



THE POWER OF STORYTELLING

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PD for All

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THE POWER OF STORY

- WHAT RESEARCH SAYS:
- Culture is shaped & passed along by story.
- Story is a form of communication & negotiation.
- Story keeps us healthy mentally.
- Story helps us make sense of the world.
- Story helps develop language.



PLAY & LITERACY CONNECTIONS

- WHAT RESEARCH SAYS:
- Children use symbolic transformation in play and when writing and reading.
- Pretend play episodes are story-like, with plot, characters, and setting.
- Vocabulary and language development improves within the context of socio-dramatic play.

"In all cases, literacy makes sense

for children because it occurs in the

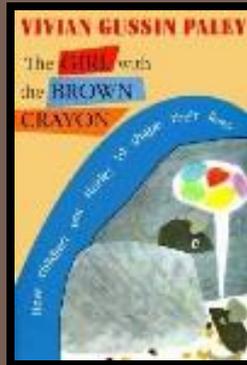
meaningful context of play."

Reifel, 1995



PUTTING PLAY & STORY TOGETHER: STORYTELLING & STORYACTING

Think dramatically. Get in the habit of thinking of yourself and the children as partners in an acting company. Once we learn to imagine ourselves as characters in a story, a particular set of events expands in all directions. We find ourselves being kinder and more respectful to one another because our options have grown in intimacy, humor, and literary flavor.



[Meet Vivian Paley](#)

THE PROCESS OF STORY ACTING

- 1) Write down children's stories as they tell them.
- 2) Set up a stage and audience area.
- 3) Choose the actors.
- 4) Read the story slowly as the actors act out the words.
- 5) Applause & discussion may follow.

Added Teacher role: Reflection and interpretation

[An example of story acting](#)

LET'S TRY THIS TOGETHER!

What did we experience?

What did we learn?

REFLECTION & INTERPRETATION:
DISCOVERING THE POWER OF
STORY/ACTING WITH CHILDREN

POWER OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

- Fatma's Story in Fall
- A monkey.
- A doggie.
- A bunny.
- A kitty.
- A cow.
- That's all.

- Fatma 's Story in Spring
 - A Princess
 - One time a boy is a prince. And he's walking in a park. Our princess was getting some food and the guys who is the prince saw the girl. And they had a pumpkin pie. Her poppa got a pumpkin pie and a cake. One upon a time her grandma and grandpa got a milk and an egg and a peanut butter and cakes (because they are hungry.) And the prince was hungry, too. The princess loves to kiss on the cheek. That's it

POWER OF CONNECTION

- Monday- Kelsey's Story of her Horses and Sisters



- Tuesday-Coleman's Story of his hamster and his brother and parents



- Wednesday- Ivy's Story of her cats and little sister



POWER OF BEING INCLUDED

“Muddy” by Selena

The millipede can turn into an evil wizard at night. It watches the people. And then they are going to turn to evil. The superhero sonic saves the day. He was magic. He is blue. Sonic has a friend shadow. It is magic. They turn the millipede into a friend. Sonic saves the day!



Story telling/acting with non-verbal students



The t-rex stomped across the floor and knocked down the castle. Next, a car came driving down the road and crashed into the t-rex. The t-rex fell down and the car drove away. The t-rex laid on the ground growling. The end.



POWER OF PROBLEM- SOLVING

- Retell a social problem happening in the classroom using a puppet story

“I’m not your friend anymore”



ADAPTING FOR OLDER CHILDREN

- Connections to the writing process
 - Composing, revision/editing
- Writing Screen plays, drama clubs, novels
- Puppetry
- Older Children & Adults for problem-solving-
Freeze Frame/Improv

- “The classroom that does not create its own legends has not traveled beneath the surface to where the living takes place.
- The fantasies of any group form the basis of its culture; this is where we search for common ground. That which we have forgotten how to do, the children do best of all: They make up stories.” (Paley, 1990, p. 5)



QUESTIONS & MORE QUESTIONS

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RESOURCES

- [Http://www.nebraskastoryarts.org/](http://www.nebraskastoryarts.org/)
- Boston Listens:
http://bpsassets.weebly.com/uploads/9/9/3/2/9932784/storytellingstory_acting.pdf
- <https://celebratingyoungchildren.com/>
 - Nina Jaffe, Keynote