

# CLASSROOM STORYTELLING MANIFESTO

Re-imagining  
Migration UCLA

## WORDS MATTER

**Challenge** stereotypes and the problematic **language** they are presented through. We tend to **internalize** the information that we consume, something which leads to ignorance and impacts identity formation.



## I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DON'T KNOW

**Engage** your students by getting to know them.

**Understand** them, listen to their stories while being aware of your biases. Our views influence how we approach each other and issues!

**Strengthen** their curiosity by reaffirming that they can learn through open conversation.

## LISTEN



**Pay attention** when someone is sharing their story.

**Show compassion** while not shifting the focus away from others' stories.

**Ask questions** to understand better.

## BUILD CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

Embrace a **multitude** of migration stories! Keep your mind open. Students may face many **cultural challenges** — this is especially common across students who are either new to a receiving community or have foreign-born parents who often rely on them to navigate the **struggles of integration**.

## EMPOWER, DON'T EXPLOIT

Create **opportunities** for students to share their stories with each other and you, in the **framing** that they understand.

Make the effort to be **informed** about developments in **policy**, so that you are aware of how those might affect your students and their families. That said, *people and stories always come first.*



Be mindful with students who you know are **undocumented** or part of **mixed-status** families — don't make assumptions about what they will want to or not want to share.