



# Curriculum Design Pattern

Global Learning by Design

Name of pattern

**Icebreaker 1 - The Story Teller**

Quick look

Icebreaker 1 - The Story Teller uses the art of storytelling to introduce students to the subject matter/ topic in a quick, interesting and direct manner that instantly engages students with both the topic and the teacher.

Rationale

The learning activity provides an opportunity for the teacher to connect with the students and to set the scene and attain immediate engagement with the topic.

Authentic, connection to you and your experience, adds interest, captures student interest, connects the dots.

Learners/Context

Suitable for small, medium and large groups of students in a face-to-face environment when introducing a new topic.

Related patterns

None.

Related category

Communication, engagement.

## Alignment

Introduces students to the subject in a real-life and engaging way that they can connect with before they start exploring the topic.

## Instructions/Process

Tell a short real-life story to introduce the course/subject/topic in an engaging manner that enables students to immediately connect with both you and the subject matter:

- The story should be no longer than 1-3 minutes
- Use a real-life example that you have lived through, experienced, been involved in (e.g. a 'war story') - see Resources/Technology links below for some ideas about how to structure your story for maximum impact
- Focus on creating an 'aha' moment where students can see the direct real-life application or impact of the topic you are introducing
- The story should directly link to the key concept/topic that students are exploring that day
- Tell story and then move immediately on to the topic / course content.

## Conditions

Ensure the story is directly linked to the theory/topic that is being introduced.

## Resources/Technology

'8 classic storytelling techniques for engaging presentations':

(<http://www.sparkol.com/engage/8-classic-storytelling-techniques-for-engaging-presentations/>)

Successful storytelling:

(<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/20140405112844-40671440-5-steps-to-successful-storytelling>)

Yamini Naidu - storytelling:

(<http://yamininaidu.com.au/what-we-know/storytelling/>)