

Sequoia Lily Elementary

Storytelling Festival

Thank you for your interest in participating in our Storytelling Festival. Each class will submit one storyteller to present at the assembly on March 1. Check with your teacher for the date of your classroom competition.

Helpful Hints:

Popular stories and/or fairytales told in a predictable style and manner rarely engage the judges and audience. Applicants are encouraged to choose an engaging story and work to make sure their storytelling style enriches the story during their performance.

Stories must be no longer than nine minutes, but shorter stories often score better than longer stories.

If an applicant chooses to use costumes or props, make sure these additions enhance your performance instead of distracting the audience.

Other tips from the experts can be found at:

<http://timpfest.org/stories/how-to-perform-a-story/>

Our judges will be watching for:

- Length (3-9 minutes)
- Vocal clarity
- Voice expression
- Eye contact
- Body language
- Appropriate gestures
- Familiarity with the story
- Satisfying ending



Tips for a great Storytelling Adventure!

1. Practice putting expression and feeling into your story.
2. Practice your story 20 times or more.
3. Practice several times in front of the mirror to see if you are telling the story with your eyes and body movements as well as with your mouth.
4. Think about parts of your body you could use in telling your story. (Something big could be demonstrated by using your arms and hands by spreading them wide apart).
5. Think about the exciting parts, or the sad parts that may be in your story. Could you make your voice, body and eyes fit the parts of your story?
6. Make your voice sound loud, or soft; excited or sad...to help show any feelings that are part of your story.
7. While you are telling your story, make sure you seem like you are excited to tell it!
8. Story length: 3-9 minutes

Practice telling your story to at least 5 people. Have them sign below after they listen to you. Who can listen to your story? Mom, Dad, grandparents, sisters, brothers, neighbors, and friends.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

With all of your practice, you are well prepared to tell your story to an audience. While you tell your story, watch to see if your audience seems interested and is watching you. If you don't think they are, try doing or saying something a little different.

If your audience is giving you their attention, keep up the good work!

GOOD LUCK!!!