



FACES of Literacy

A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Storytelling In Celebration Of
30 Years Of Roots And Resiliency

What is this?

Storytelling

Fox Valley Literacy is celebrating our 30th anniversary with a year of storytelling! Fox Valley Literacy's history is the story of our students and tutors. Throughout 2020, we want you to tell us your part of that story.

You can tell it through written or spoken word, music, dance, visual art, or however you feel you can best express yourself!

Roots & Resiliency

Our theme for 2020 is Roots & Resiliency. We are asking you to think about the things that made you the person you are today--including things outside of Fox Valley Literacy!

Your roots are where you come from, the history, practices or community that connects you to your ancestors, culture, and hopes.

Resiliency is the ability to grow and flourish in and after adversity by mobilizing resources, leaning into your community and values, and drawing from personal determination.

Faces of Literacy

The year of storytelling all leads to our Faces of Literacy celebration in October!

At the celebration, we will highlight several student and tutor stories to share with the community.

Student and tutor stories will also be collected in a printed book.



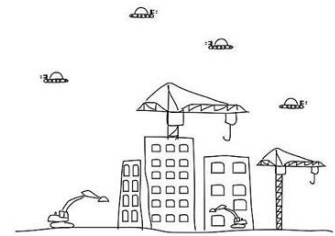
Thanks to Nik Shier at HeartBrain for helping to create the Storytelling Workbook. For more about their writing workshops and trainings, visit HeartBrain.org.

Questions to explore your roots and resiliency:

- Tell us about a time or place where you feel a strong sense of belonging.
- Tell us a story from your life that you want your grandchildren to know.
- Tell us about food, an object, or clothing that is meaningful to you.
- Tell us about someone in your life who has been a hero for you.

it isn't what we left behind
that breaks me
it's what we could've built
had we stayed

- rupi kaur



Question I choose:

What story will I tell about this?

Set the scene

Where does your story begin?

What does it look like? What does it smell like? What does it sound like?
What does it feel like?

Where does your story end?

What does it look like? What does it smell like? What does it sound like?
What does it feel like? What does it taste like?

What changes from the beginning to the end?

Storytelling formats to explore

We suggest you begin with a verbal format and then add visual formats if you'd like.

Verbal Formats

- First person narration
 - Third person narration
 - Conversation
 - Poetry
 - Present tense, past tense, future tense
 - Fiction inspired by your life
 - Autobiography
 - Biography of someone important to you
 - Folktale from your culture
 - Song
 - Your ideas:
-

Visual Formats

- Drawing
 - Painting
 - Photography
 - Collage
 - Dance
 - Crafts
 - Video
 - Comic
 - Your ideas:
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Which verbal format do you want to use? _____

Are you interested in any visual formats (for later)? _____

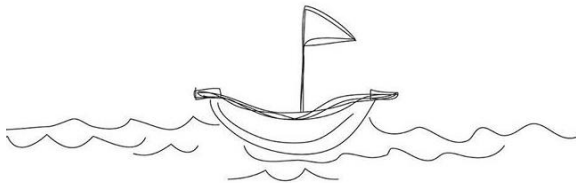
Create a connection

What is the purpose of telling your story?

How can you get your audience's attention?

they have no idea what it's like
to lose home at the risk of
never finding home again
to have your entire life
split between two lands and
become the bridge between two countries

immigrant - rupi kaur



What do you want your audience to
feel while they listen to your story?

What do you want your audience to think after hearing your story?

Is there anything your audience might not understand about your story?

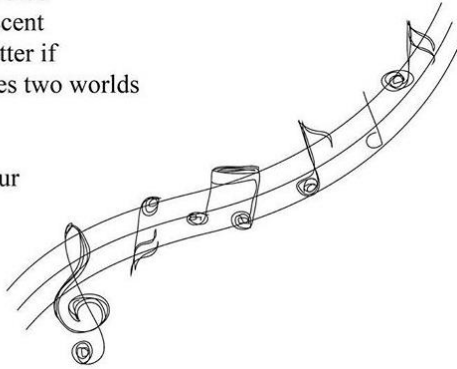
Be clear

Are there words that you know but your audience might not?

Make a list of words in your story to translate, describe, or define:

my voice
is the offspring
of two countries colliding
what is there to be ashamed of
if english
and my mother tongue
made love
my voice
is her father's words
and mother's accent
what does it matter if
my mouth carries two worlds

accent - rupi kaur



Homework - Keep it short

Share your story with 2 or 3 other people and listen to their feedback.

What do people love about your story?

What do people want to hear more of?

What do people say isn't needed for this story? Do you agree?

What do people say is distracting in this story? Do you agree?

What absolutely has to be in this story?

What are you feeling?

Check in with yourself while you create and tell your story.

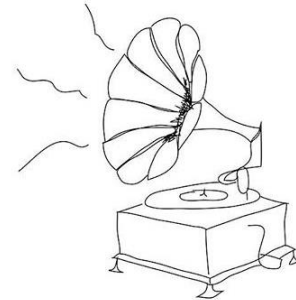
What are you feeling?

Is there any part that you are uncomfortable sharing with certain audiences?

What are the benefits of sharing your story?

together we are an endless conversation

- rupi kaur



Homework - Practice telling your story

Every story gets better each time it is told.

Tell your story to:

- A Student
- A Volunteer
- A member of staff
- A member of the board of directors
- A friend
- A family member
- Someone in the community
- To yourself in the mirror
- While recording yourself
- A Stuffed animal
- A plant
- An animal
- Water