**Storytelling - Instructions**

You will work independently to write an introduction and performance script based on the children’s book of your choice. Your script dialogue must include at least 2 characters.

* Your main character will be the narrator of the story (use your own voice).
* The 2nd & 3rd characters will have to have adapted voices to help audience understand the difference when different people are speaking.

**Introduction**

The introduction of the piece must include the title and the authors’ name. Additionally, students will want to say a few words about the piece, such as the theme, the background, or its meaningfulness to them. This gives the audience and the judge a focus for the speaking. An effective introduction can also be a “teaser.” A teaser is a short portion of the presentation given in the introduction to get the audience’s attention. After the teaser, students state title and the author and begin the rest of the presentation of the story.

Memorizing your introduction gives you confidence to begin and allows you to immediately focus on your audience, not on your notes.

*Example: Some games are considered just for kids, but not at the home of the Twits. They absolutely refuse to grow up! In fact, it seems nothing brings them greater joy then the satisfaction of playing nasty tricks that just go on and on: The Twits by Ronald Dahl*

**Vocal Variety:** in order to make character voices different

Inflection- The rise or fall in the sound of a person’s voice; a change in pitch or tone of a person’s voice.

Speed- how fast or how slow

Pitch- how high or how low

Clarity- how clear or how raspy

Vocal Pattern- spaces in between words

Volume- how loud or how soft

**Storytelling – Instructions cont.**

**What to add in to a performance:**

* **Character Voices:** Each character should have a different voice
* **Sound Effects:** Children love sound effects and they help you tell the story
* **Animation**: Make it exciting!
* **Facial Expression**: Your face needs to match what you are saying-- EMOTION
* **Hand and body movement**: these help to draw the audience in and keep their attention
* **Gestures**: Each character needs a “master gesture” but also use natural gestures while telling the story. Act some things out!
* **Eye Contact**: You must rehearse so that you know the script well enough to not read straight from it. Look at the audience!
* **Length**: Must be no longer than 4 minutes! Should be about 3-4 minutes in length.
  + **MAKE IT INTERESTING!**

**Date of performance: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**