

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

STORYTELLING WITH THE BARD



Dear Parent or Caregiver,

Your child has been learning about storytelling and narrative writing with a program from Wizards of the Coast and curriculum specialists at Young Minds Inspired. The program activities, inspired by characters, events, and settings of the collaborative roleplaying game Dungeons & Dragons, challenge students to take on the role of a bard's apprentice to write their own stories.

Storytelling is an art that stretches back thousands of years. Stories entertain and teach lessons about friendship, family, the power of teamwork, and perseverance. In fact, every culture throughout history has used stories to teach its history and customs. Story writing not only teaches grammar, but it also teaches important life skills such as creative thinking, social and emotional skills, and problem-solving.

We encourage you to read your child's story and then create your own storytelling adventures as a family. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- **Share family stories.** Share some of your family's history with your child. Or invite an older relative to share stories about what life was like when they were your child's age, their first job, the funniest thing that ever happened to them, or some other memorable moment.
- **Try storytelling through pictures.** Stories can be told through images too. Have your child illustrate a story for you using pictures only. Does everyone interpret the story the same way?
- **Embark on an imaginative storytelling adventure.** Imagine that you're all apprentices of the bard. Create a fun story together. Decide on the characters and setting, and then have fun and let your imaginations soar. You can even use an ordinary task as the foundation for a storytelling adventure. What happened when you reached for a box of pasta in the kitchen cabinet? Or turned on the light in the family room? Take turns adding to the story.
- **Develop stories through play.** Check out the free adventure, *Peril in Pinebrook* at https://ymiclassroom.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/dragons_perilinpinebrook.pdf and create an adventuring party and campaign with your family. Help reinforce language skills, creativity, and problem-solving as you play together.

To learn more about Dungeons & Dragons, visit playdnd.com.

REMEMBER ONE IMPORTANT TIP: HAVE FUN!



Illustrations by Tim Probert and Rudy Siswanto.