

My Story, Your Story, Our Story

Using an Intentional Story Sharing Programme to Strengthen Relational Skills in Grade 6 Boys

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Further Information

This poster and further information is available at
<http://www.theibsc.org/>

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Introduction

A group of 20 Grade 6 boys participated in a seven-week "My Story, Your Story, Our Story" programme with their Grade 2 buddy. Through story-related activities and based on pedagogy underpinned by a framework for best practice in boys' education, this action research project sought to establish whether an intentional story sharing programme would strengthen relational skills in Grade 6 boys. Activities that involved physical interaction as well as those with a digital element were chosen as they best suit boys' education.



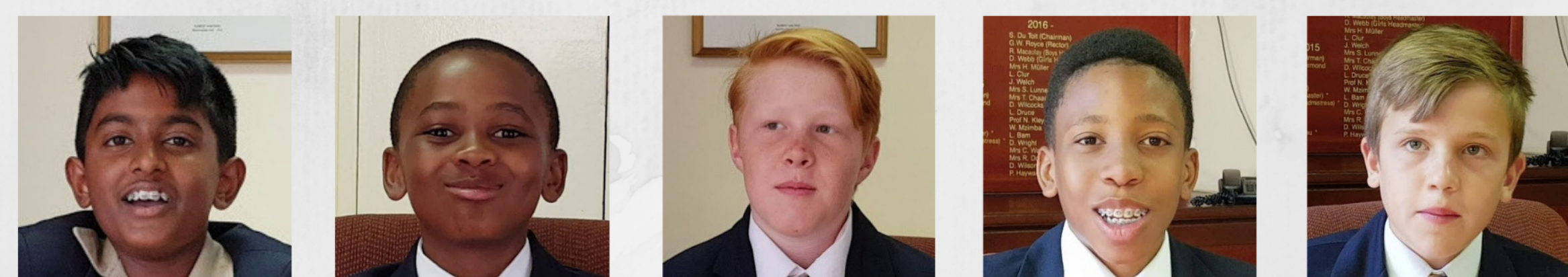
The Research Question

How does an intentional story sharing programme strengthen relational skills in Grade 6 boys?



Research Context & Participants

The participants in this action research project were 20, 11-12 year old Grade 6 boys from St Peter's Boys Prep. St Peter's Boys Prep is an Anglican private preparatory boys school in Johannesburg, South Africa.



Data Collection & Analysis

- Surveys
- Observations
- Photographs & Videos
- Flipgrid Reflections
- Field Notes
- Interviews

The Research Action

The Grade 6 boys shared their "My Story" with their Grade 2 buddy. They then listened to their buddy's "Your Story". After participating in story sharing activities with their Grade 2 buddy, the Grade 6 boys then produced a combined "Our Story" video.



Historical Story

House shirt & Welcome card
Presentation on history of house
War cry
Flipgrid reflection



Autobiographical Story

Grade 6 My Story Book
Grade 2 Your Story Book
Flipgrid reflection



Growing Our Story

Planted succulents



Story of Our Nicknames

Nicknames
Flipgrid explanation



Secret Handshakes

GoNoodle Secret Handshakes Videos
Choreographed own secret handshakes
Flipgrid video



Hot Lunch Experience

Shared a meal



Our Story

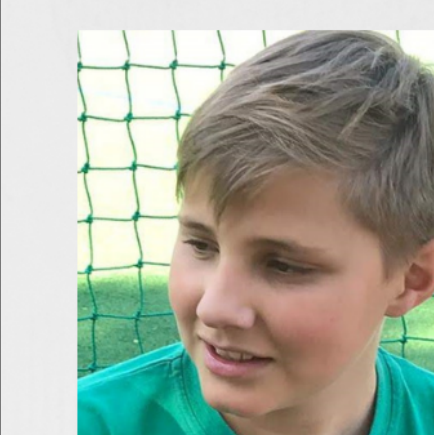
iMovie



Key Findings & Discussion

The Grade 6 boys identified three distinct themes which they felt are needed to strengthen relational skills:

Acknowledgement	knowing each other's name being friendly smiling positive deposits
Trust	spending time being caring being supportive
Connection	finding interests conversation



"When we did the tour, the last activity, he didn't stutter and he listened to me. He trusted me."



Conclusions

The sharing of stories was key in providing a platform for the boys to strengthen relational skills and form strong connections. Our programme provided a safe environment for boys to form connections and develop trust. This story sharing programme provided a positive experience for the boys, which enabled them to grow as individuals, reflect on their development in strengthening relationships and be good role models to the Grade 2 boys.



Readings

- Aidman, B. & Long, T.A. (2017). Leadership and Storytelling: Promoting a Culture of Learning, Positive Change, and Community. Leadership and Research in Education, 106-126. Retrieved from <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1160822.pdf>
- Durden, T. (2011). Making it Happen: Building Positive Relationships with Children. HEF601 Participant Guide. Faculty Publications from CYFS (Children, Youth, Families & Schools, Nebraska Center for Research), 42, 1-5. Retrieved from <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1042&context=cyfsfacpub>
- National Center for the Development of Boys. (2017, December 4). Understanding Boys. A resource guide for parents, educators, and coaches of boys. Retrieved from https://issuu.com/understandingboys/docs/booklet_ncdb-ub_issuu2017



The Grade 6 boys have learnt that one can always make a connection with someone if you spend time getting to know them and their story.

