

## Why I Will Keep Telling Stories

I will keep telling stories because stories are what make us human. Each life is a series of moments which become stories. Each family is connected through shared experiences which become stories. Each culture is built upon ideas translated into stories. We teach our children what we hold dear, what we fear, what we want them to do and become through stories. Be they simple, fanciful, false or true, what we communicate to others is our stories. Once told to another, these stories become a part of the fabric of human life.

I will keep telling stories because stories matter. Stories matter for children of all ages. Stories create a connection between listener and teller. Stories instruct, inform, and entertain. Stories inspire the listener to reflect on the stories inside them that are waiting to come forth. By telling stories, we teach not only the messages in the story; we teach how to share of ourselves with others. No matter what changes affect society in the future, stories will continue to be important. I will continue to tell stories, as Ruth Sawyer described, “to touch the heart that the head may understand.”