



Official newsletter of the T-Story - Storytelling Applied to Training project, funded by the transversal action "Key Activity 3 – Information and Communication Technologies" within the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme.

We are very pleased to present you the first official newsletter concerning the T-Story project. The project team hopes that together with our readers we will promote a wider use of the Storytelling and Digital Storytelling in education and training at all levels (formal, non-formal and informal) throughout Europe by developing a digital course for educators, teachers and trainers.

## Storytelling

Storytelling is seen as an innovative teaching method. By using this method, teachers are able to convey knowledge to learners in an entertaining way using storylines, metaphors, suitable words (an enriched vocabulary) and narration to involve listeners and stimulate their emotions and imagination.

It is a very popular method in the United States of America, but a relatively new method of working with groups in Europe. The use of this method started thirty years ago in the USA, and it was a reaction to the idea of revitalizing the culture of the spoken word- the tradition of oral transmission of the story, very often almost forgotten in the present cultures.

In countries such as the USA, Spain, France and Great Britain storytelling is becoming an autonomous field of artistic and educational activities. Educators are organizing festivals and workshops and storytellers are starting their own associations.

Dreams, myths and fairy tales are rich in symbolism and archetypal themes and they bring both educational and therapeutic content. Due to these facts storytelling can be used in various projects, directed not only to children or adolescents, but also to adults.

Storytelling is not something new, people have been telling stories for thousands of years just to exchange knowledge, uphold and develop tradition, motivate, move and evoke emotions. What is new is the usage of that method in present times.

### T-Story Main Objectives

- To identify teachers/trainers/educators training needs regarding key digital storytelling competences and ICT skills
- To identify good practices from successful storytelling educational projects
- To support trainers delivering training through storytelling
- To promote Pilot Training Sessions in order to generate feedback and fine-tune the training materials developed
- To perform several valorization actions to maximize the impact of the project activities and the target groups

**Expected results**

- Mapping and disseminating teachers/educators/trainers training needs regarding key digital storytelling competences and ICT skills
- Empowering target group skills to create and develop innovative courses using storytelling and digital support by having at their disposal learning materials
- Contributing for an easier and wider dissemination and future exploitation of the project results by digital course
- Contributing for the development of key transversal competences such as critical thinking, creativity and innovation
- Empowering the digital skills developing and fostering digital inclusion
- Increasing learners motivation, strengthening their links to training and education institutions, increasing their investment in lifelong learning
- Raising awareness of the methodology and fostering new applications in professional contexts outside education

**The project products which will be developed**

- A Learning Handbook on Storytelling for teachers / trainers / educators comprising theoretical background on storytelling and technical information
- A Digital Course for teachers/trainers/educators providing training on storytelling technique through digital storytelling

**Why it is good to use storytelling:**

- The stories are rooted in the culture and have the ability to bring people together;
- They can engage a large group of people in a short time;
- Presenting information through story in a broader context is the best way to absorb the information. The more complex the information, the more the story helps to assimilate it.
- The story is interactive; it is not something that people only listen or read. They experience the story, process the experience and pass it on to others.

## Digital Storytelling

This is a digital narrative which combines the traditional form of storytelling and a variety of multimedia tools, including graphics, audio, animation, and video. It is a new way to engage both students and teachers in the development of different stories.

Educators can use this method in a variety of ways, starting with the introduction of new material to help students learn through the implementation of research, synthesis of large amounts of content, ending with gaining experience in the use of digital communication tools. Digital storytelling can also help students to develop the story, present their own ideas and knowledge in a meaningful and unique way.

The educational objectives of digital storytelling for teachers:

- Reference to different learning styles through the usage of different tools for the presentation of materials;
- Increase interest, attention, inspiration and motivation among “digital generation” of students in classrooms;
- Understanding the hidden talents of students who are starting to explore their own stories and tell them to others;
- Students projects published in the Internet, where others can read and evaluate them;

The educational objectives of digital storytelling for students:

- Learn how to use the Internet for searching for valuable content when analyzing a wide range of content;
- Develop communication skills by asking questions, expressing opinions, preparing reports and writing articles for a specific audience;
- Development of computer skills through the use of software combining various media including text, images, audio, video and web publishing.

## Partners

The main working group of T-Story project consists of seven partners:



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[www.advancis.pt](http://www.advancis.pt)



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[www.irea.ro](http://www.irea.ro)



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[www.ahe.lodz.pl](http://www.ahe.lodz.pl)



[www.in-dialogue.org](http://www.in-dialogue.org)



[www.fase.net](http://www.fase.net)

### Target groups of the project

Project T-Story is directed to all institutions of formal and informal education of any level, for example:

- Kindergartens
- Public / private primary and secondary schools
- Vocational schools
- Universities
- Adult education entities
- Education policy makers
- Education authorities institutions
- Training and coaching agencies
- Business centers
- HR development departments in corporations

We do not forget about the European level of the project, so our target groups are also:

- Networks of teachers / educators / trainers
- Storytelling communities
- Schools' networks
- Networks of HR managers

## What's next?

In the near future we will present you the results of the research on the training needs of teachers/trainers/educators regarding key digital storytelling competences and ICT skills. The questionnaires have already been collected from the respondents in all partner countries and the answers are being analyzed and comprised. The research will let us create learning materials on Storytelling and Digital Storytelling fully adequate to the target groups expectations.

We kindly invite you to follow T-Story website and fan-page on Facebook. You can find there a lot of interesting articles and videos regarding Storytelling and Digital Storytelling, for instance:



[www.tstory.eu](http://www.tstory.eu)



T-Story Storytelling Applied to Training



We recommend that you register on T-Story webpage and we invite you to “like” our Facebook page. This way you will be informed about the project news, deliverables, events and you will have free access to valuable articles and learning materials on Storytelling and Digital Storytelling (including the Learning Handbook and Digital Course).

Expect our next Newsletter in October this year – we will do our best to have more achievements and deliverables of the project to present!

If you want to share some facts or projects about storytelling or digital storytelling, or have some questions please feel free to contact us!

The project coordinator: Advancis Business Services – [a.barroca@advancis.pt](mailto:a.barroca@advancis.pt)

Please fill in a short [questionnaire](#) to help us to improve our newsletters in the future.

