

THE STORY SHARING GAME

Play With Friends, Family, Co-Workers, Groups & Classes, Or To Help Strangers Become Familiar. Great For Intergenerational Play ! (Kids 13yrs and older)

HOW TO PLAY

(Playing Time: Up To Six Players – 1 Hour / Group Formation: Circle)

STEP #1: CHOOSE THE 'INSTIGATING' STORY

Each Player is given a copy of the Story. Before playing the Game one Player acts as facilitator and chooses a random 'instigating' or 'inciting' story to inspire Players to remember little stories from their own lives. It can be a short true story (*memoir*), or a short story, or even a monologue from a film. Any story that speaks to what it is to be human, in ordinary ways or in big ways. (*Story should be one page or less.*) Here's a few free online short story collections:

- True 100-word stories: www.rd.com/article/100-word-stories/
- 50-word stories: <https://fiftywordstories.com/tag/twist/>
- 100-word stories: <https://100wordstory.org/>
- Teen memoirs: www.teenink.com/nonfiction/memoir
- Adults and Teens: <https://www.sixwordmemoirs.com/>

STEP #2: READ ALOUD THE STORY & COMMENT

- Each Player takes A TURN READING A LINE from the instigating Story. If the Story is very short you can read through it twice so every Player has a chance to read a line aloud. (*This simple exercise warms everyone up – hearing their own voice; makes everyone listen more closely to the story as they wait their turn reading; and starts to build cohesion and supportiveness among the Players.*)
- Each Player makes ONE COMMENT about the Story. Whatever they want to say, including sharing how something similar happened to them. Other Players can make supportive remarks, but don't start a discussion. Move on to the next Player's story.
- Go around the circle again as each Player shares ONE LINE about what they think the Story is about. (*Theme, message, or lesson learned.*)

STEP #3: THINK ABOUT HOW TO TELL YOUR STORY / SHARE IT

- Each Player thinks of a Story from their past. To begin, the facilitator asks each Player to share only two things: 1) HOW OLD WERE THEY ? (*Ok if they guess what age they were.*) 2) WHERE DID IT HAPPEN ? (*City / state / country + physical location, i.e. a bedroom, on the football field, at a checkout register, etc.*)
- Facilitator gives Players 3 - 5 minutes to silently flesh out how they want to tell their stories. Players are encouraged to include visual descriptions of the people and setting, and to become more vivid StoryTellers by using their voice and gestures as well as words.
- Players share their real life stories. After a Story is shared other Players make ONE COMMENT about the story. Then the next Player tells their Story followed by a round of comments, until all the Players have shared their stories.

STEP #4: ANSWER THE (10) QUESTIONS

Review 'Story Sharing Game's (10) QUESTIONS'.

A Question is read aloud and then each Player indicates which Player's Story best answered the question for them.