

Lesson Title: Storytelling from Your Time Line¹

See www.publicachievement.org/TeacherGuide/Lessons/PublicAutoBiography.pdf and www.publicachievement.org/TeacherGuide/Lessons/TimeLine.pdf

Lesson Objectives:

- Students will put their time line into a narrative format so that it makes sense to others.

Curricular Connections: Language Arts (narrative writing, editing, grammar), Social Studies (discovery of self-interests).

Duration of Activity:	50 minutes minimum
Supplies Needed:	• none
Age Range:	Grades 5-8

Activity 1:

- A. Have students look at their time lines, going back over the important events in their lives. Remind them to think about “how these events made me who I am.”
- B. Write the three events on paper and circle them
- C. Around the circles, write everything they would want to describe about those events.
- D. Put events into outline. what are the most important events that make them who they are.
- E. Write narrative story describing important events (3-5 paragraphs)
- F. Edit (individual or peer)
- G. Final draft

Reflection:

1. Was it difficult to describe these events on paper? Describe what was hard about it?
2. Did the process of writing lead you to think of new items that weren't on your original brainstorm list?
3. In what ways do you think of the events you wrote about differently as a result of this assignment? Do you understand yourself an a different way?
4. In what ways do you have a “public life”? Does it surprise you that you have interacted in public as much or as little as you have?

Assessment:

1. standard assessment of narrative writing
2. Use story content or discussion to assess developing understanding of self, self-interests, and public life.

¹ Adapted from Melissa Bass, *Making the Rules*.