

Story Stick

Tell a story using natural props attached to a stick

All

Speaking & Listening



This creative **literacy** activity supports pupils in the development of richer **vocabulary** and **storytelling**.

The Aborigines first used 'message sticks' to convey information. The sticks were easy to carry and carved or painted with symbols and recognisable tribal markings.

The principle of the story stick can be adapted as an **expressive arts** activity. Pupils could even carve their own Aboriginal message stick. Or instead of just using one stick for the frame, choose two sticks and secure them into a cross shape with a square lashing – see the 'What Knots' resource. Multiple natural items can then be attached to a mobile which tells the story of a local area.

Equipment

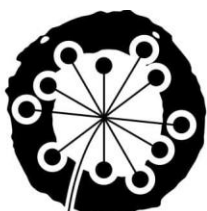
- A stick
- String or masking tape
- Scissors
- Availability of small loose parts in the environment

Activity

1. Find a stick no longer than the length of your forearm.
2. Consider the type of story you want to tell. This may inform the props you select. Alternatively see what you find and be inspired.
3. Hunt for five props to build your story. The props can be used literally or symbolically.
4. Attach the props to the stick using string or masking tape.
5. Finalise your story in your head. Try and include nouns, verbs, adjectives and at least two WOW words.
6. Take turns to share your story stick with the group and give feedback on each other's.

The Journey Stick

1. Use the stick to represent a journey.
2. Add things to your stick that you find along the way such as leaves and petals.
3. On arrival, see if you can recall the features of the journey.



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