

Storytelling

Stage 1: Plan Pre-storytelling activities

- Decide on your learning goals (linguistic, cultural, etc.) and main outcome(s)
- Decide if you need to modify the story in any way
- Decide how long you will use the storybooks for
- Decide what storytelling techniques you will use. Will you read it all the way through in one go or can it be broken down into shorter sequences?
- Decide how you may need to make the content accessible to your pupils by: Contextualizing the story, introducing main characters; relating the story to the children's own experience; activating children's prior knowledge pre-teaching language that children will not be able to infer from the context, visual support, etc.
- Decide which materials you may need to prepare
- Decide how you are going to explain the aims and main outcomes to your pupils so they know what is expected of them

Examples:

- Flashcards
- Bring realia
- Introducing the characters of the story
- Explain pre-knowledge needed to understand the content of the story

Stage 2: Do While-storytelling activities

- Decide how you are going to arrange your classroom for storytelling so everyone can see you and the storybook
- Decide how, when and how many times you are going to read the story again for specific purposes

Examples:

- Hand out flashcards with the characters and let the students stand up every time the character is mentioned in the story
- If there is a repetitive chorus, let the students repeat it every time it occurs in the story
- Roleplay: let the students play the characters' actions while you are reading the story
- Pause the story after a few pages and ask questions about the story
- Pause the story after few pages and ask the students what they think comes next

Stage 3: Review Post-storytelling activities

- Decide which activities you are going to create to consolidate language introduced through the story
- Decide which activities you are going to create to extend and personalize language from the story
- Decide how you are going to get children to review work done and evaluate main outcome(s)

Examples:

- Ask questions about the story
 - Right or Wrong?
 - What's right? a) b) or c) ?
- Play vocabulary games:
 - What's missing?
 - Vocabulary Race
 - Fly Swatter
 - Whispering Chain
 - Bingo
 - Fruit Salad
- Create a mini booklet:
 - Copy pictures of the story and let the students bring them in the right order
 - Let the students write a sentence to each picture