Group Story with Alice
Written by Michele Nelson; idea suggested by Spencer Nelson

A. Students will write a story together, using the backgrounds and characters from Alice. Teacher will facilitate the group story, calling on people one at a time and/or helping students clarify their ideas as necessary.

Students will be given a choice of settings below, then, from that chosen setting, they can choose the characters listed which might go well with the setting.

This provides a wide range of choices but also provides some limitations so that the students will be able to develop a story quicker.

Choice of Settings:
Medieval, Farm, Beach, Amusement Park, Egypt, Japan, Old West, Outer Space, Nature, City, Ocean, High School

Choice of Characters for each setting:
Highschool: cheerleader, coach, teen boy, teen girl, jock, lunchlady, nerd, skatergirl, skaterguy, slacker, teacher, alice, dj, mad scientist, mana

Ocean: Uglyfish, yellowminnow, shark, stingray, lilfish, lilfish2, fishy, lilfish, Bigfish, scubadiver,

City: cat, alice, skaterboy, skatergirl, random guy, bikekid1, bikekid2, bob, boy, dj, kidrobot, little brother, mana, random girl, street girl

Medieval: dragon, duck prince, wizard, troll, princess, knight, handsome prince, skeleton

Farm: cat, chicken, cow, farm, husky, scarecrow, mana, little brother, west girl, woman

Beach: kangaroo, boy, girl, random guy, evil ninja, mana, random girl, skeleton

Amusement Park: bunny, penguin, mouse, alice, bob, boy, ice skater, kidrobot, little brother, ballet dancer, magician, street girl, zombie

Egypt: camel, lion, Anubis, Cleo, Isis, Mummy, Pharoah, Ra, Sphynx, Nativegirl, sheriff, westgirl, woman

Japan: Koala Robot, Kangaroo Robot, Fan Dancer, Samurai,

Old West: Buffalo, horse, snake, cowboy, man, Native American, evil ninja, ghost, random girl, skeleton

Outer Space: astronaut, kidrobot, kangaroo robot, mad scientist, scientist man, scientist woman, space colonist, faeries

Nature: Bugs, fish, birds, dinosaurs, bunny, lemur, lion, monkey, squirrel, tortoise, turtle, faeires
B. Students can use the flow chart, or the outline below it, to help write the story. The basic parts of the story, made up by the kids, should be written on a poster or on the board (a poster is better because it can be moved and saved) up at the front of the classroom.

Writing a Story - Parts of a Story
A. Title __________________________________________(What is the name of your story?)
B. Characters
What are the names of the main people, animals, or creatures in your story?
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
C. Setting
When and where does the story take place?
Do the place and time change during your story?
Is it inside or outside?

D. Problem or Plot
This is the plan of your story. You need to include problems and/or actions that affect the characters and
cause them to react or to search for a solution to their problem. Write your problem or plot below. Then draw one or more pictures of the problem or plot below.

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

E. Solution or Conclusion
What is the final outcome of your story? Write it below, and then draw one or more pictures of your solution or conclusion.

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Adapted from:  http://www.chasesc.com/CHASEWritingaStoryPartsofaStory.pdf
Either after the students have created their story together (or WHILE they are making up the story), sketch out the main parts of the action in the storyboard with stickfigures (write notes & label the stick figures, so that you know who is who in the story!)

http://hhh.gavilan.edu/rbeede/DM140Web/Storyboard_template.jpg

D. Creating the group story in Alice:
Now that you have a story and it is broken up into sections of action, the students can each select a small part of the story to create in Alice. (If the story is short, the students can work in pairs or the same scene can be assigned to more than one student to see how different students interpret the story into Alice)

Students must make their part of the story in Alice using the setting and characters in their section.

For example: In the story of the 3 little pigs, there would be several scenes:

The beginning part where the pigs are all together at home, pig #1 thinks about then builds a house of straw, pig #2 same with sticks, pig #3 same with bricks, wolf comes into town thinking about dinner, wolf walks to pigs house planning to blow house down (this could be done 3 different times), wolf blows down pig 1 house, wolf blows pig 2 house, wolf tries to blows pig 3 house, party inside pig 3’s house, wolf tries to go down chimney, wolf gets cooked in the pot at bottom of chimney, final pig rejoicing scene.

That’s at least 15 little scenes for kids to make and several could be done by different people for different effects.

E. When completed, the animations will be viewed, in order, with same scenes made by different people, being viewed together to see different solutions.

NOTES:
The object of this lesson is to:

- Reinforce the concept of Parts of a Story.
- Give students practice in story writing
- Explore using Alice to animate a story without being overwhelmed
- Explore how different solutions can be found for the same problem
- Give students a fun but small introduction to creating with Alice

This lesson provides students with a firmer “jump off point” to creating their own animated story in Alice