

Canadian Story Starters

Grades 4-6

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Photos by S&S Learning Materials**

About the author:

Ruth Solski was an educator for 30 years. She has written many educational resources and is the founder of S&S Learning Materials. As a writer, her main goal is to provide teachers with a useful tool that they can implement in their classrooms to bring the joy of learning to children.

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At A Glance

Learning Expectations

Through the meaningful context of creative writing, students will:

- ✓ Interpret a variety of photographs, using evidence from the images and their own knowledge and experience
- ✓ Develop ability in creative, independent thinking and ordering of ideas in a logical manner
- ✓ Communicate their ideas clearly and effectively
- ✓ Communicate their ideas for specific purposes and to specific audiences
- ✓ Apply previously learned basic skills of grammar, spelling, punctuation and conventions of style and form
- ✓ Practise proofreading and editing skills





Canadian Story Starters



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Canadian Story Starters



Introduction

Why Use this Resource

Congratulations on your purchase of a worthwhile classroom resource! This collection of 58 engaging and detailed photographs will inspire students' creative writing. Images of varying complexities are included so that students with a wide range of critical thinking and writing abilities may engage meaningfully with them. The photographs may be used as "starters" for a variety of forms of writing and can be used to augment any writing program or used as a meaningful "filler" activity when students have extra classroom time.

Organization of the Book

This resource is divided into six sections based on the primary story genre of the photographs:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Canadian Nature | 4. Canadian Sports |
| 2. Canadian Seasons and Special Days | 5. Canadian Transportation |
| 3. Canadian Symbols and Places | 6. Canadian Military |

For easy reference, the story genre and photograph number are listed at the bottom of each page.

Each story starter worksheet includes a photograph and blank word box, a blank line for the story's title and numbered blank lines for the story itself. The word box provides space for students to brainstorm key words that come to mind when they explore their overall impression of the photograph. Students should complete the brainstorming list before writing to stimulate their creative thinking. The blank lines are numbered so that you may easily give students instructions on how long their creative writing piece should be.

A blank lined page is included at the back of this book (page 64) and may be used to write a story outline, or to continue writing the story itself if the student needs extra space.

Students may be given the Editing Checklist and Proofreader's Marks (page 5) either before or after writing a story. The checklist is a useful guide for proofreading their stories, and the chart of proofreader's marks lists the commonly used symbols, or shorthand, and their meanings.

How to Use the Photographs

The story starters may be used as springboards for a variety of forms of creative writing. The most straightforward use is for a short story. Students who would benefit from other writing challenges may enjoy using the story starters to write any of the following:

- Poetry
- Biography or autobiography of a person in the photograph
- A letter written to or from a person
- Newspaper article or editorial about the event or issue represented in the photograph
- Diary or personal journal entry of a person in the photograph
- Script for a play or movie
- And many other forms of writing!



Name: _____



Brainstorm
Word List 

_____ (Title)

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____
- 11 _____
- 12 _____
- 13 _____
- 14 _____
- 15 _____



Name: _____



Brainstorm
Word List 

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Brainstorm
Word List 

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1 _____

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15 _____