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Story Preservation Initiative is pleased to make this catalogue of our original primary source audio recordings and related projects and lesson plans available for your reference. This was designed to provide – what we hope you’ll find to be – a quick and easy overview of SPI topics that are currently available.

All catalogues will be updated quarterly.

The material that we provide is varied and can be integrated into learning environments in a multitude of ways.

1. We begin with the development and production of our primary source audio recordings. These are of people who have, through their work or life experience, altered the landscape; they are, in a word, change-makers. Some of the names you will recognize, some you will not, but all of the stories contained in the Story Preservation collection are of people of impact.

2. These audio stories are, for some of our recordings, the “jumping off point” for the development of original, standards-aligned lesson plans.

3. Or, they are the jumping off point for teacher prompts. These “Make it Your Own” projects give teachers and students alike the materials they need to design their own projects. This student-led approach has proven to be successful across the grade spectrum.

4. Next, SPI curates our Learning Lab sites by providing embedded links to related and highly trusted third-party sites such as the Smithsonian, the Library of Congress, PBS LearningMedia, and others.

5. And lastly, some of our stories are made available without accompanying material. These stories are appropriate for integration into existing units of study.

We love to hear from those who are using our material. Feel free to contact us at: info@storypreservation.net

Thanks for your interest!

Cover Image: Elstorfer World Map, 13th Century, Public Domain
Freedom Over Me (Slavery)

**SPI Audio Story Engagement**
Ashley Bryan

**Overview**
Using Ashley Bryan’s book *Freedom Over Me* as a template, students will write and illustrate their own a picture book containing the stories of slaves, told in the first person. Narrative is to include background information on the person and a “Dream” section as read in *Freedom Over Me*. Students research slave stories online through the Library of Congress collection Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers’ Project, 1936 to 1938, an embedded link is provided.

Courage Has No Color

**SPI Audio Story Engagement**
Ashley Bryan

**Overview**
The title of this project comes from the book *Courage Has No Color* by Tanya Lee Stone with a Forward by Ashley Bryan. The book also contains sketches by Ashley, made when he was a stevedore in WWII and about which he explains, I “kept a sketchbook in [my] gas mask and drew when [I] could. ‘It kept me connected to my humanity,’ he says.” For this project, students will come to know the experience of an individual black man who served in the segregated Army of WWII, landing on Omaha Beach on D-Day. It is suggested that students read about and research notable African-American military units such as the Triple Nickels: America’s First Black Paratroopers, the Tuskegee Airmen, and/or the 761st Tank Battalion, of which Jackie Robinson, the first African-American to play in Major League Baseball, was part. It is also suggested that students research other African-American veteran stories as found on the Library of Congress website (link provided) and that consideration be given to students recording their own oral history of an African-American veteran from any war/conflict.
Create Your Own Mount Rushmore

SPI Audio Story Engagement
Robin Borglum Kennedy

Overview
Students will familiarize themselves with Gutzon Borglum and the creation of Mt. Rushmore through various media, including Story Preservation’s recording of Gutzon Borglum’s granddaughter, Robin Borglum Kennedy and, if desired, the PBS American Experience video Mount Rushmore. Discussion and reading will center on the president’s chosen by Gutzon for the sculpture: Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, and Teddy Roosevelt. The students and will then be tasked with creating their own Mt. Rushmore by choosing four different presidents for the monument. The student’s Mt. Rushmore will be depicted visually either through drawing, sculpture, or with online 3-D modeling tool. Students will be responsible for researching American presidents and ultimately defending their choice for inclusion in the monument. The ‘defense’ can be an oral presentation or written essay. Further, Students will then create their own Hall of Records. This can take the form of a time capsule or written account of what is included in their Hall of Records.


The Pilgrims

SPI Audio Story Engagement

Overview
This lesson plan was developed by PBS LearningMedia. SPI provides an embedded link to the site.

Students discover why most of the Mayflower’s male passengers signed an historic agreement by listening to the audio recording of Governor William Bradford’s direct line descendent, Carlton Bradford, and watching AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: The Pilgrims. With tensions threatening to divide the passengers, a social compact was drafted and signed before going ashore. All signers agreed to submit to the government created, officers elected, and laws drafted.

Image: Signing the Mayflower Compact 1620, a painting by Jean Leon Ferris, 1899
European History (WWII and the Holocaust)

Holocaust stories cannot be anything but horrifying; however, all of those in our collection routinely speak to elementary school children. It is suggested that audio / transcripts should be listened to /read by teachers in their entirety prior to introducing the stories to students.

SPI picks for this age group: Samuel Bak, Stephan Lewy, and Henry Weinstock. The audio could accompany a lesson plan on Kristallnacht, the "Night of Broken Glass,” which took place on November 9-10, 1938.

Claudia Cords Damon:
The 1944 Plot to Assassinate Hitler, Understanding Resistance
Audio Only

Kati Preston:
Holocaust Survivor (Hungary), Unsung Heroes
Audio Only

Henry Weinstock:
Hidden Child of the Holocaust, Kristalnacht, Unsung Heroes
Audio Only

Stephan Lewy:
Kindertransport, Kristalnacht
Audio Only

Samuel Bak:
Life in the Vilna Ghetto, Unsung Heroes
Audio Only
When Dyslexia is a Gift

SPI Audio Story Engagement
Ben Kilham

Overview
SPI hyperlinks teachers and students to Being You and Roadtrip Nation Education for a series of videos and interviews of fascinating, successful people who, like Ben Kilham, learn differently than others. These people are proof positive that they can thrive in life and school with the right support.

The mission of Roadtrip Nation Education is to show young people how to harness their unique strengths and interests to create academic and career opportunities. They do that with the most powerful of tools—personal stories. The stories we share introduce young people to career possibilities they may never have heard of, and to people who have carved out different paths to fulfillment and success.

Image: From the PBS series Roadtrip Nation.

Create Your Own Picture Book

Art Lesson

SPI Audio Story Engagement
Tomie dePaola

Project
After listening to Tomie's story, students will use selected books by the author / illustrator as a template and will write and illustrate and / or create other original works of art for their own picture book based upon an event or story from their own life. Subject matter covered in Tomie's books as they relate to family and growing up will also serve as prompts for student discussion and reflection (oral and in written form) relative to storyline for their book. The students will also be responsible for creating a cover for their book and / or bookbinding.
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TO ACCESS THE Story Preservation Initiative 4-12 Learning Lab, go to:
https://www.spi-learninglab.org/

And to find out more about the organization,
WWW.STORYPRESERVATION.ORG