

Story Stones

Make up stories based on a single, simple element on a stone.

Level: Beginner

Time: 30 minutes

Materials: Story stones or figurines

Preparation: Prepare story stones or a basket of figurines ahead of time, or assign students the task to paint a couple story stones a piece.

Objectives: Story stones aid students in including the elements of a narrative story, whether written or oral.

1. Presentation

Show the class several story stones and identify the images on the story stones. Explain to students the meaning of 'character' and 'setting' and that every story has a beginning, middle, and end. Identify some stones that could be characters (like Mr. Star or Mr. Mushroom) and identify some stones that could indicate setting (a tree might place someone in a forest, a wave might place the story at sea). Tell a very short story using three or four story stones.

2. Practice

Call for confident students to come to the front and tell a short story using a few story stones. Less confident students can identify a character and setting using story stones.

3. Produce

Place 2-4 story stones on each students' desk and give them 10 minutes to write a short story. Repeat this exercise. Call for readers.

