

SECONDARY ELA NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Hello, Secondary ELA Colleagues!

There are many, many opportunities shared in this newsletter to further and deepen your learning and the learning of your students. I hope to see you at several of these opportunities.

I also speak to many Utah educators who are unaware of most of these offerings, so do a favor, and forward this newsletter to your ELA educator friends. Thank you!

Naomi

I'M CURRENTLY ENJOYING:

- *Love Nature Magic* by Maria Rodale
- *Beetlejuice*



P-12 ELA STANDARDS RESOURCES & REMINDERS

ALL STANDARDS ARE ESSENTIAL!

The ELA 22 standards are organized into 3 strands:

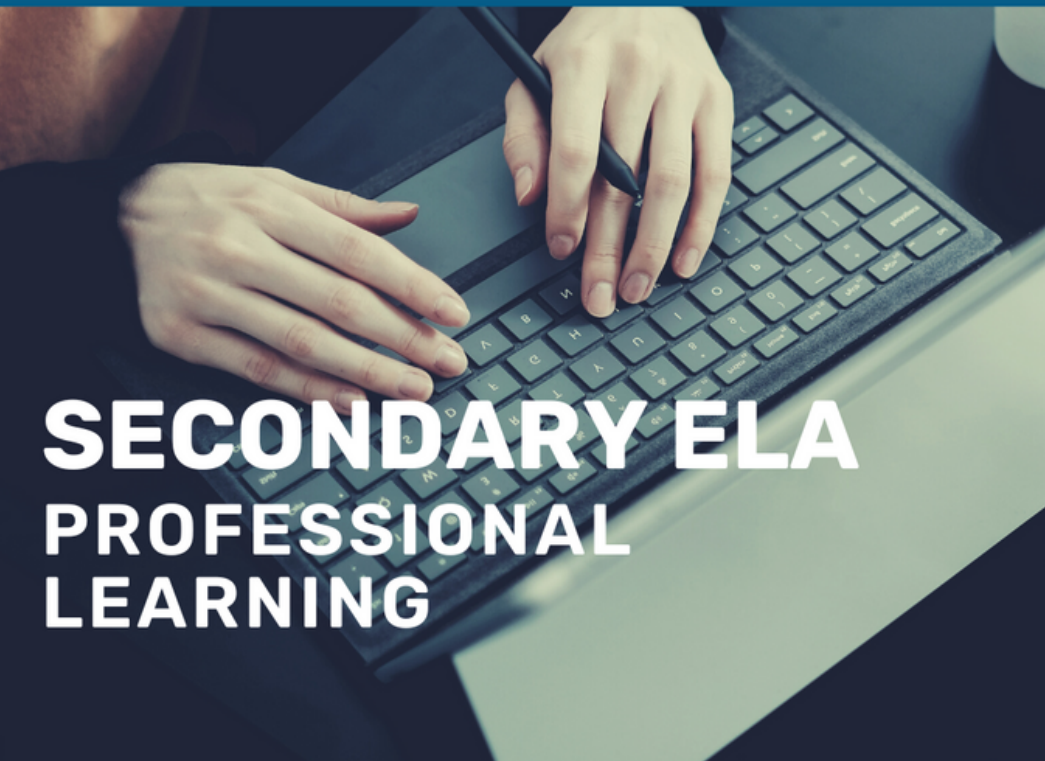
1. Speaking & Listening (3)
2. Reading (both literature & informational) (14)
3. Writing (5)

Implementation Timeline	
2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025
Full statewide implementation of new standards	Continued implementation of new standards
Assessment of old standards	Assessment of new standards

Questions about assessment? Contact megan.lopez@schools.utah.gov

[Link](#) to resource folder which includes:


- [FAQs](#)
- [Reading Strand Standards Breakdown](#)
- [Speech Progression Chart](#)
- [Slides](#) from summer professional learning
 - These slides contain additional resources such as articles, podcasts, videos, templates for standards activities, and evidence-based practices + what practices to discontinue.
- Resources shared by other districts (e.g., vertical alignment)
- More to come...Grammar and Conventions List, Core Guides, Best Practices One-Pager, ACT Alignment



SECONDARY ELA PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Midas Course 63313 



SUPPORT STUDENTS' READING, WRITING, SPEAKING, LISTENING, AND THINKING THROUGH EVIDENCE-BASED INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES



REFINE AND DEEPEN YOUR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW UTAH ELA STANDARDS

100% ONLINE & FLEXIBLE

JOIN LIVE OR VIEW THE RECORDINGS WHEN YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS!

OPTION TO EARN 0.5 USBE CREDIT

VIEW ALL 7 WEBINARS AND ENROLL IN THE CANVAS COURSE TO ACCESS REFLECTIONS & IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS



BEATING THE GRAMMAR BEAST

DR. DEBORAH DEAN

OCTOBER 17
4:00 - 5:00 PM



READING WITH PURPOSE: SELECTING & SEQUENCING TEXTS TO SUPPORT CRITICAL UNDERSTANDING

DR. LAUREN LIANG

NOVEMBER 13
4:00 - 5:00 PM

+ 5 more webinars
Info coming soon!

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2023–2024 STATE SECONDARY ELA DIRECTOR MEETINGS MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

All held virtually from 1–3pm

- Tuesday, November 14
- Tuesday, January 23
- Tuesday, March 19

message [brenda.mcmurtrey@schools.
utah.gov](mailto:brenda.mcmurtrey@schools.utah.gov) for an invite



In partnership with Utah Education Network and Utah Film Center, the 2024 Tumbleweeds Film Festival for Kids Film Competition is now OPEN to all Utah students grades K–8! If you're a parent or educator of a talented young filmmaker, this is the perfect opportunity for them to shine!

[MORE INFO](#)



This year's **U.S. Media Literacy Week** runs **October 23–27** and celebrates one of the five components of media literacy's definition each day: Access, Analyze, Evaluate, Create, and Act. Media Literacy Week is free to all with activities for teachers and students.

[READ MORE](#) 



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Utah State Board of Education
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**Please note: LEAs have the duty to select instructional materials that best correlate to the core standards for Utah public schools and graduation requirements. (UCA 53G-4-402(1(a))). Posting of these resources by USBE staff curriculum content specialists does not imply the resources have received official endorsement of the State Board. Educators are responsible to ensure use of these materials complies with LEA policies and directives.

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Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit



Nov 06 | Nov 13

Calling all multicultural **7th–9th grade students and educators in Utah!** The Utah Division of Multicultural Affairs is excited to host the Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit—a free and virtual youth leadership event—on **Monday, November 6th, 2023 and November 13th from 9–11 AM**. The program will be the same on both days to accommodate more school schedules.



[LEARN MORE](#)

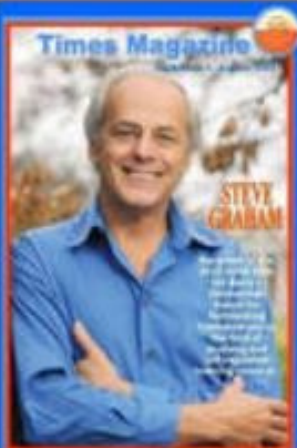


The WRITE Center invites you to attend its Fall webinar...

What Works in Secondary Writing Instruction?

A Meta-Analysis of Writing Treatments for Students in Grades 6-12

Thursday 10/26: 4-5:30pm PDT



Join us for this free webinar where we share results from a new meta-analysis examining the **effect of writing treatments** for students in grades 6-12. Led by WRITE Center Co-PI, **Steve Graham**, this study synthesizes hundreds of studies to answer the question: *What works in secondary writing instruction?*

[Click HERE to register today!](#)

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WASATCH READING SUMMIT OCTOBER 26-27 at SLCC Miller Campus

The Wasatch Reading Summit is an educational professional development conference that focuses on the best practices, based on the Science of Reading, for instruction in Utah. With the latest research, educators, professionals, and parents learn methods for helping struggling readers.

REGISTER -- use code BACK2SCHOOL for \$25 off

APPLYING THE SCIENCE OF READING IN YOUR CLASSROOM

HOW TO IMPROVE READING
COMPREHENSION! TOOLS IN
SPANISH AND ENGLISH

WHAT ABOUT WRITING?
HOW TO EXPLICITLY TEACH
WRITING!

THE IMPORTANCE OF
DECODABLE BOOKS TO
ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO
SOUND OUT WORDS

DYSLEXIA 101, WHAT TO
LOOK FOR IN YOUR
CLASSROOM

THE MAGIC OF
MORPHOLOGY IN BUILDING
VOCABULARY!

2023 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:



LISA KLEIN,
M. ED.
WEAVING THE
WRITING ROPE THROUGH
CONTENT AREAS: AN
OVERVIEW

Klein is Vice President of Keys to Literacy, a literacy-focused professional development organization based in Massachusetts that trains educators across the country. An experienced educator with a passion for literacy and learning, she began teaching in 1995 at the Landmark School, a school renowned for their work with children and adolescents with language-based learning disabilities. Throughout her career in education, Lisa enjoyed being a classroom teacher, a special educator, and a reading specialist, in both urban and suburban schools. As a Keys to Literacy trainer for eight years, she was passionate about her work with students, teachers, and administrators from schools across the United States. In her current role, Lisa appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with district and school leadership to customize professional development plans which bring consistent literacy routines to students across all grade levels and subject areas.



<https://decodingdyslexiautah.org/ddut-events/wasatch-reading-summit/>



DR. JULIA B.
LINDSEY

PUTTING THE SCIENCE OF
READING INTO PRACTICE:
10 SWAPS TO REINVENT
READING INSTRUCTION

Julia B. Lindsey, Ph.D., is a foundational literacy expert. She is the author of the best-selling book for teachers, *Reading Above the Fray: Research-based Routines for Developing Decoding Skills*. Julia is also the creator of knowledge-rich decodable texts used by tens of thousands of educators around the globe. Julia's work focuses on ensuring all teachers have the knowledge and materials they need to use research-based practices in their classroom. Julia holds a BS in Psychology from Davidson College, a MAT from Relay Graduate School of Education, and a Ph.D. in Educational Studies from the University of Michigan. She is a proud former elementary school teacher.



DR. KAUSALAI
(KAY)
WIJEKUMAR
TRANSFORMING READING
FOR ALL
OUR CHILDREN

Dr. Kay Wijekumar is a dedicated parent, teacher, and researcher who focuses all her energies on transforming reading comprehension and writing for every child. Her work includes the development of web-based intelligent tutoring systems in English and Spanish for both reading and writing. She has pioneered the free ACE podcast (in English and Spanish) so that families can support academic language development with children at home. She also delivers practice-based professional development to English language arts and special education teachers. Her work has garnered over 80 million dollars in funding from the US Department of Education and philanthropic organizations like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Her team has achieved unprecedented success in achieving 100% pass rates for children including special education students. She is an avid gardener and accomplished musician.

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NATIONAL WRITING AWARD: THE HUMANITIES AND A FREER TOMORROW

A student writing opportunity based
on the 2023 Jefferson Lecture
Open to current 11th and 12th grade students

[LEARN MORE](#)



Closes October 28!

NCTE



The [Book Love Foundation](#) seeks teachers who demonstrate a passion for promoting a hunger for books. These teachers recognize the diversity of every class of readers, and they challenge each student to build an independent reading life of increasing depth and joy. Teachers who apply for a Book Love Foundation grant must demonstrate that they are already committed to the support of readers through current classroom practices such as maintaining access to a range of books, conferring regularly and purposefully to understand and support students' changing needs, and sharing their own contagious passion for reading inside and outside of their classroom. Read about the requirements for a grant, and then apply for either a classroom library or book clubs.

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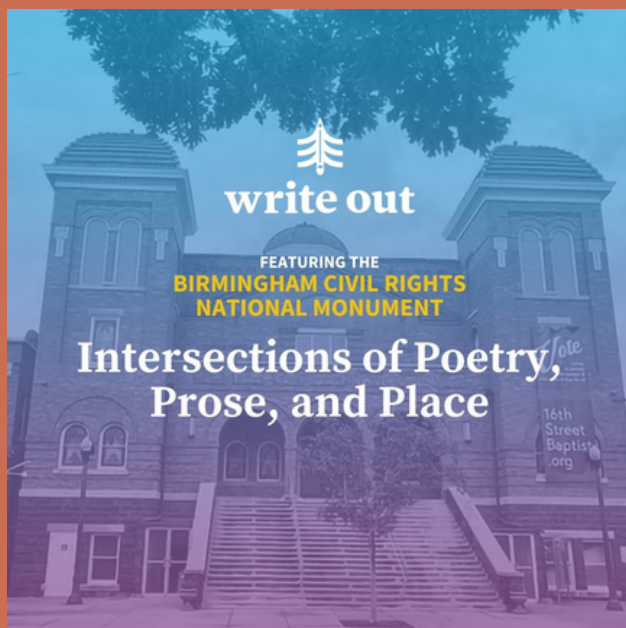


Write Out is a free two-week celebration of writing, making, and sharing inspired by the great outdoors. It is a public invitation to get out and create that is supported with a series of online activities, made especially for educators, students, and families, to explore national parks and other public spaces. The goal is to connect and learn through place-based writing and sharing using the common hashtag #writeout.

Write Out runs every October and includes Indigenous People's Day and the National Day on Writing. Themes change year-to-year and overlap with the monthly themes of the National Park Service.

Write Out is sponsored by the National Writing Project and the National Park Service.

[MORE INFO](#)



Empowering Critical Thinkers: Strategies for Navigating News and Media

SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
FROM 4-5 P.M. MST

For K-12 Educators, all content areas

Join us for a free
eight-part webinar series
centered on news and
media literacy skills.



WEBINAR SERIES

Empowering Critical Thinkers: Strategies for Navigating News and Media

The series is brought to you by content specialists at the Utah State Board of Education and the News Literacy Project.

Each webinar is 45 minutes long and will include resources, guidance and frameworks from USBE, as well as learning from the News Literacy Project. Webinars will be followed by a 15-minute Q&A with a Utah educator who has been using the resources.



Utah State Board of Education

About NLP

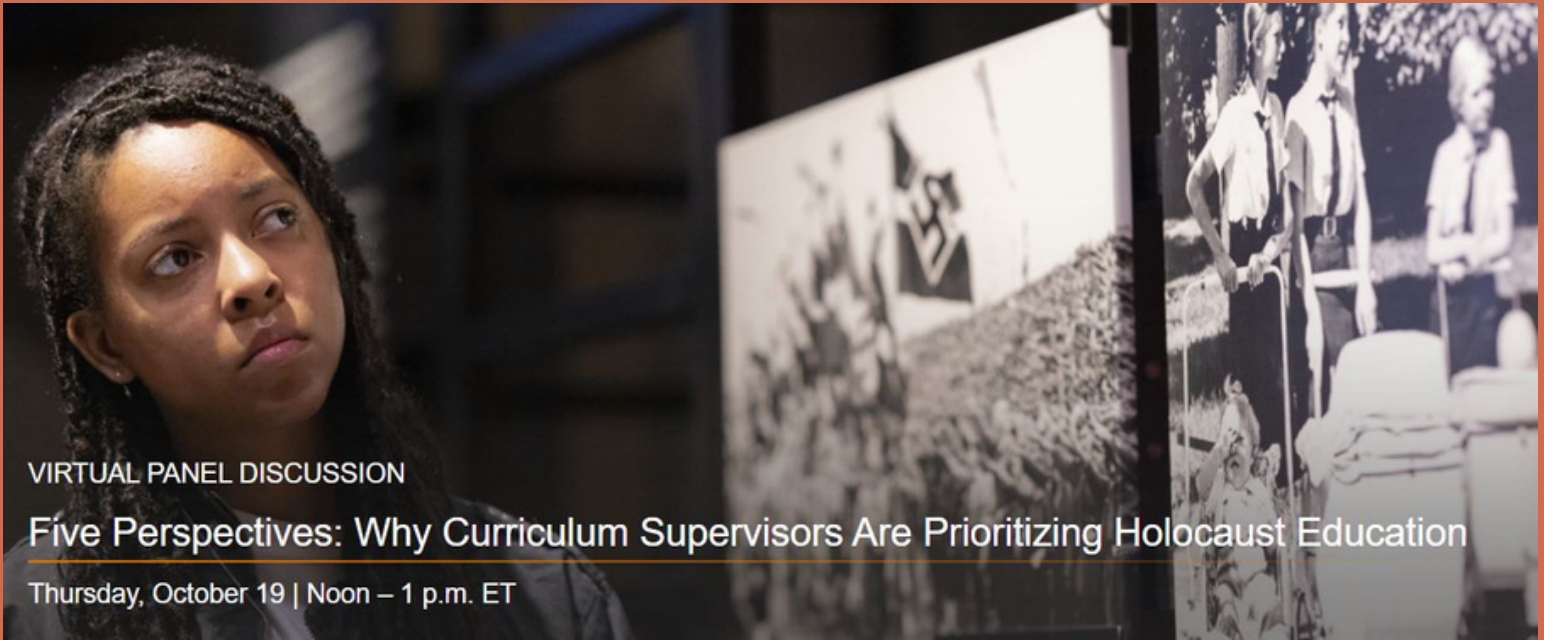
The News Literacy Project, a nonpartisan education nonprofit, is building a national movement to advance the practice of news literacy throughout American society, creating better informed, more engaged and more empowered individuals – and ultimately a stronger democracy.



NLP's public and educator resources are completely free.

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VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION

Five Perspectives: Why Curriculum Supervisors Are Prioritizing Holocaust Education

Thursday, October 19 | Noon – 1 p.m. ET

During this virtual event, hear from state and district curriculum leaders, classroom educators, and students who will address the importance of Holocaust education and their perspectives on how to:

- Effectively integrate Holocaust education into curricula
- Scale effective instructional practices across school systems
- Collaborate with the Museum and local partners
- Support educators with Museum guidelines for teaching, ready-to-use resources, and free professional development
- Enhance critical thinking skills through exploration of personal testimonies, artifacts, and primary sources

REGISTER NOW



The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, in coordination with many local Holocaust education centers, works with education leaders across the country to ensure that teachers have access to free resources and instructional support to accurately teach about how and why the Holocaust happened.



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BETTER DAYS
utahwomenshistory.org



field trip

Join Better Days on **February 13, 2024** as we commemorate Utah trailblazers and our First To Vote history! The event includes hands-on learning activities, storytelling, visits from state leaders, prizes, and much more!

In past years, we've reached the maximum number of students that the State Capitol can accommodate. We'll confirm registrations on a first come, first served basis. **REGISTER.**

You can apply for bus funding from the Capitol Preservation Board [here](#).

Teach your students
STORIES OF WOMEN
who shaped Utah's history.

Watch for our new curriculum on Utah women in WWI and WWII coming later this fall! In the meantime, download our [Utah Women's History](#) curriculum on Canvas, check out free educator resources on [utahwomenshistory.org](#), or use our Martha Hughes Cannon [digital toolkit](#) to celebrate the upcoming installation of her statue in the U.S. Capitol (date still TBD).



ART CONTEST FOR GRADES 4 – 12

CASH & OTHER PRIZES

SUBMIT BY JAN. 22, 2024

STUDENT ART CONTEST

Utah women make history, but they're often missing from our classrooms. We need your help to change that!

Create an original piece of art about a woman in Utah history who made a difference in your community.

- Compose an artist statement (written or video) explaining the connection between your art and the woman you featured.
- Winners in each age category (grades 4-6, 7-8, 9-12) will receive cash awards and prizes from local Utah businesses!
- Winning artwork will be displayed at the Utah State Capitol for the Utah Women Making History student event on February 13, 2024.

DEADLINE: JANUARY 22, 2024

Details and submission link:

[Click Here!](#)

Questions? Email us at:

info@betterdays2020.org

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FREE ADOPT-A-TELLER PROGRAM

The National Association of Black Storytellers (NABS) will be holding their 41st Annual National Black Storytelling Festival and Conference in Salt Lake City, November 6-12. The four-day event includes workshops, storytelling concerts, a hilarious world-renowned liar's contest, youth storytellers, and more.

A special highlight of this conference is the FREE Adopt-A-Teller Program (AATP), offering performances to eligible venues near the conference. Schools, libraries, museums, arts councils, colleges and universities, cultural organizations, living residences, community groups and others are invited to apply to host a free event with a storyteller. The venue is required to pick up and return the assigned teller to and from the host hotel in downtown SLC.

Availability will be limited, so apply before October 20th.
The earlier the better!

[APPLY NOW](#)



Sponsored by National Endowment for the Arts, The Poetry Foundation, and Utah Arts & Museums Arts Education Program, Poetry Out Loud encourages the study of great poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition for high school students across the country. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life.



[MORE INFO](#)



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ARTSRAGEOUS ONLINE

ARTrageous Online! supports core curriculum learning for 7-12th grade students by introducing students to passionate and accomplished "thought leaders" in our community. They are artists, scientists, authors, activists, mathematicians, engineers, teachers, and creatives who have ideas and experience worth sharing. Vibrant video presentations, activities, and lesson plans support arts integration in English, Science, and Social Studies.



ANNUAL NCTE CONVENTION

November 16-19 in Columbus, Ohio

The NCTE Annual Convention is the premier annual event for English language arts and literacy educators. Learn from experts and participate in various sessions on a range of topics that will inspire your teaching. Meet educators from around the country and enjoy social and cultural events, including a book fair and awards ceremony. Share your challenges and victories with a community of English language professionals who will support your work into the future. Don't miss this chance to communicate, collaborate, and create with fellow English language arts teachers and educators at the NCTE Annual Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

ANNUAL CEL CONVENTION

November 19-21 in Columbus, Ohio

The Conference on English Leadership (CEL) offers a collaborative, dynamic, discussion-based forum for literacy leaders to explore current and emerging issues. Since 1970, CEL has assisted language arts leaders in sharing mutual problems and insights, exchanging resources, seeking the advice of successful leaders, and investigating issues of greatest concern to leaders.



myShakespeare provides media-rich, full-text editions of Shakespeare's plays for free. Some key features:

- Interviews with the characters illuminate themes and ignite discussion
- Performances of key scenes bring Shakespeare's language to life
- Animated videos explore the plays and their contexts
- Complete audio recordings emphasize clarity and comprehension.

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ABOUT

StoryMaker is a free learning platform powered by PBS NewsHour Student Reporting Labs. It's your one-stop shop for projects, tutorials, and lesson plans connected to media making, digital journalism, and public broadcasting. Features include:

- a personalized dashboard to save your favorite resources,
- an educator directory to connect to like-minded educators and mentors, and
- a robust library chock full of activities, videos, and worksheets.

Our standards-based curriculum develops communication skills, critical thinking, and teamwork, and provides a strong foundation of storytelling skills to help students discover their place in the world.

BEGIN YOUR STORYTELLING JOURNEY

Youth media empowers students to use their voice, engage with people outside of school walls, discover new ideas and tell important stories. StoryMaker provides not only the resources, but pathways to do through a variety of tracks:

- Teach Media Literacy Skills
- Increase Civic Engagement
- Explore Science Journalism + STEM
- Experiment with Storytelling Formats
- Activate + Amplify Student Voice
- Motivate with Culturally Responsive Projects
- Start a Broadcast Curriculum

For more info visit: <https://story-maker.org/getting-started>

2022-23 PROMPTS, LESSONS, PROJECTS & CHALLENGES

SRL releases new projects, prompts, lessons and rapid responses as current events unfold. Check StoryMaker regularly as additional prompts will be published, including connections to Ken Burns' U.S. + The Holocaust and Making Black America. For more info visit: <https://story-maker.org/library>

