

Cracker Storytelling Festival
P.O. Box 122
Homeland, Florida, 33847

Statement from Mrs. Michelle Townley

“The Cracker Storytelling Festival is a wonderful multi-cultural event. In 2015, I attended the event for the first time in several years and was amazed at the variety of storytellers and the engagement of the students and families. The Curriculum Department is endorsing this trip and will include curriculum resources in the third grade maps to support the speaking and listening standards. With this concentrated effort to link the field trip to the standard, we encourage all schools to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity”.

The event is for all grade levels and we will be sponsoring a storytelling workshop at the first of the school year during TLC training.

For the first time in the History of the Cracker Storytelling Festival we will be offering schools three days to choose from to attend this literacy and multicultural driven event. For the past three years the Park has been at capacity and more schools would benefit from attending so we have been encouraged by the instructional department of Polk County Schools to add this third day. The dates are December 6-8, 2017. There will be a limit of 1300 allowed to attend each day, more than that gets too crowded causing congestion all during the day. This event is local, instructional based as well as being very inexpensive. See application for pricing.

We are seeking donations from local businesses to continue offering the bus money grants. These grants are limited. Good news you may use Title I money to pay for your buses.

We are pleased to have a large number of Florida storytellers to bring you an exciting and entertaining day with your students: Carrie Sue Ayvar entertains listeners with her Spanglish style and tales from many cultures. Tamara Green uses vivid costumes and dramatic presentations to keep listeners on the edge of their seats. Mitchell O’Rear engages audiences with his dramatic storytelling. Mark Koruschak will take us into the past with their_cow camp site demonstrations and tales of the past. Robin Schulte tells unique stories in a unique way that will keep you spellbound and hanging on every word. Cheryl Floyd uses Cajun traditions to weave great stories that will conjure up images and sounds unlike any other. Hank Mattson dressed in his cowboy attire will bring back the days of Cracking whips and rounding up cattle with his poetry and “Tvshka” Van V. Samuels a Native American descent will be telling Native American stories along with enchanting the audience with his Flute. Along with several other tellers.

You can register now by returning the attached form to Terrie Sullivan at Library Media Services, Jim Miles PDC or email it to crackerstorytellingfestival@gmail.com you can reach Terrie at 647-4716 or district 5 digit number 57955

We are expecting a great turn out this year so don’t delay in registering.

Saturday December 9, 2017 is the day for the general public as well as any students that would like to come with their families, the pricing is the same all days. The 22nd Whip Cracking contest will be on Saturday at 12:30 pm, local contestants compete for trophies and cash prizes.

Respectfully
The Cracker Storytelling Committee