

Language Arts

Genre

An **Internet Article** gives information about a topic and is found on the World Wide Web.

Text Feature

The **Drop-Down Menu** in an Internet article has links to related information on the Web site.

Content Vocabulary

orally
tradition
festivals

Telling Tales

What is your favorite story? It doesn't have to be one from a book. Some of the best stories are ones that family and friends tell about things that have happened to them. These stories are passed on **orally** from person to person.





Storytelling is a **tradition** that has been around for a very long time. Long ago, storytelling was a way of spreading news of important events.

Today, storytelling **festivals** are held around the world. These celebrations are a way for people to pass on their stories.



Storytelling Links

For more information about storytelling check out:

- [Guide to U.S. Storytellers](#)
- [Storytelling Festivals Around the World](#)
- [Index of Famous Historical Storytellers](#)

Connect and Compare



1. What other information about storytelling can you link to in this article? **Drop-Down Menu**
2. Think about this article and *Head, Body, Legs: A Story from Liberia*. Do you think this story was once part of an oral tradition? Explain why or why not. **Reading/Writing Across Texts**



Language Arts Activity

Research folk tales online. Choose a folk tale you like and tell it to your class.



Find more about oral traditions at
www.macmillanmh.com

Writer's Craft

Unimportant Details

One way to make your writing easy to understand is to take out any **unimportant details**. Also make sure the pictures match the text.

Make a Poster

Reasons to Read

Reading can be a lot of fun. Here are some reasons why I think people should read a lot.

1. Reading is a good way to relax.
2. Books describe amazing places around the world.
3. Reading a little bit every day makes it easier to finish long books.
4. There's always something new to learn about in a book.

I took out an unimportant detail about my favorite book.

The picture I drew matches my writing.



Your Turn

Make your own poster that tells why something is important to you. Use words and pictures that will make your message clear. Take out unimportant details. Then use the Writer's Checklist to check your writing.



Writer's Checklist

- Ideas:** Did I take out **unimportant details**?
Do my pictures match my words?
- Word Choice:** Did I choose strong words to get my message across?
- Conventions:** Did I use action verbs?
- Sentence Fluency:** Did I write sentences that are short and to the point?