

How to Tell YOUR Story: Making Classroom Connections

Indiana Farm Bureau Spring Conference

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1. Choose a book you enjoy

Resources include American Farm Bureau Foundation, other state lists, "Best of" lists
Look for teacher guides: AFBF, Pinterest

2. Plan ahead

Practice reading aloud

Think of extension activities for read aloud and afterward

Make or find any props (pack in a roly-polly bag)

Mark your pages (remove the dust cover)

Make a flyer to announce your visit

Ask where to park and how you'll check in, confirm any other logistical details

*hint: know arrival/dismal times to avoid the rush

Make sure the teacher will stay with the classroom

Research the author/illustrator to share some backstory

*hint: visit their websites and read the back matter

3. That day

Know the route and arrive at least 15 minutes early

Show your excitement (dress the part, bring props)

Introduce yourself

Set the expectations

Share your connection to the story

Explain any difficult or new vocabulary before you start

Have fun!