



ACTIVITY OVERVIEW



Q2 • Storytelling • Elementary Lower

Storytelling Across Generations

Theme: New Mexico's Contribution

Time Required: 45–60 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Paper and crayons or colored pencils
- Family photos or printed classroom visuals
- Optional recording device or tablet for sharing stories
- Chart paper or whiteboard

Activity Overview

In this activity, students explore storytelling as a way to understand people, places, and memories. They will listen to a story told aloud, share a short story from their own lives, and learn how stories help families and communities remember what matters. This activity connects to New Mexico's rich storytelling traditions, emphasizing oral language, creativity, and appreciation of family heritage. Students begin to see themselves as storytellers, linking spoken and visual expression.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- Listen to and retell short stories from memory or family experiences.
- Identify key elements of a story (who, where, when, what happened).
- Practice speaking and listening respectfully while sharing stories.
- Understand that stories help us remember and connect with others.



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Essential Questions

- Why do people tell stories?
- How do stories help us remember things from the past?
- What stories are important in your family or community?

Inspired Conversation Topics

- Invite students to share who tells stories in their families.
- Discuss what makes a story interesting (voice, feeling, detail).
- Ask students to describe how they feel when someone tells them a story.
- Create a class “Story Circle” to celebrate everyone’s voices.

Connection to Statewide Theme

This activity aligns with the NM250 Storytelling: New Mexico’s Contribution initiative, which honors the state’s oral history traditions and the art of sharing stories across generations. Educators may choose to link this classroom activity to a schoolwide Storytelling Assembly or #MyNMStory project, where students and families celebrate local heritage and creativity.