

## LESSON: Using Power Animals in Storytelling

GRADE: 1

### OBJECTIVES:

#### Writing

#### Production and Distribution of Writing-

- **W.1.5.** With guidance and support from adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers, and add details to strengthen writing as needed.

### MATERIALS & RESOURCES:

- Books
  - *The Gift Horse*, Nelson
  - *The Great Ball Game*, Bruchac
- Whiteboard, chalkboard or flip chart
- Marker or chalk
- Power Animal puppets made by the students in *Power Animal Puppets* lesson

### PRESENTATION:

Animals were important to the people who first lived in NW Iowa around what is now Blood Run National Historic Site.

Read *The Gift Horse* and *The Great Ball Game* to class. List ways the animals in these stories helped their human friends or each other.

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Using these stories as models, divide the power animals into two groups or teams, and decide on a human main character and a narrator.
2. Identify a problem the human has and have students brainstorm the ways their animal teams could help the main character with this problem by using their special powers.
3. Teacher then writes a story beginning, (such as Once upon a time...or Long, long ago...) on the chart or board. Brainstorm how their animal team or group will help, using its combined powers. Reinforce the use of detail as a way to create a strong, interesting story.

**TIME:**

**45-60 min**

**PROCESSING THROUGH THE SIX PILLARS:**

**WHAT:**

- What power animal did you chose and why?

**SO WHAT:**

- What special power does your power animal have and how will this special power help it to survive in the wild?
- What special power does your power animal have that will help it to be a good friend to others?

**NOW WHAT:**

- Each power animal has its own special power, which makes it different. Respect means we are tolerant of differences and treat all others with respect regardless of how they are different from us.