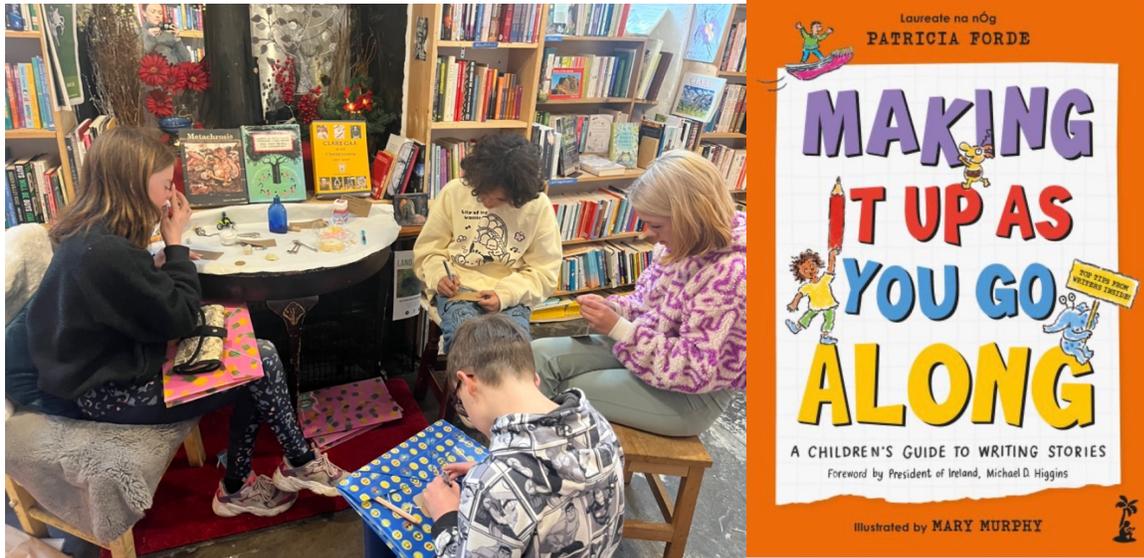


Impact Report – Creative Storytelling Workshop Series



Project Name: Creative Storytelling

Delivery Organisation: Hannah New - Boonana Productions

Location: Ennistymon, Co. Clare

Dates Delivered: November 2025 - February 2026

Target Group (age range): 10-15 years

Project Purpose

Brief summary:

This workshop series was designed to introduce young people to the power and enjoyment of storytelling in all its forms, engaging imagination and empowering their creative voices. Using Laureate na nÓg (Children’s Laureate of Ireland), Patricia Forde’s 2025 book ‘Making Up as you Go Along’ as a springboard, this series of workshops explains the structure of effective story crafting, introduces them to fun, innovative ways of expanding their imaginations and finding inspiration.

The workshops were also specifically designed to be inclusive of neurodivergent young people including those with ADHD and dyslexia, showing young people that stories and their various modalities are not limited to written form incorporating visual, oral, digital and performance storytelling arts. This was tailored to the individual needs of the group and therefore included working in a range of different environments, both indoors and in nature.

Participation Overview

- **Total sessions delivered:** 8 x 2 hour sessions
- **Total young people engaged:** 15
- **Average attendance rate:** 10
- **Number of facilitators/partners involved:** 1

Outcomes & Impact - Facilitators Observations

It has been a joy to work alongside the young people at Wild Earth and see how creatively and enthusiastically they have engaged with the workshop activities. I have witnessed them find their creative voices, engage with imaginative worlds and create characters with increasing confidence. The use of Patricia Ford's book has given them an understanding of how to create compelling narrative, build brilliant characters, drawing on their own experience and views of the world. Through imaginative role play and world-building tasks, I have observed the development of open expression in young people that previously would have lacked confidence or found it difficult to express creative ideas in a large group.

We have also used storytelling to explore emotions, conflict, obstacles and uplifting stories where protagonists overcome adversity. In this way, we built a safe and fun space together to analyze and process human experiences, in particular the challenges and emotions that young people face today including issues such as family conflict, climate change, loss and grief, social exclusion and bullying. The discussions were always sensitive to all the voices in the group and the young people at Wild Earth use compassionate communication in how they respond to each other's ideas and work. The impact of this first series of workshops have created stories with the potential to reach wider audiences and be developed further with more time. Participants have expressed the wish to develop comics, films, short-stories, songs and animations that bring their stories to life and their continued enthusiasm is truly inspiring.

Creative Outputs / Achievements

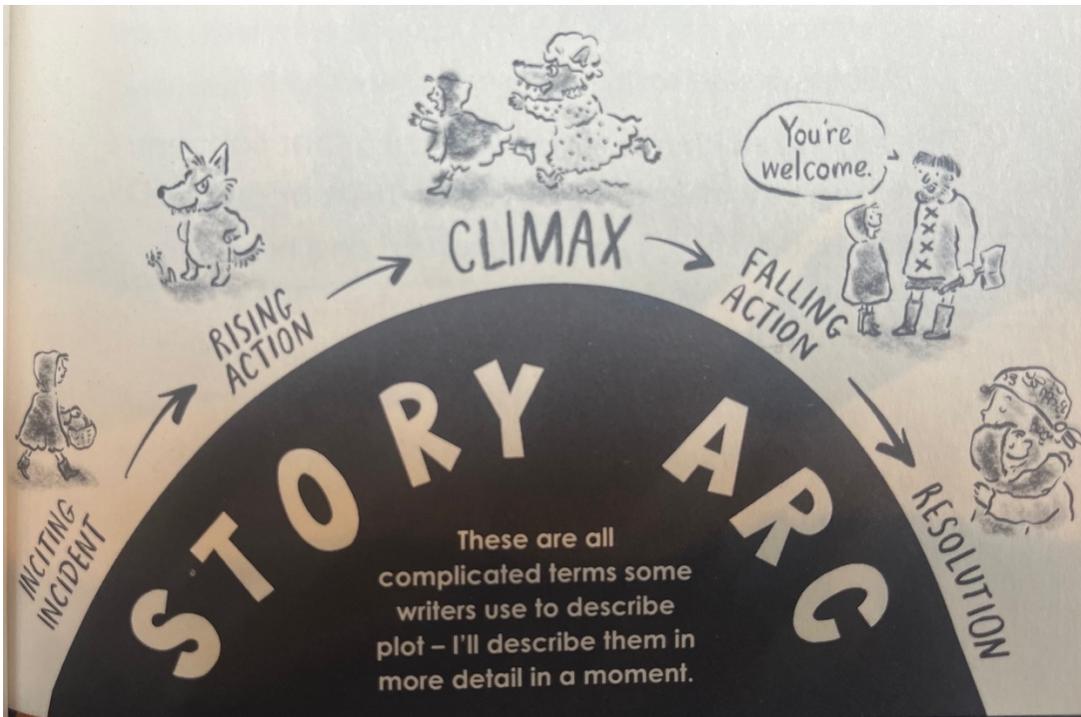
The young people have physically produced:

- **A Museum of Ideas (object-based story inspiration)**
- **Character Hotseats (performance-based character building)**
- **3 Act Structure Storyboards (visual and textual story structuring)**
- **World-Building Maps and Timelines (pictorial representations of their story worlds)**
- **Collaborative Story Worlds (group devised stories inspired by walks together in nature)**

Photo Highlights



Caption: Museum of Ideas – Using objects to create intriguing narrative in Salmon Bookshop, Ennistymon.



Caption: Story structuring - Showing how stories are structured and use plot points to keep an audience engaged.



Caption: Character Hot-Seating
Using role play, performance and costume to develop and build interesting characters.