

Technology Integration Ideas

The TechnoStories project can be used as a meaningful way to develop basic keyboarding and word processing skills. The activities gradually build in difficulty. To start, a simple skill is introduced and then students are given an opportunity to practice it repeatedly to gain confidence. Each assignment builds on the skill previously taught. By the end of the project, students will be able to create an original storybook.

The activities in TechnoStories integrate into language arts curriculum. The publication of the storybook follows the stages of the writing process:

1. *Organize Ideas:* Students write a story with a beginning, middle, and end. A planning sheet allows students to sketch their ideas. Book titles are included as a source of inspiration.
2. *Draft Writing:* Students use a book template with a title page and three story pages to write and illustrate their story. Word processing skills such as how to format text and images are applied from the previous assignments. Sentence starters support writing.
3. *Edit Writing:* Students use electronic editing tools to correct errors. A checklist is provided to help proofread the publication.
4. *Publish Writing:* Students share their storybook by sending a link by email to their teacher, friend, or parent. Optional instructions are provided to print or transform the document into an animated flipbook using a free online service.
5. *Reflection:* Students identify their strengths as writers by rating their word processing ability, quality of story writing, and effort.