interesting.
- Knows where to start and end the story based on the audiences needs.
- Offers guidance on story work based on the audiences needs.

Story Listener

- Listens carefully to the story in order to find meaning from the story.
- Thinks about the work happening on the inside.
- Makes efforts to learn from the story & demonstrate this learning.
- Thank the storyteller for sharing their story.

I can practice storytelling with my peers.

- **Story cards**
- **Story telling partners:**
 - Pick a role, will you be Storyteller or Story listener?
 - Pick a shape
 - What does the shape remind you of?
 - In your mind connect your shape to a memory
 - Connect your memory to an emotion
 - Bring it all together into a story you can share with a partner

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Resources & Ideas

- Strong Learners story cards (Strong Nations)
- Retell the story suppressing a sense.
- Try a one word story circle
- Retell the story using story vines
- Try a digital storytelling tool.

Credit:

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