

Create Your Own Story Ending!

Overview:

In this activity, parents and children work together to design alternative endings to a story.

Objectives:

1. Center families' and students' creative skills to generate alternative story endings
2. Foster intergenerational collaboration and storytelling

Materials:

- [Flossie and the Fox](#)
- [Picksee: The Curious Little Crow](#)
- Drawing and writing worksheets (on page 21 of Picksee story)
- Coloring pencils and markers
- Pencils

Agenda:

Focus	Activity
FRAMING 15 minutes	<p>Frame the activity by explaining we can change stories in different ways, like:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) changing the plot of the story2) changing the setting of the story3) changing the character(s) in the story4) changing the ending of the story. <p>Read or listen to Flossie and the Fox by Patricia C. McKissack</p> <p>Read an example reimagining of the story written by Dr. Lakeya Afolalu, beginning at the part where Flossie is about to deliver the eggs her mother told her to:</p> <p><i>When Flossie started down the road, she looked back over her left shoulder to make sure mama wasn't looking. Mama had gone back inside the house so this was the perfect time for Flossie to use her secret power strength. She grabbed her left earlobe and pulled on it three times – one, two, three. Her feet slowly lifted off the ground. Her body rose into the air and the late evening Tennessee wind pushed her body forward. There she was flying over the narrow road. She looked down and spotted a brown, furry animal in the distance. Was it the fox her mother warned her about? She would never know. She kept flying and slowly came to a stop, reaching her destination to deliver the eggs just like mama told her. Then she pulled her earlobe three times more – one, two, three. She rose into the air again and flew back home. When she got home, mama asked her, "How did you get back so soon? Did you see that fox?" Flossie smiled and kept her flying secret to herself. Mama would never know.</i></p>

EARLY LITERACY COLLABORATIVE – Sample Activity

	<p>Elaborate on the story-ending and lead into the next part of the activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prompt: In this example, Dr. Lakeya Afolalu added a new character trait to Flossie – she can fly! We can't always change what happens in life, but we can change what happens in stories through the art of storytelling. Let's try to do this ourselves now!
<p>READING <i>15 minutes</i></p>	<p>Families read Picksee: The Curious Little Crow (until page 13 "What should Picksee do?")</p> <p>Invite families to take a few minutes to talk with their child about the story in a language they are most comfortable with. Reflect upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the main problem for the crow?• How does the crow feel? Are there times where you've faced a similar problem or feel the same way?• What are some changes we can make to the story?
<p>CREATING <i>20 minutes</i></p>	<p>Using worksheets, parents and children work together to draw and write story endings for the Picksee story.</p> <p>Guiding prompts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What can the crow do differently?• Who might help the crow?• What are different endings for this story? Draw your favorite one(s)!
<p>SHARING <i>10 minutes</i></p>	<p>Come back together and share story endings</p> <p>Read together the final pages of Picksee story (pages 22-23), and invite families to go around to complete the phrase: "I am a crow, this is my flow, and [FILL IN THE BLANK] is what I need."</p>

Facilitation Tips:

- ★ Invite educators to work alongside parent and student pairings, and to play a more supportive role of listening and clarifying as families develop their ideas.
- ★ The group can use an existing story, or a story that has been collectively drafted.