



# DIGITAL STORYTELLING



## WHAT IS DIGITAL STORYTELLING?

Digital storytelling utilizes technology to enhance communication, language arts, and literacy skills to share a story. Stories can be fictional or reportage and are usually short in length. They can be used in many diverse settings and are composed of multiple media, integrating multiple semiotic models. Digital storytelling is extremely flexible and can be tailored to any subject or theme, allowing students to construct their own learning and engages them in an inquiry-based, active learning process.

## BENEFITS OF DIGITAL STORYTELLING



**A reliable learning tool.** Digital storytelling encourages people to engage and to share their dialogue in a visual and oral format. Students develop digital literacy and communication skills, as well as a newfound understanding of other cultures and lived experiences.



**Transformation across landscapes.** Digital storytelling can lead to the transformation of both structural and cultural aspects of the educational context. The message in digital storytelling can convey what is needed for transformation to occur.



**Challenging the norms.** By challenging stereotypical and stigmatizing narratives, digital storytelling can prompt viewers to question their assumptions and transform their thinking. Individuals can challenge the perceived wisdom of those at society's centre by providing context to understand and transform established belief systems and societal taboos.

## MAKING A DIGITAL STORY

### GETTING STARTED



Generate an idea for the story one would like to tell. Brainstorm and research topics, reach out to connections, look for supporting material, and engage in self reflection.

### SCRIPT/OUTLINE



The script/outline details activities that will support students and instructors. It provides a list of relevant tools and resources. Writing the story involves using personal ideas and experiences.

### RECORDING



Digital storytelling can be recorded in different ways (e.g. filming, audio recording, pictures). Recording film requires the use of a camera, microphone, smartphone, or tablet. It is recommended to film test shots and repeat the recording steps until the desired quality is attained.

### PLAN

Develop a plan to help organize the storyteller's resources. The plan can reflect details of learning goals and objectives. Planning requires a vision and articulation of the script, storyboard, and more.



### STORYBOARD

The storyboard organizes all resources that will be used, including music, pictures, text, and videos. It allows the presenter to provide a complete setting of the whole story from start to finish.



### COMPLETE & PUBLISH

The recording must be edited using audio, photo, or video editing software. The completed digital story can then be exported and published to video hosting sites, other websites, and social media.



## DIGITAL STORYTELLING IN SOCIAL WORK FIELD EDUCATION

1

Digital storytelling can be promoted as an instructional and learning resource in social work education, both in the classroom and in the field.

2

It can be an engaging process for students who can create deeper insights and understanding of their practicum experiences.

3

Students can gain new experiences and skills that advance their personal and professional growth in response to the changing need and demands of service users.

