

Storytelling Guidelines

Suggested Steps for Selecting and Preparing Student Storytellers

1. Decide what storytelling activities your school will use to teach and promote storytelling throughout the year.
2. Help students select and learn to tell appropriate stories.
3. Before the Storytelling Festival, students should have the opportunity to practice and present their stories at their schools.
4. Choose a selection panel (e.g. teachers, librarian, parent, student ...) to determine your school's storyteller.
5. Continue with storytelling activities through the year.

Preparing Student Storytellers

Each school may select and send **one** storytelling entry to the Davis District Storytelling Festival. At the district festival, students will be selected and invited to represent Davis School District at the WSU Storytelling Festival.

Emphasis is more on the art of pure storytelling and less on costumes or props. Recitation of poems is not storytelling.

Stories told in other languages should be considered, but used appropriately.

Stories may be between three to five minutes, but no longer.

Stories may be original student work or a retold story. Folk tales, historical stories, or personal experience work best. Poems and fairy tales are not usually good options.

If a student retells a story from children's literature, he or she must obtain permission from the copyright holder. Generally, this may be done by contacting the publisher by email, explaining the desire to tell the story at a festival and asking permission to do so. When children perform their stories, they will give the title and author, and state that the story is being told by permission.

It is the responsibility of the school and the parents to help the student select and prepare a story for the storytelling festival.

