

Topic: Bear Story (Storytelling)

Let's get started . . . What was a favorite story or character from your childhood or that your own children or grandchildren like? (Can you draw it???)

Story: The man and his daughter went for a walk in the woods near their tent. They climbed a hill and looked at the view. After a rest, they walked back down. The father saw a little flash of brown in the woods to his right. Hmm. It was a small bear cub. Just as he was pointing the bear out to his daughter, he saw a flash of brown on the left. It was a much bigger bear. "Oh no!" he thought. "We're between a mother bear and her cub." He and his daughter began to run as fast as they could back to camp. He looked back once and saw the bears following. He and his daughter made it back to camp safely and took a breather. "That was close!" he said. "Never come between a mother bear and her cubs!"



Have you ever seen bears? Tell a bear story.

Have you ever seen a mom (a human mom) that protected her cubs (kids)? Have you ever come between a mother and her children? What happened?



In pairs, tell some of your personal stories:

Try to complete one or more of these sentences with information about your life. Give detail if you can.

When I was a child . . .

After I became an adult . . .

When I first came to the U.S. . .

Last year, I . . .

This year, I

I was sad when . . .

I was happy when . . .

Some stories are non-fiction (real, based on real people and real events) and some are fiction. Do you like both fiction and non-fiction? Do you have a preference?



Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups. Change groups from time to time.

What are some stories that were important to your childhood or are important to you as an adult? Why are they important? Do you (or will you) tell these stories to your children? Why or why not?

Are you more comfortable telling a story orally, or telling a story in writing? Why?

What are some of your favorite books or movies? Why?

Do you think stories should have happy endings? Why or why not?



Most people who grew up in the U.S. know the story of "The Boy Who Cried Wolf". This story has a lesson in it. If anyone knows this story, please tell it. What is the lesson in the story?

What are some stories that everyone from your native culture knows? What do they mean to you or to others? Draw a picture to help tell the story if you wish.

Small Group Activity: Story Chain

Students form a circle of 6 people. The first person begins to tell an imaginary story by saying, "Once upon a time, there was _____." Each person adds one sentence to continue the story. The last person in the group must complete the story. Play as many times as you want.

Tell about your life:

Tell a story about one year in your life. What happened to you during that year? (For example - you might tell about 2009 or 2001 or 1974 or ????)

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