

# World Storytelling Competition 2026



## A Guide for Young Storytellers

### Step 1: Choose and Prepare Your Story



#### Step 1: Choose and Prepare Your Story

Select a story from the suggested category list or create an original tale to retell in your own words.

### Step 2: Record a High-Quality Performance



#### Mandatory 5-Second Intro

Child Name, Grade, School, City, Country  
Title of the Story & "I am glad to be a part of GEMA World Storytelling Competition."

#### Step 2: Record a High-Quality Performance

Record a horizontal video within your category's time limit, focusing on your storytiming rather than filming technique.



#### Step 3: Upload and Share

Upload your video to YouTube or Google Drive to ensure judges can view your entry without restricted permissions.



#### Step 4: Register and Submit

Pay the US\$10 fee, save your transaction receipt, and complete the 4-step form on the official website by July 31, 2026.

### Categories & Time Limits



**Category A: KG & Below Grade 1**  
Up to 3 minutes  
The Three Little Pigs  
The Lion and the Placee



**Category B: Grades 1-2**  
2-3 minutes  
The Very Hungry Caterpillar  
The Giving Tree



**Category C: Grades 3-5**  
3-4 minutes  
The Emperor's New Clothes  
Where the Wild Things Are



**Category D: Grades 6-8**  
3-4 minutes  
The Gift of the Magi  
The Tell-Tale Heart



**Category E: Grades 9-12**  
4-6 minutes  
The Yellow Wallpaper  
The Lottery

### Section: Judging Criteria: What Makes a Winner?



**Language and Fluency**  
Judges score based on pronunciation, enunciation, stress, coherence & rhythm

**Presentation and Body Language**  
Scores are awarded for expressive facial movements, appropriate emotions, and confident body language.



**Creative Use of Props**  
Participants are encouraged to use props, costumes or backgrounds



**Performance Over Production**  
The quality of the storytelling performance is the primary focus, not the quality of the video or filming technique.



**3 Winners Per Category**  
Who will get a Trophy and Winners Certificate.

**SCHOOL-LEVEL TROPHIES**  
Schools with more than 50 registrations are eligible for additional School Level Trophy.



**GUARANTEED Participation Certificate**  
Every child who enters the competition will receive a certificate to CELEBRATE THEIR participation.

