Team Storytelling Exercise

## [Purpose](#_[Name_of_Chapter)

Storytelling is a means of sharing experiences. It strengthens social ties. It provides information in a way that statistical data cannot. Check out our storytelling resource in the Resources tab of the ERB toolkit to learn more.

This exercise is designed for the core team to break the ice, get to know one another, and begin to identify shared goals and priorities for going through ERB. Team members will use questions (or prompts) to share stories about experiences they’ve had.

## What you’ll Need

**Who:** Core team. You’ll need an activity lead and a recorder.

**Where:** in-person or virtual meeting

**How long will it take:** about an hour

**Materials:** copies of this document for everyone, pens or pencils

## Instructions

1. Break up into groups of 3. Each person takes on a role, switching roles with each turn:

**Storyteller:** Share an experience that addresses one of the topics

**Notetaker**: Take notes on important points of the story

**Listener:** Listen; after the storyteller is done, you may ask follow-up questions

1. Give everyone 5 minutes to prepare their stories using the prompts below.
2. Take turns sharing, listening, and taking notes on each other’s stories.
3. If you have time, go through a second round of prompts in the same or different groups.
4. The activity lead facilitates discussion on the questions on the next page.

## Storytelling Prompts

Select the prompt that resonates most with you, to tell a ***5-minute story*** about:

1. What's one way you’ve seen your community build resilience?
2. What’s one way you’ve helped build resilience in your community?
3. An experience that illustrates differences between resilience and *equitable* resilience.

## Scratch pad to help the storyteller prepare

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## Space for the listener to jot down questions they have

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## Space for the notetaker to take notes on the story they heard

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## Discussion prompts

1. What did the storytelling tell you about resilience issues in your community?
2. What stands out as key aspects of building resilience? Of equitable resilience?
3. What are some factors that drive your community towards or away from resilience?

## What to do next

The recorder collects notes from everyone who gives permission and inputs key words or phrases into the ERB word cloud to visualize themes, which you’ll use in setting goals. Make sure storytellers are okay with this and leave out identifying details.

Go back to the next page on Setting Goals in ERB.