

# Technology for Creating and Learning



**2-Day workshop on *Digital Innovations for Teacher Education***

Vijaya Teachers College, Bengaluru

IT for Change

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# *The Why and How of ‘Storytelling as a pedagogical tool’*

# Why stories are relevant even in teacher education?



- Stories are interesting, motivating, and enjoyable.
- Demonstrate rhythm, intonation and pronunciation of language.
- Help develop positive attitudes towards language and language learning.
- Stories exercise the imagination.
- Help develop creative powers.
- Can help make sense of their everyday life.
- Listening to stories in class is a shared social experience.
- Can encourage social and emotional development.
- Introduce new language items and help reinforce others.

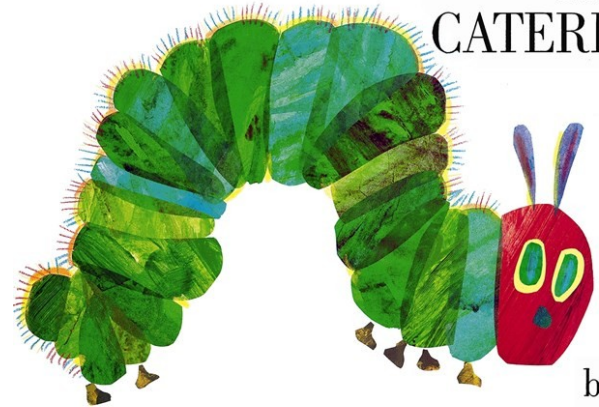


Stories develop learning processes such as listening for general meaning, predicting and guessing meaning. In particular, they can develop listening skills and concentration via:

- visual clues (high-quality pictures and illustrations that support children's understanding)
- audio clues (sound effects)
- their prior knowledge of how language works
- their prior knowledge of the world.

## *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

A butterfly laid an egg on a leaf. A tiny caterpillar hatched from the egg. He was very hungry and started to look for some food. For one week he ate fruit, dairy products, meat, vegetables, cake and sweets. He ate too much food and had a stomach ache, so the next day he ate a leaf and felt better. He was now a big, fat caterpillar and it was time to build a cocoon. After two weeks in the cocoon, he nibbled a hole and pushed his way out. He was now a beautiful butterfly.



### THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

by Eric Carle



Science: life cycle of the butterfly (labelling a diagram)

Language focus – food vocabulary: flashcard games; classifying food into groups; What is a healthy diet? Writing a food diary

Geography – Butterflies of the world: following a colour key to colour butterflies (locating continents)

Maths – asking about quantity: completing a worksheet to calculate total number of fruits

## *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*

Science and Maths – food: class survey on likes/dislikes; bar graph to collate results

Learning to learn – reviewing: playing a game to review story (reading and answering questions)

Conceptual reinforcement – thinking about time: completing a chart to record a month in the life of a very hungry caterpillar

Art and design: making an egg-box caterpillar; making a tissue-paper butterfly (listening to instructions); symmetrical pictures



<https://youtu.be/BPt8EITQMlg>



# Digital Storytelling Tools and Techniques



# Features to look for in a story



## Is the story...

- interesting and attention grabbing?
- of an appropriate length?
- based on themes or context children are familiar with?

## Does the story...

- make use of rich, expressive language but remain easy to understand?
- contain elements of suspense, surprise and humour?
- provide opportunities for involvement and participation?
- exercise the imagination?
- have a moral or express values and beliefs that are acceptable to you and your pupils?

## Are the illustrations...

- clear, accessible and large enough to be seen by the whole class?
- fitting with the text to help clarify and support meaning?



# How to make storytelling interactive?

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- Setting the scene and relating it to the learners' own personal experience
- Predicting what comes next in a story.
- Providing an overview of the main storyline. This is important with more difficult stories.
- Asking learners about the vocabulary or phrases used in the story.
- Explaining vocabulary, a grammatical rule or cultural information.
- Reminding learners what has happened so far in the story.
- Explaining how to do an activity such as pair work or a game.

# Making storytelling an immersive experience



Using puppets or masks

Changing up the seating arrangement

Using flashcards and games

Using other props such as real objects

Playing an audio recording of the story

Showing videos or animation based on the story



# Additional resources:

- <https://itforchange.net/digital-storytelling-an-ict-based-method-of-co-constructing-curriculum>
- [https://itforchange.net/sites/default/files/add/VTTE%20-%20Digital%20stories%20-%20a%20new%20approach%20to%20curricular%20material%20development.odt\\_0.pdf](https://itforchange.net/sites/default/files/add/VTTE%20-%20Digital%20stories%20-%20a%20new%20approach%20to%20curricular%20material%20development.odt_0.pdf)
- [https://karnatakaeducation.org.in/KOER/en/index.php/Language\\_Lab](https://karnatakaeducation.org.in/KOER/en/index.php/Language_Lab)