



A TALE OF
STORYTELLING

“Curating a Personal Story”

A decorative border with intricate scrollwork and floral patterns surrounds the text. The top and bottom borders are more elaborate, while the sides are simpler. A horizontal line with a small floral ornament in the center is positioned below the title.

THE IMPORTANCE OF STORYTELLING

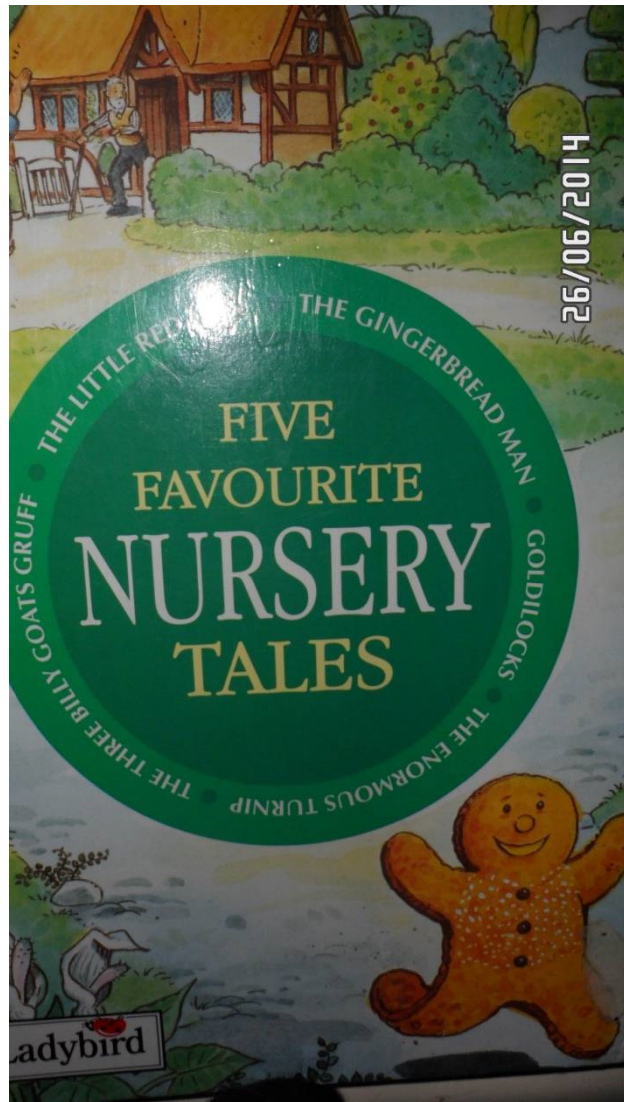
- ❖ The sharing of stories has taken place in every culture across the globe and through history.
- ❖ It predates writing and is told through a variety of mediums, whether in art, dances, writings or oral narrative.
- ❖ Through looking at stories and storytelling, in the similarities and differences found, we gain not only a history of the cultures, but learn more about humanity itself.

Objects from Home: Book of Fairytales

Ladybird Five Favourite Nursery Tales, published 1998

This is a book of fairytales which were given to me as a Christmas present by my Great Grandparents. It was one of my favourite books when I was younger, and I would read the stories over and over again.

Fairytales are the first stories many children are told. They have been passed down from generation to generation over many centuries, in much the same way stories have in other cultures.



Objects from Home: Puppets

Children's toy puppets from the 1950s

Bought by my great grandmother in the 1950s for her children, these puppets have since been played with by three generations of children. To the right are Andy Pandy and Noddy; below are three hand puppets, a play and props. My granddad still takes these puppets to local primary schools to teach them about story telling.



MAA: Obugulu Man

***A mask representing either a ghost or maiden spirit
from Southern Nigeria***

This full body mask is from a masquerade popular in the 1930s, made distinctive by the bright colours of this female helmet masked character.

Masquerades, performed mainly by men, are ceremonial performances popular across West Africa in which the performer portrays supernatural being.



In many other cultures, storytelling also has a religious or spiritual purpose, bringing people together as a community.

MAA: Shadow Puppets

Indonesian Shadow Puppet of Kakayonam (Kayon)- The Tree of Life, the cosmic tree.

This is a shadow puppet from Bali in Indonesia, showing the “Tree of Life”. These puppets are used to tell stories, often from Hindu epics, by casting a shadow on a cotton screen from, historically, an oil lamp. Today, electric halogen lights or spotlights tend to be used.



Fitzwilliam Museum: Theatrical Masks



Hellenistic New Comedy actor mask (200 B.C. — 101 B.C)

These masks would have been worn by actors in the theatre. The one on the left shows a wavy-haired leading slave, the one on the right is an architectural ornament of a mask. The facial features are representations of the actors, exaggerated so they can easily be seen from a distance.



Early Roman Dramatic mask for a Comedic Slave (1 — 100 A.D)

Fitzwilliam Museum: A Village Festival



“A Village Festival, With a Theatrical Performance and a Procession in Honour of St Hubert and St Anthony” by Pieter Brueghel, the younger (1564-1638)

This painting, by Pieter Brueghel the Younger, shows a village in the middle of a religious festival. The peasants in the scene, however, are more interested in the theatrical performance and the drunken revelries taking place.

Inspired by his father’s compositions of the lives of the common people, Pieter Brueghel the Younger’s painting was so popular that he produced several versions.



THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING