



STORY TIME

with THE CITADEL

Welcome to Storytime with The Citadel! These are instructions for those who want to participate by sharing a favorite story:

This project was created to share the joy of reading with K-5 students, even when we cannot be with them in the classroom due to Covid-19. Story Time with The Citadel provides videos that are aimed towards elementary students in the Charleston Community. This tool is a great way for college students to help prevent reading loss and actively engage younger students who may be staying at home and eager to see a fresh face.

Ready to contribute a video? Please follow these directions so you get it right the first time. All videos prior to their release will be vetted through a team of Citadel staff members to ensure quality content for Charleston's young learners.





1 - Dress and groom yourself to represent The Citadel


We ask that all reading video participants represent The Citadel just as you would if you were on campus. If you have a uniform, please wear it! Just be sure to be within uniform regulations while doing so. If you do not have a uniform at home, then you should wear something with The Citadel logo or school colors. Outside of uniforms be sure your personal appearance reflects a professional representation of The Citadel.

2 - Practice, practice!

Prior to sitting down and reading your story in front of a camera, preview and practice reading the book aloud. Make sure it is suitable for elementary aged students. Is it something your parents or grandparents would have read to you? This is also a great way to familiarize yourself with the story.

3 - Choose a good location and backdrop.

Find a spot/set up that will give you good lighting for reading and telling your story. Natural light on your face (and no bright light behind you) is typically best with the camera at an eye or mid chest level that can fully capture the story without creating a glare.





4 - Start by Introducing yourself and your connection to The Citadel.

(e.g. “Hi! My name is Josh and I am studying Electrical Engineering at The Citadel”) For examples see some of the videos already posted. Practice your introduction before you roll the camera. We can not edit your tape so if you make a serious “bloop”, just start over. 100% of the video you send should be usable.

5 - Bring some joy and energy

Love of reading can be contagious! Once you have introduced yourself, show the book, name the title and author, then record yourself reading the story aloud. It is important that when you speak, you do so enthusiastically, clearly, and professionally. Keep in mind these are for young children. When appropriate, relate the story you are reading to college, other academic subjects, or broad topics. Excite their creativity and keep them engaged from page to page! Make yourself entertaining enough that children will want to listen to you, but also not so goofy that they do not grasp or retain anything you read. It’s all about balance! This may take practice- that is okay!

An excellent example of what a video should look like is;

Nathan Adam’s reads The Very Hungry Caterpillar



When showing students the illustrations and words, take your time.

Practice your lines and do not be afraid to read ahead in order to give your students more time for them to look at the pictures as you read. Doing so is a way to appeal to both visual and auditory learners.

6 - Recording tips

There are several ways to record a video but here is what we have found to be most successful: either filming and downloading the video from a phone to a computer or using the website Screencast. After recording, your next steps will be uploading the video to a YouTube channel. You should have a pre-existing channel given your Citadel.edu' address, but if it is giving you trouble, you can easily create a google account to set one up. Title the video: Story Time with The Citadel: (book title). Inside the description include your name as the speaker, the author, and illustrator.

A video explanation of how to upload a video to YouTube

Once done you may send the link to Mike Akers at **makers1@citadel.edu** .

Later that video will be uploaded to The Krause Center for Leadership and Ethics website where members all around the Charleston Community and beyond will be able to access it and use it for education purposes! For every video recorded and uploaded there will be one hour of community service accredited to your GivePulse account if you are a Citadel student.

