ONE-WORD STORYTELLING

Number of players: 5+
Space: Room for a circle
Materials needed: None

Procedure:
Players sit in a circle. Explain that the group is going to create a story together—one word at a time. The leader begins the story by contributing the first word (such as “Once,” “Hurricane,” “Erica,” etc.). The next player in the circle adds another word, and so on around the circle for one or more rounds until the story seems complete.

Possible side coaching:
“What kind of word might we need next: a verb? A noun? An adjective?”
“Let’s try to wrap up the story within the next five or six words.”

Variations:
Leader or current player randomly picks who adds the next word.

Processing points:
• How did you imagine the main character/place/etc.?
• What seemed to be the biggest conflict in our story? Why?
• How might we improve on our story?

Possible learning areas:
Storytelling, cooperation, spontaneity