

When Children Save the Day

Resources

The National Council of Teachers of English promotes storytelling as an essential tool for language arts. They believe that...“Story is the best vehicle for passing on factual information. Historical figures and events linger in children's minds when communicated by way of a narrative. The ways of other cultures, both ancient and living, acquire honor in story. The facts about how plants and animals develop, how numbers work, or how government policy influences history —any topic, for that matter —can be incorporated into story form and made more memorable if the listener takes the story to heart.”

To read the Council's Position Paper:

(<http://www.ncte.org/about/over/positions/category/curr/107637.htm>)

Collections:

I Can Make a Difference, Marian Wright Edelman, Amistad, HarperCollins, New York, NY, 2005

Mightier Than the Sword: World Folktales for Strong Boys Jane Yolen, Silver Whistle/Harcourt, Inc., New York, NY, 2001

Not One Damsel In Distress: World Folktales for Strong Girls, Jane Yolen, Silver Whistle/Harcourt, Inc., New York, NY, 2000

Once Upon a Time...Storytelling to Teach Character and Prevent Bullying by Elisa Davy Pearmain. Character Development Group, Inc., Greensboro, NC. 2006

Rhinos & Raspberries: Tolerance Tales for the Early Ages. A compilation of tales by Teaching Tolerance, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Spinning Tales, Weaving Hope: Stories, Storytelling and Activities for Peace, Justice and the Environment edited by Ed Brody, et al. New Society Publishers. BC, Canada, 2002

Using the web:

Enoch Pratt Libraries offers a collection of live-action, multi-cultural storytellers sharing their tales in “streaming video.”

http://www.epfl.net/kids/estories/ESTORIES_archive_list.cfm. This is a nice way to tie storytelling into your computer curriculum.

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Community Service:

The Kid's Guide to Service Projects: Over 500 Service Ideas for Young People Who Want to Make a Difference, Barbara A. Lewis et al, Free Spirit Publishing, Inc. Minneapolis, MN, 1991

Developing Storytelling Residencies:

Children Tell Stories: Teaching and Using Storytelling in the Classroom by Martha Hamilton and Mitch Weiss. Richard C. Owen Publishers, Inc. Katonah, NY 2005 Note: These authors also have great collections of stories that children can tell.

The Storytelling Classroom: Applications Across the Curriculum by Sherry Norfolk, Jane Stenson and Diane Williams. Libraries Unlimited. Westport, CT. 2006

Education:

Black Ants and Buddhists: Thinking Critically and Teaching Differently in the Primary Grades by Mary Cowhey. Stenhouse Publishers. Portland: ME, 2006

An Imaginative Approach to Teaching by Kieran Egan. Published by Jossey-Bass, A Wiley Imprint. San Francisco, CA, 2005.

Teaching as Story Telling: An Alternative Approach to Teaching and Curriculum in the Elementary School by Kieran Egan. Published by University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL, 1986.

Storytelling in Emergent Literacy: Fostering Multiple Intelligences by Susan Trostle Brand and Jeanne M. Donato. Delmar, a division of Thomson Learning Inc. Albany, NY, 2001.

Rethinking Our Classrooms: Teaching for Justice and Equality. A publication full of creative teaching ideas as well as classroom narratives teachers can promote the values of community, justice and equality. Online at www.rethinkingschools.org.