World Read Aloud Day

Storytelling Tips from LitWorld

Storytelling is one of the oldest art forms and is a way to share knowledge, inspire, teach and forge connections amongst people and ideas. Stories tell us about life, about ourselves, and can promote a positive understanding of others. Stories can also come in many shapes and forms! Some stories are read, some are watched, and some are told from memory and imagination. No matter what your way of telling stories is, read on to learn about making a memorable storytelling experience for all!

- **Know your audience**: whether you are telling a story to a group of children, adults or both, make sure the language and message are easy to understand and accessible to everyone!
- **Decide what kind of story you're telling!** Are the characters, events and setting real or imagined? Does it come from personal experiences or is it inspired by real life? Know the main message of the story before you begin!

- **Invite interaction with the audience of your story!** Just like a Read Aloud, it is important to create a positive and exciting atmosphere to keep your listeners engaged and attentive. Encourage the audience to ask questions, maintain eye contact, be aware of your voice level and your body language. You can tell your story with your body - using your hands, feet, legs, and head. Or, you can ask the listeners to perform certain simple movements during certain parts of the story.
- **Know your ending!** Before you start telling your story, brainstorm the plot, main events and your ending. When you feel comfortable with your story, you can tell it in a different way each time, but the main points will stay the same and keep you on track and your audience following along well.