

## THE ART OF STORYTELLING

*Question to think about: how is storytelling different from reading a story out loud?*



### *Why is storytelling important?*

*Storytelling is more than just reading the words of a story out loud. It takes other skills as well. It is important to be able to use different tones in your voice when you are telling a story.*

*Storytelling isn't just words; it's motion, too. You will have to move around while you tell your story. You will use your arms and legs. You will use your hands and face to tell the story.*

### *Examples of storytelling*

*Brave in which Merida and her father tell the legend of Mor'du:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5xXpzJ8kBc>

*Moana in which grandma terrifies the other children with the legend:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhSrC-45w0I>

## **Warm ups to help you become a storyteller**

### **COUNTING FROM 1 TO 10**

First, read a paragraph of a story, any story. Keep your voice the same level. Don't go high or low or loud or soft. Just say it flat.

Now count from one to 10 (out loud!) in these different ways:

As if you were an angry parent who said, "I am going to count to 10 and if you're not in the bedroom by the time I get to 10, you're in big trouble."

As a very little child just learning to count

As if you were very sad because you thought everyone had forgotten your birthday, but then you walked into your living room and saw 10 birthday presents sitting on the floor. How would you count them?

As if you were a referee for a boxing match and you were counting someone out.

As if you were telling someone a telephone number when the phone was not working right.

As if you were counting pennies as you dropped them into a piggy bank.

Read the same paragraph again that you read before. This time, let your voice go loud and soft. Go high and low. Go fast and slow. Do you hear the difference? Which way sounds better?

### **WALK THE WALK**

Walk across the room six times. Each time, pretend something different:

You are coming home from school and you know you have a lot of chores to do when you get there.

You are walking through a foot of snow.

You are walking barefoot in a very sticky, squishy swamp.

You are walking across a blistering hot desert.

*You are in a graveyard at night walking through the tombstones.*

*Your right leg is in a cast.*

*You are walking through honey.*

### ***Things to remember when you are storytelling***

<b>Voice:</b> Easily heard; strong and effective tone inflection; clear enunciation	<i>LAMDA skills:</i>  <i>diction</i>  <i>projection</i>  <i>expression</i>  <i>body language</i>
<b>Body language:</b> Moves body and hands to improve telling of story	
<b>Audience engagement:</b> Makes eye contact with audience; holds attention; full concentration on audience	
<b>Characters:</b> Uses different voices for different characters; turns body to indicate different characters	
<b>Pacing:</b> Effective pacing; strong beginning and ending	