

Connect, Inspire
and Empower
Through Sticky-Note
Storytelling

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Great Leaders

- Who are great leaders that have inspired you?
- What are they like?

What is the primary role of a director or administrator?

- Motivate
- Inspire
- Coach
- Lead
- Guide
- Hold Accountable

Good to Great_{by Jim Collins}

- What was found to be the number one characteristic of great leaders?
 - ◆ Personal charisma/dynamic personality
 - ◆ Humility/self effacing personality
 - ◆ Broad vision
 - ◆ Sincere tyrant

The Big Picture

- Connect
- Inspire
- Empower

Connecting

- People are wired for relationship
- The essence of connection is trust and understanding
- Genuine connection requires a certain level of vulnerability

Inspire

- Latin word meaning to breathe or blow into or upon
- Leaders inspire by breathing life into people and organizations
- What are some characteristics of people who have inspired you?

Characteristics of those who inspire

- Optimism
- They are truly good at what they do
- Resilience
- Perseverance

Empowerment—a dance between a director and the staff

- The director
 1. Willingness to relinquish control
 2. Understanding
- Staff
 1. Self awareness
 2. Personal reflection
 3. Personal goals

The Value of Sticky Note Story Telling

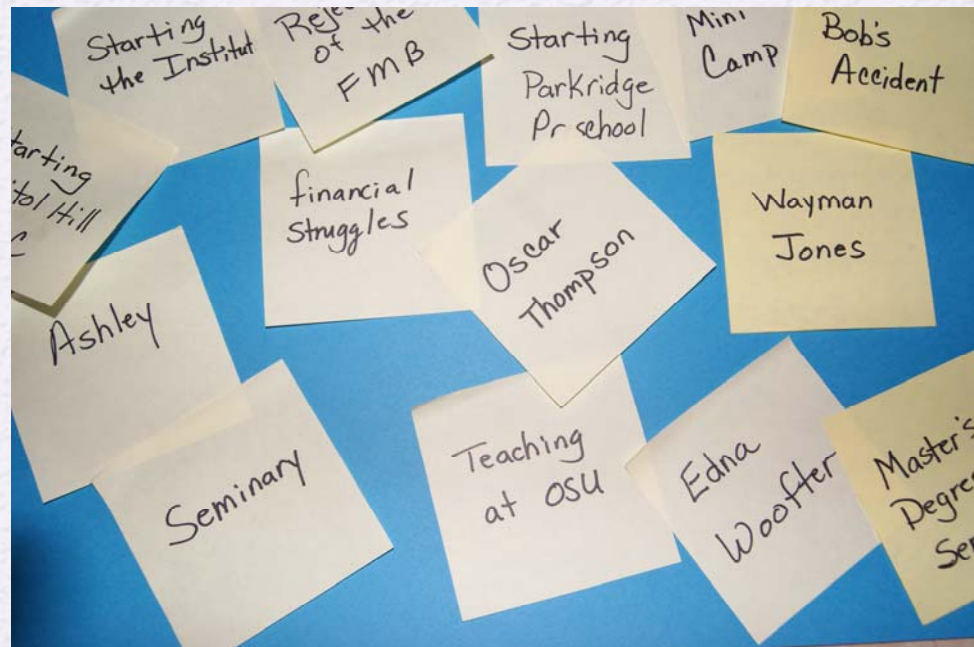
- It provides a structure for personal reflection, connection and growth
- Facilitates personal reflection which is the basis for personal growth
- Lays a foundation for reflective practice

Materials

- ½ sheet of poster board per person
- Small post-its (2 x ½ inches)
 - 50 yellow
 - 15 pink
 - 15 blue
 - 15 green

Step 1

- Using the yellow pad of sticky notes jot down one event, person or circumstance that has had a significant impact on your life. Put one thought per note.

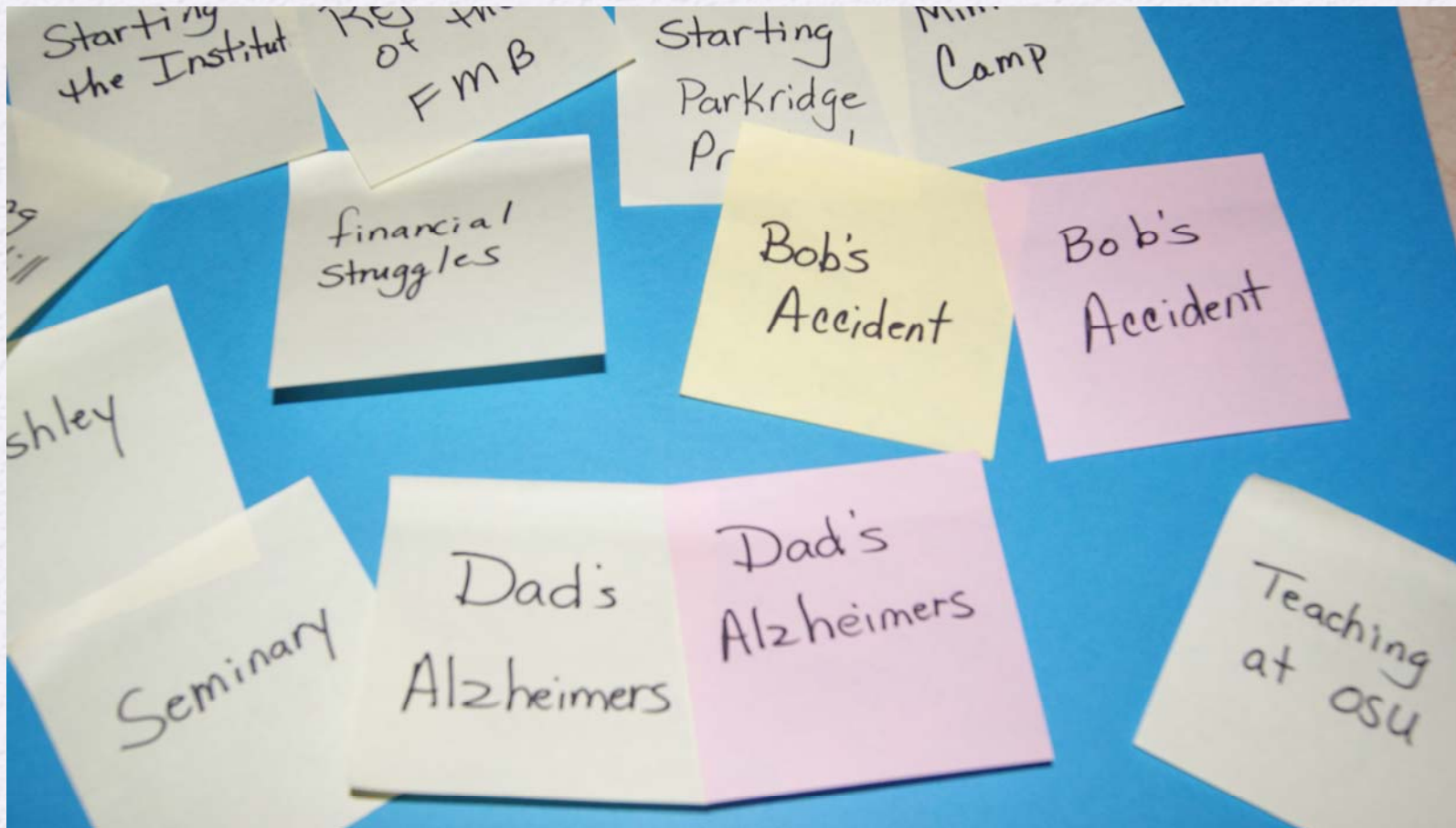


Examples

- People: parents, family members, friends, pastors, teachers, coaches etc
- Events: happy or sad moments—moving, getting a dog, divorce, going to camp, death of family member
- Circumstances: Conflict with parents, health issues, learning disability
- Achievements: Things you have done that brought enjoyment, pleasure and recognition

Step 2

- Reflect upon the people, events or sticky notes and identify any that you perceive as being negative or painful. Transfer every negative or painful event to a pink sticky note and discard the yellow one.



Step 3

- Find the earliest memory you have and place that sticky note in the top left hand corner of the poster board. Place the remaining sticky notes in chronological order, integrating the pink and yellow notes.
- When you reach the bottom of the column or recognize a new theme or phase of your life, start a new column.

Carrie Ivy	Wayman Jones	University of Maryland	Seminary	Marriage	Move to Tulsa	Teaching at OSU	Starting the Institute
Walks in the woods	Volunteer Work D.C. General Hospital	Carol Seefeldt	Oscar Thompson	Krista	Bill coming to live with us	Deborah Norris	Ashley's Turnover
Trips to Indiana	Mission Trips	U of Md Lab School	Doug Ezell	Ashley	Work as Children's Pastor	Starting the Source	Karen Purvis
Playing house in the basement	Mini Camp	First Job Child Care	financial struggles	Starting Parkridge Preschool	Dad's Alzheimers	DHS	TBRI
Catching Fireflies	Martin Luther King Riots	Teaching First Grade	Bob's Accident	Financial Struggles	Starting MOPS	Early Learning Guidelines Task Force	
Playing hide-n-go Seek & Kick the Can	Glorieta & Ridgecrest	Study with Gesell Inst.	Starting Capitol Hill CDC	Bob Driving	Getting Doctorate at OSU	Nancy Van Borgan	
Playing Outside in the Summer	Edna Woofler		Rejection of the FMB	San Angelo Texas		Trip to Guatemala	
Baptism Age 8				Jeannie Miley			
				Scrapbooking			

Step 4

- Evaluate the events of your life to identify the distinct phases or “chapters.” Create a title for each chapter of your life and write the title on a blue sticky note and place it at the bottom of the appropriate column.

Jeannie
Miley

Scrapbooking

Courage
Under Fire

Endurance

Guatemala

The Absent
Minded
Professor

Step 5

- What have I learned through the events, people and circumstances of your life? Look at your life chapters and try to identify 1 or 2 insights or life lessons you have learned at each phase. Write these lessons on green sticky notes and place them at the bottom of your chapter titles.

Smart

Understanding
the nature of
children is
the key to
quality education

Rejection
of the
FMB

Facing the
Giants

Creativity and
courage are
born in the
heart of
suffering

Jeannie
Wiles

Scrapbooking

Courage
Under Fire

We have to
be willing to
face our demons
if we are to
grow.

Self awareness
is the key to
growth as
well as understanding
other people

Endurance

God is
faithful.

Family is my
source of
happiness.

trip to
Guatemala

The Absent
Minded
Professor

Dreams happen
if you are
willing to
work hard
enough.

My gift and
calling is
starting new
things

Areas of Impact

- My self esteem and identity
- Family relationships
- Relationships with others
- My strengths and weaknesses
- Character qualities that are important to you
- Values that are important to you
- My hopes and dreams for the future

What does this mean?

- How does my own history impact how I view children? How I view early childhood education? How I view myself? How I view my employees?
- How has my history influenced my decision to care for and teach children? To become a leader of an ECE program?
- What strengths do I bring to the child care setting? What weaknesses?

Reflection

- How has my history influenced my philosophy of what it means to be a teacher? What it means to be a director? My philosophy of education?
- How has my history influenced how I relate to children? To parents? To my staff?

Reflection

- What losses have I suffered and how does it impact who I am, what I do in the work place and how I view children? My staff? Parents?
- What are areas both personally and professionally that I would like to grow?
- What do I need to help me reach my goals? What do I need from my co-workers to help me meet my goals?

Making Change Happen

- Set some goals for the next 12 months regarding personal and professional growth.
- Identify resources, materials and equipment you might need to accomplish those goals.
- Set a target date for reaching those goals.
- What do you need from your director to meet your goals?
- Discuss your goals with your employees or director.