

Storytelling Chain Reaction

Requirements:

A short, age-appropriate story (book or printed text).

Index cards (5-7 per participant).

Pens/Markers.

Timer.

Steps:

Introduction (5 minutes): Briefly review the elements of a story (characters, setting, problem, solution, events).

Story Breakdown (5 minutes): As a group, read or listen to the story. Divide the story into 5-7 key events or scenes.

Individual Card Creation (10 minutes): Each participant receives index cards. Each person illustrates/writes a brief description of a different key event on a card. Provide assistance as needed.

Chain Reaction (5 minutes): Participants take turns placing their card in order to retell the story. Guide the group in verbally connecting each card/event.

Retelling Practice (5 minutes): As a group, retell the story using the sequence of cards as prompts. Encourage elaborations, details, and character voices. Provide positive feedback.