



Brief Reminder of Image Order

Stories are made of images, not words. Therefore, a complete text of your story is usually not too useful. But something that reminds you of the order of images in your story can be an essential tool.

A “BRIO” is just that: a Brief Reminder of Image Order. It helps you remember the order of the images in your story, so you can refer to it as you tell. (Unless your story is long or complex or hasn’t been told for a long while, you will probably not need to refer to your BRIO after your first few tellings.)

What can remind you of the order of images in your story? Any of the following examples can work. Choose one that suits you, for a given story:

- An outline of the story
- A simple list of words, phrases, or sentences
- A diagram, with or without labels
- A “comic strip” consisting of a series of boxes, each showing the essence of one image from the story.
- A “story board” consisting of simple pictures with labels beneath them.

A BRIO must not only remind you of the images of your story, it must also be brief enough to refer to as you tell. A 12-page BRIO would be difficult to find your place in as you tell. Briefer is better, as long as the brevity isn’t created at the expense of your BRIO’s ability to remind you of the images.