



Storyboard Activity: PSA Prep

GRADE LEVEL: 4-8

DURATION: 45 minutes

OBJECTIVE: Students will understand the purpose of a storyboard and create their own storyboard to plan for their Public Service Announcement (PSA).

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Storyboard templates (4-6 boxes per student, see template below)
- Pencils, erasers, colored pencils, or markers
- Example storyboard (printed or displayed on a screen)
- A brief story prompt or scene description (e.g., “The Three Little Pigs”)

Introduction to Storyboards (5 minutes):



What is a storyboard?

Explain that a storyboard is a visual tool used to plan out a story. It breaks down the story into individual scenes or events, making it easier to see how the story unfolds.

Help students fill in the blanks on their Student Guide: A storyboard is a visual tool that helps plan a story. It's like a comic strip that shows the order of events in a story with pictures and words.



Why use a storyboard?

Discuss how storyboards help in organizing ideas, visualizing the order of events, and communicating a story clearly.

Help students fill in the blanks on their Student Guide: It helps organize your ideas and makes it easier to see how your story unfolds. It also helps you communicate your story clearly to others. Your storyboard is going to help you plan your Public Service Announcement (PSA) video.



Example

Show the example of a storyboard, highlighting the illustrations and text in each box that represent different parts of the story. Point out how the drawings and text work together to tell the story.

Ask students what they notice about the example. Discuss the key elements: how the images and descriptions show what's happening and how the sequence flows.



Activity 1: CREATING YOUR OWN STORYBOARD (30 MINUTES)



PLANNING (10 MINUTES)

- Use your responses in Lesson 2 Activity 2 to guide you in your planning
 - Consider your topic
 - Consider why the topic is important to you
 - Consider the main points you want people to know about your topic
- Help students plan how to break down your information into key scenes while referring to the examples.



DRAWING AND WRITING (20 MINUTES)

- Distribute storyboard templates (that can be found on our website).
- Instruct students to:
 - DRAW: Create simple illustrations for each scene in the boxes.
 - WRITE: Add brief descriptions or words below each drawing to explain the scene.
- Emphasize that the storyboard should clearly show the order of events and key details.

Activity 2: SHARING AND REFLECTION (5 MINUTES):



SHARE WITH CLASSMATES

- Have students pair up or form small groups to share their storyboards. They should discuss their ideas and give each other positive feedback. Discuss what was effective about each storyboard and how different ideas were presented.



SHARE WITH PSEG LONG ISLAND

- PSEG Long Island wants to see the students' creative process. Please send photos/ scans of your best storyboards to stephanie@dbarrettassociates.com.

Conclusion (5 MINUTES):



REVIEW AND RECAP

- Ask students to summarize the purpose of storyboarding and how it helps in planning and organizing stories.



ENCOURAGEMENT

- Encourage students to use their storyboards as they begin to create their videos.