

One of the simplest ways for you to start storytelling is through a storytelling circle. Each person will get a turn to add something to the tale. You need to decide how many rounds there will be before you start as every story must have a definite ending. For example, if four of you are playing and you decide to play three rounds, the story must have 12 parts.

Here are three people playing a three round story circle – a story in nine parts!

- 1      Once upon a time there was a young girl named Martha. She lived with her mother in a tiny cottage near a river.
- 2      Martha and her mother were slightly very poor but very lazy! The house was filthy dirty – pots and pans were piled in the sink.
- 3      They were so lazy that neither of them would go into the village to buy a little food – even though they were starving hungry.
- 4      Martha decided to go fishing in the river. She thought that if she could catch a fish for tea, her mother would stop moaning at her!
- 5      She took an old bamboo pole from the garden, some twine from the kitchen drawer. She fashioned a hook from a rusty paper clip and baited it with a maggot she found crawling in the bread bin.
- 6      She cast her line and settled back to wait. It wasn't long before lazy Martha was fast asleep – snoring like a buzz saw.
- 7      The river bubbled and burbled along in the sun. A big fish came swimming up against the current, saw the wiggly maggot and bit.
- 8      The fishing pole jerked in sleepy Martha's lazy hand. It woke her. She struck and caught the fish and rushed in to show it to her mother.
- 9      They argued for so long about who should cook it, that the fish went off – rotten and smelly. That is how Martha and her mother came to die of hunger and never live happily ever after!