

How should I use Storia in my classroom?

WHOLE CLASS/SMALL GROUP

- Using a Smart Board or computer and projector, **demonstrate to students** how to open a browser and find Storia through <https://infohio.org/resources/item/storia> or sign in through Clever.
- Show how to search for a title and open an eBook to showcase the tools inside an eBook (highlighting, note-taking, dictionary tool).
- Take a moment to **showcase the end-of-book quiz**. Typically, this is a 10-question quiz where students receive immediate feedback (and the educator receives data on scores).
- Present Storia eBooks on an **interactive whiteboard or projector** to help build engagement and support vocabulary or reading comprehension strategies.
- Model active reading and citing text evidence by highlighting portions of the text or composing notes as you **think aloud with the class**. Create small, guided reading groups based on reading level and assign titles specific for this group.
- Assign a task to a reading group so when the student is reading an eBook title, let them use the highlighting and/or note-taking tools to record this task.

INDEPENDENT READING

- Motivate your students with the opportunity to **choose their own titles to read**. Under "Classes," select a class and see "Class Settings"—here you can allow students to view all the eBooks available to them.
- **Customize the reading experience for every student** based on their individual preferences and needs: i.e. create and assign customized collections by interest, genre, or reading level.
- Encourage students to use scaffolding tools such as the embedded **dictionary and note-taking tools** within the eBook.

GENERAL TEACHING TIPS

- Assign a specific title to the class for a **one book, one classroom** model. (Reminder: all students can read the same book simultaneously.) Then discuss in a whole class setting or assign a project to write a book report.
- **Download the Storia INFOhio 4th and 5th Grade title list** [here](#).
 - Make cross-curricular connections and assign titles that fit your curriculum.
 - Use Storia titles to help introduce a theme or topic.
 - Create your collections for your students/classroom.
- **Curriculum-based collections**, such as Biographies or Fantasy & Adventure, are available to help teachers organize their digital classroom library.
- Use the **grouping function** to set targeted reading groups by reading level and assign titles to read.
- Use your **Technology Center** for monitored and reported independent work.
- Check in on the **robust usage data by classroom or student by using the Reports tab** to track reading progress, titles students have read, words they have looked up, and scores on the end-of-book quizzes.

MAKE READING FUN!

- Use Storia as a reward.
- Use Storia during indoor recess.
- Use Storia to fill the gaps during testing time—allow students to sit quietly and read while others are completing a test.
- **Reward top readers** with a [Storia Reading Certificate](#).

How are other teachers using Storia?

Theme-Based Literature Circles

"Rather than assigning the same book to everyone, assign a different book to groups of four or five students. All you need is one Storia device for each group. You can use desktop computers, laptops and notebooks, iPads, and your SMART Board. Feel free to mix and match devices, because it is good for students to become fluent in using all of them.

Students take turns reading aloud. While one reads, the others take notes. This provides them the opportunity to hone their reading and listening skills. Like in a normal literature circle learning experience, they switch roles periodically, so all students get to read and take notes."

–Mary Blow, Lowville Academy Middle School

Identifying High-Frequency Words

"In class, we are constantly identifying Tier 2, or high-frequency, vocabulary words across the curriculum. While students are reading their Storia assignments, they have their Tier 2 journals with them. When they identify a Tier 2 word, they highlight it, record it in their journals along with a definition, and use it in a sentence of their own.

At the end of the week, we discuss in the book clubs the Tier 2 words identified, and each student chooses his or her favorite Tier 2 word of the week to add to the class chart of Tier 2 words."

–Marissa Ochoa, Valley Elementary School

Rewarding Students with Storia

"I position our iPads on a table next to my desk and allow students to use them when they are finished with other classroom work. To ensure all students get a chance to use Storia, I keep a class list check-off sheet on a clipboard."

–Kerry Araiza, Pomerado Elementary School

HOW CAN MY STUDENTS USE STORIA AT HOME?

- Download the [Storia Parent Letter](#), explaining the benefits of Storia and how to access it.
- Copy the "Parent Letter" and send it home with students or distribute at open houses or parent-teacher conferences.