



## Profesora Marian Derfler

Story Fields

San Pablo School, Buenos Aires

**Story Time is Magic Time.**

**You can do it too!**

Isn't this a magical phrase, a spell almost, an invitation to enter a new realm where everything is possible, where we might be who we really want to be?

If you love stories, love sharing them with your students, and if you want your students to share this feeling, join this highly experiential workshop: a pleasant combination of stories to enjoy and tips to use storytelling in your classes from the very first day.

Go back to happy memories and indulge in the magical and powerful experience of listening to stories. Come and learn practical strategies to use in your classroom as soon as you get back home.

**Marian Derfler** is a **storyteller** and an **English teacher** graduated from ISP in Lenguas Vivas J.R. Fernandez, where she has been an *adscripta* in "**Children's Literature.**" She is currently the **Kindergarten** and **Primary School English Coordinator** at **San Pablo School** in Buenos Aires. She is also an **NLP practitioner**, a course-book and story **writer**, and an **ALL® Teacher Trainer**. She has been an **English Advisor** and **Work Pack Designer** for **BAP** (The Buenos Aires Players), and part of **English in Action**, a program created by Susan Hillyard to teach English to **SEN** (Special Educational Needs) students in Buenos Aires.

Marian has created **Story Fields®**, a storytelling experience which she takes to schools and institutes all over the country. Through **Story Fields®** she has also trained teachers and Teacher Training Students in the Art & Craft of Storytelling all over the country, sharing her stories and her expertise at different Teacher Training colleges, workshops and ex-CePA courses.

In this experiential workshop, participants will have the chance to listen to several stories told by the presenter, as well as take home a list of practical and useful tips to use in their own classes with the little ones or at home in front of a more intimate audience gathered in front of a cozy fireplace.

Storytelling is an ancient art and a pure form of communication, which has been highly re-valued in the last years. Because of this, and because everyone has a story to tell, and everyone loves a good story, it is essential that storytelling takes a leading role in classroom practices, syllabus and policies.

We, teachers, heads and parents, should become aware of the importance of storytelling as a tool in the education and bringing up of young kids. After all, stories have made us who we are today, coming down from generation to generation spreading the wisdom of each community over the course of history since the beginnings of time.

Among other purposes, stories can be told to entertain and amuse; to work on a language structure or a vocabulary area; to solve conflict and build bonds among members of a group; to pass on information in a highly memorable way; to unleash our own imaginative power as tellers as well as that of our audience; to enhance listening and listening comprehension skills; to remind ourselves and others of who we really are, and what we are here for.

All in all, stories already are, since the day we are born, part of our life. It is my wish and hope that through this workshop participants can use stories to empower their own students and audiences in turn.

## **Bibliography**

- Bland, Janice. Children's Literature and Learner Empowerment. UK: Bloomsbury, 2013.
- Derfler, Marian. *A Young boy named Joel: A Story on Storytelling*.
- Padovani, Ana. Contar cuentos, Desde la practica hacia la teoría, Bs As: Paidós, 2007.
- Perrow, Susan. Healing Stories for Challenging Behaviour. UK: Hawthorne Press, 2008.
- Read MacDonald, Margaret. The Storyteller's start-up Book, USA: August House Publishers, 1993.
- Spiro, Jane. Storybuilding. Resource Books for Teachers. Oxford: OUP, 2009.

- Watts, Eleanor. Oxford basics for children, Storytelling, Oxford: OUP, 2006.
  - Wright, Andrew. Creating Stories with Children. Resource Books for Teachers. Oxford: OUP, 2010.
  - Wright, Andrew. Storytelling with Children. Resource Books for Teachers. Oxford: OUP, 2012.
- 

**Story Time is Magic Time. You can do it too!**

By Marian Derfler, **Story Fields®**

[mystoryfields@gmail.com](mailto:mystoryfields@gmail.com)

[marianderfler@gmail.com](mailto:marianderfler@gmail.com)