

Playing To Learn

Learning to Play with Stories

Juan Uribe

Here are some possibilities to value & play with our life experiences in our classes

1. Invite students to act life stories of other students without knowing whose stories they are acting.
2. Suggest one student to tell his/her story and stop at a climax moment. Other students can here create multiple endings.
3. Create a space for learning stories to be shared in order for learners to release tension and take learning in a more lighthearted way.

Thinking About and Planning for Playful Storytelling

1. Circle how you will ritualize your storytelling. Maintain the same way throughout your course!

bell candle rainstick song rhyme rug poem hat clackers

2. Order how you would have the following moments in your storytelling

predicting retelling opening with grace recalling interacting with the book
hook interviewing talking to the characters personalizing

3. Choose a story you know and specify how you will live five of the moments above.

Name of story _____

Ritualizing	I will play a bell three times. After some classes I will let students play the bell.

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4. Watch a storyteller live or on Youtube and note down five things that called your attention

I noticed that there are moments of silence	I will pause for three seconds after I make any question.

5. What are some possible challenges & the reactions that you will have while telling stories?

A student interrupts all the time asking for clarification.	I will use a lot of gestures and grade my language so that all students can understand the story.

Bonus! Great ways to start and finish stories with grace

Beginnings

Once there was, and twice there wasn't...
 Before the world became as it is today...
 Far away and just as long ago...
 There was, there was, and yet there was not
 Once upon a time, so long ago no one remembers when and where...

Endings

And so it was, and so it is. Snip, snap, snout, this tale's told out.
 If my story was sweet, it is yours to keep.
 And this is a true story. And if it isn't, it should be!
 And they're all alive to this day, if they haven't died since.

Check also my video with 100 ways to open and close stories with grace:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nI8cLfxzNyM>