

How to Use the Teacher's Guide

Why should I use these stories in my classroom? What do they add to current resources?

Meet your students in the media that compels them. Use these continually updated stories and podcasts from *Adirondack Community: Capturing, Retaining, and Communicating the Stories of Who We Are* at www.myadirondackstory.org by assigning stories relevant to a lesson as homework, playing them in the classroom, or suggesting them for activities or projects. Use them to introduce a topic, make a concept memorable, or stimulate discussion, making your classes appealing and memorable. Bring your lessons to life. As primary sources with audio and visual content, lessons come alive. Students connect what they are learning in the classroom to the real world, past, and present.

What is Adirondack Community?

Adirondack Community is a multi-year local history project that collects and organizes three to five-minute audio stories and related photographs from Town of Keene community members through an online platform to share the rich social and cultural history of this community located in New York State's Adirondack Mountains. The collected stories and podcasts have relevance beyond the community's borders, in any classroom.

How can I use Adirondack Community stories and podcasts in my classroom?

1. For middle and high school, click on the *Adirondack Community Story Selection Chart* [here](#). On the *Adirondack Community Story Selection Chart*, review categories like Social Studies, STEM, or English. Under those categories find courses closest to what you are teaching.
2. For elementary school or college, go directly to the [Story Summaries](#) to make your story selections.
3. Then, go to the Public Stories Page for *Adirondack Community* found [here](#). Use the search box (enter the story title, a keyword, or story number with # before it) to find a story from the *Story Selection Chart*.
4. Click the photo and the story will play. Choose stories to use in your classes.
5. You can review the [Story Summaries](#) document to read about each story, identified by story number from the *Adirondack Community Story Selection Chart*.
6. In addition to building the stories into your lessons, you can give students instructions to find and listen to specific stories themselves or construct assignments for them like in this [Sample School Assignment](#).
7. You and the students can also go directly to www.myadirondackstory.org to listen to stories and podcasts by category.

Who told these stories?

Although the storytellers are based in the Adirondack Mountains of New York State, their stories teach universal lessons. The challenges residents have faced, historical relevance of residents and visitors, cultural and outdoor activities, and surprises have meaning beyond their location. The stories come from a small, rural community that has experienced world-wide interest since the 1800s, including Winter Olympics in 1932 and 1980 in nearby Lake Placid. While the wealthiest have been summer residents, the year-round community faces great economic challenges in a harsh climate. Storytellers are young, old, and in-between, with stories of the past and present.

What is the Teacher's Guide?

The Teacher's Guide is a resource of *Adirondack Community* (www.myadirondackstory.org) and *OurStoryBridge* (www.ourstorybridge.org), sponsored by the Keene Valley Library. It consists of this document, the *Story Selection Chart*, the *Story Summaries*, the *Sample School Assignment*, and other resources that will be added and updated.

For more information email myadirondackstory@gmail.com.