



**Before you submit Story Tools to your leadership team for resource selection, use this planning guide to ensure you are well prepared for a successful outcome.**

## Preparation Checklist

- ✓ Familiarise yourself with the features and functions of Story Tools (we've summarised some of these for you on the next page)
- ✓ Take your colleagues and leadership team on a tour of the free lesson in a presentation format, to showcase features of Story Tools and benefits for your school's students
- ✓ Share the free lesson trial details with your school staff\*, inviting teachers to explore Story Tools and request feedback
- ✓ Schools within Australia will receive a quote from our Story Tools sales partner, Lamont Books . Schools outside Australia will receive a quote directly from Story Box Library.

\*Year 3-6 classroom teachers and School Library staff.

## Content

Story Tools is a story writing series, delivered via short video tutorials and resources to support student creativity and literacy, inspiring and creating confident storytellers.

### Mastering the mechanics of storytelling:

Designed by educators and experts, our videos and lessons will help engage and equip students with the skills and understandings required to write with confidence and purpose.

### Australia's most visionary book creators:

Our Story Tools focus is working with Australia's best children's book industry talent. Get dynamic lessons delivered by popular and award-winning authors and illustrators, including Anna Walker, Nicky Greenberg, Davina Bell, Nova Weetman, and many more, giving students the best advice, tools and tips for building great stories.

### Supporting literacy programs:

Each video lesson comes with comprehensive educator materials, linked to the Australian curriculum to support literacy and language learning outcomes for students.

### Resources:

Use our short films to inspire your students' creativity with insights and behind-the-scenes secrets of our authors, illustrators and storytellers.



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[www.storytools.com.au](http://www.storytools.com.au)





## Teacher Resource Material

### Resources:

Every Story Tools series comprises 12 video lessons. Videos run between 6 to 9 minutes in length, and provide fun, engaging, introductions to the lesson topic, with expert story-making secrets from some of Australia's best-loved children's creators.

Each 12 video lesson has been designed to engage Middle and Upper Primary children with the wonderful world of writing. The series can be worked through in chronological order from lesson 1 to 12, however, there is no required viewing order, and no prerequisite for viewing earlier videos before those later in the series. You can even use the 'Favourites' feature to customise your own Story Tools course to suit your students and curriculum.

**Each lesson also comprises a Middle Primary (years 3 and 4) and Upper Primary (years 5 and 6) educator resource package, ready for download, consisting of**

- An extensive lesson plan that features pre and post video discussion questions
- Two main activities
- Additional/extension activity suggestions
- Australian Curriculum links
- Glossary of key terms
- Information on the creators featured in the video
- Printable worksheets, writing prompts, posters for classroom display, and examples that model the writing activities

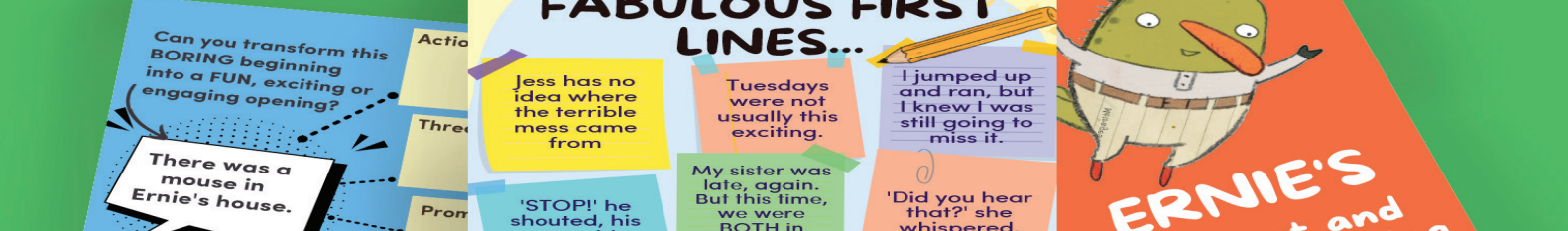
**Each activity should take approximately one hour to complete, including viewing the video.**

Teachers can select one of the two main activities included in each lesson, or can do both, depending on classroom needs and time allocated. The lesson activities are not sequential or linked, and so can be used independently of each other.

Our education experts suggest the following approach for each lesson:

1. Download and familiarise yourself with the lesson package and in particular, the lesson plan. Select which of the two main lesson activities you will use first with your class and print any handouts required.
2. Begin the lesson with the pre video discussion prompts found in the lesson plan.
3. Play the video in its entirety.
4. Explore the video content with your students using some (or all) of the post video discussion prompts.
5. Introduce and engage students with one of the pre-selected activities for the lesson utilising the accompanying resources.





## Time-saving, accessibility and learning support tools

### Closed captions:

Our closed captions help teachers support students with additional learning needs. Simply switch on this visual support tool so your students can follow along with the video.

### Search filters:

Our various search filters make it quicker and easier for you to find the lessons you're looking for.

- On the home page, use the Category filter to find video tutorials according to Story Tools Series or featured Creators.
- Use the Author filter to find lessons according to our featured Creators (that includes authors, illustrators and more!)

### Favourites:

You can also add videos to your 'Favourites' by clicking the 'Add to Favourites' button, found on each individual lesson page.

### Curriculum-backed supporting resources:

Under each video tutorial, download comprehensive 'Lesson Packages' for middle and upper primary students via the 'Resources' tab. These will download directly as a zip file to your laptop or desktop computer, ready to be integrated into lesson plans and literacy activities.

## Other Key Features

### Professional quality:

No detail is spared to make videos fun and engaging for children, with professional video, sound and image quality.

### Ad-free:

Free of ads and easy to navigate.

### We love storytelling and stories, supported by our Story Box Library product:

Story Tools is a new, stand-alone product, created as an additional offering to our digital library platform, Story Box Library. Story Tools requires a separate subscription from an existing Story Box Library subscription. Subscribe to one or both, Story Box Library and Story Tools.

Story Tools supports educators with tutorials and resources for Middle and Upper Primary students to master the mechanics of storytelling, which can be used alongside Story Box Library's digital story reads.

Both Story Tools and Story Box Library are ad-free and safe for kids of all ages.

Story Box Library and Story Tools is committed to showcasing the power of stories to children as tools that help us communicate, connect, learn, empathise, analyse, evaluate, grow, as well as provoking curiosity, discussion, imagination, play and inspiration!

Story Box Library holds licencing rights to feature books in our collection, with a significant portion of subscription fees used to pay ongoing copyright fees that support creators and the Australian and New Zealand publishing industry.



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[www.storytools.com.au](http://www.storytools.com.au)





## Implementation Checklist

Below is a guide to the details to consider when preparing your proposal for resource selection.

### What school needs can be addressed by using Story Tools as a resource?

- ☐ Developing literacy and language skills
- ☐ Supporting writing programs
- ☐ Encouraging student to engage with literature
- ☐ Building student awareness of story genres
- ☐ Enhancing students confidence and personal connections with writing
- ☐ Providing students with authentic tips and techniques from authors and illustrators
- ☐ Encouraging library use
- ☐ Providing safe online resources for educators
- ☐ Catering for individual student needs
- ☐ Other

### Who do we want using Story Tools as a resource in our school?

- ☐ Middle Primary (3 & 4)
- ☐ Upper Primary (5 & 6)

### How will Story Tools be used as a resource across the school?

- ☐ Assigned year levels only
- ☐ Individual classes (for modelled, collaborative and independent writing)
- ☐ Small groups (e.g. (e.g. writing conferences)
- ☐ English and library programs (e.g. for relevant lessons such as 'All About Genre', 'Reading Stories', 'About Picture Books')
- ☐ Learning support programs
- ☐ Other

### What locations and devices will we use to access Story Tools?

- ☐ Generalist classrooms
- ☐ Library
- ☐ Laptops/Computers
- ☐ Interactive whiteboards

### Who will ensure Story Tools is implemented as a resource across the school?

- ☐ Leading teachers
- ☐ Year level team leaders
- ☐ Year level teaching teams
- ☐ English/literacy coordinator
- ☐ SBL account holder

