

Effective Use of Dialogue to Move the Story Forward

Add dialogue to your stories and see what a difference it makes. You might notice dialogue makes the story stronger orally and more interesting.

Find a small group or a partner to work with. Change the following narrative to dialogue. Experiment with the various ways you can craft the conversation.

- Mama Bear called her family to the table for breakfast.
- Baby Bear complained his porridge was too hot.
- Papa Bear suggested they all go for a walk.
- Goldilocks saw three bowls of porridge sitting on the table.
- Goldilocks thought the chairs looked comfy.
- Goldilocks grew tired.
- Papa Bear could see that someone had been in the house.
- Mama Bear was upset that someone had been sitting in her chair.
- Baby Bear could not believe his eyes when he saw Goldilocks in his bed.
- Goldilocks told the bears she would never come back again.
- The shepherd boy told the farmer he wanted a job.
- The farmer told the shepherd boy his sheep were the most important thing he had.
- The boy thought watching sheep was really boring.
- The villagers told the shepherd boy they were very angry he had tricked them.
- The boy told the villagers he really had seen a wolf.
- The farmer told the boy that he couldn't work for him any more.
- The step-mother told Cinderella to do all the jobs.
- The soldiers came to the house and told everyone there would be a ball at the castle.
- The step sisters told Cinderella to curl their hair and polish their shoes.
- Cinderella really wanted to go to the ball, too.
- The fairy godmother told Cinderella to dry her tears.
- The fairy godmother told Cinderella to bring her a fat pumpkin and then she turned it into a carriage.
- Cinderella told the fairy godmother she had nothing to wear to the ball.
- The fairy godmother told Cinderella to be home by midnight.
- The prince asked Cinderella to dance.
- The shoes were much too small for those two sisters.