

## Story Nuggets

Story Nuggets allows students to create mini-performances from a small portion of text. This is a particularly powerful approach to use with early readers or ELL students.

### *Preparation:*

The teacher should read through the story and choose key sentences for understanding the overall story arc. Write/type the key sentences and number them in order from the beginning to the end of the story.

### *Procedure:*

1. Have students gather in trios. Give each trio a "story nugget" on a note card or strip of paper. The story nuggets should be between one and three sentences.
2. Ask the trio to read the story nugget and to make sure they understand the vocabulary and the overall meaning. Allow time for students to ask each other or the teacher questions (if Story Nuggets is being used to teach a foreign language, or if the students are early readers, the teacher might take time here to review with the class unfamiliar vocabulary or confusing sentences).
3. Give trios about five minutes to prepare a performance of the story nugget to share with the rest of the class. Depending on how much the class is familiar with the following tools, students might be asked to:
  - Include choral, individual, pair readings
  - Add movement and physical gesture
  - Embody the characters physically and vocally
4. Gather in a large circle if the space allows. Have trios order themselves from story nugget "1" to the highest number.
5. Ask students to present the text, in order, from trio to trio around the circle, not pausing or stopping.

### *Reflection:*

After moving around the circle ask students to predict what the text will be about.

- Who are the characters?
- Where does the story take place?
- What is the story?
- What are the big ideas or themes of the story?
- How do you think the story ends?