# FAQ for Teachers and Administrators

[storiumedu.com](http://storiumedu.com)

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## What is StoriumEdu?

*StoriumEdu* is a unique new online game that helps students build their writing skills, learn storytelling techniques, practice collaboration, and explore their creativity. It does this by transforming writing into an engaging group activity where students work together and lift each other up instead of struggling alone.

## How does it work?

We use game concepts and mechanics inspired by popular tabletop, card, and video games — things that are familiar to most students of reading age and higher. These mechanics inspire and steer students' writing, help them overcome the dreaded "writer's block," build stories with clear structure and compelling characters, and have fun along the way.

## What are its classroom uses?

*StoriumEdu* has many classroom applications, including:

- **Language Arts**: students can explore the themes and characters of major works of literature by continuing or expanding the narrative.
- **Creative writing**: *StoriumEdu* provides a structured, collaborative environment for creative writing that encourages creativity, character development, plotting, and — crucially — story completion.
- **History**: students can demonstrate their comprehension of historical events and context by writing historical fiction.
- **Social emotional learning and empathy building**: *StoriumEdu* helps students put themselves in other people's shoes, either fictionally or historically, and encourages collaboration and cooperation.

- **Project-based Learning**: *StoriumEdu*'s asynchronous writing environment and support for collaboration make it a good fit for PBL classrooms.
- **English as a second language**: *StoriumEdu* provides a supportive environment for students to practice their English through immersive writing.
- **Learning other languages**: while the interface for *StoriumEdu* is currently only offered in English, writing in any language is supported.

## What ages are appropriate?

*StoriumEdu* is designed for students from grades 3 through 12. It may also be appropriate for college-age students.

## Is it available yet?

Yes! As of Fall 2018, *StoriumEdu* is open for sign-ups and offers a 30-day free trial. Affordable teacher subscription plans are available on both a monthly and (steeply-discounted) annual basis. Special pricing and features for schools and districts are available, as well.

## How do I know it *works*?

Over 90% of *StoriumEdu* beta testers report that it had a positive impact on their students' motivation to write. Furthermore, 78% of student testers say that *StoriumEdu* is more fun than traditional writing assignments.

Also, *Storium* (the game from which *StoriumEdu* was developed) has already been used by tens of thousands of people of all ages to collectively write over **125 million words** — the equivalent of more than **2,500 novels**!

## Does it protect students' privacy?

Yes! *StoriumEdu* is designed for compliance with COPPA and FERPA. This means we **do not** connect personally identifying information from students (including email address or full name).

## Is it safe for students to use?

Yes! *StoriumEdu* is secure and closed-off from the public Internet. Students can only interact with and view the writing of students who share the same virtual classroom. They cannot invite outsiders to write with them or read what they have written. And there is no integration with social media platforms like Facebook or Twitter.

## What sort of control do teachers have?

Teachers always have full control. They can create and manage virtual classrooms and student accounts, add students to specific storytelling games, and oversee all student writing.

## What are the software and hardware requirements?

There's nothing to install! All you need is a Web browser; the latest versions of either Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Edge, or Safari will do. Desktops, laptops, Chromebooks, tablets, and smartphones are all supported.

## Who created it?

*StoriumEdu* was created by Protagonist Labs, an independent startup company based in California and founded on belief in the power of games to unlock creativity and help students learn. Our team includes education and game-based learning experts from GlassLab, EA, Zynga, Stanford, and Carnegie Mellon. We are partnered with the National Writing Project, the nation's preeminent organization dedicated to improving student writing outcomes.

## How can I learn more?

We have a brochure available which you are welcome to download and share.

You can also sign-up for your own 30-day free trial at any time.

Finally, you can contact us via email at contact@storiumedu.com with any questions or feedback.

Thank you for your interest!