



Short Activity
Ages 6–8
15–30 minutes

Make Your Own Silly Story

Description

Learn how to make your very own silly story and try it out on your friends

Space Considerations

An indoor space with tables and chairs

Competencies

- Creative and imaginative thinking
- Organization and planning
- Social interaction
- Written communication skills

Materials

- Masking or painter's tape
- Scrap paper
- Card stock
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Pens or fine-tipped markers
- Safety scissors (optional, for cutting tape)

Implementation

1. Begin by demonstrating a few silly stories and how they work. There are a few options for running this:
 - a. If the TD Summer Reading Club Kids' Site is live (starting June 14, 2021), there are 12 silly stories that you can access directly from the home page at tdsrc.ca. You can display the stories using a laptop and

projector. Prompt participants to provide words for you to type into the blanks. Then, click on *Show Your Story* and read it aloud to the group.

- b. Try out the [TD Summer Reading Club Silly Story](#) as a group. This is available at any time—before, during and even after the summer!
 - c. Use our [Silly Story printouts](#) and have kids work in pairs to prompt one another for words for the story. Alternatively, you can prompt the entire group for words and then read the story aloud.
2. Discuss examples of [word prompts](#) that could work well in a story. Using parts of speech (noun, verb, adjective, adverb) may be difficult for some participants. Instead, use the word prompt template.
 3. Distribute scrap paper and a writing instrument to each participant. Encourage them to think of a story idea. The story can be anything, including something they invent, something that happened to them in real life or a story spinoff based on one of their favourite books. This is a good time for participants to start thinking of potential word prompts and words they may want to exclude for others to fill in. The stories can be any length and contain any number of word prompts—a recommended number of prompts is between 4 and 12.
 4. Distribute card stock paper to participants along with masking tape or green painter's tape. Participants should write out their stories and use a piece of tape to mark each blank space for their word prompts (see sample image below).
 5. Underneath or beside the tape, participants should indicate what the word prompt is (e.g. body part).
 6. Participants can use as many sheets as desired to write their story.
 7. After completing the story, participants can then be encouraged to test the story out on others by prompting them for the words. Without showing their story, the author should use a pen or fine-tipped marker to write the words they receive from others directly on each piece of tape.
 8. Once all the word prompts are filled, participants can read the story out loud together.
 9. Once complete, remove all the tape and add new tape, or place tape directly over the previous tape. The story is now ready for another participant (or parent or caregiver) to give it a try!

Accessibility Considerations

- Read and print the instructions for this activity
- Read completed stories aloud for all participants to hear (If necessary, use a microphone for larger crowds)
- Give participants the option to work on their stories in pairs or small groups

Book Suggestions

Do Not Eat the Game! by Matthew McElligott

It Seemed Like a Good Idea... Canadian Feats, Facts and Flubs by Ted Staunton and Will Staunton

Team Steve by Kelly Collier

Templates and Images

Word Prompts

Body part	Holiday	Movie	Song
Country	City	Name	Breakfast food
Food	Kitchen utensil	Continent	Your age
Number greater than 1	Your age + 100	Something flat	School supply
Year you were born	Underwater creature	Animal	Large animal
Small animal	Rodent	Reptile	Mammal
Board game	Something that smells bad	Vegetable	Insect
Smelly food	Colour	Fruit	Dessert
Day of the week	Vegetable	Insect	Canadian city
Vehicle	Male singer	Female singer	Famous person
Your favourite food	Musical instrument	Plant	Favourite drink
Type of fish	Food you put on the BBQ	Your name	Sport
Room in a house	Cartoon character	Month	Superhero
Part of the face	Animal sound	Pizza topping	TV show
Book title	Type of bird		

SUMMER ROAD TRIP

LAST SUMMER



TOOK A ROAD TRIP

(YOUR NAME)

TO DOWNTOWN



WITH THE WHOLE

(CANADIAN CITY)

FAMILY, THE TRIP TOOK



DAYS

(NUMBER GREATER THAN 1)

AND THE FAMILY DROVE A



TO GET THERE.

(VEHICLE)



BROUGHT THE FAMILY PET



(YOUR NAME)

(ANIMAL)

NAMED



ALONG FOR THE TRIP. FOR A SNACK,

(NAME OF YOUR FRIEND)



PACKED A GIGANTIC PIECE OF



(YOUR NAME)

(SHELLY FOOD)

THE END!