

# Inspiring Story Telling

## OPTION ONE: IMAGINATION

*Directions: Individually read through the four scenarios below. Pick one and answer the questions on page two. Be prepared to share this with a small group or a partner at your table.*

**Scenario 1:** Close your eyes and think about a time when a child is sitting beside you. He or she is resting against you and relaxing. It is a special moment for the two of you. She or he says: "Tell me a story." What comes to your mind?

**Scenario 2:** You are walking outside with a young child.. You might be near some trees or looking at the desert. You could be near a stream or just walking near the center of your home. He/she she takes your hand and says tell me a story.

**Scenario 3:** You have just left a visit with an elder or older relative from your family or a family you know. You are driving in the car with your child or a child you know. He/she asks you to tell her/him about the person you just visited.

**Scenario 4:** You are looking through old photos or pictures of people dear to you. You remember a special time or event as you look at the photos. You think about your child or grandchild and decide to send them a letter or Email with the photo and the memory.

### Discussion Questions

1. Which scenario did you choose?      1      2      3      4
2. What story would you like to tell or write? Share some key points.
3. What types of illustrations or real life items would you use to tell the story?
4. Was it difficult to come up with a story using the scenarios?

Difficult		Kind of Easy		Very easy ☺
1	2	3	4	5

## **OPTION TWO: Inspiring Story Telling through Pictures/Photos**

*Several photos are on your table or have been given to your group in a folder.*

**As a group, examine the photos and think about whether or not you might want to write a story for each of the photos. Answer the questions below.**

1. As a group choose a photo to talk about.
2. Brainstorm: Does the photo or picture inspire you to write or tell a story? If so, please write down some of the key points of the story in the space below or in the booklets you have been provided.
3. What photos or pictures from your own life, your center, classroom, or home might inspire you to share a story with children?
4. Was it difficult to come up with a story using the photos?

Difficult

Kind of Easy

Very easy ☺

1

2

3

4

5

## **Option Three: Inspiring Story Telling through Examples**

*Several books are on your table or have been given to your group. Examine the books and think about whether or not they might inspire you to write a book for your classroom or home.*

**As a group, brainstorm your answers the questions below.**

1. What did you find valuable about the examples of books you have on your table?
2. Did they inspire you to write or illustrate a story? Yes No
3. Do you think teachers or parents in your program would be inspired to create their own books after looking at the examples? Yes No  
Why?