

Digital Storytelling in the Classroom

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Digital Storytelling

What is it?

A digital story is . . .

- a multi-media story
that incorporates
photos, graphics, music,
and sound.

Origins

- Dana Atchley www.nextexit.com
- [Center for Digital Storytelling](#)
- [BBC Capture Wales Project](#)

Digital stories are ...

- a compelling way to tell a personal or family story visually.

Family storytellers

A family without a storyteller or two has no way to make sense out of their past and no way to get a sense of themselves.

Frank Pittman, "How to Manage Mom and Dad."

Psychology Today, Nov/Dec 1994.

Valuable gifts

My father told me stories from the Kiowa tradition even before I could talk. Those stories became permanent in my mind, the nourishment of my imagination for the whole of my life. They are among the most valuable gifts that I have ever been given.

N. Scott Momaday, *The Man Made of Words*, p.8.

Telling stories . . .

is how we humans explain,
remember, make meaning.

We cannot live without them.

“That reminds me of a story...”

Cultural anthropologist Gregory Bateson was asked in the 1950's if he believed that computer artificial intelligence was possible.

He responded that he did not
know, but that he believed when
you would ask a computer a yes-
or-no question and it responded
with “that reminds me of a story,”
you would be close.

Digital stories are . . .

created using technology, but
they are foremost about the
stories themselves.

Student Stories

- Three Voices assignment
- Student samples

The power of storytelling

“Rather, my main point is that we, as human beings, are more alike than we are different, and storytelling has always essentially served to bind people together—not separate them.”

Wallace, C. (2000). Storytelling: Reclaiming an age-old wisdom for the composition classroom. *TETYC* 27:4, 436.

Stories build community

The stories are always bringing us together, keeping this whole together, keeping this family together, keeping this clan together.

Leslie Marmon Silko

“Language and Literature from a Pueblo Indian Perspective”

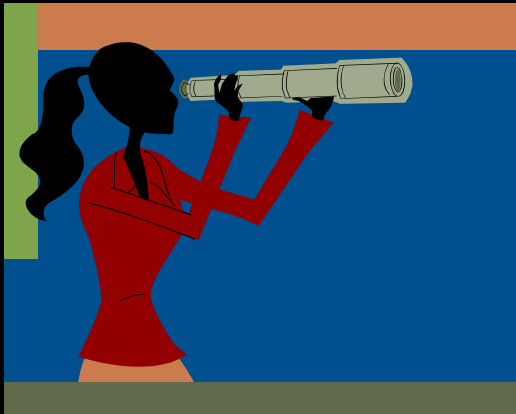
Telling the story

- Seven elements of digital storytelling

Digital Storytelling Cookbook

7 Elements of Digital Storytelling

■ Point of view



7 Elements of Digital Storytelling

- Dramatic question:
structural “setup” that
creates expectation



7 Elements of Digital Storytelling

■ Emotional content



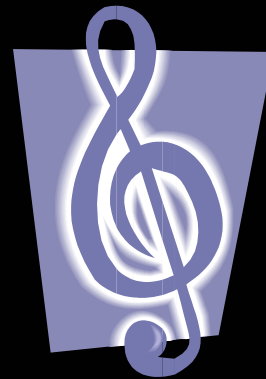
7 Elements of Digital Storytelling



- The gift
of
your voice

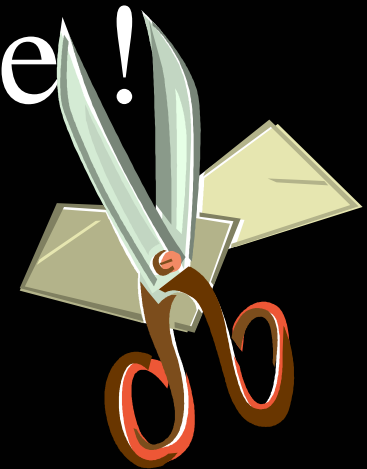
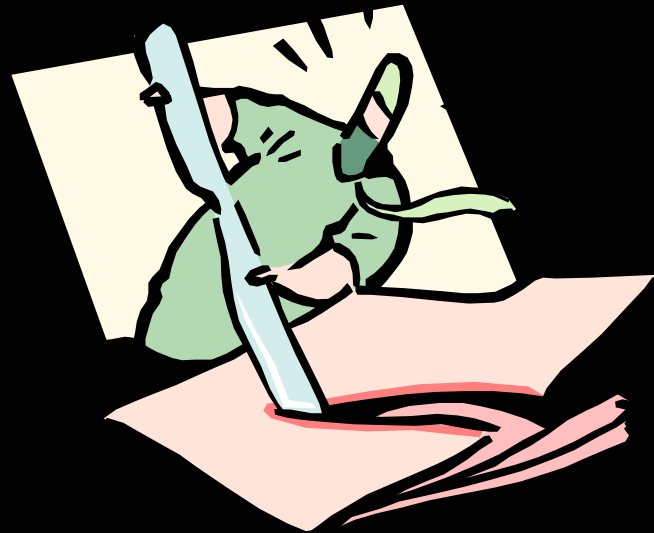
7 Elements of Digital Storytelling

- Power
of the
soundtrack



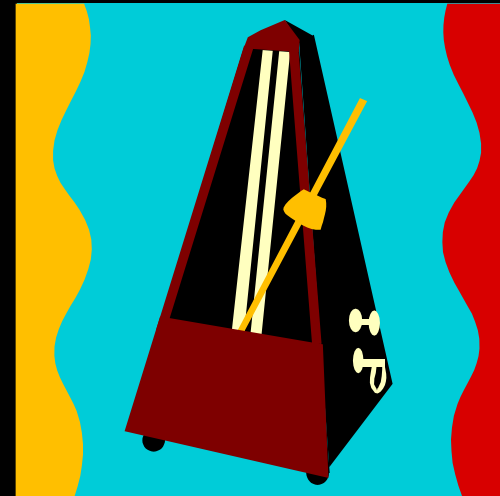
7 Elements of Digital Storytelling

- Economy: less is more!



7 Elements of Digital Storytelling

- Pacing: true secret of successful storytelling



A digital story is . . .

- easier to create than most people think.

Gather together the following:

- Photos
- Images
- Documents
- Background music

Creating the Storyboard

“These stories
from
these
pictures”



Bette Ellen Pepper, WAVE, Continues Radio Training

Bainbridge Island, Washington, will be the station. Bette Ellen Martha Pepper, seaman second class in the WAVES, for the next six months as she continues an intensive training program in wartime radio. The young WAVE is one of five students chosen from a class of 40 radio students at the radio school at Miami University, Oxnard, Ohio, for the further training.

Although the exact field of studies at the new station are a military secret, it was disclosed that the local navywoman was chosen on the basis of both her record at the Ohio navy school and her extensive mathematic



STUDIES RADIO

Continuing her naval career in the field of radio Bette Ellen Pepper of 22 East Raymond has reported for duty at Bainbridge Island, Washington, where she will begin an extensive six-month course of study. She is a graduate of the WAVE radio school at Miami University, Oxnard, Ohio.



Stories move in circles.

They don't move in straight lines.

So it helps if you listen in circles.

There are stories inside stories and stories between stories, and finding your way through them is as easy and as hard as finding your way home. And part of the finding is getting lost. And when you're lost, you start to look around and listen.

The background is a dark red color with a grid of lighter red lines. Overlaid on this grid is a film strip that winds across the frame. The film strip has sprocket holes visible. The text "Bette's Story" is centered in a white, serif font.

Bette's Story