Digital Photostory (suggested use with People of the Pacific Curriculum)

The Digital Photostory allows a student to answer or explain something from their perspective - their story. For some of the more personal and complex questions associated with the People of the Pacific Curriculum, the digital photostory offers students the opportunity to "own" the question while learning basic presentation skills. In addition, the digital photostory allows the teacher to serve as a guide since the base knowledge for the presentation comes from the students' experiences. Digital photostory will also allow elders in the student's life to serve as valuable resources.

The digital story submitted by Talia HoChing* can be used as a model of what can be accomplished by the digital story but each student should personalize their presentation to answer the guiding question. Rubrics for each question can be set up to make sure that the student targets the initial question.

I suggest that the digital photostory be used with the following questions associated with the People of the Pacific Curriculum:

What are my personal goals and how will I meet them?

Why is my family narrative?

What is my personal narrative?

Why should I, Pacific Islander student know their culture?

Why should a Pacific Islander know why their family immigrated to Utah?

How do I come to a point where I know who I am and who I can become?

How will I know, as a Pacific Islander, when I have achieved success?

How can I create the kind of family I want?

How do I understand my culture and teach it to others?

Why is Pacific Islander Literature important?

How does learning my native tongue impact my understanding of my heritage?

How do we counteract the negative and false stereotypes of Pacific Islanders?

How does a Pacific Islander student learn to effectively navigate between multiple cultures?

What are my personal goals and how will I meet them?

What roles do I have in school and how can I use those in a positive way to influence change?

How and Why should a Pacific Islander student be college and career ready?

How can education be a vehicle for me to affect change within a system that expects failure?

How can I prepare financially for college and the future?

Why is it important to be financially literate?
How does my Pacific Islander culture help me become a good leader?

Why is learning how to be a leader important?

How can I, as a Pacific Islander, affect my community? (school, neighborhood, institutions)

How can we find out who the Pacific Islander leaders are past and present?

What are my cultural strengths that are transferrable to education and new contexts?

Sincerely,

Axel Donizetti Ramirez, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Education-Utah Valley University

*Talia HoChing’s Digital Photostory can be found on the People of the Curriculum website sponsored by Utah Valley University’s Multicultural Center.

Instructions for Digital Photostory

The following instructions were provided by Talia HoChing and edited by her uncle, Axel Ramirez. Talia submitted this digital photostory when she was 13 and attending a camp at UVU. She was initially instructed on how to construct a digital photostory by Dr. Talitha Hudgins during the UVU camp.

1. Download Photo Story 3 to a PC computer. This can also be done on a MAC but it was easier for me on a PC since that is how I first learned how to put together a digital photostory.
2. Write a story answering the question that when read aloud is about 2-3 minutes long.
3. Gather up pictures on your desktop that tie into your story.
4. Put the pictures in order, within photostory, according to the order of your story.
5. Get a microphone and record your story as you have written it. It is VERY important that you write your story first. Get help from your teacher and elders to make sure your story is something they can understand and that it is written well.
6. Record each section of your story into the specific picture by clicking on the picture first.
7. Choose instrumental music to play in the background of your digital story.
8. Watch your digital story and edit if necessary.
9. ENJOY YOUR DIGITAL STORY.