Telling a Story vs Reading a Story

Peninnah Schram

Description: Because of social media, we need to tell and read stories with the human voice as well as we need to hear stories told by the human voice. Stories still are powerful to teach values, inspire wonder and curiosity, offer healing, wisdom, history and faith! This session will explore the differences between telling a story without a book and reading a story with a book as a prop, in addition to presenting stories via Zoom rather than in person. Peninnah will also suggest that presentations of stories could be a combination of telling the story, reading the narrative, as well as to involve the listeners, especially students, in the story in other ways.

Peninnah Schram, storyteller, educator and author, is Professor Emerita at Yeshiva University. She is the author of 14 books of Jewish folktales, including Jewish Stories One Generation Tells Another, Stories Within Stories from the Jewish Oral Tradition, and Jewish Stories of Love and Marriage: Folktale, Legends & Letters. Her biography, Peninnah’s World: A Jewish Life in Stories, authored by Caren Schnur Neile, published by Hamilton Books, was published in November 2021. On November 9, 2022, Peninnah was featured on AJL Presents (Zoom). Her one-hour workshop topic was "What's in a Name?" In the 2nd part, Peninnah and her biographer were interviewed by Sean Boyles about her biography.