GUIDED STORYTELLING

Grades: 3-5

Suitable for Subjects: Language Arts, World Languages, Social Sciences, DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion), Social-Emotional Learning

Global Competence Objective[1]: Cultivate a disposition to inquire about the world, seeking information beyond familiar environments.

OVERVIEW

This activity is a guided storytelling exercise. Learners will identify what they see, what they know or understand about what they see, and what they can infer as a result in order to create a story about the photo.

OTHER LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will:
- Practice "reading" images for a variety of contextual cues and meanings
- Draw on personal knowledge and experiences to make connections
- Practice storytelling through writing and/or public speaking

ACTIVITIES

1. Share a photo that includes children in it; for example, page 51 in **MOMENT** taken in Odisha (India) 2014.
2. Guide students through the following questions to develop a shared set of observations:
   - What do we "know" from observing this picture? (Create a list: e.g., there is a girl, there is a tree, it is sunny, photo says it is in a certain city/country, etc.)
     - What tells you that?
     - Where is this country in the world? Let's find it on a map.
3. Divide students into groups to develop their stories and consider the following prompts:
   - Using what we collectively see and "know" about this photo, write a story about "what's going on in this photo."
     - Who are the main characters of the story?
     - What happened before this photo?
     - What's happening in the moment of this photo?
     - What happened after this photo?
     - What's important in this story?
4. Have students share their stories and explore the following:
   - How did the initial observations help you create your stories?
   - What do you wonder about that person, place or moment?
   - Does anyone know anything about this place? How did you learn that?
     - Are these facts or your own ideas? Would we know the difference?