

Storytelling can strengthen climate resilience by strengthening key social relationships in our multicultural society. It is a practical, multi-purpose and culturally adaptive tool that engages community members in a range of climate and health activities including:

- **Health education and communication**

Community Education: Storytelling can bridge connections among groups with different social backgrounds and by linking people and organizations with power and resources. Communities can learn through engaging with one another's stories.

- **Identifying and assessing community priorities**

Research and Assessment: Stories help us to better understand the lived experiences of climate impacts and community insights for action and solutions.

Planning and Policy: Stories can engage partners in a climate planning or policy-making process.

- **Prevention activities and interventions**

Partnerships: Strengthen trust and social cohesion within and across organizations working on climate issues.

Bonding and Bridging: Strengthen social cohesion and resilience within and across groups.

Healing: Supports communities in processing and healing from collective trauma such as disasters.

- **Develop and support for policy priorities**

Policy: Brings decision-makers attention to the need for policy changes that support and protect communities most vulnerable to climate change.

Storytelling can take many forms

Storytelling can help organizations better understand the lived experiences of communities and better serve these communities. Your role in a storytelling project may look different if you are a community-based organization, a public agency or a Tribal government.

- If you work for a governmental agency, collaborating with community partners is critical. Community-based organizations are in the best position to engage with communities in storytelling.
- Co-create project with community partners: How can the project support individual and community priorities?
- Recognize that for storytelling to be healing and build trust, storytellers need to have full agency in sharing their stories and how their story may be shared or used by others. Co-develop processes that protect participants' confidentiality and appropriately recognize their contributions.

The table on the follow page outlines examples of various storytelling formats and offers ideas for integrating story into climate resilience work.

Ideas for integrating storytelling

<p>Community Storytelling</p> <p>Creating spaces and events where community members can share and listen to each other's stories</p>	<p>Community Storytelling Event</p> <p>Host a set of speakers such as students, activists, politicians, farm workers, educators or tribal leaders to share their “climate story” or celebrate community success stories.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i> The Things that Don't Burn Fortified: True Stories of Climate Action</p>
	<p>Community Listening Sessions</p> <p>When designing listening sessions, consider forming prompts that elicit personal stories rather than opinions. For example, instead of “what are you biggest concerns related to climate change?”, consider “Share an experience that shifted your concern about climate change.”</p> <p><i>Examples:</i> Social Resilience Listening Session Findings</p>
<p>Digital Storytelling</p> <p>Supporting community members in creating video or audio recordings of their stories to be shared more broadly</p>	<p>Digital Story Workshop</p> <p>Facilitate a workshop for community members to create digital stories about how climate change has impacted their lives. Create space in the workshop for community members to share their stories with each other; invite family and community members to watch the digital stories.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i> Voices of Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs; Minneapolis Story telling video</p> <p><i>Resource:</i> Storycenter</p>
	<p>Other Digital Story Approaches</p> <p>Invite youth to craft and record their own climate story or to record interviews with others.</p> <p><i>Resource:</i> Digital Storytelling Kit for the Climate Movement</p>
<p>Visual Storytelling</p> <p>Story projects that engage communities and draw upon visuals to prompt or tell stories</p>	<p>Photovoice</p> <p>Convene a group that is interested in building climate resilience or recovering from a disaster. Invite them to take pictures in the community of how they have been impacted or how they are recovering or building climate resilience. The group can share their photos and stories with each other and more broadly to inspire reflection and action.</p> <p><i>Examples:</i> Science, Camera, Action! Exploring Impacts of Climate Change on Mental Health in Nepal</p>
	<p>Story Portraits</p> <p>Survey stakeholders with open-ended questions about climate risks and community resilience and use the responses to develop “Story Portraits”</p> <p><i>Example:</i> Oregon Climate and Health Story Project</p>