StoryTales
Teacher Guide

45005

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Table of Contents

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Getting Started Activities

Beginner – Characters

Beginner – Settings

Lessons

Beginner – The Princess and the Pea
Retelling the end of a familiar story

Beginner – The Three Billy Goats Gruff
Learning about sequence of events: beginning, middle, and end

Intermediate – Little Seed
Learning about sequence of steps in a process: first, next, and last

Intermediate – My Pet
Describing how to do an activity

Advanced – Different Ending
Learning about plot and main events, and telling an alternate ending to a familiar story

Advanced – Vacation Stories
Learning about plot and main events, and telling an original story

StoryTales
Teacher Guide Introduction

Who is the material for?
The StoryTales Teacher Guide is for kindergarten teachers. It is designed to help teachers develop students' language and literacy skills, such as expressing thoughts, ideas, and opinions, having conversations with others, and understanding narrative structure and elements.

What is it for?
The StoryTales Teacher Guide provides fun and engaging opportunities for developing early language and literacy. Students will explore the world of make believe as they retell fictional stories, and exercise their imaginations by building and telling their own stories. They will use StoryTales to plan or describe activities and learn about sequencing of events and steps in a process.

Using the Teacher Guide, kindergarten teachers can facilitate exciting lessons in which students learn to express themselves verbally and non-verbally. As students work together to build scenes, they will explore common literary elements, such as settings, characters, and events. The versatility of StoryTales allows students to tell stories in a variety of ways. For example, they may build separate scenes for different parts of the story (i.e., beginning, middle, and end). Alternatively, they may role-play a story by changing the scene as they narrate it.

How are the learning objectives achieved?
Throughout the lessons, strategic questions will guide students through the process of applying language and literacy skills. Furthermore, the LEGO® DUPLO ® building activities will reinforce the students' creativity.

Each lesson is labeled as beginner, intermediate, or advanced, based on the skills and knowledge needed to complete the lesson. The unite includes two Getting Started Activities designed to introduce students to the basic ways they will be using StoryTales. Introducing these activities first will give students a solid foundation for completing the other six lessons. Subsequent lessons may be selected according to what is most relevant and appropriate for students.
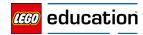
In order to create a connection between verbal narration and written record, write down the stories the students build and narrate. Reread these stories to the class, and share these stories with parents. Students will be motivated by seeing their stories recorded in writing, and their stories will become more structured and coherent over time.

Printables
The lessons may contain two types of printable images: background card images and pictures of lesson-related models. The background card images give you the opportunity to print extras so that multiple students can use the same image. The pictures of lesson-related models can be used to help students connect to the lesson, and may also be used as building inspiration when students are constructing their own stories. Each of the models shown can be built using StoryTales.

BEGINNER
INTERMEDIATE
ADVANCED

Customizing to Your Class' Needs

The StoryTales lessons can be tailored to your needs and the needs of your class. One StoryTales set can be used with up to six students at a time, working in pairs. Students need a lot of practice before they become proficient at building with a partner, and this is a good way to promote collaboration. The activities can be done in centers or stations around the classroom, or in small groups.

Personalizing the scenarios and content to fit your classroom dynamics and physical setup will help the students connect to the stories. For example, consider replacing the suggested stories with ones that are relevant to your class.
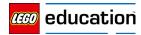
StoryTales and the Teacher Guide can be combined with any other LEGO® DUPLO ® set for even more storytelling possibilities. Combining other LEGO® DUPLO® sets with StoryTales will also provide more building opportunities. Additionally, creating costumes and play props with craft materials can enrich the students' storytelling experiences.

Expect differentiated learning outcomes based on each student's existing knowledge, vocabulary, and experience. Students' verbal responses, models, and role-playing will vary. Support the students' learning by adapting the discussion questions and making the stories relevant to them.

What is it?

• The StoryTales unit consists of two Getting Started Activities and six lessons
• The activities and lessons require StoryTales (45005)

Lesson Structure

Each lesson is structured according to a natural learning flow called the LEGO® Education 4C Approach, which promotes successful learning experiences. The Connect, Construct, and Contemplate phases, which are the first three phases of each lesson, can be done in one session. The Continue phase is more challenging and can be completed in a later session.

Connect

During the Connect phase, short stories and discussions will spark students' curiosity and activate their existing knowledge while preparing them for a new learning experience.

Construct

In this phase, the students will participate in a hands-on building activity. As their hands create models of people, places, objects, and ideas, their minds will organize and store new information related to these structures.

Contemplate

During the Contemplate phase, students are given the opportunity to reflect on what they have done and to talk about and share insights they have gained during the Construct phase of the lesson.
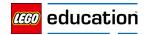
Continue

New challenges in this phase build upon the concepts students have learned previously in the lesson. These extension activities enable students to apply their newly acquired knowledge. The Continue phase does not have to be done as part of the same lesson. Students may not be ready to complete the Continue phase until they have repeatedly practiced the skills learned in the first parts of the lesson.

Did you notice?

The lessons have been developed using the Common Core State Standards. They also support the science, math, and technology guidelines from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework.

Please refer to the learning grid for an overview of these education guidelines. The Observation Checklist listed at the end of each lesson can be used to determine whether or not each student is developing the relevant skills. These steps and bullet points target specific skills or pieces of information that are practiced or presented during each lesson.

StoryTales Learning Grid

	Learning Goals			
	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.2 With prompting and support, retell familiar stories, including key details.	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.K.3 With prompting and support, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story.	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.4 Describe familiar people, places, things, and events and, with prompting and support, provide additional detail.	CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.6 Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly
Characters		●		
Settings		●		
The Princess and the Pea	●			
The Three Billy Goats Gruff	●			
Little Seed			●	
My Pet			●	
Different Ending				●
Vacation Stories				●

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