

FORTY-FOUR REASONS FOR TEACHING STORYTELLING

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1. Aids in strengthening ability to recognize sequencing details
2. Benefits the listener as well as the teller
3. Creates a link between reading skills and writing skills
4. Creates an opportunity for students to have fun while learning
5. Develops higher level of comprehension
6. Develops and strengthens visualization skills
7. Develops an awareness of varied writing styles
8. Develops awareness of how words affect an audience
9. Effectively integrates social studies and science into the language arts curriculum
10. Enhances vocabulary and language development
11. Enhances development of higher thinking and analytical skills
12. Enhances ability for identification of main idea
13. Enhances understanding when tackling unfamiliar text
14. Fosters the development of creativity
15. Fosters positive peer interaction and cooperation
16. Fosters development of self-confidence, pride, poise, and self-esteem
17. Furnishes a vehicle for the passing on of factual information
18. Gives teachers insight into their students' feelings
19. Gives students insight into human behavior and motives
20. Helps promote multi cultural sensitivity and understanding
21. Introduces effective patterns of language
22. Is an effective vehicle for teaching and reinforcing curriculum standards
23. Is a tool for evaluating and capitalizing on a student's strengths
24. Keeps alive the beliefs and culture of a people
25. Promotes development of listening skills
26. Promotes an appreciation for the talents of others
27. Promotes internalization of effective writing techniques
28. Promotes an enthusiasm for learning
29. Provides an opportunity for students from all reading levels to succeed
30. Provides for subconscious acquisition and familiarity with narrative patterns
31. Provides opportunities for self-expression
32. Provides teachers an opportunity to learn a great deal about student needs
33. Provides positive sharing experiences for students
34. Reinforces learning of writing skills
35. Reinforces and enhances reading skills

36. Shows the relationship between the written word and spoken word
37. Skills learned are transferred to other reading and writing activities
38. Stimulates interest in reading for pleasure
39. Strengthens the ability for recognition and memory of details
40. Strengthens sequencing skills
41. Strengthens analytical skills
42. Supports and reinforces concepts taught across the curricula
43. Teaches and reinforces oral skills in all areas of the curriculum
44. **AND MOST GRATIFYING OF ALL:** Reluctant students who do not feel as competent as their peers and who are considered "losers" by themselves and others, often become the star storytellers. This positive experience turns students around and changes their outlook on what they can accomplish.

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