SPOTLIGHT ON STORYTELLING

We asked authors for what advice they had for us about writing and being a storyteller. Here are some tips to share with everyone in the Seventh Generation Club…

So You Want to be a STORYTELLER?
Drew Hayden Taylor is one of Canada’s leading Aboriginal playwrights and humorists.

Drew’s Tips
• All great writers are great readers.
• There is no such thing as a good writer - only a good re-writer.
• If you want to be a writer, lead an interesting life.

Just Write! And then Write Some More!
Author Nicola Campbell is Nłe7kepmx, Syilx and Métis. She has written four children’s books.

Nicola’s Tips
• If you want to write, you have to write! A lot of people will say that they want to write a book and that they have stories they’ve been considering for years and years.
• Keep a personal journal. It is a way to express your voice and those most personal thoughts.
• Never get too attached to your first draft!

My favourite books of all time

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________

Books I want to read…

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
A school daytimer is what you make of it! As you go through school, look for ways to make the most of this very handy tool.

1. Personalize and decorate! Stickers, doodles, and photos can all help to make it your own.
2. Get in the habit of writing things down in your daytimer as soon as you think of them.
3. Use pens or highlighters to colour-code different kinds of information in your daytimer – such as homework, after school activities, and notes. Aim for just 3 to 5 colours – too many can be confusing!
4. Include free time and fun activities in your daytimer schedule – your daytimer doesn’t have to be just about school work.
5. Use sticky notes, ribbons or paperclips to mark the current day or other pages that you might want to refer to regularly, such as a multiplication grid or a map.

Do you have some tips for making the most of your daytimer? Let us know at seventhgen@fnesc.ca

**Fun Challenges: Stop Motion Animation**

**Setup for Success**
- Pick a quiet spot where you won’t be interrupted.
- Make a backdrop, plain or on your theme, to set the scene. Do you need extra lighting?
- Decide what materials you will use for your characters: lego, plasticine? miniature models, paper?
- Get a Stop Motion app for your phone or tablet. A few popular ones are Stop Motion Studio, Clayframe and Lego Movie Maker.
- Clear some memory on your device too – videos take up a lot of space.

**Experiment and explore!**
- Take a little time to try out your technology and brainstorm animation ideas.
- Learn to use your filming app well.

**Plan and Storyboard**
- Now that you are set up and have explored how to use the equipment, it is time to plan your story. Find and make any props or characters that you’ll need.

**Film and Edit!**

**Smart Riddles for Smart Kids**

**Q. What’s a penguin’s favorite relative?**
A. Aunt Arctica!

**Q. What do penguins like to eat?**
A. Brrrrrrritos.

**Q. Why did the penguin cross the road?**
A. To go with the floe.

**Q. What do you call fifty penguins at the North Pole?**
A. Really lost, because penguins live in the southern hemisphere.

**Career Corner**

**JOSHUA SAMUELS**
3-D Animator at Method Studios

- Josh is from Haida Gwaii and his Haida name, Gin K’alang Gayaa, means “good artist.”
- In 2018 he was one of the people who made special effects for the movie, Black Panther.

**What kinds of skills does an animator need?**
- Creativity and imagination
- Attention to detail
- Drawing skills
- Computer skills
- Communication and presentation skills
- Ability to work on a team
Kudos to Tom Eustache and young mountain bikers of Simpcw First Nation for getting out on the trails.

Tom worked to create trails in the community’s old hunting grounds and is now working to make sure they are being used by members of the community – especially the youth – as a way to reconnect with the land. “People get to come out here in the wilderness,” Tom said. “They get to experience nature when they aren’t sitting in front of the TV.”

Thanks to Abigail and Jo-Anne Mansell from Naramata School for sharing their photo of Orange Shirt Day. All across BC people use Orange Shirt day to remember all those impacted by residential school and to think about how we can come together in the spirit of reconciliation.

Musqueam hip hop artist, Christie Charles, who raps as Miss Christie Lee, is Vancouver’s poet laureate. She brings traditional knowledge, stories and her traditional First Nations language (the “Downriver dialect” of Henqeminem) into her music.

One of her hopes is to connect people in the city with Indigenous poetry. “Rapping and studying our language and culture, that’s the most exciting thing for me.”