



The Narrative Power of Nature
Mary Alice Arthur, Story Activist

Today I want to invite you to be a **Story Activist**

- What is story?
- The geography of story
- Three stories you need to tell
- A simple way to create collective wisdom



We live in a story

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**and that means
we can**

**CHANGE
it.**

Mary Alice Arthur
Story Activist
www.getsoaring.com

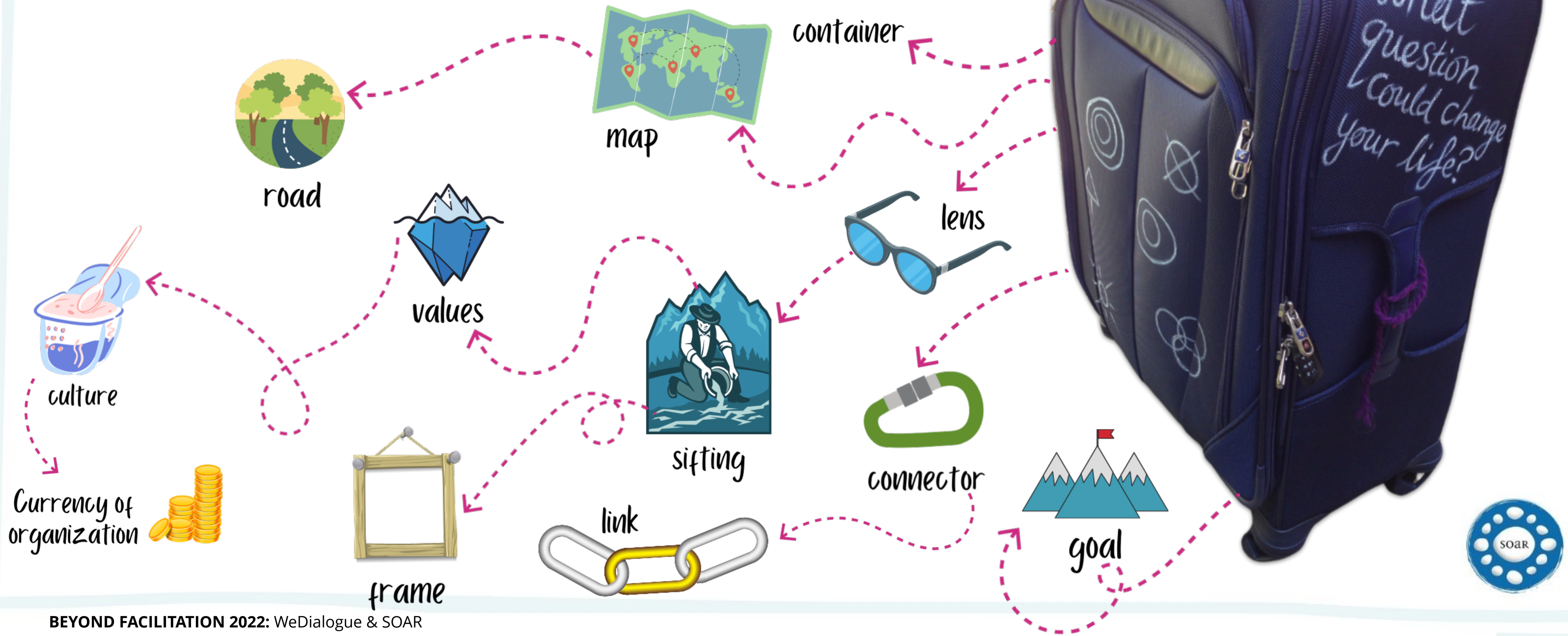




Our stories, like our protected areas, are places where we can meet, gain a new understanding of each other and the wider world, and experience once again how we are intrinsically connected.

What is a story?

A bitesized piece of sense & meaning making.













SPYAR
1000

airrace
Dynolite





Geography
FINDING WHERE YOU ARE IN
the story

Beginning

Middle

End

Beginning

Middle

End

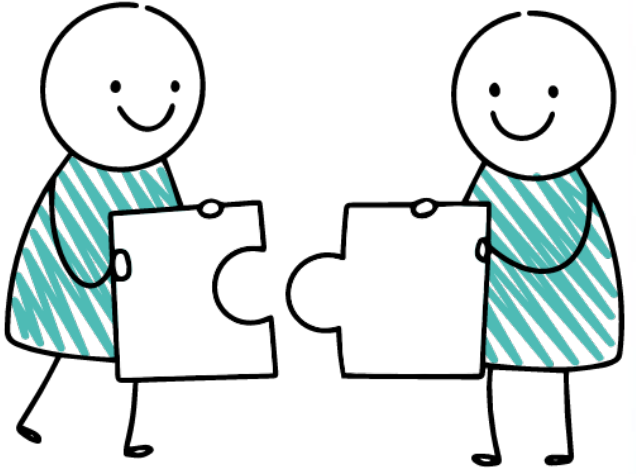


The Breath Pattern

GROAN zone
EMERGENCE

DIVERGENCE

CONVERGENCE



creation

completion

Clarity

confusion & complexity

Conscious Closure

Curiosity





Continuity

The thing that will never change

Identity, Values, Principles

ALIGNMENT



Novelty

Imagine...

Possibilities, innovation, the new

MEANING



Transition

Change & learning

The journey, progressing

MOVEMENT

David Cooperrider, *Appreciative Inquiry*

Story Trios

This is a rotating task -- we will all be the storyteller, the harvester, the witness.

Storyteller: Take us to a moment when life asked you to step up with courage and you did. (2 - 3 minute story)

Harvester: What helped the storyteller step up? What are the conditions that support courage to be present? (Create at least 2 sticky notes)

Witness: Report back to the storyteller: *"What is alive in me now from your story is..."*

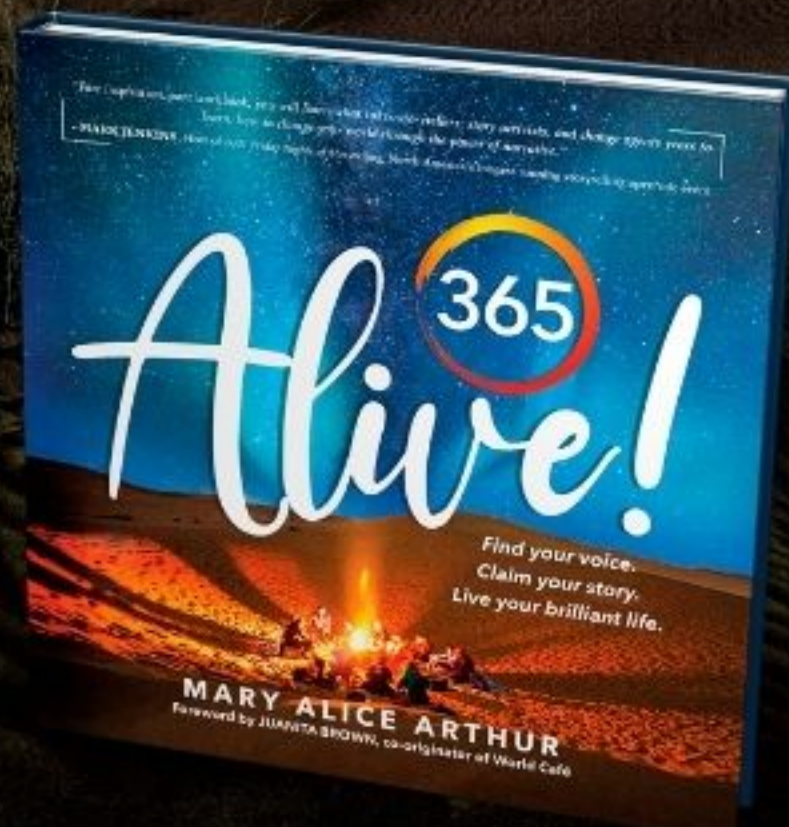
5 min per Storyteller (story + feedback) in the last 5 minutes move to group dialogue.

Final Round: *"The gift for me from our stories is..."*





You ARE a **Story Activist!**



www.365alive.org



Change your story, Change the world

The stories we hold about the world influence how we see our own potential and whether we see problems or possibilities together. Our stories can hold us down, or they can lift us up. We have the power to choose.

SOAR helps people be the visionary leaders, changemakers and paradigm shifters they want to be through supporting them to find, craft, host and live a clear, compelling story that creates a powerful present and leads to a more flourishing future.

Find your
foundation for
being, find your
STORY



Use HOSTING
to build capacity
& bring your story
to life

Mary Alice Arthur is a Story Activist working with story in service of positive systemic shift and for focusing collective intelligence on critical issues. She creates spaces where people can find and activate the story that will take them into a flourishing future. She is an internationally recognised process host, building capacity for people to bring their stories to life. She is inspired to work with large and small systemic stories that hold keys for a more generative future.

She co-hosts the **Story Dojo**, (www.TheStoryDojo.com) an international community focused on the power and practice of story. Mary Alice is a sought after process host and teaches participatory process all over the world as an international steward of the Art of Hosting (www.artofhosting.org). She is one of the three co-creators of **Collective Story Harvest**.

She is the author of **365 ALIVE! Find your voice. Claim your story. Live your brilliant life.** www.365alive.org



Significant Orientations, Amazing Results
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