

Top 10 Tips for Recording your Digital Story

Here are a few tips you can use if you want to record your own digital story or to help a friend/relative record theirs:

1. The hardest part is starting! Book a time and stick to it. Storytelling with a willing friend over coffee is a good way to start.
2. Don't try to record your life story in one go. Stick to a simple memory and aim for a story that is two or three minutes in length. You can always record more stories later!
3. You'll need to find some recording technology that you are comfortable with. Modern smartphones, iPads and PCs are all pretty good. Ask someone to help get you started.
4. When recording, find a quiet place that is free from distractions - preferably somewhere where you feel relaxed and comfortable.
5. Test your recording before you start! It will help check you have your levels right and make sure everything is working.
6. If you are recording with someone, try not to talk over them. Ask them to pause before speaking.
7. Talk to the person not to the microphone (imagine the person it if you are working alone).
8. Think about (a) the audience for your story (b) why your story is important to you and (c) why you want to record it - it will help set the tone. It's fine to script your story in advance if you want - but try to keep it to one side of A4.
9. Include feelings within your story. Your audience will want to get to know you! Try to avoid making it just a chronological list of dates, places and facts.
10. Your stories are precious, make sure you store them safely and label them clearly!

Bringing your story to life with photos and music is the next step which is slightly more complex. There are plenty of tools that can help get you started - iMovie, Luma Fusion, or Adobe Premier are a few examples. We use Pinnacle Pro for our iPads.

Need help? Drop me an email john@chroniclestories.co.uk